

Published by the League of Women Voters of the Akron Area Education Fund



inside!

in their own words

# The Candidates Answer Our Questions

Plus: Candidate Contact Info & Bios!

Non-partisan voting information for residents of:

# **AKRON and SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO**

This Voters Guide is published by the League of Women Voters of the Akron Area Education Fund to provide non-partisan information about political candidates and issues, and to help citizens make informed choices at the polls. The group is solely responsible for its content. The candidates are given the opportunity to respond to questions posed by the League of Women Voters, and to state their positions in their own words. The League, in publishing this material, neither endorses nor rejects the views of any candidate or political party, and does not and cannot assume responsibility for the contents of any candidate's reply.

A Message from the President

### Dear City of Akron Voter,



The League of Women Voters of the Akron Area presents the 2016 Voter Guide. In addition to national and statewide races, there are many races at the local level that affect county governance and our courts.

All Summit County Council offices are on the ballot, as well as County Executive offices including Summit County Executive, Prosecutor, Clerk of Courts, Sheriff, Fiscal Officer and Engineer.

Inside you will find information about local candidates and responses to questions developed by the League. The candidates submitted their information in their own words, and responses were not edited. In addition, short descriptions of each office's responsibilities are included.

Judicial candidate information is now on a separate website, JudicialVotesCount.org. Space limitations prevented including all judicial information and responses but you will see the names of the candidates running for Common Pleas, Court of Appeals and Domestic Relations. Brief descriptions of each court's scope are included.

We hope this guide will help you make informed choices at the polls on November 8 or earlier if you take advantage of early voting. Your vote is crucial to making our democracy work.

Barbara Hunsicker, President

Bustana Hunsila

League of Women Voters of the Akron Area

### LWVAA EDUCATION FUND 2016 VOTERS GUIDE

### CITY OF AKRON AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT GENERAL ELECTION - NOVEMBER 8, 2016

Published by the League of Women Voters of the Akron Area Education Fund

### SUMMIT COUNTY COUNCIL AT-LARGE

Summit County operates under a charter form of government. County Council consists of 11 members: 3 at-large members and 8 representing districts. They serve a four-year term. The legislative and policy-making power of the County is invested in the County Council. Candidates:



### Christopher Parker Republican

Mailing Address: 2568 Stonecreek Drive Akron, Ohio 44320 Current Occupation: I am a litigation attorney at Roderick, Linton & Belfance, LLP Campaign Phone: (330) 472-9405 Campaign Email: cparker90@neo.rr.com

Q1: In November 2015, the county charter was changed and created a bipartisan redistricting panel. Prior to its implementation, how can you represent your district and at the same time work on countywide issues, making sure all voices are heard? As of the authoring of this response, there is only one Republican member of Summit Council. It is certainly my hope that the redistricting will lead to a more evenly distributed party representation on the Council. However, in the interim, in my position as an at-large member it would be imperative that my representation be fair to all constituents in the county while remaining sensitive to the needs of the underrepresented minority as a check and balance. Collaboration is a top priority

Q2: What role does County Council have in promoting good stewardship and management of water resources? I believe that County Council should serve as a leader in the promotion of good stewardship and management of water resources. Efforts currently being made by Council, while adequate can always be improved. Learning from other local, county and state governments as to how they have "thought outside the box" is essential in moving forward and addressing any issues that arise when it comes to this vital issue in our county.

Q3: In regard to addressing the heroin epidemic, what role can County Council play? As an attorney who has both prosecuted and defended heroin related case, this issue is very important to me and is and should remain a top priority with County Council. The momentum that has been created by the courts, council and the prosecutor's office needs to continue. County council needs to push for more treatment facilities. Treatment programs not jail gets to the heart of the addicts problems. This problem does not discriminate socio-economically. Treatment should be the priority.



### Elizabeth Walters Democrat

Mailing Address: 1201 E. Market Street, Apt. 606, Akron, OH 44305 Campaign Phone: (330) 322-6361 Web Site: http://waltersforohio.com

Twitter: twitter.com/waltersforohio

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/waltersforohio

Q1: In November 2015, the county charter was changed and created a bipartisan redistricting panel. Prior to its implementation, how can you represent your district and at the same time work on countywide issues, making sure all voices are heard? As an At-Large member of Summit County Council, part of my job is to listen and learn from voices across the County. From creating lines of communication with Mayors across the County to actively participating in the Township Trustee Association of Summit County, I am working hard to educate myself on issues that arise in all areas.

**Q2:** What role does County Council have in promoting good stewardship and management of water resources? As an At-Large member of Summit County Council, part of my job is to listen and learn from voices across the County. From creating lines of communication with Mayors across the County to actively participating in the Township Trustee Association of Summit County, I am working hard to educate myself on issues that arise in all areas.

Q3: In regard to addressing the heroin epidemic, what role can County Council play? The Council must ensure the Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health Board is funded at the highest levels we are able to fight the heroin crisis. Most importantly, the Council must work with our State partners to advocate that the Governor declare a state of emergency that will allow the release of funds from the Ohio Rainy Day Fund for municipalities to increase their prevention and treatment services.

### **SUMMIT COUNTY COUNCIL AT-LARGE 2**



### Clair Dickinson Democrat

Mailing Address: 884 Alder Run Way Akron, OH 44333
Campaign Email: clair.dickinson@gmail.com
Current Occupation: Partner with Brouse McDowell Law Firm Campaign Phone: (330) 697-3983
Facebook: http://Keep Clair Dickinson on Summit County Council

Q1: In November 2015, the county charter was changed and created a bipartisan redistricting panel. Prior to its implementation, how can you represent your district and at the same time work on countywide issues, making sure all voices are heard? I was appointed to and am seeking election to one of the three at-large seats on County Council, so my constituents are all the citizens of all the districts. I endeavor at all times to do my best to represent the interests of all the citizens of Summit County

Q2: What role does County Council have in promoting good stewardship and management of water resources? Storm water is becoming an increasing problem county-wide. The county should encourage cooperation county-wide. Part of the challenge is that a number of municipalities have already moved forward to deal with storm water within their own communities and we don't have the power to force them to also cooperate in a county-wide solution. We need to provide an attractive voluntary approach so the problem can be addressed county-wide as it should be.

Q3: In regard to addressing the heroin epidemic, what role can County Council play? The heroin epidemic is a multi-faceted problem for which their is no easy answer from any single level of government. County Council needs to do all it can to cooperate with all levels of government to address it. Among other things, we should assist the Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services Board as it moves to create more treatment beds. We also must make sure the Sherriff's Department has all the resources it needs to be prepared to deal with people suffering from overdoses.



### Alex Pavloff Republican

Mailing Address: 710 Delaware Ave Akron, OH 44303

**Current Occupation:** I'm finishing up my Masters in Applied Politics. I also assist in teaching two courses, one on political campaigning and one on science and technology policy,

Web Site: http://www.AlexPavloff.com Campaign Email: ATPavloff@gmail.com Twitter: twitter.com/ATPavloff

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/Alex-Pavloff-for-County-Council-1771001666521705

Q1: In November 2015, the county charter was changed and created a bipartisan redistricting panel. Prior to its implementation, how can you represent your district and at the same time work on countywide issues, making sure all voices are heard? If elected, I'll serve At-Large, representing all of Summit County. Every single resident of the county will be my constituent - and my door will always be open. The redistricting commission is a good start in reform of county government. Council isn't representative of the county. Right now, one party controls 10 of the 11 seats. Single party rule, from either party, is not healthy at any level of government.

**Q2:** What role does County Council have in promoting good stewardship and management of water resources? Water is an exceptionally valuable resource and will continue to grow in value as we move through the 21st century. County council's role in water stewardship is considerable, being the final decider on ditch petitions in most cases. The projects, though small in size, are very expensive. All parties involved should be included in petition discussion. As a council, we should strive to defray costs wherever possible through grants. In doing so, we can also construct more sustainable drainage.

Q3: In regard to addressing the heroin epidemic, what role can County Council play? I've conducted a qualitative study on the heroin epidemic in Summit County. I've talked to law enforcement, first responders, mental health and addiction recovery professionals, and families affected by the epidemic. It's a very complex problem, that requires more than the space allotted to discus. We need to address the epidemic at all levels of government and the grass-roots. Starting in October, you can read my full report at www.AlexPavloff.com

### **SUMMIT COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT #2**

John Schmidt Democrat

CANDIDATE DID NOT RESPOND TO THE QUESTIONS

Nick Subak Republican

CANDIDATE DID NOT RESPOND TO THE QUESTIONS

### **SUMMIT COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT #4**



### Michael Kormushoff Republican

Address: 836 Sunnyside Ave Akron, Ohio 44303 Campaign Phone: (330) 329-5877

Campaign email: mkorm@hotmail.com Education: BSBA, Marketing, University of Akron

Facebook: michael jr kormushoff

Q1: In November 2015, the county charter was changed and created a bipartisan redistricting panel. Prior to its implementation, how can you represent your district and at the same time work on countywide issues, making sure all voices are heard? The purpose of County Council is to lead and manage the functions of the County through a collaborative process whereby each District's needs are represented by their elected District Representative. I suggest that each District Representative must

at all time consider the impact their objectives has on the County as a whole. The sum must be greater than the parts.

Q2: What role does County Council have in promoting good stewardship and management of water resources? Clearly, with the

significant current investment in the new clean water process and the construction throughout greater Akron, it is imperative that Council stay very close to the process with appropriate checks & balances along the way. Council has a responsibility to steward ALL resources that are shared within the County

Q3: In regard to addressing the heroin epidemic, what role can County Council play? Council must lead with bringing the appropriate resources to bear to educate, treat and sustain a healthy community. I support the current community outreach that has been features in the Akron Beacon Journal and would hope that this awareness building initiative continues.



Jeff Wilhite Democrat

Address: 2955 Forest Edge Drive Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, Ohio 44223 Campaign Phone: (330) 807-8291 Campaign email: jwilhite@neo.rr.com Education: BA, Business Administration - Marketing

Website: http://www.jeffwilhite.com

Q1: In November 2015, the county charter was changed and created a bipartisan redistricting panel. Prior to its implementation, how can you represent your district and at the same time work on countywide issues, making sure all voices are heard? I will work with all participants to help assure that districts are drawn to enhance strong neighborhoods and

community identity so there is a fair representation that encourages residents to be involved in decisions affecting their neighborhoods.

**Q2:** What role does County Council have in promoting good stewardship and management of water resources? I will support and work to maximize opportunities that will save dollars, opportunities that are attainable, opportunities that enhance the service provided and opportunities that have long-range possibility.

Q3: In regard to addressing the heroin epidemic, what role can County Council play? There are many, but I believe Affordable Housing and Business Retention are very important. I believe it is very important that we look for any and all means to increase affordable housing for families, millennials and ways for seniors to remain in their homes as long as possible. We need to pay attention to the many businesses already in our community and make sure there is an environment here that shows they are deeply appreciated and offer a workforce that meets there needs to succeed.

### **SUMMIT COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT #5**



### David Hamilton Democrat

Address: 780 Harvard Street Akron, Ohio 44311
Campaign email: votedavidhamilton@gmail.com
Facebook: facebook.com/votedavidhamilton
Criminal Justice from the University of Akron and Juris Doctorate from Thomas M. Cooley School of Law

Q1: In November 2015, the county charter was changed and created a bipartisan redistricting panel. Prior to its implementation, how can you represent your district and at the same time work on countywide issues, making sure all voices are heard? I support the Charter Amendment that was passed by the voters of Summit County. I as a council member will work to ensure that we follow the new Charter Amendment and make sure it is implemented as fairly as possible.

**Q2:** What role does County Council have in promoting good stewardship and management of water resources? I will be a facilitator for my community and be their voice on county council. I am going to collaborate with agencies, business leaders and elected officials on

# **Summit County Council Questions**

# Question 1:

In November 2015, the county charter was changed and created a bipartisan redistricting panel. Prior to its implementation, how can you represent your district and at the same time work on countywide issues, making sure all voices are heard?

# Question 2:

What role does County
Council have in
promoting good stewardship
and management of water
resources?

# Question 3:

In regard to addressing the heroin epidemic, what role can County Council play?

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# **Summit County Executive Questions**

# Question 1:

What will you do, as Executive, to bring more women, young leaders and minorities into county government?

# Question 2:

What role would you, as Executive, have in promoting good stewardship and management of water resources?

# Question 3:

In regard to addressing the heroin epidemic in Summit County, what leadership role can the Executive play to help reduce the deaths in the county?

# Question 4:

As Executive, what specific actions will you take to help support job growth and retention in Summit County?



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the local and state level in an effort to get things done and move the county forward! My plan is to establish new relationships with the state departments, elected officials and other entities whose primary focus is economic development, job creation and job retention.

Q3: In regard to addressing the heroin epidemic, what role can County Council play? I will ensure that our tax dollars are being spent the right way. I will do everything I can to save the tax payers money while increasing the quality of services the county provides to the people in our community. Fiscal responsibility is a top priority, and I will work with council to continue their conservative approach to spending and adding money to the reserve fund. Finally I will work with the Land Bank on a plan to rebuild homes in neighborhoods post demolition.



### **John Sans** Republican

Address: 355 Storer Ave Akron, OH 44302 **Campaign Phone**: (330) 907-4515

Campaign email: johnsans1950@gmail.com Facebook: John R. Sans for Summit County

Education: Ph.D. (1983) University of Chicago, Department of Geophysical Sciences, 5801 South Ellis Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60637. Specialization in analytical geochemistry. Dissertation entitled: Mafic Mineral and Oxygen Isotope Chemistry of the Cloudy Pass Batholith, Washington. M.S. (1974) Yale University, Department of Geology and Geophysics, New Haven, Connecticut. Specialization in geochemistry and petrology B.S. (1972) University of Chicago, Department of Geophysical Sciences, 5801 South Ellis Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60637

Q1: In November 2015, the county charter was changed and created a bipartisan redistricting panel. Prior to its implementation, how can you represent your district and at the same time work on countywide issues, making sure all voices are heard? - no response -

Q2: What role does County Council have in promoting good stewardship and management of water resources? - no response -

Q3: In regard to addressing the heroin epidemic, what role can County Council play? Half a million Americans have died of opiate overdoses in the last 15 years! Some 120 years ago Bayer synthesized a new opioid and named it heroin, because it made people act "heroic." More recently Fentanyl was developed for human pain, and then Carfentanyl was developed for very large animals such as elephants and rhinos. The Carfentanyl is ten thousand times more potent than morphine. Help is available 24/7—ADM Crisis Center 330-996-7730

### **SUMMIT COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT #7**

Running Unopposed

### Tim Crawford Democrat

Address: 4109 S CLEVE - MASS RD NORTON, OHIO 44203

**Campaign Phone:** (330) 825-8866 Education: Salem College / Pittsburg Institute of Mortuary Science Campaign email: TimCrawford4scc@gmail.com Facebook: Tim Crawford 4 Summit County Council Tim S Crawford

Q1: In November 2015, the county charter was changed and created a bipartisan redistricting panel. Prior to its implementation, how can you represent your district and at the same time work on countywide issues, making sure all voices are heard? I will see that the committee is bi-partisan, and has adequate funding to do their job. I believe to keep the districts diversified, every district should have a part of Akron the county seat. And, to bring the awareness of not only the urban but also the suburban of every district.

Q2: What role does County Council have in promoting good stewardship and management of water resources? My experience has proven that I have voted for joint services within communities. I have entertained joint policing and fire efforts to better protect the citizens of Summit county Examples are: the 800 meg radio system, the joint dispatching such as Norton /Barberton/Copley Dispatching for their safety forces. In the future, another area would be Summit County Animal Control to cover the entire county, and not have separate jurisdictions

Q3: In regard to addressing the heroin epidemic, what role can County Council play? My priorities in the past have been the balanced budget, animal control, constructing the animal control building, and the construction of the Veteran's Service buildings, In the future of the county up and coming is the liquidation of county property because of the move to the Firestone Building. The county must relieve itself of the DOES Building, 3 Jobs and Family Services buildings, and the Edwin Shaw complex. Another priority is workforce development, keeping and bringing good paying jobs.

### **SUMMIT COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT #8**

James Carr Republican

CANDIDATE DID NOT RESPOND TO THE QUESTIONS

Paula Prentice Democrat

CANDIDATE DID NOT RESPOND TO THE QUESTIONS

### SUMMIT COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Summit County operates under a Charter form of government. Under the Charter, the County Executive is the chief executive officer of the County. The County Executive is elected to a four-year term commencing on the first day of January following the election. The County Executive has administrative control of the departments under its jurisdiction. Those departments include Medical Examiner, Community and Economic Development, Animal Control, Job and Family Services, Sanitary Sewer Services, and Human Resources. The County Executive does not exercise control over municipalities within the County's boundaries. Candidates:



### Bill Roemer Republican

**Campaign Phone:** (330) 659-3979

Campaign Email: roemerbill@hotmail.com

Administration - Finance CWRU

Occupation: Summit County Educational Service Commission Board of Governors member Long Term Substitute Teacher

Education: Bachelor of Science - Accounting Summa Cum Laude Case Western Reserve (CWRU) Master of Business

**Work Experience**: Director Sales Ameritech (AT&T) retired Certified Public Accountant

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Bill-Roemer-1922244508000628/

Twitter: @RoemerBill

Website: http://billroemer.com

Q1: What will you do, as Executive, to bring more women, young leaders and minorities into county government? The most qualified person will be hired for each position without regard to age, race, gender, sexual orientation or political affiliation.

Q2: What role would you, as Executive, have in promoting good stewardship and management of water resources? My family and I have personally worked to protect valuable wetlands in Summit County. Through coordinating with the Summit County Engineer, additional ditch petitions could be approved mitigating flooding. Additional funding from the NEORSD could be utilized to positively impact the most crucial waterways. Organizations such as the Wolf Creek Watershed Conservancy District and the Friends of Yellow Creek are also positively impacting water runoff.

Q3: In regard to addressing the heroin epidemic in Summit County, what leadership role can the Executive play to help reduce the deaths in the county? The Executive has the opportunity to work closely with multiple agencies to develop a coordinated approach toward mitigating the devastating impacts of heroin on Summit County residents. Through coordinating with the ADM Board, Oriana House and additional community organizations, community outreach to affected individuals, coupled with additional staffing at the Summit County Sheriff's office will prove to be beneficial.

**Q4:** As Executive, what specific actions will you take to help support job growth and retention in Summit County? Summit County has done a good job of retaining larger employers, i.e., Goodyear, Bridgestone. However, small and medium sized enterprises have been neglected. Over 80% of job growth nationwide has occurred in smaller employers. Summit County's department of Economic Development needs to more closely coordinate with the plethora of smaller enterprises.



### Ilene Shapiro Democrat

Education: Cleveland Heights High School. Attended some college after high school.

**Occupation:** Summit County Executive

Work Experience: Summit County Executive, August 2016-Present Summit County Council, At-Large Councilperson, 2007-2016 Shapiro Consulting, Principal, 2012 - 2016 Summa Foundation, Director of Strategic Alliances, 2004-2012 FirstMerit Bank, Senior Executive, 1993-2003 Shapiro Group, Senior Consultant, 1990-1993 A-1 Beauty Supply, Owner, 1980-1989

Website: http://www.electshapiro.com Facebook: Elect Ilene Shapiro Twitter: @ElectShapiro

Q1: What will you do, as Executive, to bring more women, young leaders and minorities into county government? As a former female small business owner and business executive, I know the importance of providing women, young leaders and minorities with the opportunity to succeed. Therefore, I have made it a priority to improve the diversity and inclusiveness of the County's hiring practices, contracting policies, business development and board and commission appointments. I intend to create an advisory council or committee that will review the County's current practices and recommend where we can improve.

**Q2:** What role would you, as Executive, have in promoting good stewardship and management of water resources? I intend to focus the Department of Sanitary Sewer Services on building sanitary sewer infrastructure that creates jobs and is also mindful of the environment. We must initiate sewer projects to replace failing septic systems and older sewers that negatively impact water quality. It is also important for the County to continue using LEED principals in its buildings, as we did with the Animal Control facility, which uses a high efficiency water system for cleaning.

Q3: In regard to addressing the heroin epidemic in Summit County, what leadership role can the Executive play to help reduce the deaths in the county? The heroin epidemic is far reaching, affecting all segments of our society and negatively impacting the County's criminal justice resources. As a number of organizations struggle to find solutions, it will be necessary for the County Executive's Office to bring those multiple groups together and work collaboratively to address this issue. By doing so, the County Executive's Office will be able to coordinate the resources that those different organizations possess to address the epidemic.

**Q4:** As Executive, what specific actions will you take to help support job growth and retention in Summit County? I will assist small, medium and large businesses with infrastructure developments that support and spur growth. I will also work with the County's development partners to offer creative and attractive financing and incentive packages that will enable us to compete and keep or move jobs here. Additionally, I will continue my work of retooling workforce development in the County and provide training and education programs to employees that will match what our local employers want and need.

### SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

The Summit County Prosecutor is elected to a four-year term of office. The Prosecutor's Office is charged with investigating and prosecuting crimes in Summit County. The Prosecutor's Office oversees a number of Divisions under its jurisdiction. Those Divisions include Civil, Criminal and Appellate as well as Juvenile, Tax and Child Support Enforcement. It is the Criminal Division's responsibility to prosecute felony criminal cases in Summit County. The Appellate Division is responsible for cases after defendants have been convicted of a crime in Summit County Common Pleas Court. The Civil Division provides counsel in state or federal courts to all county agencies and elected officials. Candidates:

John E. Chapman Republican
CANDIDATE DID NOT RESPOND TO THE QUESTIONS



### Sherri Bevan Walsh Democrat

Campaign Phone: (330) 618-0085 Campaign Email: Walsh4Prosecutor@gmail.com

Facebook: Re-Elect Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh

Education: Capital University Law School, Juris Doctorate 1985. Miami University, Bachelor of Arts 1982

Occupation: Summit County Prosecuting Attorney

Work Experience: Summit County Prosecutor - January 1, 2001 to present. Special Prosecutor, Portage County - 1999. City of Akron Assistant Prosecutor, Assistant Law Director & Legal Intern - 1985-1990. Magistrate, Villages of Peninsula, Boston Heights & Northfield

Q1: What role do you think that the Prosecutor's office should play in addressing the county's growing heroin problem? What steps would you take to combat this epidemic? Protecting citizens of Summit County from this horrific killer is my role. People are dying from heroin use at an alarming rate. We have prosecuted over 1,000 cases involving heroin since 2015. We also need more treatment options for addicts. As a part of the Summit County Opiate Task Force I work with Law Enforcement to charge & convict those who supply others with heroin. Dealers are being sent to prison for deaths from heroin and addicts must be treated. The community must work together.

# **Summit County Prosecutor Questions**

# Question 1:

What role do you think that the Prosecutor's office should play in addressing the county's growing heroin problem? What steps would you take to combat this epidemic?

# Question 2:

Senior citizens are frequently the victims of crime, particularly fraud. What assistance can the Prosecutor's office provide to protect this vulnerable segment of our population?

# Question 3:

Other than the issues previously addressed, what is your top priority if elected and how would you address that issue?

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# Summit County Clerk of Courts Questions

# Question 1:

The Clerk's office is involved in the Family Matters
Project. What is the program and what plans do you have to improve the services it offers to Summit County residents?

# Question 2:

What plans do you have for sharing services within the county and with other governmental bodies?

# Question 3:

Other than the issues previously addressed, what is your top priority if elected and how would you address that issue?



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Q2: Senior citizens are frequently the victims of crime, particularly fraud. What assistance can the Prosecutor's office provide to protect this vulnerable segment of our population? I have spent over 15 years protecting the Senior Citizens of Summit County. They have always been one of my top priorities. From my Senior Safety Calendars, monthly Senior Safety presentations around the county and self-defense classes, I work directly with our seniors. My office provides "Scam Alerts" and crime prevention newsletters to help our seniors avoid becoming victims of the latest cons. I have worked with and educated thousands and I aggressively prosecute those who prey upon them.

Q3: Other than the issues previously addressed, what is your top priority if elected and how would you address that issue? Continuing to seek justice for all criminal activity in Summit County is my top priority. I have a record of success in aggressively prosecuting criminals and protecting victims. Preventing crime and preventing new victims is my goal. Working with our schools I am involved in community education of our children. My Child Support Division works vigorously to see that parents who avoid their responsibilities are pursued and Summit County's children are given every opportunity to succeed.

### SUMMIT COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS

The Summit County Clerk of Courts is elected to a four-year term of office. The Clerk's Office has two Divisions – Legal and Title. The Legal Division maintains the records for the Summit County Common Pleas Court. The Title Division is responsible for issuing titles for motor vehicles and watercraft. The Title Division also issues title transfers from out-of-state vehicles and watercraft, duplicate titles and memorandum titles. This Division maintains locations in Akron, Northfield and Green. Candidates:



Sandra Kurt Democrat

Campaign Phone: (330) 869-0065 Campaign Email: sandra@sandrakurt.com

**Education:** Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering from Iowa State University, May 1985. Awarded a certificate of completion for the Senior Executives in State and Local Government program, June 2015, Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Executive Education

Occupation: Clerk of Court of Common Pleas for Summit County

**Work Experience:** I have been serving in this office since January 2016. During this year I added Saturday hours to our Northfield Title office to make it easier for residents using the adjacent BMV to get their title needs met. Also, I loaned \$2.4 million to the County General Fund from the Title Fund to meet unexpected obligations, saving Summit County taxpayers

\$600,000 in interest. Also this year, I added electronic filing to the Criminal Division, so filing in all Common Pleas legal divisions can be made 24 hours / day, 7 days / week. Prior to serving as Clerk of Courts, I was an At-Large Councilperson on Summit County Council from March 2011 - January 2016, serving as Vice-President for 2014 and 2015. During my tenure on Summit County Council, I developed positive working relationships with the Summit County Executive, the Summit County Prosecutor, and the Summit County Sheriff, all of which are valuable for the Clerk of Courts. The Executive's Office sets the budget for the Clerk's office, the Sheriff's office serves legal documents and processes foreclosures for the Clerk's office, and the Summit County Prosecutor's office serves as the lawyer for the Clerk of Courts. Prior to public service, working as an Industrial Engineer, I improved process efficiency and managed complex projects across multiple disciplines which are excellent preparation for managing the complexities of the Clerk of Courts office. Additionally, I helped initiate and implement an electronic replacement to the archaic paper capital budgeting system which is directly applicable to continuing the implementation of electronic filing across the divisions for which the Clerk of Courts is responsible.

Website: http://www.sandrakurt.com Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfSandraKurt/

Twitter: @SandraKurt Instagram: sandra.kurt

Q1: The Clerk's office is involved in the Family Matters Project. What is the program and what plans do you have to improve the services it offers to Summit County residents? Your Family Matters is a joint program of the Summit County Clerk of Courts, the Probate Court, & the Fiscal Office to give people information to protect their heirs & their assets. The Clerk of Courts explains Title options for vehicles & boats to ensure the survivor maintains ownership in a simple, direct manner. We expanded the program schedule to reach more communities throughout the County. I want Summit County residents to have peace of mind knowing their plans are solidly in place.

**Q2:** What plans do you have for sharing services within the county and with other governmental bodies? My stewardship of the positive balance in the Title Fund provided for a loan to the County General Fund saving taxpayers \$600,000 in interest. The Clerk of Courts provides mail services for the Courts, the County, and the City of Akron. I plan to offer our Passport services to the business community and other interested entities. Additionally, I will explore offering background checks to more customers in the public and private sectors.

Q3: Other than the issues previously addressed, what is your top priority if elected and how would you address that issue? My top priority is ensuring excellent customer service through expanded accessibility. I have done this by adding Saturday hours to our Northfield Title Office and expanding electronic filing to the Criminal Division. I'll add electronic filing to the 9th District Court of Appeals. I'll explore ways to expand our electronic access across more platforms and devices. I'll work with our Judges & Prosecutor to improve the interface between the Clerk functions & other court-related functions.



Ann Marie O'Brien Republican

Education: University of Akron, School of Law, JD 1991, Hiram College, BA 1987

Occupation: Attorney Work Experience: I am a former President of the Akron Bar Association and Member of the Board of Trustees. Prior to working for the court, I practiced with the law firm of Davis & Young for 18 years and worked with Scanlon & Co. for 8 years. My legal experience is essential for the smooth and knowledgeable operation of the Clerks' office, and collaboration with the Court, members of the bar and other governmental and public offices.

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/obrienforclerkofcourts/# Twitter: https://twitter.com/VoteAMOBrien

Q1: The Clerk's office is involved in the Family Matters Project. What is the program and what plans do you have to improve the services it offers to Summit County residents? The Family Matters Project is a public service and collaborative effort of the Summit County Probate Court, Fiscal Office and Clerk of Courts' Office which provides tools to assist Summit County citizens plan for the future. The program educates on options to protect heirs and assets upon inheritence, as well as information on property deeds, probate court, and vehicle titles. The program could be enriched and expanded to include other courts and Summit County departments.

Q2: What plans do you have for sharing services within the county and with other governmental bodies? The Clerk of Courts' office is the core of the court system and must serve as conduit for smoothly flowing information. Navigating and understanding the law and procedure is something that takes an entire career to develop. The Clerk's office should work collaboratively with state, county and municipal offices. As former President of the Akron Bar Association, I offer proven ability to work and collaborate with Judges, adminstrative and department offices, members of the bar, and the public.

Q3: Other than the issues previously addressed, what is your top priority if elected and how would you address that issue? The most important task is the efficient integration of the court's and clerk's computer systems so that the Judges may process orders electronically. Ann Marie O'Brien has been part of the civil pilot program for the electronic signature processing as part of her work with the Court. Ann Marie understands the complexities and needs of the Judges and attorneys and can identify improvements. Interactive forms must be developed to promote efficiency of filing for the public and courts.

### **SUMMIT COUNTY SHERIFF**

The Summit County Sheriff is elected to a four-year term of office. One of the Sheriff's chief responsibilities is the operation of the County Jail. Other duties include serving current and outstanding warrants within Summit County, providing court services and providing court security at the Summit County Court of Common Pleas. The Sheriff's Office is also responsible for mortgage foreclosures and delinquent tax sales. Candidates:

Running Unopposed



### Steve Barry Democrat

Campaign Phone: (330) 608-2784 Campaign Email: barr2x2@aol.com

Education: Studied Criminal Justice at the University of Akron Over 1500 hours of various law enforcement training,

conferences, seminars including federal training. **Occupation:** Summit County Sheriff

Work Experience: Over 30 years of law enforcement experience, all as a member of the Summit County Sheriff's Office, Facebook: Steve Barry, Summit County Sheriff including the last 3 as the Sheriff.

Q1: How do you plan to address the issue of overcrowding in the Summit County Jail? We are constantly addressing this issue through emergency releases and community control, reducing the stringencies of inmate classification so we may double bunk more inmates and utilizing the Glenwood Jail facility and other county jails as well.

Q2: Recently, three inmates who were released early due to overcrowding at the jail were rearrested for different crimes shortly after their release. How do you plan to protect the public from criminals who are released early? This occurred in January of 2015 and were petty crimes. When you consider how carefully we chose who were released, which was a total of nearly 100 inmates, who were deemed not a violent threat, and all were released with specific places to go, or locations to report or another set court date, and only 3 returning, I think this speaks for itself as actually how well we did in choosing who were released. Everyday we do everything in our power to protect the citizens of Summit County.

Q3: Other than the issues previously addressed, what is your top priority if elected and how would you address that issue? It has to be dealing with a jail that is NOT OVERCROWDED WITH INMATES, but is COMPLETELY UNDERSTAFFED! Our budget for 2016 is STILL 3.6 MILLION DOLLARS UNDER our last full budget in 2008. I also want to continue to work on addressing mental health issues, messages to our youths to make the right decisions, school safety, our protection of developmentally disabled, elderly, and child victims, and continue to address Summit County's civil foreclosure issues.

### SUMMIT COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER

The Summit County Fiscal Officer is elected to a four-year term of office. The Fiscal Officer's Office has four divisions or responsibilities: Auditor, Recorder, Services, and Treasurer. As Auditor, the county's Chief Fiscal Officer acts as the Chief Assessor, Chief Payroll Officer, and Sealer of Weights and Measures. The Summit County Fiscal Officer's Services Division is responsible for the issuance of various licenses. The department also maintains a record of manufactured and mobile homes. Taxes are due March 1 and July 31 each year. The Fiscal Officer is the Sealer of Weights and Measures for the entire county and has the responsibility of insuring that all state laws relating to weights and measures are strictly enforced. The Treasurer Division of the Fiscal Office is responsible for the collecting of Real Estate Taxes on all properties in Summit County. They mail real estate tax bills semiannually. There are 74 tax districts with approximately 270,000 tax bills mailed each collection. Candidates:

### Jeffry Glenn Iula Republican

CANDIDATE DID NOT RESPOND TO THE QUESTIONS



### Kristen M. Scalise Democrat

Mailing Address: 4042 Greenridge Dr. Uniontown, OH 44685

Campaign Phone: (330) 388-9591 Campaign Email: kristenscalise@yahoo.com Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/VoteScalise

**Current Occupation:** Summit County Fiscal Website: http://votescalise.com

Q1: Public schools pay a substantial fee to the Fiscal Office for the collection and distribution of property tax revenues. How do you justify this charge to already financially strapped school districts? The fee is not decided by the Fiscal Officer. I am required to collect it by Ohio Revised Code sections 319.54 and 321.26. However, I was proud to return \$4.64 million to taxing authorities in 2015, after performing a responsible and cost-effective sexennial reappraisal. Our schools received \$2.9 million, with the largest refunds going to school districts in Akron, Hudson and Stow-Munroe Falls.

Q2: What plans do you have for sharing services within the county and with other governmental bodies? As chairperson of the Summit County Land Bank, I led efforts to demolish nearly 1,000 vacant properties in Summit County. I have partnered with Probate Court and Clerk of Courts to create Your Family Matters, a free program providing information about property ownership and asset management. Finally, I served as chairperson of the IT Department, consolidating services between multiple agencies.

Q3: Other than the issues previously addressed, what is your top priority if elected and how would you address that issue? My top priority will be to look for ways to continue to collaborate and streamline government operations and create new programs that are efficient and cost effective, while maintaining the excellent customer service and consumer protection provided to the public by the Fiscal Office as I continue to safeguard and protect over \$1 billion annually of taxpayer money.

# **Summit County Fiscal Officer Questions**

# Question 1:

Public schools pay a substantial fee to the Fiscal Office for the collection and distribution of property tax revenues. How do you justify this charge to already financially strapped school districts?

# Question 2:

What plans do you have for sharing services within the county and with other governmental bodies?

# Question 3:

Other than the issues previously addressed, what is your top priority if elected and how would you address that issue?

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Twitter: twitter.com/KristenScalise

# **Judicial Questions**

For judicial candidate answers, please visit **JudicialVotesCount.org** or the LWVAA online voter guide at **Iwvaa@Iwvaa.org**.

# Question 1:

List your judicial experience (courts and years).

# Question 2:

What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?

# Question 3:

Why are you running for this particular court seat?



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### **SUMMIT COUNTY ENGINEER**

The responsibilities of the Summit County Engineer are to oversee the construction, maintenance, and repair of all bridges in the county and of count roads and other public improvements except buildings in the county. Candidates:

Running Unopposed



Alan Brubaker Democrat

Mailing Address: 1474 Blair Drive Akron, OH 44312 Current Occupation: Summit County Engineer Campaign Phone: (330) 861-6388 Campaign Email: electbrubaker@sbcglobal.net

Q1: The Engineer's Office is responsible for the inspection and maintenance of county roads and bridges. As our infrastructure ages, what plans do you have for ensuring the safety of the county's bridges and roads? The Summit County Engineer's office rigorously inspects each of our 315 bridges annually. All bridges were load tested within the past five years. Summit County bridges are safe. We have been successful in receiving federal and state grants to rehabilitate and reconstruct roads and bridges. We will continue to chase outside funding to leverage our local dollars and increase safety.

**Q2:** What plans do you have for sharing services within the county and with other governmental bodies? We have already moved forward on several regional initiatives. We were the first county to adopt a Regional Pavement Maintenance program and have been seeing positive results. We will continue to recruit additional cities to join us in that endeavor. We have also consolidated several functions with other county offices, such as GIS, human resources, and information technology.

Q3: Other than the issues previously addressed, what is your top priority if elected and how would you address that issue? I would like to build on the success of my previous two terms. I will continue to improve the safety of Summit County roads and bridges. I will secure all available funding and reduce overhead costs to ensure more money goes to infrastructure. I will continue to work with other offices, cities, and townships to implement innovative programs like our Regional Pavement Maintenance program.

### NINTH DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS

The Courts of Appeals are established by Section 1, Article IV of the Ohio Constitution, and their jurisdiction is outlined in Section 3, Article IV. As intermediate level appellate courts, their primary function is to hear appeals from the common pleas, municipal, and county courts. Each case is heard and decided by a panel of three judges. The state is divided into twelve appellate districts by Section 3, Article IV, of the Ohio Constitution and section 2501.01 of the Revised Code. Each district is served by a court of appeals that sits in each of the counties in that district. The number of judges in each district varies from four to twelve. In addition to appellate jurisdiction, the courts of appeals have original jurisdiction, as does the Ohio Supreme Court, to hear applications for writs of habeas corpus, mandamus, procedendo, prohibition, and quo warranto. Court of appeals judges are elected in even-numbered years to six-year terms on a nonpartisan ballot. Appellate judges must be attorneys with at least six years of experience in the practice of law. The Governor makes appointments to fill vacancies in courts of appeals that occur between elections. Retrieved from http://www.ninth.courts.state.oh.us/Information.htm and http://www.ninth.courts.state.oh.us/Information.htm. Candidates:

Term commencing on 02/09/2017

### Diana M. Stevenson

CANDIDATE DID NOT RESPOND TO THE QUESTIONS



Thomas A. Teodosio Age: 59

Residence: Munroe Falls, OH Campaign Email: judgeteodosio@gmail.com

Website: http://www.judgeteodosio.com Occupation: Judge, Summit County Common Pleas Court

**Education:** J.D. from the University of Akron School of Law (1982) **Facebook:** Common Pleas Court Judge Teodosio For Court of Appeals

### NINTH DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS

Term Commencing on 02/10/2017



Donna J. Carr Age: 56

Residence: Akron, OH

Website: http://N/A

Campaign Email: judgedonnacarr@gmail.com

Occupation: Judge, 9th District Court of Appeals

Education: B.A. Kent State University, 1981 and J.D. University of Akron School of Law, 1984

### NINTH DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS

Term Commencing on 02/11/2017



Lynne S. Callahan Age: 59

Residence: Akron, OH Campaign Email: friendsofcallahan@att.net

Website: http://www.judgelynnecallahan.com Occupation: Judge, Summit County Common Pleas Court

Education: B.A. English, University of Akron, 1979; J.D. University of Akron School of Law, 1984

### SUMMIT COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - GENERAL DIVISION

The General Division of the Common Pleas Court responsibilities include hearing criminal felony cases, matters such as real estate, personal injury, breach of contract, business relationships, marital conflicts and guardianship of minors. It also handles appeals from decisions of local and municipal courts as well as local administrative agencies. Candidates:

Unexpired Term commencing on 01/03/2017 and ending 04/30/21.



Joy Malek Oldfield Age: 40

Address: 333 Kimberly Road Akron, OH 44313

Campaign Phone: (330) 687-3619 Campaign Email: info@judgejoy.com Occupation: Judge, Akron Municipal Court

**Education:** The University of Akron School of Law, 1997 - 2000, Juris Doctor; John Carroll University, 1993 - 1997, B.A., Sociology; Concentration – Criminology; Firestone High School, 1989-1991 (moved); St. Joseph Academy, 1991 - 1993,

high school diploma

Website: http://www.judgejoy.com

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/judgejoyoldfield/ Twitter: http://www.twitter.com/JudgeOldfield/ Instagram: http://www.instagram.com/judgeoldfield/

Scot A. Stevenson CANDIDATE DID NOT RESPOND TO THE QUESTIONS

### SUMMIT COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - GENERAL DIVISION

Term commencing on 1/5/2017



Alison Breaux Age: 42 Residence: Akron, OH

Campaign Email: gowithbreaux@gmail.com Website: http://www.breauxforjudge.com/ Occupation: Magistrate Akron Municipal Court

Education: JD from University of Akron Law School, BA Kent State University cum laude

Facebook: go with breaux for judge



**Todd McKenney** Age: 52

Residence: Akron, OH

**Campaign Email:** judgemckenney@gmail.com **Website:** http://www.mckenneyforjudge.com/

Occupation: Judge, Summit County Court of Common Pleas, General Division

Education: Hiram College, BA, Magna Cum Laude 1986; The Ohio State University College of Law, JD, 1989.

Facebook: McKenney for Judge

### SUMMIT COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION

The Domestic Relations Division of the Summit County Court of Common Please handles cases of divorce, dissolution of marriage, annulment, separation, and child custody matters. Candidates:

Term commencing on 1/6/2017



Ron Cable Age: 41 Residence: Akron, OH

**Campaign Email:** cableforjudge@gmail.com **Website:** http://www.cableforjudge.com/

Occupation: Magistrate, Summit County Domestic Relations Court

**Education**: J.D. University of Akron **Facebook:** facebook.com/cableforjudge



Katarina Cook Age: 51

Residence: Akron, OH

Campaign Email: Cookcampaign@gmail.com Website: http://www.judgekatarinacook.com

Occupation: Judge

**Education:** Firestone High School, Akron, Ohio, High School Diploma, 1982; University of Rochester, Rochester, NY,

B.A. History & Psychology, 1986; University of Akron School of Law, J.D., 1990.

Facebook: Judge Katarina Cook Facebook page; @JudgeCook4Kids

# 2016 Ohio Election Dates

Oct. 11 - Voter registration deadline

Oct. 12 - Start of absentee & early in-person voting

**Nov. 5** - 12 noon deadline for absentee ballot requests

**Nov. 7** - Deadline to postmark mailed absentee ballots

Nov. 8 - Election Day! Polls are open 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; 7:30 p.m. deadline to drop off absentee ballots at Board of Elections

# **Early Voting Hours**

### **Weekdays**

Oct. 12-14 & 17-21: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Oct. 24-28: 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Oct. 31-Nov. 4: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.

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Weekends
Sat., Oct. 29: 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 30: 1-5 p.m.
Sat., Nov. 5: 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Sun., Nov. 6: 1-5 p.m.

**Mon., Nov. 7**: 8 a.m.- 2 p.m.

# **Voter Resources**

www.Vote411.org - Look up your polling place and get your personalized Voter Guide from the League of Women Voters.

www.JudicialVotesCount.org -Learn about Ohio's courts and read profiles of candidates running for judge.

www.MyOhioVote.com - The Ohio Secretary of State website where you can check your voter registration, request an absentee ballot, and look up your local Board of Elections.

**Election Protection** - This non-partisan coalition provides a toll-free hotline for voting information or to report problems:

- 1-866-OUR-VOTE (English)
- 1- 888-Ve-Y-Vota (Spanish)
- 1-888-API-VOTE (Asian & Pacific Island languages)

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# Ohio House and Senate Questions

# Question 1:

What do you see as the state's role in addressing women's reproductive health care in light of the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision striking down a Texas law, similar to one in Ohio, as an undue burden on women?

# Question 2:

When the Ohio legislature takes up the state's biennial budget next year, what if any changes should be made to how funding is allocated between traditional schools, charter schools, and state funds to non-public schools (including vouchers)? What accountability standards should be required of such schools that receive state funds?



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### **OHIO SENATE DISTRICT 28**

Ohio State Senators serve a four-year term. They represent the people of the district and the state of Ohio in dealing with matters not allocated to the federal government. Candidates:

### Jonathan Schulz Republican

Address: 459 Pickwick Ln Tallmadge, OH 44278 Campaign Phone: (440) 897-4999

Campaign email: schulzforstatesenate@gmail.com

Education: BA Political Science/Legal Studies - Mount Union College

Website: http://schulzforstatesenate.com Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/JonathanJSchulz/

**Twitter:** https://twitter.com/jonathanjschulz

Q1: What do you see as the state's role in addressing women's reproductive health care in light of the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision striking down a Texas law, similar to one in Ohio, as an undue burden on women? As a Christian and a father, I am pro-life. I believe the government's duty in women's health care is to fund health centers that provide all the essential treatments for women - screenings for cancer and other diseases, mammograms, contraceptives and other preventative services - but I do not believe state or federal dollars should be directed to abortion services.

Q2: When the Ohio legislature takes up the state's biennial budget next year, what if any changes should be made to how funding is allocated between traditional schools, charter schools, and state funds to non-public schools (including vouchers)? What accountability standards should be required of such schools that receive state funds? All entities that receive state funds should be open to transparency and scrutiny. As a state, we must ensure that our tax dollars are being used properly and efficiently, and that includes in our education system. We should continue to fund any school that is providing high-level education services to its students and continues to grow a track record of success. However, we cannot continue to pump tens of millions of dollars into failing schools.

Q3: Do you believe Ohio is doing enough to ensure the environmental health of Lake Erie and Ohio's waterways, including but not limited to enforcement of the Great Lakes Compact? Explain. We must ensure that Lake Erie and our numerous waterways throughout the region are protected, as they provide drinking water, fish and recreational activities for millions of people in Northeast Ohio. As should be the case with any regulation, we must use a common sense approach to maintaining clean, safe water throughout the region.

Q4: What is your position on extending the fair districting rules passed by voters in 2015 for the state legislature to the U.S. Congressional districts? I believe that districts should be designed in a community-based fashion that allows the citizens of each community to vote and make decisions together. Drawing districts for political expedience does a disservice to many communities and I am in favor of moving away from that type of system.



### Vernon Sykes Democrat

Address: 133 Furnace Run Drive Akron, Ohio 44307 Campaign Phone: (234) 738-4844
Campaign email: sykesforsenate@gmail.com Website: http://www.sykesforsenate.com
Education: Bachelors in Business Administration Masters in Economics Masters in Public Administration Ph.D in Public Administration & Urban Affairs

Q1: What do you see as the state's role in addressing women's reproductive health care in light of the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision striking down a Texas law, similar to one in Ohio, as an undue burden on women? Results of recent research indicate that those persons who are poor, people of color, the poorly educated, and the disabled are not enjoying the benefits of

recent advancements in health care services. I believe that our government should allocate funds, implement programs, and enact policies to reduce health disparities and provide more access to affordable healthcare services for disadvantaged citizens.

Q2: When the Ohio legislature takes up the state's biennial budget next year, what if any changes should be made to how funding is allocated between traditional schools, charter schools, and state funds to non-public schools (including vouchers)? What

accountability standards should be required of such schools that receive state funds? The bill provides needed improvements to charter school oversight, however, additional regulations should be enacted to open charter school records to public inspection to improve disclose and oversight.

Q3: Do you believe Ohio is doing enough to ensure the environmental health of Lake Erie and Ohio's waterways, including but

**Q3:** Do you believe Ohio is doing enough to ensure the environmental health of Lake Erie and Ohio's waterways, including but not limited to enforcement of the Great Lakes Compact? Explain. I support policies, initiatives and regulations that provide a strategy to protect strips of vegetation that surround our reservoirs, border streams, rivers, and other tributaries. This vegetation provides a filter that prevents toxic pollutants from draining into reservoirs and Lake Erie.

Q4: What is your position on extending the fair districting rules passed by voters in 2015 for the state legislature to the U.S. Congressional districts? I am one of four petitioners leading the petition drive to offer an amendment to Ohio's Constitution to adopt a "Voter's Bill of Rights": • To make voting a fundamental right • To make voter registration easier and accessible

- To clarify voter identification requirements To maintain the thirty-five day early voting period To require early voting on weekends
- To prevent ballots from being rejected because poll worker or election official's error

### **OHIO HOUSE DISTRICT 34**

Representatives to the Ohio State House serve two-year terms. They represent the people of the district and the State of Ohio in dealing with matters not allocated to the federal government. Candidates:

### Gene Littlefield Republican

CANDIDATE DID NOT RESPOND TO THE QUESTIONS



### Emilia Sykes Democrat

Address: 109 N. Howard street Akron, OH 44308 Campaign email: Emilia@emiliasykes.com

**Education:** Juris Doctor- University of Florida Master's in Public Health- University of Florida B.A.- Psychology, Kent

State Univerity

Website: http://EmiliaSykes.com Facebook: Facebook.com/EmiliaSykes

Twitter: @EmiliaSykesOH

Q1: What do you see as the state's role in addressing women's reproductive health care in light of the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision striking down a Texas law, similar to one in Ohio, as an undue burden on women? The state of Ohio should encourage the accessibility of all reproductive health options. Preventative care is the most cost-effective and least invasive way to provide health care, and the state should support access to preventative care that includes contraception. Finally, the state should not be in the business of controlling a woman's body. Women, in consultation with their medical provider, are in the best position to make decisions regarding their health.

Q2: When the Ohio legislature takes up the state's biennial budget next year, what if any changes should be made to how funding is allocated between traditional schools, charter schools, and state funds to non-public schools (including vouchers)? What accountability standards should be required of such schools that receive state funds? House Bill 2, was a step in the right direction. While it was important to place additional regulations on sponsors who are not living up to the promise of charter schools, we still need more steps to ensure the transparency of the taxpayer funds that charter schools receive. As charter schools started as an experiment, it has not gone well in Ohio, and now it is time to begin re-investing resources back to our public schools.

Q3: Do you believe Ohio is doing enough to ensure the environmental health of Lake Erie and Ohio's waterways, including but not limited to enforcement of the Great Lakes Compact? Explain. With Lake Erie being a major contributor to the economic and recreational opportunities in Northeast Ohio, we must ensure that outside, human activities continue to respect this irreplacable natural resource. Legislations that bans microbeads, dumping, reducing farm run-off, and combats invasive species are necessary if we plan to continue benefit from Lake Erie for generations to come. All of these steps and more are critial to maintaining the health of this natural resource.

Q4: What is your position on extending the fair districting rules passed by voters in 2015 for the state legislature to the U.S. Congressional districts? In 2015, I was strong advocate in ensuring that Issue 1 passed and state legislative districts were fair and represented the community. My support extends to the Congressional district plan that has been discussed in the Ohio House as well as in the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission. The citizens in the state of Ohio deserve fair representation at all levels of government and the current plans will help achieve this.

### **OHIO HOUSE DISTRICT 35**

Aimee N. Cooper Republican

CANDIDATE DID NOT RESPOND TO THE QUESTIONS



### Greta Johnson Democrat

Address: 2220 Cambridge Court Akron, Ohio 44319 Campaign Phone: (330) 416-6889

Campaign email: friendsofgretajohnson@gmail.com

Education: B.A., Cum Laude, Secondary Education, University of Akron, M.A., Higher Education Administration,

University of Akron J.D. University of Akron

Website: http://gretajohnson.com Facebook: Facebook/electgreta

Twitter: @RepGretaJohnson

Q1: What do you see as the state's role in addressing women's reproductive health care in light of the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision striking down a Texas law, similar to one in Ohio, as an undue burden on women? Right now, the State Legislature needs to acknowledge that abortion is a constitutionally protected right. Instead of attempting to place additional undue burdens on access to abortion care, the Legislature should be focusing on repealing some of the archaic restrictions enacted in the last several years, limiting women's access to healthcare. The State needs a far more limited role in women's reproductive healthcare than it currently maintains.

Q2: When the Ohio legislature takes up the state's biennial budget next year, what if any changes should be made to how funding is allocated between traditional schools, charter schools, and state funds to non-public schools (including vouchers)? What accountability standards should be required of such schools that receive state funds? Charter schools should be held to the same transparent standards by which public schools are measured. The incredible amount of money invested in charter schools is robbing public school students and their families of the education to which they are entitled. The funding in the biennial budget should reflect the performance of the poorly performing charter schools.

Q3: Do you believe Ohio is doing enough to ensure the environmental health of Lake Erie and Ohio's waterways, including but not limited to enforcement of the Great Lakes Compact? Explain. We need to have regulations in place that ensure safe drinking water for all Ohioans. The lack of attention to the recent situation in Sebring is not acceptable. Additionally, the legislation passed to address algae blooms in Lake Erie need to be enforced and we need to continue to work with environmental agencies to preerve the health of the lake.

Q4: What is your position on extending the fair districting rules passed by voters in 2015 for the state legislature to the U.S. Congressional districts? I would whole heartedly support fair districting at the U.S. Congressional District Level.

### **OHIO HOUSE DISTRICT 38**

Judith Lynn Lee Democrat

CANDIDATE DID NOT RESPOND TO THE QUESTIONS

Marilyn Slaby Republican

CANDIDATE DID NOT RESPOND TO THE QUESTIONS

# Ohio House and Senate Questions

# Question 3:

Do you believe Ohio is doing enough to ensure the environmental health of Lake Erie and Ohio's waterways, including but not limited to enforcement of the Great Lakes Compact? Explain.

# Question 4:

What is your position on extending the fair districting rules passed by voters in 2015 for the state legislature to the U.S. Congressional districts?

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# TE411.org ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED



"If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, it expects what never was and never will be...
The People

cannot be safe without information."

—Thomas Jefferson

For additional copies of this publication, please call 330-836-7079 or email lwvaa@lwvaa.org.



For additional voting information, please contact:

Summit County Board of Elections 470 Grant Street, Akron, OH 44311 330-643-5200 SummitCountyBOE.com

### **CONTRIBUTORS**

We express our sincere appreciation to the 2016-2017 corporate contributors to the League of Women Voters of the Akron Area Education Fund:

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