



**LOCAL NON-PARTISAN VOTER GUIDE
GENERAL ELECTION**

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Ypsilanti/Lincoln School Districts

ELECTION DAY POLLS ARE OPEN 7:00 am – 8:00 pm

EARLY VOTING: October 26 – November 3

<https://www.washtenaw.org/3970/Early-Voting>

Included in this Local Voter Guide:
(Contested races only)

State Representative #23, #32
Washtenaw County Commissioners Districts
2,4,5,6
Washtenaw County Judges
Washtenaw County Clerk
Washtenaw County Treasurer
Washtenaw County Water Resources Comm
Washtenaw Com College Board of Trustees
Washtenaw County Proposals
Ypsilanti City Council, Ward 2,3
Ypsilanti Community School Board
Augusta Township

***Information about the following
races not included in this local
Voter Guide can be found by
Visiting Vote411.org or
www.washtenaw.org***

US President
US Vice President
US Senate
US Congressional Representative
Michigan Supreme Court
Michigan Court of Appeals
Governing Boards of Michigan Universities

The League of Women Voters of Washtenaw County is a nonpartisan organization established in 1920 in Ann Arbor, MI. The League works to encourage citizen participation in government. It never supports or opposes any political party or candidate.

Publication of these statements and opinions of candidates is solely in the interest of public service and in no way is to be construed as an endorsement by the League of Women Voters. The League takes no responsibility for any views or facts stated by the candidates. Each question is limited to 1000 characters, and there has been no editing on the part of the League for spelling or grammar. All responses are solely in the words of the candidates. The work of the League is financed by the dues of its volunteer members and by contributions from citizens in the community.

Membership in the League of Women Voters of Washtenaw County is open to all citizens of voting age. For information about joining or contributing to the League, or information about elections, contact the League of Women Voters of Washtenaw County at: P.O. Box 3832, Ann Arbor, MI, 48106 or website: www.washtenaw.org.

State Representative – Michigan House District #23

VOTE FOR 1

(Washtenaw County)

<p>CANDIDATES</p> <p><i>(Visit VOTE411.org for responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What should Michigan do to provide an equitable, quality public education for all while addressing the current teacher shortage.</p>	<p>What do you see as the state’s role, if any, in mitigating the impact of climate change?</p>	<p>What actions/proposals, if any, do you support to retain residents in our state?</p>
<p>David Stamp (Rep)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>
<p>Jason Morgan (Dem)</p> <p>Campaign Website: votejasonmorgan.com</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>I am running for re-election as your State Representative because I want to continue building a Michigan that works for everyone. My focus is on passing more pro-worker, pro-choice, and pro-people legislation. I am committed to improving our education system, protecting our environment, holding corporate polluters accountable, investing in infrastructure, and strengthening our democracy. Since taking office, we’ve passed transformational legislation to expand civil rights protections for our LGBTQ community, ensure reproductive freedom, restore labor rights, and create economic opportunities for all. Let's keep the momentum going, together!</p>	<p>As a former teacher and current vice chair of the House K-12 and higher education budget committees, I hold a deep commitment to ensuring equitable, quality public education for all. I have helped pass legislation to improve working conditions for teachers and strengthen public education for our students. This includes restoring collective bargaining rights, increasing teacher compensation and investing in mental health, school safety, special education, and early intervention programs. We’re also helping families save by making college more affordable and providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.</p>	<p>The state must play an active role in mitigating the impact of climate change. Last year, I helped pass the Clean Energy & Jobs Act, a historic package of clean energy legislation that will require Michigan’s energy to come from 60% renewable sources by 2035, expand access to rooftop solar, and authorize the Michigan Public Service Commission to regulate big energy utility companies on a broader array of issues impacting residents. Additionally, I introduced Michigan’s “Polluter Pay” package to hold corporate polluters accountable for environmental contamination and help those harmed by pollution to seek justice.</p>	<p>Retaining and attracting residents is crucial for Michigan’s growth and prosperity. I introduced a comprehensive set of legislation to implement the recommendations of Governor Whitmer’s Growing Michigan Together Council, which focus on creating a more vibrant, inclusive, and prosperous Michigan. Here are some key actions that I am working to implement: Investing in education and strategic economic development, building more housing, creating a statewide public transit system, improving access to quality healthcare, and protecting our state’s natural resources. These actions will create good paying jobs and attract talent to our great state!</p>
<p>Christina Marudas (Grn)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>

State Representative – Michigan House District #32

VOTE FOR 1

(Washtenaw County)

<p>CANDIDATES</p> <p><i>(Visit VOTE411.org for responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What should Michigan do to provide an equitable, quality public education for all while addressing the current teacher shortage.</p>	<p>What do you see as the state’s role, if any, in mitigating the impact of climate change?</p>	<p>What actions/proposals, if any, do you support to retain residents in our state?</p>
<p>Martin A. Church (Rep)</p>	<p>First it is not government's responsibility to improve</p>	<p>First the constitution grants voting Rights. Not</p>	<p>First let's enforce our current Laws, Then let's have an</p>

<p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>Education begins in the Home. We need parents to step up and become what God called them to be. The educators of their children. You will never have equitable or quality in the public education. you have to get parents involved in their kids education.</p>	<p>their economic positions. it's up to them to get the education they need to secure good form of employment. Government does not create jobs, individuals do. Let's cut taxes and get our churches to provide the economic training to balance budgets.</p>	<p>the State Legislature. The State Legislature is required to see the executive branch follows and enforces the laws as written. the state legislature should also require the Sec of State to formally review ALL election events and when required remove city and county clerks that fail to adequately follow the law. as for campaign funding, lets make a law that says you can not raise more capital than the job pays during the term in office.</p>	<p>honest debate on the issues not one filled with garbage and made up facts. such has the garbage ethanol would be cheaper. It's not. and the only climate Change is caused by the Sin nature of Man, Act's of God are not climate Change.</p>
<p>Jimmie Wilson, Jr. (Dem)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>
<p>Ryan Sample (Grn)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>

State Representative – Michigan House District #33
(Washtenaw County)

VOTE FOR 1

<p>CANDIDATES</p> <p><i>(Visit VOTE411.org for responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What should Michigan do to provide an equitable, quality public education for all while addressing the current teacher shortage.</p>	<p>What do you see as the state's role, if any, in mitigating the impact of climate change?</p>	<p>What actions/proposals, if any, do you support to retain residents in our state?</p>
<p>Jason Rogers (Rep)</p> <p>Campaign Website:</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>
<p>Morgan Foreman (Dem)</p> <p>Campaign Website: forwardwithforeman.com</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>I'm running for state legislature to continue my commitment to service and</p>	<p>To ensure equitable, quality public education and address teacher shortages in Michigan, the state should increase teacher salaries and benefits, provide incentives for hard-to-staff areas, and expand alternative certification pathways. Long-term strategies include investing in teacher</p>	<p>The state's role in mitigating climate change involves implementing policies to reduce emissions, promote sustainability, and prepare for climate impacts. Key actions include enforcing regulations on emissions, supporting renewable energy development, and investing in public</p>	<p>To attract and retain residents in Michigan, the state can focus on key strategies outlined in the Growing Michigan Together Council's report. These include fostering job creation in tech, manufacturing, and green energy sectors, and offering incentives for business expansion. Enhancing education,</p>

<p>advocacy. Growing up in Southeast Michigan, inspired by my community, I learned the values of hard work and giving back. As an educator in Ypsilanti Schools and MEA member, I saw the transformative power of education. At the Student Advocacy Center, I empowered residents through nonpartisan Get Out the Vote efforts. Serving on the Washtenaw County Democratic Party Committee and former Treasurer of its Black Caucus, Working as a legislative staffer I championed critical issues. I aim to fight for healthcare, education, senior care and representing my community's voices</p>	<p>education programs, offering robust mentorship and professional development, improving working conditions, and fostering community and parental engagement. Policy changes should focus on equitable funding distribution, reducing reliance on local property taxes, and advocating for supportive legislation to improve teacher retention and student outcomes.</p>	<p>transportation and green infrastructure. The state should incentivize energy-efficient buildings and sustainable urban planning, raise public awareness, and encourage carbon footprint reduction. Collaborating with local governments and businesses, developing climate action plans, and investing in resilient infrastructure are also crucial. Michigan can lead in this space.</p>	<p>healthcare, and public safety will improve quality of life, alongside developing affordable housing. Improving transportation and digital infrastructure supports modern living, while promoting community engagement creates vibrant neighborhoods. These efforts aim to make Michigan a desirable place to live, work, and thrive.</p>
---	---	--	---

Washtenaw County Clerk/Register of Deeds
(Covers all of Washtenaw County)

VOTE FOR 1

<p>CANDIDATES</p> <p><i>(Visit VOTE411.org for responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with currently limited resources?</p>	<p>What thoughts do you have about the current voting procedures?</p>	<p>Are there challenges to ensuring a safe and secure voting process, both in-person and through absentee ballots? What are your recommendations to meet these challenges?</p>
<p>Samantha Strayer (Rep)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>I have a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of California-Irvine and a master's degree in politics from the Hillsdale College Graduate School of Statesmanship. My education reflects a consistent interest in politics—particularly the cultivation of an informed and engaged citizenry. I am a writer and editor by vocation, which require a high level of precision in meaning, effective communication, and accuracy. My writing is also rooted in respect for the reader, gratitude that someone would take time out of his or her busy life to read something that I have written. Taken together, these experiences fit perfectly with the role of County Clerk/Register of Deeds, who must be precise, accurate, an effective communicator, and wish to serve all residents so that they can be informed and engaged and know what resources and information are available to them.</p>	<p>My goals are first to ensure the integrity of our elections, particularly in our county seat of Ann Arbor, and second to ensure accurate record keeping regarding land ownership. I would like to work with CheckMyVote.org to clean up our county's voter rolls. This will be an ongoing initiative and involves any resident who wishes to participate. Also, I plan to connect with the county's clerks to hear from them what works, what doesn't, and ideas they have. Overall, I wish to provide timely, efficient, and accurate service to our residents. The current website has a lot of great information, so that important infrastructure already exists and is a strong foundation to build upon. I would leverage the existing site and add to it additional resources. I would also modify some of the wording, navigation options, and other aspects of the site, so that it's more intuitive and therefore easier to use and find information.</p>	<p>How we vote is one part of the problem and definitely needs improvement, as it is time consuming, expensive, and, in several respects, needlessly complicated. It is also fraught with (intentional) weaknesses that invite abuse. For example, there is no requirement for any voter to prove s/he is a citizen. This must change (e.g., the SAVE Act).</p> <p>Early voting further complicates what truly should be a relatively simple process: you show up at your local precinct polling place on Election Day (one day!), show your photo ID to verify you are a registered voter in your precinct, and vote. Mail-in voting is a danger to election integrity.</p>	<p>Absolutely. There are challenges with both mail-in and in-person voting, but the challenges are much greater when there is mass mail-in voting, which is highly vulnerable to fraud and banned in most countries. We need strict rules on signature verification as well as full transparency of the process. We also need strict adherence to following the chain of custody. Additionally, the quality of the voter rolls is a major problem. We in Michigan have much to change in the way we conduct our elections, yes, but it starts with the foundation of accurate data. Michigan has nearly 105% voters! In short, we have dirty voter rolls. This is a problem statewide but especially in Washtenaw. Attempts to clean up the voter rolls are sabotaged by our Secretary of State. Magically, voters who have passed away or moved—even years ago—somehow keep reappearing. It's a mess, and it's a mess by design. Last but not least, we must end our membership with ERIC, the Electronic Registration Information Center.</p>

<p>Lawrence Kestenbaum (Dem)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * I have been county clerk/register for almost 20 years and accomplished a lot. * I have a B.A. in economics, a law degree, and did graduate work in city/regional planning and historic preservation. I have lectured or taught classes at three universities, and I continue to do presentations for service groups and lecture series. * My past election experience included working as a poll worker and as an attorney for candidates in recounts. I have written and lectured on election issues such as voter authentication, tabulation technology, and security. * And, of course, I've been the county's chief election official since 2005. * I was elected to county boards in two counties, served on university, city, and regional planning commissions, and too many other things to list here. * I was one of the pioneers of the World Wide Web. In 1996, I created the Political Graveyard web site (PoliticalGraveyard.com), which made a tremendous amount of U.S. political history available online. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Every person who comes to our office is treated with courtesy and respect. That is my ongoing commitment. * My team has greatly expanded access to information online, and we're not done yet. * We were the first county in the state to implement electronic death registration, a big savings in time and energy for everyone involved. * I will also continue advocating for voting rights and human rights. * In 2014, when Michigan's gay marriage prohibition was struck down, I opened the office on a Saturday to process marriage licenses for same-sex couples. Three other county clerks followed my lead. * In 2012, the legislature added unconstitutional roadblocks to stop voters from recalling elected officials. I'm in the forefront of those opposing that power grab. * Many states are seeing partisan attacks on voting rights and the election system. Michigan is a flashpoint of this conflict. A county clerk with deep election experience is the best defense. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Successful ballot proposals in 2018-22 expanded voting rights and access. Implementation of these changes is ongoing, including early voting, automatic registration, pre-registration of 16-year-olds, a permanent absentee list, and routine post-election audits. We still need help from the Legislature to fully realize these things. * In particular, the August primary needs to be earlier, ideally in May, for better voter turnout, and to assure enough time for recounts and post-election random-precinct audits. * Michigan asks a LOT of our voters. Each of us gets to vote on nearly 100 different offices, from president to library board, from Court of Appeals to Probate Judge. * With the decline of media coverage of local government, an increasing proportion of voters prefer to vote at home, with access to resources to look up candidates and issues. * In the long run, I expect Michigan will have a mostly or fully mail-in voting system, like Oregon or Colorado. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Michigan election law protects the integrity and security of the process. And the right to a secret ballot is now explicitly protected in the state constitution. * In a voting precinct or absentee counting board, every sensitive task is performed by two poll workers of different partisanship, working together. * The absentee ballot process, in particular, is structured to protect the anonymity of ballots. * Our automatic tabulators are regularly tested and audited (before and after every election) to verify that they report votes accurately. Ballots are also kept for 22 months after every federal election, so that anyone can count and compare them to the reported totals. * Voter intimidation is illegal, and our poll workers, our local clerks, and our police agencies are alert to intervene if it happens. * Prop 2 of 2022, among many other things, mandated secure drop boxes for absentee ballots. * I am confident that our voting process is safe and secure.
--	---	---	---

Washtenaw County Treasurer
(Covers all of Washtenaw County)

VOTE FOR 1

<p>CANDIDATES</p> <p><i>(Visit VOTE411.org for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with currently limited resources?</p>	<p>What are your thoughts about the current tax system in Washtenaw County?</p>	<p>What are your thoughts regarding the level of customer service provided?</p>
<p>Robert F. Zimmerman (Rep)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p>	<p>I approach each assignment with a goal of continuous innovation. I'm oriented to "out-collaborate everyone else", to help my employers compete. Creating and tracking benchmarks indicating where additional value is created (as well as identifying where we have</p>	<p>The county's tax structure is largely driven by the state with a very limited voice for county treasurers. We no longer have a structure that grows our economy for the working classes. Sales taxes and income taxes are a</p>	<p>Most of the public interface is with our local townships and city treasurers as the first point of contact. Only items such as dog licenses are handled by the county treasurer's office as a "retail" service. The office would engage the public when taxes are not</p>

<p>This is a financial position and my career has demonstrated Proven Financial Leadership for 35 +years. My educational background is a Bachelor of Science in Economics and Business from Carnegie-Mellon University and a Masters in Business Administration with majors in Accounting and Finance. I've passed the CPA Exam. My audit experience includes a "Big Four" CPA firm and internal audit roles in management responsibilities for two Fortune 200 firms. I'm very knowledgeable of financial statements and what they represent regarding the operating performance of an organization. Moreover, my professional experience in financial operations includes roles and responsibilities as a CFO for 17 years in the steel industry, Director-Finance for an international automotive supplier, Division and Operations Controller for 3 Fortune 200 manufacturers. My CFO tenure included Pension committee membership and determining fund selections for the 401-k plan.</p>	<p>work to do) is key. I'd like to enhance current efforts in the following ways: Working with our cities and townships to "get ahead" of potential opportunities and problems by digging into delinquent tax payments. The county perpetually has a credit line of over \$20M to cover delinquencies, now far more costly with increased interest rates. The cost to the county to administer foreclosures is \$1M, benefiting no one. I'd like to work with our city & township treasurers to provide incentives to encourage more timely payment, address those taxpayers with cash flow issues, and help get vacant properties filled towards their highest and best purpose. This can help keep our values strong and ensure "Main Street" thrives for all.</p>	<p>manageable process and can be compared to competing states. Property Taxes have become convoluted, particularly in Washtenaw as so much property is held by non-profits. Our taxes for similar housing and commercial properties are rarely competitive with other counties. A county commissioner noted it's difficult for those making \$60k to afford to live in Washtenaw. Many will locate in adjacent counties, spurring growth there rather than here. For those not desiring growth in our county, their property taxes will still increase as the pool of property taxpayers is comparatively low. We are looking at up to 7 county millages on the ballot this year. I'd like to see a cap on property tax rates and assessments that cannot be exceeded or overridden.</p>	<p>paid to the cities and townships by the deadline. This can be a stressful situation to property owners that may already be very stressed. Accordingly, it's tough to get a good read when the customer can be in an emotional situation. The office has undertaken educational opportunities available to those caught in this situation. I'm hearing the program is well received. It does suggest potential enhancements to financial education throughout the county. This could help our residents not only in stressful situations, but to get better financial footing before these events happen. As many mental health & domestic violence situations result from financial issues, perhaps a program to better train our social workers would help.</p>
<p>Latitia Lamelle Sharp (Dem)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>I am proud to hold degrees from Ypsilanti High School, Washtenaw Community College, and Eastern Michigan University. These educational institutions have provided me with a strong foundation across various fields, enabling me to contribute effectively to Washtenaw County governance for over 35 years. In my extensive career, I have actively participated in county operations, gaining valuable insights into grant management, procurement, financial analysis, accounting, and human resources. My commitment to financial best practices is evident through my membership in the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) and the National Grant Management Association (NGMA). My primary qualification lies in my dedication to bringing a fresh perspective to the role of County Treasurer. I aim to build upon the retiring treasurers' work while emphasizing transparency, taxpayer safeguards, and community-centered programs. A vote for me is a vote for a Treasurer who prioritizes the people.</p>	<p>My goals will focus on five key priority pillars that address the essential responsibilities of the position. These pillars form a robust framework, emphasizing community well-being, responsible management of public funds, and financial integrity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safeguard Public Funds: Ensure the safety of public funds, protect county assets, and adhere to ethical standards. 2. Property Tax Collection Effectiveness: Optimize tax collection processes to safeguard public funds and support essential services. 3. Homeownership Preservation Programs: Enhance existing programs to prevent foreclosures and promote homeownership, benefiting the community. 4. Community Partnerships: Foster collaborations with local organizations, businesses, and neighborhood associations to drive 	<p>Property taxes in Michigan are billed twice a year (in July and December) by the local city or township treasurer. If local treasurers cannot collect property taxes, the county treasurer becomes responsible for collecting all delinquent taxes. The current tax system in Washtenaw County faces several challenges: Delinquency and Collection Issues, Equity and Fairness, Administrative Burdens, Digital Accessibility, and Foreclosure Prevention. I will work diligently and affectively to collect taxes equitably and fairly to prevent delinquency and foreclosure, ensuring accessibility for all residents within the county's administrative resources.</p>	<p>. If elected as the Washtenaw County Treasurer, my commitment to customer service will be a strong primary focus. In my career of public service, I have dedicated myself to courteous customer service, listening and providing whatever is needed, or making the connection with resources that can provide the service. The office should provide courteous and helpful assistance to taxpayers, whether in person, over the phone, or via email. Promptly addressing inquiries related to property taxes and payment options is essential. The office should be transparent about tax assessments, billing, and collection processes. Clear communication regarding due dates, penalties, and exemptions is crucial. Ensuring accuracy in property assessments, tax calculations, and records management is vital. Any discrepancies or errors should be promptly rectified. The office should prioritize accessibility for all residents, including older adults.</p>

	community investment and innovation. 5. Compliance with State Laws: Uphold state regulations to maintain public trust and ensure sound financial practices.		
--	--	--	--

Washtenaw County Water Resources

4-year term

VOTE FOR 1

CANDIDATES <i>(Visit VOTE411.org for Responses to additional questions)</i>	What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited resources?	What steps will you take to mitigate the Gelman plume contamination?	What do you think are the greatest threats to our county's surface and ground water resources?
Lisa Gubaci-Root (Rep) Education/Qualifications / Experience:	DID NOT RESPOND	DID NOT RESPOND	DID NOT RESPOND
Gretchen D. Driskell (Dem) Education/Qualifications / Experience: My education includes an accounting degree, former CPA and MBA. I recently completed my MPA at the Ford School of Public Policy at University of Michigan. Additionally, I have attended Michigan Inland Lakes and Streams conferences and MSU educational sessions regarding our fresh water systems. I have had long term interest in our fresh water and learned over the years about the challenges and opportunities that are present. I have served as a local elected official for over 20 years and also spent 4 years as a state legislator. I have worked in a collaborative manner with other stakeholders to help solve regional issues and represent the needs of our citizens. I am an innovative problem solver and will work to address your concerns in a fiscally responsible manner.	The Water Resources Commission has state mandated responsibilities regarding drainage and stormwater management, which we will continue to maintain and enhance as needed. Additionally I will work collaboratively with our communities and stakeholders to develop innovative solutions to the impacts of climate change on flooding and water quality. Water is our most important natural resource and helping to educate our citizens on how to protect it is also an important ongoing issue.	Now that the Gelman plume has become a Superfund site, I will work with our federal partners to insure that the contamination is cleaned up as soon as possible. Additionally, we need to inform our impacted citizens on the movement of the plume on a continual basis. I will work with the local governing authorities to insure we are doing everything possible to contain and ultimately clean up the plume.	The greatest threat is the lack of understanding our citizens have on the impact they potentially make to our water system. Whether that is fertilizing your lawn, lack of maintenance of our septic systems, or soil runoff from flooding on heavy rainfall. PFAS and other contaminants are also a substantial threat and fortunately the state of Michigan is at the forefront of addressing this issue. The other threat is climate change and the severe weather that is occurring. Heavy rainfalls cause more contamination of our waters. Educating our citizens will help address all these concerns and our elected officials will develop policies to protect our water resources.

Washtenaw County Commissioner - District 2

4-year term

VOTE FOR 1

<p>CANDIDATES <i>(Visit VOTE411.org for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited esources?</p>	<p>What are the most serious problems facing the County and how will you work to solve them?</p>	<p>What are Washtenaw County's greatest assets and how can they be used to help the community thrive?</p>
<p>P. McNichol (Rep) Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>
<p>Crystal Lyte (Dem) Education/Qualifications / Experience: What makes me the most and best-qualified candidate to continue as a county commissioner is all of my experiences. I am a former educator, cheer and dance coach, social services case manager who has served all of Washtenaw County and beyond our county border, and the director of a returning citizens program at a major university in Washtenaw County. The experience that qualifies me best is that I am currently serving as District 2 county commissioner and in these last two years I have learned the needs and wants of our county. I have had the opportunity with my colleagues to develop and initiate resources for our county that haven't been available to our county as they should. I am a life-long resident of Washtenaw County!</p>	<p>If re-elected my goals are to continue working on the housing and homelessness initiative. My goal is to develop affordable housing opportunities in all of Washtenaw County. What I mean by affordable is for residents to have the opportunity to afford rent/mortgage that one income can afford. I determine to make sure that our aging community is provided the resources that they need to age gracefully. One major goal is to complete the development of the new Eastern Washtenaw Community & Recreational Center. I have a laundry list of goals that I will accomplish if re-elected.</p>	<p>One of the county's most serious problem is that we are facing are affordable housing and homelessness. I will continue to work with my colleagues so that we can create ordinances to reduce renter abuse until our legislators are able to change how landlords and mortgage companies charge consumers.</p>	<p>One of Washtenaw County's greatest assets are our resources. I have stated before that Washtenaw County is one of the wealthiest resource counties and aren't afraid to utilize them!</p>

Washtenaw County Commissioner - District 4

4-year term

VOTE FOR 1

<p>CANDIDATES <i>(Visit VOTE411.org for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited esources?</p>	<p>What are the most serious problems facing the County and how will you work to solve them?</p>	<p>What are Washtenaw County's greatest assets and how can they be used to help the community thrive?</p>
<p>Alberta Borneo (Rep) Education/Qualifications / Experience: My education: Bachelor of degree in Journalism, majoring in Advertising and Master of Occupational Therapy. Worked in advertising for 15 years and as an occupational therapist 20 years part-time. While in advertising, my responsibilities included media planning and buying for</p>	<p>My goals would be to provide community resources (including education, health, infrastructure) to meet people's needs within the most efficient budgets through effective negotiation. Utilizing current resources/dollars before seeking additional expenditures is important in being fiscally responsible.</p>	<p>Keeping the community safe, healthy and educated with tightened or tightening budgets in a stressful economy.</p>	<p>Greatest assets are a diverse, educated population with two major universities and access to many local social services and faith communities. Problem solving for the community can be addressed quickly through those assets.</p>

<p>clients including Blue Cross Blue Shield of Mi and Borders Books. I managed various media budgets from hundreds of thousand dollars to \$1-2 million budgets to achieve client goals. It involved negotiating the most benefit for client dollars.</p> <p>While a contract Occupational Therapist, mainly in schools, I estimated caseload needs to allow for budgeting for student times and goals. I effectively stayed within allocated budgets for Special Education, making the most of supplies to accomplish these goals while justifying the acquisition of higher cost equipment for specific students.</p> <p>My positions have allowed me to communicate effectively to people at multiple levels: students, parents, teachers, administrators.</p>			
<p>Caroline Sanders (Dem)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>I have Associate, Bachelor, Master, and Education Specialist degrees in Business Administration, Public Law & Government, Technology & Legal Administration and Urban Education. I have also owned several businesses that provided legal support services, mentoring and strategic consulting to individuals and corporate clients.</p>	<p>Should I be re-elected, I intend to continue advocating for my constituents and the most vulnerable residents in our county who struggle with housing affordability, consumer protection, health and human services and overall quality of life.</p>	<p>Housing and Homelessness; Equitable access to education, training and employment; Consumer respect/accountability from corporate and county services; and Streamlining/transparency /efficiency of not for profit providers.</p>	<p>Resident & Environmental diversity; Academic institutions; Corporate entities; County stability and growth; Certain Not for Profit Organizations who are committed to moving the needle. Greater cooperation and layering of their assets can help the community thrive.</p>

Washtenaw County Commissioner - District 5

4-year term

VOTE FOR 1

<p>CANDIDATES</p> <p><i>(Visit VOTE411.org for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited resources?</p>	<p>What are the most serious problems facing the County and how will you work to solve them?</p>	<p>What are Washtenaw County's greatest assets and how can they be used to help the community thrive?</p>
<p>Brett Birk (Rep)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>Life long resident of Washtenaw county, father of four, grandfather of ten , successful businessman who knows how to work with people.</p>	<p>The limited resources mean we have to be strategic in allocating to the highest level priorities that benefit the people of the county.</p>	<p>The wasteful expenditure in allocating money to programs that do not benefit everyone in the county.</p>	<p>We have an educated workforce that can be leveraged to bring in more companies that can raise the economic wellbeing of our people.</p>
<p>Justin D. Hodge (Dem)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p>	<p>I believe that everyone across our county should have the opportunity to be healthy, build wealth, and be safe. I will continue to</p>	<p>The extreme health, economic, and racial inequality in our county is our most pressing problem. The affordable</p>	<p>Our county is home to both the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University, which provide access to a wealth</p>

<p>Throughout my career as a social worker, I have gained an understanding of the challenges faced by our frontline workers and how policy can better support them. As a professor of social work, I prepare my students to find policy solutions to address the most pressing problems impacting our society. During my first two terms as your commissioner and as the chair of the board, I have led our county in making historic investments to make our community healthier, to help our residents build wealth, and to increase community safety. From investing more than \$10 Million in Housing and Human Services, to investing in our youth and seniors, I have worked tirelessly to deliver for everyone in our community. I have secured more resources specifically for our district than any of my predecessors, such as securing \$30 Million in local, county, state, and federal funds for the Eastside Community and Recreation Center and \$8 Million specifically for community driven programs in 48197 and 48198.</p>	<p>strategically leverage state and federal funds and existing funding to invest in programming to create generational change. I will continue working to increase the availability of home-based and community services, such as through our Health Department, so that all residents have access to the healthcare that they need to live full and healthy lives. I will continue working to promote economic development by increasing access to financial services, such as financial counseling, that will help residents build wealth and reduce reliance on predatory lending agencies. I will make our county safer by continuing my work to end community and gun violence. I have worked with community leaders and elected officials to develop a plan to interrupt violence in our community and it is one of my top priorities to see that work through.</p>	<p>housing crisis, community violence, and the historic lack of investment in certain parts of the county are among the issues that contribute to these inequities and, under my leadership as Chair, are all issues our county has been working to address. In addition to continuing to provide resources directly to people that need them, I will continue to push for investments in the community to address the root causes of these issues. Bringing the Eastside Community and Recreation Center to fruition, expanding mobile healthcare and community service delivery options, and funding creative violence interruption strategies are just a few strategies that I have led the county in pursuing to address these issues and I will continue to work tirelessly on these and so much more.</p>	<p>of resources for residents. Not only are they two of our largest employers, there are research and projects currently underway at both that should inform the decisions made by our elected officials. For example, Poverty Solutions at the University of Michigan promotes programming to increase economic mobility and provide youth employment opportunities, which can be used to combat the economic inequality and segregation in our county. Having the American Center for Mobility (ACM) located right here in Ypsilanti Township is another tremendous asset for our county. The public and private partnerships that made the AMC possible, including the sponsorship from Microsoft, will lead our county to be a global leader in automated and connected vehicle technology, bringing much needed economic development and attention to the county, specifically to residents of my district.</p>
---	---	---	--

Washtenaw County Commissioner - District 6

4-year term

VOTE FOR 1

<p>CANDIDATES (Visit VOTE411.org for Responses to additional questions)</p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited resources?</p>	<p>What are the most serious problems facing the County and how will you work to solve them?</p>	<p>What are Washtenaw County's greatest assets and how can they be used to help the community thrive?</p>
<p>Mike Eller (Rep)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>I am a lifelong resident of the City of Ypsilanti, a husband of 30 years, father of 4 boys and a grandfather of 3 boys.</p> <p>I have been a small business owner for over 30 years. My experience has enabled me to successfully build a cross section of teams over the years in facing and accomplishing the many different challenges that happen in the day to day life of business ownership. This includes long and short term planning, effective execution of plans, setting up and measuring accountabilities to ensure success, managing projects, establishing budgets and sticking to them, and of course the day to day fires that can come up and must be solved in</p>	<p>I represent the grass roots voice of constituents of Washtenaw County regarding taxes, law enforcement, infrastructure, planning and zoning according to the principles of constitutionally limited government.</p> <p>I will approve budgets through the lens of constitutionally limited government, reducing the tax burden on our communities and their residents.</p>	<p>I will work hard to eliminate programs and policies that consume tax dollars unnecessarily and favor special interest causes often hidden from the average taxpayer.</p>	<p>Critical infrastructure - I will always support the necessary funding for critical infrastructure only.</p>

<p>order to serve the customer who pay the bills.</p>			
<p>Annie Somerville (Dem)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>My name is Annie Somerville, and it is an honor to serve as the Washtenaw County Commissioner for District 6, representing the City of Ypsilanti, Ypsilanti Township, and Superior Township. I am running for re-election because I am committed to further enhancing human services, improving access to housing, and providing robust support for youth and older adults in Washtenaw County.</p> <p>I do this work because it's personal. Growing up, I experienced periods of extreme poverty. I know what it's like to experience food insecurity, lack of access to water or electricity, and unstable housing. I watched my Mom struggle with substance use issues as well as housing stability. In 2008, after two years of sobriety, my mom passed away during a period of homelessness.</p> <p>My lived experience has guided me to prioritize human service needs in our community and shows through the work I've done over the last 6 years in public service.</p>	<p>1- Further expanding housing access by investing in Housing First solutions. 2- Continuing to invest in our youth by funding community-based violence interruption programs, tutoring and mentoring programs, and the new community and recreation center in the Ypsilanti area. 3- Further investing in programs for seniors to age in place with dignity by expanding access to nutrition programs like Meals on Wheels, transportation services, respite care, and by establishing a Washtenaw County Office on Aging Services. 4- Continuing to expand access to mental health, behavioral health, and public health by using mobile support services, increasing staffing for community health workers, and supporting the Washtenaw Health Initiative. 5- Completing the Eastern Washtenaw County Community and Recreation Center project.</p> <p>As the incumbent, I've been successfully working on these goals through the county budget process and by collaborating with local partners. I will continue this work if re-elected.</p>	<p>The most serious problems facing Washtenaw County are the housing and homelessness crisis, economic segregation, and health disparities. Washtenaw County is still trending as one of the most economically segregated counties in the nation, and even within District 6 we have significant pockets of poverty, depending on what neighborhood you live in. We can address these issues by adequately investing in access to housing, economic opportunities, health and wellness, and support for our youth and older adults. Over the last year and half as a commissioner, I have been working on these issues and hope to continue that work in the future.</p>	<p>Washtenaw County's greatest assets are the people. So many community members and grassroots organizations work together to make sure that community needs are met and that we are all collectively thinking about how to make Washtenaw County better for now and our future. In District 6, we have great gathering spaces, organizations, and small businesses that are intentional in keeping our community thriving. Whether it is youth services or health clinics, local art and performances, or political action, our county thrives when we work together.</p>

22nd Circuit Judge of Circuit Court (Non-Incumbent)	6-year term	VOTE FOR 1	
CANDIDATES <i>(Visit VOTE411.org for Responses to additional questions)</i>	What are your objectives if you are elected and how will you work to accomplish them?	What are the priority issues facing this court, and how would you address them if elected?	What is your general judicial philosophy?
<p>Jinan Hamood (NP)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>I have worked in Washtenaw County serving the community in various legal positions - from interning at the Public Defender's Office, completing a judicial externship at the 15th District Court, to running my own practice. For over a decade I have practiced criminal defense, family law, and civil litigation, all of which are areas of law a circuit judge presides over.</p>	<p>If elected, my objectives are to serve our community in a way which helps to heal harms, address root causes of justice involvement, and provide fair and equitable outcomes to parties involved in family court disputes, civil disputes, criminal matters.</p> <p>I will do so by utilizing my knowledge of our local courts and our laws, as well as by bringing the compassion, empathy, and understanding I have developed from my diverse practice. This</p>	<p>In addition to the day-to-day administration of my courtroom, I have three systemic priorities which I will work to accomplish:</p> <p>1. Criminal Justice Reform – Our courts should be compassionate and progressive in their values, and I will work with attorneys to best serve justice to those who are harmed and ensure that individuals are not wrongly ensnared in the legal system. I believe in</p>	<p>I believe that judges should serve with compassion, integrity, and empathy. If elected, my judicial philosophy will be that of applying the law and seeking to remedy past harms with a fair and equitable administration of justice. We must work to make our courts and our community more welcoming and more accessible. As judge, I would act in accordance with these goals, seeking to ensure that when people</p>

<p>Throughout my career, I have centered my work on addressing disparities in the criminal legal system, navigating difficult matters of family law and a variety of civil disputes with compassion for those affected and outcomes that embody fairness and justice. I have served as an advocate, as a guardian ad litem, mediator, parenting coordinator, and court appointed receiver. I have represented criminal defendants and victims of crimes. My work experience in these different roles gives me a unique perspective on how our legal system serves and impacts people on all sides.</p>	<p>knowledge and experience shapes my ability to work collaboratively with parties and their attorneys, and to find creative, practical, and realistic resolutions which enable all sides to be heard in difficult situations. I am familiar with our court services, treatment courts, and county programming. I know what is working and have ideas on what we can improve.</p>	<p>restorative justice models, the use of treatment courts, and intend to work with our current judges to expand the use of both.</p> <p>2. Access to Justice – As one of the largest recipients of public tax dollars in Washtenaw County, our court system should be affordable and accessible for all, regardless of their background.</p> <p>3. Diverse Perspectives – I want to help Washtenaw County stand out in our state as a leader and example of supporting diverse perspectives. I bring with me my lived and professional experiences, both of which give me an understanding of how important diversity is in our justice system.</p>	<p>are in court - often dealing with some of the worst days they will face - they feel they are listened to and are still treated with dignity, understanding, and compassion.</p>
<p>Jeffrey Worosz (NP)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>I have been a practicing attorney for over 12 years, with a practice focusing primarily on family law, contested probate matters, and general civil litigation. My extensive litigation experience has afforded me significant trial and courtroom experience, allowing me to develop a deep and comprehensive understanding of the types of cases that frequently come before the circuit court. Having handled sensitive, complex, and high-stakes matters, I understand how crucial it is for individuals to feel heard and respected in the courtroom. I appreciate the importance of approaching each case with empathy and fairness, ensuring that every party receives a fair opportunity to present their case. I have appeared in courts throughout the state of Michigan, in front of dozens of judges, giving me insight into the varied approaches to judicial decision-making. This broad exposure has provided me with a keen sense of what works and what doesn't within our legal system.</p>	<p>I want to apply the law fairly and impartially to everyone, and to improve public confidence in the court system. It starts by treating everyone in the courtroom with respect, courtesy and empathy. Litigants are real people facing significant issues, often with considerable consequences and it's important to remember and be respectful of that fact. I would show this not only in how I interact with the people appearing before me, but also by being prepared for every case that comes before me. Preparation includes understanding and anticipating the legal issues applicable to case beforehand, so that when the facts are presented, I know how they connect to the relevant laws. Proper preparation also has the benefit of ensuring that the courtroom runs efficiently, preventing unnecessary delays and drawn-out proceedings. Lastly, self-reflection on how and why I am making decisions, screening to keep out my personal biases, will help to ensure I am making decisions for the right reasons.</p>	<p>I think two of the biggest issues facing all courts are 1) access to justice; and, 2) public confidence in the judicial system. Access to justice to me means everyone should have the ability to seek a remedy through the legal system. As a judge, the way to achieve this is by ensuring every litigant has an opportunity to be heard. That can be accomplished through making sure litigants are aware of resources and tools available, or just having the patience to listen. To improve public confidence in the courts, the key is to be consistent and fair in how all litigants are treated and how the law is applied in every case. The public loses confidence in the legal system when judges have personal agendas that influence the manner in which they apply the law. Through self-awareness, an openness to criticism, and a willingness to critically evaluate my own decisions, I can work to ensure that I am accountable and consistent in my treatment of people and application of the law.</p>	<p>I don't adhere to a specific philosophy, but I value several important principles that are essential for making fair and equitable decisions. First and foremost, an open mind is paramount. This means not only having a willingness to listen to all parties, but also to be fully informed before making any decisions, but also setting aside any personal agendas and preconceived notions, ensuring that every case is evaluated solely on its merits and the applicable law. Litigants deserve a meaningful opportunity to be heard, and that can only happen when a judge approaches each case with an open and impartial mindset. Second, being prepared. Understanding the matter before the court, including the relevant legal issues and potential challenges that may arise during the proceedings. Third, being decisive and accountable. After hearing all of the facts, judges should make decisions that are not only legally sound, but also fair and impartial.</p>

<p>CANDIDATES</p> <p><i>(Visit VOTE411.org for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your objectives if you are elected and how will you work to accomplish them?</p>	<p>What are the priority issues facing this court, and how would you address them if elected?</p>	<p>What is your general judicial philosophy?</p>
<p>Tamara Garwood (NP)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>I graduated from the University of Michigan and Detroit College of Law. I have been an attorney for twenty-five years, handling domestic, probate, landlord-tenant, criminal and civil matters, through all phases of litigation. For eight years, I have been on the bench as the 15th District Court Magistrate, giving me a unique eye to the successes and needs of the Court. I see the impact I have on our community, every day. While I hold the rights of those before me paramount, I never lose sight of my responsibility to the community and the law. On the bench, I uphold the highest standards of accountability and transparency, supporting policies and practices of responsibility that also focus on education and rehabilitation, working to eliminate racial and economic disparities by ensuring fair treatment for all individuals regardless of background. My experience, compassion, judicial temperament and integrity are unparalleled in this race.</p>	<p>I will put an end to cookie-cutter justice. Holding people accountable for their actions, I will champion individualized approaches to justice, addressing the root causes that bring individuals to court. I will focus on creating innovative court options to move away from over-incarceration and towards meaningful solutions. I will uphold justice and equality, acknowledging the historical and ongoing impact of racial inequities. I will work to end racial disparities through fair and compassionate rulings, with dignity and respect for all. Through collaboration with local organizations, I will develop and implement programs that support marginalized communities and ensure equal access to justice. Expanding community outreach and youth engagement, I will work to end the school to prison pipeline, uplifting young people to thrive in our community, graduating with diplomas and degrees, not criminal histories. I am committed to a more inclusive, effective and efficient court for all users.</p>	<p>We must eliminate systemic biases within the legal system to ensure all individuals, regardless of race, gender, socioeconomic status or other characteristics, receive fair and impartial treatment. Recognizing and combatting implicit bias within our system, we must have transparent and fair court procedures and policies from charging to sentencing decisions to avoid the disproportionate impacts often faced by marginalized communities. Working collaboratively with community organizations, advocacy groups and residents, I will continue to find solutions that protect the rights of those in the courtroom while keeping our community safe and protected. I am committed to expanding our exemplary Mental Health Court, Sobriety Court and Veterans Court to support individuals with the necessary resources for treatment and rehabilitation rather than incarceration.</p>	<p>I will continue my work to reform criminal justice by advocating for alternatives to incarceration for non-violent offenses, using community service, meaningful probation and treatment programs. I support policies and practices that aim to reduce prison populations by addressing the root causes of crime. I will encourage rehabilitation over punishment through vocational training and education, to reintegrate former offenders into society and reduce recidivism. Advocating for mental health and addiction treatment services through our Specialty Courts, where we treat these issues as public health concerns rather than criminal issues. Finally, we must ensure that young people receive fair and age appropriate treatment protecting the rights of these individuals and providing them with opportunities for positive development and growth.</p>
<p>S. Kerene Moore (NP)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>I earned my undergrad and law degrees from the University of Michigan, and for two decades, I've worked to increase access to justice, promote restorative justice, and support victim's rights. I represented over 1,000 people who could not afford an attorney, fought discrimination at the MI Department of Civil Rights, and served behind the bench as a judicial attorney and juvenile referee. I currently handle innocence cases and provide expungement support in the Prosecutor's office. I am a leader in social justice advocacy and have extensive experience on the ground in the community. I've served as an Ann Arbor District Library Trustee, a Human</p>	<p>Our justice system continues to fail the community in a number of areas. Michigan ranks dead last in provision of crime victim services. Despite representing only 12% of the county's population, 49.9% of charges are disproportionately pursued against black community members. Finally, many perceive two justice systems - one for those who can and another for those who cannot afford an attorney. 15th District primarily handles evictions, suits for less than 25K, and minor offenses. It also has three treatment courts where judges can offer meaningful early intervention. Through diverse community</p>	<p>Restorative justice, lack of victim support, and bias are priority issues. Those appearing in criminal court either receive resources needed to move forward, or go deeper into the criminal system. Victims are at higher risk of returning to the court as offenders if support isn't received, and offenders often have underlying issues that need treatment. Through changes to court rules and community partnerships, I will work to improve victim access to services. Using my background working with under-resourced community members, I will work hard to connect with</p>	<p>It is critical that local judges are learned, compassionate, experienced, and diverse. My philosophy centers around fair and just administration of our courtrooms, ensuring that no matter your race, color, or creed, or income, you will find equal justice in the 15th District Court. I've earned over 150 endorsements because I don't pretend the system is fair and operates optimally. Instead, I've committed my career to ensuring that marginalized community members have fair access to the courts. I believe judges are ethically obligated to improve court</p>

<p>Rights Commissioner, and on the boards of Neutral Zone, Equality Michigan, and Jim Toy Community Center. I've trained attorneys regionally and nationally, have 10 legal publications, and founded a pro bono project that is going into its 10th year. As Judge, I would work hard to ensure fair access to justice for people from all walks of life.</p>	<p>partnerships, improved and expanded treatment courts, grant funding, data transparency, and ethically-permissible policy reform work, I will work to improve victim support, decrease bias, and increase access to justice for all litigants, not just those who can afford an attorney.</p>	<p>treatment court participants and offer individualized, culturally competent treatment plans. With grant funding, I will re-establish the domestic violence treatment court, and create a housing specialty court to improve oversight over probationary agreements. To decrease systemic bias, I will support data transparency efforts, prioritize alternatives to incarceration, and work toward elimination of cash bail.</p>	<p>services. I will inform policy, improve functionality of court rules, and lead restorative justice efforts. Courts must be partners in both ensuring safety and addressing underlying needs of offenders. With a renewed focus on restorative justice, courts can become trusted partners in rebuilding communities. If elected, I am committed to not just enforcing the law, but to promoting the fair administration of our justice system.</p>
--	---	---	---

Washtenaw Community College Board of Trustees **6-year term** **VOTE FOR 2**

<p>CANDIDATES</p> <p><i>(Visit VOTE411.org for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited resources?</p>	<p>How well do you think Washtenaw Community College is meeting the needs of its community?</p>
<p>Alex Milshteyn (NP)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>As a current Trustee of Washtenaw Community College and a proud graduate of both WCC and Eastern Michigan University, I bring a deep, personal connection to this role. My educational journey has given me firsthand experience with the value of affordable, accessible education, driving my commitment to making WCC a gateway of opportunity for all students. Throughout my tenure, I've worked tirelessly to keep education affordable and to support student success through initiatives that enhance academic advising, career services, and community engagement. My hands-on experience with the local community, combined with my dedication to WCC's mission, ensures that I am well-prepared to continue advocating for policies that benefit both students and the broader Washtenaw County community.</p>	<p>If elected, my primary goals are to keep tuition affordable, enhance student support services, and strengthen community partnerships at WCC. I am committed to ensuring that every dollar in our budget is used effectively to provide the best possible education for our students. By keeping a close eye on WCC's finances, I will prioritize spending on programs and resources that directly impact student success, such as academic advising, career services, and innovative educational initiatives.</p> <p>With limited resources, I will work to identify cost-saving measures and explore additional funding opportunities, such as grants and partnerships, to support our goals. My experience in both finance and community engagement will allow me to make informed decisions that balance fiscal responsibility with the need to invest in our students' futures. By carefully managing our budget and focusing on strategic investments, I am confident we can continue to offer high-quality, accessible education at WCC.</p>	<p>WCC is highly effective in meeting the needs of its community by aligning its programs with current and future job market demands. Utilizing the Lightcast Analyst tool, WCC regularly monitors employment trends and earnings regionally and statewide, ensuring that its offerings lead to high-wage jobs or provide seamless transfer opportunities. The College is committed to delivering programs that result in livable wages or smooth transfers to four-year institutions. More than two-thirds of the associate degrees earned in 2022-23 were in transfer programs, allowing students to continue their education at universities like the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University. With nearly one hundred transfer agreements with major universities, WCC remains the leading transfer institution to both U-M and EMU, demonstrating its dedication to student success and community service.</p>

<p>Diana McKnight Morton (NP)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>I have an Associate’s from Washtenaw Community College; a Bachelor’s in Special Education from University of Michigan; a Master’s in Guidance and Counseling from Eastern Michigan University. I taught elementary and adult education. I have been a WCC Board Trustee for 30 years. I am also a 25-yr member of the Michigan Community College Association (MCCA) Legislation Board; a 10-yr member of SEMCOG (South Eastern Michigan Counties of Government) as Vice-Chair of the Education Bloc; and, a 25-yr member of the Association of Community Colleges Trustees (ACCT).</p> <p>Based on my knowledge, skills, and abilities, I believe I am fully qualified to perform the functions required to be a Washtenaw Community College Board Trustee.</p>	<p>My main goal for the past 30 years has been for WCC to become the number community college in the country. And WCC achieved this goal by earning the Center of Excellence Award for Nursing in 2018 and 2023 which WCC is the only community college to be recognized in the U.S., among other noteworthy awards and distinctions. However, my continued mission as a trustee is to help the President make informed decisions on important matters that can affect the college internally and externally based on funding from the State and Federal agencies.</p>	<p>WCC continually assesses and reevaluates its mission and strategic goals to deliver quality programs that are in alignment with today’s job market and trends. It is vital to the College to maintain long established relationships with open dialogue between the college President and industry leaders in Washtenaw County - and beyond. WCC remains determined to create quality academic programs centered on each student’s success after graduation and to remain successful in today’s job market that is ever evolving.</p> <p>WCC is also dedicated to being a driving force in strengthening the economic growth in Washtenaw County by reinvesting in its residents through the partnership of business-lead organizations and industry leaders who have firsthand knowledge of markets shifts and the creation of jobs for the future.</p>
<p>Eileen Peck (NP)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>I am a graduate of both the University of Michigan and Washtenaw Community College. I worked in the non-profit technology sector for 20 years before starting my own business. I also have volunteer development and governance experience. For nearly five years, I have maintained the WCC Watch blog and believe I have a deep understanding of the challenges that face WCC and Washtenaw County. As a resident of Ypsilanti Township, I will bring a broader Washtenaw County perspective that has been historically lacking on the WCC Board. For WCC to succeed, it needs to understand and address the challenges that all parts of the county face right now, including income and housing inequities, transportation and housing costs, and a lack of new economic development and the jobs that go along with that.</p>	<p>My goal is to increase the number of degree programs that prepare students for high-wage, high demand jobs. WCC issues more non-degree certificates than associate degrees. This strategy opposes the state's goal of increasing the number of people with 60 college credits. It may also limit WCC's federal financial aid options for some certificate programs under the new "gainful employment" rules. I will advocate to eliminate preferential tuition treatment that WCC gives to out-of-district and out-of-state online enrollees. WCC should not use Washtenaw County's tax dollars to subsidize the attendance costs of students who don't live or work here, and will never come here. I intend to seek an industry-standard facilities maintenance budget. This will help prevent a repeat of WCC's 10,000-gallon sewage spill into the Huron River watershed. I will also advocate for an effective asset protection policy, and an enforced limit on the number of vice presidents - currently 13 - on the payroll.</p>	<p>In any service environment there is always room for improvement. WCC must focus on creating high-wage, high-demand programs like clean energy, power production, and power management, infrastructure building and modernization, climate change mitigation, water management, semiconductor manufacturing, agriculture – including urban agriculture, and facilities maintenance</p> <p>These programs will not only provide economic development by attracting new employers and industries now, but also prepare Washtenaw County for a future that must address the impacts of climate change. These programs will also offer our young adult workers the opportunity to work AND live in Washtenaw County. Right now, a WCC student makes an average of less than \$40,000 ten years after first enrollment. The median household income here is nearly \$85,000. Most WCC students can't afford to live here, so we are training our prime age workers to live and work elsewhere. This must stop, and WCC must be part of the solution.</p>

<p>CANDIDATES</p> <p><i>(Visit VOTE411.org for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited resources?</p>	<p>What are the most serious problems facing the City of Ypsilanti and how will you work to solve them?</p>
<p>Steve Wilcoxon (Dem)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>It has been my honor to serve on the City Council (6 years) and as Mayor Pro-Tem for 2 years. I set goals and prioritize them in tight annual budgets. I hired and provided oversight to the City Manager and Clerk and engaged dept heads for services to the community. I liaised with the Sustainability, Parks and Rec, and Planning Commissions, ZBA, Non-Motorized Advisory Committee, and Rutherford Pool Board. I represent the city to SEMCOG and MML. I've written ordinances (original rec. Cannabis) and revised others (yard plantings, trash cans, RV storage). I have deliberated on lawsuits, union contracts, staff benefits, legal service, development projects, zoning codes, infrastructure engineering, and public safety issues. I worked closely with Huron River Watershed Council and city staff to secure state and federal grants and engineering services for removal of Pen Dam and restoration of the Huron River. I pay attention to detail while keeping the 30,000 ft perspective.</p>	<p>My goals are to prioritize the Capital Improvement Plan, community development, enhance public safety, and long-term financial health. I prioritized revitalization of DPS facilities on Forest St as well as other facilities (YPD, YFD, City Hall) and paving Frog Island parking lot. Community development goals are revitalizing Pen Park (removing Pen Dam and restoring the powerhouse as community center) and Water Street (remediation and mixed development with affordable housing). Public safety is enhanced by supporting and supplementing community policing with unarmed urgent response teams. Improved long-term financial planning entails diversified funding streams (new revenue sources and more collaborative fund raising with DDA, townships, county/state/federal agencies, and NGOs. Washtenaw Climate Summit convened local government, schools, healthcare systems, to synergize resources for climate goals. I will leverage those relationships to benefit the city and the greater community.</p>	<p>We face over reliance on property taxes, neglected infrastructure, public safety, and housing insecurity. Our tax base is skewed by 40% properties being tax exempt and lack of industry. I'll work to get tax exempt properties back on tax rolls and develop multi-business sites, like former EMU business school. Developing Water St. will increase revenue in the long-term. I will work with staff, SEMCOG, MML, lobbyist, and electees to open opportunities and secure funding streams for resilient infrastructure improvements. Public safety concerns can arise from a lack of or too much police presence. I support creative community policing and supplemental unarmed response teams. Housing is a nation-wide problem requiring coordination with state and federal agencies. Locally we can support initiatives to increase density via zoning changes, while working with tenants, owners, and building department to improve conditions of existing stock.</p>
<p>Peter Church (NP)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>My degree is a Bachelor's of Science in Mechanical Engineering. A lot of people have worked their way through school, and I am one of them. The difficulties encountered coming up with the money for food, rent, gas and tuition are not lost on me. Neither are the benefits of an education. I was the first in my family to graduate from college. When I got my first job after graduating, my income quadrupled, so I have experienced first-hand the benefits of an education as well. That gives me the experience and desire to encourage and support others to go to college, and maybe be the first in their family to graduate.</p>	<p>One of the things I would like to address is the resolution process. The City has a large number of commissions that are charged with forwarding items to city council for consideration. Most of these committees do not have equal representation from all of the wards, do not publish detailed meeting minutes, and have little or no public input. I advocate for a change to something more representative, with better meeting summaries, and a much broader public outreach effort. This will provide a much higher level of confidence in our government.</p> <p>I would also like to achieve better public awareness of crime and criminal activity in our city. We fund a city police department and we need to be getting more information regarding what they are doing, what</p>	<p>Ypsilanti has an opportunity problem. We need access to better paying jobs. You just can't make it on minimum wage in Ypsilanti, and you certainly can't buy a house. Ward 2 residents know that education and training are the keys to opportunity. I would like to leverage the expertise and dedication to education that we have in Ward 2 to improve awareness of what is possible, to remove barriers to educational access, to reverse declining literacy, to boost STEM education, and give people a chance to be their best selves.</p> <p>Ypsilanti has a relatively high crime rate. We need to focus on enforcement options that will produce results while respecting the citizens of our city.</p>

<p>As a profession, engineering is very data driven. A problem is defined, various alternatives are analytically evaluated, risks, costs and timelines are established, and a plan is agreed upon. Experience with this process is definitely a good skill to have in local government. Certainly many decisions are not easily quantified, but I have also lived in Ward 2 for over 20 years.</p>	<p>crimes are occurring and in what areas they are occurring. This is needed to make sound law enforcement decisions, and evaluate our whole approach to law enforcement. A city cannot succeed if it is not safe.</p>	<p>Affordability is not just an issue for renters and home buyers. Many seniors are struggling to stay in their homes while covering the cost of food and healthcare. Ward 2 contains the Ypsilanti Senior Center and Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels, and they have for years done a really good job of addressing those issues. I would</p>
--	--	---

Ypsilanti City Council Ward #3

4-year term

VOTE FOR 1

<p>CANDIDATES</p> <p><i>(Visit VOTE411.org for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited resources?</p>	<p>What are the most serious problems facing the City of Ypsilanti and how will you work to solve them?</p>
<p>Amber Fellows (Dem)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>Amber is a multi-decade resident, 41 years old, first-generation Japanese-American, lgbtqia+, 3-year homeowner, three-time city official, director of a regional volunteer program, musician, gardener, and political organizer.</p> <p>Amber has served 6 years in city government as chair of the Human Relations Commission, chair of the 220 N. Park Community Benefits Committee (CBA), and member of the Housing Affordability & Accessibility Committee. As a public servant Amber has proven effective at making meaningful change and speaking truth to power.</p> <p>Amber's record:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> —Struck historic affordable housing deal as chair of the 220 N. Park CBA committee, mandating for-sale homes to those making \$34,000 a year, with 90-day prioritization for residents of Ypsilanti —Led the passage of a Ceasefire resolution mobilizing a hundred public comments —Worked at Planned Parenthood as a patient-advocate for youth seeking abortion access —Led passage of resolution to end 'Right to Work' 	<p>A few staff and seven city council members should not make every governmental decision. We can empower thousands more to participate in decision-making by including resident input on important issues via survey and city-wide vote on a semi-annual basis—on issues like what to do with Water Street, the YPD budget, and more.</p> <p>Amber's record:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> —Wrote two Ypsilanti City Charter updates to democratize commission appointments, which passed by 77% via city-wide vote in 2020 —Created a Community Benefits Ordinance with Rising for Economic Democracy in Ypsi (REDY) that requires developers negotiate with city residents for community benefits —Led the largest town hall in 20 years to discuss affordable housing, spurring the community into action —Organized home buyer education for Ypsilanti renters —Wrote a repeal to the ban on rent control which was adopted by the MDP Platform 	<p>It was announced this year that Ypsilanti is in a 3.7 million dollar budget shortfall, while services stagnate or regress.</p> <p>Community and gun violence among vulnerable youth is on the rise—reducing poverty via programs to support sovereignty in housing, food, health, etc are proven to increase safety and create opportunity. Along with this, it is unthinkable that 26% of YCS students are homeless, and more are housing insecure. Landlord monopolies in Ypsi are the de-facto regulators of rent which impact thousands of residents—a system we can challenge democratically via supporting our tenant unions, creating new standards for affordable housing via an affordability ordinance, vacancy tax, short-term rentals limits, tenant right-of-first-refusal, banning rental application fees, and a rental registry.</p> <p>This year along with running for City Council, I am supporting three ballot initiatives by Ypsi BIG that tackle issues of police budgets, renters' rights, and local election reform.</p>

<p>Mark Alan King (Lib)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p>		
---	--	--

Ypsilanti Community Schools - Board Member 6-year term

VOTE FOR 3

<p>CANDIDATES</p> <p><i>(Visit VOTE411.org for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them?</p>	<p>What are the greatest challenges that will face the school board in the coming year?</p>
<p>Allie Suffety (NP)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>Over 40 years as a public educator, 32 years in the classroom and 7 as assistant principal at the high school level. After retiring in 2016 I continued in interim administrative positions in 5 elementary schools, 2 middle schools and 3 high schools.</p>	<p>My goal is to support the students in YCS to be successful. This will be comprised by being a team member of a school board who are already doing lots of good things. Using my experience as a life long advocate of public education in areas I see helpful to the goal.</p>	<p>Retaining our best teachers and keeping our families from choosing other school districts within Washtenaw county for their learning need, by holding our teachers and students to high standards for success..</p>
<p>Talisha Sutton-Kennedy (NP)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>I hold Bachelor’s degrees in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology and Pharmaceutical Chemistry, and a Master’s in Pharmacology & Toxicology. My research background equips me to take a data-driven approach in decision-making. In 2018, I shifted my career from academia to align with my passion for education, joining an education-based nonprofit and pursuing a Master’s in Curriculum & Instruction. My work in nonprofit operations, legal, and finance since 2018 has given me a strong foundation in governance, budget management, policy development, and strategic planning. In my work with a community-based organization, I have experience in inclusive and collaborative decision-making. As a part-time educator (after-school tutor and program director, and previous substitute teacher, I’ve gained some hands-on experience in education. As a parent who has navigated both public and charter schools across Michigan</p>	<p>As a board member, my goals are to improve the quality of education across our district, foster an expectation and commitment to excellence for every student, enhance transportation, and improve compensation for our educators. I am dedicated to improving academic achievement, increasing opportunities for students to engage with career opportunities, and closing achievement gaps (with a focus on literacy, numeracy, and social-emotional learning). I am dedicated to creating an environment where every student can thrive, reach their full potential and experience the joy of learning. I will accomplish this by advocating for and supporting policies aligned with these goals at all levels, as well as engaging the voices of our teachers, students, parents and community. It is important to regularly review our outlined metrics (our progress toward achieving our goals), have clear communication and transparency about our successes and challenges, and lastly continue to strive for improvement.</p>	<p>Key areas for improvement include the district’s public reputation, student achievement and readiness levels, transportation, attracting and retaining talented educators and students. Strengthening these areas are important for the long-term success of our district. For example, attracting and retaining talented educators is essential for maintaining high educational standards, as quality teaching directly impacts student outcomes. Similarly, attracting and retaining students in our district is crucial not only because we are committed to providing a high-quality education but also because enrollment impacts funding and resource allocation. Lastly, improving the districts reputation and perception are important to build trust and confidence among parents, students, and the community, making the district a more attractive choice for families and educators. Focusing on these opportunities will help build a stronger, more successful district for everyone.</p>

<p>before settling in Ypsilanti, I bring a broad perspective on educational environments.</p>		
<p>Alex Pontois (NP)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>
<p>Celeste Hawkins (NP)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>I hold a doctorate in Education from Eastern Michigan University (EMU), a Master's degree in Social Work, and a Bachelor's of Science degree in Psychology. I am a professor at EMU. My professional career has been dedicated to working with vulnerable, oppressed, and underserved populations and I have been a tireless advocate for children and families, particularly those gripped by poverty and social injustice. In addition to my role as professor at EMU and volunteer service as the current President for the Ypsilanti Community Schools Board of Education, I further contribute to the community through advocacy and volunteerism in various programs and agencies in Washtenaw County. I have served assiduously on the school board since 2012 and I am deeply invested and engaged as a servant leader. I am passionate about educational excellence and equity in K-12 public schools, positive educational outcomes, supporting all district staff, stable finances, growth, innovation, and collaboration.</p>	<p>My goals for Ypsilanti Community Schools are: 1) Improving student achievement rates and reducing the frequency of school exclusion due to behavior issues; 2) Expanding student supports; 3) Increasing enrollment 4) Serving as a good steward of the district's resources; and 4) Hiring, supporting, and retaining excellent teachers, administrators, and staff. I will work to accomplish these goals by ensuring we continue to maintain high expectations, high supports, and access to a rigorous and engaging curriculum for all students; holding ourselves and district administration accountable to our vision, strategic plan, positive academic growth and outcomes. I will share our YCS story with stakeholders, our accomplishments, challenges, and opportunities for growth; engage in thoughtful recruitment and retention efforts to increase enrollment; remain focused on good board governance and oversight of district finances; and cultivate parity and support for all of our district staff.</p>	<p>I believe the greatest challenges that will face the school board in the coming year may be driven by potential shifts in educational and financial priorities in our state and country during this consequential election season, which could impact district resources, supports to our most vulnerable students, and how we engage in learning opportunities in and out of the classroom. As we recently marked the 10 year anniversary of Ypsilanti Community Schools, I believe celebrating this milestone and our collective advocacy to secure debt relief and solvency creates opportunities for us to engage in establishing strategic priorities that focus on increased financial stability, enrollment, and where we are headed over the next 10 years. The three board seats up for election might be seen as a challenge, however through the current board and district's strong and clear vision, leadership, and unwavering focus on students, I believe we are poised to collaboratively shape what's next for YCS.</p>
<p>Dawn Espy (NP)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>I am the best candidate for YSC school board because I have been investing in this community for nearly 15 years. I have been a researcher, a caregiver, a service provider, a consultant, and a resident of this community. I have worked and connected with people in nearly every system that touches young people in our community. I have worked with administrators as well as educators to understand their needs and support their social justice education. Previously I worked for youth-centered nonprofits, and now I provide consultation to support local organizations' strategic approach, board development and organizational culture. I have worked at the policy level and I have also been a direct-care worker. My range</p>	<p>As a YCS school board trustee, I will prioritize student experience and well being. I want to address disproportionate rates of suspension for students of color and invest in more restorative practices. Additionally, I would like to ensure that students who are part of the LGBTQ+ community feel welcome and seen in the district. Students should have access to gender neutral bathrooms and receive a comprehensive sexual health education that includes the wellness needs of LGBTQ+ people.</p>	<p>The school board will continue to explore ways to promote the district, enroll more students and retain educators. The board will also be challenged to address district finances and disproportionate rates of suspension for students of color.</p>

<p>of experiences and my passion for amplifying youth voice has prepared me well to serve as a member of the YCS school board.</p>		
--	--	--

Augusta Township Supervisor **4-year term** **VOTE FOR 1**

<p>CANDIDATES (Visit VOTE411.org for Responses to additional questions)</p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited resources?</p>	<p>What are the most serious problems facing the township and how will you work to solve them?</p>
<p>Todd Waller (Rep) Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>
<p>Cath Howard (Dem) Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>I have both a Bachelors and Masters degree in social work. I worked in the field of substance abuse, mental health and trauma from sexual violence since 1974. I served two terms as Township Trustee from 2012-2020, and was FOIA Coordinator from 2013-2020 and Board liaison to the Planning Commission from 2016-2020. I have also served on many boards and committees in Washtenaw County including the Infant Survival Initiative Washtenaw Co. Public Health Dept. (1987-1996) Home of New Vision's Board of Directors, including serving as their Board President, the Washtenaw Urban County Executive Committee from 2014-2020 and currently the Washtenaw Community Action Board. I was an adjunct instructor in the School of Social Work at EMU from 2000- 2005 and was a Mental Health Professional/Therapist and later Program Supervisor for Adult Mental Health Services for Washtenaw County CSTS/Community Mental Health from 1996-2007.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to address infrastructure problems with the township's water and sewer system, including working with State and County agencies currently examining resources for rural water issues. 2. Foster an environment of more Board/Community communication and collaboration. Increase transparency and encourage more community outreach as the Board reviews long-term planning issues and concerns about future development, and ongoing needs of the community, such as road and drainage maintenance and repair. 3. Create more avenues for resident input on community issues. 4. Increase the township's representation at County meetings that impact the welfare of the Township (i.e. regular attendance Road and Water Resource Commission Meetings). 5. Provide more user-friendly information on township ordinances and permit requirements. 6. Look into sustainable methods for dealing with dumping issues. 7. Encourage more professionalism among Board members. 	<p>We have an aging water and sewer system that is supported by less than 25% of the total township population, which was seriously underfunded. We also have a number of residents who do not have any source of safe drinking water on their properties. While steps have been taken to address the current utility system there is still much more to be done. A draft of a 10-year plan has been created but the implementation of O&M fees that significantly raised people's bills has been a terrible source of contention in our township. I would work to find ways to provide information to our residents that would reassure them that the Board is being transparent about the system's condition and what the actual costs are. For those residents whose wells are no longer able to provide drinking water the Township provides potable water, but that is not enough and we have to at least acknowledge this problem and develop a plan for addressing it, rather than ignoring and/or accepting it.</p>

Augusta Township Clerk

4-year term

VOTE FOR 1

<p>CANDIDATES</p> <p><i>(Visit VOTE411.org for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited resources?</p>	<p>What thoughts do you have about the current voting procedures?</p>
<p>David Frey (Rep)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>Graduate Wayne State University law school. Served in various leadership positions in a number of different capacities.</p>	<p>Goals are to provide the services of my office and support policies to retain the rural nature of the community. Currently, the Clerk and Treasurer are controlled by overpaid consultants who only advise for their own benefit.</p>	<p>N/A. We have to follow the law.</p>
<p>Kimbery Goczy (Dem)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>I was the Deputy Clerk from 11/2016 prior to being elected Clerk in 2020. Before starting my career as the Deputy I was an Insurance Agent for 6 years and Co-Owner of Formed Concrete for 20 years. In this position things are changing all the time. We are members of the Michigan Township Association which offers up to date training regularly. County & State of Michigan training for Elections as well as other important information. There are also numerous other opportunities with the the different programs and systems we use. I take all the training I can get.</p>	<p>We have come a long way but it is a work in progress. I would like to continue to have clean audit results, work on updating the Township Ordinances and policies. Seek grant money to move forward with our water and sewer Capital Improvement Plan, as well as other Township improvements. I would like to see the Township be able to accommodate a meeting and Election room. Work on website and other means to get important information out to the residents. Continue to build strong relationships with the County and State.</p>	<p>There have been many changes. I have a wonderful Deputy and Election Manager and we have worked hard implementing all the changes. We have partnered with the County for the Early Voting and all three of us help to manage the EV Site. We are also very fortunate to have a great crew of Election Inspectors. We attend all the training offered by the State and County to keep us on top of things.</p>

Augusta Township Treasurer

4-year term

VOTE FOR 1

<p>CANDIDATES</p> <p><i>(Visit VOTE411.org for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited resources?</p>	<p>What are your thoughts about the current tax system in your township?</p>
<p>Deborah Fuqua-Frey (Rep)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>Currently elected Tuatee on Augusta Tiwnship board. Served in various capacities while union rep: community serve committe, Women's committee chair. Vice Pesident (4th) on Republican Women's Fedration. Currently real estate investor with extensive experience dealing</p>	<p>No tax increases. As promised and have done while serving as trustee, represent the interests of the community and not special interests and consultants that control our current treasurer. Preseving the rural character of our community. Stopped wasting funds. Stopped township hall without voter approval which our current treasure misrepresented we had sufficient funds available. Stop wasteful spending of the remaining \$650,000 in ARPA money which is being wasted on useless projects that only enrich our consultants. Supporting a board that will finally fix the water problems in the</p>	<p>Too much goes to the county without adequate return to the community. The current treasurer and clerk make no effort to increase revenue sharing for what we need. I will Work with other neglected communities to fight for our appropriate revenue sharing needs rather that projects dictated by the county commission.</p>

<p>with municipalities. Established network with state and federal contacts. Great networking skills.</p>	<p>community that include, supply, sewer, Wells and property drainage issues With a new board we can break the stranglehold of consultants and save hundreds of thousands of dollars which can be used for the community. I know the history of the local community governmental waste and have witnessed it as a 50 year resident. to fix the problem I had to run otherwise our current treasurer would go in unopposed.</p>	
<p>Susan Burek (Dem)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>I have 9 years' experience as a township treasurer. I was appointed for one year, then elected for two terms. During my terms, I have utilized education opportunities through monthly treasurer meetings through Washtenaw County, and the Michigan Township Association (MTA) classes and annual convention. Networking at these events are invaluable giving me support from other treasurers and access to other professionals. I am proficient using the BSA software to manage data in the tax, delinquent personal property tax and utility modules. I added the role of Utility Manager to bring the utility billing in house. I create the utility bills for the township, and also help manage the delinquent accounts. I also manage the delinquent personal property accounts. The staff I manage is cohesive as a team and successful at their work day tasks. I oversee and sign off on all the staff processes for good internal controls and accountability to the township in keeping the finances safe.</p>	<p>One goal I have going forward is I want to provide more education to the residents on the basic financial processing that happens to operate the township. Financial education can help residents make informed decisions to help the board during budgeting and spending throughout the year. Providing education is free. Just this one goal would be extremely beneficial. Ongoing, I could cover a range of topics, as there are many financial facets to the revenues and expenditures of the township. I would also like to share more information in general of how I make decisions when I vote on business items on our board of trustee agenda. I think it will help residents understand better the thought process and the data that went into it.</p>	<p>Our current tax system is very straightforward for our township. It is based on property tax values, which can be challenged at a Board of Review once a year if the residents disagree with the assessment. The rest of the taxes are local and county millages, which the residents vote on. The taxes are managed on all fronts by the residents.</p>

Augusta Township Trustee		4-year term	VOTE FOR 1
<p>CANDIDATES</p> <p><i>(Visit VOTE411.org for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited resources?</p>	<p>What are the most serious problems facing the township and how will you work to solve them?</p>	
<p>Keith A. Gipfert (Rep)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>33 yrs running a successful business, where I communicate with everyone, scheduling, overseeing and coordinating projects</p>	<p>Main goal is upfront, direct communication with the residents, hold accountable the supervisor,treasure and clerk. Get water to more residents and ditches cleaned</p>	<p>Water and drainage, find government funding for these projects</p>	

<p>Michael Green (Rep)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>
<p>Christopher Ortiz (Rep)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>
<p>Stephanie Prain (Rep)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>
<p>Linda E. Adams (Dem)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>High school Diploma and Child care training and certified. I have been in the lead role/managerial position in most of my positions. My leadership and work ethics are exceptional. I have served on many boards and committees. Board of trustees, Zoning Board of Appeals, Community Action Board, Urban County, Fire dept building committee, Election Committee, and an Election Inspector.</p>	<p>First and foremost is to get to the bottom of our township water loss. This a problem that needs to addressed and acted upon aggressively. I will continue to be involved and participate in community events and be an active member in keeping our township clean.</p> <p>This township has seen the best Financial Audits for its financial health that has ever been seen. I will continue to build on that strength and record to keep us where we need to be.</p> <p>To be open and transparent on all issues and information.</p> <p>I never have ran in a group slate, and never will. I believe in showing your own personal strength and opinions.</p>	<p>As previously stated. Our water loss is one of the biggest problem that Augusta township is facing. We have to find the source of this loss. Whether it be loss from a hidden source or theft, it has to be found and stopped. The township was able to absorbe Yuka rates many times and not pass them on to the residents. I would like to see us in that position again.</p> <p>Dumping of garbage is another area to be addressed. Keeping our roadways and ditches clean and clear is vital.</p>
<p>Christina Demeter (Dem)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>
<p>Terrance D. Green (Dem)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>I Have a criminal Justice Pre-law Degree From Eastern Michigan University.I have been an Educator and Business owner for the past 35 years and will bring a wealth of knowledge to the township.</p>	<p>My goal will to bring peace and unity to the tabe, because without those two ingredients,nothing can be done.</p>	<p>I would say the water infrastructure and it will take the whole board to address it.</p>

<p>David Hall (Dem)</p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>
--	------------------------	------------------------

Unopposed (Uncontested) Races. Responses from those who are unopposed and answered the League’s questionnaire can be found by visiting the online version of the Voter Guide at VOTE411.org.

© Copyright 2024 League of Women Voter of Washtenaw County

Lincoln Consolidated School District (1)

Sinking Fund Millage Proposal

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property in Lincoln Consolidated School District, Washtenaw and Wayne Counties, Michigan, be increased by and the board of education be authorized to levy not to exceed 2 mills (\$2.00 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 10 years, 2025 to 2034, inclusive, to create a sinking fund for the purchase of real estate for sites for, and the construction or repair of, school buildings; for school security improvements; for the acquisition or upgrading of technology; for the acquisition of student transportation vehicles; for the acquisition of parts, supplies, and equipment used for the maintenance of student transportation vehicles; for the acquisition of eligible trucks and vans used to carry parts, equipment, and personnel for or in the maintenance of school buildings; for the acquisition of parts, supplies, and equipment used to maintain such trucks and vans; and all other purposes authorized by law; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2025 is approximately \$2,616,487?

Washtenaw Intermediate School District Proposal (1)

Special Education Millage Renewal Proposal

This proposal will permit the intermediate school district to continue to levy special education millage previously approved by the electors. Shall the currently authorized millage rate limitation of 2.3826 mills (\$2.3826 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property in Washtenaw Intermediate School District, Michigan, to provide funds for the education of students with a disability, be renewed for a period of 12 years, 2026 to 2037, inclusive; the estimate of the revenue the intermediate school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2026 is approximately \$56,900,000 from local property taxes authorized herein (this is a renewal of millage that will expire with the 2025 tax levy)?

Washtenaw County Ballot Proposals (4)

Renewal and restoration of the Enhanced Emergency Communications System Millage

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be imposed each year for all purposes taxable property in Washtenaw County, Michigan be increased by 0.200 mill (\$0.20 per thousand dollars of taxable value) for a period of ten (10) years, 2026 to 2035, inclusive, as a renewal of the 0.0960 mills previously authorized by the electors which expires with the 2025 tax levy as reduced by the operation of the Headlee amendment, plus new additional millage as a restoration of 0.009 mills, for the sole purpose of providing funds to the County for the acquisition, renovation, maintenance, upgrade and operation of the County's Enhanced Emergency Communications System, including the potential construction of additional towers, upgrading the existing infrastructure, purchasing equipment, and paying for maintenance and user fees? If approved and levied in full, this millage will raise an estimated \$4,493,654 when first levied in 2026.

Renewal and restoration of the Veteran's Relief Millage

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be imposed on taxable property in the County of Washtenaw, Michigan, be increased by 0.100 mill (\$0.10 per thousand dollars of taxable value) of the taxable value for a period of eight (8) years, 2024 to 2031, inclusive, as a renewal of that portion of the 0.100 mill authorization previously authorized by the electors in 2016 as reduced by the operation of the Headlee amendment, which was 0.0960 mill in 2023, plus new additional millage representing a restoration of the amount equal to the amount reduced by operation of the Headlee amendment, which was 0.004 mill in 2023, to provide funds to Washtenaw County for the purpose of funding the Washtenaw County Department of Veterans Affairs' provision of financial relief and services for Washtenaw County veterans, including the payment of eligible indigent veteran claims, and to fund the administration of the department? If approved and levied in full, this millage will raise an estimated \$2,197,389 when first levied in 2024.

Establishing an Older Persons Services Millage

Shall the limitation on the total amount of taxes which may be levied against taxable property within Washtenaw County, Michigan, be increased by up to 0.5000 mill (\$0.50 per thousand dollars of taxable value) for a period of eight (8) years, 2024 to 2031, inclusive, as a new additional millage for the purpose of providing funding for activities and services for older persons (age 60 or older) in Washtenaw County? If approved and levied in full this millage will raise an estimated \$11,584,031 in the first year.

Renewal and restoration of the Washtenaw County Community Mental Health and Public Safety Preservation Millage

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be imposed on taxable property in the County of Washtenaw, Michigan, be increased by 1.000 mill (\$1.00 per thousand dollars of taxable value) of the taxable value for a period of eight (8) years, 2026 to 2033, inclusive, as a renewal of that portion of the 1.000 mill authorization previously authorized by the electors in 2017 as reduced by the operation of the Headlee amendment, which was 0.9693 mill in 2023, plus new additional millage representing a restoration of the amount equal to the amount reduced by operation of the Headlee amendment, which was 0.0307 mill in 2023, to provide funds to the Washtenaw County Community Mental Health Department, Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office, local governments which have their own police force for the purposes of improving the treatment of people with mental health needs; providing increased financial support for mental health crisis, stabilization and prevention; and for continued law enforcement services to be distributed as follows: 38% shall be allocated to Washtenaw County's Community Mental Health Department; 38% shall be allocated to the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office; and 24% shall be allocated to jurisdictions in the County which maintain their own police force (currently Ann Arbor, Chelsea, Milan, Saline, Ypsilanti, Pittsfield Township and Northfield Township) in proportion to their respective 2023 population values. If approved and levied in full, this millage will raise an estimated \$22,409,411 when first levied in 2026.

THIS PAGE HAS INTENTIONALLY BEEN LEFT BLANK

THIS PAGE HAS INTENTIONALLY BEEN LEFT BLANK

THIS PAGE HAS INTENTIONALLY BEEN LEFT BLANK