

# VOTERS' GUIDE – CANDIDATES & ISSUES Portage County, Ohio

# NOVEMBER 5, 2024 GENERAL ELECTION

This voter's guide is a joint venture of *The Portager* and the League of Women Voters of Kent and the League of Women Voters of Northern Portage County.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan political organization that promotes political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and acts on selected governmental issues. **The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any candidate or political party.** The League is fully committed to ensure compliance—in principle and in practice—with the LWVUS' Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy. Any person who subscribes to the purposes and policy of the League shall be eligible for membership.

#### **Candidates**

**US President and Vice President**—Candidate responses are available at <u>www.VOTE411.org</u> and are provided by the League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF).

**US Senator, US Representative to Congress, State Representative**—Candidates were invited to participate in the voter guide on VOTE411 by the League of Women Voters of Ohio Education Fund. **Judicial races in Ohio**—Judicial Votes Count (<u>www.judicialvotescount.org</u>) contacted the candidates. Partial responses are reproduced in this guide.

**Portage County** races—Candidates were invited to participate in the voter guide on VOTE411 by the League of Women Votes of Kent (LWV Kent).

The candidates invited by the LWV Kent were asked to enter their responses on the VOTE411 website in accordance with the following guidelines.

The League of Women Voters of Kent reserves the right not to publish any material determined to be libelous, damaging to a person or group, or offensive in accordance with the League's values and as outlined in its publishing policy. It reserves the right to offer alternative wording to the candidate. The League will not correct spelling, grammar or punctuation. Each candidate is solely responsible for the text they submit, including the truth of his/her statements. Each candidate is advised in writing to carefully note the word limitations listed on their questionnaire since no text beyond the word limit will be included. A candidate's answers are accepted and printed only with the understanding that the material will not be used in any way that may be deemed to be an endorsement by the League of his or her candidacy or views.

**Issues**: State Issue 1 information was provided by the League of Women Voters of Ohio Education Fund. The descriptions of the Portage County issues were provided by the Portage County Board of Elections and Aurora City ordinances for the Aurora Charter Amendments. Summit County overlap issue descriptions were provided by the League of Women Voters of Hudson and the Summit County Board of Elections.

Visit <u>www.vote411.org</u> to view a side-by-side comparison of the candidates' biographical information and all of the questions and answers.

The League of Women Voters of Kent and Northern Portage County thank *The Portager* for providing the print version of the Voter Guide. We also thank Director Faith Lyon, Deputy Director Theresa Nielsen, and the staff at the Portage County Board of Elections for their valuable assistance in compiling this material. The information contained in this publication may not be reproduced without consent of the League of Women Voters of Kent.

#### League of Women Voters of Kent my.lwv.org/ohio/kent

President: Sherry Rose; Voter Guide Co-Chairs: Nena Hankins, (330)673-0128, and Barbara Hipsman Springer

League of Women Voters of Northern Portage County northernportagecounty/wv.org President: April Secura; Voter Service Co-Chairs: Raji Alladi and Janice Simmons-Mortimer To print a copy of your ballot, go to the Portage County Board of Elections web site View Ballots page: https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx Select Election Date: 11/5/2024 General Election Select District Type: Cities, Villages, or Townships *e.g. Cities* Select District Name: *e.g. Kent City* Click the Find Ballots box. Find your precinct and click the View Ballot box. The sample ballot should appear. If you don't know your precinct, click on "<u>searching</u>" in the paragraph on the View Ballots page or follow this link:

https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/vtrlookup.aspx



CITY/VILLAGE/TOWNSHIP IN PORTAGE COUNTY	RACES	PAGE NOS.
All cities, villages, townships	President and Vice President	5
All cities, villages, townships	US Senator	6-7
All cities, villages, townships	Justice of Supreme Court (3 races)	8-14
All cities, villages, townships	11th District Court of Appeals (3 races)	15-16
All cities, villages, townships	County Commissioner (2 races)	17-20
All cities, villages, townships	County Clerk of Courts	21-23
All cities, villages, townships	County Sheriff	24-25
All cities, villages, townships	County Treasurer	26-28
All cities, villages, townships	County: Coroner, Engineer, Prosecuting Attorney, Recorder	29-30
Mogadore Village, Suffield Twp. A splits 1&2, Suffield Twp. D split 1, Suffield Twp. E split 1&2	Representative to Congress 13th District	31-32

CITY/VILLAGE/TOWNSHIP IN PORTAGE COUNTY	RACES	PAGE NOS.
Atwater Twp., Aurora City, Brimfield Twp., Charlestown Twp., Deerfield Twp, Edinburg Twp. Franklin Twp., Freedom Twp., Garrettsville Village, Hiram Village, Hiram Twp., Kent City, Mantua Village, Mantua Twp., Nelson Twp., Palmyra Twp., Paris Twp., Randolph Twp., Ravenna City, Ravenna Twp., Rootstown Twp., Shalersville Twp., Streetsboro City, Suffield Twp. A splits 3&4, Suffield Twp. B, Suffield Twp. C, Suffield Twp. D split 2, Suffield Twp. E split 3, Sugar Bush Knolls, Windham Village, Windham Twp.	Representative to Congress 14th District	33
Aurora City, Mantua Township, Streetsboro City	State Representative 35 <sup>th</sup> District	34-37
Atwater Twp., Brimfield Twp., Charlestown Twp., Deerfield Twp, Edinburg Twp. Franklin Twp., Freedom Twp., Garrettsville Village, Hiram Village, Hiram Twp., Kent City, Mantua Village, Mogadore Village, Nelson Twp., Palmyra Twp., Paris Twp., Randolph Twp., Ravenna City, Ravenna Twp., Rootstown Twp., Shalersville Twp., Suffield Twp., Sugar Bush Knolls, Windham Village, Windham Twp.	State Representative 72nd District	38-39
ISSUES		PAGE NOS.
All cities, villages, townships	1. State Issue Constitutional Amendment	40-42
Ravenna City 1A	2. Local Liquor Option	42
Kent City	3. Renewal Tax Levy	42
Kent City 5A	4. Local Liquor Option	43
Aurora City	5-17. Charter Amendments	43-45
Hiram Village	18. Replacement Tax Levy	45
Atwater Township	19. Renewal Tax Levy	45
Brimfield Township	20. Renewal Tax Levy	45
Brimfield Township B	21. Local Liquor Option	46
Charlestown Township	22. Renewal Tax Levy	46
Charlestown Township	23. Additional Tax Levy	46

ISSUES		PAGE NOS.
Franklin Township	24. Replacement and Increase Tax Levy	46
Franklin Township D	25. Local Liquor Option	46
Hiram Township	26 & 27. Replacement Tax Levies	46-47
Mantua Township C	28. Local Liquor Option	47
Ravenna Township F	29. Local Liquor Option	47
Rootstown Township	30. Replacement Tax Levy	47
Suffield Township	31. Renewal Tax Levy	47
Aurora City School District	32. Bond Issue	48
Ravenna City School District	33. Additional Tax Levy	48
Stow Munroe Falls City School Dist.	34. Bond Issue	48
Streetsboro City School District	35 & 36. Renewal Tax Levies	48-49
Tallmadge City School District	37. Replacement Tax Levy	49
Mogadore Local School District	38. Additional Tax Levy	49
Springfield Local School District	39-41. Renewal Tax Levies	49-50
Community EMS (Freedom Twp. Garrettsville Village, Nelson Twp.)	42. Additional Tax Levy	50
Mantua Shalersville Fire District	43. Replacement Tax Levy	50
Portage County—Job & Family Services	44. Replacement and Combination of .49 & .75 Tax Levies	50



# **US PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT**

#### Go to VOTE411.org for responses from candidates.

**Note:** All candidates who will appear on Ohio's ballot are listed below but only those that meet the following criteria were invited to respond to the League's questions in the VOTE411 guide. 1. The candidate must have made a public announcement of her/his intention to run for her/his Party's nomination for President; and,

2. The candidate must meet the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act's minimum contribution threshold requirements for qualifying for matching funds, based on the most recent data publicly available on the Federal Elections Commission website.

3. The candidate must qualify for the ballot in enough states to win a majority of electoral votes.

The following candidates will appear on the ballot in Ohio: KAMALA D. HARRIS/TIM WALZ (Dem) DONALD J. TRUMP/JD VANCE (Rep) CHASE OLIVER/MIKE TER MAAT (Lib) RICHARD DUNCAN/MITCHELL PRESTON BUPP (Nonparty Candidate) PETER SONSKI/LAUREN ONAK (Other-party Candidate) JILL STEIN/ANITA RIOS (Other-party Candidate)

Write-in Candidates: SHIVA AYYADURA/CRYSTAL ELLIS JOHN CHENG/WAYNE WALIGORSKI CLAUDIA DE LA CRUZ/KARINA GARCIA CHERUNDA FOX/HARLAN MCVAY, JR. BRIAN KEINITZ/CHRISTINA JOHNSON

# **US SENATE**

# SHERROD BROWN (Dem)



TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE United States Senator, former Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, former Ohio Secretary of State, former Member of the Ohio House of Representatives

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS 3867 West Market Street St. 289 Akron, OH 44333

CAMPAIGN EMAIL info@sherrodbrown.com

WEBSITE www.sherrodbrown.com

FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/sherrod/

EDUCATION BA Yale University, 1974; MA Ohio State University, 1979; MPA Ohio State University, 1981

#### Q: What are your top priorities and how will you address them?

A: My top priority is always to fight for Ohioans and the Dignity of Work. That means standing up to special interests and big corporations to level the playing field and ensure every family has a path to the middle class. I am proud of our recent wins like passing the Butch Lewis Act, which secured the pensions of over 100,000 Ohio workers, the bipartisan PACT Act that delivered the largest expansion of veterans' healthcare in VA history, and the CHIPS Act that is bringing thousands of jobs to Ohio. Currently, I am committed to passing the FEND Off Fentanyl Act to protect Ohioans from dangerous fentanyl and reinstating the Child Tax Credit to support working families.

# Q: State your position on voting and elections policy.

A: As Secretary of State, I expanded voter access and information. In the Senate, I am fighting against efforts that disenfranchise voters. I support the John Lewis Voting Rights Act and will always oppose laws that intentionally make it more difficult for people of color, seniors, students, and low-income people to vote. I've previously introduced the Election Security Act, which would require backup paper ballots and provide election security grants to states for cyber security, and I introduced a bill to stop states from purging voters solely due to failure to vote or to respond to a state notice. I will continue to urge my colleagues to pass meaningful voting rights legislation.

# Q: State your position on immigration policy.

A: Presidents of both parties have failed to secure our border. We need to get more resources and personnel to the border to support our border control agents and prevent a humanitarian crisis. I've also introduced legislation to protect our border control agents from illegal drugs and keep dangerous fentanyl out of our communities by cracking down on its illicit supply chains at their source.

# Q: State your priorities on foreign policy and national security.

A: I am focused on getting aid to Israel, Gaza, and Ukraine. It is time we put the politics aside and get this done. Additionally, as Chairman of the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee, I have pushed to sanction Russia for their unprovoked aggression and remove their Most Favored Nation status. I've always fought against unfair trade policies that leave Ohio workers behind. I have stood up to presidents of both parties against bad trade deals and will continue fighting to expand manufacturing jobs in Ohio and across the nation. Recently, I successfully urged the Biden Administration to remove the trade pillar from the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework to ensure workers weren't cut out of the deal.

*Q:* State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management. A: I will always fight to protect our environment and Ohio's natural resources for the next generation. I championed the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative to clean up Ohio's vital water resources, fought for resources to better understand the effects of algal blooms on lakeshore communities, and worked across party lines to ensure the Army Corps of Engineers keeps the Cleveland Harbor and shipping channel clean. We shouldn't have to choose between good environmental policy and good-paying jobs. That's why I support policies that decrease our dependence on foreign oil, safeguard our environment, and give Ohio manufacturers the tools they need to lead the renewable energy market.

# Q: State your position on healthcare policy.

A: I take a back seat to no one when it comes to standing up to Big Pharma – because no one should have to choose between staying healthy and paying their medical bills. That's why I am fighting to ensure all Ohioans have access to quality, affordable healthcare. Through the IRA, we secured a \$35 cap on out-of-pocket insulin costs for all Ohioans on Medicare. President Trump also signed my legislation – the Patient Right to Know Drug Prices Act – to increase transparency on drug prices and lower costs for Ohioans. Additionally, I refused to accept Congressional health insurance until Congress passed the ACA. I've also championed the protection of the Children's Health Insurance Program to ensure our children have quality access to care.

<u>*Q: What role, if any, should government take to ensure no person is discriminated against?*</u> A: No one should be denied a fair shot because of their race, who they love, or their gender and I will always oppose discrimination in any form. While working to protect individual rights, I am also focused on equal opportunities for all Ohioans by passing legislation to expand federal civil rights protections and fight LGBTQ discrimination in the housing market and the workplace. As Chair of the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee, I am standing up to powerful banks and predatory housing investors to ensure no one is discriminated against in the financial services or housing sectors and to make sure every Ohioan can fulfill the American Dream by purchasing and owning their own home.

# **US SENATE**

# BERNIE MORENO (Rep)

The candidate has not yet responded.

# Visit Judicial Votes Count (<u>www.judicialvotescount.org</u>) for a more thorough presentation of judicial candidates' credentials.

# SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

Full Term Commencing Jan. 1, 2025

#### MICHAEL P. DONNELLY (Dem)

CAMPAIGN EMAIL mikedonnelly@me.com EDUCATION Graduate, Saint Ignatius High School, 1984 B.A. from John Carroll University, 1988 Juis Doctorate, Cleveland State University College of Law, 1991 EXPERIENCE Assistant Cuyahoga County Prosecutor, 1992--1997 Attorney, Civil Litigation, Davis & Young, Cleveland, Ohio, 1997-1999 Attorney, Civil Litigation, Climaco, Lefkowitz, Peca, Wilcox & Garofoli, Cleveland, Ohio 1999--2004 Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court Judge, 2005--2018 Associate Justice, Ohio Supreme Court, 2019 to present WEBSITE donnellyforjustice.com FACEBOOK facebook.com/DonnellyforSupremeCourt

#### List your judicial experience (courts and years)

Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court Judge, 2005--2018

Ohio Supreme Court, 2019 to present.

During my career I held the following positions:

Member/Chair OSC Commission on Professionalism

Trustee, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association

Member/VP Ohio Common Pleas Judges Association

Member, Ohio Jury Instruction Committee

Member, Ohio State Board of Bar Examiners

Member, OSC Death Penalty Task Force

OSC's liaison to the Task Force on Conviction Integrity and Post-Conviction Review

I helped establish the nationally acclaimed Lawyer to Lawyer Mentoring Program. I was one of two Ohio judges invited to participate in the National Judicial College's "Innovative

Leadership Skills for Leader- Manager Judges Project," which iempowers future leaders to improve the functionality of the judicial system.

As a faculty member of the Ohio Judicial College, I teach attorneys and judges at numerous continuing-legal-education seminars on professionalism and issues related to criminal and civil justice reform and procedural fairness.

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

As an assistant prosecutor and litigator who represented plaintiffs and defendants, I gained extensive real-world experience in the wide variety of cases that come before the Common Pleas Court. Trying serious felonies and negotiating plea agreements provided me with critical insight into what did and didn't work in the criminal justice system that proved invaluable when I was elected to the bench.

My work as a civil litigator taught me that "justice delayed is justice denied" is much more than a cliché, it is a painful truth that harms everyone involved in the civil and criminal judicial system. People iwho have personal injury claims can find themselves on the brink of financial ruin as they wait years for their case to be tried or settled.

Defendants in criminal cases can spend years in jail awaiting trial while victims while victims and their families wait for justice to be done.

And the costs associated with complex business litigation mount exponentially as litigants endure inordinate delays.

With those factors in mind, I resolved to do everything in my power to expedite cases. I assured litigants I would be available to quickly and efficiently resolve any impasse related to discovery. I provided parties with case management orders that included ruling dates set far enough in advance of the trial date so that neither party would incur potentially unnecessary trial expense while awaiting a ruling from me and I provided every litigant with the highest degree of trial date certainty.

# Why are you running for this particular court seat?

I ran for the Supreme Court in 2018 to rebuild the public's faith in the judicial system and to serve as an independent, impartial Justice Ohioans could trust to uphold the Constitution and ensure that every person received equal treatment under the law.

I am seeking reelection to improve our justice system. The need for a strong, independent voice like mine on a court that has become increasingly politicized is greater than ever.

To combat the belief that the justice system is fundamentally unfair, I'll continue collaborating with judges, prosecutors, attorneys, elected officials, and community leaders to support the widespread adoption of policies that will:

# Promote the use of data to assure equity in sentencing

Combat wrongful convictions

# Close Ohio's justice gap

Eliminate backroom, false, and dark plea agreements

#### Make all Ohio courts more transparent, equitable, accountable, and efficient

In addition to leading the reform movement during my first term, I profoundly influenced the most meaningful cases to come before the court in decades. My independent votes and opinions, including dissents that highlighted issues of law misconstrued or ignored by my colleagues, played a critical role in:

# Defending democracy

# Preserving the right to vote on the Reproductive Freedom Amendment Ending a multi-million-dollar First Energy surcharge

# Strengthening labor rights

My allegiance to the Constitution and the people who expect and deserve nothing less than independence and equal justice under law rather than partisan politics or ideology will continue to guide my work.

# SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

Full Term Commencing Jan. 1, 2025

# MEGAN E. SHANAHAN (Rep)

CAMPAIGN EMAIL shanahanforohio@gmail.com

EDUCATION Kent State University, Bachelor of Arts (1995)

The University of Cincinnati, College of Law, Juris Doctrate (2000)

EXPERIENCE Butler County Prosecutor's Office, Assistant Prosecutor, Appellate division, (2000-2001)

Butler County Prosecutor's Office, Assistant Prosecutor, Felony division, (2001-2005) Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office, Assistant Prosecutor, Felony division, (2005-2007) Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office, Supervising Attorney, Felony division, (2007-2011) City of Mt. Healthy, Assistant City Solicitor, (2005-2011)

Hamilton County Municipal Court, Judge, (2011-2015)

Hamilton County Common Pleas Court, Judge, (2015-present)

WEBSITE shanahanforohio.com

# FACEBOOK facebook.com/shanahanforohio

<u>List your judicial experience (courts and years)</u> Hamilton County Municipal Court Judge, 2011-2015 Hamilton County Common Pleas Court Judge, 2015-Present

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

I have spent more than two decades in the justice system. Prior to becomming a judge, I worked as an assistant county prosecutor for more than a decade handling every type of criminal case from the lowest misdemeanor to death penalty murder cases. I also handled many civil cases in the prosecutor's office and as a city solicitor for Mt. Healthy. This combined experience gives me a rare insight into the justice system and helps my work as a judge immensely. I am the youngest of 8 children from a working class family. I understand the value of hard work. My background and professional experience has helped me become a firm but fair judge who ensures justice is done.

#### Why are you running for this particular court seat?

The most important job of a judge is to ensure justice and protect the community. I intend to continue serving our great state in this manner. As a common pleas court judge, I preside over the most serious criminal cases and most complex civil cases. As a judge, I serve as an impartial referee in the courtroom. I conduct myself with a transparent, no-nonsense, plain-spoken approach to every case. As a common pleas court judge, I have handled virtually every type of case that is heard at the Supreme Court level.

A stable and predictable legal environment is essential to allow Ohio to prosper. I am a firm believer in following what the law says, not promoting a personal or social agenda. I will strictly apply the law as it is written and adhere to the plain language of the constitution. When our Supreme Court follows this approach, a stable, predictable and equitable environment is created for Ohio residents and businesses. My professional and personal history render me highly qualified to serve as your next Ohio Supreme Court Justice.

# SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

Full Term Commencing Jan. 2, 2025

# MELODY J. STEWART (Dem)

CAMPAIGN EMAIL stewartforohiosupremecourt@gmail.com

EDUCATION B.M. (Bachelor of Music) – University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music.

J.D. (Juris Doctor)(Patricia Roberts Harris Fellow) – Cleveland State University College of Law. Ph.D. (Doctor of Philosophy)(Mandel Leadership Fellow) – Case Western Reserve University, Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences.

Honorary Doctorate – Cleveland State University.

EXPERIENCE - Justice - Supreme Court of Ohio

- Judge – Ohio Court of Appeals (Eighth District)

- Assistant Dean for Admissions and Financial Aid – Cleveland State University College of Law.

- Director of Student Services/Director of Academic Enrichment Program – Case Western

Reserve University School of Law

- Adjunct Faculty Ursuline College
- Visiting Assistant Professor of Law University of Toledo College of Law
- Visiting Assitant Professor of Law Cleveland State University College of Law
- Assistant Dean for Student Affairs Cleveland State University College of Law

- Adjunct Faculty - Cleveland State University College of Law - Assistant Law Director - Cities of Cleveland and East Cleveland WEBSITE stewartforohiosupremecourt.com FACEBOOK facebook.com/StewartforOhioSupremeCourt

# List your judicial experience (courts and years)

Justice on the Supreme Court of Ohio – 2019 to present (5+ years). Judge on the Ohio Court of Appeals – 2006 to 2018 (12 years).

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

Prior to being elected and re-elected to the Court of Appeals and then being elected to the Supreme Court - serving 17 years writing law, I had a varied legal career practicing law and teaching law. I practiced law primarily as a civil defense litigator in state and federal courts and worked in several capacities in legal and higher education for a combined 16 years. I served in multiple administrative capacities and taught courses in ethics and professional responsibility; criminal law; criminal procedure; and legal research, writing, and advocacy. In my doctoral studies, I was able to explore the intersection of law and social science - researching and writing in the areas of elder law and caregiving, and juvenile delinguency to name a couple areas of study. This prior non-judicial experience helps me to ask the right questions of lawyers and litigants, colleagues and court staff, and of myself before deciding a case. My non-judicial background has also served me well with recognizing the complexities and nuances of cases that come before us and serves as a reminder to judge the case, not the parties.

# Why are you running for this particular court seat?

I am currently the incumbent Justice running for re-election to the seat that I criss-crossed the State of Ohio campaigning for in 2018, that I received bipartisan support for during that campaign, and that the voters of Ohio saw fit to elect me to in 2018. I am an even stronger Justice/Public Servant now as I complete my first six-year term on the Ohio Supreme Court. So running for re-election to the seat I currently hold is necessary to continue serving the public and our judiciary.

# SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

Full Term Commencing Jan. 2, 2025

# JOSEPH T. DETERS (Rep)

CAMPAIGN EMAIL joe@joedeters.com EDUCATION B.A.: University of Cincinnati J.D.: University of Cincinnati College of Law EXPERIENCE 1982-1988; Assistant Hamilton County Prosecutor 1988-1992; Hamilton County Clerk of Courts 1992-1998 and 2005-2023; Hamilton County Prosecutor 1999-2004; Treasurer, State of Ohio 2023-present; Justice, Ohio Supreme Court WEBSITE joedeters.com FACEBOOK facebook.com/VoteJoeDeters

List your judicial experience (courts and years) Ohio Supreme Court, 2023-present

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

I spent more than 25 years as county prosecutor in a major urban county arguing cases of all types. Over that time, my office and I handled tens of thousands of felony and civil cases in local, state, and federal courts.

#### Why are you running for this particular court seat?

I am running for this seat to continue serving the people of Ohio on the Supreme Court for the full term spanning 2025-2030.

# SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

Unexpired Term Ending Dec. 31, 2026

#### LISA FORBES (Dem)

CAMPAIGN EMAIL forbes4judge@gmail.com EDUCATION Cornell University, 1981 to 1985, B.S. (recipient of a Regents Scholarship all 4 years; recipient of Cornell Tradition scholarship junior year) Case Western Reserve University School of Law, 1989 to 1992, J.D. summa cum laude (recipient of Fink scholarship (half-tuition all three years); Order of the Coif; Member, law review; Executive Notes Editor, law review; note selected for publication) EXPERIENCE Since college, my work experience is as follows: 8/1985 to 8/1987 Legislative Correspondent; Legislative Aide Office of the Honorable Joe Kolter, United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 8/1985 to 8/1987 Waitress (evenings and weekends) 9/1987 to 2/1988 Field Organizer, Bruce Babbitt for President, Concord, NH Spring 1988 to 11/1988 Director of Field Operations, Jim Donchess for Congress, Nashua, NH 1/1989 to 8/1989, Legislative Aide, Office of the Honorable Nita Lowey United States House of Representatives 8/1992 to 8/1993 Judicial Law Clerk, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio, Chambers of the Honorable Frank J. Battisti 8/1993 to 8/1997 Associate (Litigation), Squire, Sanders & Demsey LLP (nka SquirePattonBoggs), 8/1997 to 12/2020 Associate (Litigation): 8/1997 to 12/2002 Partner (Litigation): 1/2003 to present Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP 12/2020 to present Judge, Eighth District Court of Appeals WEBSITE ForbesForJustice.com FACEBOOK http://facebook.com/ForbesForJustice

#### List your judicial experience (courts and years)

Eighth District Court of Appeals, December 14, 2020 to present

As a judge on the court of appeals, I hear direct appeals of matters originally decided in a trial court. Three judges who have been randomly assigned sit on each panel. In preparation for oral arguments, I read and analyze the briefs submitted by the parties, along with the legal authority (case law, statutes, ordinances, regulations) governing the matter. I also analyze the

evidence that was before the trial court. After oral arguments, I confer with the other panel members to decide the matter. If the parties waive oral argument, we confer on the date the oral argument would have been heard. Then, I set about to prepare an opinion or to review opinions drafted by another panel member. Where we are unable to reach concensus on either the analysis or the outcome, I draft a concurring in judgment only opinion or dissent, as appropriate. In addition, my court regularly reviews requests for en banc consideration, as well as original actions, such as writs of mandamus, procedendo and prohibition. I had the honor of sitting by assignment on the Ohio Supreme Court when one of the justices needed to recuse from a case.

<u>What non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?</u> The depth and breadth of my knowledge of the law, coupled with my understanding of the impact legal decisions have on clients, provides the right mix of experience to interpret and apply the law fairly and justly as a justice on the Ohio Supreme Court.

For 27 years I practiced law in trial and appeals courts all over Ohio, helping clients resolve disputes ranging from complex business litigation to consumer class actions to legal malpractice claims to trust and estate disputes, and more. I have represented clients in legal disputes ranging from a complex business dispute involving a \$40 million indemnification claim to helping a daughter and her stepmother divide the father's assets (and ashes) after he

died. Representing individuals and businesses in a wide variety of disputes gave me deep understanding of substantive and procedural law.

I saw first hand the impact legal decisions have on parties. The first appeal I argued resulted in reversal of the trial court and entry of judgment in my client's favor. After years of litigating and a devastating jury verdict, my client was in dire straits because the trial court had not applied the law correctly. The court of appeals fixed the mistake and changed my cleint's life. I saw firsthand the importance of the court of appeals.

While in private practice, I dedicated myself to learning the intricacies of the law and understanding the impact the law has on our communities. I regularly wrote and spoke on developments in the law.

# Why are you running for this particular court seat?

I am running for the Ohio Supreme Court because I want to do my part to ensure that the Ohio Supreme Court is an effective firewall protecting our democracy and the rule of law. I have the expertise in the law, experience in our community, and work ethic to bring the intellectual rigor and common sense to the Court, so that our laws are applied fairly and equitably.

Ohio needs a new justice who will stand up for all Ohioans and stand firm against political pressure. My deep respect for and knowledge of the intricacies of the law would enhance the work of the court. Along with my work ethic, love of the law, and commitment to the community, my expertise in the practice of the law provides the right mix of experience to interpret and apply the law fairly and justly.

I believe that we need to reinvigorate the work of establishing a sentencing database and I would work along with Justice Donnelly in this effort. This is about fundamental fairness. The sentence a defendant receives should be based on the individual's conduct, not the courtroom to which his or her case was assigned. In particular, a database may help courts assess proportionality in respect to the seriousness of an offender's conduct when it comes to imposing consecutive sentences.

When I ran for the Court of Appeals four years ago, I believed the greatest issue courts faced was the erosion of respect for the institution. That concern has only grown in the time I have been on the bench. In particular, partisanship – real or perceived – has come to be accepted to explain the outcome of any particular case – not justice, not fair application of the law, not reasoned analysis.

If the citizens of Ohio do not have trust and confidence in the courts to dispense justice and to apply the law fairly, we risk a breakdown of orderly democratic society. When questions arise about the political motivations behind judicial decisions, it weakens respect for all judges and courts in general, not just the specific judge or opinion that is the subject of the criticism. If elected to the Ohio Supreme Court, I will commit myself to the fair and just application of the law without regard to any agenda. That includes how I will assess which cases the Court should take in for consideration, as well as how I will draft substantive opinions.

# SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

Unexpired Term Ending Dec. 31, 2026

#### DANIEL R. HAWKINS (Rep)

CAMPAIGN EMAIL judgedanielhawkins@gmail.com

EDUCATION Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Bowling Green State University J.D. from The Ohio State University College of Law

EXPERIENCE 2001-2013: Assistant Prosecuting Attorney and Director of the Special Victims Unit for the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office.

2013-2019: Judge of the Franklin County Municipal Court Environmental Division 2019-present: Judge of the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas General Division WEBSITE <u>hawkinsforjustice.com</u>

FACEBOOK Facebook.com/electjudgehawkins

#### List your judicial experience (courts and years)

Judge of the Franklin County Municipal Court Environmental Division (2013-2019) Judge of the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas General Division (2019-present)

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

I spent over a decade as a prosecutor in the largest county in Ohio, personally conducting over 100 jury trials over the course of my career. As Director of the Special Victims Unit for the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office, I oversaw and managed the prosecution of hundreds of crimes of violence against women and children, including sexual assaults, domestic and sexual homicides, child homicides, human trafficking, and internet child exploitation. My duties included overseeing a staff of seven assistant prosecutors and providing training to law enforcement, medical professionals, and attorneys across the state of Ohio.

#### Why are you running for this particular court seat?

I am running because I love this state and I want my children to grow up in an Ohio that is safe and prosperous. I believe in public service, and I would be honored to take my 20-plus years of legal and judicial experience to our state's highest court.

# JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS (11<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT) Full term commencing 2-9-2025

# (Dem) No candidate filed.

#### JOHN J. EKLUND (Rep)

CAMPAIGN EMAIL jeklund518@gmail.com EDUCATION Union College - B.A. cum laude, Political Science and History Washngton & Lee University School of Law - J.D. cum laude EXPERIENCE Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP - 1980-2021 Ohio State Senator (18th District) - 2011-2020 Judge, Ohio Court of Appeals, 11th District - July 1, 2021 to Present WEBSITE <u>eklundforjudge.com</u> FACEBOOK facebook.com/judgeeklund

#### List your judicial experience (courts and years)

Judge, Ohio Court of Appeals, 11th District - 7/1/21 to present; Administrative Judge of the Court - 1/1/23 to present; Presiding Judge of the Court - 2023

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

Over 40 years of practicing law in the fields of complex litigation and Antitrust law Named in the peer-reviewed book "The Best Lawyers in America" and named an "Ohio SuperLawyer"

More than 9 years as a State Senator, during which I was Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, the Criminal Justice Committee and the Ways and Means Committee, all of which heightened my understanding of statutory and constitutional construction and its limitations, and the application of State Judicial Rules in all forms and phases of litigation. It also exposed me to a wide range of issues Ohioans face, and try to address, and the humanity inherent in that effort.

#### Why are you running for this particular court seat?

To assure that liberty and justice are fairly and impartially rendered "For All" in Ohio, thereby establishing, maintaining and enhancing the people's confidence in our system of government (particularly our judiciary).

# JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS (11<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT) Full term commencing 2-10-2025

(Dem) No candidate filed.

SCOTT LYNCH (Rep)

Candidate has not responded.

# JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS (11<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT) Unexpired term ending 2-9-2027

#### (Dem) No candidate filed.

#### **ROBERT J PATTON (Rep)**

CAMPAIGN EMAIL <u>ripesq68@hotmail.com</u> EDUCATION JD Cleveland State University College of Law MA Philosophy Cleveland State University BA Psychology Cleveland State University EXPERIENCE Judge 11<sup>th</sup> District Court of Appeals Assistant US Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio 2006-2023 Assistant Prosecutor Lake County WEBSITE <u>judgerobertpatton.com</u> FACEBOOK <u>facebook.com/judgepatton</u>

#### List your judicial experience (courts and years)

I was appointed to the Eleventh District Court of Appeals on June 5, 2023.

#### What non-judicial legal experience gualifies you to be a judge?

I have over 27 years of experience as a practicing attorney. As set forth in my bio, I have taken over 60 cases to verdict in jury trials in State and Federal Court. In particular, I handled complex public corruption and white-collar cases as a federal prosecutor. This experience demonstrates my skills as a trial lawyer and provides a seasoned perspective in reviewing jury trials on appeal.

#### Why are you running for this particular court seat?

I sought Governor DeWine's appointment and am running to hold my seat as judicial service represents a unique role of public service in the practice of law. Serving as a Judge was been a career aspiration since I graduated from law school in 1996 and worked for Judge Mitrovich on the Lake County Common Pleas Court.

# PORTAGE CO. COMMISSIONER TERM COMM. 1/2/2025

# JILL L. CRAWFORD (Rep)



VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE UCM Endowment Advisory Board CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS 3771 Willow Brook Dr, Ravenna, OH, 44266 EDUCATION Kent State University - Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting TRAINING & EXPERIENCE Certified Public Accountant (CPA). Over 30 years of experience as accountant working at national and regional public accounting firms and also for a large, privately held business.

CAMPAIGN EMAIL jcrawford3771@gmail.com

<u>Questions</u>

The candidate has not yet responded.

# PORTAGE CO. COMMISSIONER TERM COMM. 1/2/2025

# CARMEN LISA LAUDATO (Dem)



VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE Pass Levy Committee, THRIVE Theater program, Community Cares, PTA, Streetsboro Family Days, Independence Place of Portage County Foundation Board

CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS 222 Madison Street, Ravenna, OH, 44266 EDUCATION Master of Arts in Teaching-Integrated Social Studies & Bachelors of Integrated Social Studies from Kent State University

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE Lead Social Studies Teacher at Safehouse-Youngstown, Council at Large-City of Streetsboro & Chair of Finance City of Streetsboro, Planning Commission-City of Ravenna, President of the Parks, Recreation, and Conservation Committee-City of Streetsboro, Charter Mamber of paparetit Paranta for Public Schools, Streetsboro, Co. Chair of

Streetsboro, Charter Member of nonprofit Parents for Public Schools-Streetsboro, Co-Chair of the School Levy Committee-Streetsboro

CAMPAIGN FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/people/Carmen-Laudato-For-Portage-County-Commissioner/61554405424280/

CAMPAIGN EMAIL votelaudato@gmail.com

<u>Q: What challenges do counties have that citizens might not realize are your responsibility and how do you address them?</u>

A: Managing public health departments that oversee disease control and health education. Coordinating with health organizations and ensuring readiness for emergencies. Maintaining rural roads which need regular repairs and upgrades to ensure safety in the face of financial constraints and weather damage. Operating jails, maintaining those facilities, ensuring fair treatment of inmates, programs to reduce recidivism. Property Assessment and Taxation: resolving disputes and ensuring equitable tax rates. Assisting low-income families, child welfare services, and mental health support. Managing regulations which impacts how property can be developed and used and balancing that with environmental protection and community interests. Addressing these issues takes a multifaceted approach. Public input, applying for grants, managing the budget, collaborating with state and local agencies, nonprofits and private sector partners. Being effective and efficient to improve service and manage costs.

# <u>Q</u>: What are the most significant opportunities and constraints facing Portage County in the next four years?

A: Leveraging our proximity to larger cities like Cleveland and Akron to attract new business and diversify our economic base. Expand sectors such as advanced manufacturing, technology, and logistics. Encouraging entrepreneurship by supporting local startups and small businesses that drive economic growth. We have opportunities in education and workforce development by partnering with local colleges and universities such as Kent State which support research and innovation. Upgrading our transportation infrastructure to enhance connectivity. Expanding broadband access particularly in rural areas will support development and telecommuting opportunities. Expanding our parks and recreational facilities by creating more accessible community spaces. We are constrained by financial limitations, market fluctuations, aging infrastructure, and environmental and regulatory challenges. It will require strategic planning, collaboration, and community engagement to position ourselves for growth.

# <u>Q</u>: What policies do you support that would further the Environmental Stewardship goals laid out in the Portage County Vision Plan?

A: Utilizing smart growth planning by encouraging development that prioritizes infill and redevelopment of existing urban areas to minimize sprawl and protect natural landscapes and our 25,802 acres of parks. Incentives for developers who incorporate sustainable technologies and materials. Support conservation easements and land acquisition programs to prevent development in ecologically sensitive areas. Invest in expanding and improving public transit options to reduce reliance on personal vehicles and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Develop multi-modal transportation networks that integrate biking and walking. Support programs for stormwater management, riparian buffer zones, and runoff reduction. Educational campaigns to raise awareness about energy conservation practices and public awareness about plastic pollution. Promote use of EV's and install more EV charging stations. Climate action plans that focus on flood mitigation infrastructure and resilient agricultural practices.

#### <u>Q</u>: What is your approach to ensuring affordable housing options are available in Portage <u>County?</u>

A: My approach would address housing affordability, availability, and quality. Increasing the housing supply provides incentives such as tax credits, grants, or density bonuses to developers who build affordable housing units. Zoning changes that allow for more mixed-use projects that include affordable housing. Preserving existing affordable housing and continuing to promote programs we offer such as low-interest loans to make necessary repairs or upgrades. Establishing an affordable housing trust fund that provides funding for the construction of affordable housing units. Encourage Mixed-income communities that reduce stigma and promote diversity and explore community land trusts as a means to acquire and manage land for affordable housing. Expedited permitting to reduce delays in construction. Down payment assistance programs, rental assistance programs. Develop housing solutions tailored to essential workers and low-income earners who significantly contribute to our local economy

# PORTAGE CO. COMMISSIONER TERM COMM. 1/3/2025

# SABRINA K. CHRISTIAN-BENNETT (Rep)



CAMPAIGN EMAIL sbennett@bennettlandtitle.com

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE President, Portage County Habitat for Humanity, Volunteer at The Portage Haven, Trustee of Childrens Advocacy Center and Director of Leadership Portage County

CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS 6601 Red Brush Road, Ravenna, Oh, 44266 Campaign Phone Number 3303250590

EDUCATION Bachelors of Business Administration KSU '94, Alumni of Leadership Portage County '05, Alumni of Leadership Institute Candidates School, Arlington Virginia '12, Alumni of Kent PD Citizens Police Academy '22

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE Portage County Commissioner, '14 and '17-Present, Director of County Commissioners Association of Ohio and President of NE Ohio Commissioners Association

CAMPAIGN WEBSITE www.sabrinaforcommissioner.com

CAMPAIGN FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/sabrinaforcommissioner/

# <u>Q</u>: What challenges do counties have that citizens might not realize are your responsibility and how do you address them?

A: As a commissioner, funding 8 other elected officials, 11 of our own departments and 7 judges is the most challenging. The challenge is finding a balance between limited resources and growing demands. We have to be able to navigate economic uncertainties, rising costs, and political pressures while ensuring that essential services and unfunded mandates are maintained. Making tough choices about where to allocate funds, finding new revenue sources, and having the foresight for long-term financial planning are key to overcoming these challenges.

# <u>Q</u>: What are the most significant opportunities and constraints facing Portage County in the next four years?

A: Economic Development, Job Growth and Location are among the top significant opportunities in the county. Portage has a strong manufacturing base and is well situated within 45 minutes to Cleveland, Akron, Youngstown and Canton. Portage has plenty of opportunities to expand, locate and grow a business. The top constraints will be budgetary constraints, childcare, affordable, quality housing, workforce skill gap and aging infrastructure.

# <u>Q</u>: What policies do you support that would further the Environmental Stewardship goals laid out in the Portage County Vision Plan?

A: I support land-use policies that protect farmland and natural spaces that ensure these resources are preserved for future generations. I support policies that strengthen reduction of pollution in local water bodies and encourage water conservation. Portage is very fortunate in that it has several organizations that educate on both topics and many other topics from youth to adults to protect our environment.

# <u>Q: What is your approach to ensuring affordable housing options are available in Portage</u> <u>County?</u>

A: The increasing cost and limited supply of housing presents significant challenges to those looking to relocate, stay and grow in Portage County. Housing is an increasing challenge to workforce development. I would support public and private partnerships to increase housing and incentives to do so. I am currently working on bringing in experts for a discussion on collaborative solutions for Ohio's housing crisis. The program will be focused on finding opportunities and overcoming the barriers for incentivizing housing development in northeast Ohio.

# NO CANDIDATE FILED (Dem)

# PORTAGE CO. CLERK OF COURTS

# BRIAN M. AMES (Rep)



CAMPAIGN EMAIL committee@electames.com

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE Project Promise, Project Promise Literacy Program, President Open Government Advocates, established 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status for CASA of Portage County Administrative Board

CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS 2632 Ranfield Road, Mogadore, OH, 44260 Campaign Phone Number 3303543701

EDUCATION BSEE Penn State, Management Central Michigan, Administrative Science University of Alabama Huntsville

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE Engineering, Management, Litigation

CAMPAIGN WEBSITE electames.com

CAMPAIGN FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61555998472807

# <u>Q</u>: What do you consider to be the essential responsibilities of the Portage County Clerk of <u>Courts?</u>

A: The Clerk of Courts has various duties including the support of the courts of common pleas, municipal courts, and court of appeals located at various places. The Clerk is also responsible for the Title Bureau and for handling passport applications. The Clerk has significant fiscal responsibilities. To accomplish this, the Clerk must employ as staff of about 50 people.

# <u>Q</u>: What improvements would you suggest for this office, and how would these benefit county citizens?

A: The Portage County Clerk's office has lagged behind neighboring Summit, Geauga, Trumbull, and Mahoning counties in modernization of its case management system to include efiling. This imposes a substantial cost burden on the county to manage massive amounts of paper. That cost burden can be eliminated by adoption of e-filing since it is much less costly to manage electronic records than paper.

# <u>Q: If you were given a budget increase of 10% by the county commissioners, how would you spend it? If you had a 10% decrease, how would you address it?</u>

A: To manage fluctuations in funding, it is necessary to have what is called a work-breakdown structure in project management. This allows the organization of labor and material cost for each organizational function into groupings that provide insight into the needs of each. Then when needs change or funding changes, it is easy to decide where to make changes. Far too often we see organizations respond to funding cuts with across-the-board cuts because the decision makers lack the information to support any other method of making cuts. Regarding increases in funding, a good WBS will include services that, while not essential, may well be beneficial to the citizen. With an increase in funding, these beneficial services may be funded. If funding of additional beneficial services is not warranted, the increase should be returned,

# Q: What strengths do you bring to your candidacy?

A: I have many years of experience managing defense acquisitions related to aircrew training systems. These systems required the employment of courseware developers, instructor pilots, subject matter experts, IT professionals, and other personnel. I also have many years experience as a software engineer that will prove essential to implementing e-filing. I have many years of experience in litigation to enforce compliance with Ohio's Sunshine Laws, being arguably the foremost advocate for open and transparent government in Ohio.

# PORTAGE CO. CLERK OF COURTS

# JILL FANKHAUSER (Dem)



CAMPAIGN EMAIL jillkfankhauser@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE I am a co-founder of the Portage County Good Deeds Public Outreach Program, and I am an active volunteer and supporter of many local charities. CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS P.O. Box 255, Kent, Oh, 44240

Campaign Phone Number 330-858-1816

EDUCATION Cleveland Marshall College of Law, J.D. 2003; University of South Carolina, B.A. 1995

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE I have served as the Portage County Clerk of Courts for 9 Years. Prior to holding this office, I was an Attorney for 13 years and a managing partner of my law firm. I have an extensive background in customer service and maintain a positive, professional relationship with the Courts I serve.

# <u>Q</u>: What do you consider to be the essential responsibilities of the Portage County Clerk of <u>Courts?</u>

A: The Clerk of Courts is the keeper of the Court's records and collects fines and court costs. In Portage County, the Clerk of Common Pleas also is the Clerk of the Kent and Ravenna Municipal Courts and operates the County Auto Title Division. As Clerk, I follow the Ohio Revised Code, the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio, the Ohio Rules of Criminal and Civil Procedure, and all Local Rules

# <u>Q</u>: What improvements would you suggest for this office, and how would these benefit county <u>citizens?</u>

A: My goal is to keep the Clerk of Courts and the records we keep as accessible to the public as possible. In my 9 years as Clerk, we have modernized the clerks office with new software to make our judicial system more accessible to the public and to improve efficiency and coordination within the courts and law enforcement. Some of these improvements include E-citation and an expansion of E-filing for litigants. We have also upgraded the clerks and the court's case management system with new programs as they have become available. For example, we are currently working to implement E-Warrants which is a new state sponsored program to streamline communications within the justice system and improve public safety. We will be one of the first counties in the state to implement J-Works, a recently released upgrade

to the clerk and the court's case management system. We have been able to implement these programs without using tax dollars.

# <u>Q: If you were given a budget increase of 10% by the county commissioners, how would you spend it? If you had a 10% decrease, how would you address it?</u>

A: I am fiscally responsible with our budget. I make sure that we stay within the budget we are alloted. If funds remain at the end of the year, we return them. If there were a decrease in funds, I would look for ways to continue to provide excellent customer service and accurate, accessible records.

# Q: What strengths do you bring to your candidacy?

A: I have been serving as Clerk of Courts for 9 years. In that time I have maintained a good, professional relationship with the courts, other county offices and our customers. As an attorney, I use my legal background to make sure that all records are kept in compliance with state laws. The Clerks Office consists of 53 deputy clerks in 8 different offices in 3 different locations across the county. Therefore it is important to have excellent people, problem solving and organizational skills. I also have the ability to communicate and work with other county offices in a professional and productive manner. I am proud of the work we do and of our role in maintaining the integrity of our justice system.

# PORTAGE CO. SHERIFF

# JON BARBER (Dem)



EDUCATION Associate Degree Criminal Justice, Bachelor's in Technical Education, Masters in Public Administration.

CAMPAIGN FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61550331957553 Campaign Website Www.voteforbarber.com

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE Numerous trainings in Leadership and Supervision.

CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS 647 S. Depeyster St, Kent, Oh, 44240 VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE Blue Knights XVI, Volunteer for Portage County Youth Benefit Committee, Member FOP #70 Portage County. Leadership Portage County.

# <u>Q</u>: What is the role of the County Sheriff in relation to area law enforcement officers on city, <u>village or township staffs?</u>

A: The Sheriff's Office is tasked with maintaining the jail and servicing the courts. In addition they have a statutory obligation to provide police protection in the unincorporated areas. It is critically important to collaborate with all communities within the county and the police and fire agencies that serve them. Collaboration is essential for the success and protection of Portage County. When you fail to work with them all, agencies are harmed and criminal activities can go unsolved. When elected, the first thing I will do is meet with the other law enforcemnet angencies and re-establish the County Drug Task Force. It should never have been disbanded. Working together lowers the cost to all departments, and shared information within the jurisdictions will bring together a better result in terms of convictions, which will result in less drugs in our county.

# <u>Q: If you were given a budget increase of 10% by the county commissioners, how would you spend it? If you had a 10% decrease, how would you address it?</u>

A: The current Board of Commissioners has given this current sheriff's administration substantial increases over the last three years. When I am elected Sheriff, I am committed to transparency and accountability. I will sit down with my staff and the Commissioners and their staff to make sure our obligations are met. I think one area at the sheriff's office that needs to be better addressed is the assessment of jail inmates, making sure they have access to treatments--both for drug and mental health issues, so that when they leave our facility, they have better tools to be successful. We have to do better to train our staff to identify persons in crisis and to get them the help they need while they are in crisis. I know there is training available for Crisis Intervention for Deputies and Correction Officers. My goal would be to assure that all sherrif's pershey have received it. Also, that we immediately get mental-health services and support to people in crisis.

# <u>Q</u>: What is your position on mental health and crisis intervention training for deputies, and what strategies would you consider for handling situations involving individuals with mental health issues?

A: I strongly believe we need to make sure every sherrif's deputy and corrections officer has training in dealing with a person in crisis. But we need to go further by making sure we partner

with mental-health professionals, to get a person the help he or she needs as quickly as possible. Hopefully, that would keep them out of the criminal-justice system and into treatment.

# <u>Q</u>: What is your perspective on the use of force policies within the sheriff's department, and how would you ensure they are applied fairly and consistently?

A: I have no information on the current policy at the Sheriff's Office. I can tell you that when I'm elected, I will make sure there is a policy that is consistent with the law. Additionally, I will make sure every deputy and correctional officer is trained and knowledgeable on the policy. I will implement a use-of-force protocol whereby every officer will be required to fill out a use-of-force document, reviewed by command staff to make sure it complies with the use-of-force policy. We will constantly evaluate these documents to make sure we are training the staff properly.

# PORTAGE CO. SHERIFF

**BRUCE D. ZUCHOWSKI** (Rep) The candidate has not yet responded.

# PORTAGE CO. TREASURER





CAMPAIGN EMAIL jbica@neo.rr.com

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE Executive Board of the Ravenna Heritage Association, Center of Hope Advisory Board, Executive Board of Portage Development Board, Ravenna Community Improvement Corporation (Chair)

CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS 4699 Loomis Parkway, Ravenna, OH, 44266 Campaign Phone Number 330-606-9967

EDUCATION Undergraduate in Business Administration from Malone University, Masters of Business Administration from Kent State University

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE Ravenna City Council 2002 to 2010, Mayor City of Ravenna 2010 to 2016, President of Council 2016 to 2020, President Ravenna Board of Health, Chair Ravenna Planning Commission, Executive Board Mayor's Assoc. (President & VP), Portage County Communications Task Force, Portage County EMA Sustainability Committee, Ohio Assoc. Public Safety Directors, NEO Mayors & Service Directors Assoc., Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (AMATS) (Chair & Vice Chair), Ohio School Business Manager License Campaign Website www.joebica.com

CAMPAIGN FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61561799267284

#### Q: What is the role of the Treasurer in the operations of Portage County?

A: Portage County Treasurer's roles and responsibilities are very specifically outlined by the Ohio Revised Code. The majority of the responsibilities center around the collection of local taxes, including real estate and personal property taxes. The Treasurer also is responsible for the collection and accounting of all monies collected by other County Departments as well as investing of all County funds, providing the best return in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code. The Treasurer must track and prepare financial statements for the Portage County Auditor and other County Departments. In short, the Treasurer is elected to serve as Portage County's banker and safekeeper of all taxes and the investor of local funds. As such the Portage County Treasurer must be an individual that is highly trained and experienced in financial planning, public budgeting and cash management to properly manage and safeguard Portage County's funds.

#### Q: What is your assessment of the processes used by county taxpayers?

A: My assessment is that we can always strive for improvement, especially when it comes to taxpayer funds and services. Substantial improvements can be made in both the process and communication methods currently in use. Families work very hard for their money. It is unacceptable to be surprised by a tax bill that they neither expected nor understood. I would improve explanations for what the county is required to reevaluate and/or collect by State law. Nobody wants to collect taxes, but I would make sure the only taxes collected are those required by law.

#### Q: What would be your priorities for the treasurer's office?

A: My highest priority is to make sure we are only collecting the taxes that we absolutely have to collect from Portage County citizens. The best Treasurer is one that understands they work for

the taxpayers of the county and need to make taxpayers the highest priority. As part of the county's budget commission, I would bring nearly 20 years of complex governmental budging experience to the team, examining ways to reduce spending and applying business best practice to help reduce the taxpayer's burden. I would make it a priority to keep the county taxpayer informed about county revenues and expenditures. I would develop a long-term strategy of conservative and prudent financial investing using financial forecasting and modeling. With over \$160 million dollars of county funds to invest and protect, small strategic changes to the investment portfolio can make significant revenue improvements.

#### Q: How will you ensure transparency and accountability in the County finances?

A: I will make sure that the office records and the office staff are available to answer questions from Portage County taxpayers. While I will endeavor to cooperate with other elected officials, I will not hesitate to ask questions to make sure there is accountability for all spending. I will also pursue a program to make the "Portage County checkbook" easy for citizens to view online. I would focus additional efforts on developing a comprehensive community outreach program to inform and educate the county taxpayer about county revenues, expenditures and investments.

# PORTAGE CO. TREASURER

# JOHN KENNEDY (Dem)



CAMPAIGN EMAIL johnkennedyforohio@gmail.com VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE President of the King Kennedy Community Center advisory board; Portage County NAACP board member; Independence of Portage County board member; advocate for lower insulin costs

CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS 515 E. Acadia Pt, Aurora, OH, 44202 Campaign Phone Number 703-216-0884

EDUCATION Bachelor of Arts, Regis University; Master of Arts, University of Colorado Denver TRAINING & EXPERIENCE Appointed as Portage County Treasurer on November 9, 2023. I serve as the "chief investment officer" for Portage County. As chair of the Portage County Investment Advisory Committee, I provide financial data, forecasting and interest yield information on a quarterly basis. As Vice Chair of Budget Commission, I monitor local subdivision budgets and amendments. As member of the Board of Revision, I review property valuation appeals from residents.

CAMPAIGN WEBSITE www.johnkennedyforohio.com

CAMPAIGN FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/johnkennedyforohio

# Q: What is the role of the Treasurer in the operations of Portage County?

A: My office plays three crucial roles in county government: tax collector, banker, and chief investment officer. As tax collector, we gather resources for essential services like police, fire protection, schools and parks, collecting real estate taxes and various other levies. The revenue we collect also funds county services such as emergency management, public assistance, and criminal prosecutions. As the county's banker, my office safeguards collected tax revenues and manages the treasury's finances in close collaboration with the Auditor. Daily reports are made to ensure transparency, with monthly financial statement balancing and cooperation during audits. Functioning as the chief investment officer, we invest county funds to ensure safety,

liquidity, and optimal returns for county taxpayers. As Treasurer, I am accountable to the Investment Advisory Committee, providing data and forecasting quarterly to align with the county's investment objectives.

#### Q: What is your assessment of the processes used by county taxpayers?

A: We have made progress in recent years to upgrade our customer-facing technology, but there's a lot more we can do to add ease and efficiency to the way we deliver services. As a former IT systems pro, I have a deep understanding of technology and the ways it can safely transform the way customers interact with county services. We currently allow customers to pay taxes in person; by mail or by onsite mail drop box; online (using our Point & Pay service); by phone; and through our pre-pay program (using monthly coupons). My goal is to push for greater adoption of online payment and payment by phone, which could potentially streamline reconciliation, while reducing costs and data entry errors. We are currently working in partnership with the county auditor's office to enable procurement card processing to add efficiencies and reduce costs. We plan on launching a customer-service friendly "phone-tree" for phone-in customers to save time and provide easier navigation of our services.

# Q: What would be your priorities for the treasurer's office?

A: As county CIO, continue the work of ensuring the best rate of return on our investments. Leverage technology to add value to customer-Treasurer communications and service delivery, while reducing red-tape and cost. Annually attend all 18 township trustee meetings, all city and village councils, and many civic groups. Promote Treasurer's office programs, including the low interest linked deposit program enabling residents, family farms, and small businesses to access cheaper capital for household improvements, to grow the family farm, and stimulate small business growth in Portage County. Hold township-based small business and entrepreneurship workshops, to share information, stimulate partnerships and provide a doable path forward toward launching a business in our county. Continue to build and leverage "best practices" implemented by other county treasurers across the great state of Ohio.

#### Q: How will you ensure transparency and accountability in the County finances?

A: As your Treasurer and trusted public servant, my philosophy is to share as much information with the public as I can, and to meet with the public as much as possible. The hard-working taxpayers of Portage County deserve to see me in their community -- to listen to their concerns and answer questions about their taxes, valuations, and our programs. Since taking office last year, I have made public presentations to all 18 township trustee meetings in Portage County as well as city and village councils, including Ravenna, Kent, Streetsboro, Aurora, Garrettsville and Windham. I have participated in every monthly meeting of the County's Budget Commission. I have organized and held four quarterly (and open to the public) Investment Advisory Committee (IAC) meetings. Budget Commission meetings and quarterly IAC meetings are streamed live via the Portage County YouTube channel. The minutes of these public meetings and our county's quarterly investment portfolio reports are also posted online.

# PORTAGE CO. CORONER

# DEAN J. DEPERRO (Dem)

Q: What is the role of the Coroner in the operations of Portage County?

A: In Ohio, the Coroner is an elected county office required to be held by a licensed physician in good standing. The office of the Coroner is required to investigate deaths in the county involving homicide, suicide, accidental death, and the death of any child under the age of two who was otherwise in good health. The Coroner may also investigate any suspicious death, and any death that the office of the Coroner determines may warrant investigation. The Coroner's office is comprised of the Coroner and staff, including an Administrator, Deputy Coroners, Chief Investigator, and full-time and part-time investigators available 24/7/365 to respond to calls for death scene investigations.

# NO CANDIDATE FILED (Rep)

# PORTAGE CO. ENGINEER

# LARRY D. JENKINS, JR. (Dem)



CAMPAIGN WEBSITE jenkins4engineer.com

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE Portage County Engineer, May 2023-current; Chief Deputy County Engineer, Portage County, 2021-2023; Assistant County Engineer, Portage County, 2019-2021; Engineering Services Supervisor, City of Wadsworth, 2005-2019; Civil Engineer III, City of Wadsworth, 2001-2005; Civil Engineer II, City of Wadsworth, 1997-2001; Civil Engineer I, City of Wadsworth, 1993-1997; Ohio Registered Professional Engineer, P.E., Ohio Registered Professional Surveyor, P.S., Certified Professional in Stormwater Quality

EDUCATION I earned my bachelor's Degree in Engineering from Youngstown State University in 1992 and a Certificate in Surveying from the University of Akron in 1995.

Campaign Phone Number 330-677-4754

CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS 332 Majors Lane, Kent, OH, 44240

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE Cub Scout Leader, Soccer Coach, Basketball Coach, Church Board of Trustee Member.

CAMPAIGN EMAIL Ljenkins@jenkins4engineer.com

#### Q: What is the role of the County Engineer in the operations of Portage County?

A: As county engineer, I serve as the engineer for the County Commissioners on all duties authorized or declared by law to be completed by a registered Professional Engineer or registered Professional Surveyor. Our office prepares all plans, specifications, details and estimates of cost, as well as creates contracts for the construction, maintenance, and repair of all bridges, culverts, roads, drains, ditches, and other public improvements (except buildings) constructed under the authority of the commissioners. The County Engineer is the Engineering advisor to the Township Trustees for the maintenance, widening, resurfacing and reconstruction of their highways. All bridges on the Township Highway System that have a span greater than 10+ feet are also the responsibility of the County Engineer. Our office is responsible for maintaining 368 miles of roads and 172 bridges within the county.

# NO CANDIDATE FILED (Rep)

# **CO. PROSECUTING ATTORNEY**

#### CONNIE J. LEWANDOWSKI (Rep)

NO CANDIDATE FILED (Dem)

# PORTAGE CO. RECORDER

#### LORI CALCEI (Rep)

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE Current County Recorder and Suffield Township's Fiscal Officer CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS 2150 May Rd, SUFFIELD, OH, 44260 VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE Leadership Portage County Board Member, Salvation Army Board Member, Community Action Council Board Member, Celebrate Portage Vice President, Portage County Township Association Secretary/Treasurer CAMPAIGN EMAIL calceiforrecorder@gmail.com

#### Q: What is the role of the Recorder in the operations of Portage County?

A: The County Recorder has the important and indispensable task of keeping the vital records pertaining to ownership of real estate (land) and to all encumbrances or liens upon it. Without the work of the County Recorder, it would be nearly impossible to purchase land and be assured of a clear title or to lend money with land as security. The Recorder keeps and maintains accurate land records that are current, legible and easily accessible. An important aspect of the Recorder's work is to index each document so it may be readily located. Accurate indexing makes it possible for persons searching land records to find the documents necessary to establish a "chain of title" (history of ownership) and ensures that any debts or encumbrances against the property are evident.

#### NO CANDIDATE FILED (Dem)

# **OHIO US HOUSE DISTRICT 13**

# KEVIN COUGHLIN (Rep)



FACEBOOK facebook.com/CoughlinforCongress EDUCATION BA - Bowling Green State University; MPA - Bowling Green State University CAMPAIGN ADDRESS P.O. Box 208 Bath, OH 44210 TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE Business Owner - 2010 - present; State Representative 1997-2001; State Senator 2001-2011; Clerk of the Stow Municipal Court, 2013-2015. CAMPAIGN EMAIL team@kevincoughlin.com WEBSITE www.kevincoughlin.com

#### Q: What are your top priorities and how will you address them?

A: Securing the border, bringing down inflation, and getting the federal government under control. Completing the border wall and requiring asylum seekers to wait for their hearing outside of the US are a good start. Passing proper budgets, rolling back wasteful spending, and tax reform will help get everyday costs under control. Requiring some form of Congressional approval of all rules and regulations by the executive agencies, along with periodic renewal of rules will help bring the bureaucracy to heel. 436 agencies currently make rules that impact us all without any concern about the impact.

# Q: State your position on voting and elections policy.

A: Elections should be run by the states with evenly applied standards. It should be easy to vote and hard to cheat. I sponsored Ohio's election reform after the 2000 debacle and believe in voter ID. States should not be allowed to stop counting votes on election night. Ballot harvesting should be outlawed. I am not a fan of voting machines and believe paper ballots provide the most security. I support the Electoral College as it an essential feature of our republic, balancing majority rule with state rights and preventing our elections by being ruled by the tyranny of the loud.

# Q: State your position on immigration policy.

A: We can't have a policy as long as the border is wide open and our border agents are being forced to be customer service representatives for illegals. Return the wait-in-Mexico policy that Biden cancelled requiring asylum seekers to wait for their hearing outside the US. Reward those who have followed the rules and do not provide a path to citizenship or permanent residency for those who came here illegally. Enhance border security with the wall and technology. Allow states and local governments to enforce immigration law. Once we secure the border, we can build a system of legal immigration that works for everyone.

#### Q: State your priorities on foreign policy and national security.

A: The United States must stay engaged in the world and its allies in security should shoulder more of the burden. When the US pulls inward, the world's troublemakers step into the vacuum, both on the ground and in international institutions. I do not support throwing American tax dollars at anything without a clear plan for success, which is lacking under Joe Biden.

# Q: State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management.

A: I strongly favor protecting our Great Lakes, which are a natural and economic resource for the region. I support good stewardship of the planet and believe the most practical way to do that is through market forces. Government cannot will technological breakthroughs, so I oppose mandates that ignore the realities of the moment in favor of utopian dreams. Car emissions have improved not because of mandates, but because consumers demanded it. As a result, the technology advanced. These same forces are what will define our breakthroughs going forward.

# Q: State your position on healthcare policy.

A: I believe in physician-led health care and do not believe insurance companies or bureaucrats should decide who lives and who dies. I served seven years as Chairman of the Ohio Senate Health Human Services & Aging Committee and worked to increase access to quality health care throughout Ohio and to keep costs under control by streamlining the relationship between providers and insurers and passing tort reform. I favor allowing people to purchase private insurance with a portion of their public benefits and oppose a universal government-run health system.

<u>Q: What role, if any, should government take to ensure no person is discriminated against?</u> A: The United States Constitution, along with the preamble to the Declaration of Independence make clear that the role of our federal is to ensure the rights we all enjoy as human beings and those in the Bill of Rights. It is really, the primary role of government and I believe our existing founding documents provide such protection.

# **OHIO US HOUSE DISTRICT 13**

# EMILIA SYKES (Dem)



FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/EmiliaSykes EDUCATION B.A. in Psychology from Kent State University, 2007; JD in Family Law from University of Florida, 2011; MPA from University of Florida, 2011 CAMPAIGN EMAIL info@emiliasykesforcongress.com WEBSITE emiliasykesforcongress.com

# Q: What are your top priorities and how will you address them?

A: My top priorities are to lower costs for everyday individuals, protect access to affordable healthcare, and fight to make sure our communities are safe for families.

# Q: State your position on voting and elections policy.

A: Every northeast Ohioan deserves to have their voices heard and votes counted. In Congress, Emilia will fight to make it easier for our citizens to vote by supporting H.R. 1 the For the People Act— and she will hold accountable anyone who attacks the right to a free and fair election, particularly those who advocate violently overthrowing the government, like the attack we saw on the Capitol on January 6th of last year.

# Q: State your position on immigration policy.

A: Our immigration system is broken and we need a bipartisan, comprehensive solution that stops ignoring the problem. In Congress Emilia will fight to ensure our borders are safe and secure, keeping out dangerous drugs and weapons, while also recognizing decency and humanity is required to those who seek the land of opportunity we call home. She'll also be a champion for those who come here legally, pay taxes and play by the rules because they deserve the same rights and protections as everyone else.

#### Q: State your priorities on foreign policy and national security.

A: I'm committed to a national security strategy that secures our nation and advances the cause of democracy at home and around the world. I am focused on working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to combat national security threats and working with our allies around the world to promote democracy and freedom. Leadership from the United States; when people around the world are demanding freedom and democracy over authoritarianism, we have a responsibility to lend our support.

# Q: State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management.

A: Emilia knows that access to clean water, clean air, and a clean environment is a basic human right—but that we can fight for those rights while also creating good-paying jobs. In Congress, Emilia will support environmentally friendly policies that support our economy, allow our National parks to thrive, and support native wildlife. By protecting our environment we can maintain a place where our children and families can live a healthy life, enjoy our local natural resources and promote tourism.

# Q: State your position on healthcare policy.

A: Healthcare is far too expensive and all northeast Ohioans deserve access to quality, affordable healthcare and prescription drugs that won't break the bank. In Congress, Emilia will push to cap the cost of life-saving medications such as insulin, make sure there are affordable long-term care options for Ohioans, and continue her work on eliminating systemic biases that lead to health inequities.

<u>Q: What role, if any, should government take to ensure no person is discriminated against?</u> A: I supports federal passage of the Equal Rights Act (ERA), equal pay, and the Equality Act to enshrine federal equality protections into law.

# **OHIO US HOUSE DISTRICT 14**

BRIAN BOB KENDERES (Dem) The candidate has not yet responded.

# DAVE JOYCE (Rep)

The candidate has not yet responded.

# MARIA JUKIC (Ind)

The candidate has not yet responded.

# **OHIO STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 35**

# MARK CURTIS (Dem)



CAMPAIGN ADDRESS 10472 Woodchuck Ct. Twinsburg, Ohio 44087 TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE 30 years experience in higher education administration and public K-12 education. Served 4 years as a board member for the Cuyahoga Valley Career Center. Served 8 years as an elected Board Member of Twinsburg City Schools. Served as the board's legislative liaison. Served on various committees of the Ohio School Boards Association including Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion as well as the Federal Legislative Advocacy Group Committee. I have lobbied on both the state and federal level.

VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY SERVICE Volunteer coach in Twinsburg's baseball, basketball, and football recreation leagues

CAMPAIGN EMAIL curtis4ohio@yahoo.com

EDUCATION Otterbein University-Bachelors, Hiram College-Masters FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=6155481994

#### Q: What are your top priorities and how will you address them?

A: My greatest priority is increasing investment in public education and eliminating tax dollars funding private schools. I am also very concerned with attacks on marginalized populations and government involvement in decisions that should be made by individuals and their doctors. The general assembly has continued siphon public dollars to fund private, unaccountable schools when 90% of students in Ohio attend public schools. I will work to end this unconstitutional practice and instead focus on ensuring our public schools have the resources needed to deliver quality education to the vast majority of our students. I will also work to draft policy that protects our most vulnerable students from discrimination.

#### Q: What changes do you support or oppose to voting and elections policy?

A: I support expanding access to voting by increasing the number of ballot drop boxes statewide as well as allowing same day voter registration. I oppose the current arbitrary practice of purging voters from the rolls. Ohio has some of the most stringent rules for voting which disenfranchises many and discourages them from voting. Voting is a fundamental constitutional right and laws should make it easier, not more difficult to participate. As a African-American, my ancestors fought and died for the right to vote. It is sad that this continues in the 21st century, however, I intend to continue this fight.

#### Q: How should government bring economic and job opportunities to Ohio?

A: Government must first ensure that public education is designed to obtain the necessary skills needed to compete in a global society. This requires more focus on instruction and skill building instead of constant standardized tests that do not measure what students know and are able to do. Government can provide economic incentives to companies who work with public schools to create articulation agreements that provide a pathway to internships and apprenticeships upon graduation. Not all students go to college. It is important that they know what skills and competencies companies need that will allow a seamless transition into the workforce.

# Q: What are your aspirations for K-12 and higher education?

A: I would work to ensure the General Assembly honors their commitment to fully fund the Fair School Funding model that is currently being phased in. This is currently the closest Ohio has ever been in addressing funding disparities in public K-12 education. I hope to increase state aide to public and private institutions of high learning. As tuition costs continue to increase, we must work to lessen reliance on student loans.

#### Q: Under what circumstances should the state support or check local government?

A: I believe the state has an obligation to honor home rule and allow local control whenever possible. When the rights of it's citizens in infringed upon, I believe government also has a responsibility to act to protect those rights. I believe it was wrong for the government to diminish the role of the State Board of Education and take place control of our Ohio Department of Education under the Governor. This act took away the ability of those who were duly elected to perform their duties. As such, it represents a gross overreach and abuse by the Government.

# Q: State your position on healthcare policy.

A: I believe decisions involving personal healthcare should be made by the individual and their healthcare provider. I believe the Government has no business dictating what anyone does with their body. Voters resounding defeated Issue 1 in the spring and overwhelming supported the measure in the fall. Our elected officials in the statehouse should respect the will of the people, however this is currently not the case. Overriding the Governors veto of HB 68 is just another example of government taking healthcare decisions out of the hands of parents and into the hands of politicians. This is wrong, plain and simple.

# Q: State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management?

A: We must do more to become less reliant on fossil fuels and continue to invest more in renewal energy if we are to survive. Global warming is real and we are seeing the effects everyday. Communities must also continue to recycle to further reduce our carbon footprint. I believe government can and should provide economic incentives to companies who work to transition away from practices that harm the environment. Government should do more to provide tax incentives to those who purchase solar panels or buy electric vehicles. These commitments will extend our life expectancy as well as provide a better life for our children.

# Q: What role, if any, should government take to ensure no person is discriminated against?

A: Government must ensure all institutions foster an environment of inclusion. Currently, there are policies being drafted to discourage and penalize institutions that embrace the practice of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Government has a responsibility to protect ALL of it's citizens from discrimination. When elected officials fail to uphold this responsibility, they must be removed. Gerrymandering has unfortunately allowed discriminatory laws to be passed with little to no accountability. Voters must act to rectify this problem and restore integrity and protect our most vulnerable marginalized populations.

# **OHIO STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 35**

#### STEVE DEMETRIOU (Rep)



CAMPAIGN ADDRESS 8472 E. Washington St., Suite 226, Chagrin Falls, OH 44023 TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE I served for five years as an active duty infantry officer in the Army. During that time I completed Ranger and Airborne training, and led a reconnaissance platoon in Afghanistan. After the military I started, led, and grew a business from just three employees to over sixty, which I successfully sold. I currently own and run businesses with my family. I am also serving my first term as a State Representative. My wife, Carly, and I are blessed with three boys under the age of 4.

VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY SERVICE I serve on the Parish Council at my church. I am also a member of VFW Post 6519.

CAMPAIGN EMAIL info@steveforohiohouse.com

WEBSITE steveforohiohouse.com

EDUCATION B.S., Economics - U.S. Military Academy at West Point FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/SteveforOhioHouse/

#### Q: What are your top priorities and how will you address them?

A: As your state representative, my top priority is providing excellent customer service to my constituents. I've focused on addressing property taxes, supporting small businesses, and enhancing community safety. I sponsored HB 57, which ties the homestead exemption to inflation to help seniors and disabled veterans save on property taxes. I also introduced HB 435 to create a grant program for small manufacturing businesses to modernize and upskill. Additionally, I supported funding for modernizing our 911 platform and providing more training resources for law enforcement. Moving forward, I aim to explore expanding the homestead exemption and owner-occupancy credit for more property tax relief.

#### Q: What changes do you support or oppose to voting and elections policy?

A: I supported initiatives and legislation that ensure only American citizens can vote in Ohio elections and contribute to candidate and ballot initiative committees. I'm committed to advancing common-sense election policies like these. Looking ahead, I'd like to explore ways to increase civic engagement and transparency in our elections process by getting more Ohioans involved in elections administration through our local boards of election.

#### Q: How should government bring economic and job opportunities to Ohio?

A: As a business owner, I'm passionate about making Ohio a prime destination for business growth. We have strong economic development resources like the Ohio Department of Development, JobsOhio, and the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, which are excellent at attracting and supporting businesses. I value connecting local business owners with these resources. However, Ohio needs a friendlier tax environment. To attract and retain businesses, we must reduce or eliminate state income taxes, rising property taxes, municipal income taxes, and the corporate activities tax. Providing tax relief is crucial for incentivizing job creation and economic growth in Ohio.

### Q: What are your aspirations for K-12 and higher education?

A: I am dedicated to prioritizing students and families in our education system. I backed additional funding for career technical schools, and supported raising the starting salaries for teachers. I also advocated for the expansion of Ohio's school choice programs, including options for special needs students. Recently, the General Assembly, with my support, allocated an additional \$2 billion annually to K-12 schools. Despite progress, more work is needed to fairly distribute funds across districts. Additionally, I am concerned about rising antisemitism on college campuses and will continue to work with Jewish organizations to address this issue.

### Q: Under what circumstances should the state support or check local government?

A: The main concern I've heard about empowering local government this General Assembly is property zoning. In places like Geauga County, residents value local officials' control over zoning regulations. I agree—local governments should manage their own zoning without state interference. Some local zoning and permitting departments are overwhelmed by increased demand. I'm committed to finding solutions to ease these burdens, potentially by directing more resources to local departments.

### Q: State your position on healthcare policy.

A: Serving on the Ohio House Public Health Committee has been enlightening, giving me firsthand insight into key healthcare issues facing Ohioans. We've found bipartisan support for increasing healthcare cost transparency and supporting healthcare workers. I co-sponsored HB 49, the Hospital Price Transparency Act, to help prevent surprise medical bills by ensuring upfront cost estimates for procedures. I also voted for HB 452 to protect healthcare workers from rising workplace violence. There is still much work to do in Ohio to ensure healthcare is affordable and efficient for both patients and workers.

### Q: State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management?

A: I'm excited about Northeast Ohio's future, particularly with our access to a large body of fresh water in Lake Erie. I co-sponsored HCR 14 to urge Congress to continue to provide resources for Lake Erie and HB 308 to classify nuclear energy as green, recognizing its safety and effectiveness. I support protecting Ohio's environment and natural resources, provided it doesn't increase costs or hinder economic growth.

<u>Q: What role, if any, should government take to ensure no person is discriminated against?</u> A: The 14th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States ensures that every American and Ohioan has equal protection under the law. I will continue to support, defend, and uphold the Constitutions of the United States and Ohio on behalf of my constituents.

### **OHIO STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 72**

### NATHANIEL ADAMS (Dem)

The candidate has not yet responded.

### HEIDI WORKMAN (Rep)



CAMPAIGN ADDRESS PO Box 263 Rootstown, OH 44272 TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE Ohio volunteer political activist & National Media Director EDUCATION Bachelor of Science in Journalism (Bowling Green State Univ) and Nursing (Kent State University) CAMPAIGN EMAIL heidiw@heidiworkman.com FACEBOOK facebook.com/WorkmanforOH VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY SERVICE State Communications Director, Ohio - non-profit

WEBSITE www.heidiworkman.com

### Q: What are your top priorities and how will you address them?

A: My top priorities are growing the economy and creating jobs, reducing inflation, enhancing workforce training programs, reforming and restructuring EDUCATON, tackling illegal immigration, protecting the 2nd Amendment, securing election integrity and fostering a culture that embraces life. I support cutting taxes substantially, reducing burdensome regulations and reducing state government spending. I support policies that would allow state education funds to follow the student to a school chosen for them by their parents. I believe Ohio has a role to play in demanding the federal government secure our borders, defend our right to bear arms, and protect free and fair elections.

### Q: What changes do you support or oppose to voting and elections policy?

A: I am a strong supporter of policies that strengthen election integrity. I support voter identification. I oppose ballot harvesting. I support maintaining the integrity of our voter registration lists. Voters who have died and voters who have moved out of a county should be removed from the voter rolls in an efficient manner. Policies that make it easier for the Board of Elections to report secure election results within hours of the final ballots being cast are tremendously important to building confidence in the outcome of our elections.

#### Q: How should government bring economic and job opportunities to Ohio?

A: It's simple: 1. Cut taxes; 2. Reduce spending; 3. Intelligently reduce excessive regulations; 4. Aggressively train and re-train workers. We must make Ohio more business friendly and affordable. We must compete with other states in our region, all across America and throughout the world.

### Q: What are your aspirations for K-12 and higher education?

A: Two quick concepts: 1. Comprehensive reform to meet student needs; and 2.) Empowering parents to make the best decisions for their children's educational success. I support the "backpack bill" that would allow state education funding to follow the student to the school chosen for them by their parents. We need big changes in the strategies we employ in our

education system, including a closer focus at the specific needs of our youth through expansion of intervention programs. We need to facilitate opportunities for junior and senior high students to have exposure to skilled trades and collaborative workshops. We need to connect graduates directly with local employers in a variety of fields through networking and recruitment co-ops.

### Q: Under what circumstances should the state support or check local government?

A: As a conservative, I will advocate for small government and keep power as close to The People as possible. I believe government programs administered at the local level do the best job of solving problems in an effective and efficient manner for their communities. However, I believe a careful balance needs to be established to ensure that municipalities have the authority, funding, and resources needed while also maintaining a standard of excellence across the board in management of public services.

### Q: State your position on healthcare policy.

A: As a registered nurse, an entrepreneur and small businesswoman, I have strong opinions on healthcare policy. I believe a movement towards more private sector innovations, rather than government mandated decision-making, would help lower costs for most patients. I strongly support allowing patients to make choices about the healthcare strategies and medicines they may or may not need. I also believe in prioritizing holistic wellness plans as a preemptive strategy to avoid expensive emergency health crisis. I also support medical bill transparency and Personal Health Information data privacy.

### Q: State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management?

A: I am a conservationist and an environmentalist. I think about natural resource management issues every day in my family owned business. Government does have a role to play in natural resource management issues and environmental protection. It is our obligation to give to our children and our grandchildren an ecosystem that is cleaner and healthier than the world we inherited. The best policies in this area strike an appropriate balance between what is best for the environment and what is best for smart economic growth and a high-quality standard of living. I am a strong advocate of individual responsibility and know that we must all do our part to preserve and protect our limited natural resources.

#### <u>Q: What role, if any, should government take to ensure no person is discriminated against?</u> A: American exceptionalism is rooted in the concept of unlimited opportunities being afforded to

every citizen; the concept that "all men are created equal" and they are "endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights." It is the instinctual purpose of human life to constantly learn and evolve and no person should ever be discriminated against in their pursuit of that purpose - so long as there is no threat to the well-being and life of others. "Do no harm" should be the standard of compassion in all cases.

### Issues

### Ohio Issue 1: Proposed Amendment to Replace the Current Politician-Run Redistricting Process

### Summary by League of Women Voters of Ohio

A "yes" vote supports amending the Ohio Constitution to:

- Create the Ohio Citizens Redistricting Commission, composed of 15 Ohio citizens, to replace the current 7-person redistricting commission, composed of 3 elected statewide officials and 4 state legislators or their representatives;
- Assign the commission responsibility for drawing district lines for the Ohio House of Representatives, the Ohio Senate, and the Ohio seats in the U.S. House of Representatives;
- Provide that the commission is balanced with 5 members who are affiliated with each of the state's two major political parties and 5 members who are independents;
- Provide that the members of the commission be chosen through a bipartisan process that uses the services of 4 retired court of appeals judges and in which applicants determined to be qualified to serve on the commission (by the retired judges) are identified and ultimately selected through a largely random process;
- Require that commission members have shown an ability to conduct the redistricting process with integrity and fairness and do not have any conflicts of interest;
- Prohibit service on the commission by the following persons and their immediate family members:
  - Persons who are currently serving or have recently served in (or candidates for) federal, state, or local offices;
  - Persons who have or are currently serving or recently served as staff members, paid consultants, or contractors for any elected official or candidate for any federal, state, or local office;
  - Persons who are currently serving or have served as officers, paid consultants, or contractors to any political party, political action committee, or campaign committee;
  - Persons who are currently or have recently been registered lobbyists or legislative agents in Ohio;
- Provide that each redistricting plan contain single-member districts that are geographically congruent, that comply with federal law, and that preserve communities of interest;
- Define communities of interest as communities of people with broadly shared interests and representational needs, including counties, municipal corporations, townships, and school districts;
- Ban partisan gerrymandering and the adoption of plans that favor or disfavor a political party by requiring that the statewide proportion of districts in a redistricting plan that favors each political party shall correspond closely to statewide partisan preferences of Ohio voters;
- Provide that no redistricting plan shall be drawn with consideration of the place of residence of any incumbent elected official or any candidate for state or congressional office;

- Require that the commission operate in a transparent public way, that all its deliberations and actions be in public meetings, and that its actions require an affirmative vote of at least 9 of 15 members;
- Require holding 5 public hearings throughout the state prior to the adoption of draft redistricting plans, 5 public hearings after the adoption of draft redistricting plans, and 2 public hearings after the adoption of final redistricting plans;
- Require the General Assembly to appropriate not less than \$7 million in 2025 for expenses of the commission with an additional appropriation for legal expenses;
- Require that redistricting plans adopted by the commission be used for the 2026, 2028, and 2030 elections, and that district lines be re-drawn every 10 years thereafter based on U.S. Census data;
- Replace the redistricting plans adopted for the 2022 and 2024 elections;
- Continue to give the Ohio Supreme Court original and exclusive jurisdiction to resolve disputes concerning compliance of redistricting plans with the proportionality and incumbency protection requirements;
- Provide procedures for removal for cause of commissioners and for the filling of any commissioner vacancy; and
- Create a procedure for resolving any impasse or stalemates in determining which redistricting plans to approve by having members of the commission rank their favored plans and vote preferentially until adoption of a plan by a majority vote.

A "**no**" vote opposes amending the Ohio Constitution to create a new redistricting commission. This, then, allows the current procedures for redistricting state and congressional seats to remain in effect.

### Supporters say:

- The amendment creates a new independent body, the Ohio Citizens Redistricting Commission, to draw district lines for the General Assembly and the Ohio seats in the U.S. House of Representatives.
- The 15-member commission is balanced with 5 members affiliated with each of the state's major political parties and 5 members who are independents.
- The amendment creates a bipartisan process for selecting commission members.
- The amendment removes politicians and political influence from the redistricting process by prohibiting elected officials, candidates, their staffs, political organizations, lobbyists, and immediate family members of these groups from serving on the commission.
- The amendment prohibits partisan gerrymandering of the General Assembly and the Ohio seats in the U.S. House of Representatives.
- The amendment requires that each redistricting plan contain geographically congruent districts that comply with federal law and preserve communities of interest.
- The amendment defines communities of interest to include counties, municipal corporations, townships, and school districts as well as communities of people with broadly shared interests and representational needs.
- The amendment prevents incumbency protection by barring any redistricting plan from considering the place of residence of any incumbent elected official or any candidate for state or congressional office.

- The amendment creates an open and transparent process by requiring that all commission deliberations and actions be in public meetings, and that actions by the commission require an affirmative vote of at least 9 of 15 members.
- The amendment creates a process to resolve any impasse so that the General Assembly cannot adopt its own redistricting plans.

### **Opponents say:**

- The amendment creates a redistricting commission to replace the constitutional amendments approved by Ohio voters in 2015 and 2018.
- The amendment removes elected statewide officeholders and state legislators from the process of drawing district lines for the General Assembly and for the Ohio seats in the U.S. House of Representatives.
- The amendment creates a non-elected commission.
- The amendment adopts procedures for selecting the members of the commission that are complex.
- The amendment permits the commission to hire consultants to assist in the drawing of districts.
- The amendment limits the right of Ohio citizens to freely express their views on redistricting to members of the commission and the commission staff.
- The amendment promises to end partisan gerrymandering but requires that the statewide proportion of districts that favor each political party correspond closely to statewide partisan preferences of Ohio voters.
- The amendment does not require districts to be compact.
- The amendment does not sufficiently respect the need to draw district lines that do not split counties, municipal corporations, townships, and school districts.
- The amendment does not permit members of the commission to be removed by the General Assembly.
- The amendment abolishes the historic tradition of having elected officials draw congressional and state legislative districts elected officials who are directly accountable to Ohio voters.
- The amendment seeks to make significant changes in redistricting but ignores the reality that redistricting is inherently political and that one cannot take politics out of politics.

### (Portage County) Issue #2, Ravenna City 1A Local Liquor Option, White House Tavern

Description: Local Liquor Option Sunday Sales - wine and mixed beverages and spirituous liquor Jennings House L.L.C. (dba White House Tavern)

### Yes - For the Measure

### No - Against the Measure

### (Portage Co.) Issue #3, Kent City: Renewal Tax Levy.

Description: Kent City Renewal Tax Levy – 1.16 mills \$22 per \$100,000 appraised value. Will raise \$340,000 annually. Current Expenses. 5 years commencing in 2025. For a fuller description of this issue, please check the Portage County Board of Elections website after September 20 at https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx.

Yes - For the Measure

### (Portage County) Issue #4, Kent City 5A: Local Liquor Option, Board and Bevy

Description: Kent City 5A Local Liquor Option Sunday Sales - wine and mixed beverages, spirituous liquor Wulfjam LLC (dba Board and Bevy)

#### Yes - For the Measure

### No - Against the Measure

## (Portage Co.) Issue #5, Aurora Charter Amendment: Change "Wards" section regarding notice of public hearing timing and notice requirements

Description: City Charter Amendment Ballot: Shall the proposed amendment of Section 3.05 "Wards" of the Charter of the City of Aurora updating the notice requirements for public hearings that change or affirm ward boundaries to not fewer the ten (10) days' public notice in a printed newspaper within the region, on the city's website, or by other electronic means as appropriate, be adopted? *Aurora Ordinance 2024-087* 

### Yes - For the Measure

### No - Against the Measure

### (Portage Co.) Issue #6, Aurora Charter Amendment: Change in mayoral qualifications

Description: City Charter Amendment Ballot: Shall the proposed amendment of Section 4.02 "Qualifications" of the Charter of the City of Aurora, amending the Mayor's qualification requirements to be the same as the qualification requirements of city council members by being a bona fide resident, qualified elector, and registered voter of this Municipality for one (1) year prior to the date of filing a petition for nomination of office, be adopted? *Aurora Ordinance 2024-088* 

### Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

## (Portage Co.) Issue #7, Aurora Charter Amendment: Removal of reference to chair of finance committee

Description: City Charter Amendment Ballot: Shall the proposed amendment of Section 4.05 "Executive Powers" of the Charter of the City of Aurora, eliminating the reference to Chairman of the Finance Committee since the Finance Committee no longer exists, and adding the President of City Council as the proper party who shall assist the Mayor and Finance Director to submit the annual budget ordinance, be adopted? *Aurora ordinance 2024-089* 

### Yes - For the Measure

#### No - Against the Measure

## (Portage Co.) Issue #8, Aurora Charter Amendment: Removal of "Boards and Commissions" from title of Article V

Description: City Charter Amendment Ballot: Shall the proposed amendment of Article V "Administrative Offices, Departments, Boards and Commissions" of the Charter of the City of Aurora, removing boards and commissions from the title of the Article as the Article does not address boards and commissions, be adopted? *Aurora Ordinance 2024-090* 

#### Yes - For the Measure

## (Portage Co.) Issue #9, Aurora Charter Amendment: Change contract amount from \$20,000.00 to \$25,000.00

Description: City Charter Amendment Ballot: Shall the proposed amendment of Section 6.02 "Contracts and Purchasing" of the Charter of the City of Aurora, Increasing the permitted spending threshold from \$20,000.00 to \$25,000.00 requiring City Council approval and further updating the notice requirements to include a printed newspaper within the region where available, the city's website, and by other electronic means as appropriate, be adopted? *Aurora Ordinance 2024-091* 

### Yes - For the Measure No - Against the Measure

## (Portage Co.) Issue #10, Aurora Charter Amendment: Amending Safety Director to Director of Public Safety

Description: City Charter Amendment Ballot: Shall the proposed amendment of Article VIII "Department of Public Safety" amending Safety Director to Director of Public Safety for consistency throughout the Article, be adopted? *Aurora Ordinance 2024-092* 

Yes - For the Measure

### No - Against the Measure

# (Portage Co.) Issue #11, Aurora Charter Amendment: Changing Division to Department in Article XI, Planning, Zoning, and Building

Description: City Charter Amendment Ballot: Shall the proposed amendment of Article XI "Division of Planning, Zoning, and Building" of the Charter of the City of Aurora, amending Division to Department throughout the Article, be adopted? *Aurora Ordinance 2024-093* 

### Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

## (Portage Co.) Issue #12, Aurora Charter Amendment: Adding the ability to appoint an alternate member to the Planning Commission

Description: City Charter Amendment Ballot: Shall the proposed amendment of Section 13.01 "Planning Commission--Composition and Term" adding the appointment of an alternate member to the commission, be adopted? *Aurora Ordinance* 2024-094

### Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

## (Portage Co.) Issue #13, Aurora Charter Amendment: Changing Planning Commission Clerk to Secretary

Description: City Charter Amendment Ballot: Shall the proposed amendment of Section 13.02 "Organization" changing the title of Clerk to Secretary of the Planning Commission, be adopted? *Aurora Ordinance 2024-095* 

### Yes - For the Measure No - Against the Measure

# (Portage Co.) Issue #14, Aurora Charter Amendment: Updating public hearing requirements for zoning issues

Description: City Charter Amendment Ballot: Shall the proposed amendment of Section 13.05 "Public Hearings by Council" updating the notice requirements for public hearings on each resolution or ordinance enacting, amending or repealing zoning be adopted? *Aurora Ordinance 2024-096* 

Yes - For the Measure

# (Portage Co.) Issue #15, Aurora Charter Amendment: Change frequency of Master Plan Review Commission from 5 to 10 years

Description: City Charter Amendment Ballot: Shall the proposed amendment of Section 14.01 "Composition and Terms" changing the frequency of the Master Plan Review Commission from five (5) to ten (10) years, be adopted? *Aurora Ordinance 2024-097* 

#### Yes - For the Measure

#### No - Against the Measure

## (Portage Co.) Issue #16, Aurora Charter Amendment: Ability to appoint an alternate member to the Civil Service Commission

Description: City Charter Amendment Ballot: Shall the proposed amendment of Section 15.01 "Establishment" adding the option to appoint an alternate member to the Civil Service Commission, be adopted? *Aurora Ordinance 2024-098* 

### Yes - For the Measure

### No - Against the Measure

## (Portage Co.) Issue #17, Aurora Charter Amendment: Charter amendments must be submitted to electors

Description: City Charter Amendment Ballot: Shall the proposed new Section 20.03 "Submission to Electors" clarifying that proposed Charter amendments as presented by the Charter Review Commission or otherwise and approved through the legislative process must be submitted to the electors for a vote, be adopted? *Aurora Ordinance 2024-099* 

#### Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

### (Portage Co.) Issue #18, Hiram Village: Replacement Tax Levy

Description: Replacement Tax Levy – 2 mills Will raise \$21,000 annually. \$70 per \$100,000 appraised value. Emergency Medical Services. 5 years commencing in 2025. For a fuller description of this issue, please check the Portage County Board of Elections website after September 20 at https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx.

#### Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

### (Portage Co.) Issue #19, Atwater Township: Renewal Tax Levy

Description: Renewal Tax Levy – 2.25 mills. \$56 per \$100,000 of appraised value. Will raise \$119,000 annually. Fire and EMS. 5 years commencing in 2025. For a fuller description of this issue, please check the Portage County Board of Elections website after September 20 at https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx.

### Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

### (Portage Co.) Issue #20, Brimfield Township: Renewal Tax Levy

Description: Brimfield TownshipRenewal Tax Levy – 1.7 mills. Will raise \$467,000 annually. \$43 per \$100,000 of appraised value. Emergency Medical Services. 5 years commencing in 2024. For a fuller description of this issue, please check the Portage County Board of Elections website after September 20 at https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx.

### Yes - For the Measure

### (Portage Co.) Issue #21, Brimfield Township B: Local Liquor Option, Discount Drug Mart

Description: Brimfield Township B Local Liquor Option – Sunday Sales Sale of wine and mixed beverages Discount Drug Mart, Inc., dba Drug Mart

### Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

### (Portage Co.) Issue #22, Charlestown Township: Renewal Tax Levy

Description: Charlestown Township Renewal Tax Levy – 1.5 mills. Will raise \$17,000 annually. \$18 per \$100,000 of appraised value. Fire & EMS. 5 years commencing in 2024. For a fuller description of this issue, please check the Portage County Board of Elections website after September 20 at https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx.

### Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

### (Portage Co.) Issue #23, Charleston Township: Additional Tax Levy

Description: Charlestown Township Additional Tax Levy – 5 mills. Will raise \$139,000 annually. \$175 per \$100,000 of appraised value Fire & EMS 5 years commencing in 2024. For a fuller description of this issue, please check the Portage County Board of Elections website after September 20 at https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx.

## Yes - For the Measure

### No - Against the Measure

### (Portage Co.) Issue #24, Franklin Township: Replacement and Increase Tax Levy

Description: Franklin Township Replacement and Increase – 3.42 + .08 to 3.5 mills. Will raise \$726,000 annually. \$123 per \$100,000 of appraised value. Fire and EMS 5 years commencing in 2024. For a fuller description of this issue, please check the Portage County Board of Elections website after September 20 at

https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx.

Yes - For the Measure

### No - Against the Measure

### (Portage County) Issue #25, Franklin Township D, Local Liquor Option

Description: Franklin Township D Local Liquor Option - Sunday Sales Wine and mixed beverages, spirituous liquor B.P.O.E. Lodge 1377 Kent

### Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

### (Portage County) Issue #26, Hiram Township: Replacement Tax Levy (EMS)

Description: Hiram Township Replacement Tax Levy--3 mills. \$105 per \$100,000 of appraised value. Will raise \$262,000 annually. EMS. 5 years commencing in 2024. For a fuller description of this issue, please check the Portage County Board of Elections website after September 20 at https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx.

### Yes - For the Measure

### (Portage County) Issue #27, Hiram Township: Replacement Tax Levy (roads & bridges)

Description: Hiram Township Replacement Tax Levy--3 mills. \$105 per \$100,000 of appraised value. Will raise \$262,000 annually. Roads and Bridges. 5 years commencing in 2025. For a fuller description of this issue, please check the Portage County Board of Elections website after September 20 at https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx.

#### Yes - For the Measure

### No - Against the Measure

### (Portage County) Issue #28, Mantua Township C: Local Liquor Option

Description: Mantua Township C Local Liquor Option - Sunday Sales Wine and mixed beverages and spirituous liquor Los Amigos Tres, LLC For a fuller description of this issue, please check the Portage County Board of Elections website after September 20 at https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx.

### Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

### (Portage Co.) Issue #29, Ravenna Township F: Local Liquor Option

Description: Ravenna Township F Local Liquor Option – Sunday Sales Sale of wine and mixed beverages and spirituous liquor L.O.O.M. Lodge 1234. *For a fuller description of this issue, please check the Portage County Board of Elections website after September 20 at https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx.* 

### Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

### (Portage Co.) Issue #30, Rootstown Township: Replacement Tax Levy

Description: Rootstown Township Replacement Tax Levy – 1.3 mills. \$46 per \$100,000 of appraised value. Will raise \$338,000 annually. Fire and EMS. 5 years commencing in 2025. For a fuller description of this issue, please check the Portage County Board of Elections website after September 20 at https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx.

## Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

### (Portage County) Issue #31, Suffield Township: Renewal Tax Levy

Description: Suffield Township Renewal Tax Levy - 1 mill. \$25 per \$100,000 of appraised value. Will raise \$147,000 annually. Roads and Bridges. 5 years commencing in 2025. For a fuller description of this issue, please check the Portage County Board of Elections website after September 20 at https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx.

Yes - For the Measure No - Against the Measure

### Issue #32, Aurora City School District: Bond Issue (#28 Summit Co.)

Description: Shall bonds be issued by the Aurora City School District for the purpose of constructing, furnishing, equipping, renovating, rehabilitating, remodeling, adding to, and otherwise improving school district buildings and facilities, and acquiring, clearing, equipping, and otherwise improving their sites in the principal amount of \$136,356,400 to be repaid annually over a maximum period of 37 years, and an annual levy of property taxes be made outside of the ten-mill limitation, estimated by the county auditor to average over the repayment period of the bond issue 7.57 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$265 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025, to pay the annual debt charges on the bonds, and to pay debt charges on any notes issued in anticipation of those bonds?(Summit Co. Board of Elections ballot language) **Yes - For the Measure** 

No - Against the Measure

### (Portage County) Issue #33, Ravenna School District: Additional Tax Levy

Description: Ravenna City School District Additional Tax Levy--8.31 mills. \$291 per \$100,000 appraised value. Will raise \$3,250,000 annually. Emergency Requirements. 5 years commencing in 2024. For a fuller description of this issue, please check the Portage County Board of Elections website after September 20 at

https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx.

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

Issue #34, Stow-Munroe Falls City School District - Proposed Bond Issue

Description: Stow-Munroe Falls City School District – Proposed Bond IssueShall bonds be issued by the Stow-Munroe Falls City School District, Summit and Portage Counties, Ohio for the purpose of constructing, improving, furnishing, and equipping four new PK-5 elementary schools and one new 6-8 middle school, with related site improvements and appurtenances thereto; improving, renovating, furnishing, and equipping existing facilities; constructing, furnishing, and equipping new facilities for school district purposes; and demolition of existing facilities in the principal amount of \$238,005,493, to be repaid annually over a maximum period of 35 years, and an annual levy of property taxes be made outside of the ten-mill limitation, estimated by the county fiscal officer to average over the repayment period of the bond issue 8.89 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$311 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025, to pay the annual debt charges on the bonds, and to pay debt charges on any notes issued in anticipation of those bonds?

#### Yes - For the Measure No - Against the Measure

(Portage County) Issue #35, Streetsboro City School District: Renewal Tax Levy (3.5 mills) Description: Streetsboro City School District Renewal Tax Level - 3.5 mills. \$82 per \$100,000 of appraised value. Will raise \$1,647,000 annually. Current expenses. 5 years commencing in 2025. For a fuller description of this issue, please check the Portage County Board of Elections website after September 20 at https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx.

### Yes - For the Measure

Portage County) Issue #36, Streetsboro City School District: Renewal Tax Levy (3.9 mills)

Description: Streetsboro City School District Renewal Tax Levy - 3.9 mills. \$97 per \$100,000 of appraised value. Will raise \$1,921,000 annually. Current Expenses. 5 years commencing in 2025. For a fuller description of this issue, please check the Portage County Board of Elections website after September 20 at https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx. Yes - For the Measure

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

Issue #37, Tallmadge City School District - Proposed Tax Levy (Replacement) Description: Tallmadge City School District - Proposed Tax Levy (Replacement)A replacement of a tax for the benefit of the Tallmadge City School District for the purpose of general permanent improvements that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$807,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 1.25 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$40 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for a continuing period of time, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

Issue #38, Mogadore Local School District - Proposed Tax Levy (Additional)

Description: Mogadore Local School District – Proposed Tax Levy (Additional)An additional tax for the benefit of the Mogadore Local School District for the purpose of current expenses that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$743,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 5.9 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$207 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025. Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

Issue #39, Springfield Local School District - Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal)

Description: Springfield Local School District – Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal)Shall a levy renewing an existing levy be imposed by the Springfield Local School District for the purpose of the emergency requirements of the school district in the sum of \$930,000 and a levy of taxes to be made outside of the ten-mill limitation estimated by the county fiscal officer to average 1.62 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$50 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value for a period of 5 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026?

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

Issue #40, Springfield Local School District – Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal) Description: Springfield Local School District – Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal)Shall a levy renewing an existing levy be imposed by the Springfield Local School District for the purpose of the emergency requirements of the school district in the sum of \$1,600,000 and a levy of taxes to be made outside of the ten-mill limitation estimated by the county fiscal officer to average 2.79 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$85 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value for a period of 5 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026?

Yes - For the Measure No - Against the Measure Issue #41, Springfield Local School District - Propose Tax Levy (Renewal) Description: Springfield Local School District – Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal)A renewal of a tax for the benefit of the Springfield Local School District for the purpose of current expenses that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$2,340,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 7 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$110 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026. Candidates:

Yes - For the Measure No - Against the Measure

### (Portage County) Issue#42, Community EMS

Description: Community EMS Additional Tax Levy--2 mills. (Freedom Twp., Garrettsville Village, Nelson Twp.) \$70 per \$100,000 of appraised value. Will raise \$400,000 annually. EMS. 5 years commencing in 2024. For a fuller description of this issue, please check the Portage County Board of Elections website after September 20 at https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx.

Yes - For the Measure

### No - Against the Measure

### (Portage County) Issue #43, Mantua Shalersville Fire District Replacement Tax Levy

Description: Mantua Shalersville Fire District Replacement Tax Levy - 2.25 mills. \$79 per \$100,000 of appraised value. Will raise \$726,000 annually. Fire and EMS. 5 years commencing in 2025. For a fuller description of this issue, please check the Portage County Board of Elections website after September 20 at

https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx.

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

### Issue #44, Portage County Job and Family Services Tax Levy

Description: Portage County Job and Family Services Replacement and Combination of .49 and .75 Tax Levies--1.24 mills. Will raise \$5,736,000 annually. \$42 per \$100,000 of appraised value. Care, placement, and treatment of abused, neglected and dependent children. 5 years commencing in 2025. For a fuller description of this issue, please check the Portage County Board of Elections website after September 20 at

https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx.

### Yes - For the Measure