VOTER’S GUIDE
For Portage County, Ohio
MARCH 17, 2020 PRIMARY ELECTION

This voter’s guide is a joint venture of the Record-Courier and the League of Women Voters of Kent and Northern Portage County.

The League of Women Voters of Kent and Northern Portage County are non-partisan political organizations that encourage the informed and active participation of citizens in government, work to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influence public policy through education and advocacy. Membership in the League is open to all citizens of voting age, male or female. The League is funded by members’ dues and contributions from members and non-members. Donations are welcome. The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any candidate or political party.

There are two parts to this GUIDE:

Part 1: Candidates at the national, state and local level.

US President—Additional information on presidential candidates is available at www.VOTE411.org and is provided by LWVEF. All qualified presidential candidates were invited to provide biographical information and responses to specific questions. Candidates were qualified if they met the following criteria during the primary season:
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 FEC website. During the Presidential primary season, voters cast a ballot for candidates in one party. LWVEF is required to have at least two candidates from the same party meet the above criteria before launching a voters’ guide covering that party. At this time, only one candidate running for the Republican Party’s nomination has met the LWVEF criteria and therefore no Republican candidates have been invited to participate. As soon as two Republican candidates meet the criteria or the party’s national nominating convention occurs, LWVEF will begin outreach to the qualified candidates immediately.

US Congress—Local leagues invited the candidates to participate by entering their information on VOTE411.

Judicial races in Ohio—Judicial Votes Count (www.judicialvotescount.org) obtained the information on all judicial candidates.

Ohio Senate, Ohio House, non-judicial Portage County races—LWV of Kent invited the candidates to participate by entering their information on VOTE411.

Republican Central Committee—LWV of Kent invited opposed candidates to participate by entering their information on VOTE411. This guide includes only the precincts with candidates.

Part 2: Issues on the ballot in Portage County—League of Women Voters of Kent prepared this section using information provided in most cases by the entity placing the issue on the ballot.

Candidates who filed their intent to run for office with the Board of Elections were sent questions relating to the office they were seeking by the LWV of Kent, as well as instructions on how to complete the candidate questionnaire. The candidates were asked to participate by entering 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.

Visit www.VOTE411.org to view a side-by-side comparison of the candidates’ biographical information and answers. Go to www.judicialvotescount.org to see the answers to all of the questions asked of the judicial candidates.

The League of Women Voters of Kent and Northern Portage County thank the Record-Courier for providing the print version of the Voter’s 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 www.kent.oh.lwvnet.org
President: Stacia Yaniglos Voter’s Guide: Nena Hankins, (330)673-0128
League of Women Voters of Northern Portage County
Voter Service: Diane Bush

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: 3/17/2020 Primary 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 “searching” in the paragraph on the View Ballots page or follow this link:
https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/vtrlookup.aspx
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For Delegates-at-Large and Alternates-at-Large to the Democratic National Convention
(Vote for not more than 1)

The following candidates have met the LWVEF criteria. Additional information is available at www.VOTE411.org
Michael Bennet (Dem), michael.bennet.com
Joseph R. Biden, Jr. (Dem), joebiden.com
Cory Booker (Dem), (Withdrawn from Race)
Pete Buttigieg (Dem), peteforamerica.com
Tulsi Gabbard (Dem), www.tulsi2020.com
Amy Klobuchar (Dem), amyklobuchar.com
Bernie Sanders (Dem), berniesanders.com
Elizabeth Warren (Dem), elizabethwarren.com

The following candidates have qualified for the Ohio state ballot according to the Secretary of State of Ohio but did not meet the LWVEF criteria.
Michael R. Bloomberg (Dem), www.mikebloomberg.com
Deval Patrick (Dem), devalpatrick2020.com
Tom Steyer (Dem), www.tomsteyer.com

The following candidate is a Write-in
Andrew Yang (Dem), www.yang2020.com

For Delegates-at-Large and Alternates-at-Large to the Republican National Convention
(Vote for not more than 1)
Donald J. Trump (Rep)

For District Delegates and District Alternates to the Republican National Convention – 13th, 14th, 16th Congressional Districts (Vote for not more than 1)
Donald J. Trump (Rep)
Ohio--US House 13th District

Michael Fricke
Libertarian
7395 State Route 43, Kent, OH 44240

Ohio--US House 13th District

Tim Ryan
Dem
Website/Facebook/Twitter: timryanforcongress.com

Ohio--US House 13th District

Christina M. Hagan
Rep
Website/Facebook/Twitter: hagan2020.com
Question 1: Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems and foster trust with the voters you represent.
Answer 1: Candidate has not responded.
Question 2: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our air, water and land?
Answer 2: Candidate has not responded.
Question 3: What would you do to safeguard our elections and ensure free and fair voting access for all?
Answer 3: Candidate has not responded.

Ohio--US House 13th District

Duane Hennen
Rep
Website/Facebook/Twitter: hennen4Ohio2020.com
Question 1: Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems and foster trust with the voters you represent.
Answer 1: Candidate has not responded.
Question 2: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our air, water and land?
Answer 2: Candidate has not responded.
Question 3: What would you do to safeguard our elections and ensure free and fair voting access for all?
Answer 3: Candidate has not responded.

Ohio--US House 13th District

Jason Mormando
Rep
92 Kleber Ave, Youngstown, OH 44515
Question 1: Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems and foster trust with the voters you represent.
Answer 1: Candidate has not responded.
Question 2: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our air, water and land?
Answer 2: Candidate has not responded.
Question 3: What would you do to safeguard our elections and ensure free and fair voting access for all?
Answer 3: Candidate has not responded.
Ohio--US House 13th District

Robert J. Santos
Rep
Website/Facebook/Twitter: robertsantos4ohio.com

Question 1: Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems and foster trust with the voters you represent.
Answer 1: Candidate has not responded.

Question 2: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our air, water and land?
Answer 2: Candidate has not responded.

Question 3: What would you do to safeguard our elections and ensure free and fair voting access for all?
Answer 3: Candidate has not responded.

Ohio--US House 13th District

Louis G. Lyras
Rep
Businessman

Education: Ohio State University, 1972, Bachelor of Science, College of Agriculture
Training & Experience: Corcon, Inc. CEO ARS Advanced Recycling Systems, Founder and Partner

Question 1: Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems and foster trust with the voters you represent.
Answer 1: I am not a politician. I am a businessman who has lived in the community for 69 years. In all my years in business we have never had any wage, environmental, or serious safety violations. I work with labor, management, state, and federal agencies to make our industry better. I entered politics two years ago as an Independent, but was unsuccessful. I will legislate for the good of the people and not special interest groups. Too much is at stake.

Question 2: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our air, water and land?
Answer 2: Climate change is not a hoax, this is a serious issue that the world faces. But instead of denying this problem, I would embrace the challenge and grow our economy with new and innovative technologies that reduce CO2 emissions. I am a huge proponent of State-of-the-Art Nuclear Power Plants - these power plants are the cleanest source of energy. I would encourage and develop solar and wind. I would also reinforce sensible regulations that promote our environment without hindering our economy. I would also encourage joining world organizations to combat this problem. We must act now.

Question 3: What would you do to safeguard our elections and ensure free and fair voting access for all?
Answer 3: The Fifteenth Amendment prohibits the federal government and each state from denying a citizen the right to vote based on that citizen's "race, color, or previous condition of servitude." Everyone has the right to vote and I am against any law, local or state, that prevents that or makes it difficult to vote. I believe that congressional districts need to be redrawn to have "one person, one vote", which mandated that districts be roughly equal in population and, more fair. Congressional districts must be drawn that reflect common sense governance and not exclude one party or another, or based on race or creed.
Ohio--US House 13th District

Richard A. Morckel
Rep
Image Technician
Website/Facebook/Twitter:  www.morckel4congress.com  https://www.codias.com/stream

Education: Two Associate Degrees, Kent State Univ. Telecommunications Technology Electrical Engineering Technology

Training & Experience: Goodyear T&R Airship Operations Philips Medical Systems

Question 1: Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems and foster trust with the voters you represent.

Answer 1: The mission of crossing political differences is only possible under an Umbrella of some common bond. In this, the umbrella of common bond, is Our Republic. Out from under said common bond, is to yield ground to those at enmity with Our Republic. "Making it fair for those at enmity with Our Republic, is no moral Equivalence to its defense" (RM 2016). This understanding must be mutual, then crossing, "differences" is of a common occurrence. So the question becomes a choice between; fostering trust of voters at enmity with Our Republic, or fostering trust of voters that defend Our Republic. "The continuation of Our Republic, is in the best interest of us all" (RM 2019).

Question 2: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our air, water and land?

Answer 2: Water/Land __ Consider Voluntary Biochar drain filter concept, again using Benevolence Funding per the IRS. No more than 1 per 100 acre of land.

Air __ is as clean as before the industrial age short of the countries that industry fled to leaving behind their compelled conscience of which the supposed noble globalist have been enriched.

Question 3: What would you do to safeguard our elections and ensure free and fair voting access for all?

Answer 3: Use the Paper Ballot and held in tact until wanting candidate(s) exhausted legal Challenges or concedes. __ Prosecute those government entities within the United States, that issue state identification, exampled with drivers licenses to illegal aliens establishing an open path to vote in general and off year elections. Reference 18 U.S. Code § 2384
Ohio--US House 13th District

Donald Truex
Rep
Self-employed and retired
Website/Facebook/Twitter: dontruex4ohio @dtronex
Education: Covenant College and Ashland Theological
Training & Experience: Over 30 years self-employed as an independent insurance agent specializing in employee benefits.

Question 1: Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems and foster trust with the voters you represent.
Answer 1: My approach may be considered unique in that I often find quotes from our Founding Fathers and other intellectual scholars to answer their questions. In short, always finding new, original answers, is the best way to answer every new question that is asked. The Founding Fathers had great wisdom and the Bible is rich with wisdom, all of which can be used as guidelines to solve any problem today. We have only to apply them when appropriate with a willingness to accept truth that does not change.

Question 2: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our air, water and land?
Answer 2: We have huge problems here. Science is lacking funding and development in controlling waste and pollution. We must find the science to control waste products and pollution from our industrialized world. Someday, our natural resources will run out. I’ve heard some people say: Don’t worry, we have a 100 years supply of XYZ resource. REALLY? That’s no concern? There are babies being born today who will be alive 100 years from now and need those resources. We simply must start working our way towards renewable energy that is as near pollution free as possible and disposing of waste with an environmentally, non-polluting method. This world is all we have. We must take care of it, or we will die from lack of caring for it. It’s scientifically simple.

Question 3: What would you do to safeguard our elections and ensure free and fair voting access for all?
Answer 3: Without question, I would demand voter ID and allow only American citizens to vote. We can govern ourselves. We do not need foreigners from any nation to tell us how to run our country. Do our enemies try to influence our elections? Of course, that’s their job. But they don’t really care who wins the election. Their job is to destroy the American people’s trust in our electoral system. And they are using our constitutional freedoms of free press and free speech to do it.
Ohio--US House 14th District

Hillary O'Connor Mueri
Dem
Attorney
Website/Facebook/Twitter:

Education:  J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 2010 B.S. Aviation Engineering, The Ohio State University, 1999

Question 1: Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems and foster trust with the voters you represent.
Answer 1: As a Navy combat veteran, I have always had a country-first, mission-oriented focus. I believe in service -- service to country, and service to constituents. In Congress, I will continue the ethic of service that I have demonstrated throughout my career to serve my country and my District. It is no coincidence that division has peaked in our government as the number of veterans in Congress has reached historic lows. According to The Lugar Center’s Bipartisan Index, veterans, especially younger ones, score better than other members of Congress on their willingness to work across the aisle. The incumbent in this office has demonstrated his unwillingness to work across the aisle with his strikingly partisan voting record (exceptional even in our currently divided era) and voting with the current administration over 95% of the time. I will always work in service of my Country and my constituents across political differences to solve problems and foster trust with the voters I represent.

Question 2: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our air, water and land?
Answer 2: If we fail to act soon, climate change will damage our economy and leave a difficult and uncertain future. It is hurting our community, including by damaging our agriculture, health, environment, and national security in ways that can’t be fixed with a few dollars of cleanup efforts. As Americans, we have the ability to overcome any challenge, and climate change requires our unique American ingenuity and spirit. We’ve had historic successes using policy in cooperation with business and markets to solve major environmental issues. For example, our heavily polluted rivers, dramatized by the Cuyahoga River fire in 1969, were cleaned up through industry’s innovation and federal legislation (Clean Water Act). Taking on this challenge can actually benefit us. Environment vs. economy is a false choice—the clean energy economy creates jobs in green infrastructure that can’t be shipped overseas.

Question 3: What would you do to safeguard our elections and ensure free and fair voting access for all?
Answer 3: Voting is a fundamental right of citizens. I agree with the voting rights provisions set forth in H.R.1, and I will work to ensure they are enacted and enforced to achieve free and fair voting access for all. Among other provisions, H.R.1: -Requires states use paper ballots -Limits purges -Enables same-day registration & corrections -Makes Election Day a federal holiday -Establishes cybersecurity standards for voting systems vendors -Funds grants for states to improve and maintain the security of their election systems -Creates a National Commission to Protect United States Democratic Institutions. Beyond direct security measures, H.R.1 also addresses the poisonous role of campaign finance rules. Transparency is necessary in order to ensure our elections are secure from the influence of foreign nationals, special interests, and deliberate misinformation. Our right to free and fair elections is fundamental to our democracy, and I will work till my last breath to protect those rights. Enforcement, adherence to international treaties, and mandating decency and fair play and rejecting unnecessarily cruel and punitive enforcement actions. Our focus and investment should be in creating a meaningful pathway to citizenship and a streamlined, fair and cohesive administrative structure, while combatting the flow of illegal drugs, weapons, and human trafficking.
Ohio--US House 14th District

David P. Joyce
Rep
Website/Facebook/Twitter: joyceforcongress.com

Question 1: Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems and foster trust with the voters you represent.
Answer 1: Candidate has not responded.

Question 2: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our air, water and land?
Answer 2: Candidate has not responded.

Question 3: What would you do to safeguard our elections and ensure free and fair voting access for all?
Answer 3: Candidate has not responded.

Ohio--US House 14th District

Mark Pitrone
Rep
Retired Carpenter
Website/Facebook/Twitter: http://Mark Pitrone for US Representative, OH-14
Education: ThB Northeast School of Theology
Training & Experience: USN Avionics Schools Christian Heritage College for 2 semesters, Cedarville College for 7 quarters

Question 1: Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems and foster trust with the voters you represent.
Answer 1: I am a political novice, never have held an office, so this question is moot.

Question 2: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our air, water and land?
Answer 2: I should do everything in my own personal power to ensure the conservation of my property and to help my neighbors to ensure the conservation of his/hers, IF they want the help. It isn't the government's job to protect our water, air and land. It is OURS.

Question 3: What would you do to safeguard our elections and ensure free and fair voting access for all?
Answer 3: Strive to ensure that there be a requirement for a photo ID with an address that matches the address on the Board of Elections precinct lists at the time of voting. No photo ID or a false/invalid address should disqualify the would be voter.
Ohio--US House 16th District

Aaron Paul Godfrey
Dem
Physicist
Age: 33
1507 Hunters Chase Dr. Apt. 2B Westlake, OH 44145
Website/Facebook/Twitter: http://www.godfreyforcongress.com
http://www.facebook.com/GodfreyForCongress/
twitter.com/GodfreyForOH16
Education: MSc, Physics, Miami University (2010)
Training & Experience:

Question 1: Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems and foster trust with the voters you represent.

Answer 1: Given I am not currently in a legislative office, this is a difficult question to answer. But I do have some experience trying to bridge gaps - in the 2018 election, I was elected to be on the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party Central Committee, representing Westlake's ward 3-D. In that role, I have worked with the Cuyahoga County Progressive Caucus and the CCDP to help try to bridge the gap between the party leaders and the changes that my fellow activists within the community would like to see in the county party structure. Beyond that, I am seeking this office in order to effect positive change for the people of the 16th District. Those efforts would know no party lines. I will work with anyone, regardless of affiliation, who has a serious and honest intent to solve the problems facing our district and our country, whether it's government corruption, the cost/access of healthcare, the climate crisis, or any of the many other issues affecting our district/country.

Question 2: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our water, air, and land? Include how you would address climate change.

Answer 2: We need to do more to protect our natural resources. First, we need to ban fracking - something that would have a tremendous positive effect on the people of the 16th District, especially in Medina & Wayne Counties, and will do a lot to protect our land & water. Second, we need to break down the barriers that are preventing people from investing in green energy on a consumer level. Whether it's pressuring Ohio's Legislature into repealing laws that make windmills difficult to build, or providing federal subsidies for home solar projects, we can do more to chip away at our fossil fuel dependence. Dealing with climate change will be a long fight, requiring a lot of new policies across several sectors. One thing I would support is repealing or reducing fossil fuel subsidies, and applying them to green energy projects. I would also like to upgrade the power grid, which would help to enable small-scale solar/wind projects and allow customers to sell their energy back to the power company.

Question 3: What would you do to safeguard our elections and ensure free and fair voting access for all?

Answer 3: I differ significantly from Rep. Gonzalez here - he voted against a measure that would require campaigns to report foreign interference to the FBI (HR4617). I would vote FOR that measure. It's another example of the incumbent acting in his party's interests, and not ours. But that's just the start. I would be an opponent of voter purges and gerrymandering wherever they exist, in or out of Ohio, and do what I could to outlaw them on a federal level. I would oppose voter ID laws, which have been shown to act as a barrier to voting for the poor. I would like to make election day a national holiday, too, and make sure that all workers are provided with enough time off during voting hours to ensure they are able to cast their ballot. I would work to increase the number of polling stations to ensure every community is served, and to minimize the impact of car ownership - so that everyone can get to the polls to vote. Finally, I would push for paper ballots to ensure all votes are counted.
Ronald Karpus III
Dem
Licensed Fire Technician
Age: 38
6261 Springwood Road Parma Heights, OH 44130
Website/Facebook/Twitter: http://www.karpusforcongress.com http://www.facebook.com/karpusoh16
twitter.com/karpusoh16
Education: Parma Senior High- Class of 1999 Attended John Carroll and Tri-C before entering the workforce in the trades.
Training & Experience: Ron’s work ethic, blue collar roots and skill set, have taken him all across the country; from technician, to site supervisor and more. In 2014, after years of owning a small business, he took a position with a private company in Twinsburg, Ohio.

Question 1: Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems and foster trust with the voters you represent.

Answer 1: As a lifelong Democrat, and an elected member of the Central and Executive Committee of the Democratic Party. I ran for a central committee seat, to ensure I was part of a fair endorsement process for any democratic candidates running in Cuyahoga County. This is the end of my "Political Experience". But what I do have is this, I go to work every day and meet people from all walks of life, and from every point on the political spectrum. We find a way to come together and get the job done- because if we don't, people don't get paid, and if people don't get paid, families don't eat. Being a representative in congress at its core will be the same, these decisions we are making impact families every day lives. We must strip away the labels, and get down to business- which is doing what is best for the American people, which starts with me fighting for those in Ohio's 16th district.

Question 2: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our water, air, and land? Include how you would address climate change.

Answer 2: Someone needs to be the leader, and being the leader is hard, but we need to take actionable, meaningful steps that first reduce our carbon footprint and eventually eliminate it altogether. We cannot wait for others to comply but rather lead by example. To that end I will push for initiatives that both lower the carbon footprint while continuing to grow the economy and provide opportunities for further research to begin reversing the damage already sustained. I support immediately returning to the Paris Climate Accord, phasing out coal fired generating plants and increasing our investment in nuclear plants, and incentivizing municipalities and other entities to use solar panels in new public construction. Additionally, forcing everyone into electric vehicles is unrealistic and regressive, more mass transit especially operating on alternate fuels is an achievable alternative. In 2015 already 41% of US Public transit buses were using alternate fuels and/or hybrid technology.

Question 3: What would you do to safeguard our elections and ensure free and fair voting access for all?

Answer 3: Anything which is so important must be addressed in a bipartisan manner. Many Americans are very concerned and rightfully so about foreign interference in our elections. While others constantly site voter fraud as the most dangerous item our elections face. I would suggest we attack both all the while making sure that those who are legal voters are fully able. Our intelligence community will have to spearhead the effort in identifying and neutralizing threats. Any action which would potentially disqualify any person from legally voting must be directly and immediately be accompanied by a program to ensure that any individual has easy access to ensure they are properly registered and able to vote in every election. This may mean mobile Registration units for both rural and impoverished communities. It means government funding of these programs. A core component of our way of life is that every vote counts and that means that everyone entitled is able to without any undo hardship.
Ohio--US House 16th District

Anthony Gonzalez
Rep
Age: 1150 Homeland Dr. Rocky River, OH 44116
Website/Facebook/Twitter: http://www.voteanthonygonzalez.com

Justice of the Supreme Court Term Commencing 01/01/21

John P. O'Donnell
Dem

Sharon L. Kennedy
Rep

Justice of the Supreme Court Term Commencing 01/02/21

Jennifer Brunner
Dem

Judi French
Rep

Ohio 11th District Court of Appeals, Full term Commencing 2-9-2021

Timothy P. Cannon
Dem

Matt Lynch
Rep

Ohio 11th District Court of Appeals, Full Term Commencing 2-10-21

Cynthia Westcott Rice
Dem

Sarah Thomas Kovoor
Rep

Ohio Senator 18th District

Jerry Cirino
Rep
Lake Co. Commissioner
8651 Kirtland Chardon Rd. Kirtland, OH 44094
Website/Facebook/Twitter: http://www.jerrycirino.com
Question 1: How would you implement a constitutionally compliant school funding system?
Answer 1: Ohio’s public schools were my path out of poverty, and my three children attended the West Geauga public schools. Unfortunately, for over two decades, Ohio’s school funding system has unconstitutionally failed to provide adequate and equitable resources for public education. Flaws that need to be remedied include over-reliance on local property taxes. These longstanding problems have been exacerbated by policies that have increasingly taken money away from public schools to fund private schools, including schools like ECOT that were not properly educating students. Unfunded federal mandates have also increased costs for public schools. The legislature needs to fund schools based upon what a good education actually costs and fundamentally restructure the funding mechanisms. The recent bipartisan Patterson Cupp education bill takes steps to address these inadequacies and, e.g., directs the state to study the true cost of educating economically disadvantaged students in Ohio.

Question 2: What will you do to combat gerrymandering and ensure that voter-approved redistricting reforms are implemented?
Answer 2: Fair districts and fair elections are essential to our democracy. A three-judge federal panel ruled last year that Ohio’s current congressional districts are unconstitutionally gerrymandered, depriving us of our free speech and voting rights. But the Supreme Court subsequently ruled that it was up to the political process rather than the courts to address gerrymandering. Fortunately, new Ohio rules govern how maps are to be redrawn in 2021 and require far more transparency and bipartisanship than when districts were last drawn. As a state senator I will have the opportunity to vote on the new district maps even if I am a member of the minority party, and I will diligently review such maps for fairness. I will be a strong voice for compliance with the new laws and for fair districts within the legislature and in all public forums. Members of all political parties benefit from fair districts where politicians are accountable to voters and extremism is not rewarded.

Question 3: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our water, air, and land? Include how you would address climate change.
Answer 3: Our environmental and energy policy must be determined according to science and the public interest – not special interest lobbyists and their campaign contributions. I have been a staunch advocate for protecting our water, air and land including serving on the Board of the Geauga Park Foundation and the Russell Zoning Commission. Northeast Ohio residents value our green space, beautiful rivers and Lake Erie, and we must protect them from invasive species and pollutants like plastics, phosphorus and “forever chemicals.” Our parks should be supported and protected from for-profit development. Steps to address climate change include energy conservation and efficiency standards, requiring all sources of energy to reflect their true costs of production and use, and promoting the development of a clean energy economy by, e.g., eliminating unnecessary regulations impeding such development and encouraging research and development of new technologies that may save our planet.
Ohio State Representative 75th District

Randi Clites
Dem
Associate Director of The Northern Ohio Hemophilia Foundation
Age: 44
5411 Fairhill Drive Ravenna, OH 44266
twitter.com/randiclites

Education: Hiram College, Business Management Degree with a minor in Political Science

Training & Experience: Since 2008, I have served as the advocacy coordinator for a statewide coalition. As the coordinator I must identify the top three advocacy priorities and organize our members to engage on the issues.

**Question 1:** How would you implement a constitutionally compliant school funding system?

Answer 1: Ohio House of Representatives members Reps. Cupp and Patterson have introduced House Bill 305 in the 133rd General Assembly to address the unconstitutional school funding formula in Ohio. HB305 is a bipartisan bill that I, along with 65 other State Representatives, signed on to support which will take a big step in addressing school funding. This bill had input from a school funding work group that met for over 18 months representing school districts from all around the state, including a representative from Portage County. We must continue to move towards passing a constitutionally compliant school funding formula.

**Question 2:** What will you do to combat gerrymandering and ensure that voter-approved redistricting reforms are implemented?

Answer 2: First in 2020, Portage County leaders and community activists must work together to make sure that the census is completed all around our county. I plan to raise awareness of the need to participate in the census, and have already done so in many public meetings. And then, we must provide transparency to the redistricting process. I plan to hold the members of the Redistricting Task Force accountable to the citizens of Ohio by requesting they hold public hearings and provide updates to the public regularly. We must push for the hyper-partisan practices in our state to stop, so citizens can trust that the system works for them; that every voice is heard and the will of the people make it to both to who is elected and that the policies passed reflect their values.

**Question 3:** Where do you stand on efforts to protect our water, air, and land? Include how you would address climate change.

Answer 3: Our current leadership in Washington continues to weaken or reverse regulations designed to reduce air pollution, preserve clean water, and combat climate change impacts. This makes action at the local and state levels even more critical. That is why I did not support HB 6, which eliminated clean energy standards. I will continue to focus on funding and policies necessary to reduce phosphorus runoff that has combined with warmer, shallower water to exacerbate algal bloom growth in Lake Erie and other waterways. It will be necessary to work collaboratively with the agricultural community and diverse stakeholders throughout the region to develop measures that will be implemented and sustainable. In addition, making clean energy innovation a true priority will result in cutting harmful emissions that make asthma attacks more frequent and more severe for vulnerable populations.
Ohio State Representative 75th District

Gail K. Pavliga
Rep
College Professor
Age: 59
1965 New Milford Rd. Atwater, OH 44201
Website/Facebook/Twitter: http://gailpavliga.com http://Gail Pavliga for State Representative
Education: PhD University of Akron MA Kent State University BA Kent State University
Training & Experience: College Professor, Entrepreneur

Question 1: How would you implement a constitutionally compliant school funding system?
Answer 1: Starting in 2020, state policymakers should create a simple and transparent funding model that is easy for school districts and taxpayers to understand. Developing transparent formulas for school funding will be a long process, but an efficient funding structure will better assure all Ohio students have access to a top notch education and achieve their learning goals.

Question 2: What will you do to combat gerrymandering and ensure that voter-approved redistricting reforms are implemented?
Answer 2: Ohio won’t draw a new congressional map until 2022. In 2022, a commission should be formed by State legislators to explore how District lines will be designated.

Question 3: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our water, air, and land? Include how you would address climate change.
Answer 3: Efforts to protect our water, air and land should be important to all Americans. These efforts to advance the protection of our environment must work hand in hand with economic prosperity.
Ohio State Representative 76th District

Garrett Westhoven
Dem
Web Software Engineer
Age: 37
13460 Sperry Rd. Chesterland, OH 44026
twitter.com/Tterragnoj
Education: BS in Mathematics from the University of Notre Dame

**Question 1: How would you implement a constitutionally compliant school funding system?**

**Answer 1:** I would implement a constitutionally compliant school funding system through two primary means. First we need to stop using public funds for charter schools that has siphoned money away from public schools and into the pockets of corporate donors. Second, we need to change our tax structure to stop reliance on a regressive sales tax and ensure the wealthiest in our state pay their fair share.

**Question 2: What will you do to combat gerrymandering and ensure that voter-approved redistricting reforms are implemented?**

**Answer 2:** The best way to combat gerrymandering and ensure voter approved redistricting reforms are implemented is to have an independent non-partisan commission that does their best effort to respect traditional county boundaries and not divide them any more than is absolutely necessary. This could also be accomplished through computer algorithms that are designed to keep districts as geographically compact as possible.

**Question 3: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our water, air, and land? Include how you would address climate change.**

**Answer 3:** Protecting our air, water, and land is crucial both for our public health and to help address climate change as a whole. First we should ban fracking anywhere within 10 miles of any aquifer to ensure we all have clean and safe drinking water. Second, we need to ensure we have complete public exposure of all chemicals used in fracking that are also subsequently used to de-ice our roadways to ensure our land and water are not exposed to unknown chemicals that could potentially harm us. Third, we need to work closely with the farmers of Ohio to ensure the proper balance of growing food vs keeping harmful chemicals out of our waterways and preventing toxic algae blooms in Lake Eerie. Finally we need a sensible energy policy that retires fossil fuel plants and focuses on renewable and green energy sources that can also create new jobs in Ohio.
Ohio State Representative 76th District

Diane Grendell
Rep
State Representative, 76th District
Age:
7413 Tattersall Chesterland, OH 44026
Education: Law Degree, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law Nursing Degree, St. John's College
Business/Psychology Degrees, Baldwin Wallace
Training & Experience: State Representative, 1993-2000, and currently Appellate Court Judge – 203 cases published by the Ohio Supreme Court; appointed to sit on Ohio Supreme Court 9 times by Chief Justice; OJC Distinguished Service Award JAG Officer, Ohio Military Reserve

Question 1: How would you implement a constitutionally compliant school funding system?
Answer 1: Current funding formula should be replaced. State should provide a specific dollar amount per student for basic educational needs, from state income taxes, as originally promised. Funds should follow the student. State amount should not be reduced by local property taxes. End reliance on local property taxes but provide for local option to add additional programs to be funded locally. Stop unfunded state mandates.

Question 2: What will you do to combat gerrymandering and ensure that voter-approved redistricting reforms are implemented?
Answer 2: Apply and follow the Constitutional amendment for redistricting as approved by the voters. District borders should follow municipal/township/county lines as much as possible.

Question 3: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our water, air, and land? Include how you would address climate change.
Answer 3: Similar to President Trump's approach nationally, I favor a reasonable and affordable approach to ensure proper stewardship of our water, air, and land, that does not drive jobs and business out of the state, nor infringe upon Constitutionally protected private property rights. I also support more balanced scientific research of past changes in Earth's climate to better understand the natural causes of climate change so that we can better understand the possible extent of the current change in our climate.

Ohio State Representative 76th District

Frank Hall
Rep
11250 Highland View Dr. Chardon, OH 44024
Website/Facebook/Twitter: http://www.frankhallforohio.com

Question 1: How would you implement a constitutionally compliant school funding system?
Candidate has not responded.

Question 2: What will you do to combat gerrymandering and ensure that voter-approved redistricting reforms are implemented?
Candidate has not responded.

Question 3: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our water, air, and land? Include how you would address climate change.
Candidate has not responded.
Portage County Court of Common Pleas - General Division

Becky Doherty
Rep

Portage County Court of Common Pleas - Juvenile/Probate Divisions

Patricia J. Smith
Dem

Portage County Commissioner Term Comm. 1-2-2021

Kathleen Clyde
Dem
Portage County Commissioner
Age: 40
456 Harvey St. Kent, OH 44240
Website/Facebook/Twitter: http://kathleenclyde.com http://facebook.com/KathleenClydeOH twitter.com/KathleenClyde
Education: Graduate of James A. Garfield High School. B.A. from Wesleyan University. J.D. from Ohio State University.
Training & Experience: Attorney for over 10 years. Served as a member of the Ohio House representing Portage County for 8 years. Served as a Portage County Commissioner for 1 year, currently as President of the Board.

Question 1: How can you balance the need for economic growth and environmental resilience?
Answer 1: We balance the need by bringing all sides to the table for discussions about how we protect our environment and also how we work toward positive economic development. Then as leaders we need to listen to those various competing interests as we make decisions for the good of all the residents in the county.

Question 2: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our water, air, and land? Include how you would address climate change.
Answer 2: Protecting our water, air, and land for our current and future generations is very important to me, as is fighting climate change. I will continue to support our county’s commitment to recycling, working to find ways to keep robust services available for our residents so that we are able to divert as much waste as possible from going to landfills. I also pledge to look for ways our county can engage in renewable energy and energy efficiency programs, which could have a big impact on fighting climate change and a cleaner environment overall. I am also a big proponent of our parks and green spaces, and will continually look for ways to help support efforts to preserve land for the benefit of all in our community.
Portage County Commissioner Term Comm. 1-2-2021

Tony Badalamenti
Rep
Chiropractor
Age: 62
45 N. Chillicothe Rd. Aurora, OH 44202
Website/Facebook/Twitter:

Question 1: How can you balance the need for economic growth and environmental resilience?
Answer 1: Economic growth does not connotate destruction of the environment within our county or country. Businesses and services can grow while maintaining natural resources. We need new businesses and services to come into the county and we need the ones that are already here to continue to grow. Businesses, new and old, need to accept responsibility of being good stewards of our environment (water, air and land). As a Commissioner, I believe that the county's economic development board, which falls under the commissioners, must do their due diligence of the businesses and services coming into the county. The commissioners need to hold businesses, new and established, accountable to laws in place at the county, state and federal level. We need to seek grant opportunities to clean up existing environmental issues. On the local level, we need to assess county funds to determine if there are monies available/ creative ways to get monies, to assist communities with cleanups (ie:septic replacement)

Question 2: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our water, air, and land? Include how you would address climate change.
Answer 2: We need to protect our natural resources. The county does not have unlimited funds. The commissioners need to look at things such as the current recycling situation and determine if it would be prudent to privatize that out to another agency that can do it more efficiently and at less cost. That could free up funds for things such as available money for clean ups. We need to encourage companies to live and work responsibly, recycle, conserve energy with better lighting, ecologic policies within their companies and encourage and recognize companies that currently conserve and function ecologically responsible. Climate change at a city/county level is difficult to address. As concerned individuals, we need to "walk the walk" and address violators and encourage more renewable energy. I enjoy the outdoors and want it to be there for others to enjoy for a very long time!
Portage County Commissioner Term Comm. 1-3-2021

John Kennedy
Dem
Senior Director, Information Technology
Age: 53
515 E. Acadia Pt. Aurora, OH 44202
Website/Facebook/Twitter: http://www.KennedyForCommissioner.com
http://www.facebook.com/johnkennedyforohio/ twitter.com/JohnKennedyOhio
Education: Master of Arts, University of Colorado Denver Bachelor of Arts, Regis University
Training & Experience:

Question 1: How can you balance the need for economic growth and environmental resilience?
Answer 1: The growing climate crisis presents us with a tremendous challenge, yet if we approach the topic proactively, it provides us with a great opportunity to grow our economy while at the same time preserving and protecting our environment. We achieve that balance by making it a central goal – we bake it into every economic development plan we create for Portage County. We need a county economic development plan that addresses key environmental impacts and actively encourages renewable energy companies to take up residence in Portage County, to work with us to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels while increasing our use of renewable energy sources. The residents of Portage County are eager to live in communities that not only value access to clean air and fresh water, but foster smart, environmentally sustainable economic development. These core community values, values that protect our land, our air, and water, make us an attractive location for all types of businesses, big and small.

Question 2: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our water, air, and land? Include how you would address climate change.
Answer 2: We must recognize that climate change is a reality. Portage County should be a model for dealing with the climate crisis. The county is blessed with a number of environmental groups that have been engaged with the community for decades. With additional support and partnership from the county, we could even go further to protect our environment. Absence of action on climate change on the federal an state front should not preclude us from taking action locally. We should work directly with our local groups to develop a set of recommendations to achieve net-zero emissions for county operations by 2040. The goal is to create a program within the county that empowers county operations to reduce our carbon footprint locally, all while saving taxpayer dollars. We should make clear our commitment to environmental justice by launching programs, including environmentally-friendly purchasing for county operations (i.e.no phosphorus fertilizer or neonics on county properties).
John B. Kovacich
Dem
Retired (Union Laborer)
Age: 59
5818 Laubert Rd. Atwater, OH 44201
Website/Facebook/Twitter:
Education: High School Graduate
Training & Experience: Elected to 3rd term as Atwater Township Trustee, Represent P.C.T.A. on several boards in the county. Represent organized Labor on the Port Authority Board. Oversee budgets for all Township Departments.

Question 1: How can you balance the need for economic growth and environmental resilience?
Answer 1: We must look to revitalize abandoned properties, both residential and business, this would help cut down the impact we have on our natural surroundings. I believe that between public and private sectors a plan of action could be implemented to curb some of the Urban sprawl. We must also invest in all aspects of our infrastructure this also would have a large impact on our environment.

Question 2: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our water, air, and land? Include how you would address climate change.
Answer 2: I believe that we should leave the world a better place when we are gone. This sounds good but the fact remains the same, we are all (and I mean ALL) in this together, Government, business, and individuals. We live in a throwaway society, and with the population increasing the need to protect our natural resources could be or should be one of main objectives. Whether you believe in climate change or not, we need to do our best to promote ideas to remedy this situation. There is a lot of work being done, such as alternative fuels, solar panels, and wind power. We need to clean up after ourselves, make better choices to reduce our clutter and trash. The statistics have been well documented, now we need to educate people change their mindset. This I think will be one of the hardest innovations we will face to protect natural resources.
Sabrina K. Christian-Bennett
Rep
Portage County Commissioner
Age: 49
4360 Hattrick Rd. Rootstown, OH 44272
Website/Facebook/Twitter: http://www.sabrinaforcommissioner.com http://sabrinaforcommissioner
Education: Bachelors of Business Administration KSU ’94 Alumni of Leadership Portage County ’05
Alumni of Leadership Institute Candidates Sch
Training & Experience: Portage County Commissioner, ‘14 and ‘17-Present Owner/President of Bennett Land Title Agency, LLC with offices in Brimfield and Ravenna

Question 1: How can you balance the need for economic growth and environmental resilience?
Answer 1: As your County Commissioner, I will continue to work collaboratively with the Portage Development Board, Mayors, Economic Development Directors, Trustees, Regional Planning and Zoning Officials to bring in good paying jobs and businesses, such as, L’Oreal and Saint-Gobain. Both businesses are known to pride themselves on being environmentally friendly and sustainable. As a small business, I am passionate about balancing our environmental impact and preserving the natural resources of the county that, I live and raise my family in.

Question 2: Where do you stand on efforts to protect our water, air, and land? Include how you would address climate change.
Answer 2: I have long supported efforts to to protect our water quality, air and land including the bipartisan efforts to control the threats of algae on the Great Lakes. As commissioner, the Trustees and residents of Deerfield Township reached out to me over the annual draw down of the 3,400 acre body of water known as Berlin Reservoir. The US Army Corps of Engineer was draining the reservoir in mid summer versus after Labor Day. This was impacting and creating a financial hardship for the 32+ businesses that surround the reservoir, the recreational use and a $1.3 million dollar boat ramp that had been installed the prior year. I was able to connect with Ryan Fisher, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) to schedule a meeting at the Pentagon for the trustees and my concerns to be heard. We were able to get resolution to the drawn down and prevent the devastation of the locals businesses and echo system. I would address climate change through education and research
Portage County Clerk of Courts

Jill Fankhauser
Dem
1421 River Trail Dr. Kent, OH 44240

Portage County Coroner

Dean J. DePerro
Dem
503 Overlook Dr. Kent, OH 44240

Portage County Engineer

Michael A. Marozzi
Dem
Portage County Engineer
Age: 65
4837 King Meadow Trail Kent, OH 44240
Website/Facebook/Twitter:
Education: Bachelors of Science Civil Engineering, University of Akron. Continuing education in Engineering, Surveying, Road Maintenance
Training & Experience: Over 31 years of experience as Portage County Engineer. Responsible for the maintenance and construction of 370 miles of County road and 170 County owned bridges. Employ 65 workers and an annual budget of about $9,500,000

Portage County Prosecuting Attorney

Victor V. Vigluicci
Dem
Portage County Prosecuting Attorney
4527 Hattrick Rd. Rootstown, OH 44272

Portage County Recorder

Leighann Fink
Dem
1506 Whitewood Dr. Kent, OH 44240

Portage County Recorder

Lori Calcei
Rep
Portage County Recorder
2150 May Rd. Mogadore, OH 44260
Website/Facebook/Twitter: http://Lori Calcei for Portage County Recorder
Education: Graduated from Mogadore High School. Graduate of Leadership Portage County, Ohio Township Academy and JAD Leadership Institute.
Portage County Sheriff

Jon Barber
Dem
Deputy Sheriff
Age: 58
647 S. Depeyster St. Kent, OH 44240
Education: Graduate Kent Roosevelt High School University of Akron Assoc in Criminal Justice,
Bachelors in Tech Ed, Masters in Public Admin
Training & Experience: Over 35 years in public service as a Law Enforcement officer and Director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. Currently a full time Deputy Sheriff in Stark County.

Question 1: What do you think are the most important safety issues at the county jail and how would you address them?
Answer 1: Protecting the people detained in the facility is the number one priority. They are not free to leave so it is critical that they are kept safe until they are processed out. I believe we need to make sure the latest technology is in place at all times. No areas of the jail where prisoners are housed should be free from recording devices. In addition officers should have video recording devices on their person at all times when encountering an inmate who is being confrontational. All the recordings then must be protected so they can't be deleted. We owe it to the public to be accountable for the safety of those in our custody. In addition we need to evaluate training of the officers and make sure they receive the best and most current training they can get.

Question 2: Would you support medication assisted treatment for those incarcerated in the county jail?
Answer 2: Support

Question 3: (Refer to the question on medication assisted treatment) Why or why not?
Answer 3: We have an absolute duty to treat those in our care. If they need assistance with any medical condition we must provide that care. In addition we need to include mental health and substance abuse care for those in need.
Portage County Sheriff

P. Ken Howe
Dem
Retired
Age:
3149 Queen Rd. Ravenna, OH 44266
Website/Facebook/Twitter:
Education: Grade School - St. Patrick's Kent Ohio. Theodore Roosevelt High School Kent Ohio
Graduate

**Question 1:** What do you think are the most important safety issues at the county jail and how would you address them?

Answer 1: If elected as Sheriff, I would conduct a review of Jail Policies and Procedures, in the safety areas of, Use of Force, Fire Safety, Suicide Prevention, and Interpersonal Communication Skills between Staff and Offenders. As well as, maintaining of the Safety and Security equipment that enhances the safety of Staff and The Offenders in Jail. Upon completion of the Review, revisions would include Staff training, update of Policies and Procedures and continuous monitoring of The Facility Maintenance Plan in accordance with The Ohio Jail Standards Fire Safety Code and Best Practices.

**Question 2:** Would you support medication assisted treatment for those incarcerated in the county jail?

Answer 2: No position

**Question 3:** (Refer to the question on medication assisted treatment) Why or why not?

Answer 3: The funding of medication assisted treatment in The County Jail at this time is unknown. Stakeholders in the county (County Commissioners, Law Enforcement, Drug Courts, Mental Health Professional, Drug and Alcohol Counseling etc. etc.) MUST work TOGETHER to address what issues need to be identified within the Jail, as well as realistic goals that can be achieved. After a period of time (to be determined) we review what is working AND what areas need revision. This MUST be a consensus of ALL Stakeholders to stay with The Plan!
Portage County Sheriff

Greg Johnson
Dem
(Retired) Chief Detective Portage County Sheriff's Office
Age: 62
1467 Countryside Dr. Mogadore, OH 44260
Website/Facebook/Twitter: http://gregjohnsonforsheriff.com
http://www.facebook.com/GregJohnsonForPortageCountySheriff
Education: 1976 Graduate of Akron East High (class valedictorian) 1994 Graduate of SACS Police Academy (1st in class)
Training & Experience: 24 years with the Portage County Sheriff's Office. Served as road Deputy, Sergeant, Lieutenant and Chief of the Detective Bureau. Extensive training in Homicide, Child Abuse, Cell Phone Forensic Investigations, Crisis Intervention and High Threats Trial

Question 1: What do you think are the most important safety issues at the county jail and how would you address them?
Answer 1: The security and welfare of both the staff and the people incarcerated at the jail are of utmost priority. It is my goal to create a working environment for the staff at the jail where everyone feels secure in their position and confident in their ability to do their job. This includes making sure there is adequate staffing. I want to make sure that proper training and support are provided to instill a high level of proficiency in each and every staff member. Inmates need to be screened, managed and housed in a way that keeps them safe, other inmates safe and Corrections Staff safe. Maintaining and increasing programs for inmates to not only rehabilitate them but to also assist in their successful return to society. I would pursue accreditation for the jail operations. My goal is just not to operate a jail but to operate a jail/corrections operation that meets state/national recognized accreditation standards.

Question 2: Would you support medication assisted treatment for those incarcerated in the county jail?
Answer 2: Support

Question 3: (Refer to the question on medication assisted treatment) Why or why not?
Answer 3: Studies have shown providing inmates with medicated assisted treatment can result in a significant increase in the safety and welfare of themselves, fellow inmates and corrections staff and result in a reduction in relapsing. Many are in jail as a result of their addiction to drugs. Drug treatment can help to teach inmates how to improve their lives and better prepare them for life outside of jail. Many inmates suffer from mental health issues. Many end up in jail due to not taking their prescribed medications or abusing them. Getting back on a regular medication schedule will help them to understand the importance of taking them. In some cases inmates are only found to be competent to stand trial after they received proper evaluation and medications. The inability of these inmates to continue their medication while incarcerated can prevent them from going to court. Safeguarding the dispensing of these drugs is essential due to them being easily abused and sought after.
Joe Kammer
Dem
retired police officer
Age: 63
3196 Mogadore Rd. Tallmadge, OH 44278
Website/Facebook/Twitter: http://joekammerforsheriff
Education: High School diploma, Bachelor Science Degree, Criminal Justice major. Ohio Police Academy, Ohio Peace Officer Academy Instructor.
Training & Experience: Over 37 years in Law enforcement, Sargent in Military 4 years. Served as a Commander and S.W.A.T. team Commander, Detective, A.L.I.C.E. instructor, C.I.T. certified, Homicide Investigation school, First line supervision school, Mid-Level management sch

Question 1: What do you think are the most important safety issues at the county jail and how would you address them?
Answer 1: I would provide complete transparency in Jail operations and train all employees in better techniques to improve the custody and care to the inmates.

Question 2: Would you support medication assisted treatment for those incarcerated in the county jail?
Answer 2: No Position

Question 3: (Refer to the question on medication assisted treatment) Why or why not?
Answer 3: I would prefer more information on the medication program and options available.

Bruce D. Zuchowski
Rep
10440 Scotts Corners Rd. Diamond, OH 44412
Portage County Treasurer

Brad Cromes
Dem
Portage Co. Treasurer
Age: 35
550 E. Riddle Ave. Ravenna, OH 44266
Website/Facebook/Twitter: http://bradcromes.com http://www.facebook.com/bradcromes
  twitter.com/bradcromes
Education: B.A. Political Science (Hiram College) M.A. Public Policy & Management (Ohio State) J.D. w/ Public Service Fellowship (Ohio State)

Member of State Central Committee Libertarian 13th Congressional District

Michael Fricke
Libertarian

Member of State Central Committee Libertarian 14th Congressional District

Nathan Rockwell
Libertarian

Member of State Central Committee Libertarian 16th Congressional District

Jason Sonenshein
Libertarian
Ohio State Central Committeeman Republican - 18th District

Mike Berger
Rep
Director, BWC North Canton
Age: 52
3976 Eleanor St. Mogadore, OH 44260
Website/Facebook/Twitter: http://www.facebook.com/votemikeberger/ twitter.com/MikeBergerOhio
Education: Master of Org Leadership - Malone University Bachelor Political Science/Criminal Justice - University of Akron
Training & Experience: Small Business Owner, Entrepreneur, Certified Public Manager, Lean Six Sigma Black Belt, County Central Committee Member
Question 1: What are the most important issues that the State Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?
Answer 1: The Republican State Central Committee continues to face a question regarding Republican Party endorsements for candidates running in contested primary races in Ohio and the challenge of empowering new conservative voters and policies that improve Ohio.
Ohio State Central Committeeman Republican - 18th District

John Plecnik
Rep
Associate Professor of Law & Director of the Master of Legal Studies Program at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law at Cleveland State University
Age: 36
2890 Bishop Rd. Willoughby Hills, OH 44092
Website/Facebook/Twitter: http://JohnPlecnik.com http://Facebook.com/NeighborsForPlecnik twitter.com/plecnik
Training & Experience: In the past, I served as Councilman-at-Large & Vice President of Council for Willoughby Hills, where I balanced the budget, CUT taxes, reduced the City debt by half, and personally authored the tax abatement that brought Produce Packaging and 300 jobs to

Question 1: What are the most important issues that the State Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?
Answer 1: The most important job of the Republican State Central Committee is to support and elect Conservative Republicans. I am proud to be CONSERVATIVE and 100% Pro-Life and Pro-2nd Amendment. If elected on Tuesday, March 17th, my first goal is to re-elect our President Donald Trump in November. I voted for President Trump in the Primary and General Election in 2016, and I was honored to serve as a Volunteer Team Leader for Trump’s Republican National Convention in Cleveland. Second, you need to know that President Trump strongly supports our Ohio Republican Party Chair Jane Timken AND so do I. If elected, I will STAND WITH PRESIDENT TRUMP and vote to re-elect Timken for another term as our Chair. Actions speak louder than words. I have served as a Republican County Central Committee Member for years, and the Lake County Republican Party recognized me as their Outstanding Member of the Year in 2018 with the Elden A. Spencer Award. I am a loyal, lifelong Republican.
James R. Sherbaugh, Jr.
Rep
Retired
Age: 55
4516 W. Prospect St. Mantua, OH 44255
Website/Facebook/Twitter:  http://James R Sherbaugh Jr
Education:  Penn Foster, U.S. Military courses. High school graduate.
Training & Experience:  Candidate Training Seminar, organization training, activist training, Native American Chief. County Central Committee.
Question 1:  What are the most important issues that the State Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?
Answer 1:  1. Growing the party and its core values. 2. Supporting more conservative candidates. 3. Not endorsing a Candidate before a primary. 4. Communicating with the people better. 5. Budgeting.

Elayne Cross
Rep
321 Suzanne Dr. Kent, OH 44240
Question 1:  What are the most important issues that the State Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?
Candidate has not responded.

Mary E. O'Toole
Rep
16770 Jennifer Lane Auburn, OH 44023
Question 1:  What are the most important issues that the State Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?
Candidate has not responded.
Portage Co. Central Committee Atwater B

Stephen J. Georges
Rep
2630 State Route 183 Atwater, OH 44201

Portage Co. Central Committee Aurora 1B

Liz Davidoff
Rep
410 Walnut Ridge Trail Aurora, OH 44202

Portage Co. Central Committee Aurora 2A

Tony Badalamenti
Rep
45 N. Chillicothe Rd. Aurora, OH 44202

Portage Co. Central Committee Aurora 2B

Anne T. Kaczmarek
Rep
780 Crackel Rd. Aurora, OH 44202

Portage Co. Central Committee Aurora 4A

Ann Womer Benjamin
Rep
PO Box 524 Aurora, OH 44202

Portage Co. Central Committee Aurora 4B

Lila L. Webster
Rep
608 Avon Dr. Aurora, OH 44202

Portage Co. Central Committee Aurora 5B

Jim Tasker
Rep
180 Hawthorne Dr. Unit 23 Aurora, OH 44202

Portage Co. Central Committee Aurora 6A

Denise Snyder
Rep
write-in
435 Kimberly Dr. Aurora, OH 44202
Portage Co. Central Committee Brimfield A

John J. Mancini
Rep
write-in
884 Lakeview Ct. Kent, OH 44240

Portage Co. Central Committee Brimfield B

Wesley Buchanan
Rep
195 S. Main St. Akron, OH 44308

Portage Co. Central Committee Brimfield C

Ronn Franczkowski
Rep
Age:
4100 Hunters Ridge Dr. Ravenna, OH 44266

Portage Co. Central Committee Brimfield D

Carl L. Crawford
Rep
3771 Willow Brook Dr. Ravenna, OH 44266

Portage Co. Central Committee Brimfield E

Kathy J. Karg
Rep
write-in
3423 Woodtrail Kent, OH 44240

Portage Co. Central Committee Brimfield G

Pat Blair
Rep
3547 Elmhurst Ct. Kent, OH 44240

*Question 1: What are the most important issues that the County Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?*
Candidate has not responded.

Sue Fields
Rep
3547 Elmhurst Ct. Kent, OH 44240

*Question 1: What are the most important issues that the County Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?*
Candidate has not responded.
Portage Co. Central Committee Charlestown A

Bruce Lange
Rep
8060 Newton Falls Rd. Ravenna, OH 44266

Portage Co. Central Committee Deerfield A

Valerie Emmert
Rep
Homemaker
Age: 50
2460 McClintocksburg Rd. Deerfield, OH 44411
Education: MSSA from CWRU & AS in Office Admin. from Tri-C

Question 1: What are the most important issues that the County Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?
Answer 1: Although the party office of Precinct Committee person is at the bottom of the primary ballot and receives almost no fanfare, it is the most basic element of preserving our two-party system of government. The most important task of a Central Committee Member is to appoint two partisans to work at the precinct polling location for every election. Additionally, the Committee Member represents the party faithful at County Conventions, where votes are cast on candidate endorsements, election of party officers, etc. Thus, it is also essential that the member communicates with the partisans in the precinct in order to represent them accurately. Finally, the member can also grow the party by getting to know the unaffiliated voters in the precinct and encouraging them to affiliate in the primary. Given the current state of our national political health, I believe that this role should be a Precinct member's priority in order to strengthen the people's authority over the political elites.

Portage Co. Central Committee Deerfield A

Mary Kaley
Rep
Retired from the United States Postal Service where I served as a Postmaster
10065 Mottown Rd. Deerfield, OH 44411
Education: Graduate of Kent State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree Criminal Justice Studies
Training & Experience: 42 year resident in Deerfield Township, Precinct A. Involved in numerous successful political campaigns.

Question 1: What are the most important issues that the County Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?
Answer 1: Finding qualified candidates and giving them the support to run successful campaigns.
Portage Co. Central Committee Deerfield B

Ed Dean
Rep
103 Johnson Rd. North Benton, OH 44449

Portage Co. Central Committee Edinburg A

Pat Stephens
Rep
2800 Industry Rd. Rootstown, OH 44272

Portage Co. Central Committee Edinburg B

Jeneen Kubala
Rep
PO Box 266 Rootstown, OH 44272

Portage Co. Central Committee Franklin A

Susan A. Collier
Rep
PO Box 1736 Kent, OH 44240

Portage Co. Central Committee Franklin E

Richard L. Schaack
Rep
write-in
1924 Basswood Dr. Kent, OH 44240

Portage Co. Central Committee Freedom B

Laura L. Esposito
Rep
PO Box 406 Ravenna, OH 44266

Portage Co. Central Committee Garrettsville Village A

John McCarty
Rep
8321 Center St. Garrettsville, OH 44231

Portage Co. Central Committee Garrettsville Village B

Michelle Harman
Rep
write-in
10571 White St. Unit 16 Garrettsville, OH 44231
Portage Co. Central Committee Hiram Twp. A

John Groselle
Rep
write-in
6401 Pioneer Trail Hiram, OH 44234

Portage Co. Central Committee Hiram Twp. B

Gary Burden
Rep
PO Box 272 Hiram, OH 44234

Portage Co. Central Committee Hiram Village

Lou Bertrand
Rep
write-in
11700 Peckham Ave. Hiram, OH 44234

Portage Co. Central Committee Kent 2A

Elayne J. Cross
Rep
321 Suzanne Dr. Kent, OH 44240

Portage Co. Central Committee Kent 2B

Nathanael Bryant
Rep
446 1/2 Garrett St. Kent, OH 44240

Portage Co. Central Committee Kent 3B

Doria Daniels
Rep
write-in
1200 Cedar St. Kent, OH 44240

Portage Co. Central Committee Kent 4B

Edward Wojnaroski
Rep
5821 Glad Blvd. Kent, OH 44240

Portage Co. Central Committee Kent 5A

Edwin R. Fisher
Rep
125 Columbus St. Kent, OH 44240

Training & Experience:
Portage Co. Central Committee Kent 6B

Thomas Auran
Rep
123 Overlook Dr. Kent, OH 44240

Portage Co. Central Committee Mantua Twp. A

Julie Aldrich
Rep
write-in
12380 Chamberlain Rd. Aurora, OH 44202

Portage Co. Central Committee Mantua Twp. C

Richard Szczepinski
Rep
11319 Sheldon Rd. Mantua, OH 44255

Portage Co. Central Committee Mantua Village

John E. Heinl
Rep
10942 Main St. Mantua, OH 44255
Education: A.B. Youngstown State; M.A. Kent State
Training & Experience: Sales & finance

Question 1: What are the most important issues that the County Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?
Answer 1: Encourage people to register to vote. Encourage registered voters to actually vote.

Portage Co. Central Committee Mantua Village

James R. Sherbaugh Jr.
Rep
Retired
Age: 55
4516 W. Prospect St. Mantua, OH 44255
Website/Facebook/Twitter: http://James R Sherbaugh JR
Education: High School, U.S. Military courses, Penn Foster College.
Training & Experience: 8 Years Army, owned a small truck fleet, owner of a Cicar Club and distributor. Advisor to President Trump. Published a book. Machinery Fabricator also Truck Mechanic.

Question 1: What are the most important issues that the County Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?
Answer 1: Growing the party by getting people registered to vote Republican. Also educating and supporting candidates throughout events and fund raisers. We also need to replace the bylaws with newly revised ones that comply with Ohio Revised Codes. Then elect an Executive Committee this is passed over due and must be done immediately.
Portage Co. Central Committee Mogadore Village

Mike Berger  
Rep  
3976 Eleanor St. Mogadore, OH 44260

Portage Co. Central Committee Palmyra B

Harvey McClary  
Rep  
3100 Jones Rd. Diamond, OH 44412

Portage Co. Central Committee Palmyra C

Jacob Haser  
Rep  
4753 State Route 225 Diamond, OH 44412

Portage Co. Central Committee Paris A

Laurie Amanda Suffecool  
Rep  
PO Box 77 Wayland, OH 44285

Portage Co. Central Committee Paris B

Rachel M. Harnar  
Rep  
10637 Newton Falls Rd. Newton Falls, OH 44444

Portage Co. Central Committee Randolph A

Brian M. Ames  
Rep  
2632 Ranfield Rd. Mogadore, OH 44260

Portage Co. Central Committee Randolph B

Gail Pavliga  
Rep  
1965 New Milford Rd. Atwater, OH 44201

Portage Co. Central Committee Randolph C

Mary A. Rodenbucher  
Rep  
1314 Matti Rd. Atwater, OH 44201
Portage Co. Central Committee Ravenna 2A

H. Paul Moore
Rep
write-in
151 E. Cedar Ave. Ravenna, OH 44266

Portage Co. Central Committee Ravenna 2B

Deb Dubinsky
Rep
756 E. Cedar Ave. Ravenna, OH 44266

Portage Co. Central Committee Ravenna 2C

Walter Lowers
Rep
777 Eastowne Dr. Apt. 201 Ravenna, OH 44266
Website/Facebook/Twitter:
Education:
Training & Experience:
Question 1: What are the most important issues that the County Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?
Candidate has not responded.

Portage Co. Central Committee Ravenna 2C

Richard Monroe
Rep
retired
566 N. Park Dr. Ravenna, OH 44266
Education: High School, 1 year technical school degree
Training & Experience: Co. Central Committee, Condo Board President, Deacon at Crossroads Community Church, lifetime resident of Ravenna Ward 2 lived at current address since 2007.
Question 1: What are the most important issues that the County Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?
Answer 1: The County Central Committee helps recruit, and train, and elect candidates to run as Republicans for county and local offices, appoints people to the Board of Elections, and people to replace state and local candidates who can not finish their term in office, and can endorse candidates for State and Federal Offices. They check these candidates to make sure that they believe in the Republican Values such as smaller government, lower taxes, less government regulations, more individual Freedom.

Portage Co. Central Committee Ravenna 3A

Jonathan P. Jennings
Rep
222 Grant St. Ravenna, OH 44266

Portage Co. Central Committee Ravenna 4A

Steven J. Farhat
Rep
531 E. Lake St. Ravenna, OH 44266
Portage Co. Central Committee Ravenna 4B

Faith Lyon
Rep
415 Woodland St. Ravenna, OH 44266

Portage Co. Central Committee Ravenna Twp. B

Edward Roloff
Rep
6933 White Pine Dr. Ravenna, OH 44266

Portage Co. Central Committee Ravenna Twp. D

Beverley Kibler
Rep
6601 Red Brush Rd. Ravenna, OH 44266

Portage Co. Central Committee Ravenna Twp. E

Deborah Ann Bell
Rep
3506 Marian Rd. Ravenna, OH 44266

Portage Co. Central Committee Ravenna Twp. F

Janet Esposito
Rep
5329 S. Prospect St. Ravenna, OH 44266

Portage Co. Central Committee Ravenna Twp. G

Judy Lynne Thompson
Rep
write-in
7735 St. Rt. 88 Ravenna, OH 44266
Sabrina K. Christian Bennett
Rep
Portage County Commissioner
Age: 49
4360 Hattrick Rd. Rootstown, OH 44272
Website/Facebook/Twitter:
Education: Bachelors of Business Administration KSU ‘94 Alumni of Leadership Portage County ’05 Alumni of Leadership Institute ‘12
Training & Experience: Portage County Commissioner, ’14 and ‘17-Present Owner/President of Bennett Land Title Agency, LLC with offices in Brimfield and Ravenna

Question 1: What are the most important issues that the County Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?
Answer 1: As a volunteer Secretary and Member of the Central Committee, I feel it is my obligation to engage others to participate in the political process. I believe this to be the toughest issue that central committee faces going forward. Our system of government only works if citizens are involved and exercise their right to vote.

Brandy Gabriel
Rep
4102 Hattrick Rd. Rootstown, OH 44272

Question 1: What are the most important issues that the County Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?
Candidate has not responded.

Joanne Solak
Rep
9971 Diagonal Rd. Mantua, OH 44255

Benjamin H. Kotkowski
Rep
3415 Frost Rd. Mantua, OH 44255

David L. Mercer
Rep
3084 Polly Rd. Ravenna, OH 44266

Question 1: What are the most important issues that the County Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?
Candidate has not responded.
Portage Co. Central Committee Shalersville C

Andrew Shehorn
Rep
3050 Douglas St. Ravenna, OH 44266

Question 1: What are the most important issues that the County Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?
Candidate has not responded.

Portage Co. Central Committee Shalersville D

Robert Campbell
Rep
8974 State Route 44 Ravenna, OH 44266

Portage Co. Central Committee Streetsboro 3C

Michael B. O'Flaherty
Rep
8580 Deer Meadow Blvd. Streetsboro, OH 44241

Portage Co. Central Committee Suffield A

James E. Lutz
Rep
2394 Martin Rd. Mogadore, OH 44260

Portage Co. Central Committee Suffield B

Steve Calcei
Rep
2150 May Rd. Mogadore, OH 44260

Portage Co. Central Committee Suffield C

Nick Skeriotis
Rep
write-in
967 Tershell Trail Mogadore, OH 44260

Portage Co. Central Committee Suffield E

Joyce Lott
Rep
1002 Martin Rd. Mogadore, OH 44260

Portage Co. Central Committee Windham Twp. A

Brian Keith Miller
Rep
10228 State Route 82 Windham, OH 44288
Portage Co. Central Committee Windham Vil. B

Sheila Moore
Rep
PO Box 213 Windham, OH 44288

ISSUES

Issue 1 Kent City renewal tax levy
Amount: 1.16 mills renewal tax levy that would generate approximately $324,000 annually for 5 years beginning in 2020.
Explanation: The funds generated by this renewal levy contribute to the annual financial support of basic staffing, operational and maintenance expenses required to provide non-utility public services to the community. These services include but are not limited to Police and Fire protection, and Street Maintenance operations. Renewal will not increase taxes.
David A. Coffee Director of Budget and Finance, City of Kent

Issue 2 Kent City 5A local liquor option
Shall the sale of wine and mixed beverages and spirituous liquor be permitted for sale on Sunday between the hours of ten a.m. and midnight by 107 South, Inc. dba EuroGyro engaged in the business of restaurant/bar at 107 S. Depeyster St., first floor & patio, Kent, OH in precinct 5A?
Portage County Board of Elections Legal Notice

Issue 3 Mogadore Village charter amendment
Amend Section 13.01 of the Charter of Mogadore Village effective May 1, 2020 to allow the Village Council to select one trash hauler for the entire Village.
Portage County Board of Elections Legal Notice

Issue 4 Suffield Township renewal tax levy
Amount: 1.25 mills renewal tax levy that would generate approximately $178,000 annually for 3 years beginning in 2020.
Explanation: Maintain fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, or sources of water supply. The payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighting, emergency medical service administrative, or communications personnel. The purchase of ambulance equipment or the provisions of ambulance, paramedic or other emergency medical services operated by the fire department.
Lori Calcei Suffield Fiscal Officer

Issue 5 Aurora City Schools renewal tax levy
Amount: 5.61 mills renewal tax levy that would generate approximately $3,518,000 annually for 5 years beginning in 2020.
Explanation: This levy was originally passed in 1990 and as this is a renewal levy there will be no increases in taxes. This is an operating levy and the funds will be utilized to support and maintain the current programs of the Aurora City School District. This includes curriculum, utilities, general maintenance and transportation expenditures.
Bill Volosin Treasurer, Aurora City Schools
**Issue 6** Kent City Schools Bond issue & tax levy  
Bond issue & 2.36 mills tax levy for 30 years beginning in 2020.  
Explanation: Without raising taxes, the bond issue will generate $25,190,000, to be repaid over a maximum period of 30 years. Renovations at all six school buildings will maintain the community’s investment in the Kent schools. Upgrades will improve safety/security, improve instructional environment, and improve athletic/performing arts facilities. Visit kentschools.net/bondissue for list of projects. The new bonds will not increase taxes because old bonds issued over 20 years ago are maturing.  
*Deborah A. Krutz  Treasurer/CFO, Kent City School District*

**Issue 7** Rootstown Local Schools renewal tax levy  
Amount: 4.31 mills renewal tax levy that would generate approximately $965,000 annually for 5 years beginning in 2020.  
Explanation: The renewal levy will generate the same amount the levy has raised annually since it was originally approved by voters in 2004. The funds are used for the current operations of the district. The district has relied on these funds for the last 16 years to support student growth by providing salaries and benefits for teachers, administrators and secretaries as well as custodians, bus drivers and coaches. The levy is also used for utilities, diesel fuel for buses, classroom supplies, and special education services.  
*Connie Baldwin  Treasurer/CFO, Rootstown Local School District*

**Issue 8** Windham Exempted Village School District additional tax levy  
Amount: 1.5 mills additional tax levy that would generate approximately $71,000 annually for 5 years beginning in 2020.  
Explanation: The funds will be used for maintenance, upkeep and improvements of the buildings and grounds.  
*Samantha Pochedly  Treasurer/Food Services Director, Windham Exempted Village Schools*

**Issue 9** Waterloo Local Schools additional income tax  
Amount: 1.5% additional income tax for 5 years commencing on 1/1/2021. The Board is requesting to raise $2,740,000.  
Explanation: The money will be used as follows: To provide an excellent education for students including expanding the curriculum into STEM learning. To enable the district to reinstate teachers recently laid off, reinstate high school bussing, reduce pay to participate fees, open the doors to youth programs and reinstate lost academic programs and special programs like Grandparents Day.  
*Todd B. Carpenter  Treasurer, Waterloo Local Schools*

**Issue 10** Mantua Shalersville Fire District replacement tax levy  
Amount: 2.25 mills replacement tax levy that would generate approximately $602,000 annually for 5 years beginning in 2020.  
Explanation: Funding from this replacement levy will hire additional full-time and part time staff as well as support the operations of the fire department.  
*Ashlee Hawkins  Fiscal Officer-Mantua Shalersville Fire District*

**Issue 11** Portage County Children Services renewal tax levy  
Amount: 0.49 mills renewal tax levy for 5 years beginning in 2020.  
Explanation: A renewal of a tax for the benefit of Portage County for the purpose of care, placement and treatment of abused, neglected and dependent children.  
*Ballot language.*