



## **VOTER GUIDE**

**For Portage County, Ohio**  
**AUGUST 2, 2022 PRIMARY ELECTION**

This voter's guide is a joint venture of 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.**

**State Representative—35<sup>th</sup> and 72<sup>nd</sup> Districts and State Central Committee—28<sup>th</sup> District**—The LWV of Kent asked the candidates to provide biographical information and to answer questions. The candidates were invited 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 [VOTE411.org](https://vote411.org) to view a side-by-side comparison of the candidates' biographical information and answers.

The League of Women Voters of Kent and Northern Portage County 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** [kentlww.org](https://kentlww.org)

President: Deborah Barber Voter Guide Co-Chairs: Nena Hankins, (330)673-0128 & Barbara Springer

**League of Women Voters of Northern Portage County** [northernportagecounty.lww.org](https://northernportagecounty.lww.org)

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: 8/2/2022 Primary Election

Select District Type: Cities, Villages, or Townships e.g. *Cities*

Select District Name: e.g. *Ravenna City*

Click the Find Ballots box.

Optional: Select your party

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>

## State Representative 35th House District

Vote for no more than one

**Lori O'Neill**

Dem

Candidate has not responded.

## State Representative 35th House District

Vote for no more than one

**Steve Demetriou**

Rep

Candidate has not responded.

## State Representative 72nd House District

Vote for no more than one



**Kathleen Clyde**

Dem

Campaign Website: [kathleenclyde.com](http://kathleenclyde.com)

Campaign Facebook: [facebook.com/KathleenClydeOH](https://facebook.com/KathleenClydeOH)

Campaign Twitter Handle: KathleenClyde

Campaign Email: [info@kathleenclyde.com](mailto:info@kathleenclyde.com)

Education: J.D. from Ohio State University. B.A. from Wesleyan University. Graduate of James A. Garfield High School.

Training & Experience: Attorney. Served as a member of the Ohio House representing Portage County for 8 years. 2018 Democratic Nominee for Ohio Secretary of State. Served as a Portage County Commissioner for 2 years.

### **1. Under what circumstances is it appropriate for the state to restrain or check local government?**

The state should respect municipal home rule and avoid unfunded mandates. It may be appropriate however for the state to restrain local government when those entities adversely affect the rights of vulnerable populations, such as through harmful zoning or discriminatory practices.

**Clyde**

**2. How would you improve the Ohio public school funding system?**

We should stop diverting public money to for-profit charter schools from our public school system. We should rely less on local property taxes and more on the state funding formula to adequately fund our state's K-12 public schools. We also should provide more funding to expand access to public pre-K and post-secondary educational opportunities.

**3. Where do you stand on efforts to protect our water, air and land?**

I support efforts to protect our water, ranging from reducing nutrient runoff into our lakes and streams to replacing lead pipes to deliver clean drinking water to all Ohioans. I support expanding our renewable energy portfolio to reduce air pollution and to deal with our climate crisis. We should also be expanding the use of electric vehicles and looking for ways to encourage public transit, which can reduce air pollution. Finally, I support the strong stewardship of our park systems and other public lands in order to protect these ecosystems for future generations.

**4. What legislation, if any, would you suggest to address gun safety?**

I support the recent bi-partisan legislation to prevent intimate partners convicted of domestic violence from possessing firearms, to provide expanded background checks for potential gun buyers under the age of 21, and to strengthen laws against straw purchasing and trafficking of guns. Ohio should look to pass red flag legislation to draw down federal funds for implementation of life-saving intervention programs. Ohio should repeal recent legislation that dropped training requirements as well as the obligation to notify law enforcement when carrying a concealed weapon.

**State Representative 72nd House District**

Vote for no more than one



**Gail K. Pavliga**

Rep

Campaign Website: [gailpavliga.com](http://gailpavliga.com)

Campaign Facebook: Gail Pavliga for State Representative

Education: PhD University of Akron

MA Kent State University

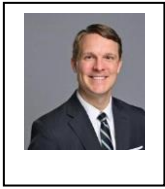
BA Kent State Un

Training & Experience: College Professor, Entrepreneur

Candidate has not responded to the questions.

**. 28th District State Central Committeeman, Democratic**

Vote for no more than one



**Brad Cromes**

Dem

Campaign Website: [www.bradcromes.com](http://www.bradcromes.com)

Campaign Facebook: [www.facebook.com/bradcromes](http://www.facebook.com/bradcromes)

Campaign Twitter Handle: [www.twitter.com/bradcromes](http://www.twitter.com/bradcromes)

Campaign Email: [admin@bradcromes.com](mailto:admin@bradcromes.com)

Education: B.A., Hiram College; M.A. (Public Policy & Mgmt.), J.D., The Ohio State University

Training & Experience: Certified Government Financial Manager (Assoc. of Government Accountants); Portage Co. Treasurer (2015-Present); Treasurer, County Treasurers Association of Ohio; Board Member, United Way, Community Action Council, and Ravenna Kiwanis; Member, Portage Co., Ohio and American Bar Associations

**What are the most important issues that the State Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?**

The Ohio Democratic Party State Central Committee is responsible for helping Party leaders set and implement policies that support Democratic candidates in their effort to ensure a fair deal for all in our community. That includes making sure we give candidates the best tools possible to tell their story, and ensure that they are properly supported by staff, training, and other resources. The fact is that for the better part of the past forty years our state has been dominated by Republicans. During that time, we've seen Ohio fall further and further behind. We deserve better - and we can't get it by doubling down on the same failed policies and strategies from the past. It must be the central focus of the State Central Committee to support efforts by Party leadership and our candidates to improve our data and reach Ohioans where they are with our plan to stop Ohio's slide and move our state forward. As a member of the Committee, I am all in on that work - and I pledge to keep at it.

**Pete Zeigler**

Dem

Candidate has not responded.

## **28th District State Central Committeewoman, Democratic**

Vote for no more than one

### **Kathleen Clyde**

Dem

Candidate has not responded.



### **Elizabeth Walters**

Dem

Campaign Instagram: [www.instagram.com/lizmwalters/](https://www.instagram.com/lizmwalters/)

Campaign Website: [www.waltersforohio.com](http://www.waltersforohio.com)

Campaign Facebook: [www.facebook.com/lizmwalters/](https://www.facebook.com/lizmwalters/)

Campaign Twitter Handle: [twitter.com/lizmwalters](https://twitter.com/lizmwalters)

Campaign Email: [info@waltersforohio.com](mailto:info@waltersforohio.com)

Education: Cuyahoga Falls High School Graduate; B.A., History, Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA; MPA, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH

Training & Experience: Current State Central Committeewoman & Summit County Council President; Chair, Ohio Democratic Party; Leadership roles on diversity and inclusion committee, American Council of Young Political Leaders, Truman National Security Project, the Obama-Biden Campaign, former U.S. Rep Betty Sutton & We Are Ohio.

### **What are the most important issues that the State Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?**

As the sitting Democratic State Central Committeewoman for the 28th District it is my duty to support the Ohio Democratic Party, build infrastructure, bolster candidate campaigns, and underscore the values of the party platform. The committee must continue to look at ways to connect with Ohioans and promote candidates that are diverse, skilled, and dedicated to the success of every resident of our great state. I take great pride in being the first female to be elected as Chair of the Ohio Democratic Party, and have structured the state organization to be open, inclusive, and represent the multiformity of our statewide community. We must continue to look to the future, adapt our technologies and our attitudes, to reflect the progressive values we hold dear. I ask for your vote to continue the work to build a better Ohio.

## **28th District State Central Committeeman, Republican**

Vote for no more than one



### **Brian M. Ames**

Rep

Campaign Website: [ElectAmes.com](http://ElectAmes.com)

Campaign Email: [committee@electames.com](mailto:committee@electames.com)

Education: B.S. Electrical Engineering Penn State, Masters Administrative Science U of Alabama Huntsville, Flight School, Spanish, Portugues, Italian.

Training & Experience: Flight Simulators, Space Communications, Project Management, Defense Acquisition, Open Meetings Acy litigation, 3 patents.

### **What are the most important issues that the State Central Committee must address in the foreseeable future?**

Openness and Accountability, full compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

Financial records should be open to public scrutiny.

Much broader participation in decision making.

Tammany Hall and Boss Tweed politics must go.

R.C. 3517.03 must be amended to eliminate man/woman distinctions.

Adoption of a strong anti-corruption stance.

One's own party must be held to a higher standard.

### **Mike Berger**

Rep

Candidate has not responded.

### **James S. Simon**

Rep

Candidate has not responded.

**28th District State Central Committeewoman, Republican**

Vote for no more than one

**Elayne Cross**

Rep

Candidate has not responded.

**Patty Gascoyne**

Rep

Candidate has not responded.

**Mary E. O'Toole**

Rep

Candidate has not responded.