



VOTERS' GUIDE – CANDIDATES & ISSUES

For Portage County, Ohio

MARCH 19, 2024 PRIMARY ELECTION

This voter's guide is a joint venture of *The Portager*, 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 promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and act on selected governmental issues. **The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any candidate or political party.** The League is fully committed to ensure compliance—in principle and in practice—with the LWVUS' Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy. Any person who subscribes to the purposes and policy of the League shall be eligible for membership.

Candidates

US President—Additional information on presidential candidates is available at www.VOTE411.org and is provided by the [League of Women Voters Education Fund \(LWVEF\)](#).

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 their intention to run for their 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.

US Senator, US Representative to Congress, State Representative, State Central Committee (Republican)—

Candidates were invited to participate in the voter guide on VOTE411 by the League of Women Voters of Ohio Education Fund.

Judicial races in Ohio—Judicial Votes Count (www.judicialvotescount.org) contacted the candidates. Their responses are included on VOTE411.

Portage County races—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.

County Central Committee (Republican)—candidates with opposition were invited to participate in the voter guide. The candidates invited by the LWV of Kent were asked to enter their responses on the VOTE411 website in accordance with the following guidelines.

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

Issues: The issues are listed with the language appearing on the ballot.

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

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

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

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

League of Women Voters of Northern Portage County northernportagecountylwv.org

President: April Secura; Voter Service Co-Chairs: Raji Alladi and Janice Simmons-Mortimer

To print a copy of your ballot, go to the Portage County Board of Elections web site View Ballots page:

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

Select Election Date: 3/19/2024 Primary Election

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

Select District Name: *e.g. Streetsboro 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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| All cities, villages, townships | US Senator | 8 |
| All cities, villages, townships | Justice of Supreme Court (3 races) | 13 |
| All cities, villages, townships | 11th District Court of Appeals (3 races; no candidates) | --- |
| All cities, villages, townships | County Commissioner | 24-25 |
| All cities, villages, townships | County Clerk of Courts | 28 |
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| Mogadore Village, Suffield Twp. A splits 1&2, Suffield Twp. D split 1, Suffield Twp. E split 1&2 | Representative to Congress 13th District | 10 |
| Atwater Twp., Aurora City, Brimfield Twp., Charlestown Twp., Deerfield Twp, Edinburg Twp. Franklin Twp., Freedom Twp., Garrettsville Village, Hiram Village, Hiram Twp., Kent City, Mantua Village, Mantua Twp., Nelson Twp., Palmyra Twp., Paris Twp., Randolph Twp., Ravenna City, Ravenna Twp., Rootstown Twp., Shalersville Twp., Streetsboro City, Suffield Twp. A splits 3&4, Suffield Twp. B, Suffield Twp. C, Suffield Twp. D split 2, Suffield Twp. E split 3, Sugar Bush Knolls, Windham Village, Windham Twp. | Representative to Congress 14th District | 12 |
| Aurora City, Mantua Township, Streetsboro City | State Representative 35 th District | 18-19 |



| DEMOCRATIC | RACES | PAGE NOS. |
|---|---|------------------|
| Atwater Twp., Brimfield Twp., Charlestown Twp., Deerfield Twp, Edinburg Twp. Franklin Twp., Freedom Twp., Garrettsville Village, Hiram Village, Hiram Twp., Kent City, Mantua Village, Mogadore Village, Nelson Twp., Palmyra Twp., Paris Twp., Randolph Twp., Ravenna City, Ravenna Twp., Rootstown Twp., Shalersville Twp., Suffield Twp., Sugar Bush Knolls, Windham Village, Windham Twp. | State Representative 72nd District | 20 |
| REPUBLICAN | RACES | PAGE NOS. |
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| All cities, villages, townships | US Senator | 8-9 |
| All cities, villages, townships | Justice of Supreme Court (3 races) | 13 |
| All cities, villages, townships | 11th District Court of Appeals (3 races) | 14-17 |
| All cities, villages, townships | County Commissioner (2 races) | 25-27 |
| All cities, villages, townships | County Prosecuting Attorney | 28 |
| All cities, villages, townships | County Clerk of Courts | 28 |
| All cities, villages, townships | County Sheriff | 29 |
| All cities, villages, townships | County Recorder | 29 |
| All cities, villages, townships | County Treasurer | 31 |
| Mogadore Village, Suffield Twp. A splits 1&2, Suffield Twp. D split 1, Suffield Twp. E split 1&2 | Representative to Congress 13th District | 10-11 |



| REPUBLICAN | RACES | PAGE NOS. |
|---|--|-----------|
| Atwater Twp., Aurora City, Brimfield Twp., Charlestown Twp., Deerfield Twp., Edinburg Twp. Franklin Twp., Freedom Twp., Garrettsville Village, Hiram Village, Hiram Twp., Kent City, Mantua Village, Mantua Twp., Nelson Twp., Palmyra Twp., Paris Twp., Randolph Twp., Ravenna City, Ravenna Twp., Rootstown Twp., Shalersville Twp., Streetsboro City, Suffield Twp. A splits 3&4, Suffield Twp. B, Suffield Twp. C, Suffield Twp. D split 2, Suffield Twp. E split 3, Sugar Bush Knolls, Windham Village, Windham Twp. | Representative to Congress 14th District | 12 |
| Aurora City, Mantua Township, Streetsboro City | State Representative 35th District | 19 |
| Atwater Twp., Brimfield Twp., Charlestown Twp., Deerfield Twp., Edinburg Twp. Franklin Twp., Freedom Twp., Garrettsville Village, Hiram Village, Hiram Twp., Kent City, Mantua Village, Mogadore Village, Nelson Twp., Palmyra Twp., Paris Twp., Randolph Twp., Ravenna City, Ravenna Twp., Rootstown Twp., Shalersville Twp., Suffield Twp., Sugar Bush Knolls, Windham Village, Windham Twp. | State Representative 72 nd District | 20-21 |
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**FOR DELEGATES-AT-LARGE AND ALTERNATES AT LARGE TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION
(DEMOCRAT)**

The following candidate has met the LWVEF criteria. Additional information is available at www.VOTE411.org.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR. <https://joebiden.com/>

The following candidate did not meet criteria to be asked questions.

DEAN PHILLIPS

**FOR DELEGATES-AT-LARGE AND ALTERNATES-AT-LARGE TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION
(REPUBLICAN)**

The following candidates have met the LWVEF criteria. Additional information is available at www.VOTE411.org.

NIKKI R. HALEY <https://nikkihaley.com/>

DONALD J. TRUMP <https://www.donaldjtrump.com/>

The following candidates withdrew: Ron DeSantis, Vivek Ramaswamy, Chris Christie

**FOR DISTRICT DELEGATES AND DISTRICT ALTERNATES TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION (13TH
DISTRICT) (REPUBLICAN)**

NIKKI R. HALEY <https://nikkihaley.com/>

DONALD J. TRUMP <https://www.donaldjtrump.com/>

The following candidates withdrew: Ron DeSantis, Vivek Ramaswamy, Chris Christie

**FOR DISTRICT DELEGATES AND DISTRICT ALTERNATES TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION (14TH
DISTRICT) (REPUBLICAN)**

NIKKI R. HALEY <https://nikkihaley.com/>

DONALD J. TRUMP <https://www.donaldjtrump.com/>

The following candidates withdrew: Ron DeSantis, Vivek Ramaswamy, Chris Christie

U S SENATOR

Go to VOTE411.org for additional information.

SHERROD BROWN (Dem)

The candidate has not yet responded.

MATT DOLAN (Rep)



CAMPAIGN ADDRESS

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CAMPAIGN PHONE

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WEBSITE

dolanforohio.com

FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/dolan4ohio

TWITTER

[@dolanforohio](https://twitter.com/dolanforohio)

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in History, Juris Doctor (J.D.)

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Current State Senator and Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, former State Representative, former Assistant Attorney General for State of Ohio, and former Chief Assistant Prosecutor for Geauga County. See bio: <https://dolanforohio.com/meet-matt/>

VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY SERVICE

<https://dolanforohio.com/meet-matt/>

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

Our natural resources in Ohio, especially our water, drive much-needed revenue, economic growth, tourism, and job creation. As a state legislator, I authored the Great Lakes Compact to protect Ohio's fresh water from being drained away by diversion or wasted by misuse. I also funded the H2Ohio program to improve water quality and infrastructure statewide. In the U.S. Senate, I will continue my work to preserve, protect and promote our environment for future generations, and make sure all Ohioans have access to clean air and clean water. I will also continue my record of protecting the economic value of Ohio's greatest natural asset, water.

State your position on voting and elections policy.

The Constitution is clear that the responsibility for managing elections rests with the states. My opponents want to empower the federal government to overturn elections. By contrast, I support states' rights and I have a record of enhancing election integrity and security in Ohio. I support state-initiated Voter ID and upholding the maintenance of accurate voter rolls. I oppose federal laws that loosen or undermine the integrity and strength of state's rights to hold elections.

State your position on immigration policy.

The Biden Administration neglects its duty to keep Americans safe; addressing immigration starts with robust border enforcement. According to Ohio law enforcement, reckless open border policies directly contribute to increased drug and human trafficking in Ohio, with nearly 80% of overdose deaths linked to China-sourced fentanyl. Securing the Southern Border through physical and surveillance barriers and increased Border Patrol personnel is vital. This approach safeguards America's sovereignty and enhances community safety in Ohio.

Congress should follow my lead as a state legislator who designated drug cartels as foreign terrorist organizations and increased efforts against drugs and human trafficking for a safer, more secure nation.

State your priorities on foreign policy and national security.

The most important responsibility a US Senator has is to keep the nation and its citizens safe and secure. Unlike my opponents, I have been crystal clear from day one that there should be no daylight between the United States and Israel. We must support – through financial, humanitarian and military means – Israel’s right to defend itself and its citizens in the effort to destroy Hamas. Furthermore, I stand against isolationist voices that say we should cease supporting Ukraine following its invasion by Russia. Providing weapons to Ukraine today will keep us from sending America’s sons and daughters to the front lines in Poland or the Baltics tomorrow.

State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management.

Our natural resources in Ohio, especially our water, drive much-needed revenue, economic growth, tourism, and job creation. As a state legislator, I authored the Great Lakes Compact to protect Ohio’s fresh water from being drained away by diversion or wasted by misuse. I also funded the H2Ohio program to improve water quality and infrastructure statewide. In the U.S. Senate, I will continue my work to preserve, protect and promote our environment for future generations, and make sure all Ohioans have access to clean air and clean water. I will also continue my record of protecting the economic value of Ohio’s greatest natural asset, water.

State your position on healthcare policy.

I will focus on healthcare policies that lead to greater efficiencies, reduced costs, and improved outcomes for all Americans. In the state legislature, I crafted legislation promoting innovation and open market collaboration to lower patient costs and enhance quality of care. For instance, I authored and passed a bill that allowed pharmacists to join collaborative care teams, reducing costs and improving access to care. Additionally, I worked to halt surprise billing, enhance cost transparency, and expand telemedicine. Acknowledging areas lacking quality healthcare access, I advocate for using technology and innovation, as seen in Ohio, to bring high-quality healthcare to traditionally underserved rural areas.

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

There is no place for discrimination. Simply none. I have worked at the state level to codify nondiscrimination protections into state law and protect the freedom of every Ohioan to worship freely and safely.

U S SENATOR

FRANK LAROSE (Rep)

The candidate has not yet responded.

BERNIE MORENO (Rep)

The candidate has not yet responded.

REPRESENTATIVE TO CONGRESS (13TH DISTRICT)

EMILIA SYKES (Dem)

The candidate has not yet responded.

CHRIS BANWEG (Rep)

The candidate has not yet responded.

KEVIN COUGHLIN (Rep)

The candidate has not yet responded.

RICHARD A. MORCKEL (Rep)



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www.morckelforcongress.com

FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/richard.morckel.5

TWITTER

[@richard_morckel](https://twitter.com/richard_morckel)

EDUCATION

Associate Degree Electrical Engineering Technology and Associate Degree in Telecommunication Technology. Presently I work part time. I worked full time in 2016 and 2022 efforts.

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

23 years, Airship TV Operations, 11 years Philips Medical Systems

VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY SERVICE

Advocate for the Defense of Our Constitutional Representative Republic, which is not synonymous with democracy

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

My mission statement is the defense of Our Representative Republic, which is the hope of humanity and is being destroyed by tyranny, larceny, and debauchery. I support the reduction of Federal Spending aimed at the Larceny against Our Republic to help ensure the social programs we are accustomed to. --This includes stopping the perpetual renewals of patents of Insulins, both recipe and process, to allow for their generic production thus reducing the Mandated Spending subsidies that protect the insulin monopoly. Note that The original Insulin patent sold for just \$1.00 --We must build the WALL, being the 1st line of 3 lines of defense, cut aid to offending nations, cut aid to Sanctuary Cities, and employ an immediate turn-around policy.

State your position on voting and elections policy.

I support a national holiday for the November General Election. A single day to vote, paper ballot tabulated not calculated. I support the Electoral College which is the defense against the tyranny of democracy, 50% plus 1 vote, as exemplified in Ohio's statute 3519.

State your position on immigration policy.

We must build the WALL, being the 1st line of 3 lines of defense, cut aid (not a withholding of aid) to offending nations, cut aid (not a withholding of aid) to Sanctuary Cities, and employ an immediate turn-around policy at the border. As well, an immigrant is not an immigrant unless the path said status was legal. The process of immigration always must start at the US Embassy or the US Consulate.

State your priorities on foreign policy and national security.

I support the Trump Trade Policy. You tariff me, I will tariff you. I advocate for an Audit of the Aid from "We The People" meaning our Representative Republic, from which the United States Government has provided to Ukraine. As well, as a bargaining tool, rebuild the North Stream Pipe Line of which destruction was repugnant by The greatest enemy of today, globalism.

State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management.

Irrationally is plaguing our national thinking. If you as an environmentalist are seeing alarm, it is the approaching, unavoidable judgment of GOD through Christ Jesus. YES, it is dutiful to not poison ourselves or the environment. Yet by this, you will not save me our yourself. I support a comprehensive energy policy that includes nuclear, natural gas, coal/oil, and Wind and Solar with No subsidies. We are 34 Trillion dollars in National debt, spending 2 Trillion \$ more than revenues. So No More Omnibus bills. No more 2000-page bills. I include that I support zero subsidies for EVs or Self-Driving vehicles or charging stations.

State your position on healthcare policy.

De-construct the NIH and expunge its sub-agency National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) the sponsor of Gain-Of-Function COVID-19, which was headed by FAUCI, from 1984 to 2022. I support the reduction of Federal Spending aimed at the Larceny against Our Republic to help ensure the social programs we are accustomed to. This includes stopping the perpetual renewals of patents of Insulins, both recipe and process, to allow for their generic production thus reducing the Mandated Spending (Social Security) subsidies that protect the insulin monopoly. The original Insulin patent sold for \$1.00. James Collip and Charles Best sold the insulin patent to the University of Toronto. Frederick Banting refused his name on the patent.

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

Excellence has No RACE. As for Debauchery, it is an anathema to the restoration and defense of Our Representative Republic.

REPRESENTATIVE TO CONGRESS (14TH DISTRICT)

BRIAN BOB KENDERES (Dem)

The candidate has not yet responded.

ELAYNE J. CROSS (Rep)



CAMPAIGN ADDRESS

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CAMPAIGN PHONE

330-974-2814

CAMPAIGN EMAIL

Elayne@ElectCross.US

WEBSITE

ElectCross.US

TWITTER

[@ElayneJCross](https://twitter.com/ElayneJCross)

EDUCATION

B.S. Adolescent Education, minor in Physics and Geography, NORI certification

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Vice Chairman Poertage GOP 2016-2020, Portage BOE 2018-2022, Portage GOP Central Committee 16 years, Leadership Institute training.

VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY SERVICE

Liberty Camp for Kids speaker, Women's Ministry director, 100 Women Who Care Portage...

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

Work to cut the size and scope of the Federal Government

State your position on voting and elections policy.

1 citizen-1 vote. Ohio does it well.

State your position on immigration policy.

We are a nation of immigrants. We must have clear laws and follow them.

State your priorities on foreign policy and national security.

It is like the safety guidelines on an airplane, put your oxygen mask on first and then help others.

State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management.

God created man to tend and care for His garden, this is our role. We are to worship God alone and be good stewards of what He entrusted to us.

State your position on healthcare policy.

Too many institutions and bureaucracy between the patients and their doctors.

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

Judge people by their actions not the qualities they can not control.

DAVID P. JOYCE (Rep)

The candidate has not yet responded.

KEN POLKE (Rep)

The candidate has not yet responded.

Visit Judicial Votes Count for a more thorough presentation of judicial candidates' credentials.

SUPREME COURT OF OHIO
Full Term Commencing Jan. 1, 2025

MICHAEL P. DONNELLY (Dem)
MEGAN E. SHANAHAN (Rep)

SUPREME COURT OF OHIO
Full Term Commencing Jan. 2, 2025

MELODY J. STEWART (Dem)
JOSEPH T. DETERS (Rep)

SUPREME COURT OF OHIO
Unexpired Term Ending Dec. 31, 2026

LISA FORBES (Dem)
TERRI JAMISON (Dem)

DANIEL R. HAWKINS (Rep)

JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS (11TH DISTRICT)
Full term commencing 2-9-2025

(Dem) No candidate filed.

JOHN J. EKLUND (Rep)

CAMPAIGN EMAIL

jeklund518@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Union College - B.A. cum laude, Political Science and History

Washington & Lee University School of Law - J.D. cum laude

EXPERIENCE

Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP - 1980-2021

Ohio State Senator (18th District) - 2011-2020

Judge, Ohio Court of Appeals, 11th District - July 1, 2021 to Present

VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY SERVICE

Extended Housing, Lake/Geauga Habitat for Humanity, Ohio Access to Justice Foundation

WEBSITE

eklundforjudge.com

FACEBOOK

facebook.com/judgeeklund

List your judicial experience (courts and years)

Judge, Ohio Court of Appeals, 11th District - 7/1/21 to present

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

Over 40 years of practicing law in the fields of complex litigation and Antitrust law

Named in the peer-reviewed book "The Best Lawyers in America" and named an "Ohio SuperLawyer"

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

Why are you running for this particular court seat?

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

JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS (11TH DISTRICT)
Full term commencing 2-9-2025

SHELLEY M. PRATT (Rep)

CAMPAIGN EMAIL

smpsandberg@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Youngstown State University - B.S.B.A

University of Akron School of Law - J.D

EXPERIENCE

Ashtabula County Prosecutor's Office 2005-2022

Columbiana County Prosecutor's Office 2022-present

FACEBOOK

facebook.com/profile.php?id=61556206495750

List your judicial experience (courts and years)

No prior judicial experience

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

I have been an appellate prosecutor for nearly two decades. I have developed an excellent understanding of appellate procedure, the Constitutions of both the United States and the state of Ohio and the laws derived from them.

Why are you running for this particular court seat?

I have served the public for my entire career. Being an appellate court judge would allow me to use the experience I have gained through my career as a public servant to serve a larger part of my community by ensuring that decisions made in the lower court are consistent with the constitutions and laws of our state and country.

JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS (11TH DISTRICT)
Full term commencing 2-10-2025

(Dem) No candidate filed.

SCOTT LYNCH (Rep)

Candidate has not responded.

COLLEEN MARY O'TOOLE (Rep)

CAMPAIGN EMAIL

colleenotoole@icloud.com

EDUCATION

Juris Doctorate or J.D from Cleveland Marshall College of Law

Master of Law or LLM from Duke Law School, North Carolina.

John Carrol University Bachelor of Arts, History, Political Science

EXPERIENCE

Prosecutor Ashtabula County. Judge—Ohio 11th District Court of Appeals, 2005-2011, 2013-2019.

Commercial Court of the Abu Dhabi Judicial Department.

VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY SERVICE

Board member of the Lake County Alliance against Human Trafficking

WEBSITE

otooleforjudge.com

List your judicial experience (courts and years)

OHIO 11TH DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS FEB 2005- FEB 2011 AND FEB 2013-FEB 2019

JUDICIAL OFFICER ABU DHABI JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT FEB 2019-DEC 2020

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

My experience as a prosecutor, public defender, and international legal consultant has allowed me to learn the justice system's strengths and weaknesses from many different perspectives. This experience made me learned and wise in discipline, training, understanding, and judging. The need for impartiality and thoughtfulness can only be truly appreciated through experience. This makes me uniquely qualified to return to this role better than when I left it 6 years ago.

Why are you running for this particular court seat?

Judges are essential to the rule of law and maintaining access to justice. A fair, impartial, and accountable justice system is the seminal cornerstone of a sustainable democracy. An Effective and efficient justice system is necessary for economic development and the general welfare of our citizenry.

My entire legal career has been dedicated to preserving this country's core values, as identified by our founding fathers. My experience and dedication are needed now, and they are the best way I can serve my country, our Constitution, and the rule of law

JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS (11TH DISTRICT)
Unexpired term ending 2-9-2027

(Dem) No candidate filed.

ROBERT J PATTON (Rep)

CAMPAIGN EMAIL

rjpesq68@hotmail.com

EDUCATION

JD Cleveland State University College of Law

MA Philosophy Cleveland State University

BA Psychology Cleveland State University

EXPERIENCE

Judge 11th District Court of Appeals

Assistant US Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio 2006-2023

Assistant Prosecutor Lake County

VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY SERVICE

Lake County Blue Coats. Former President of Council, City of Willowick.

WEBSITE

judgerobertpatton.com

FACEBOOK

facebook.com/judgepatton

List your judicial experience (courts and years)

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

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

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

Why are you running for this particular court seat?

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

STATE REPRESENTATIVE 35TH DISTRICT

MARK CURTIS (Dem)



CAMPAIGN ADDRESS

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CAMPAIGN EMAIL

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FACEBOOK

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TWITTER

[@Curtis74113](https://twitter.com/Curtis74113)

EDUCATION

Otterbein University-Bachelors, Hiram College-Masters

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

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

VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY SERVICE

Volunteer coach in Twinsburg's baseball, basketball, and football recreation leagues

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

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

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

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

How should government bring economic and job opportunities to Ohio?

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

that they know what skills and competencies companies need that will allow a seamless transition into the workforce.

CURTIS:

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

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

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

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

State your position on healthcare policy.

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

State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management?

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

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

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

STEVE DEMETRIOU (Rep)

The candidate has not yet responded.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE (72ND DISTRICT)

NATHANIEL ADAMS (Dem)

The candidate has not yet responded.

GAIL PAVLIGA (Rep)

The candidate has not yet responded.

HEIDI WORKMAN (Rep)



CAMPAIGN ADDRESS

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WEBSITE

www.heideworkman.com

FACEBOOK

facebook.com/WorkmanforOH

TWITTER

[@WorkmanforOhio](https://twitter.com/WorkmanforOhio)

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Journalism (Bowling Green State Univ) and Nursing (Kent State University)

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Ohio volunteer political activist & National Media Director

VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY SERVICE

State Communications Director, Ohio - non-profit

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

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

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

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

How should government bring economic and job opportunities to Ohio?

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

WORKMAN:

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

Two quick concepts: 1. Comprehensive reform to meet student needs; and 2.) Empowering parents to make the best decisions for their children's educational success. I support the "backpack bill" that would allow state education funding to follow the student to the school chosen for them by their parents. We need big changes in the strategies we employ in our education system, including a closer focus at the specific needs of our youth through expansion of intervention programs. We need to facilitate opportunities for junior and senior high students to have exposure to skilled trades and collaborative workshops. We need to connect graduates directly with local employers in a variety of fields through networking and recruitment co-ops.

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

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

State your position on healthcare policy.

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

State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management?

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

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

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

STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE, MAN (27TH DISTRICT)

BRIAN M. AMES (Rep)



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2632 Ranfield Rd

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3304322017

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WEBSITE

electames.com

FACEBOOK

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TWITTER

[@ElectAmes](https://twitter.com/ElectAmes)

EDUCATION

Post Graduate Engineering

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Flight Simulators

VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY SERVICE

Project Promise, Open Government Advocates

What are your top priorities, if elected?

To make the party more responsive to the people and reduce conflict. To ensure accountability for donations.

MIKE BERGER (Rep)

The candidate has not yet responded.

STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE, MAN (27TH DISTRICT)

STEVEN J. FARHAT (Rep)



WEBSITE

steven2024.com

FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/stevenjfarhat

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science, Kent State University

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Educator, Non-Profit Leader and Former Campaign Manager for multiple successful campaigns

VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY SERVICE

Member of the Kiwanis Club of Ravenna, Fraternal Order of Police Associate Lodge, CASA of Portage County Associate Board, Project Promise of Portage

What are your top priorities, if elected?

My three main goals if elected are: 1.) Build a grassroots coalition across the 27th district to win in November. 2.) Give Republican voters in our district a voice on the State Central Committee. 3.) Expand the coalition of Republican voters in our area. I encourage you to visit my website to learn more about my background and plans, if elected. I humbly ask for your support on March 19.

DON L. ROBART (Rep)

The candidate has not yet responded.

STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE, WOMAN (27TH DISTRICT)

DEBORAH L. MANN (Rep)

The candidate has not yet responded.

STEPHANIE STOCK (Rep)

The candidate has not yet responded.

AMANDA SUFFECOOL (Rep)

The candidate has not yet responded.

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

CARMEN LISA LAUDATO (Dem)



CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS

222 Madison Street
Ravenna, OH, 44266

CAMPAIGN PHONE NUMBER

330-968-5730

CAMPAIGN EMAIL

claudato@safehousersd.com

EDUCATION

Master of Arts in Teaching-Integrated Social Studies & Bachelors of Integrated Social Studies from Kent State University

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

Lead Social Studies Teacher at Safehouse-Youngstown, Council at Large-City of Streetsboro & Chair of Finance City of Streetsboro, Planning Commission-City of Ravenna, President of the Parks, Recreation, and Conservation Committee-City of Streetsboro, Charter Member of nonprofit Parents for Public Schools- Streetsboro, Co-Chair of the School Levy Committee- Streetsboro

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE

PASS Levy Committee, THRIVE Theater program, Community Cares, PTA, Streetsboro Family Days, Mortar Board-KSU

What training, experience and characteristics qualify you for this position?

Since moving to Portage County in 2008, I have dedicated myself to various leadership positions in government both elected and appointed, schools, and community organizations, in addition to being a teacher. The primary characteristic that has led me to be successful in those roles has been listening to people, and especially to those who do not agree with me. Staying curious about opposition has always led me to solutions-based approaches that produce collaborative and innovative compromises. Portage county is roughly half democrat and half republican and needs leadership open to both sides. One of my other qualities is that I can relate to a lot of my future constituents because I know what its like to struggle. I know the struggle of being a special needs parents with few resources to turn to, the struggle of being a single parent, and living on a budget. The years I was Chair of Finance in Streetsboro were years with a balanced budget. Helping and serving are a way of life.

What would be your top priorities as Commissioner?

My top priority is ACCOUNTABILITY ; managing the budget and coming up with more sustainable transparent financial solutions. With inflation and our economic climate its important that no department feels that it has a blank check. There are many underutilized financial tools such as expanding bond capacity and pushing for more JEDD agreements. Great infrastructure needs demand immediate attention. Portage County has money but priorities are misguided which could hurt our economic health and safety in the future. The second would be AFFORDABILITY. Portage County is comparatively affordable to surrounding areas is our largest asset and attraction to live here and foster economic development. But that all needs to be done responsibly to preserve our rural character. Third is ACCESSIBILITY. Making all of our amenities more accessible by incorporating more adaptive recreation and providing opportunities for our more vulnerable residents such as seniors and differently-abled.

What do you see as the most pressing needs in the County?

The budget should always be the most pressing need no matter where one lives or what level of government one represents. If money is a scarce resource there are not many other needs that can be addressed. While safety is always a concern, there are many layers to safety. If we have one department going rogue with our tax dollars- it's difficult to address other areas of concern. Drugs and crime are threats to safety but so are crumbling buildings, bridges, and unsafe drinking water. As a taxpayer I have to live within my means and those who are responsible for taxpayer money should be accountable to the same rules.

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

TONY BADALAMENTI (Rep)



CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS

45 North Chillicothe Road

Aurora, OH, 44202

EDUCATION

Associate in Psychology, Bachelor in Human Biology, Doctorate in Chiropractic Medicine

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

4 Years Portage County Commissioner, 33 Years in Private Practice in Chiropractic Medicine, 10 Years US

Marine Corp - Rank Achieved Staff Sergeant

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE

25 Years in the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis President - Distinguished, Kiwanis - Lieutenant

Governor 20th Division - Distinguished, Various Years on Committees for the City of Aurora

What training, experience and characteristics qualify you for this position?

Being an owner/sole proprietor 33 years diagnosing and fixing peoples issues, serving on countless committees and being a problem solver in Portage County. Some examples below: -City of Aurora -Service Groups such as Kiwanis, Chamber of Commerce, UH Foundation Board for 9 years -Professional Groups such as Ohio State Association for Chiropractic Medicine and Internal Association of Chiropractic Medicine

What would be your top priorities as Commissioner?

Economic Development and Public Safety.

What do you see as the most pressing needs in the County?

Economic Development, Affordable Housing, the ability to eliminate Food Insecurities with Families.

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

JILL L. CRAWFORD (Rep)



CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS

3771 Willow Brook Dr
Ravenna, OH, 44266

CAMPAIGN EMAIL

jcrawford3771@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Kent State University - Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

Certified Public Accountant (CPA). Over 30 years of experience as accountant working at national and regional public accounting firms and also for a large, privately held business.

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE

UCM Endowment Advisory Board

What training, experience and characteristics qualify you for this position?

I am well qualified to serve as County Commissioner. I graduated with honors from Kent State University with a bachelor's degree in accounting. I am a Certified Public Accountant, and I have over 30 years of experience practicing at national and regional public accounting firms as well as at a large, privately held business. I gained valuable insight during my career to the challenges faced by entities whether in the private or public sector. I have strong analytical skills to work through relevant facts to make decisions. The traits demonstrated over my professional career are instilled in me, and I will apply these same traits and professionalism to this office.

What would be your top priorities as Commissioner?

The Board of County Commissioners is essentially the custodian of the county's checkbook. In the economic times we are facing at the national, state, and local levels, it is imperative there is strong oversight of the fiscal duties impacting how Portage County tax dollars are spent. Providing transparency and accountability to taxpayers should remain the focus for making financial decisions with these tax dollars. Strong analytical skills are important to properly evaluate issues brought forward for consideration. The skill set I have developed as a professional in the financial area will be relevant and valuable to making these types of decisions.

What do you see as the most pressing needs in the County?

Following are just a few of the issues facing the County: Economic Development and Job Opportunities - attracting and retaining businesses and creating new jobs. Public Safety - improving emergency response systems and reducing crime. Rehabilitation/Social Services - addressing substance abuse and addiction. Infrastructure Support - upgrading and maintaining infrastructure to support economic development.

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

(Dem) No candidate filed.

SABRINA K. CHRISTIAN-BENNETT (Rep)



CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS

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CAMPAIGN PHONE NUMBER

3303250590

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sbennett@bennettlandtitle.com

CAMPAIGN WEBSITE

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CAMPAIGN FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/sabrinaforcommissioner/

EDUCATION

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

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

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

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE

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

What training, experience and characteristics qualify you for this position?

Nine years of on-the-job training is the best experience that I have. I have been at the county when times were tough and times were good. As a small business owner, I have worked hard to make my company a success and I know how important it is to make every penny count. I am a fiscal conservative that is experienced, proven and genuine.

What would be your top priorities as Commissioner?

An often-overlooked necessity for economic development is quality, affordable housing. Housing is considered affordable if it makes up 30% or less of a family's income. This asset is sorely lacking in every part of the state and it creates a significant drag on the economy. We need to explore ways to empower private and public partners to provide quality, affordable housing. Advocate to the legislatures to restore the state-county partnership that the LGF be restored to 3.68% of GRF taxes, its former statutory level before being cut in 2011. Full restoration would provide at least \$185 million per year to counties, and additional resources for other local governments. Continue to support workforce efforts to partner with State, Local and Employers to find innovative ways to attain meaningful employment and gain skills that businesses value. (*E.G . return individuals with addiction or in the judicial system with records to the workforce.)

What do you see as the most pressing needs in the County?

Quality, Affordable Housing and Workforce that if not addressed can hinder the economic growth of the county.

SHERRY GRIFFITH (Rep)

The candidate has not yet responded.

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

(Dem) No candidate filed.

CONNIE J. LEWANDOWSKI (Rep)

CLERK OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

JILL FANKHAUSER (Dem)

BRIAN M. AMES (Rep)



CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS

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EDUCATION

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

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

Engineering, Management, Litigation

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE

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

What is the role of the Clerk of Courts in the operations of Portage County?

In general, the role of the Clerk of Courts is to indorse the time of filing on each document filed in the clerk's office, to enter all orders, decrees, judgments, and proceedings of the courts of which such individual is the clerk, to make a complete record when ordered to do so, and to pay over to the proper parties all moneys coming into the clerk's hands as clerk. The Clerk of Courts also has duties related providing certificates of title for vehicles and for passport assistance. The Clerk of Courts is responsible for countless public records and must be ever mindful of the duties imposed on the office by the Public Records Act. The Clerk of Courts may also be a member of the county investment advisory committee responsible for setting the strategy to be used in investing the county's funds.

SHERIFF

JON BARBER (Dem)



CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS

647 S. Depeyster St
Kent, Oh, 44240

CAMPAIGN FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61550331957553

EDUCATION

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

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

Numerous trainings in Leadership and Supervision.

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE

Blue Knights XVI, Volunteer for Portage County Youth Benefit Committee, Member FOP #70 Portage County. Leadership Portage County.

What is the role of the Sheriff in the operations of Portage County?

As a community leader, I think my role as Sheriff would be multifaceted. I would have statutory obligations, which consist of running a jail, providing service to the courts, and protecting the citizens in the county my office serves. As a leader I think I must constantly engage our community to make sure they understand the responsibilities my office is tasked with. In addition I think it is critical that I would make myself available to other agencies through collaboration, to make the community better on all levels. It is necessary from time to time to offer yourself to other agencies to help them better serve the public as well. I am a strong advocate for education and training and believe that it is crucial to make sure we are providing the best service we possibly can.

BRUCE D. ZUCHOWSKI (Rep)

COUNTY RECORDER

(Dem) No candidate filed.

LORI CALCEI (Rep)

COUNTY TREASURER

JOHN KENNEDY (Dem)



CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS

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CAMPAIGN TWITTER HANDLE

[@JohnKennedyOhio](https://twitter.com/JohnKennedyOhio)

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts, Regis University; Master of Arts, University of Colorado Denver

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

Appointed as Portage County Treasurer on November 9, 2023. Serve as the "chief investment officer" for Portage County. Chair of the Portage County Investment Advisory Committee, providing financial data, forecasting and interest yield information on a quarterly basis. As Vice Chair of Budget Commission, monitor local subdivision budgets and amendments. As member of the Board of Revision, review property valuation appeals from residents.

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE

President of the King Kennedy Community Center advisory board; Portage County NAACP board member; Independence of Portage County board member; advocate for lower insulin costs

What is the role of the Treasurer in the operations of Portage County?

The Treasurer plays three crucial roles in county government: tax collector, banker, and chief investment officer. As tax collector, they gather resources for essential services like police, fire protection, schools and parks, collecting real estate taxes and various other levies. This revenue also funds county services such as emergency management, public assistance, and criminal prosecutions. As the county's banker, the Treasurer safeguards collected tax revenues and manages the treasury's finances in close collaboration with the Auditor. Daily reports are made to ensure transparency, with monthly financial statement balancing and cooperation during audits. Functioning as the chief investment officer, the Treasurer invests county funds to ensure safety, liquidity, and optimal returns for county taxpayers. They are accountable to the Investment Advisory Committee, providing data and forecasting quarterly to align with the county's investment objectives.

COUNTY TREASURER

JOE BICA (Rep)



CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS

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CAMPAIGN PHONE NUMBER

330-606-9967

CAMPAIGN EMAIL

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CAMPAIGN WEBSITE

www.bicaforportage.org

EDUCATION

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

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

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

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE

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

What is the role of the Treasurer in the operations of Portage County?

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

COUNTY ENGINEER

LARRY D. JENKINS JR. (Dem)



CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS

332 Majors Lane
Kent, OH, 44240

CAMPAIGN PHONE NUMBER

330-677-4754

CAMPAIGN EMAIL

jenkins4countyengineer@gmail.com

EDUCATION

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

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

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

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE

Cub Scout Leader, Soccer Coach, Basketball Coach, Church Board of Trustee Member.

What is the role of the County Engineer in the operations of Portage County?

As county engineer, I serve as the engineer for the County Commissioners on all duties authorized or declared by law to be completed by a registered Professional Engineer or registered Professional Surveyor. Our office prepares all plans, specifications, details and estimates of cost, as well as creates contracts for the construction, maintenance, and repair of all bridges, culverts, roads, drains, ditches, and other public improvements (except buildings) constructed under the authority of the commissioners. The County Engineer is the Engineering advisor to the Township Trustees for the maintenance, widening, resurfacing and reconstruction of their highways. All bridges on the Township Highway System that have a span greater than 10+ feet are also the responsibility of the County Engineer. Our office is responsible for maintaining 369 miles of roads and 172 bridges within the county.

(Rep) No candidate filed.

CORONER

DEAN J. DEPERRO (Dem)

(Rep) No candidate filed.

COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE (REPUBLICAN)

The following precincts have contested races (Ravenna 4A, Streetsboro 3B, Franklin C, Rootstown E, Rootstown G). Those candidates were invited to participate in VOTE411. Vote for no more than one. Precincts with one candidate and precincts with no candidates are listed separately.

PORTAGE CO. CENTRAL COMMITTEE RAVENNA 4A

STEVEN J. FARHAT



CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS

531 E. Lake Street
Ravenna, OH, 44266

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science, Kent State University

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

Central Committee Representative since 2017, Educator, Non-Profit Leader and Former Campaign Manager for multiple successful Republican campaigns

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE

Kiwanis Club of Ravenna, Fraternal Order of Police Associate Lodge, CASA of Portage County Associate Board, Project Promise of Portage

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

The most important issues the County Central Committee faces is continuing to recruit qualified and motivated candidates to run in our elections, and developing a sustainable campaign operation to help elect candidates on our Republican ticket. I have managed numerous successful Republican campaigns in the past and am uniquely qualified to help the County Central Committee make progress in this regard. In 2020, I worked for the Ohio Republican Party as the Portage County campaign manager. During my time on the job, I recruited a volunteer army of over 35 people and have personally knocked on over 20,000 doors both in our precinct and throughout the entire county. Since then, I have worked for local Republican candidates throughout Portage County and have helped many of them secure victories on City Council and other local offices. Winning this November is absolutely essential for the Republican Party, and I look forward to helping them achieve this, if re-elected.

PORTAGE CO. CENTRAL COMMITTEE RAVENNA 4A

JOHN SFERRA



CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS

223 South Walnut St
Ravenna, OHIO, 44266

CAMPAIGN PHONE NUMBER

3307327006

CAMPAIGN EMAIL

Johnsferra97@gmail.com

EDUCATION

BSEET

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

Retired engineer from Diebold 22yrs. Taught electronic security 8yrs, own Sferra Water proofing 10yrs

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

Bring the party together and agree on a candidate that we can advance into office that will legislate to continue our core values.

PORTAGE CO. CENTRAL COMMITTEE STREETSBORO 3B

DAN HROMADA

The candidate has not yet responded.

GUY JEANBLANC



CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS

2641 OH-59

Ravenna, OH, 44266

EDUCATION

Graduated Case Western University BA Chemistry. Ohio State Medical School MD.

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

5 years surgical residency; 30 years CME; Board Certified 1980. Recertified 1990, 2000, 2010. Practiced general surgery in Ashtabula County, Ohio and Delta County Michigan then Retired 2013--moved to Portage County 2017.

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE

Public works Department Cleveland Ohio; Home At The Inn Delta County; Sports physical exams Escanaba public schools; After school program Ashtabula; Ashtabula Arts Center; Portage CO Fair/Mantua/ . .

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

County Central Committees must fulfill the legal obligations of voter registration and instruction. Help the County BOE with poll workers and observers to provide labor and honest witness that voting is honest and legal. The Committee must encourage and advise Portage Co residents who wish to become involved in elections to become candidates and then as candidates to become office holders. Also, candidates for state and national offices can seek local support, labor, contacts, information of local importance and opportunities to get into venues to meet and greet people from Portage County who are not Committee members. This all starts at Streetsboro Precinct 3B.

PORTAGE CO. CENTRAL COMMITTEE FRANKLIN C

JOSEPH BECKER



CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS

Crescent Lane
Franklin Township 44240

EDUCATION

Catholic University of Lublin (Poland). Cleveland State University.

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

I have been active with political involvement since a child. I have always been involved somehow. As I progressed in life, I took on larger tasks regarding political involvement, campaigning, etc.

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE

As a member of an International fraternity, I stay involved with our philanthropic efforts. I have lead several events for our local and national charities.

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

The central committee has several issues both large and small to address continuously and within the immediate future. Surely we want our voices heard from a local to national level. We all want safety, security, financial opportunity, a bright economic future, good education, fair trade deals, energy independence, etc. Those needs will never change. The most important issue facing the Central Committee is to ensure that our simple basic American convictions of safety, security, good education, ethics, Christian values, etc. are upheld. We ask our elected officials to preserve these fundamentals through their acts. A challenge is to make sure the local constituents are heard and we as a county party relay that voice to our elected officials. We hear the voice of the people and we are the voice of the people. The Central Committee has the issue of making sure these voices are heard so that our fundamental values remain as such.

MARILYN SESSIONS

The candidate has not yet responded.

PORTAGE CO. CENTRAL COMMITTEE ROOTSTOWN E

SABRINA K. CHRISTIAN-BENNETT



CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS

4360 Hattrick Road
Rootstown, OH, 44272

CAMPAIGN EMAIL

sbennett@bennettlandtitle.com

EDUCATION

Portage County Commissioner, '14 and '17-Present, Owner/President of Bennett Land Title Agency, LLC with offices in Brimfield and Ravenna Bachelor of Business Administration KSU '94, Alumni of Leadership Portage County '05, Alumni of Leadership Institute Candidates School, Arlington, Va, '12

TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

Portage County Republican Central Committee, Precinct Committee Member, Rootstown E, 2010-Present and Portage County Republican Party Central Committee Secretary 2012-2019

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE

I have volunteered countless hours for the Republican Party, regularly attended meetings, worked the voting polls and help register constituents to vote.

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

Recruitment of new Portage County Republican Central Committee Members and Candidates for Elected Offices that are engaged and active within the party.

MEGHAN LOLLES ERBE



CAMPAIGN MAILING ADDRESS

4514 New Milford Rd
Rootstown, OH, 44272

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

Driven by a passion to foster community growth and expand access to vital programs, I believe the County Central Committee should address providing outreach and support to residents across the county. In a world where newspapers & cable are being overtaken by social media, there needs to be more creative ways to implement that outreach.

PORTAGE CO. CENTRAL COMMITTEE ROOTSTOWN G

KATHRYN BYERS

The candidate has not yet responded.

J. C. SMITH

The candidate has not yet responded.

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Portage Co. Central Committee Atwater A | Kathy Dadato Harris |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Atwater B | Kathy Karas |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Aurora 1B | Elizabeth Davidoff |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Aurora 2A | Anthony J. Badalamenti |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Aurora 2B | Anne T. Kaczmarek |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Aurora 3A | Rita Scott |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Aurora 4A | Ann Womer Benjamin |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Aurora 4B | Maria A. Hydell |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Aurora 5A | Reginald J. Tasker |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Aurora 5C | Deborah L. Mann |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Aurora 6A | Kimberly A. Boswell |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Brimfield B | Wesley Buchanan |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Charlestown B | Evan Griffith |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Deerfield A | Mary Kaley |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Deerfield B | Ed Dean |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Edinburg A | Patricia J. Stephens |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Edinburg B | Jeneen L. Kubala |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Freedom A | Douglas Allen Beatty |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Garrettsville Village A | Robert Mangeri |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Hiram Twp. A | John Groselle |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Hiram Twp. B | Gary Burden |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Hiram Village | Lou Bertrand |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Kent 3B | Doria Daniels |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Kent 4B | Edward M. Wojnaroski |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Mantua Twp. C | Richard Szczepinski |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Mantua Village | John E. Heini |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Mogadore Village | Mike Berger |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Palmyra C | Jacob Haser |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Paris A | Amanda Suffecool |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Randolph A | Brian M. Ames |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Randolph B | Gail Pavliga |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Ravenna 1B | Paul Moskun |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Ravenna 2B | Del Dubinsky |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Ravenna 2C | Richard Monroe |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Ravenna 4B | Faith Lyon |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Ravenna Twp. D | Beverly Kibler |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Rootstown C | Christine Mitchell |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Rootstown F | Simon L. Horn (withdrew) |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Shalersville A | Joanne Solak |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Shalersville B | Benjamin H. Kotkowski |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Shalersville C | Tina Cox |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Shalersville D | Robert Campbell |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Streetsboro 2C | Rhonda Kaman |
| Portage Co. Central Committee Streetsboro 3C | Michael B. O'Flaherty |

Portage Co. Central Committee Streetsboro 4A
Portage Co. Central Committee Streetsboro 4C
Portage Co. Central Committee Suffield A
Portage Co. Central Committee Suffield B
Portage Co. Central Committee Suffield C

Lisa McDaniel
Roberta Sommer
James E. Lutz
Steven J. Calcei
Nick Skeriotis

Portage Co. Central Committee Precincts with no candidates:

Ravenna 1A, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C
Kent 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 3A, 3C, 3D, 4A, 5A, 5B, 5C, 6A, 6B, 6C, 6D
Aurora 1A, 3B, 5B, 6B
Streetsboro 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 2A, 2B, 3A, 4B
Brimfield A, C, D, E, F, G
Charlestown A
Franklin A, B, D, E
Freedom B
Garrettsville Village B
Mantua Twp. A, B, D
Nelson A, B
Palmyra A, B
Paris B
Randolph C, D
Ravenna Twp. A, B, C, E, F, G
Rootstown A, B, D
Suffield D, E
Sugar Bush Knolls
Windham Twp. A, B
Windham Village A, B

ISSUES

2 Local Liquor Option For Particular Location (By Petition) (Sunday Sales) Streetsboro City 1C.

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

Shall the sale of wine and mixed beverages, and spirituous liquor be permitted for sale on Sunday by Morning Chef, L.L.C., dba Another Broken Egg an applicant for a D-6 liquor permit who is engaged in the business of operating a restaurant at 9700 State Route 14, Streetsboro, Ohio 44241 in this precinct?

Ballot language.

3 Local Liquor Option For Particular Location (By Petition) (Sunday Sales) Streetsboro City 3B.

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

Shall the sale of wine and mixed beverages, spirituous liquor be permitted for sale on Sunday by Barrel Lodge LLC DBA Barrel Lodge an applicant for a D-6 liquor permit who is engaged in the business of restaurant and bar at 9700 Page Rd, Streetsboro, OH 44241 in this precinct?

Ballot language.

4 Proposed Resolution Electric Aggregation Sugar Bush Knolls Village.

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

Shall Sugar Bush Knolls Village have the authority to aggregate the retail electric loads located in the Village, and for that purpose, enter into service agreements to facilitate for those loads the sale and purchase of electricity, for such aggregation to occur automatically except where any person elects to opt out?

Ballot language.

5 Proposed Resolution Natural Gas Aggregation Sugar Bush Knolls Village.

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

Shall Sugar Bush Knolls Village have the authority to aggregate the retail natural gas loads located in the Village, and for that purpose, enter into service agreements to facilitate for those loads the sale and purchase of natural gas, such aggregation to occur automatically except where any person elects to opt out?

Ballot language.

6 Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal) Edinburg Township.

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

A renewal of a tax for the benefit of Edinburg Township for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, mechanical resuscitators, underwater rescue and recovery equipment, or other fire equipment and appliances, buildings and sites therefore, or sources of water supply and materials therefore, for the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire alarm communications, for the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part time, or volunteer firefighting, emergency medical service, administrative, or communications personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, for the purchase of ambulance equipment, for the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company, or for the payment of other related costs that the county auditor estimates will collect \$115,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 2 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$53 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.

Ballot language.

7 Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal) Paris Township.

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

A renewal of a tax for the benefit of Paris Township for the purpose of current expenses that the county auditor estimates will collect \$33,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 1 mill for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$27 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.

Ballot language.

8 Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal) Paris Township.

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

A renewal of a tax for the benefit of Paris Township for the purpose of general construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, and repair of streets, roads, and bridges in the Township that the county auditor estimates will collect \$51,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 2 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$36 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.

Ballot language.

9 Proposed Tax Levy (Additional) Ravenna Township.

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

An additional tax for the benefit of Ravenna Township for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, mechanical resuscitators, underwater rescue and recovery equipment, or other fire equipment and appliances, buildings and sites therefore, or sources of water supply and materials therefore, for the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire alarm communications, for the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part time, or volunteer firefighting, emergency medical service, administrative, or communications personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such staff under section 145.48 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, for the purchase of ambulance equipment, for the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company, or for the payment of other related costs that the county auditor estimates will collect \$1,071,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 6.1 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$214 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.

Ballot language.

10 Local Liquor Option For Particular Location (By Petition) (Sunday Sales) Suffield Township B.

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

Shall the sale of beer, wine and mixed beverages, spirituous liquor be permitted for sale on Sunday by Bragg Ambach Investments LLC DBA Paradise Lake Country Club 1st & 2nd Fls & Enclosed Patio & Golf Course a holder of a D-5, applicant for a D-6 liquor permit who is engaged in the business of golf, snack bar, venue at 1900 Randolph Rd. Mogadore, OH 44260 in this precinct?

Ballot language.

11 Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal) Aurora City School District Portage and Summit Counties

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

A renewal of a tax for the benefit of the Aurora City School District for the purpose of general permanent improvements that the county auditor estimates will collect \$826,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 1.5 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$29 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.

Ballot language.

12 Proposed Tax Levy (Additional) Ravenna City School District

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

Shall a levy be imposed by the Ravenna City School District for the purpose of emergency requirements in the sum of \$2,700,000 and a levy of taxes to be made outside of the ten-mill limitation estimated by the county auditor to average 6.9 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$242 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025?

Ballot language.

13 Proposed Tax Levy (Additional) Lake Local School District (Stark and Portage Counties)

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

An additional tax for the benefit of Lake Local School District for the purpose of current expenses that the county auditor estimates will collect \$6,108,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 9.5 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$333 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.

Ballot language.

14 Proposed Tax Levy (Additional) Mogadore Local School District Summit and Portage Counties

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

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

Ballot language.

15 Proposed Tax Levy (Replacement) Mantua Shalersville Fire District

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

A replacement of a tax for the benefit of the Mantua Shalersville Fire District for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, mechanical resuscitators, underwater rescue and recovery equipment, or other fire equipment and appliances, buildings and sites therefore, or sources of water supply and materials therefore, for the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire alarm communications, for the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part time, or volunteer firefighting, emergency medical services, administrative, or communications personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, for the purchase of ambulance equipment, for the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company, or the payment of other related costs that the county auditor estimates will collect \$285,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 0.9 mill for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$32 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.

Ballot language.