

2012

VOTERS GUIDE!

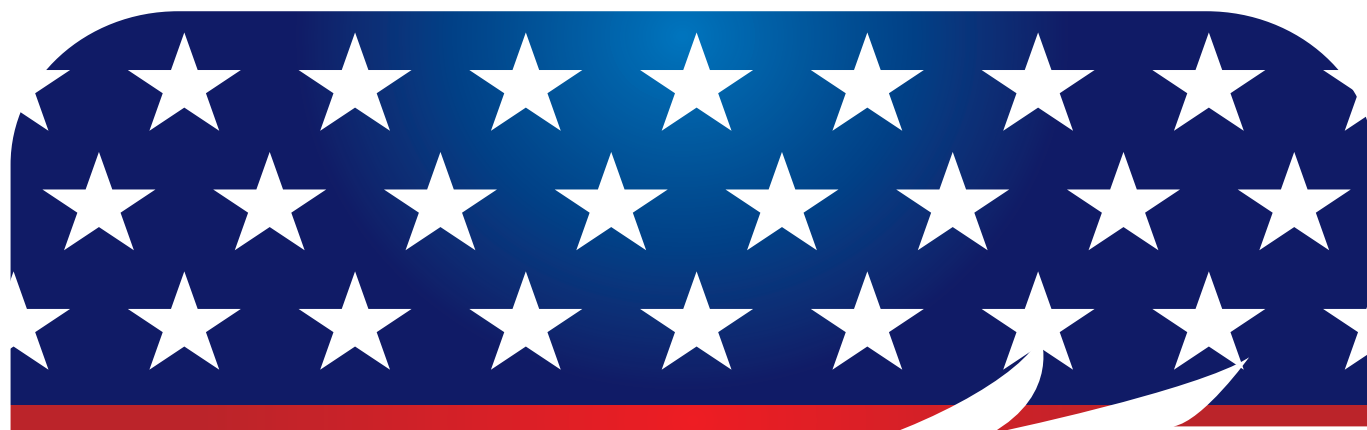
SUMMIT COUNTY

GENERAL ELECTION

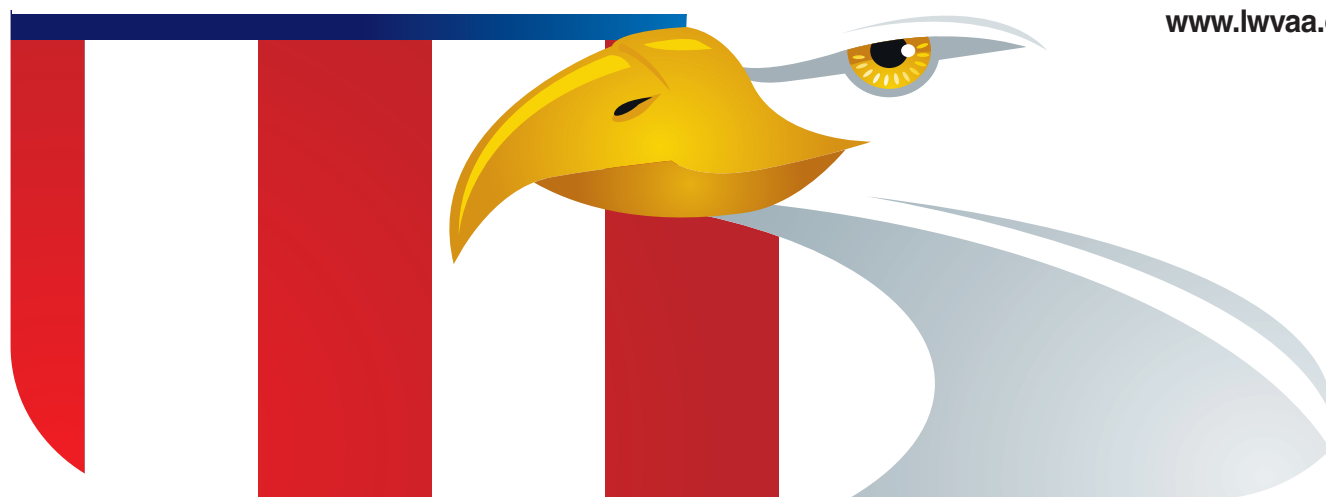
NOVEMBER 6, 2012

FREE

Published by the League of Women Voters of the Akron Area Education Fund



INSIDE: Find Out What We Asked the Candidates!



For a more extensive Voters Guide visit www.lwvaa.org



A Message from the President

Greetings!

VOTE EARLY! I know you have heard this before but this year, more than ever, it could save you much time and headaches. We have never before seen such changes in voting districts, precincts, and polling locations, all at one time and during a presidential vote which promises a large turnout.

Vote by mail. Voting in the comfort of your own home allows you the time to use our guide, do your own research or phone a friend when you have questions about your ballot. A ballot request form can be obtained by calling the Board of Elections at 330-643-5200 or you can download a form at www.SummitCountyBOE.com. Your ballot must be postmarked by Election Day, November 6th.

Early Voting in person can be done at the Board of Elections starting October 2nd. The Board of Elections is located at 470 Grant Street in Akron.

I encourage you to use this guide whether you vote from home or bring it along to the polls. We take great pride in providing this non-partisan information to help you learn more about the issues and candidates so you can vote the entire ballot.

For more information about the League of Women Voters of the Akron Area, please visit www.lwvaa.org or find us on Facebook or Twitter.

Non-partisan voting information for residents of:

SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO

This Voters Guide is published by the League of Women Voters of the Akron Area Education Fund to provide non-partisan information about political candidates and issues, and to help citizens make informed choices at the polls. The group is solely responsible for its content.

The candidates are given the opportunity to respond to questions posed by the League of Women Voters, and to state their positions in their own words. The League, in publishing this material, neither endorses nor rejects the views of any candidate or political party, and does not and cannot assume responsibility for the contents of any candidate's reply.

Get to know your judicial candidates before you vote! Tuesday, October 23, 7 p.m. at Shaw Jewish Community Center, 750 White Pond Drive

Happy Voting!

Tina Merlitti

LWVAA EDUCATION FUND 2012 VOTERS GUIDE

CITY OF AKRON GENERAL ELECTION – NOVEMBER 6, 2012

Published by the League of Women Voters of the Akron Area Education Fund

STATE ISSUES

ISSUE 1:

Shall there be a convention to revise, alter or amend the Ohio Constitution?

A **YES** vote means approval of holding a constitutional convention. A **NO** vote means disapproval of holding a constitutional convention. A majority **YES** vote is required to hold a constitutional convention.

League Explanation of Issue 1: Under the Ohio Constitution, every 20 years voters are asked: "Shall there be a convention to revise, alter, or amend the constitution?" If voters decide in favor of the constitutional convention, the General Assembly will make provisions concerning electing delegates for a convention to revise, amend or change the Ohio Constitution. The delegates to the constitutional convention may agree on amendments, which must be approved by the voters before taking effect. A constitutional convention was last held in 1911.

Proponents of holding a constitutional convention argue that:

1. Portions of the Ohio Constitution should be revised and the General Assembly has not acted to revise them.
2. Holding a constitutional convention will permit citizens to place amendments before the voters without the approval of the General Assembly.

Opponents of holding a constitutional convention argue that:

1. The Ohio General Assembly should propose revisions as recommended by the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission.
2. Special interests may dominate the convention.

ISSUE 2:

To revise Sections 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, and 13, repeal Sections 8 and 14, and add a new Section 16 to Article 11 of the Ohio Constitution.

A **YES** vote means approval of the amendment. A **NO** vote means disapproval of the amendment. A majority **YES** vote is required for the amendment to be adopted. If approved, the proposed amendment will take effect 30 days after the election.

League Explanation of Issue 2: The amendment would create a 12-person commission to draw legislative and congressional districts. Final legislative and congressional districts are to be those that most-closely meet four criteria: preserving whole communities; maximizing the number of competitive districts; balancing the number of districts leaning toward one party or another to closely match the state's political leaning; and keeping districts compact. No map is to be adopted with intent to favor a political party, incumbent or potential candidate. At least seven votes would be required to approve the districts. All meetings and records would be public. If approved, new districts would be drawn for the 2014 election. Any eligible Ohioan could apply to be a commission member. Specified elected office holders, candidates, political party officials, paid lobbyists and public employees and family members would be ineligible. A panel of 8 state appeals-court judges would accept applications and pick 42 potential members, divided evenly among Democrats, Republicans and Ohio voters unaffiliated with either major party. The House speaker and minority leader could reduce the list to 24. From that pool, a random drawing would select 3 people from each party, and 3 unaffiliated members. Those 9 people would select the final 3 members, one from each major party and one unaffiliated member.

Proponents of the proposed amendment argue that:

1. The proposal is a common sense reform toward fixing a broken system.
2. It would reduce the extreme partisanship that makes compromise difficult.
3. The drawing of congressional and legislative district lines needs to be more accountable, transparent and balanced.
4. Politicians and special interests would not be able to rig the system to their advantage.

Opponents of the proposed amendment argue that:

1. Redistricting should not be put in the hands of unelected bureaucrats.
2. Commission members would not have requirements about ethics and financial disclosure and could not be removed.
3. The commission would have unlimited funding.
4. Most Ohioans would be prohibited from serving on the panel based on rigid eligibility rules.

Websites:

In support of the proposed amendment: Voters First www.votersfirstohio.com
In opposition to the proposed amendment: Protect Your Vote www.protectyourvoteohio.com

LOCAL ISSUES

ISSUE 3:

Shall sections 28.2 and 53 of the Charter of the City of Akron be amended to eliminate the cost of an extra election, to elect all Council members to a four-year term at the same election commencing 2015 and to limit raises for members of Council and the Mayor?

League Explanation: Passage of this charter amendment would increase the terms of ward council members from 2 to 4 years. The mayor and all city council members would be elected at the same time every 4 years. This amendment would also limit the amount of raises for mayor and council members to the average amount awarded that year in the private sector as determined by the U.S. Department of Labor Statistics.

Arguments in favor of the issue:

1. Eliminates the off-year primary and general elections, thereby saving the city the cost of those elections.
2. Limits the amount of raises that the mayor and council can receive.
3. Voters can use recall process if needed.

STATE ISSUE 1:

SHALL THERE BE A CONVENTION TO REVISE, ALTER OR AMEND THE OHIO CONSTITUTION?

(Required to be presented to the voters every 20 years)

STATE ISSUE 2:

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO CREATE A STATE- FUNDED COMMISSION TO DRAW LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

(Proposed by Initiative Petition)

LOCAL ISSUE 3:

PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT CITY OF AKRON

Arguments against the issue:

1. 2 year terms hold people accountable.
2. Staggered terms allow for upward mobility of council people.
3. Pay raises should not be automatic, but based on the financial stability of the city's budget.

ISSUE 61:

An additional tax for the benefit of the Akron City School District for the purpose of current expenses at a rate not exceeding 7.9 mills or each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to 79 cents for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for a continuing period of time, commencing in 2012, first due in calendar year 2013.

League Explanation: This proposed new tax for current operating expenses will cost the owner of a \$60,000 home an average of \$3.00 per week. Owners of a \$60,000 home and over 65 years of age, who qualify for the Homestead Exemption, will pay approximately \$1.80 per week.

ISSUE 73:

A renewal of a tax for the benefit of Summit County for the purpose of the protection and placement of abused and neglected children by the Summit County Children Services Board at a rate not exceeding 2.25 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to 22.5 cents for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for 6 years, commencing in 2013, first due in calendar year 2014.

League Explanation: Summit County Children Services is the local agency mandated by law to protect children from abuse and neglect. This is a 2.25 mills, six year, renewal levy that will provide for 60% of the agency's operating budget. It is not a tax increase. The owner of a \$100,000 home will continue to pay \$5.75 per month.

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Vote for no more than 1 – Term commences 01/01/13

11TH DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Marcia L. Fudge - Democrat 26910 Emery Rd., Warrensville OH 44128 *Candidate is unopposed.*

13TH DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Marisha G. Agana - Republican 9949 King Graves Rd. Warren, OH 44484
Response not received.



Tim J. Ryan - Democrat 337 Vienna Ave. Suite #1, Niles, OH 44446

Age: 39

Education: B.A., Political Science - Bowling Green University 1995 J.D., University of New Hampshire Law School 2000

Occupation: U.S. Congressman

Training and Experience: Tim began his career in public service as a congressional aide with the U.S. House of Representatives in 1995 and later served as an intern for the Trumbull County Prosecutor's Office. ***exceeded word limit**

Q1 Answer: Responsible economic development is the key to our long term future. Public safety is priority #1! We need to take advantage of the economic opportunities before us and use them to build a strong diversified community. Working closely with the private sector will be the key to jobs and wealth creation. The public sector should focus on research, education and infrastructure that will allow the private sector to thrive.

14TH DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Dale Virgil Blanchard - Democrat 32756 Lisa Lane Solon, Ohio 44139

Age: 55

Education: Cleveland State University - BBA Accounting - Graduated 1979; Passed CPA Exam in 1984; John Adams High School - Cleveland, Ohio - Graduated 1975

Occupation: Accountant/Auditor

Training and Experience: Since 1981 I have worked for the Illinois Department of Revenue in various capacities, including a supervisory role, mostly as a corporate income tax auditor. I primarily conduct corporate income tax audits ***exceeded word limit**

Q1 Answer: I am a pro-business individual. I believe that the stronger American Businesses are the stronger the overall American economy is, the wealthier American citizens are. However, I do believe that reasonable regulations are necessary to prevent businesses from implementing activities that will be harmful to its employees, its customers and to the environment. I also believe that there are externalities that exist that the private enterprise system does not sufficiently account for. So regulation of business is vitally important. But we must be mindful that when implementing regulations there has to be a reasonable review weighing to benefit and cost of all existing and potential regulations. When I go to Washington, I will carefully weigh the cost and benefits of all regulations to insure that the net value of any regulation will benefit the society as a whole.



David Joyce - Republican 9652 Music St. Novelty, OH 44072

Occupation: Geauga County Prosecutor

Training and Experience: Geauga County Prosecuting Attorney since 1988

Q1 Answer: Ohio's 14th District has one of the longest shorelines of any Congressional district on the Great Lakes. I believe we need to protect this national treasure, which provide 20 percent of the world's fresh drinking water, and is a huge

**LOCAL
ISSUE 61:
PROPOSED TAX LEVY
(ADDITIONAL) AKRON
CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**LOCAL
ISSUE 73:
PROPOSED TAX LEVY
(RENEWAL) SUMMIT
COUNTY CHILDREN
SERVICES BOARD**

**U.S. Congressional
Representative
Question**

Q¹ How would you balance the interests of citizens, the environment and the business community?

U.S. Congressional Representative Question

Q¹ How would you balance the interests of citizens, the environment and the business community?

economic machine for our state. Balance is the key word when considering regulations to keep our air and water clean. We can't just make these regulations up in a bubble that does not take into account the costs that will result for communities and business that need to comply with them. As our economy continues to recover, I would support reasonable and achievable standards to protect the environment which give businesses adequate time and notification for compliance. Any standards must be backed up by sound science that adequately explains their necessity. Where appropriate, the government should find ways to support local communities in meeting the expenses of very costly mandates.



David Macko - Libertarian 28810 Cannon Road Solon, Ohio 44139

Age: 70

Education: Adelbert College, (Case) Western Reserve University 1964 BA History, John Adams High School, Cleveland 1960

Occupation: Retired Adjustor from Key Bank, 2001

Training and Experience: Memberships: John Birch Society www.jbs.org. Libertarian Party www.lp.org (former) American Party. Study of history, current events. The Alex Jones Show www.infowars.com The New American www.thenewamerican.com. The American Free Press www.americanfreepress.net

Q1 Answer: I will always work to restore the Constitution and liberty of all Americans. To restore prosperity, I favor abolition of the Energy Department and ending all taxes, subsidies, laws, decrees and regulations which hinder the discovery, extraction, development, transfer and sale of all forms of energy. See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NbakN7SLdbk>. I want to end the police state by abolishing the Homeland Security Department, repealing TSA, NDAA 1031-1033 which allows Obama to imprison us without trial and restore Posse Comitatus, to defund and repeal Obamacare and all other forms of socialized medicine such as Romneycare and Hillarycare; to restore the right to keep and bear arms by abolishing the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, repealing all federal gun laws, impeaching Holder if in office, ending all taxes on firearms and ammunition and encouraging the states to do likewise and abolish the EPA. Pollution is trespass and should be punished under common law.



Elaine R. Mastromatteo - Green 6077 State Route 45 Bristolville, OH 44402

Age: 52

Education: Graduate of Mentor High class of '77

Occupation: Retired

Training and Experience: I have been a member of the Green Party of Ohio State Central Committee for over two years. I am also on the Trumbull County Committee. I have the experience of 53 years of life as a citizen, wife, mother and grandmother.

Q1 Answer: I would take corporate money out of politics by legislating for public financing of elections and small individual donations only. The balance is tipped in favor of huge multinational corporations and the obscenely wealthy because they have been allowed to capture our government through huge campaign donations and lobbying efforts. Legislation has been passed that stymies the efforts of communities to control their own resources. Regular citizens, including the small-business community, understand the need to protect our environment so that the planet is habitable for all. Huge corporations focused on constant growth with profit as their sole motive do not. Stop letting the foxes run the henhouse! Put the power and money back into the hands of the people who are affected. Ordinary Americans are the real job creators! Green Party candidates accept no corporate donations.

16TH DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE



Jim Renacci - Republican 522 Leeds Gate Ln., Wadsworth, OH 44281

Age: 53

Education: Indiana University of Pennsylvania (B.A. Business Administration)

Occupation: Representative U.S. Congress

Training and Experience: As a small business owner for nearly 30 years who created over 1500 jobs, I understand first hand how Washington's policies impact our economy and the challenges families and businesses are facing today. Having also served as a Mayor, I know what it takes to balance a budget both in government and in business. I believe my background has equipped me to serve as a strong and effective voice in congress.

Q1 Answer: During my 19 months in Congress, it's been very clear to me that the prevailing issue on the minds of my constituents is the state of the economy. However, far too often politicians get bogged down with the false notion that growing our economy and protecting the environment are mutually exclusive. They are not. As our businesses grow and hire more employees, individuals and families across the district benefit. And as our economy grows and generates more revenue, both individuals and governments become better positioned to tackle additional challenges, including protecting our environment.



Betty Sutton - Democrat P.O. Box 14693, Copley, OH 44321

Age: 49

Education: Juris Doctor, The University of Akron; Bachelor of Arts, Kent State University

Occupation: U.S. Representative 13th District

Training and experience: From my first office on the Barberton City Council, my eight years in the Ohio House of Representatives, to my six years in the U.S. House of Representatives, I have worked to strengthen the middle class and those who strive to be a part of it. I understand that people work hard every day to secure a better life for their families and I believe that governmental policies should work with them, not against them.

Q1 Answer: Our first priority has to be to create the jobs of today and tomorrow. Much like I did with the CARS act (Cash for Clunkers), we must strive to create jobs and protect the environment. The CARS act helped to sell hundreds of thousands of cars while taking older less fuel- efficient cars off our roads. This saved energy costs for consumers, helped American Auto Workers stay on the job, and helped to protect our environment.

If you would like to see more transparency in government, JOIN THE LEAGUE.



CANDIDATES: JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

For full term commencing January 1, 2013



Terrence O'Donnell 3400 Delmar Drive, Rocky River, Ohio 44116 Email: judgetod@gmail.com

Education: St. Edward High School; Kent State University, Bachelor of Arts; Cleveland State University, Juris Doctor

Occupation: Justice, Supreme Court of Ohio

Training and experience: Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court, 14 years Ohio Court of Appeals, 8 years Supreme Court of Ohio, now in my 10th year

Q1 Answer: Our Ohio Constitution mandates popular election of judges and in 1987, Ohio voters resoundingly rejected a proposal to change that system. The oath of office I took requires me to support the Constitution – not alternate forms of its provisions. Accordingly, I favor the system of having the voters choose judges. While the task of remaining fair and impartial often requires a judicial candidate to refrain from announcing views on disputed or controversial matters that may come before the court, it helps to increase public confidence in the judiciary. Popular election of judges allows the voters the opportunity to identify with individual candidates and thus be more involved than with a merit system where selection of jurists would be left to others without input from the electorate. In the last analysis, while not perfect, our system has produced some outstanding jurists like Tom Moyer, and all can agree on a choice...



Mike Skindell 545 E. Town St., Columbus, OH 43215 Email: connor@mikeskindell.com

Education: Mike Skindell graduated with a B.A. in Business and Political Science from Walsh College in 1983. In 1987, he graduated with a Juris Doctorate from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law.

Occupation: Attorney/Legislator

Training and experience: Mike Skindell has been a practicing attorney for nearly 25 years. Currently a State Senator, Mike has served in...

Q1 Answer: I support the popular election of judges. Elections keep judges accountable and advances our constitutional democracy, which is based upon three separate branches of government.

CANDIDATES: JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

For full term commencing January 2, 2013



Robert R. Cupp 211 So. Fifth St., Columbus, OH 43215 Email: Website: CuppforJustice.com

Education: Ohio Northern University, B.A. (Political Science), J.D. (law)

Occupation: Justice, Ohio Supreme Court (2007-present)

Training And Experience: Judge, Court of Appeals, Third District (2003-2006); former state senator, four terms, and Senate President Pro Tempore; former Lima city prosecutor and assistant law director; former Allen County Commissioner; 25 years in private law practice.

Q1 Answer: There positive and negatives aspects to both the elected and the appointed methods of selecting judges. Although the appointed method eliminates campaign contributions necessary in an elected system, citizens also lose their right to vote, at least in the initial selection. In Ohio, voters have on several occasions opted to keep judicial elections by defeating constitutional amendments which would have created an appointed system of judicial selection. One reason is that selection by appointment does not eliminate politics but merely drives it behind closed doors where it loses transparency and public accountability. Judicial election campaigns serve an important purpose of helping to remind and educate the public about the essential role of the judiciary in our three-branch constitutional system. On balance, I believe the elected system, although not without drawbacks, is an open process which has the advantage.



William O'Neill 21 West Broad Street, Suite 700 [no additional information] Email: judgeoneill@gmail.com

Education: Bachelor of Science, Journalism, Ohio University, 1969; Juris Doctor, Cleveland Marshall College of Law, 1979; Registered Nurse, Huron School of Nursing, Associate, 2001

Occupation: Pediatric Emergency Room Nurse

Training And Experience: Judge, 11th District Court of Appeals, 1997-2007; Assistant Attorney General, State of Ohio 1984-96

Q1 Answer: Yes I support the election of Judges. We have the power to decide who goes to jail and who goes free; who inherits your possessions when you die; and who raises your children when you are alive. Those responsibilities are simply too important to be left to an appointee or a bureaucrat. The voters are entitled to decide who shall fill these critically important positions.

CANDIDATES: JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

For unexpired term ending December 31, 2014

Yvette McGee Brown 340 E. Fulton, Columbus, OH 43215 Email: misha.barnes1@gmail.com

Education: Ohio University, B.S. 1982; The Ohio State University, Moritz College of Law, J.D. 1985

Occupation: Justice, Supreme Court of Ohio

Training And Experience: Supreme Court Justice (2011 – present), Franklin County Common Pleas Court Judge (1993 – 2002), Founding President Center for Child and Family Advocacy (2002 – 2010), Assistant Attorney General

Q1 Answer: I support the election of judges as long as Ohio's constitution requires it. In 1986, the voters resoundingly rejected a proposal to allow merit selection of judges. 25 years later, it may be time to revisit the question. That is why I participated in late Chief Justice Moyer's conference to look at the way Ohio selects judges. Other states use various models like citizens commissions and retention elections. While the current system is not perfect, I would want to carefully examine any proposed alternative. The chief objective of any system must be to find the most qualified judges. We must also guard against the danger of placing judicial selection in the hands of a few selected individuals who may not truly serve the interests of the people.



Sharon L. Kennedy 21 West Broad Street, Suite 700 [no additional information] Email: Amy@kennedyforohio.com

Education: Juris Doctor, University of Cincinnati, College of Law (1991); Bachelor Degree of Social Work, University of Cincinnati, School of Social Work (1984)

Occupation: 2005 – Present – Administrative Judge, Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations Division, Butler County, Ohio Administrative Judge; 1999 – 2004 Judge, Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations Division, Butler County

Justice of the Supreme Court of Ohio Question

Q¹ Do you support
or oppose the election of
judges and why?

Ohio State Senate and State Representative Questions

Q¹ What changes would you support to Ohio's election laws and why?

Q² What is the most important issue facing Ohio, and how do you plan to address it?

Q1 Answer: I support the election of judges. The Ohio Constitution originally provided for the appointment of judges. Due to legislative abuses of removing judges without cause, in 1850 a constitutional convention changed the provision for the appointment of judges to a provision for the election of judges. While there are legitimate concerns about electing judges, the alternative is a legislative or third-party appointment process. Those alternatives are fraught with similar concerns of undue influence, political engineering, and allegations of pay-to-play politics. Until the voters decide to amend their Constitution and create a better system, I stand with Ohioans constitutional right to elect their judicial representatives.

28TH DISTRICT STATE SENATOR



Thomas C. Sawyer - Democrat 1298 N. Howard St., Akron, OH 44310

Age: 67

Education: Bachelor and Master of Arts Degrees

Occupation: State Senator

Training And Experience: State Representative, Mayor of Akron, United States Congressman, Visiting Professor (Hiram College), Ohio Board of Education, Ohio State Senator

Q1 Answer: The greatest lasting distortion in Ohio election law lies in legislative and congressional redistricting as currently practiced. Last spring, I was one of a bipartisan group of lawmakers to propose a widely praised alternative. If this fall's ballot initiative should fail, I will reintroduce our proposal next year.

Q2 Answer: Stability in education funding, practice, and policy. After working on this through parts or all of more than five decades of continuous change, I would not presume to give you an answer in fifty words or less.

Robert Gregory Roush - Republican 2372 Giffels Dr., Cuyahoga Falls OH 44221

Response not received.

34th DISTRICT STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Ronya Jeanette Habash - Republican 804 Davis St., Akron OH, 44310

Response not received.



Vernon Sykes - Democrat 133 Furnace Run Drive, Akron OH, 44307

Education: Ohio University, B.B.A, Management (1974), Wright State, M.S., Economics (1980), Harvard, M.P.A. (1986), Akron University, Ph.d., Public Administration (2001)
Occupation: Management Specialist, Economic Development Program (1975), Planner, SCCJC (1976-1979), Assistant Professor, Akron University (1981-2001), Assistant Professor, Kent State (2001-Present)

Training And Experience: Akron City Council (1980-1983), State Representative (1983-Present)

Q1 Answer: Ballots should be mailed to every registered voter! Elections by mail have proven to be more accessible to voters, have greater participation, have less problems with fraud and identification issues, eliminate need for provisional ballots, eliminate poll location issues and long lines, and to cost significantly less than in-person voting.

Q2 Answer: Our young children need a quality education to perform better in school, and go on to lead more productive lives. I propose a constitutional amendment requiring the State to provide quality universal education to every 4/5 year-old child in Ohio. It's modeled after a Florida constitutional provision.

35TH DISTRICT STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Zack Milkovich - Democrat 2055 Cramer Ave, Akron OH, 44312

Response not received.

Kevin G. Mitchell - Republican 498 Jefferson Ave., Barberton OH, 44203

Response not received.

36TH DISTRICT STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Anthony Devitis - Republican 3946 Golden Wood Way, Uniontown OH 44685

Response not received.



Paul V. Colavecchio - Democrat 3414 Haggarty Way, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223

Age: 55

Education: Kent State University: V.A. Political Science; Cleveland Marshall College of Law: J.D.

Occupation: self-employed attorney

Training And Experience: President, AFSCME Local 3357; Treasurer, AFSCME Local 3357; Staff Attorney, UAW Legal Services Plan

Q1 Answer: Voter fraud is not and has never been a major problem. I would make it easier for Ohioans to exercise their right to the vote, not harder. I support equal access to the vote, not partisan manipulation of the vote.

Q2 Answer: The economy. I would tie together businesses and schools to give Ohioans the job training they need and encourage businesses to remain in Ohio. I pledge to give Ohio companies the first crack at state contracts. I will not vote myself a pay raise while in office.

37th DISTRICT STATE REPRESENTATIVE



Kristina Daley Roegner - Republican 2222 East Streetsboro Rd. Hudson OH 44236

Occupation: State Representative

Education: BS Mechanical Engineering Tufts University; MBA Wharton School of Business (University of Pennsylvania)

Qualifications: Experienced leadership and commitment to service: State Representative, Hudson City Council (2005-2010), Leadership Hudson (Hudson Farmers Market), Small business owner (The Language Lodge), Co-founder PictureHudson, Seton Board of Directors (2008-2010), McKinsey management consultant (1995-2001)

Q1 Answer: I would support the changes to Ohio election law that were found in HB194 of this General Assembly as well as a requirement that voters show a photo ID. I believe that along with the voter rights come voter responsibility and the prevention of fraud.

Q2 Answer: The most important issue facing Ohio remains the economy. Facing an \$8 billion budget gap two years ago, we balanced Ohio's budget while not raising taxes, simultaneously eliminated Ohio's estate tax and took Ohio from being 48th in job creation to 2nd in the nation! Our work is not finished.



Tom Schmida - Democrat 3073 Neille Lane, Twinsburg OH 44087

Age: 61 **Education:** B.A. – University of Akron, M.Ed – John Carroll University

Occupation: Teacher – Retired July 1, 2012

Qualifications for Office: Served 17 years in local government. Council member Village of Reminderville – 7 years; Mayor – 10 years

Q1 Answer: A fair and balanced redistricting system. I support Issue 2.

Q2 Answer: Our State is only as strong as its communities – which means bipartisan efforts to create a strong middle class, good jobs, and quality public schools.

38th DISTRICT STATE REPRESENTATIVE



Michael J. Kaplan - Democrat 395 Springside Drive, Akron, Ohio 44333

Age: 61 **Education:** State University of New York, BA; University of Akron, JD

Occupation: Attorney representing individuals and small businesses.

Training And Experience: Mayor, Council President, Council – Peninsula Village 1994-2007; Board Member, President, Vice President, Cuyahoga Valley Communities Council, 1994-2006; Founding Coordinator – RiverDay!; Board Member, President, Vice President – Friends of Metro Parks; And more

Q1 Answer: I support everyone's right to vote, and support efforts to make sure that every eligible voter casts a ballot. Expanding voting expands democracy. This year we've seen several "steps-back" from this goal. I would welcome adopting uniform rules which expand the ways, times and places that people can vote.

Q2 Answer: Expanding employment opportunities in Ohio remains "Job One." While we have seen some improvements, we need to work harder to create good, permanent, full time jobs, and, as necessary, train and re-train our work force to obtain and hold those jobs. Government can and should do more.



Marilyn Slaby - Republican 527 Cheswyck Crt., Copley, Ohio 44321

Age: 72 **Education:** BA Education Heidelberg University

Occupation: State Representative

Training And Experience: Teacher, Small Business Owner, State Representative

Q1 Answer: Eliminate or extend term limits.

Q2 Answer: Economy and jobs. I have a bill out that will help educate companies and workers on finding job training programs on the internet.

SUMMIT COUNTY EXECUTIVE



Frank Larson - Republican 214 Silver Valley Blvd. Munroe Falls

Age: 67 **Occupation:** Munroe Falls Mayor

Education: Cuyahoga Falls, attended Ohio State University, Akron University

Qualifications for Office: As a new Mayor with a projected deficit, I restored services, produced a year end surplus. For eight years I have continued to balance the city's budget, increase the savings accounts, increased services and revenue without raising taxes.

Q1 Answer: I believe that there is middle ground and people that are willing to discuss areas that would lead to reaching a consensus. Communication must include elected officials and staff, but bringing into the discussions the fresh, neutral public will offer new insight and weigh on how people approach subjects.

Q2 Answer: The deficit must be addressed, the hiring of political friends must stop. The safety at the County Jail must assure a standard of safety for both the Deputies and prisoners. The sanitary sewer rates, reported set to triple or quadruple in the next years must be examined.



Russ Pry - Democrat 733 W. Market St., Apt 607, Akron, OH 44303

Age: 54 **Occupation:** County Executive

Education: BA, Political Science, Kent State; JD, University of Akron

Qualifications: Five years experience as Executive with proven track record of collaborative working relations with mayors, township officials and other County officials. Prudent fiscal management of County finances and budget. Successful record of retaining and attracting jobs to Summit County.

Summit County Executive Questions

Q¹ Given the current polarization at all levels of government, what can you do at the local level to promote civil discussions and consensus building?

Q² If elected, what will be your three priorities for the next four years?

Summit County Prosecutor Questions

Q¹ What do you think about the growing prison population? What response should society have to prison overcrowding?

Q² How will current economic conditions affect decision making in your office? What cost cutting or revenue enhancing measures will you enact?

Summit County Clerk of Courts Questions

Q¹ If elected, what will be your three priorities for the next four years?

Q² How will current economic conditions affect decision making in your office? What cost cutting or revenue enhancing measures will you enact?

Q1 Answer: My campaign theme is “Putting Politics Aside to Make Summit County Work.” I developed a “Sharing Resources Forum” that partners with local communities to disseminate information to individuals and businesses. I worked with and kept open communication with mayors and township officials regardless of political party affiliation.

Q2 Answer: 1. Continue working to attract and retain jobs. 2. Continue working on collaborations and consolidations that will make local government better, not bigger. 3. Continue to promote “First Things First,” our early childhood initiative, bringing together over 40 local agencies to ensure that children have a better opportunity for success.

SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR



Candace Kim Knox - Republican 1521 Collier Rd, Akron, Ohio 44320

Age: 42

Education: Kent State University-B.S Biology/PreMed 1993; University of Akron School of Law- J.D. 2002

Occupation: Attorney

Qualifications for Office: Successful trial attorney with over 12 years legal experience, Guardian Ad Litem for abused children, and I have handled several hundred felony cases.

Q1 Answer: It is a problem that all states are facing. Society should demand that convicted criminals help pay for their incarceration themselves. The idea has been called “Pay to Stay”.

Q2 Answer: We must make responsible fiscal decisions, including restructuring the administrative hierarchy in the prosecutor’s office. There are too many supervisors that spend little to no time actually in the court room prosecuting cases. To enhance revenue intake, I would focus more attention on seizing funds and property from convicted criminals.



Sherri Bevan Walsh - Democrat 53 University Avenue Akron, Ohio 44308

Education: Miami University, B.A., Political Science, 1982; Capital University School of Law, J.D., 1985

Occupation: Summit County Prosecutor

Qualifications for Office: 12 years as Summit County’s Prosecutor, 27 years as an attorney, former Assistant Director of Law, Police Legal Advisor, Assistant City Prosecutor and Magistrate.

Q1 Answer: The legislature has worked to address the growing prison population with reductions in prison sentences and alternatives to incarceration for non-violent offenders. For the safety of victims and our community we must work to insure that these reductions do not apply to the violent offenders.

Q2 Answer: While current economic conditions have resulted in having fewer support staff and assistant prosecutors with greater case loads, this increased work load has not affected the desire to achieve justice in every case.

SUMMIT COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS



Daniel Horrigan - Democrat 1230 North Howard St. Akron, Ohio 44310

Age: 49

Education: BA Economics, Kent State University/ BA Education, University of Akron

Occupation: Summit County Clerk of Courts

Qualifications for Office: My education, see above, and my record of Leadership, Financial Responsibility and Accountability as being the Summit County Clerk of Courts the past five years.

Q1 Answer: The three top priorities are implementing E-Filing across all divisions, implementing on-line payments, both of which are fully developed, and opening a western Summit County title office to best serve all of our Title and Passport customers.

Q2 Answer: We are always improving our office efficiency. I have reduced staff by 10 employees and I have increased revenue through the first court cost collection program, adding Passport services and repositioning our Title offices. This has generated millions of dollars in extra revenue to help fund other county offices.



Kandi S. O'Connor - Republican 39 E. Market Street, LL, Akron OH 44308

Education: J.D. from Cleveland Marshall College of Law; Kent State University, B.S. Education

Occupation: Judicial Attorney for Judge Amy Corrigan Jones at Summit County Court of Common Pleas

Qualifications for Office: I am a licensed attorney with over 15 years judicial system experience. I bring knowledge of the Court, the law and the legal process.

Q1 Answer: The Clerk of Courts must be more efficient and user friendly. Implementing electronic filing immediately would increase efficiency by streamlining filing and docketing. Additionally, I would create a Self Help Center that would have a library of legal forms, processes and definitions to aid the pro se litigant.

Q2 Answer: Current economic conditions force the elected official to make judicious cost cutting actions while at the same time investing in technology to promote customer service. By investing in technology, such as electronic filing, many processes and procedures can be consolidated making the processing of filed documents faster and more efficient.

SUMMIT COUNTY SHERIFF



Stephen M. (“Steve”) Barry - Democrat 1520 Applewood Way, Uniontown, Ohio 44685

Age: 54 **Experience:** As a 32 year veteran of the Summit County Sheriff’s Office, I have experience, not only as a deputy, but supervisor and/or command level officer, in nearly every bureau/division within the agency. I also have over 1200 hours of continuing law enforcement and supervisory educational training combined.

Q1 Answer: Reasons people end up in prison obviously vary. However, growing up with no proper adult support or structure and a negative peer environment, addictions, impoverished, are several common factors. I believe we need to continue to strive for all children to be equally educated and assistance proactively offered.

Q2 Answer: The Summit County Sheriff’s Office is already involved in collaborations and coordination of services with not only other law enforcement agencies but other professional organizations and learning institutions as well. Obviously the cost savings are important for other tools and resources necessary for proactive professional law enforcement services



Randy L. Rivers - Republican 642 Notre Dame Ave., Cuyahoga Falls OH 44221

Age: 57 **Experience:** I graduated from Nardon High School and the University of Akron with degrees in Criminal Justice and Technical Education. I am a US Air Force veteran with 6 years active duty experience. I retired as a Captain from the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department with over 30 years law enforcement experience.

Q1 Answer: The criteria that the criminal justice system uses could be adjusted so that those who commit non-violent offenses can be rehabilitated through alternative sentencing and those who commit violent offenses resulting in personal harm to others are imprisoned and society is protected. This is an alternative to building more prisons.

Q2 Answer: With over 20 jurisdictions in Summit County, the concept of regionalism is difficult to fathom. Through partnerships, various concepts have proven effective. The Child Abduction Response Team and Summit County Crash Team have both proven to show that personnel and material can combine to benefit our citizens.

SUMMIT COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER



Ron Antal - Republican 62 Meghans Lane, Hudson, Ohio 44236

Age: 47 **Education:** Masters of Science in Taxation, University of Baltimore; Bachelor of Science in Mathematics & Economics, Youngstown State University

Occupation: Business Owner - CPA and Managing Director/Owner of Research Credit Group, Inc.

Training & Experience: A CPA with a Masters in Taxation, I have 20+ years experience working with Fortune 500 companies to control costs.

Q1 Answer: 1. Control costs – Doing more with less is the new norm. We must streamline the Fiscal Office. 2. Be responsive to taxpayers’ concerns – ensure that they receive fair property tax reviews, prompt responses to questions and improved service. 3. Implement new procedures, policies and technology to maximize efficiency and productivity.

Q2 Answer: With the economic downturn, diminished property valuations, lower tax collections, and drastic cuts in local government funds, Summit County faces difficult budgeting decisions. We’ve had deficits five of the last six years. I will streamline the Fiscal Office organizational structure, control outside vendor costs and improve technology to increase efficiency.



Kristen Scalise - Democrat 245-3 West Portage Trail Ext. Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223

Age: 45 **Education:** Bachelors of Science Accounting, University of Akron, 1989

Occupation: Summit County Fiscal Officer

Training and Experience: Certified Public Accountant; Certified Fraud Examiner; Thirteen years experience in the Fiscal Office; Ten years with two local accounting firms; Member of American Institute of CPAs, Ohio Society of CPAs, National Association of CFE; Ohio Financial Accountability Certificate

Q1 Answer: If elected, my priorities will be: a. Collaborate to create new programs that are efficient and cost effective. b. Maintain the excellent service and consumer protection provided in the Auditor, Treasurer, and Recording Divisions of the Fiscal Office. c. Continue to safeguard and protect over one billion dollars of taxpayers money annually

Q2 Answer: As a CPA and CFE, I have been able to provide the same level of service with a restricted budget and staff reduction. Through collaboration and innovation, I have introduced programs that have reduced costs and improved employee efficiency. I will continue to examine all avenues of revenue enhancement.

SUMMIT COUNTY ENGINEER



Alan Brubaker - Democrat 1474 Blair Drive, Akron, OH 44312

Age: 63

Education: B.S. Civil Engineering, University of Akron, 1971 and graduate of Springfield High School

Occupation: Summit County Engineer

Training and Experience: Alan Brubaker has been a civil engineer since 1971. For 22 years, Alan was the City Engineer for Kent. He also was in the private sector as a Project Manager at McCoy & Associates.**

Summit County Sheriff Questions

Q¹ What do you think about the growing prison population? What response should society have to prison overcrowding?

Q² In the spirit of regionalism, what services in what areas could be consolidated? What would be the benefits in cost savings?

Summit County Fiscal Office Questions

Q¹ If elected, what will be your three priorities for the next four years?

Q² How will current economic conditions affect decision making in your office? What cost cutting or revenue enhancing measures will you enact?

Summit County Engineer Questions

Q¹ If elected, what will be your three priorities for the next four years?

Q² In the spirit of regionalism, what services in what areas could be consolidated? What would be the benefits in cost savings?

Summit County Council Questions

Q¹ Given the current polarization at all levels of government, what can you do at the local level to promote civil discussions and consensus building?

Q² Please give us your views on gerrymandering in Ohio. Is there an effective non-partisan solution to even the playing field?

Q1 Answer: I will continue to improve the safety of Summit County roads and bridges. I will secure all available funding and reduce overhead costs to ensure more money goes to infrastructure. I will continue to work with other offices, cities, and townships to implement innovative programs like our Regional Pavement Maintenance program.

Q2 Answer: We have already moved forward on several regional initiatives. We were the first county to adopt a Regional Pavement Maintenance program and have been seeing positive results. We will continue to recruit additional cities to join us in that endeavor. We are currently consolidating GIS functions in the county.



Bruce L. Robinson - Republican 3445 Keyser Parkway, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223

Age: 48

Education: The University of Akron Bachelors of Science in Civil Engineering

Occupation: President, B.L. Robinson Engineering & Surveying, Co.

Training and Experience: 24 years of experience in engineering and surveying design; Bridge Surveying-Inspection, Roadway Design, Construction Estimating and Specifications, Storm Water Management, Computer Automation, and GIS Integration.

Q1 Answer: Improved interoperability of all departments in the Engineer's Office is a top priority, and reinstatement of an intern program for college professionals would be part of that change. Improving collaboration between the Townships, County Council, Cities and other state agencies is necessary to provide better information regarding storm water issues.

Q2 Answer: Regionalism as it relates to Storm Water extends outside of our county. Consolidating all the flood incident reporting on one map managed by the Engineers Office would be a good step forward for the county. The cost savings would be in dollars actually going towards identifying and performing flood projects.

SUMMIT COUNTY COUNCIL-AT-LARGE

Unexpired term to end 12/31/2014

Jane M. Davis - Republican 87 Brandywine Dr., Hudson OH 44236

Response not received.



Sandra Kurt - Democrat 140 Mayfield Ave. Akron, OH 44313

Age: 51

Occupation: Engineer

Education: Bachelor of Science – Industrial Engineering

Qualifications for Office: I have served in this office for a year and a half after serving on Akron City Council. My engineering background gives me a unique skill set for addressing issues that come before Council, such as regional storm water concerns and horizontal hydraulic fracturing.

Q1 Answer: At the local level, simply showing basic respect for colleagues, listening and cooperating, helps promote civil discussions. Consensus building is possible when you find issues on which you can agree and you place progress on the issue above partisanship.

Q2 Answer: Gerrymandering results in misrepresentation of the true character of a district. I support Issue 2 to remedy the problems created by HB 194.

SUMMIT COUNTY COUNCIL

DISTRICT 1



Nick Kostandaras - Democrat 3520 Brecksville, Richfield, OH 44286

Age: 75

Education: Ohio State majoring in Labor Law.

Occupation: Owner of Nick's Automotive 30 years

Training and Experience: Trained and degreed Arbitrator, Law Enforcement Officer, 4 years on Richfield Village Council, 8 years on Summit County Council, Interim County Executive, 7 year member County Commissioners of Ohio, Past President, Summit County Council.

Q1 Answer: I reach across the aisle to enthusiastically invite my Republican Colleagues to participate in all decision making. I do not belittle or dismiss their ideas. I facilitate the blending of our views in order to produce the best solution for Summit County Residents. I respect all of my colleagues.

Q2 Answer: Districts should not be far flung areas but rather many small contiguous Census tracts, neighborhoods with about 3,000 people each. If a district's tracts are relatively similar, in terms of variables like socioeconomic status, occupation, population density and ethnicity, then the district can be represented as a single community.

Greg Roemer - Republican 3616 Southern Rd. Richfield, OH 44286

Age: 24

Education: Bachelor of Science – Computer Science Engineering Minors in Physics, Math and Business, The Ohio State University

Training and Experience: I have the academic background (engineering and business) and passion to serve Summit County constituents. I will communicate with the constituents to insure that I represent their interests.

Occupation: Umpire – Northwoods Collegiate Summer League

Q1 Answer: The position of Summit County councilperson is responsible for serving the constituents, not the political parties. By keeping this in mind, it is possible to compromise for the betterment of Summit County.

Q2 Answer: I strongly disagree with gerrymandering at both the state and county level. Summit County Council districts should be developed which keep communities intact, represented by one Councilperson. My opponent voted to gerrymander Bath into two separate Council districts. I support the creation of contiguous, compact districts at all government levels.

DISTRICT 2

Nancy A. DeLambo - Republican 2243 Liberty St., Cuyahoga Falls OH, 44221
Response not received.

John Schmidt - Democrat 1460 Curtis Ave., Cuyahoga Falls OH, 44221
Response not received.

DISTRICT 3

Russ Iona - Democrat 675 Dominic Dr., Cuyahoga Falls OH, 44223
Response not received.



Gloria J. Rodgers - Republican 4562 Newcomer Rd., Stow OH 44224

Age: 67

Education: Akron City Hospital School of Nursing in association with University of Akron

Occupation: Charge Nurse, Portage Path Emergency Services; County Council, Dist. #3

Training and Experience: Being a small business owner, ER nurse, councilperson, homeowner, taxpayer and parent provides the understanding needed to serve others.

Q1 Answer: Civil discussions and consensus does occur on Summit County Council. Our level of government does not deal with these issues to the degree State and National governments do. A problem can arise if one member has an agenda. When that occurs, one must state their view with respect and understand* *exceeded work limit.

Q2 Answer: A great push is being made to affect redistricting in the state, but that effort is not being taken down to the county level. Look at the redistricting of our county—it is a prime example of gerrymandering. Redistricting must begin at the local level and work up.

DISTRICT 4



Frank C. Comunale - Democrat 25 Berkshire Ct. Apt. B1, Akron, Ohio 44313

Age: 64

Education: Firestone High School ; The University of Akron

Occupation: Legislator/Management Consultant

Training and Experience: 2007 – Present Summit County Council District 4 representative; 2008 – Present Summit County Council Vice President; President: Summit County Public Library, First Friday Club, Greater Akron Good Samaritan Hunger Center; Vice Chairman, Towpath Credit Union; Treasurer, Citizens Advisory Committee, County Children Services

Q1 Answer: Scheduling monthly town hall meetings open to all citizens; which we do twice a month. Secondly, but importantly, talking to citizens at their door on a regular basis. Which, I also do monthly.

Q2 Answer: Equitably drawn districts that do not give unfair advantage to any political organization or interest group. The Iowa model, in my opinion is the fairest in the Nation and I believe that we should strive to implement that program. Consequently, we enthusiastically support State Issue #2 on the November, 6 2012 ballot.

Mike Hoover - Republican 489 Crestview Ave., Akron OH 44320
Response not received.

DISTRICT 5



Tamela Lee - Democrat 995 Courtland Ave., Akron 44320

Age: 52

Education: University of Toledo, Bachelors Degree Sociology and Public Health; Cleveland State University, Masters in Business Administration, with specialty in Health Care Administration

Occupation: District 5 Council Representative, Summit County Council: Consultant and advisor

Training and Experience: Business development and consulting; benefits and investments; licensed securities representative; Women's health issues; risk management: veterans' health –US Department of Veterans Affairs

Q1 Answer: Throughout my years of community work, I have always been a bridge builder between government contacts, agencies and the community at large. I will continue to do more of the same toward consensus building.

Q2 Answer: I believe gerrymandering is detrimental to our political system. I supported the RON amendment and currently support the Issue 2 legislation on the ballot in November to create an independent citizens review board to draw districts.

Summit County Council Questions

Q¹ Given the current polarization at all levels of government, what can you do at the local level to promote civil discussions and consensus building?

Q² Please give us your views on gerrymandering in Ohio. Is there an effective non-partisan solution to even the playing field?

For additional voting information, contact the Summit County Board of Elections
470 Grant Street, Akron, OH 44311
330-643-5200
SummitCountyBOE.com



Summit County Council Questions

Q¹ Given the current polarization at all levels of government, what can you do at the local level to promote civil discussions and consensus building?

Q² Please give us your views on gerrymandering in Ohio. Is there an effective non-partisan solution to even the playing field?



Lance Reed - Republican 4143 Westbourne Blvd, Copley, OH 44321

Response not received.

DISTRICT 6

Faith M. Bennetts - Republican 1068 Stephens Rd., Akron OH 44312

Response not received.



Jerry Feeman - Democrat 1068 Ledgebrook Dr., Tallmadge, Ohio 44278

Age: 56

Education: I have attended the University of Akron and South University.

Occupation: My occupation is a Real Estate Appraiser and a licensed Real Estate sales agent with Mosholder Realty. I have work in the Real Estate field since 1977 with the purchase of my first rental property. I was licensed for Real Estate Appraising

***exceeded word limit**

Q1 Answer: My thoughts on consensus building and civil discussions start with leading by example, when I was first elected 3.5 years ago I had a meeting with most of the cities, townships and villages on working together,. What could we do on projects and sharing services..

Q2 Answer: When Drawing maps one party can not control. When one party controls that's when Gerrymandering starts. The congress map in northeast Ohio is a prime example of Gerrymandering.

DISTRICT 7



Larry Ashbaugh - Republican 6002 Cleveland-Massillon Rd, New Franklin, OH 44216

Education: BA, Education, University of Akron / Post-Graduate Studies, Kent State University / U.S. Army Command & General Staff College Graduate

Occupation: Retired Officer, United States Army / Retired Veterans Program Manager, State of Ohio

Training and Experience: Military Intelligence Officer, Small-Business Owner, Government, Economics & History Teacher, Extensive Leadership & Management Experience, Conservative Community Leader

Q1 Answer: We learn more by listening than by speaking, and I promise to listen to my local constituents and others in local government to arrive at solutions that ensure that the people are always represented with respect, diligence, and determination as we cut taxes, develop job opportunities, and ensure government accountability.

Q2 Answer: Gerrymandering denies voters an opportunity to select their representatives in a fair and even way, thus denying elective democracy. Any solution should be based on fairness and compact borders, with an effort to keep metropolitan areas within a single governmental area. Districts should be reviewed by the Ohio Supreme Court.



Tim Crawford - Democrat 3990 S Cleve-Mass Road, Norton, Ohio 44203

Age: 61

Education: Barberton High School, Salem College, Pittsburg Institute Mortuary Science

Occupation: Sales Agent Nationwide Insurance

Training and Experience: 5 years Mayor of Norton, 20 years County councilman. Chairperson/member numerous Boards and Commissions.

Q1 Answer: Promote encourage the cooperation of joint service between government entities including: police, fire and service departments, one serer district in the county. There are many opportunities, but we must be willing to sit at the service table and discuss.

Q2 Answer: The gerrymandering that has taken place in Ohio is an embarrassment to Ohio. To even the playing field, we should put restrictions on keeping cities and counties as a whole, not breaking them up.

DISTRICT 8



Paula S. Prentice - Democrat 4235 Aldawood Hills Drive, Akron, OH 44319

Age: 63

Education: Our Lady of the Elms HS, Kent State University (BS in Education), University of Akron, (Masters in Curriculum and Instruction), University of Akron (Administration Certification)

Occupation: Former Elementary Education Teacher (21 years) Principal (19 years) District 8

Training and Experience: 8 years of experience as county council representative

Q1 Answer: I have participated in several task forces under the direction of Exec. Russ Pry. These task forces have brought together representatives from county departments and outside agencies. I have successfully started the "Let's Move Summit County" program that has promoted consensus building to form positive wellness events.

Q2 Answer: A solution might be to establish committees of equal number from both parties. These persons should work together to find an innovative, racially fair and accountable system of representation. A good deal of research on past history of gerrymandering in the state might present some insight as well as direction.



Tom Wolfe - Republican 1176 Chaucer Circle, Akron, OH 44312

Age: 53

Education: Graduated Akron Kenmore 1978.

Occupation: Small Business Owner since 1983.

Training and Experience: Serving as Lakemore Council at Large(2010). Serving as Wages and Finance Chair, Parks and Recreation Chair, Springfield Cable Board Chair, Village Property Chairman, Citizen Tax and Review Chair, Policy and Procedure, Finance Audit Board.

Q1 Answer: Have worked with members of both parties in Lakemore, Springfield Township and Summit County working together to achieve common goals. "MANY COUNSELORS MAKE FOR WISE DECISIONS". People in good faith, I believe, can always be successful when all parties share openly. MY EXPERIENCE IS- IT WORKS!

Q2 Answer: Gerrymandering is usually beneficial only to the party in power; therefore, I do not believe there is a solution to even the playing field.

9TH DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS



Clair E. Dickinson 884 Alder Run Way, Akron, OH 44333

Age: 61

Education: Cleveland Marshall College of Law (JD, cum laude, 1977); University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown (BA 1973).

Occupation: Appellate Judge

Qualifications for Office: I am in my twelfth year on the Court. I have participated in deciding approximately 4000 appellate cases and have written the lead opinion in one-third of those cases.

Q1 Answer: I have always favored merit selection of judges, particularly appellate judges, because it is so difficult for members of the voting public to determine whether a particular judge will do or is doing a good job. All too often, judicial elections are nothing more than name recognition contests.

Q2 Answer: There is little that can be constitutionally done as long as we elect judges. One possibility would be a comprehensive voter guide published by the Secretary of State or the State Bar to which voters could look for qualifications of judicial candidates instead of being totally dependent on paid advertising.



Jennifer L. Hensal 225 S. Rose Blvd, Akron, Ohio 44313

Age: 45

Education: University of Toledo J.D 1993; University of Akron B.A. 1990

Occupation: Attorney

Qualifications for Office: My experience includes prosecuting criminal matters. I also act as an advocate for children, the disabled and the elderly. Currently, I am also a municipal lawyer and guide private clients through difficult family and business matters in the courts.

Q1 Answer: I believe in the value of the electoral process in judicial elections. Voters should have the opportunity to elect the judges who play such an important role in their community. While judicial campaigns are more restricted, this allows the voter to determine the best candidate based upon highly relevant information.

Q2 Answer: Perceptions are difficult to combat since they are not always grounded in fact. They are generally ideas which are based upon some known facts. Reducing the total allowable expenditures in judicial campaigns, instead of focusing on maximum contributions limits, may eliminate the perception that big money can influence the outcome.

SUMMIT COUNTY PROBATE COURT JUDGE

Unexpired term to end 02/08/2015



Alison McCarty 4728 North Ridge Drive, Akron, OH 44333

Age: 50

Education: BA English, 1984, Wheaton College; JD, 1987, Wake Forest University School of Law

Occupation: Judge, Common Pleas Court

Training and Experience: As a judge and former prosecutor I have over 23 years of experience protecting families and safeguarding victims' rights. I am supported by numerous law enforcement agencies and FOP lodges in this race.

Q1 Answer: I will work to continue the excellent legacy left by Judge Bill Spicer. I would also re-invigorate the GAL (Guardian ad-Litem) program, pairing trained volunteers with the court-appointed GALs, to ensure that the elderly wards of the court are visited often, and that their daily needs are being properly met.

Q2 Answer: Sometimes a frustrated person just wants to have his or her day in court. People have a need to be heard, so I listen. I listen to both sides of a story before I make a decision. Most people behave appropriately when they are treated with dignity and respect.



Elinore Marsh Stormer 209 South High St., Akron Oh 44308

Age: 55

Education: BA Davidson Honors College; JD University of Akron

Occupation: Judge, Summit County Common Pleas

Training and Experience: Judge for 21 years in two courts handling serious cases. Reduced crime, saved money and restored families by starting Drug, Mental Health and Reentry Courts. Extensive public service recognized by numerous awards. Serve on two National boards.

9th District Court of Appeals Questions

Q¹ Do you support or oppose the election of judges and why?

Q² What changes would you recommend to reduce the perceived influence of money contributions in our courts?

Summit County Probate Court Judge Questions

Q¹ What changes would you like to implement in probate court?

Q² How do you deal with difficult people, including peers, lawyers, clients or litigants?

Common Pleas Court Judge Questions

Q¹ Please describe one instance in which you faced an ethical dilemma and how you resolved it.

Q² If you observed a party in your courtroom being poorly represented by an unprepared or ineffective lawyer, how would you handle the situation?

If you think politics is too partisan,
JOIN THE LEAGUE.
www.lwvaa.org



Q1 Answer: Increase community outreach, provide guardianship support, start docket for mentally ill to prevent criminal justice involvement, work closer with the health department and law enforcement on issues of elder abuse, streamline adoptions, provide fiscal transparency, use mediation in family disputes, institute e-filing, reduce wait time for final decisions.

Q2 Answer: Polite professionalism seems to work most of the time. Working with mentally ill offenders, I learned the need for greater patience, and the respect for different points of view. I try to treat everyone as I would like to be treated. As a result, I have very few problems.

COMMON PLEAS COURT JUDGE

Unexpired term to end 01/01/2015



Kathryn Michael 3363 Stanley Rd. Fairlawn, OH 44333

Age: 51

Education: University of Akron, JD awarded 1986; University of Akron; BA awarded 1982

Occupation: 7 years, elected as an Akron Municipal Court Judge 11.2005 and re-elected 11.2011

Qualifications for Office: I currently serve as an Akron Municipal Court Judge, and was first elected in 2005, and re-elected in 2011. Prior to my 7 years of service as an Akron Municipal Court Judge, I was in a private full-time litigation practice for 19 years. At the same time that I was in a full-time private practice, I also served as a part-time magistrate for 7 ½ years at Akron Municipal Court, and was an external mediator for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for 10 years.

Q1 Answer: I would speak to the attorney privately. If the attorney is inexperienced, I would encourage him/her to partner with an experienced attorney. If the attorney is unprepared, I would give the attorney a bit more time to become prepared, or ask him/her to discontinue his/her representation.

Q2 Answer: As a trial attorney, while preparing a client for his sworn testimony for a jury trial, he told me that he planned to leave out key facts in his testimony. I would no longer represent him, if that is what he chose to do. The client truthfully testified.



Tammy O'Brien 1625 Orchard Dr., Akron, OH 44333

Age: 46 (as of day of election)

Education: J.D., Cum Laude, Cleveland State University, 1992

Occupation: Judge

B.A., Magna Cum Laude, University of Akron, 1988

Qualifications: I have handled almost 2,000 felony criminal and complicated civil cases as a Judge. Prior to taking the bench, I was a partner in a prominent Akron firm and practiced law for nineteen years.

Q1 Answer: The University asked me to appear in commercials as a successful graduate. That honor would have also given me exposure during an election year. After consulting the judicial ethical rules, I declined the opportunity as it could be interpreted as lending the prestige of my position to a commercial enterprise.

Q2 Answer: Some situations might be resolved by a simple discussion with counsel. If counsel is ineffective because of substance or mental health issues, a judge is required to take action, which may include reporting the lawyer. Appointed counsel representing an indigent criminal defendant can be removed by the judge, if necessary.

COMMON PLEAS COURT JUDGE

Term commences 01/01/2013



Paul J. Gallagher 2370 Schubert Avenue, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221

Education: B.A., University of Notre Dame; Masters of Management, Johns Hopkins University; J.D., University of Akron School of Law

Occupation: Judge

Qualifications for Office: Assistant Prosecutor – 15 years; Judge – 5 ½ years

Q1 Answer: I have had cases where an attorney was abusing opposing counsel. I resolved it by personally speaking with the lawyers.

Q2 Answer: Meet with the attorney and remove him/her if necessary



Dave Lombardi 194 Kenilworth Dr., Akron, OH 44313

Age: 49

Education: Miami University, B.S. Business Administration, Finance 1985

University of Akron Law School, JD 1989

Occupation: Attorney

Qualifications for Office: Over 23 years experience in Summit County courts, as a trial attorney, and a judicial attorney for Judge Glen Morgan, handling cases in business, domestic, criminal, real estate, and probate areas. I am a hard working, lifelong citizen of our community.

Q1 Answer: In a settlement negotiation, my client wanted me to lie about the facts to the opposition. I convinced the client that the settlement proposal we had would make sense to both sides, without lying and we did settle the case close to our goal, without my breaking ethical rules.

Q2 Answer: I would first have a meeting in chambers with the attorney to confirm any suspicions. If additional time was needed, I would grant the same if it would correct the situation. If time would not address the concern, I would suggest that the party seek new counsel.

COMMON PLEAS COURT JUDGE

Term commences 01/02/2013

John Fickes 410 Penny Lane, Akron, OH 44311

Age: 57

Education: St. Vincent-St. Mary High School; John Carroll University (B.A.); University of Detroit (M.A.); Case Western Reserve University School of Law (J.D.).

Occupation: Attorney and Shareholder, Brouse McDowell; Chair, Board of Trustees, Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority; Magistrate, Summit County Juvenile Court.

Qualifications for Office: Admitted: Ohio Supreme Court, U.S. Supreme Court.

Q1 Answer: Someone close to me was arrested and charged with a serious misdemeanor. His family knew that I was well-acquainted with the judge and asked me to speak with him privately. I refused.

Q2 Answer: Incompetence is subject to professional discipline. Otherwise, it's best to intervene early – diplomatically, as communications must include all counsel, but clearly and firmly. Use the calendar. Ineptitude at trial is harder to address, as a judge must be scrupulous: unless the conduct undermines proceedings the court should not try to counterbalance.



Amy Corrigan Jones 209 South High Street, Akron, Ohio 44308

Age: 37 on November 6, 2012

Education: BA in Psychology, Kent State University, Summa Cum Laude; Juris Doctorate, Akron University School of Law

Occupation: Judge, Summit County Court of Common Pleas

Qualifications For Office: Current Judge Summit County Court of Common Pleas; Qualified to handle capital cases; Experienced trial attorney in Summit County prior to becoming judge.

Q1 Answer: As Judge, I am prohibited from commenting on any matter before the Court, however each day I am presented with ethical challenges. One of my duties is to ensure that all parties are treated with fairness and dignity. Every decision provides me with the opportunity to implement this philosophy.

Q2 Answer: As Judge, I am bound by the Ohio Code of Judicial Conduct which includes provisions addressing this issue. Therefore, I must follow the canons in specific circumstances. It is also imperative to balance the protection of litigants versus respecting an individual's decision to retain private counsel of his/her own choice.

COMMON PLEAS COURT JUDGE

Term commences 05/17/2013



Eddie Sipplen 1655 West Market Street, Ste 240, Akron Ohio 44313

Age: 48

Education: B.S. – Mathematics, MBA – Finance, Masters Of Taxation And Juris Doctorate

Occupation: Attorney & Magistrate Akron Municipal Court.

Qualifications for Office: I have over 20+ years of corporate experience dealing with complex business and tax issues. As an attorney, I am qualified to handle all types of cases whether civil or criminal (misdemeanors to death penalty cases).

Q1 Answer: I once had a client who wanted to testify and give false testimony. I advised the client that I would not permit that to happen. The client insisted. I dismissed his case and withdrew from representation.

Q2 Answer: In the past I have handled it by having a private conversation with the attorney and offered my help or I have advised the attorney to seek a mentor.



Thomas A. Teodosio 495 Belmont Park Drive, Munroe Falls, Ohio 44262

Age: 55 years old

Education: University of Akron Law School of Law, J.D. 1982; University of Akron, BA 1979

Occupation: Judge, Summit County Common Pleas Court

Qualifications for Office: Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge since 2006; Presiding Judge (2010, 2011 and 2012); Chairman of the Judicial Advisory Board in 2012. I have 30 years experience as a lawyer.

Q1 Answer: During a criminal trial an attorney informed me that one of their witnesses was presenting what counsel believed to be perjured testimony. I resolved this ethical dilemma by excusing the witness and instructing the jury to disregard the testimony in its entirety.

Q2 Answer: The Code of Professional Responsibility states that lawyers shall provide competent representation to clients. Competent representation requires legal knowledge and preparation. Judges have a duty to report misconduct to disciplinary authorities empowered to act upon such violations. I would consider continuing the proceedings, replacing appointed counsel and assessing costs.

Common Pleas Court Judge Questions

Q¹ Please describe one instance in which you faced an ethical dilemma and how you resolved it.

Q² If you observed a party in your courtroom being poorly represented by an unprepared or ineffective lawyer, how would you handle the situation?

If you want to influence local political decisions,
JOIN THE LEAGUE.
www.lwva.org



CONTRIBUTORS

We express our sincere appreciation to the 2011-2012 corporate contributors to the League of Women Voters of the Akron Area Education Fund:

**Alpha Phi Alpha
Foundation of Akron**

First Energy Foundation

GOJO Industries

**Mary Rebecca Babcox
Trust**

Mimi Vanderhaven

**R.C. & Katherine
Musson Foundation**

North Akron Savings

**Reuther Mold &
Manufacturing**

Sterling, Inc.

For additional copies of this publication, call Sara Gibbs at 330-329-4117.



**Not sure which ward
you live in?**

Download a map at:
www.ci.akron.oh.us/wardmaps

MAKING YOUR VOTE COUNT

Under Ohio law, a voter is required to vote by provisional ballot rather than regular ballot if the voter does not provide required identification or isn't listed in the precinct registration book. **If a provisional ballot is cast in the wrong precinct, it will not be counted.** Here are some steps voters can take to avoid having to cast a provisional ballot:

- If you are uncertain about where to vote, call the Summit County Board of Elections at 330-643-5200. They will direct you to the proper precinct. You may also visit www.SummitCountyBOE.com/WebApps/pollfinder.aspx.
- If your precinct is located at a polling place with multiple precincts, make sure you are at the right table. If in doubt ask the poll worker to check with the Board of Elections before issuing you a provisional ballot.
- Take a form of identification with you to the polls, like a State of Ohio driver's license or identification card (make sure it's not expired), military identification, a utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document issued within the past year showing your name and address.

About the League of Women Voters Education Fund

The League of Women Voters of the Akron Area Education Fund was created 25 years ago by a visionary group of local league members. As a separate non-profit public foundation, we accept tax deductible donations not only to publish and distribute this Guide, but also to support community forums, moderate candidates' nights and formal debates, and more.

This nonpartisan Voters Guide is one of the primary tools we have made available to the public for many years. Additional voter information, including an expanded form of this guide, is available at our website: www.lwvaa.org.

We accomplish a great deal with a hard-working, dedicated force of interested, committed members. However, we also require financial assistance to continue providing unique nonpartisan information. In this, our 25th year, we are reaching out to all readers to request a tax deductible contribution. Please consider supporting the League with a contribution of \$25.00 or more.

The Akron Area League of Women Voters is continuing its long tradition of encouraging informed and active participation in government. The LWVAA provides opportunities for citizens to learn about candidates and issues in a calm and considered fashion. We appreciate your support and promise to continue the nonpartisan policy that is vital to the health of our democracy.



SUPPORT THE IMPORTANT WORK OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE AKRON AREA!

LWVAA • 380 Mineola Ave, Akron OH 44320 • 330-836-7079 • www.lwvaa.org

YES! I absolutely rely on your Voters Guide to help me be an informed voter. Enclosed is my contribution to support your trusted, nonpartisan work on my behalf. I will send it to the address above.

\$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 \$10 Other \$_____

Please make your check payable to LWVAA* or LWVAA Education Fund.** Or you can donate online at www.lwvaa.org.

Name _____

(please print)

Address _____

Street

City, State

Zip

Phone _____ Email _____

*Contributions to LWVAA, a 501(c)4 organization, are not tax-deductible.

**Contributions to LWVAA Ed Fund, a 501(c)3 organization, are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Yes! I want to join the League and help make democracy work! Send me membership information

Join the nation's most respected grassroots political organization and become a member of the League of Women Voters! Membership in the League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, is open to any citizen of voting age, male or female. Annual dues of \$60 include local, state, and national membership including newsletters from each. Dues are \$30 for those under 30 years of age. Household membership (same address) is \$30 for each additional member. You may join online at www.lwvaa.org, or by mailing your name, address, email, phone number, and check (made payable to LWVAA) to LWVAA, 380 Mineola Ave, Akron, OH 44320.