



The League of Women Voters

of the Tiffin Area

VOTER GUIDE

www.lwvofTiffin.org

tiffinleagueofwomenvoters@gmail.com

Primary Election May 5, 2026
Polls Open: 6:30 A. M. to 7:30 P. M.

**Absentee ballots must be received by 7:30 pm May 5
at the Board of Elections, 71 S. Washington St., Tiffin**

Celebrating 106 years of the League of Women
Voters and 56 years of the Tiffin Area League

This publication is issued by the League of Women Voters of the Tiffin Area, a national nonpartisan organization, to provide a forum to all political candidates and ballot issues within Seneca County.



Many polling locations have been moved recently. Please check the list below on page 73
or look up your voter registration at

<https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/seneca/vtrlookup.aspx#>

The 2026 Voter Guide is presented by the League of Women Voters of the Tiffin Area. It has been expanded this year to include all candidates in Seneca County. There are no issues on the primary ballot this year, so an issues-only ballot will not be available for this election. You may vote a partisan ballot for Democrats, Republicans, or Libertarians. All voters may select any party in the primary – you do not need to vote in the same party you selected in previous years.

Statewide and district candidates were asked different questions depending on the office. All information was provided by www.vote411.org , from the national and state League of Women Voters Education Fund.

All local candidates were asked the same two questions on this form from the League of Women Voters of the Tiffin Area:

Office you are seeking: (example: Adams Township Trustee)

Name:

Education:

Occupation:

Training, Qualifications, and Experience:

Question 1: What are your three main priorities if you are elected?

Question 2: Are there any significant changes you would like to make to the budget for this office?

Responses were received from some candidates, and are included here without any editing, except slight reformatting to present a consistent type style and size. No change has been made to any candidate's answers. The form was emailed to candidates if possible, and sent by postal mail if no email address was available to the LWV. Unfortunately, many candidates did not respond. Although efforts were made to contact every candidate in Seneca County, if anyone was missed we apologize.

NOTE: Democratic County Central Committee seats were on the ballot in 2024 for a four year term, and will be on the ballot again in 2028, not 2026. No candidates filed for the Libertarian County Central Committee. So, only Republican ballots will have County Central Committee seats.

Everything here should be in the same order as your ballot. You can see your sample ballot on the Board of Elections website at <https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/seneca/vtrlookup.aspx#> .

YOUR VOTE MATTERS! A single vote – yours – could decide a race. A healthy democracy needs citizen participation.

Voter Guide chairperson David W. Koehl, League of Women Voters of the Tiffin Area

Candidates

Governor and Lieutenant Governor - DEMOCRAT

Amy Acton & David Pepper - no response received

Governor and Lieutenant Governor - REPUBLICAN

Vivek Ramaswamy & Robert A. McColley - no response received

Casey Putsch & Kimberly C. Georgeton - no response received

Heather Hill & Stuart Moats (Moats withdrew, so votes will not count)

Governor and Lieutenant Governor - LIBERTARIAN

Don Kissick & James L. Mills

Facebook www.facebook.com/DonKissickLiberty/

Website donkissick.com

Twitter/X

Education

Training and Experience: Military Background

What changes would you make, if any, to voting and elections policy?

Especially when it comes to the Save America Act; we're finding that it's incredibly problematic because it's targeting people who are typically democratic voters so the overreach from an act like that is something we speak ardently against.

Overall though, we've found that the current system has disenfranchised challenger parties like ours because it favors simplistic duopolistic voting. Rank Choice or STAR Voting, something more like a survey model where I can say- my first choice is X, my second choice is Y, and my third choice is Z is much more favorable to challenger parties because it sees more of the grey complexity that is how people view and think,

Given the fact that 49% of Ohio identify themselves as politically homeless- it makes a lot of sense to change the way we're voting

What type of tax reform, if any, would best serve Ohio?

As it pertains to abolishing property tax- we are in favor of it but you first have to address a few key strings:

1. Investors in residential real estate
2. How we're addressing education

It's a case of a balance sheet- inflows, we can replace our property tax revenue with local consumption based taxes especially on luxury goods and you can also look at the sin taxes like marijuana, cigarettes, gambling (especially the lottery), and alcohol.

In the case of outflows- we have a lot of money going to corporate subsidies, international donations, and the school system- in particular with the school system if you remove teaching towards the test and compliance based programs you can significantly reduce the budget because those systems are costly to manage.

It's about balancing the budget

How would you address concerns about the rising cost of living?

This is a tough one because rising costs are being caused by a number of things outside of our control- the war and tariffs which both will cause supply chain issues. We've talked a lot about deregulation for the small business because the amount of taxes and regulations impacting the small business owner has essentially been constricting them out of business.

On top of that if we can create a more collaborative environment for resources in the given locales like openers and more collaborative coalitions for mental health nonprofits, housing, small business incubators- you can drive jobs back to the smaller communities which will in theory drive more business back to the mom and pop shops- especially if you eliminate the subsidies that have gone to mainly large scale corporations

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

As mentioned, we'd focus on ending compliance based testing programs which are costly to manage and create additional bureaucracy in administrators.

Similar to business, where my boss trusts me to do the work- and in theory my boss is supposed to be either more educated, more certified, or more experience than me- we should move towards a model where because this teacher has indicated they have a mastery over math or a mastery over English, I should trust them that they're teaching their students mastery. We can use testing for diagnostic purposes, you could also have more portfolio based modeling for students; but at the end of the day, if that teacher is a master of the topic

and the department head or admin over them has said they're doing an adequate job- who am I to say otherwise?

How would you reduce hyperpartisanship and promote civility?

The first step in loving thy neighbor is to step outside to meet them. We've become so engrained in our own echo chambers that if you're left or right, that's your sole identity. I want to have people recognize that we're all people and the bulk of us are wanting what's best for the community we're just disagreeing about how to do that. The way to break echo chambers is to be curious, not judgmental. Ask questions first, clarify why someone believes something, and be open to dialogue. We win when we win together.

We've already started doing this- we've hosted townhall events across the state where we've invited democrats, republicans, libertarians, and independents to just talk about the issues and how to solve them. And we do it in a way where we're trying to listen more than we talk.

How will you approach re-drawing legislative district lines?

I will make this clear- what's gone on in Ohio with the constant redrawing of legislative district lines has shown just how toxic our institution is. It wasn't perfect but something like what was proposed in 2024 with issue 1 where you have a nonpartisan committee that takes into account all recognized parties in the state is something I'd love to come back up on the ballot. Candidly it was short sighted when the GOP shot it down because they don't recognize that when the Dems come into power, the power struggle to remove them will be just the same as the power struggle the dems are facing in unhousing the GOP.

Make it equitable (which issue 1 was attempting to do) and give the people the chance to actually vote for what they want. Make politicians stand on their own merit.

Travis Jon Vought & Christy Jo Orr WRITE-IN - no response received

Attorney General - DEMOCRAT

Elliot Forhan

Facebook

facebook.com/ForhanForOhio

Website

ForhanForOhio.com

Twitter/X

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

Education

J.D. (Yale Law School), B.A. (Kenyon College)

Training and Experience

Served as an Ohio state representative. Practiced at the New York offices of two of the top law firms in the country and continues to practice in the Cleveland area. Has more than a decade of experience in finance transactional practice and civil-rights litigation.

Volunteer/Community Service

Volunteer for the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, including winning in 2022 a \$270,000 judgment in favor of a client who had been evicted illegally.

What are the most important functions of the attorney general, and why?

The Ohio A.G. is the top prosecutor, the top law-enforcement officer in the state. I'm running to (1) tax the rich, (2) stand up to bullies and (3) prosecute Donald Trump to the fullest extent of the law. I'm running to apply the law equally to everyone, including the rich, the powerful and the president of the United States. I'm focused on specific priorities to make our Democratic values a reality. First, end the corruption in our state, including catching and prosecuting rich tax cheats, Second, enforce the guarantee under the Ohio constitution for full and equal funding for our public schools. Third, join and lead the fight in court to stop the illegal, unconstitutional actions by Donald Trump and this out-of-control federal government.

What divisions (e.g. consumer protection, environment, civil rights, immigration, elections, etc.) will you prioritize, and why?

On day 1, I will sue to enforce the guarantee under the Ohio constitution for full and equal funding for our public schools. Our state constitution requires the state legislature to provide enough funding to secure a "thorough and efficient" system of common schools throughout the State. Our state legislature is failing this requirement. In 1997, the state supreme court found the proportion (43%) of funding of Ohio public schools provided by the state was too low to comply with the constitution. Today, the percentage is lower – 32 percent. The reduction in the state share forces schools to rely on local property taxes. That's wrong. It's also unconstitutional. We need to take the General Assembly back to court and enforce our

constitution. As A.G., that will be my top priority.

When is it appropriate to bring cases on behalf of Ohio to federal court?

I will join and lead the fight in court to stop the illegal, unconstitutional actions by Donald Trump and this out-of-control federal government. I will prosecute crimes committed by federal agents, like the cold-blooded murders by ICE in Minneapolis of Renee Good and Alex Pretti. Local criminal prosecution of federal officials is part of our constitutional order. I will also sue to stop the so-called "impoundments," in which Trump prevents the spending of money appropriated by Congress, which has the power of the purse, and (1) the elimination by Trump of entire government agencies, (2) the imposition by Trump of his absurd tariffs, (3) the deployment by Trump of the military in our cities and (4) waging war abroad, in each case without the enactment by Congress of any law to that effect.

How will you represent the diverse interests of all Ohioans?

I was raised by two women. My parents are gay. In 2015, a few months after the Obergefell Supreme Court decision, I officiated my parents' wedding ceremony. This year, they celebrated 49 years committed to each other as life partners. How many couples do you know who celebrated a 49th anniversary? And how many people do you know who officiated their parents' wedding ceremony? Right now, I'm suing Dave Yost and other corrupt Ohio politicians who abused their offices and the public trust. The defendants in my lawsuit are mostly Republicans, but there might be a Democrat or two in there, too. Beating Republicans is my #1 priority, but I believe that accountability is for everyone. I am holding lawbreakers in government accountable now, and I will continue doing that as Ohio attorney general.

What changes would you make, if any, regarding transparency in government?

During the past decades, the Republican-controlled Ohio government has weakened Ohio public-records laws. I am suing now to enforce transparency and our public-records laws. Also, I beat in court once already Dave Yost's lawyers, and I'm suing him now, together with other corrupt Ohio politicians. The laws apply to everyone. I will prosecute anyone who breaks the law, including members of the government. I'm doing that now. As Ohio A.G., I will fight the scourge of government immunity. I will waive, on behalf of myself and anyone who wants to work in my office, any and all prosecutorial immunity. Doctrines of government immunity are anathema to the functioning of a democracy. Nobody is above the law. The Ohio attorney general should act like it.

John J. Kulewicz

Facebook

www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=6158027479

Website

www.john4ohioag.com

Twitter/X

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

Education

B.A. History at Ohio State, J.D. at Yale Law School

Training and Experience

Partner at at Vorys, Sater, Seymour & Pease, 1987-2024; Associate attorney, 1981-1987

Volunteer/Community Service

I have previously served as board president of the Columbus Zoo, Catholic Social Services, and Federal Bar Association (Columbus); and as a member of the Ohio Bicentennial Commission and Ohio Historical Society Board.

What are the most important functions of the attorney general, and why?

The Attorney General is the chief law officer of the State of Ohio. They are responsible for police officer training and certification, consumer protection, anti-trust enforcement, and rooting out corruption in our state and local governments.

What divisions (e.g. consumer protection, environment, civil rights, immigration, elections, etc.) will you prioritize, and why?

Right now, times are tough. I would prioritize the section of the office that handle consumer protection, anti-trust, and anti-corruption efforts to ensure that Ohioans are being given a fair shake in the economy. These are not the most glamorous cases to bring, but they make a real difference for working people all across the state.

When is it appropriate to bring cases on behalf of Ohio to federal court?

It is appropriate only when the rights of Ohio and the rights of The People of Ohio are directly

under attack.

How will you represent the diverse interests of all Ohioans?

Everyone is equal under the law. I am campaigning the same way I will govern. That means going everywhere across the state and listening to the needs of The People of Ohio. The Ohio Attorney General is The People's Lawyer, meaning your job is only accountable to The People, not the political whims of the Governor or the General Assembly or anyone else.

What changes would you make, if any, regarding transparency in government?

I have already filed a complaint with the Ohio Inspector General looking into the resignation of former Ohio State President Ted Carter and JobsOhio's involvement in that. I have called upon the General Assembly to significantly rollback the privacy shield afforded JobsOhio, as we all have a right to see how our public money is used.

Attorney General - REPUBLICAN

Keith Faber - no response received

Auditor of State - DEMOCRAT

Annette Blackwell - no response received

Auditor of State - REPUBLICAN

Frank LaRose

Facebook

www.facebook.com/FrankLaRose

Website

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Twitter/X

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Education

Ohio State University

Training and Experience

Ohio Secretary of State (2018-Present), Ohio Senator (2010-2018)

Volunteer/Community Service

Member of the U.S. Army in the Ohio National Guard

What are the most important functions of the state auditor, and why?

The most important functions of the Auditor of State are ensuring transparency, efficiency, and accountability in government; protecting taxpayers from fraud, waste, and abuse; and giving the public confidence that their tax dollars are being managed responsibly. The office plays a critical role by auditing state and local entities, identifying weaknesses in financial controls, investigating misuse of public money, and helping public agencies operate more effectively. Those responsibilities matter because taxpayers deserve honest government, and public officials should be held to the highest standards when they are entrusted with public resources. The office also performs performance audits aimed at improving economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in public operations.

What are your goals for improving the function of the auditor's office?

My goal is to strengthen the Auditor's office as an independent watchdog that is focused not only on finding problems, but also on helping government work better. That means continuing to prioritize transparency, efficiency, and accountability; using audits and performance reviews to identify ways agencies and local governments can improve operations; expanding efforts to detect fraud, waste, and abuse early; and making sure audit findings are clear, timely, and useful to the public and to the entities being audited. I also believe the Auditor's office should be a constructive partner to local governments by helping them improve internal controls and deliver the services their constituents depend on, and strengthening trust in government.

What will you do to ensure that public funds are not misused?

I will insist on strong, independent oversight, aggressive investigation of fraud, waste, and abuse, and clear accountability when public funds are misused. That includes supporting thorough financial and compliance audits, strengthening internal controls, encouraging timely

reporting of suspicious activity, and using the office's investigative tools to pursue wrongdoing wherever it occurs. Just as importantly, I believe prevention matters: training, transparency, and strong financial practices can stop problems before they become scandals. Taxpayers deserve confidence that every public dollar is being handled responsibly and that anyone who abuses the public trust will be held accountable. I will also support practical safeguards that help deter misuse before it starts across government.

What is the auditor's role in investigating non -public schools?

The Auditor's role is to follow the public money. When non-public schools receive public funds or participate in publicly funded programs, the Auditor has a responsibility to ensure those dollars are used lawfully, properly, and in accordance with applicable requirements. The office's role is not to interfere with the mission or beliefs of a non-public school, but to provide oversight wherever taxpayer funds are involved and to investigate credible allegations of misuse. That is the same standard that should apply across the board: if public dollars are being spent, the public has a right to expect accountability. The Auditor's core authority is tied to public money and legal compliance, and to ensuring public funds are used for their intended purpose, with transparency and accountability.

How will you approach re-drawing legislative district lines?

I would approach redistricting with seriousness, transparency, and respect for both the Ohio Constitution and the people of our state. Ohioans may not always agree on the outcome, but they should be able to expect a process that is open, constitutional, and understandable to the public. The goal should be constitutional maps that provide clear representation, preserve communities where possible, and are drawn through a process the public can understand and trust. Because the Auditor serves on the seven-member Ohio Redistricting Commission, that responsibility requires independence, careful attention to legal standards, and a commitment to conducting the process openly and responsibly.

Auditor of State - LIBERTARIAN

Aidan Michael Jeffery WRITE-IN - no response received

Secretary of State - DEMOCRAT

Bryan Hambley

Facebook

www.facebook.com/hambleyforohio

Website

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Education

Johns Hopkins Hospital Hematology Fellowship 2017-2019 Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine Residency, Critical Care Medicine Fellowship 2012 - 2017 Tulane University School of Medicine MD and MPH Medicine 2008 - 2012 University of N

Training and Experience

As a leukemia physician, I rebuilt a struggling program. I built a team of nurses, nurse practitioners, and physicians who were dedicated to great patient care. Our program has revenue exceeding 250 million/year with more than 500 employees, and leading this team taught me how to build organizations dedicated to service.

What will you do to promote voter participation?

For years, Ohio's Secretary of State has made it harder for Ohioans to vote. I am running for Secretary of State because our democracy is under attack. Trump and Ohio's MAGA super majority gerrymander and suppress voters, and trick people with dishonest ballot language. The first step to promoting voter participation is to stop actively harming Ohio's voters.

Once the damage of voter suppression and partisan gerrymandering have been overcome, we can focus on proactive ways to increase voter participation. This includes civic engagement for high school students and college students who can vote, making it easier to vote absentee or by mail and eliminating the burdensome restrictions on in-person early voting hours and drop boxes.

What changes, if any, would you make to election security?

Ohio's elections are secure, but there are areas where we can improve. As Secretary of State, I will work with the Ohio Board of Voting Systems Examiners to evaluate each county and ensure that our office invests in the most secure voting technology. Beyond updating our technology, I will also increase the number of audits and tests we conduct of our voting

technology county by county, to guarantee the safest and most secure election possible.

What changes, if any, would you promote for the Ohio Ballot Board?

In 2024, our current Secretary of State used his vote on the ballot board to write dishonest ballot language meant to confuse Ohio voters. Nobody should be cheated out of their vote.

I am running because I know that Ohioans want to know that ballot language will be written fairly, with honest language that any Ohioan can understand. Even if a ballot initiative is one I personally disagree with, I promise to write the ballot language fairly and honestly, rather than putting my thumb on the scale like our current Secretary of State.

What changes, if any, would you make to campaign finance policy?

We are significantly handcuffed by the Citizens United decision. However, even as a candidate, there are things I can control. I am running for Ohio Secretary of State to end gerrymandering, protect the vote, and run fair elections. I cannot do that if I am owned by the pharmaceutical industry or energy companies, or a couple of wealthy families. That is why I have not – and will not – accept donations from big businesses or their political action committees, shell corporations, or other dark money schemes.

The Secretary of State also has the ability to administer and enforce campaign finance rules and conduct initial investigations into campaign finance violations. I will use this authority to rein in dark money in politics.

How will you represent the diverse interests of all Ohio voters?

Ohio's voters are currently disenfranchised by politicians who are not held accountable to the people. We need to end gerrymandering by passing an independent redistricting commission in 2027 so that our 2028 congressional and state legislative maps are drawn fairly. When politicians compromise on gerrymandering, all Ohioans lose. I am running for Secretary of State to give Ohioans their voice back on the ballot.

How will you approach re-drawing legislative district lines?

Ohio deserves fair maps. As Secretary of State, I will lead the charge to get an independent redistricting commission back on the ballot in 2027, this time with fair and honest ballot language, unlike what we had in 2024. Once this passes, Ohio will see fair maps drawn for Congress and the state legislature. These new maps will balance out the partisanship in our statehouse and will likely send 3-4 more Democrats to D.C.

I will never compromise on gerrymandering. Supporting gerrymandering is disqualifying for

any candidate running for Secretary of State.

Allison Russo

Facebook

facebook.com/Russo4Ohio

Website

allisonrusso.com

Twitter/X

[@Russo4Ohio](https://twitter.com/Russo4Ohio)

Education

Allison Russo holds a doctoral degree in health policy from The George Washington University and a master's degree in public health epidemiology from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Training and Experience

Allison spent more than 20 years working to solve problems in health care – advising federal agencies and health systems on how to improve care for seniors, veterans, military families, and vulnerable communities. She then entered the state legislature in 2019, where she was later elected House Minority Leader. In that time she helped build a coalition to defeat the August 2023 Issue 1 "60% power grab" and then enshrine reproductive rights into Ohio's constitution.

What will you do to promote voter participation?

I believe increasing voter participation and voter education should be key duties of the office. Ensuring that Ohioans are informed about how, when, and where to vote is essential to a strong democracy. This work relies on building partnerships with key communities, including school districts, universities, nonpartisan organizations focused on voting, faith communities, and local governments. These partners play a critical role in helping reach voters in their communities and encouraging civic participation. In addition, we should focus on making voting information more accessible. That includes reimagining the technologies voters use to access election information and register to vote. By improving the platforms voters rely on, we can ensure accurate information is readily available.

What changes, if any, would you make to election security?

One change I would make is increasing and stabilizing funding for our local Boards of Elections. Currently, funding for county Boards of Elections comes from a mix of state and county resources. As a result, some counties are well funded, while others only have enough resources to do the minimum required to carry out elections with limited staffing. When resources vary significantly by county, it can create gaps that make it harder for some jurisdictions to maintain the highest standards of security and efficiency. My knowledge and experience navigating the state budget process will be important in advocating for adequate funding for our Boards of Elections. Ensuring these offices have the staffing, technology, and training they need will help maintain secure, reliable elections.

What changes, if any, would you promote for the Ohio Ballot Board?

While Section 1 of Article XVI of the Ohio Constitution dictates the composition of the Ohio Ballot Board, the Secretary of State serves as the Chair of the Ballot Board and can dictate the tone and tenor of the Board's activities. I believe the Ohio Ballot Board should function as an unbiased Board that prescribes and certifies the ballot language for proposed Constitutional amendments, initiatives, and referenda and oversees efforts to inform voters of ballot issues. Personal and partisan perspectives on a specific issue should not dictate the work of the Board. Regarding ballot language specifically, the change I would promote would be to simplify the official ballot language so that it can be easily read and understood by the average voter, is fair, and is as unbiased as possible.

What changes, if any, would you make to campaign finance policy?

The Secretary of State carries out campaign finance laws, but does not have the power to set new policy without legislative action. However, the Secretary of State still has regulatory oversight into this process. Last year, the Ohio Legislature dissolved the Ohio Elections Commission and shifted the investigation for violations of campaign finance laws to the Secretary of State's office. Appeal of decisions goes to the Ohio Elections Integrity Commission, whose chairperson is also appointed by the Secretary of State. The Ohio Secretary of State has enormous discretion to investigate campaigns for any potential campaign finance infractions. Because of this new and relatively unchecked power, it is more important than ever that Ohio elects a Secretary of State who is fair and transparent.

How will you represent the diverse interests of all Ohio voters?

I believe that the best way to represent the diverse interests of all Ohio voters is to conduct the Office of Secretary of State in a fair and unbiased manner. It should not matter what issues or candidates a Secretary of State supports or opposes – the responsibility of the office is to ensure that every candidate the same fair opportunity to come before Ohio voters, and that every voter has their voice heard and counted.

To achieve this, the office must prioritize professionalism and transparency in every aspect of election administration. That includes hiring staff who represent the diversity of Ohio's political perspectives and communities. By bringing together people with different viewpoints and experiences, the office can better understand and respond to challenges voters face.

How will you approach re-drawing legislative district lines?

First, I believe Ohio's redistricting process should NOT include any politician, including the Secretary of State. The current process is fundamentally broken because it relies on politicians to make unbiased decisions to fairly draw our gerrymandered districts, and it includes no enforcement power for the Ohio Supreme Court when bipartisan agreement cannot be reached. The Ohio Redistricting Commission will not meet to redraw district lines until after our next census in 2031, meaning that the Secretary of State that we elect this year will not sit on that commission unless reelected in 2030. However, I believe the role of the next Secretary of State is to give any future citizen-led ballot initiative that may reform our current redistricting process a fair shot with unbiased language.

Secretary of State - REPUBLICAN

Robert Sprague - no response received

Marcell Strbich - no response received

Secretary of State - LIBERTARIAN

Tom Pruss

Facebook

www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=6158822301

Website

www.votepruss.com

Education

University of Toledo (attended)

Training and Experience

Owner, Northcoast Print Mail Marketing

Volunteer/Community Service

Vice President-Northwest Ohio Polish Cultural Center Advisory Board

What will you do to promote voter participation?

First, eliminate unnecessary barriers to voting. I support same-day registration tied to routine interactions like driver's license renewals, while keeping ballots clear, simple, and auditable. Second, protect election integrity with common-sense voter ID – the same kind Ohioans already use for banking or travel – while ensuring free state IDs are available for anyone who needs one.

Third, break the two-party stranglehold. I support fair ballot access, open primaries, and voting reforms like ranked-choice or approval voting so voters have real choices.

Finally, increase transparency. Election data should be open, systems secure, and the Secretary of State must act as a neutral referee – not a partisan tool.

More participation happens when voters have access, trust, and real choices.

What changes, if any, would you make to election security?

Election security should focus on transparency, verifiability, and public trust. Ohio already has strong safeguards, but we can improve confidence by expanding risk-limiting audits, ensuring every vote has a verifiable paper trail, and making election data more transparent to the public.

Security measures must protect the integrity of elections without making it harder for eligible voters to participate. That means clear procedures, secure voter ID with free state IDs available to anyone who needs one, and consistent statewide standards for equipment and auditing.

The goal is simple: secure elections that are easy to vote in and hard to cheat in.

What changes, if any, would you promote for the Ohio Ballot Board?

The Ohio Ballot Board should focus on clarity, fairness, and transparency. Ballot language must accurately reflect the proposal without confusing wording or partisan influence. I would push for clearer, plain-language summaries so voters can easily understand what they are voting on.

I also support greater transparency in how ballot language is drafted and approved,

including public input and review. Ohio voters deserve summaries that explain issues honestly – not language designed to persuade or mislead.

What changes, if any, would you make to campaign finance policy?

Ohio's campaign finance system should emphasize transparency and fairness. Voters deserve to know who is funding political campaigns, so I support stronger disclosure requirements and faster reporting of major contributions so the public can see who is trying to influence elections in real time.

At the same time, regulations should not be so complex that they discourage everyday citizens from running for office or participating in the political process. I support simplifying compliance rules for smaller campaigns while ensuring large donors and political action committees remain fully transparent.

How will you represent the diverse interests of all Ohio voters?

The Secretary of State's role is not to represent one party or ideology – it's to serve every voter in Ohio. I will run the office as a neutral referee, ensuring that election laws are applied fairly and consistently no matter who you vote for or where you live.

That means protecting equal access to the ballot, maintaining transparent and secure election systems, and making sure every eligible voter can participate without unnecessary barriers. I will also work with local election officials, community groups, and voters across the state to ensure their voices are heard.

How will you approach re-drawing legislative district lines?

Ohio voters have made it clear they want fair maps, not partisan gerrymandering. My approach is simple: the goal of redistricting should be to represent voters – not to protect politicians or political parties.

I support transparent map-drawing processes with public input and clear standards that prioritize compact districts, respect for communities, and competitiveness wherever possible. Ohioans should be able to see how maps are drawn and have meaningful opportunities to comment before they are finalized.

Most importantly, the rules must be applied fairly and consistently, regardless of which party benefits. Voters deserve districts where their voices actually matter and where elections are competitive, not predetermined.

Treasurer of State - DEMOCRAT

Seth Walsh

Facebook

www.facebook.com/TeamWalshHQ/

Website

www.sethwalshforohio.com

Education

Bachelor's degree in Political Science, Xavier University

Training and Experience

Seth is an accomplished nonprofit leader, securing \$85 million in economic development funding as Executive Director of the College Hill Urban Redevelopment Corporation. First appointed to Cincinnati City Council in December 2022, he has championed millions of dollars in direct economic support to grow Cincinnati's small businesses and neighborhoods. Seth is a member of the Cincinnati Retirement System Board of Trustees. A native of St. Joseph, Michigan, Seth graduated from Xavier University, w

Volunteer/Community Service

Seth has served as President of the Friends of Taft Legacy Foundation, and was Chairman of the Cincinnati Elections Commission. He founded the Cincy Soccer League in 2017, and for years was a member of the WCPO-TV Community Advisory Board.

What are the most important functions of the state treasurer, and why?

The Treasurer of Ohio has two top priorities: securing the state's investments and stewarding our public pension funds. As Treasurer, I will ensure the state's investments, pension funds, and revenue are managed with integrity and are used to strengthen our communities so all Ohioans thrive.

What are your goals for improving the function of the treasurer's office?

As Treasurer of Ohio, I will ensure the office operates with integrity and our focus is on investing in all of our communities so Ohioans can thrive. Programs like the LinkedDeposits

program, the 529 College Advantage and social impact bonding are the type of programs that the Treasurer's office should continue to implement to maximize and optimize how Ohio reinvests its money in our people.

How can the treasurer's office influence state fiscal policy?

If the State of Ohio, and its \$280 billion investment portfolio, were a person, it would be the second-wealthiest person on Earth. That means with the right strategy, we can use Ohio's revenue and investment dollars to drive increased returns and reinvest those dollars back in our communities.

How will you ensure transparency and accountability in state finances?

There is no greater or more solemn responsibility to Ohioans than to maintain transparency and accountability in the Office of Treasurer of Ohio. As Treasurer of Ohio, I will ensure the state's investments, pension funds, and revenue are managed with integrity

How will you use your position to improve fiscal literacy among Ohioans?

As Treasurer of Ohio, I will use my ability to convene and maximize the opportunity we have with banks, credit unions and other financial institutions who are providing fiscal literacy in our public schools and to adults throughout Ohio.

Treasurer of State - REPUBLICAN

Kristina D. Roegner

Facebook

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Website

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Twitter/X

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Education

MBA in Finance from the Wharton School of Business, BSME in Mechanical Engineering from

Tufts University

Training and Experience

State Senator serving Ohio's 27th district

What are the most important functions of the state treasurer, and why?

The Ohio Treasurer of State collects the state's taxes and fees, safeguards those funds and manages the investments. The Treasurer serves as the state's chief investment officer and financial steward, responsible for safeguarding and managing billions in public funds. The Treasurer is custodian of Ohio's pension systems and manages STAR Ohio, allowing municipalities to pool funds for higher yields with full liquidity. The office also oversees programs serving Ohioans, including STABLE Accounts, OhioCheckbook.com, ResultsOHIO, and AgLink, promoting financial stability, transparency, and responsible management of taxpayer dollars.

What are your goals for improving the function of the treasurer's office?

As Treasurer of State, my goals for improving the function of the Treasurer's office include strengthening oversight to safeguard taxpayer funds, modernizing cybersecurity to protect state financial systems, and increasing transparency so Ohioans can easily see how their tax dollars are spent. With legislation currently pending in the Ohio General Assembly to move unclaimed funds to the Treasurer's office; I would streamline the process to more quickly reunite citizens with their money. I would also expand tools like OhioCheckbook to include more local entities, and improve efficiency in processing payments and distributions. Finally, the Treasurer should pursue strong but conservative investment strategies that maximize returns while maintaining safety and liquidity for public funds.

How can the treasurer's office influence state fiscal policy?

The Treasurer of State can, through wise investing, maximize returns on investments which can then be used to help reduce the property and/or income tax burden on all Ohioans. As the Treasurer's office also manages bond issuances, which directly impacts borrowing costs, the Treasurer's office also plays an important role in the capital budget and overall fiscal planning. I will also leverage the office of Treasurer to make suggestions to my colleagues in the Governor's office and the General Assembly on ways to positively influence fiscal policy through cost savings, government efficiency, and tax reduction. The Treasurer's office can both directly help strengthen Ohio's fiscal position and provide informed support to the state budget process.

How will you ensure transparency and accountability in state finances?

Ohioans should expect transparency in government and particularly when it comes to their tax dollars. I was proud to vote for legislation to put Ohio's checkbook online back in 2013 (HB175). This led to the launch of www.ohiocheckbook.com. It has served Ohio well, but needs to be expanded to include municipalities and schools. There is currently legislation pending in the Ohio House (HB413) which would do just that. I look forward to supporting this legislation when it clears the Ohio House and comes to the Ohio Senate as well as implementing this online checkbook expansion as Ohio's next Treasurer. Whether it is a state tax dollar or municipal tax dollar, Ohioans deserve to know how all their tax dollars are being spent.

How will you use your position to improve fiscal literacy among Ohioans?

I am passionate about fiscal literacy and look forward to partnering directly with schools, community groups, and other organizations to help their students, members and employees learn as much as possible about smart budgeting, savings, investing and general financial planning. It is important that everyone, particularly our young adults, understand the power of compound interest. You want compound interest working to your advantage e.g. in investment accounts - not against you e.g. credit card debt. I will also help promote programs that encourage smart savings and investing such as Ohio's 529C (College Advantage Savings Program) and Ohio's First Time Home Buyers Program.

Jay Edwards - no response received

U.S. Senate - DEMOCRAT

Sherrod Brown - no response received

Ron Kincaid

Facebook

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Website

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Education

BA in Economics, University of Kentucky (health-economics capstone); continued studies in

econometrics at Ohio State.

Training and Experience

For more than 30 years, I worked as an IT consultant and small-business owner helping Ohio companies solve technology and operational challenges, including consulting engagements in health care and health insurance. I've also spent decades advocating for families of children with autism, helping establish Medicaid waiver services that expanded access to care in Ohio. Today, I continue to serve by coaching Special Olympics athletes and supporting autism initiatives in our community.

Volunteer/Community Service

Special Olympics; Dr. Mary Trust for Autism

What changes would you make, if any, to voting and elections policy?

I believe voting should be simple, secure, and accessible for every eligible American. That means automatic voter registration so people are registered unless they choose not to be, and secure online registration so updating your information is quick and hassle-free.

We should expand early voting nationwide, giving working families, students, and seniors real flexibility to cast a ballot. And we need a National Voting Day holiday, so no one in this country ever has to choose between their paycheck and their right to vote.

Finally, protecting our democracy means protecting our elections from big money. I support a constitutional amendment to end dark money and limit corporate influence, so voters — not hidden donors — decide our future.

How would you address concerns about the rising cost of living?

The cost of living is squeezing working families. My American Dividend Plan puts money back in people's pockets with a guaranteed monthly payment to working-class Americans.

We also need to stop making life more expensive through bad policy, including politically driven tariffs that raise prices and hit farmers hard.

Affordability means building a system where people aren't punished by rising costs they can't control, and my plan delivers that.

How would you reduce hyperpartisanship and promote civility?

We've reached a point where too much of our politics is about who gets credit instead of

what actually works. It's time to stop fighting over which party has the idea and start focusing on whether the idea solves a real problem.

I've spent my life working with people who didn't agree with me at first. When I worked on Ohio's Medicaid Waiver for children with autism, some parent groups were firmly opposed - dead set against actually. We listened, worked through concerns, and those same parents became our strongest allies.

That experience taught me something essential: when you treat people with respect and focus on solutions instead of sides, you can build coalitions that last. That's the kind of politics I believe in, and it's the kind I'll fight for.

State your position on foreign policy and national security.

America must lead the world by example — defending democracy, human rights, and the rule of law at home and abroad.

Our alliances, especially NATO, are strongest when America is steady and principled. Leadership also means using diplomacy, humanitarian aid, and international cooperation before force.

And in a world shaped by AI, cyber threats, and economic coercion, we must protect our digital infrastructure and strengthen our economic resilience. Leading by example keeps our country safe and our values intact.

What changes would you make, if any, to immigration policy?

America has always been strengthened by immigrants, and our policy should reflect that we welcome those who want to build a life here. At the same time, the system must be orderly and functional.

We need secure borders, modern technology, and significantly faster immigration hearings so people receive timely decisions instead of waiting years. Legal worker programs should be expanded and simplified so employers, including Ohio farmers who rely on seasonal labor, can hire lawfully.

Law enforcement should focus on serious criminals such as traffickers and gang leaders, not on sweeping actions that divide communities.

Smart immigration policy means combining humane values, efficient legal pathways, and strong but targeted enforcement.

U.S. Senate - REPUBLICAN

Jon Husted - no response received

U.S. Senate – LIBERTARIAN

Jeffrey M. Kanter - no response received

William B. Redpath

Facebook

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Website

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Twitter/X

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Education

BA, Indiana University; MBA, The University of Chicago

Training and Experience

Certified Public Accountant, Ohio & Illinois. Chartered Financial Analyst-Retired. Accredited Senior Appraiser, Business Valuation, American Society of Appraisers-Retired. Work Experience: Auditor or Accountant with Arthur Andersen & Co, Cincinnati; WISH-TV, Indianapolis; ABC & NBC, New York. Total: 5 years. Business Appraiser, specializing in Media & Telecommunications, with BIA Advisory Services, Washington, and Summit Ridge Group, New York & Chicago. Total: 38 years.

Volunteer/Community Service

Co-Editor, Ballot Access News and ballot-access.org. National Ballot Access Coordinator, Libertarian Party. Treasurer, Libertarian National Committee & Libertarian Party of Ohio. Former Chair, Libertarian National Committee.

What changes would you make, if any, to voting and elections policy?

A two party system is unnatural and only occurs through political repression, which we have

in Ohio and the US because of very high signature requirements for non-R&D candidates to get on the ballot. Our Single Member Plurality (single member legislative districts, person with the most votes wins) voting system props up the two old and unpopular parties, because it boxes too many people into feeling they have to vote for "the lesser of two evils." I support Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) for single winner elections. But, elections for federal, state and local legislatures should be changed to either a system of "self-districting," whereby voters select the district they want to be in, or a system with multimember districts elected through RCV. This would allow non-R&D candidates to be elected.

How would you address concerns about the rising cost of living?

Reduce Federal government spending. If not, we might have a debt crisis, the easiest response to which might be tolerating higher inflation.

End the Federal Reserve's "dual mandate": maximum employment and stable prices. Focus on an inflation rate no higher than 2% every year.

Repeal not just Trump's tariffs, but all tariffs. I support a policy of unilateral free trade, which is a pro-consumer trade policy. We're all consumers. It will also promote international peace. President Trump just suspended the Jones Act, which is a protectionist maritime policy, for 60 days due to high oil prices. It should be totally repealed.

End product price support programs, like the sugar support system, which causes sugar to cost double the world average.

Terminate all corporate welfare and farm subsidies.

How would you reduce hyperpartisanship and promote civility?

I think hyperpartisanship and a lack of civility are largely due to the combination of our two party system, in which too many people feel they have to side with one of the two old parties, and the advent of social media and our highly siloed media platforms. Honestly, when was the last time you heard a real debate on either Fox News or MS NOW? I don't think much can be done re: the media situation. There is a First Amendment, and Walter Cronkite isn't walking through that door again. But, making changes to our electoral systems that would allow new and more diverse voices to be heard and elected to public offices will help the public understand that there are more than two opposing views to policy issues, which will give people alternative means to be politically effective.

State your position on foreign policy and national security.

The United States now frequently behaves as a rogue nation, with its military attacks on several nations and threats to longtime allies, such as Canada and Denmark. This will make US citizens less safe over the long run.

I support a non-interventionist foreign policy, and only when the US homeland or territories are threatened, with very rare exceptions. That would allow us to cut the Defense budget.

We need to regain the moral high ground, with a renewed emphasis on human rights.

The Founders correctly made war declaration a committee decision. Congress must reassert

its war powers.

The US should treat the Middle East with benign neglect. The "special relationship" with the government of Israel only leads the US into problems. We should treat Israel as we would any other allied nation.

What changes would you make, if any, to immigration policy?

I agree with Alex Nowrasteh of the Cato Institute:

"All immigration should be allowed except for a handful of people who fall into the categories of criminals, terrorists, the seriously ill, or others who would harm the life, liberty, and property of people here. Libertarian and classical liberal values, American Enlightenment values, our support of free market capitalism, and support for meritocracy all compel us to support free immigration."

Open immigration would be the greatest anti-poverty program in history. Economist Michael Clemens has estimated that free immigration would increase the amount of global economic production, Gross World Product, by 50-150% - that's \$50-\$150 trillion of extra production a year. The United States will benefit from a more open immigration system.

U.S. Congressperson - DEMOCRAT

Daniel John Burket

Facebook

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Website

Burketforcongress.com

Training and Experience

Small Business Owner and President of Hancock County Board of Developmental Disabilities

What changes would you make, if any, to voting and elections policy?

Implementing an independent redistricting commission to remove gerrymandering for fair voting districts.

Automatic voter registration for citizens with checks on status and to update information anytime a person interacts with government agencies (like the post office or DMV).

Create a federal minimum standard for early voting access and make Election Day a national holiday.

Campaign Finance reform by allowing for public financing of campaigns, clear transparency on political donations, donation caps, and ending Citizens United.

How would you address concerns about the rising cost of living?

Removal of Trump Tariffs for immediate relief on prices, institute Universal Healthcare, create a public childcare system, raising the federal minimum wage, invest in renewable energy sources to diversify our energy portfolio to create less dependency on a few sources. Mandate all facilities that receive federal funds to have a roof top solar array with a battery system. Expand this to corporate and industrial facilities to create more energy generation and lower grid strain.

How would you reduce hyperpartisanship and promote civility?

The 5th district has not had a public town hall since 2015, so holding public town halls to hear from all voters and not from cherry picked groups would be the first step.

Focus on policy that brings relief and positive changes to the lives of voters, and not focus on culture war policies.

Bring forth policy to stop the monopolization of news and information sources by one person or company.

Create safeguards against misinformation from AI, Social Media, and News sources.

State your position on foreign policy and national security.

I am firm with my stance that we should not be involved in a war with Iran. We can maintain a strong defense of our nation, but there should always be a smart use of force with future outcomes in mind.

Revoke Presidential war powers.

Our allies are allies for a reason, and we must work side by side both economically and militarily to be a more unified front so that our adversaries will be forced into being less likely to attack. A stronger NATO is a safer world

Removing Trump tariffs to stop trade wars that alienate our country and tarnish our international relations.

What changes would you make, if any, to immigration policy?

Immigration should have clear, timely, and streamlined paths for citizenship for those that are wanting to contribute in positive ways and be a part of our country.

Update and expand technological systems at border crossings to assist agents in being able to process new immigrants, and identify any potential threats.

Funding reform for ICE to send funds to local law offices that will help strengthen those offices, which will give them better access to resources to identify criminals in their respective

areas to then collaborate with ICE for the deportation of illegal criminals.

Brian A. Shaver

Facebook

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Website

www.BrianShaverForCongress.com

Education

Bluffton College, BA in History and Secondary Education, minor in Sociology focus on Political Science ; Bowling Green State University, MA in Educational Leadership

Training and Experience

Council-at-large, City of Fostoria, 2013-present ; President, Fostoria Education Association (teachers' union), 2019-present ; Social Studies teacher at Fostoria Junior/Senior High School

What changes would you make, if any, to voting and elections policy?

Ohio already verifies citizenship at voter registration, so non-citizens aren't casting ballots here, and anyone with a question about their eligibility can still vote provisionally while their status is checked. Because of that system, I'm confident our state handles voter registration and ballot validity responsibly. I do have personal opinions about how states should manage voting rights, but I believe it would be inappropriate for me to weigh in as a federal officeholder. The Constitution makes it clear that these matters belong to the states, and I take that boundary seriously.

How would you address concerns about the rising cost of living?

I've felt the squeeze of rising costs myself, from grocery shopping to gas to housing, and it's clear that everyday life has become less affordable for families like mine. I believe Congress can help by supporting farmers, strengthening the food supply, and investing in modest, affordable housing in rural communities. We also need to bring down the cost of essentials like medication and other staples that people rely on. To make the system fairer, I think the wealthiest Americans should pay the same tax rate as everyone else, without loopholes that let income be hidden. At the end of the day, people deserve an economy that works for them

– not just for those at the top.

How would you reduce hyperpartisanship and promote civility?

If elected to Congress, I seek to restore the meaning of “We the People” in our federal government. I advocate for reforms such as campaign finance limits, term limits, stronger checks and balances, transparency in legislation, and clear guardrails to prevent elected officials from profiting from their positions.

Above all, I believe representatives must put people before party and stay present and accountable to their communities.

State your position on foreign policy and national security.

I believe we have the best-trained, most dedicated military in the world, and our safety is built on the sacrifices of those who serve. Because of that, I think we owe them deep respect and should be very cautious about how we use the military, especially when it comes to reclassifying service members or deploying troops for routine policing at home. I’m troubled by recent actions that raise constitutional concerns, invite criticism from international bodies, or blur the line between military and civilian roles. Our leaders need a clear reason for entering any conflict, along with a real plan for resolving it and ultimately making peace. Congress should reassert its authority, especially when it comes to whether offensive or preemptive military action is even justified.

What changes would you make, if any, to immigration policy?

I’ve always believed the American Dream is rooted in feeling secure – secure in yourself, your finances, and your ability to work and build a life. Everyone deserves to be treated with dignity by the government as they pursue that dream. Our immigration system should reflect those values by being fair, humane, and focused on helping people contribute safely and legally. When we honor those principles, we strengthen both our communities and our country.

Martin M. Heberling III - no response received

Scott E. Tabor

Website

Setandready.org

Education

LCCC and Ohio University

Training and Experience

Local 33 Sheet Metal workers International

Volunteer/Community Service

Member of Fraternal order of Eagles

What changes would you make, if any, to voting and elections policy?

No, I would not make changes to voting and elections policy. We should not try to fix something that is not broken. Our system has worked for over the 64 years I've been alive and has not failed us, even with claims of widespread fraud that have not been proven.

How would you address concerns about the rising cost of living?

I would impeach and remove Donald Trump then remove him and his gang of criminal loyalist. Only then can we begin to reduce the cost of living.

How would you reduce hyperpartisanship and promote civility?

Dialogue should come first, regardless of party – but let's be clear, I won't be talked over or pushed around. I'll listen, I'll consider other viewpoints, and I'm willing to compromise when it actually benefits the people. But I stand firm in my beliefs, and I won't back down from them. Civility is where I start – but if I'm challenged, I will push back just as hard.

State your position on foreign policy and national security.

My foreign policy is straightforward: focus on our own country and stay out of unnecessary entanglements abroad. We need to prioritize America's interests first. Right now, our national security is not being taken seriously, and this administration has been too willing to compromise it.

What changes would you make, if any, to immigration policy?

I would implement a stronger vetting system while making the legal process more accessible and efficient for both Americans and individuals entering through proper legal channels. This includes expanding processing centers to reduce delays and ensure orderly, lawful

entry.

U.S. Congressperson - REPUBLICAN

Bob Latta - no response received

U.S. Congressperson - LIBERTARIAN

Michael J. Veloff WRITE-IN

Facebook

www.facebook.com/share/1FZyFVx5Xa/?mibexti

Education

Bachelor Degree in Chick Lit

What changes would you make, if any, to voting and elections policy?

Publicly funded elections, term limits, open primaries, paper ballots, ranked choice elections, limited campaign activity, and automatic voting registration.

How would you address concerns about the rising cost of living?

Progressive taxation of owners of multiple properties, asset seizure of idle properties and businesses, price freezes, and bulking up social programs.

How would you reduce hyperpartisanship and promote civility?

Outlaw political parties. All people are required to attend free mandatory civics education.

State your position on foreign policy and national security.

Stop bombing other countries, close all of our military bases overseas, end all wars, audit the CIA and FBI, eliminate ICE and TSA, end all military equipment giveaways to police stations, stop training and arming insurgents, stop treating all nations as enemies and seek equitable cooperation with all countries.

What changes would you make, if any, to immigration policy?

Having an ACTUAL pathway to citizenship would go a long way towards improving immigration, especially if we remove all the racist policies that our government has implemented any time we invade a sovereign nation that causes mass immigration.

State Representative - DEMOCRAT

Aaron W. Jones

Facebook

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Website

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Education

Clyde High School, Class of 1991

Training and Experience

Production Supervisor, Toledo Molding & Die (2003-present); Tiffin City Councilman, 1st Ward (2024-present); U.S. Army, Airborne Infantryman, 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment - The Old Guard (1991-1995)

What changes would you make, if any, to voting and elections policy?

Every eligible voter should be able to cast a ballot without jumping through hoops. Working people shouldn't have to choose between a shift and their vote. I support expanded early voting, accessible drop boxes, and adequately staffed polling places. I also believe in transparent, auditable elections – both parties should be able to trust the process. What I won't support is making it harder for working families to participate. When more people vote, elected officials have to be more accountable. That's good for everyone.

What type of tax reform, if any, would best serve Ohio?

Ohio's tax system puts too much of the burden on working families and small businesses while large corporations collect breaks they don't need. I'd focus on property tax relief for homeowners and renters squeezed by rising assessments. I'd oppose giveaways to out-of-state corporations that don't create good local jobs. And I'd push to close loopholes that let profitable companies pay next to nothing while my neighbors struggle to keep up.

How would you address concerns about the rising cost of living?

I see it every day – people working harder than ever and still falling behind. We need to focus on what actually moves the needle: bringing down healthcare costs, protecting good-paying jobs, and making sure wages keep up with prices. I'll push to strengthen Ohio's manufacturing workforce, where I've spent 20 years, and oppose policies that ship jobs out of state. Relief has to be real and felt at the kitchen table, not just on paper.

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

Every kid in Ohio deserves a fully funded public school – whether they live in a wealthy suburb or a small rural town. Too many districts are being starved of resources. I'll fight for fair, adequate public school funding. I also believe in expanding vocational and technical training – not every path runs through a four-year degree, and we need to stop treating it like it does. Skilled trades built this state and they still can.

How would you reduce hyperpartisanship and promote civility?

I've spent over 20 years on a factory floor alongside Republicans, Democrats, and everyone in between. We don't always agree, but we show up, do the work, and treat each other with respect. That's the model I'll bring to Columbus. I'll listen before I vote. I'll return calls regardless of party. And I won't take my cues from outside groups or party bosses – I'll take them from the people of District 88.

State Representative - REPUBLICAN

Eric Watson

Website

[Ericwatsonforohio.com](http://ericwatsonforohio.com)

Education

Bachelor in International Studies and Associates in Aviation Technology

Training and Experience

Commercial Pilot and Business Owner

What changes would you make, if any, to voting and elections policy?

Remove electronic voting systems and replace with a watermark encryption technology paper ballot system, so there is more transparency and integrity.

What type of tax reform, if any, would best serve Ohio?

I would start with Abolish Property tax and prevent 40% of Ohio homeowners from being potentially placed into foreclosure. This number is estimated by end of 2026 to be 1 million to 1.4 million.

Also, tax incentive legislation for public schools. This comes off of the individuals state income tax burden. The individual can direct these funds to any school of choice.

Also, a state surplus fund specifically setup for first responders across Ohio. This is a more transparent way to continually set funds aside for law enforcement, fire departments, and other first responder needs that would be needed that local funding can't afford.

Tax Revenue Transparency legislation to implement accountability of how tax payers dollars are being accepted and distributed as described and told to tax payers.

How would you address concerns about the rising cost of living?

Abolish property tax and remove a large continuous burden off of the shoulders of hard working Ohioans.

Stop giving huge abatements to the richest corporations on earth, such as data centers.

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

The need to reinstate the phonics educational programs and bring back cursive writing. Cursive writing helps to stimulate the creative side of the brain, and helps younger generations to be able to read old documents.

We need to get back to basic fundamentals of learning in a traditional style from decades ago that are proven to help teenagers receive higher scores on the ACT and SAT.

Our Ohio educational system should include more Ohio history, Ohio Constitutional education, and US Constitutional education.

How would you reduce hyperpartisanship and promote civility?

Start to bring human dignity back to forefront with educating that it is ok to have different

views, but there is no need for violence. Explain that decisions made lead to consequences or even legal consequences.

Educate the reason for civility by including Ohio history with examples of the past.

Gary Click

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Website

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@clickforohio

Education

Bachelors of Religious Education.

Training and Experience

State Representative for Six years.

Republican State Central Committee for 4 years

I have been a pastor for over 35 years and served as a law enforcement and hospice chaplain.

What changes would you make, if any, to voting and elections policy?

I am a cosponsor on HB 233 which requires citizenship verification to vote. I also support HB 577, which requires a photo ID for absentee voting by mail. I continue to support the use of paper ballots. I was a cosponsor of HB 472 (134th GA), most of which was amended into the budget. I voted for SB 63 to prohibit Rank Choice Voting. I voted for SB 293 to require absentee ballots to be returned to the board of elections by election day.

What type of tax reform, if any, would best serve Ohio?

Eliminate the Income Tax. When I began in the legislature there were six income tax brackets with the lowest being 2.85% for those earning over \$22,150 or more and the highest being 4.79%. Today, there are two. Those making less than \$26,500 pay no income tax. Those earning above that amount pay 2.75%. I have also voted to turn back the clock on property tax spikes, giving \$3 billion in property tax relief. I have introduced legislation (HB 420) to eliminate continuous levies. I have introduced legislation (HB 613) to guarantee timely due process in tax disputes. I will continue working to advance tax reform so that Ohioans can keep more of their hard earned money.

How would you address concerns about the rising cost of living?

Only a strong economy can address the rising cost of living. The first step is to allow working families to keep more of their hard-earned money, which has been my focus for the last six years through tax reform. In addition, we need to ensure that Ohio is the place to do business. More businesses mean more jobs, which in turn means stronger household incomes. The good news is that Ohio has ranked in the top five states to do business, and both Seneca and Sandusky Counties have ranked in the top five micropolitan communities. Ohio's housing shortage has to be addressed, and we are in the process of doing just that through the \$91 million allocated to Welcome Home Ohio in our most recent budget. In short, lower taxes, better jobs, and more housing are essential to a strong economy in Ohio. Strong and economically viable communities are the result of collaboration. They are the product not only of the state legislature but also of state and local economic development entities, county commissioners, local mayors, and city councils. Over the last six years, I have developed strong working relationships with both local and state partners. These efforts are recognized by major manufacturers like Whirlpool, which recently announced a \$60 million investment in NW Ohio. My personal conversations with the management team highlighted their appreciation not only for Ohio but also for their choice to remain right there in the 88th district. While we have accomplished much, it is way too early to declare "Mission Accomplished." I look forward to continuing the fight for affordability right here in Ohio's 88th House District.

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

My mantra has been and always will be that I want every student to succeed everywhere. That is why I continue to advocate for fully funding our public schools and recently voted for over \$700 million in new spending for them. I was an original cosponsor and voted for HB 455 which eliminates much of the bureaucratic red tape that our educators are required to sort through every day. I also believe that parents are primarily responsible for their children's education and should be free to direct their tax dollars to what they believe to be the best opportunities for their children. It is a false dichotomy to suggest that one has to either be for school choice or for public schools. They can and should peacefully and successfully coexist. One size does not fit all. That is why I am also a strong advocate for school choice, voted for vouchers, and believe that the tax dollars should follow the child. Parents should not be penalized or have to pay twice (taxes and tuition) to send their children to quality schools like Calvert. Just because there are public and private schools does not mean that there are public and private children. Families should be free to direct their tax dollars towards the educational environment that they believe is best for their children. The government does not own our children and should not have a monopoly on their education. There is no evidence to demonstrate that this harms students or schools but rather to the contrary.

How would you reduce hyperpartisanship and promote civility?

There is a certain sense of irony in this question since I am unquestionably the largest

recipient of hyperpartisan attacks in our area. Despite the gross exaggerations of my character and positions by hyperpartisan blogs and social media posts, I have a track record of civility within the district and in Columbus. During my tenure, Tiffin has had a Republican mayor, a Democratic mayor, and an Independent mayor. I have had productive working relationships with all three. When my Democratic opponent, Dianne Selvy, had her yard vandalized during the last election, not only did I speak out against it publicly, but I also quietly donated to her to help cover the expenses. When she called to concede, she thanked me for not joining in or magnifying the negative comments made about her during the campaign. (It has been my practice to deal with the facts, policies, and real differences rather than mockery or character assassination during campaigns.) As a commonsense conservative, there are times when my bills find common ground with Democrats and times when they do not. I ran a bill focused on eliminating the benefits cliff with Representative Dontaius Jarrells (D), which made it into the budget. I passed a bill with Rep. Jessica Miranda (D), titled "Testing Your Faith." I have jointly sponsored a bill to create Eating Disorders Awareness Month with Rep. Bride Rose Sweeny (D). I have recently passed two bipartisan bills with Reps. Darnell Brewer (D) and Latysha Hemphrey to assist incarcerated individuals in reintegrating into society upon release. I am currently running a bill to allow a moment of silence in schools with Rep Eric Synenberg (D). Keith's Law and My Child My Chart both enjoyed bipartisan support. However, not all of my bills are bipartisan. No Democrat has supported the Charlie Kirk American Heritage Act, the SAFE Act, Save Women's Sports, the America First Act, or other commonsense conservative legislation that I have run. Those bills tend to garner much more attention than my bipartisan efforts. My goal is neither partisanship nor bipartisanship but rather to represent the commonsense conservative values of Ohio's 88th House District. If others can join me, that's great. If I have to stand alone, I can do that too! Sometimes we agree, and at other times we do not. But that does not make us disagreeable. Most of the hyperpartisanship is "clickbait," pun intended, created on social media, alternative news sources, or sometimes the mainstream media. In Columbus, the only thing that makes the news is our public debates, which can be lively. However, the public does not see when we sit down together for a cup of coffee or a meal. They don't see Republicans and Democrats buying each other a meal or sharing updates on our families and showing the latest pictures of our children. While there are real differences between conservatives and liberals, there is still more civility between us than the average person realizes. I will continue to advance commonsense conservative legislation and welcome anyone to join me, regardless of which party they belong to.

State Representative - LIBERTARIAN

Benjamin David Machoukas WRITE-IN

Facebook

www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=6157854626

Education

Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering

What changes would you make, if any, to voting and elections policy?

Drastically lower restrictions for third parties to participate, there are far too many barriers to entry.

I also support and would implement Ranked Choice Voting.

What type of tax reform, if any, would best serve Ohio?

At the very least, halt all tax increases. State sales tax in Ohio was originally a temporary measure, and it was 3%. It is now 5.75% not including county sales tax. Income tax was originated in the same way, as a temporary measure.

Lowering taxes doesn't solve the root cause though, the root cause of requiring high taxes are all of the inefficiencies that come with government programs, along with excessive meddling with the "free" market. Everything the government meddles in, invariably causes those sectors to be more expensive, healthcare, insurance, home ownership, education, transportation, etc etc.

How would you address concerns about the rising cost of living?

It is self evident that the #1 cause of inflation is the federal government's unrestricted spending habits. National debt per US citizen is ~\$113,000, per US Taxpaying citizen it is over \$200,000. That is unsustainable and causing the US dollar to continuously lose value. We must reign in spending to reign in the rising cost of living.

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

Since the inception of the Department of Education, not one metric has improved. We must bring curriculum's back to a more local level, a state level, where the citizens can hold more accountability. This one size fits all does not work for education. We truly have not allowed the public schools to innovate; think about it, the classroom looks exactly the same as it did 100 years ago. In addition to bringing education control back to the state level, I am fully supportive of school choice and open enrollment. The parents must have more control over their children's education. School choice allows parents to more easily support the schools that they believe are better, more efficient, schools that actually care about every student.

How would you reduce hyperpartisanship and promote civility?

Libertarians in general bring a voice of reason to the table, a voice of focus back to why we are here. Being a politician is not about the individual politician, it's not about party affiliation, it's definitely not about re-election, it's about the constituents and doing right by them. I'm not

sure I alone can bring back respectful discourse about the issues, but I can try by pointing out all of the opportunities to help being overlooked by those too busy quibbling about insignificant, superficial issues.

Justice of the Supreme Court - January 1 - DEMOCRAT

Marilyn Zayas

Facebook

www.facebook.com/Judge.MarilynZayas/

Website

judgemarilynzayas.com

Twitter/X

[@vote4JudgeZayas](https://twitter.com/vote4JudgeZayas)

Education

J.D. University of Cincinnati College of Law • CCNY Bachelor's in Computer Science

Training and Experience

Ohio Court of Appeals Judge since 2016 • Attorney nearly 20 years • Provided legal education and training to attorneys, including prosecutors, criminal defense attorneys, and civil litigators • Alum of the FBI Citizens Academy • Procter & Gamble IT Manager

Volunteer/Community Service

Creator and program manager for “Educating Tomorrow’s Leaders” student program • U.C. College of Law Dean’s Advisory Board • Past Board member of Beech Acres Parenting Center • Past Board member of Catholic Charities of Southwest Ohio

List your judicial experience (courts and years).

Ohio Court of Appeals Judge, First Appellate District, 2016–present, deciding more than 2,000 cases throughout Ohio. In 2025, I was selected by the Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court

three times within 40 days to sit by designation on the Ohio Supreme Court in place of a recused justice. I have also been previously appointed by the Chief Justice to sit by designation on the Ohio Supreme Court and on the Second, Sixth, Eighth, and Tenth District Courts of Appeals.

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

My non-judicial experience is shaped by both my personal journey and my legal career. I overcame growing up in a neighborhood devastated by drugs and crime and was raised by a mother with a seventh-grade education who worked as a factory seamstress. From her, I learned the values of hard work, perseverance, and integrity. I later earned a degree in computer science and worked as an IT manager at Procter & Gamble, where I developed strong analytical and problem-solving skills. After working my way through law school, I spent nearly 20 years as an attorney, litigating cases and representing individuals, families, and businesses. These experiences help me understand how the law affects people's lives and prepare me to make thoughtful, fair, and independent judicial decisions.

Why are you running for this specific court seat?

I am running for our Ohio Supreme Court because our highest court must be a beacon of integrity and impartiality – free from politics and guided by the Constitution, law, and facts that protect all Ohioans. After nearly a decade on the Court of Appeals and appointments by the Chief Justice to the Supreme Court, I've built a record of fair, ethical decisions that earn trust across party lines. As a political outsider who has represented Ohioans from all walks of life, I understand how the law affects families. Seven justices decide cases we all must follow and set ethical standards for attorneys. Different perspectives lead to better solutions. As confidence in our courts declines, I will leave politics at the door and deliver common-sense rulings that uphold public safety and accountability.

What major challenges do courts face today? How would you address them?

Courts today face a critical challenge: restoring public trust. Politics have no place in the courtroom and should never influence judicial decisions. Cases must be decided based on the Constitution, the law, and the facts. The Ohio Supreme Court is uniquely positioned to help address this challenge. It has the authority to expand specialized dockets – such as those for mental health, veterans, human trafficking survivors, drug recovery, and complex commercial disputes – which provide accountable, problem-solving alternatives that help break cycles of crime. The Court also sets ethical standards for Ohio's judges and attorneys and must ensure integrity and consistency in its decisions. By emphasizing fairness, transparency, and practical solutions, we can strengthen confidence in our courts.

What do you perceive as the greatest obstacle to justice, if any?

The greatest obstacle to justice is unequal resources: wealth provides advantages that hard-working Americans often lack.

This affects cases from the outset. Public defenders face heavy caseloads with limited support. In civil matters – such as custody and family disputes – many cannot afford attorneys, preventing them from pursuing cases or forcing them to represent themselves at a major disadvantage.

Even small fines or fees can lead to escalating barriers.

This challenges our ideal of equal treatment under the law. Practical, bipartisan initiatives – such as better funding for legal aid, greater access to information about court proceedings, and streamlined processes – can level the playing field while maintaining public safety and accountability for all.

Justice of the Supreme Court – January 1 - REPUBLICAN

Daniel R. Hawkins - no response received

Justice of the Supreme Court – January 2 - DEMOCRAT

Jennifer Brunner

Facebook

www.facebook.com/jenniferbrunner

Website

justicebrunner.com

Twitter/X

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

Education

Miami University 1975-1978 B.S. Sociology-Gerontology, Cum Laude; Capital University Law School 1979-1982 J.D. Law (1983), Order of the Curia; University of York, UK, PhD, Sociology (remote study) expected 2027

Training and Experience

Justice, Supreme Court of Ohio, elected 2020; Judge, Tenth District Court of Appeals, 2014 – 2021; Judge, Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, 2000 – 2005; Secretary of State of Ohio, January 2007 – 2011; private law practice, 3/1987 – 12/2000, 9/2005 – 1/2007, 1/2011 -

12/2014.

Volunteer/Community Service

Past Board Member, Center for Community Solutions, Cleveland (2013 to 2019); Past Board Chair/Member, Legacy Fund of Central Ohio (2012 to 2021); OxFam America, Ambassador (2014-2021); various local and state government boards (1991-2021).

List your judicial experience (courts and years).

Supreme Court of Ohio, Justice (2021-Present); Ohio Appellate Judge - 10th District Court of Appeals (2014-2020), Franklin County Court of Common Pleas Court (2000-2005), founder of Treatment is Essential to Success (TIES) felony drug court in 2004, still in operation; International Governance and Rule of Law Experience to National Center for State Courts for Serbian Ministry of Justice and misdemeanor judges (2012-2013); conducted training onsite for Sri Lanka Bar Association (2015); USAID observer of 3 elections in Egypt, working with judges who supervised elections (2014-2015); remote volunteer for American Bar Association (ABA) for NGOs in Kazakhstan, producing video training for civil society advocacy, and onsite consultant to Benin Human Rights Commission for ABA (2022).

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

As Ohio's first woman Secretary of State (2007-2011), I served as the state's chief election officer and supervised the state's 88 bipartisan county boards of elections; promulgated rules and issued directives and instructions for the fair conduct of elections in Ohio. I oversaw a staff of 200 and was personally involved in settling litigation issues on election administration regarding the 2008 Obama election. I received the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award, the nation's most prestigious award for elected public servants, for what Caroline Kennedy called, "dauntless commitment to the enfranchisement of every Ohio voter."

Why are you running for this specific court seat?

Ruth Bader Ginsburg's 2016 book, *In My Own Words*, inspired me to understand just how focused she was on improving the lives of women and on equality, even before she was an attorney, judge or U.S. Supreme Court Justice. She also understood that collegiality among her colleagues was essential to forging a path to accomplish her goals. As the only Democrat on the Ohio Supreme Court, I understand that and have worked to develop relationships that help me to contribute to Ohio law so that rule of law may stay strong and justice for all be more than an idea.

What major challenges do courts face today? How would you address them?

My judicial philosophy is based in fairness, equality and respect. The rule of law exists to provide fairness in human endeavors, which allows individuals to live peaceably among one

another with predictability, safety and a springboard for their individual pursuit of happiness. In a democracy bound to the rule of law, it is inherently recognized by members of such a society that there is something greater than themselves in the law to help all people govern their own affairs. When the keepers of the rule of law of that society remember that they work in service to the people, the law works to the good of the people and their freedoms.

What do you perceive as the greatest obstacle to justice, if any?

I believe that we must continue to improve access to justice through legal reform initiatives. That is why I have advocated for the use of technology to improve court efficiency and accessibility.

Commitment to diversity and inclusion within the judiciary also requires vigilance in making sure our courts reflect the diversity in our state.

Finally, I believe that public confidence in the independence of our courts is imperative. Justice requires fairness, access and rule of law in decision making. It is neither red nor blue. It is and should be above the fray of politics.

Justice of the Supreme Court - January 2 - REPUBLICAN

Colleen O'Donnell - no response received

Andrew King - no response received

Ronald Lewis - no response received

Jill Lanzinger

Facebook

www.facebook.com/share/1NS2tYm77N/?mibexti

Website

Judgejilllanzinger.com

Education

Heidelberg University majoring in Political Science and Psychology, University of Akron School of Law (Law Review)

Training and Experience

Judge Jill has been an Ohio judge for over ten years. Additionally, she has served at all three levels of the judiciary, the municipal court, common pleas court, and now the appellate court.

Volunteer/Community Service

Judge Jill served on two non-profit boards, the Polar Bear Club and the Portage Lakes Advisory Council

List your judicial experience (courts and years).

Judge Jill is currently a judge at the Ninth District Court of Appeals. Judge Jill has served as an Ohio Judge for over ten years. She served at the Barberton Municipal Court for over five years. She served at the Common Pleas Court for over two years. She has now served at the Ninth District Court of Appeals for over three years. Additionally, she served as a part-time magistrate at the Akron Municipal Court.

While serving at the Barberton Municipal Court, Judge Jill founded the Barberton Municipal Drug Court.

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

Judge Jill was a private practice attorney for over 10 years. While a lawyer, she won a case at the Ohio Supreme Court giving victims of childhood sexual abuse a longer statute of limitations to bring civil suits.

Why are you running for this specific court seat?

I am running for the Ohio Supreme Court because I'm committed to upholding the rule of law, protecting the rights of all Ohioans, and ensuring our justice system is fair and transparent. With over ten years of experience as an Ohio judge, I've developed a deep understanding of Ohio law. I'm prepared to serve on the Ohio Supreme Court.

What major challenges do courts face today? How would you address them?

In 2025, I was a victim of stalking by a former criminal defendant in my court. I experienced the justice system as a victim. The Ohio judiciary must ensure that victims have access to justice. Additionally, I would like to advocate for a state-wide court filing system with uniform rules.

What do you perceive as the greatest obstacle to justice, if any?

There is an attorney shortage in Ohio and the length of time and expense it takes to litigate some cases.

Court of Appeals Judge - REPUBLICAN

Mark C. Miller - no response received

County Commissioner - REPUBLICAN

Bill Frankart

Education, Occupation, Training, Qualifications, and Experience:

I am a lifelong grain farmer of approximately 4000 acres in Seneca County. I oversee all business operations, including budgeting, managing employees, equipment maintenance, and farm planning.

I served as an Adams Township for four terms. In that position, I worked closely with the county engineer on drainage and road projects and oversaw maintenance of equipment and township buildings. I was known for being fiscally responsible and conservative.

Elected as Seneca County Commissioner in 2022, I have worked to improve county health and safety; ensured a healthy annual budget; oversaw the reorganization of the Seneca County Regional Planning Office, which helped enhance our grant writing capabilities; and strengthened relationships with other local and state officials.

I am a 1989 Clyde High School and Vanguard Sentinel Career Center graduate.

My current community service includes:

- Seneca County Farm Bureau member, 35+ years
- Clyde Young Farmers volunteer, 30+ years
- St. Mary's Catholic Church
- 4H advisor, 30+ years
- Clyde FFA volunteer
- Republican Century Club

- Seneca County Republicans, Fair Tent Chair

My past professional service includes:

Seneca County Soil & Water Board member

- Seneca County Regional Planning Board member
- Steering committee for county broadband
- Committee for Countywide EMS

Question 1: What are your three main priorities if you are elected?

There are many projects I am looking forward to finishing and new ones I would like to start as I continue to help make Seneca County a better place to live and work. Focusing on my top three priorities, I plan to support county efforts to open the Ag building, which will house the USDA's Farm Service Agency and the Natural Resources Conservation Service; the Seneca County Soil and Water Conservation District; and the OSU-Extension office, which will include space for the Master Gardener program. This project repurposed an existing building and will create easier access to agricultural services.

I want to also focus on completing construction of the newest Seneca County EMS station on SR 19 in Adams Township. This station will further decrease emergency response time in the county, helping to save lives.

My third priority is the formation of the Seneca County Solid Waste District. As the solid waste district is being formed, a final committee of seven will work with a landfill consultant to create a solid waste plan for the county that will best meet the needs of local residents.

Question 2: Are there any significant changes you would like to make to the budget for this office?

Budget decisions will be made by all three commissioners, with input from the county administrator. Our main priority is always fiscal responsibility. To me, that means finding ways to maximize savings and cutting costs without impacting quality of life.

We are very conscientious of the budget. We watch financial trends related to sales tax, as that is the county's largest revenue source, and we are committed to saving money in the Budget Stabilization Fund, our "rainy day fund." This is used to stabilize our budget in case of any unexpected increases for unfunded mandates for which we are responsible. We have been working on energy-efficiency projects throughout county buildings because, with the increased costs of electricity, we want to maximize the savings.

Jim Distel

Born and raised in Hopewell Township, Jim Distel is the son of Bernie Distel and Peg Elchert Distel. A graduate of Calvert High School and The Ohio State University, Jim returned home after college to build his career, raise his family, and serve the community he cares deeply about.

For nearly three decades, Jim has worked face-to-face with residents every day as Service Manager at Reineke Tiffin Ford Lincoln. In that role, he has helped families solve problems, manage repairs, and make important decisions. His professional career has been built on trust, accountability, and delivering real solutions when they matter most.

Jim has also served as a Clinton Township Trustee for more than 20 years and was recently re-elected to another term. He has worked closely with department leaders, county officials, and community partners to address challenges not only in Clinton Township but across Seneca County.

Through strong fiscal management and long-term planning, Jim and his fellow trustees successfully delivered a new township hall and firehouse without raising taxes. By focusing on responsible budgeting and disciplined spending, they made major improvements while protecting taxpayers.

His commitment to the community spans decades. Jim has served more than 20 years on the Sentinel Advisory Board and Regional Planning and has worked alongside local agencies, including law enforcement, emergency services, and community organizations. He has always believed in stepping up, working together, and doing what is right for the people he serves. Jim believes leadership means accountability, collaboration, and putting residents first. He is committed to protecting tax dollars, planning for the future, and ensuring Seneca County continues to move forward with steady, common-sense leadership.

Question 1 What are your three main priorities if you are elected?

First, I will always prioritize protecting Seneca County taxpayer dollars. We will consistently do a review of the county's budget to ensure that we are fiscally responsible and efficient with taxpayer dollars. I will not hesitate to combine county staff positions and eliminate wasteful spending.

Second, I will work to reduce costs and enhance economic opportunities for residents. Making government more efficient will lessen the tax burden on residents as we are facing a serious property tax issue in Ohio. Seneca County should look to bring good paying jobs and economic drivers that enhance our tax base. But we should always put resident feedback first and protect rural communities from unwanted development.

Finally, I will be a proactive and responsive commissioner when residents have major concerns. Whether it's the landfill, poultry issue, wind and solar, or other major challenges facing our community, I will always put residents first and fight for our people.

Question 2 Are there any significant changes you would like to make to the budget for this office?

My philosophy will be to reduce unnecessary costs whenever possible and prioritize efficiency in county government. We need to reduce the tax burden on residents and the only way to accomplish that is through smart budget management.

In terms of investment, I will prioritize supporting law enforcement and safety services. The county EMS will need capital investment in the coming years. Smart financial planning now will pay dividends in the long run.

I will also ensure we have adequate funding for our Health Department so it can effectively oversee the landfill issue.

County Auditor - REPUBLICAN

Julie A. Adkins

Julie A. Adkins has served as Seneca County Auditor since 2008, bringing over 35 years of experience in county government, including nearly two decades in the Auditor's Office prior to her appointment. Throughout her tenure, she has focused on strengthening operations, improving transparency, and ensuring responsible stewardship of taxpayer resources.

She has been recognized by her peers across Ohio for her leadership and contributions to the profession. Julie is a multiple recipient of the Auditor of State Award with Distinction. In 2023, she was honored with the Richard J. Makowski Award by the County Auditors' Association of Ohio, recognizing her leadership, collaboration, and commitment to advancing the work of county auditors statewide. In 2025, she received the Career Achievement Award from the Ohio Government Finance Officers Association for her longstanding service and impact in public finance.

Julie has also served in key leadership roles, including President of the County Auditors' Association of Ohio and the Northwest District Auditors' Association. She recently completed her term on the Board of the Ohio Government Finance Officers Association and continues to serve on its Education Committee, reflecting her strong commitment to professional development and continuing education.

She remains actively involved in the Tiffin community. She is a member and past president of the Tiffin Kiwanis Club and serves as President of the Kiwanis Club of Tiffin Foundation, along with participating in several other local organizations.

Julie is a graduate of Tiffin University and New Riegel High School. She and her husband, Richard (Rusty), have been married for over 37 years. They have a daughter, Erica (Michael Lasky), and are proud grandparents of two granddaughters. They are members of All Saints Parish in New Riegel.

Question 1: What are your three main priorities if you are elected?

- **Transparency:** Continue enhancing access to financial and property information through the Auditor’s website and GIS system, ensuring residents have clear, accurate information about property values, taxes, and county finances.
- **Operational Excellence:** Build on the office’s strong foundation by investing in technology, maintaining well-trained staff, and continuously improving processes to ensure accuracy, efficiency, and compliance with changing laws and standards.
- **Public Service and Accountability:** Maintain a responsive and accessible office while upholding high standards of fiscal responsibility, ensuring taxpayer resources are managed effectively and with integrity.

Question 2: Are there any significant changes you would like to make to the budget for this office?

- The office is currently operating from a strong and well-managed budget, and no significant changes are needed at this time. Careful fiscal management and long-term planning have positioned the office to maintain stability while meeting operational needs.
- The focus will remain on responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars, ongoing evaluation of operations to identify efficiencies, and strategic investments in technology to support security, transparency, and long-term cost control. Maintaining a high level of service while maximizing existing resources will continue to be a priority.

Judge of the Court of Common Pleas (Probate) - REPUBLICAN

Jay A. Meyer - no response received

DEMOCRAT State Central Committee (Man)

Chris Liebold - no response received

Randy Weston

(editor's note: answers to specific questions were not provided)

Candidate for State Central Committeeman – Ohio Democratic Party, Senate District 26

I'm a graduate of Ridgedale High School and Stetson University. I currently serve as Political and Legislative Director for the Ohio Association of Public School Employees. With over 35 years of experience, I have dedicated my career to helping elect Democrats at every level of government while also having served 5 terms in the Ohio House of Representatives.

My priorities include supporting strong, proven leadership like Dr. Amy Acton for Governor, working to fully fund Ohio's public schools, addressing the burden of property taxes, and ensuring affordable healthcare for all.

Thank you and I would truly appreciate your support.

DEMOCRAT State Central Committee (Woman)

Gina R. Grandillo - no response received

Brandi R. Downs - no response received

REPUBLICAN State Central Committee (Man)

Charles A. Knight - no response received

Justin C. Smith - no response received

Fred Vogel - no response received

REPUBLICAN State Central Committee (Woman)

Susan Platt - no response received

LIBERTARIAN State Central Committee

Carl E. Fryman II - no response received

(only one candidate for two seats)

NOTE: Democrat County Central Committee seats were on the ballot in 2024 for a four year term, and will be on the ballot again in 2028, not 2026. No candidates filed for the Libertarian County Central Committee. So, only Republican ballots will have County Central Committee seats, by precinct as follows:

REPUBLICAN County Central Committee

FOSTORIA 1-A

James Ehrman - no response received

Veronica Lee Cooper

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the 2026 Primary Voter Guide.

Education, Occupation, Training, Qualifications, and Experience:

I hold a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology. I am also an active member of the American Chemical Society. I'm in the process of forming a Young Republican chapter in Seneca County to help build the next generation of leadership. I'm focused on growing grassroots and civic engagement in the community.

Question 1: What are your three main priorities if you are elected?

1. Strengthening local engagement. I want to increase participation in our local party organization by encouraging more residents to get involved, stay informed, and take part in the political process at the precinct level.
2. Supporting effective communication with voters. My focus is on helping connect community members with accurate information about local activities, candidates, and opportunities to participate, so that more people feel included and represented.
3. Building future leadership. I am working to establish a Young Republican chapter in Seneca County to help involve younger residents in civic life and develop the next generation of local leaders.

Question 2: Are there any significant changes you would like to make to the budget for this office?

Central Committee members do not have independent budget authority. I do not anticipate any significant changes to the budget associated with this office.

FOSTORIA 1-B

Bryon J. Nonnemaker - no response received

Barbara S. Patterson - no response received

Logan Shackelford - no response received

FOSTORIA 3-A

Linda S. Bourne-Davis - no response received

FOSTORIA 3-B

Sarena Rachelle Reese - no response received

FOSTORIA 4-A

Tara R. Smith - no response received

Charles Knight - no response received

FOSTORIA 4-B

Carol Schalk - no response received

Melvin J. Clagg - no response received

TIFFIN 1-A

Gregory P. Dell - no response received

TIFFIN 1-B

Kade Rowe

Education, Occupation, Training, Qualifications, and Experience:

Experience

- Charter Review Commission (2020–2021)
- Thomas Conner Memorial Commission (2022–Present)
- Seneca County League of Women Voters Board of Directors & City Council Observer (2022–2024)

Education & Training

- Heidelberg University (2024–Present), 3.6 GPA; involved in CRU, Student Senate, Student Prince poetry club; Student Representative to the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
- Tiffin Citizens Police Academy (2022) – hands-on training and ride-along
- Sentinel Career and Technology Center – Careers in Education (2018–2020)
- Tiffin Columbian High School Diploma (2016–2020)

Occupation

- Food Service Worker, Parkhurst Dining at Heidelberg University (Oct 2022–Present)
- Assistant Teacher/Substitute Teacher, YMCA (Nov 2021–Present)
- Volunteer Coordinator, YMCA (Oct 2022–May 2024; Sept 2025–Present)
- Swim Instructor, YMCA (Sept 2022–Feb 2024)

Qualifications

- Leadership and organizational experience managing volunteer groups (10–50 people)
- Experience in early childhood education and development
- Strong communication and public service skills
- Knowledge of local government and civic processes

1. First and foremost, I want to ensure that every local office in the City of Tiffin has at least one qualified candidate for the 2027 city elections. This includes candidates for mayor, law director, and all four city council wards.

Second, I want to make sure these candidates are positioned to succeed and win. This includes, but is not limited to, providing strong financial support, campaign resources, and organizational backing.

Lastly, I want to bring more young people into the Republican Party, particularly college students and others in that age group.

2. I would like to see more funding and resources directed toward local races, rather than statewide races that are already sufficiently funded and are considered safe wins for the party.

Denise M. Stephens - no response received

Charles Boyer

Bio: A resident of Tiffin for 35 years, **Charles W. Boyer** has dedicated his life to public safety in Seneca County. Currently the Chief Deputy at the Sheriff's Office, Charles previously spent nearly 28 years with the Tiffin Police Department, where he led the METRICH Enforcement Unit. His deep investigative experience is backed by a degree in Criminal Justice and advanced training in executive leadership. Outside of uniform, Charles is a family man at heart, celebrating 40 years of marriage with his wife, Kimberly, their three children, and seven grandchildren.

Question 1:

1. Strengthen local GOP organization and grassroots outreach, recruit and train volunteers across Seneca County's small towns and townships (Tiffin, Fostoria area communities, and surrounding villages), attend regular precinct-level meetings, and build relationships with farmers, small-business owners, veterans, and younger voters to grow turnout and

engagement.

2. Recruit and support strong conservative candidates for local offices, identify and mentor credible candidates for county and township positions, provide practical campaign resources (volunteer coordination, messaging, voter data), and ensure coordinated efforts for school board, county commission, and municipal races.

3. Protect election integrity and increase voter access/education – run targeted voter-registration and turnout drives, promote transparent, lawful administration of elections, and provide clear, nonpartisan civic-education resources so voters understand local ballot issues and candidate positions.

Question 2:

1. I will work collaboratively, transparently, and proactively to build a stronger Republican presence across Seneca County. I would focus on emphasizing a "solutions-focused mindset" to mediate disagreements and keep the committee focused on shared financial priorities, rather than "issues that don't matter in the bigger picture".

Thank you!

TIFFIN 1-C

Christopher J. Englehart - no response received

TIFFIN 2-A

Logan Wolph

Education, Occupation, Training, Qualifications, and Experience:

HLHS salutatorian, BGSU bachelor degree graduate with honors in Biology, Fostoria Community Band member, currently employed as AI programmer

Question 1: What are your three main priorities if you are elected?

Answer:

I am concerned about issues related to: 1) Medical freedom 2) Environmental protection 3) Election integrity. I think adding new members to the committee can spark fresh ideas to reach higher goals. I have always been interested in politics from a very young age and would like to get more involved on a local level. I am excited to run alongside my grandfather (Joe Poignon) and my father. Having three of us on the ballot is a great feeling.

Question 2: Are there any significant changes you would like to make to the budget for this office?

Answer:

I have always been concerned about maintaining my own good credit by avoiding overspending. I will do the same for this committee. Fiscal responsibility is a priority.

Adams A. Engle - no response received

TIFFIN 2-B

Patricia S. Woods

I graduated from Mohawk High School and then received an Associates degree in Accounting with a Payroll Certification. I have worked in the accounting field for over forty years. I love numbers and follow business policies.

If elected, the priorities that I have are to be there for all the meetings, make a positive change for the Republican Party and bring election integrity to Seneca County.

I will bring my strong faith to this committee for the voters of Seneca County to be the best voice that the people need.

Thank You for your support,

Daryl M. McDonald - no response received

TIFFIN 3-A

Mark P. Leahy - no response received

Thomas Turco - no response received

TIFFIN 3-B

Glenn Ardner - no response received

Jon L. Aldrich - no response received

TIFFIN 3-C

Bruce Shook - no response received

TIFFIN 3-D

Robin Reaves - no response received

Harvey S. Yocum - deceased, but votes will still be counted

TIFFIN 4-A

Kyle R. Daugherty - no response received

Brian Cole - no response received

TIFFIN 4-B

Tyler Shuff - no response received

David W. Koehl

Education:

Tiffin Columbian High School, graduate, 1974

Ohio State University, Columbus, 1974-1976

Oxford University, Oxford, England, summer semester, 1975

Franklin University, Columbus, graduate, 1978

Bachelor of Public Administration; associate, Business Administration

Occupation:

Founder and owner, Paper and Ink, 1978 to 2021 (closed by a fire), online sales 2021-present

Government and Political experience:

Chairman, Seneca County Board of Elections, 2023-2025; member 2014-2025

Member, Legislative Committee, Ohio Association of Election Officials, 2021-2025. CCAO liaison

Chairman, Seneca County Republican Executive Committee, 2006-2014, 2018-2020

Chairman, Seneca County Republican Central Committee, 2012-2014, 2018-2020

former Vice Chairman, Treasurer, various committees, dinners, fairs, headquarters, events organized student trips to meet state and local officials

Precinct committeeman, 1974-present

Elected member, Tiffin City School Board, 1978-1981
Candidate, delegate, national convention, 1996, 2008, 2012
recruited and supported various candidates for local, state, and federal offices, 1968-present
Sandusky County-Seneca County-City of Tiffin Port Authority 2025-present
Tiffin Civil Service Commission, Secretary 2012-2014, Chairman 2015-2018
Tiffin Architectural Board, Chairman
Tiffin Shade Tree Commission
Intern, Ohio Senate
League of Women Voters, executive committee 2025-present
CERT Community Emergency Response Team 2024-present

Question 1: What are your three main priorities if you are elected?

The local party should recruit and support decent candidates to address local and statewide problems, rather than frequently stoking outrage to further divide us. We should be building our party for the long term by rewarding volunteers, welcoming regular voters and cultivating future local candidates, not just fund raise at every event. Unfortunately, the national party and some local groups have gone astray from many traditional Republican principles such as respect for our nation's allies, free trade, and a balanced budget. Instead, they spread fear and division. The local party should recruit and support respectable candidates with consistent values rather than candidates with endlessly shifting policies based on the latest whim of a single individual.

I have been a member of this committee since high school, and have served in every office except Secretary. During that time we have been remarkably successful in winning nearly every office at every level of government. But three of the six current officers have caused deep divisions in the Central Committee, which is mired in petty squabbles such as calling a special meeting to decide what day of the week to hold future meetings! Bylaws are routinely flouted and party communication outlets are used to spread lies and conspiracy theories. Large sums of money are sent to statewide candidates without a vote of the full committee, while local candidates in contested races sometimes receive not a penny. The county party desperately needs new leadership for both chairman and chairwoman, who are both responsible for the deep division in the local organization. We need to restore a civil discourse, where we can disagree but remain friends, rather than punish dissent.

All party resources should be available to all party candidates in the primary. Voters should decide the party's candidates, not a small group of insiders. I have always been opposed to the Central Committee endorsing candidates in the primary, even if I have a strong personal preference for a specific individual. I served on the bylaws committee when we set a 75% threshold vote to get a committee endorsement, deliberately high to discourage it. When I was chairman I always offered all primary candidates equal opportunities at any event.

Question 2: Are there any significant changes you would like to make to the budget for this office?

According to the January 31, 2026 Treasurer's Report, the committee currently has \$51,574.07 in three accounts as a result of numerous fundraisers and a lack of financial support to some local candidates in contested races. Making every event a fundraiser drives away existing volunteers and does not bring in regular voters or new volunteers needed for long term success. Going back again and again to an existing donor base too often at an ever-increasing ticket price eventually drives them away too. Then the money raised is funneled to statewide candidates without a vote of the full committee. The money belongs to the full committee, not a select few to ship it off to Columbus or Washington instead of cultivating new local candidates to help them win their first local campaign. Some of our statewide candidates are so personally wealthy that they are fully capable of self-funding their campaign without begging for donations. We should be building our party for the long term by rewarding volunteers, welcoming regular voters and cultivating future local candidates, not just beg, beg at every event.

TIFFIN 4-C

Brian Wesley Ferguson - no response received

Brian Courtney - no response received

TIFFIN 4-D

Carol L. Coffman

Lifelong resident of Tiffin here in Seneca County Ohio. Graduated from Columbian High School. Am retired. I have always been a Republican. Have been a poll worker for a lot of years and a voting location manager for most of those. I currently hold the seat, so I know what the Republican Central Committee is about. The Board of Elections also has me help with testing the voting equipment for logistics and accuracy. Having a good understanding of the election process helps with being on the Central Committee.

If re-elected, I will continue try to keep the committee operating within the by-laws and State of Ohio rules. The Central Committee works to support Republican candidates, so towards that, occasionally holds fundraisers. All members work towards that same goal and the only budgeting is when we decide how much to send towards Ohio and U.S. candidate's campaign.

Ryan Monahan - no response received

GREEN SPRINGS VILLAGE

Angela M. Bliss - no response received

ADAMS TOWNSHIP

Mary Luella Bordner - no response received

NEW RIEGEL VILLAGE

Andrew T. Brickner - no response received

BIG SPRING TOWNSHIP

Duane R. Alt - no response received

Allen Weinandy

Education: New Riegel High School, Sentinel Career Center, Northwest Linemen College, Indiana Technical Institute

Occupation: Director of Operations, Utility Electrical Construction Industry

Training, Qualifications, and Experience: Previously served on the Seneca County General Health District Board, Currently serve as President of the Hopewell New Riegel FFA Alumni

Question 1: What are three main priorities if you are elected? 1) Election integrity through secure elections so our entire community can ensure their voice is heard through their ballot. 2) Promote candidates who understand the responsibility of funds collected via tax dollars. 3) Promote Constitutional Conservative candidates who will adhere to those values and principles.

Question 2: Are there any significant changes you would like to make to the budget for this office? I would ensure that any funds raised are responsibly allocated. I do not take available funds for granted as I know how incredibly valuable those dollars are to those from which they come from whether donated or collected via taxes (which is not the case for this particular position).

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.

BLOOMVILLE VILLAGE

Raymond Weasner - no response received

BLOOM TOWNSHIP

Michael Marion Hess - no response received

CLINTON A

Dawn Bour - no response received

Christopher P. Widman - no response received

CLINTON B

Pauline M. Hess - no response received

James Cholodewitsch - no response received

CLINTON C

Bradley W. Newman - no response received

Gregory Alan Slosser - no response received

CLINTON D

Sandra L. Hallett

BS from Kent State University 1992

Director of Seneca County Family & Children First Council

Previous positions in Tiffin: Family and Community Liaison, Parent Mentor, Substitute

Teacher, Paraprofessional

Co Founded non profit for autism. The Seneca Autism Learning and Support Association (SALSA)

Author of 2 books on autism: How our Children with Autism raised us as Parents, Raising Ry Ry my Teenager with Autism

Board seats: Seneca Board of Developmental Disabilities, Seneca Council on Homelessness, Seneca County Community Council

Licenses: Ohio Substitute Teaching license, OSPSPA (Ohio Chemical Dependency Prevention Specialist Assistant Certificate

3 main priorities:

-Give a voice to those that don't have one

-Support the system for the party

-Help with accountability and financial stability at a grassroots level

The only significant changes I would make to a budget is to help Seneca County with fiscal responsibility, accountability and oversight if needed

Debora J. Wilkinson - no response receive

CLINTON E

Joseph Eugene Poignon - no response received

EDEN NORTH

Cary Lee Theis

I am a graduate of Mohawk High School. I received an Associate Degree from Terra Community College in HVAC. During high school and while attending college, I worked in construction. After graduation from Terra, I worked for a local HVAC company for several years until I ventured out on my own. I have operated my successful business for over 25 years.

My main priority if elected would be to enforce the Constitution as it applies to the responsibilities of the Central Committee. We need to bring back conservative and constitutional policies that reflect the original intentions of a Republican and the American First movement. It would be my goal to make sure that candidates who are appointed or endorsed follow conservative beliefs and the Constitution.

Election integrity needs to be restored. That is another priority I would like to focus on within the scope of the Central Committee's authority. This would include making sure competent individuals are appointed to open positions.

Representing the residents of Eden North Township is a top objective of mine. I am willing to listen to what the residents say and their opinions on issues that can be addressed by the Central Committee.

The Central Committee does not receive tax dollars, however, our tax dollars are spent on the salaries of elected officials. Ensuring that the best proficient candidates are endorsed and supported. It would be my objective to only give the Committee's fundraised dollars to a candidate after the primary election is held to help ensure a Republican candidate wins in the General Election. I believe that endorsements should not be given to any primary candidates as that election needs to be decided by the people. If any funds were to be given to primary candidates, it has to be the same amount to each candidate with no endorsement by the Committee.

James D. Cline

(editor's note: answers to specific questions were not provided)

My name is Jim Cline and I am asking for your support on May 05, 2026. I am a Common Sense

Fiscal Conservative running to represent Eden Township North on The Seneca County Republican Central Committee.

- I have been fortunate in representing you as your Republican Party Central Committee Member

over the last 8 years in North Eden Township.

- I believe in being a fiscal conservative in the style of Ronald Reagan.

- I believe my job is to follow the Law and be a good steward of your hard earned tax dollars.

- Common Sense conservative leadership will allow all of us to continue with the great quality of

life we enjoy in Seneca County.

- I have the experience and continuing desire to represent you in Eden North Township as I have for the last two terms.

- I have strong support among my peers as evidenced by the number of endorsements I have listed below.

- Please help me continue representing your values as your representative on the Seneca County Republican Central Committee.

- I WOULD SINCERELY APPRECIATE YOUR VOTE ON MAY 5TH!

- The following people have encouraged me to run and have endorsed my candidacy.

Sincerely,

Jim Cline

419-618-6677

jmcln@me.com

State Representative Gary Click

Former County Commissioner Mike Kerschner

Former County Commissioner Fred Zoeller

Andrew J. Felter

Rick Gillett

Dr. Mike Felton

Shawn Felton

Dr. Roy Zinn

Barbara Zinn

Jan Betz

Jim Betz

Joe Wise

Becky Wise

Jeff Clinger

Doug Dunlap

Dennis Shawberry

John Coppus
Jennifer Coppus
Tisha Turner
Debbie Fletcher
Alicia Shuff
Amber Clason
David Kraft
Pam Kraft
Delilah Abbott Woodland
Bobbie Diebert Welter
Marcia Shockley Rhoad
Linda Snay-Wymer
Doug McDonald
Sally McDonald
Greg Ranker

EDEN SOUTH

Colton Price - no response received

HOPEWELL A

Ronald R. Burns - no response received

Edward Nugent - no response received

HOPEWELL B

Charles Zoeller - no response received

Sarah Bolte

Education, Occupation, Training, Qualifications, and Experience:

I am a graduate of The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. I began my career in the Ohio House of Representatives, serving as Senior Legislative Aide to then Majority Floor Leader Barbara Sears.

I later transitioned into campaign finance where I worked for 6 years, serving as Assistant Finance Director for the Ohio Republican Senate Campaign Committee and as Finance Director for Ohio Auditor of State Keith Faber in addition to working on congressional

primaries and statewide ballot initiatives. That experience gave me a strong foundation in campaign strategy, fundraising, and political operations at both the state and national level.

Today, I operate my own and operate several businesses here in Seneca County. I currently serve on the Seneca County Republican Central Committee and am actively involved in the Ohio Farm Bureau and St. Mary's Church. My husband and I are raising our three young children here in Tiffin and are deeply invested in this community.

Question 1: What are your three main priorities if you are elected?

1. Refocus the committee on its core mission.

Over the past term, I took time to listen and learn how the committee operates. What became clear is that too much focus has been placed on internal conflict and issues that do not move the party forward. My priority is to help bring the focus back to supporting candidates and strengthening the party.

2. Strengthen candidate support and party organization.

With my background in campaign finance and statewide campaigns, I understand what it takes to run effective, disciplined operations. I want to ensure our local candidates have the structure, resources, and support needed to succeed.

3. Promote unity and productive leadership.

Differences in opinion are inevitable, but they should not lead to division. I will bring a steady, solutions-focused approach – helping mediate disagreements and ensuring the committee stays focused on shared goals so we are unified going into general elections.

Question 2: Are there any significant changes you would like to make to the budget for this office?

My focus is not on increasing spending, but on ensuring our resources are used effectively and with purpose.

The Central Committee's budget should be directed toward efforts that strengthen the party – supporting candidates, improving voter outreach, and building a more organized local operation. With my background in political finance, I understand the importance of accountability and making sure resources are aligned with clear priorities.

Any changes should be practical and focused on improving outcomes, not adding unnecessary expense.

HOPEWELL C

Juanita Ruth Stiverson - no response received

Lori A. Brickner - no response received

JACKSON TOWNSHIP

Richard A. Findley - no response received

BETTSVILLE VILLAGE

Linda Ann Davis - no response received

Kyle T. Below - no response received

LIBERTY A

Bradley A. Adelsperger - no response received

Dwight L. Clary

My name is Dwight Clary and I'm running for Republican Central Committee, Precinct - Liberty A

I'm a lifelong Republican voting resident of Seneca County. I retired from farming four years ago. We are still operating a seed business. I feel that the day to day operations of running a farm have given me real world decision making skills. The seed business has given me people skills.

It is important as a Central Committee member to ensure that the core values and principles of the U. S. Constitution are upheld by members of the Republican Party.

I believe that the Republican Party should not endorse a candidate before the primary but instead bring forward all candidates in a race equally, letting the Republican voters make an educated decision on whom they want to move forward to represent them! At that time we should get behind those candidates.

Sometimes the Republican Central committee has to field candidates to replace an elected official that can not complete his term of office. When this happens we need to make sure our selection of candidates have the same core values and principles as the Constitution!!

Our day to day efforts should be to promote these Constitutional values by listening to and working with the Republican voters we represent.

As a Constitutional Conservative I am respectfully asking for your vote on May 5th, Thank

You!

LIBERTY B

Larry A. Durst - no response received

LOUDON NORTH

Clay Wesley Wolph

Education, Occupation, Training, Qualifications, and Experience:

Bachelor's Degree- OSU Pre-Med

Doctorate- Life University, Georgia

30 years as Doctor of Chiropractic, Wolph Chiropractic Wellness Centers

Licensed Acupuncturist , and owner of Dairy Queen Fostoria

President- Seneca County Board of Health

Incumbent- Currently a Central Committee member

Past Board of Elections Poll Manager and current member of Fostoria Community Band

Question 1: What are your three main priorities if you are elected?

1) Bring great candidates into the central committee to bring fresh ideas and encourage more local participation. 2) help to bring awareness and information to the community with regard to local issues. 3) promote candidates and legislation that work to protect our air, soil, water and quality of life.

Question 2: Are there any significant changes you would like to make to the budget for this office?

I have already brought an idea to the committee to save money on a project that saved us thousands. I have always been fiscally conservative and work to find ways to save money and make every dollar go farther. I feel it's important to protect hard earned dollars that are contributed to our party.

Clay Wolph- Loudon Twp.

Cheri L. Feindel - no response received

LOUDON SOUTH

Susan Ann Platt - no response received

Nicholas C. Birch - WRITE IN - no response received

PLEASANT TOWNSHIP

Joyce Dian West - no response received

REED TOWNSHIP

James Wurm - no response received

REPUBLIC VILLAGE

Michael Oberlander

My name is Michael Oberlander, 23 years a resident of Republic, and running for re election to the seat on the Seneca County Republican Central Committee, representing the Village of Republic, that I have held for four terms, since 2010.

It is important to note that although this election May 5th is called a Primary, the winners of all Central Committee seats in Seneca County get the seat immediately, to be sworn in by June 1st, or sooner.

EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS:

I currently hold this seat for 16 years and during that time, I have never missed an evening meeting. During same time, I missed only one monthly luncheon due to major snowstorm.

In September, 2020, the County Chairman appointed me chair of the monthly luncheons, responsible for co ordinating with host Fort Ball Pizza in Tiffin to make sure they know date and time of next luncheon and if we will have controversial speaker, so they can make necessary preparations, and I must be present at each luncheon to co ordinate activities. I have been re appointed to same position annually ever since.

I have held a seat on Republic Village Council 9 years, the first three as Community Member, appointed by mayor, assigned to Utility Committee. The next six as voting seat holder, assigned to Finance Committee and one year served as President Pro Tem of Council.

I have served as mostly Voting Location Manager, and few times as Precinct Election Official, appointed by Board of Elections more than ten years. Also invited four times to be part of team that tests voting machines before every election.

My priorities, if elected, are to maintain the high standards of the Committee, to continue to chair luncheons, inviting interesting speakers for the attendees at luncheons, and to participate in debates and important votes of issues that come before the Committee. I am passionate to continue these most interesting functions despite Committee members receiving no pay and no OPERS benefits for their services.

The budget of the Committee is self funded from events held or voluntary contributions. This seems to work well, as no outside funding can be used to influence Committee votes.

I seek support and votes from the citizens and registered voters of Republic, and am available to answer any questions about my qualifications and experience. Please feel free to call or contact me as follows:

419 585-7702 home
567 230-0419 cell

The_judge_mobile@yahoo.com. e mail

Thank you for your consideration.

Tanya Hemmer - no response received

SCIPIO TOWNSHIP

Brian Hescht - no response received

SENECA A

Erika Handru - no response received

SENECA B

Kathleen A. Yost - no response received

THOMPSON TOWNSHIP

Deborah A. Hay - no response received

Zachary Adams - no response received

ATTICA VILLAGE

Keith D. Hople - no response received

Dorothy L. Treft - no response received

VENICE TOWNSHIP

Stephen Phillip Heal - no response received

Early Voting Hours

May 5, 2026 Primary Election Information

In Person Early Voting Hours

Dates	Times
Tuesday, April 7, 2026 - Friday, April 24, 2026	8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Monday, April 27, 2026	7:30 am to 7:30 pm
Tuesday, April 28, 2026	7:30 am to 8:30 pm
Wednesday, April 29, 2026 - Friday, May 1, 2026	7:30 am to 7:30 pm
Saturday, May 2, 2026	8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Sunday, May 3, 2026	1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Absentee Ballots must be received to the Board of Elections office by 7:30pm on Election Day, May 5

May 5, 2026 - Primary Election (Polls Open 6:30am-7:30pm)

Absentee ballots, returned in person or via U.S. Mail, must be received by the boards of elections by close of polls at 7:30 pm May 5, 2026

UOCAVA (military and overseas citizens) absentee ballots must be received by boards of elections by May 9 to be counted (4 days after general election)

Polling locations:

(Note: Many locations have changed in 2025 or 2026)

Precinct Number(s)	Precinct Name	Precinct Location
001/037	Fostoria 1-A & Jackson Township	UAW Hall
002/003/004/005	Fostoria 1-B/3-A/3-B/4-A	Fostoria Learning Center
006	Fostoria 4-B	Good Shepherd Home - Promedica Building
007/008/020	Tiffin 1-A/1-B/4-D	Trinity UCC
009/010/012	Tiffin 1-C/2-A/2-C	Tiffin Developmental Center
011/013/015	Tiffin 2-B/3-A/3-C	St. Mary's School
014/016/034	Tiffin 3-B/3-D & Hopewell A	NCOESC
017/018/019	Tiffin 4-A/4-B/4-C	First Lutheran Church
021/022	Green Springs & Adams Township	Rodger Young VFW Hall
023/024	New Riegel Village & Big Spring Township	NR Jr. High Gym
025/026	Bloomville Village & Bloom Township	Bloomville Community Center
027/028/030	Clinton A/B/D	Clinton Twp. Fire Station #1
029/031/032/033	Clinton C/E & Eden North/South	Seneca County JFS
035/036/041/042	Hopewell B/C & Loudon North/South	Old Hopewell-Loudon High School Gym
038/039/040/043	Bettsville Village & Liberty A/B Pleasant Township	Bettsville American Legion Pleasant Twp. House
044/050/051	Reed Township/Attica Village/Venice Township	Attica Fairgrounds - Social Hall
045/046	Republic Village & Scipio Township	Scipio Twp. Annex Building
047/048	Seneca A & B	Mohawk Fire Department
049	Thompson Township	Ebenezer Community Church\

Seneca County (OH) Board of Elections Web site: <https://www.boe.ohio.gov/seneca/>,
71 S. Washington St.

Suite 1101

Tiffin, OH 44883

If you have questions or need more info please call the office at **419-447-4424**.

Voting schedule

<https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voting-schedule>

Voter Identification Requirements / Types of Valid ID

To vote, voters must show a valid form of photo identification (ID) that has the voter's name and photograph, and the identification must not be expired.

Acceptable Forms of Identification

Acceptable forms of photo ID under Ohio law are:

- Ohio driver license, State of Ohio ID card, or interim ID form issued by the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV).
- A United States (U.S.) passport or U.S. passport card.
- A U.S. military ID card, U.S. military dependent ID card, Ohio National Guard ID card, or U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ID card.

Unacceptable Types of Identification

Ohio law prohibits acceptance of the following as forms of ID:

- Utility bill;
- Bank statement;
- Government check;
- Paycheck;
- Other government document (other than acceptable forms listed above), such as a Social Security card or birth certificate;
- Driver license or photo identification card issued by a state other than Ohio;
- Ohio NON RENEWABLE/NON TRANSFERABLE ID;
- Driver license or photo identification that contains a "NONCITIZEN" identifier may be used only in conjunction with additional proof of citizenship.
- Ohio Mobile ID;
- Insurance card; or
- Any registration acknowledgment notice from the county board of elections.

Proof of Citizenship

"Proof of citizenship" means verifying that a voter is a U.S. citizen. Acceptable forms of proof include:

- A current Ohio driver license or state ID that doesn't indicate noncitizen status.
- Birth certificate, report of birth certification, or consular report of birth abroad.
- A current U.S. passport, passport card, or copies of their identification pages.
- Certificate of naturalization or citizenship, or a copy thereof.
- I-797 Notice of Action for Form N-565, showing an approved application to replace a naturalization document.

Other Identification Considerations

Change of Name

If the voter changed their name and:

- provides proof of the legal name change and
- completes and signs Form 10-L and
- is registered within the precinct, the voter's name as it appears on the photo ID may or may not be the voter's reported change of name.

They are eligible for a regular ballot.

If the voter does not have proof of the legal name change, they must vote a provisional ballot.

No Photo Identification

If a voter is unable to provide photo identification, they must be provided with a provisional ballot. In order for the provisional ballot to be eligible to be counted, the voter must present one of the acceptable forms of identification to the board office within four days after Election Day.

Religious Objection

If a voter does not have a photo ID because of a religious objection to being photographed, give the voter an Affidavit of Religious Objection (Form 12-O). This may occur either when the voter casts the provisional ballot or at the office of the board by the fourth day after Election Day. PEOs must attach the affidavit to the provisional ballot affirmation.

Where to obtain a free ID?

Ohioans who are 17 years and older can receive a state ID card at no cost from the BMV.

[Follow this link to learn more about obtaining an Ohio ID at no cost\(opens in a new window\).](#)

Need help getting documents for an ID?

VoteRiders will assist you to get a free ID. They pay for documents like a birth certificate or Social Security card. They will provide a ride to the BMV or Social Security office. Contact them at www.VoteRiders.org , by email at helpline@VoteRiders.org , call or text 866-432-8683.

Absentee Voting

Ohio voters can vote before Election Day by mail or in person through the absentee voting process. Learn how to request, complete, and return your absentee ballot.

What Is an Absentee Ballot?

An absentee ballot allows you to vote by mail or in person before Election Day.

You must request an absentee ballot—Ohio does not automatically mail them to voters.

Who Can Vote Absentee?

Any registered Ohio voter with up-to-date information can vote absentee. No reason is required to vote absentee in Ohio.

When Can I Request an Absentee Ballot?

- By mail: You can request your absentee ballot starting January 1 of the election year or 90 days before an election, whichever comes first.
- You must submit a separate application for each election.
- In person: After voter registration closes (30 days before Election Day), you may request and vote absentee at your county board of elections or designated early voting center.

How to Request an Absentee Ballot

You must complete the official Application for Absent Voter's Ballot provided by the Ohio Secretary of State. You can:

1. Request an application from your county board of elections.
2. [Download and print the application.](#)
 - Fill in your information online, print, sign, and return it.
3. Return your completed application by:
 - Mail (allow time for delivery and processing), or
 - In person (at your county board of elections).

Your county board must receive your application no later than close of business seven days before Election Day.

How to Vote by Absentee Ballot

Voting by Mail

1. Read all ballot instructions carefully.
2. Mark your selections as directed.
3. Place your completed ballot in the identification envelope.
4. Print your name and address, provide acceptable ID (driver license number, last four digits of SSN, or copy of ID), and sign the envelope.
5. Seal the identification envelope and place it inside the return envelope.
6. Add correct postage and mail it as soon as possible to allow for postal delivery by 7:30 p.m. on Election Day.

You or a [relative](#) may also hand-deliver your ballot to your county board of elections by 7:30 p.m. on Election Day.

**Near relative includes the voter's spouse or the voter's father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother, or sister of the whole or half blood, or the son, daughter, adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece.*

If you do not vote your absentee ballot and instead decide to go to your assigned polling place on Election Day, you must vote a provisional ballot.

Note: No voted ballot may be returned to a board of elections by fax or e-mail. If a voted ballot is returned by fax or e-mail, it will not be accepted, processed, or counted.

By Early In-Person Voting

You may vote early in person at your county's early voting center. **71 S. Washington St. Suite 1101 Tiffin, OH 44883**

If you have questions or need more info please call the office at **419-447-4424**.

[Find Early Voting Locations](#) for other counties

[Check Voting Hours for this election](#)

Why the Identification Envelope Matters

The identification envelope acts as your check-in process for mailed ballots. It verifies your identity just as if you were voting in person and presenting ID at your polling place.

Returning Your Absentee Ballot

Ohio law requires all non-UOCAVA ballots to be received by 7:30 p.m. on Election Day.

By Mail

- Ensure your return envelope includes sufficient postage.
- Return your voted ballot as soon as possible. Ohio law requires all absentee ballots to be received by 7:30 p.m. on Election Day.

In Person

- You or a near relative may deliver your completed ballot to your county board of elections or your county board of elections's drop box by 7:30 p.m. on Election Day.
- Most counties provide a secure drop box, available 24/7 until polls close on Election Day. Only the voter may use the dropbox to return their personal absentee ballot.

If You Requested an Absentee Ballot but Vote in Person on Election Day

If you request an absentee ballot and later decide to vote in person on Election Day, you must cast a provisional ballot.

Your vote will be counted once election officials confirm that your mailed absentee ballot was not returned or counted.

Tracking Your Absentee Ballot

You'll receive a tracking number with your absentee ballot. Track your ballot status through your [county board of elections](#) or the [state tracking system](#).

Hospitalized Voters

If you or your minor child is hospitalized after the absentee deadline and before 3 p.m. on Election Day:

- Submit [Form 11-B](#) to your county board of elections by 3 p.m. on Election Day.
- If hospitalized in your county, two election officials can deliver and return your ballot, or a qualified relative may do so.
- If hospitalized outside your county, return your ballot by mail or by a qualified family member.

Military and Overseas Voters

Under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) and the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act, military and overseas citizens can vote in Ohio's federal, state, and local elections.

- [Military and Overseas Voters Publications](#)
- [Learn More About Military and Overseas Voters](#)
- [Federal Voting Assistance Program \(FVAP\)](#)

Voters with Disabilities

Voters with disabilities or confined due to illness can vote absentee using [Form 11-F](#) or [Form 11-I](#).

Options Include:

- Vote by mail or through two board of elections employees who deliver and return your ballot.
- Request to use a remote ballot marking system by submitting [Form 11-G](#), allowing you to mark your ballot privately and independently.
- If unable to sign your name, appoint an attorney-in-fact using [Form 10-F](#) or [10-G](#), or use assistive technology such as a signature stamp.

You may request your absentee ballot starting January 1 or 90 days before the election, and no later than noon on the Saturday before Election Day.

Learn More

Contact your [county board of elections](#) or the Ohio Secretary of State's office at [877-767-6446](tel:877-767-6446) for assistance.

[Download Absentee Forms and Voting Instructions](#)

Provisional Voting in Ohio

If there's a question about your eligibility at the polls, you can still vote using a provisional ballot. This ensures that every eligible voter has the opportunity to cast a ballot while election officials verify eligibility after Election Day.

What Is a Provisional Ballot?

A provisional ballot is used when there's uncertainty about a voter's eligibility.

The ballot looks the same as a regular one, but it's set aside until election officials confirm that you're eligible to vote and voted in the correct precinct. Once verified, your vote is counted in the official results.

When You'll Be Asked to Vote Provisionally

You may be required to cast a provisional ballot on Election Day if:

- Your name does not appear in the pollbook for your precinct.
- An election official cannot confirm your eligibility to vote.

- You don't have valid photo identification.
- You are listed as having already requested an absentee ballot.
- Mail from election officials to your registered address was returned as undeliverable.
- Your registration has been challenged and the hearing is pending or resolved against you.
- Poll workers believe your signature doesn't match your registration record or suspect voter impersonation.
- You changed your name and/or moved to a different precinct without updating your address by the voter registration deadline.
- You changed your name and don't have proof of the legal name change.
- You received a confirmation notice due to a database mismatch in your registration information, and you failed to provide the requested information more than 14 days before the election.

If You Recently Changed Your Name

If your name has changed but your address hasn't, you can vote a regular ballot by showing proof of your legal name change, such as a marriage license or court order. You'll complete a simple change-of-name form at your polling place.

Where to Cast a Provisional Ballot

Before Election Day

If you've moved within Ohio but didn't update your registration before the deadline (30 days before the election), you can vote provisionally in person at your county board of elections or an approved early voting location beginning 28 days before Election Day.

On Election Day

You must vote at your assigned polling place based on your current address.

If you moved to a new precinct and didn't update your registration, you can vote provisionally at:

- Your county board of elections, or
- Another location designated by the board for provisional voting.

Ensuring Your Provisional Ballot Counts

After Election Day, your county board of elections reviews every provisional ballot to confirm eligibility and voter identity.

- If you provided acceptable ID when you voted, typically no further action is needed.

- If you did not show ID, you must present an approved form of identification to your county board of elections within four days after Election Day for your vote to count.