

LWW

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

Kalamazoo Area

2018



Voter Guide



VOTE411.ORG

ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED

The content of this Guide is derived from candidates' profiles and ballot proposals posted online at www.VOTE411.org.

Sponsored by the League of Women Voters, **VOTE411.org** contains information about many races across the country, with content published as it was submitted by candidates. **VOTE411** allows voters to compare candidate responses to questions, as well as offering information on voter registration, ID requirements, and election processes such as absentee voting.

Spread the word about www.vote411.org!

This Service Provided

FREE

By Your Local **League of Women Voters**

What's in this Guide

- [Information About Voting](#)

- [Governor & Lieutenant Governor](#)

- [Secretary of State](#)

- [Attorney General](#)

- [US Senator](#)

- [US Representative in Congress \(6th District\)](#)

- [State Senator \(20th District\)](#)

- [State Representative \(60th, 61st, 63rd & 66th Districts\)](#)

- [State Board of Education](#)

- [University of Michigan Board of Regents](#)

- [Michigan State University Board of Trustees](#)

- [Wayne State University Board of Governors](#)

- [Kalamazoo County Commission](#)

- [Justice of the State Supreme Court](#)

- [State Ballot Proposals](#)

- [Polling Locations](#)

See www.Vote411.org for additional races

Kalamazoo Valley Community College
Kalamazoo Public Schools Board
Portage Public Schools Board

See www.kalcounty.com for other candidates and proposals



www.facebook.com/lwvka

2018 General Election Voter Guide

Non-partisan Information about State and Local Elections November 6, 2018

This Voter Guide was prepared by the League of Women Voters of the Kalamazoo Area as a service to the voters. The League of Women Voters is a national non-partisan organization which encourages active and informed citizen participation in government. The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any candidate or political party. The League does support issues after careful study without regard to the stand of any party. League positions on issues are never indicated in Voter Guides.

JOIN US! Use our Voter Services, study issues, become a member.

President: MerriKay Oleen-Burkey

Vote411/Voter Guide Team:

Debbie Phillips
Jules Isenberg-Wedel
Terry Hluchyj

Design & Layout: Tamara Carpenter

This Guide is online at: www.lwvka.org and www.vote411.org
© Copyright 2018 – League of Women Voters of the Kalamazoo Area

Vote Tuesday, November 6, 2018

Polls Open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Who May Vote?

All U.S. citizens at least 18 years of age by election day, who are registered at least 30 days before the election. The close of registration for the election is Tuesday, October 9. Registration is permanent as long as the resident continues to live in the city or township where registered.

How?

The procedure involves these steps:

1. Complete an application to vote.
2. An election inspector checks your name against the computerized list of registered voters for the precinct.
3. Show photo identification or sign an affidavit stating that you're eligible to vote.
4. Vote by using a pen to darken the oval near the candidate's name or Yes / No in the case of a proposal. **Straight-ticket voting is no longer permitted. You must select each candidate.**
5. Tabulate the ballot by inserting it into the optical scanner.

You may receive assistance when voting from anyone except an employer, union or their representatives. Election officials may assist you, in which case two inspectors (one from each major political party), will give assistance. Instructions for using voting equipment are available online at the Michigan Voter Information Center (www.michigan.gov/sos).

About Voter Identification

A provision of Michigan election law **requires voters to either present picture identification or sign an affidavit if they do not have picture identification with them.**

To implement this requirement, precinct election workers will ask voters for photo identification at the polls. The following are acceptable forms of photo identification (ID), assuming they are current and a picture is provided:

- Michigan driver's license or personal ID
- Non-Michigan driver's license or personal ID
- Federal or state government-issued ID
- U.S. passport
- Military ID
- Student ID—high school or accredited institution of higher education
- Tribal ID card

A Kalamazoo County ID Card is NOT acceptable. If the voter does not have an acceptable photo ID in his or her possession when offering to vote, that voter may sign an affidavit attesting that he or she is not in possession of a photo ID. A voter who completes an affidavit will be allowed to vote a regular ballot.

Write-in Candidates

To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the name of that person in the blank space provided for that office and darken the oval.

Votes for write-in candidates are counted only for persons who have declared their intent, at the appropriate jurisdiction, to be write-in candidates by 4 p.m. on the second Friday preceding the election—October 26. Names of write-in candidates will be available after that date on the Secretary of State's Voter Information Center website—www.michigan.gov/sos.

Are You Registered & Who's on Your Ballot?

The Voter Information Center on the Michigan Secretary of State website allows voters to confirm their registration status, obtain information on the location of their polling place, view a sample ballot and obtain other election-related information. Go to www.michigan.gov/vote. Enter your name, birth month and year, and zip code.

For Students

The State of Michigan allows students to register to vote at a permanent address (a parent's address, for example) or at a school address. It is important to know that the address on your voter registration must match the address on your driver's license. Registering to vote will change the address found on your driver's license, if you register at a different address. Likewise, if you change the address on your driver's license, the address of your voter registration will be changed to match. **You can vote only in the precinct where you are registered**, so take that into consideration when you complete a voter registration form or renew your license.

Editor's Note

The League of Women Voters contacted candidates for biographical information and answers to questions on issues. Those known to have filed a declaration of intent to be write-in candidates at the time of printing this Voter Guide were included. Responses were limited to a specific number of characters and were truncated after the limit was reached. Responses were printed as submitted; spelling, punctuation and grammar were not changed. If the candidate did not reply by the required date for publication, the words "Did not respond in time to be included" appear under the candidate's name.

The order of parties in the Voter Guide is the same as their order on the ballot, which is determined by Michigan Election Law. Non-partisan candidates are in alphabetical order.

The LWV of the Kalamazoo Area provided information about local candidates, the LWV of Michigan about state candidates, and the LWV of the U.S. about national candidates.

LWVKA publication of these candidate statements and opinions is solely in the interest of public service. No one should construe this service as a League endorsement in any way. The League of Women Voters takes no responsibility for any of the views or facts stated by the candidates.

Absentee Ballots

A voter may apply for an absentee ballot by 2:00 pm the Saturday before the election, either by letter or in person at the appropriate city or township clerk's office. In case of emergency after that day, contact the clerk's office.

You are eligible to vote absentee if you:

- are 60 years of age or more.
- expect to be absent from the community in which you are registered to vote for the entire time the polls are open on election day.
- are unable to go to the polls and vote without the assistance of another person.
- cannot attend the polls because of your religious beliefs.
- are an election inspector in a precinct other than the one in which you reside.
- are confined in jail or prison awaiting arraignment or trial.

How do I receive the ballot?

You can obtain an absent voter ballot by writing to the clerk of the city or township in which you are registered to vote. Ballots cannot be supplied through telephone requests. Your written request must include:

- Your name
- The date of the election
- The address where you are registered to vote.
- The reason why you are requesting an absent voter ballot.
- The address where you wish to receive your ballot. (This must be your registration address, an address outside of your jurisdiction of registration, a hospital, or some other type of residential institution.)
- Your signature and the date of your request.

Blank absent voter ballot applications can be obtained through your city or township clerk or from the Michigan Voter Information Center online. Members of the armed forces and their spouses and dependents, members of the Merchant Marine and their spouses and dependents, and U.S. citizens temporarily living or traveling outside the territorial limits of the United States have the opportunity to apply for and receive a ballot electronically through the Federal Voter Assistance Program (FVAP). An oath is no longer required on the Federal Post Card Application.

If you are a new Michigan voter, and you registered to vote other than at the office of a clerk or the Secretary of State, you can vote using an absentee ballot the first time you vote only if you personally apply for the ballot at your clerk's office. This is because you are subject to the Federal first-time voter ID requirements.

When must absent voter ballots be returned to the clerk?

Voters may cast their absentee ballots in the clerk's office until 4:00 p.m. on Monday before the election. Ballots must be received in the clerk's office by 8:00 p.m. on election day. There are instructions included with the ballot regarding who is eligible to return a ballot on behalf of a voter. For further information, contact your city or township clerk.

About the Candidates' Responses

Responses were limited to a specific number of characters, including letters and spaces. They were truncated after the limit was reached.

Responses are printed as submitted by the candidate. Spelling, punctuation and grammar were not changed.

If the candidate did not reply by the required date for publication, the words "Did not respond in time to be included" appear under the candidate's name. Check Vote411.org for submissions after the publication deadline.

Acknowledgment

Contributors to the League of Women Voters of Kalamazoo Area Education Fund and the A. Phillip Randolph Institute generously provided financial support for LWV voter service efforts, including this Voter Guide.

Governor & Lieutenant Governor

Four-year terms. Candidates run as a team; one vote elects both

Governor: The state's executive powers are vested in the Governor. A Governor must be at least 30 years of age and a registered voter in Michigan for at least four years. Governors may serve a maximum of two full terms.

Lt. Governor: There are three main duties assigned to the Lieutenant Governor:

(1) to serve as acting Governor while the Governor is out of state; (2) to become Governor in the event that the Governor is unable to serve due to death, illness or incapacitation; and (3) to preside over the Michigan Senate. A Lt. Governor must be at least 30 years of age and a registered voter in Michigan for at least four years. Lt. Governors may serve a maximum of two full terms.

Questions

- 1. Priorities:** What are your top three priorities for the State of Michigan and how would you address them?
- 2. Education:** What measures do you support/propose to achieve improved educational outcomes and accessibility for Michigan students from early childhood through post-secondary education?
- 3. Economy:** What policies do you support to increase jobs and help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?
- 4. Environment & Energy:** What actions or policies do you support to protect Michigan's water, air and land for current and future generations, while meeting the state's energy needs? Explain how those actions or policies would affect the future of Enbridge Pipeline 5.
- 5. Equality:** What, if any, specific steps will you take to address inequalities facing women in Michigan?
- 6. Justice:** What policies will you pursue to promote social and racial justice in our state?

Bill Schuette

Republican

Attorney General of Michigan. I am a graduate of Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and studied at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland. I received my law degree from the University of San Francisco School of Law. Before becoming Michigan's 53rd Attorney General, I served as a judge on the Michigan Court of Appeals, a State Senator representing the 35th District, Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture, and as a United States Congressman. My experience means I understand our state and know how to work with the legislature, local leaders and other partners on needed reforms to advance Michigan. Campaign Website: www.billschuette.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/BillSchuette/>. Twitter: twitter.com/SchuetteOnDuty.

1. My top priority can be summed up in one word: growth. Michigan needs a growing population and growing paychecks to become one of the leading states in the country economically. I want to cut taxes and regulations at the state level. Additionally, I will focus on cutting auto insurance rates and fixing our 3rd grade reading scores, which are some of the lowest in the nation. My "GROW" (Great Readers On the Way) plan will prioritize literacy with a cabinet-level literacy director and more. Together these things will make Michigan more attractive to job creators and people, allowing our state to grow again.
2. I support policies that give families more great educational choices and make wise use of taxpayers' \$15 billion annual investment in our schools. My "GROW" plan will reverse Michigan's 15-year decline in reading scores with a cabinet-level literacy director, reading coaches in every elementary school, tutoring and summer reading programs. My "Paycheck Training Plan" will restore a balance between career and college preparation in our schools and foster apprenticeships in skilled trades and other fields. We should grade our schools A-F and reward high performing and improving schools with grants and incentives.
3. As governor, I will implement growth-friendly policies that make Michigan attractive to job creators and families and help rebuild our population. I will cut taxes and regulation at the state level I want to eliminate the Granholm income tax hike that has cost Michigan taxpayers \$8 billion. There isn't a problem facing Michigan today that couldn't be made better if we had more people living and working in Michigan. We need more people filling jobs and contributing the growth that will allow us to invest in better roads and improved infrastructure.
4. Our Great Lakes are the crown jewels of Michigan and their safety and security is etched in the DNA of every Michigan resident. I support building a 4.5-mile-long utility tunnel in the Straits that puts all existing utility connections into one underground concrete tunnel which would protect the lines from hazards and would also contain possible spills. Michigan must maintain a regulatory climate that provides reliable and affordable energy. I support a review of energy policy to provide a mix of nuclear, clean coal, natural gas, renewables and to encourage more choices for businesses, consumers and families.
5. As attorney general I have established a strong record as being a voice for victims of human trafficking and sexual assault. I helped secure funding to test thousands of abandoned rape kits in Detroit and across the state and set up a special unit to prosecute human traffickers. I prosecuted Larry Nassar and he is behind bars for life. I also prosecuted Kevin Beverly, who threatened and intimidated his ex-wife from prison. As governor, I will continue this legacy of seeking justice for women.
6. As attorney general, I have consistently been a voice for victims, consumers and all Michiganians, because I believe everyone should be treated equally under the law, with dignity and respect. As governor, I will ensure such policies are practiced within my administration, and I will approach the laws and budgets I sign with the same standard in mind.

Running mate: Lisa Posthumus Lyons

Republican

Did not respond in time to be included.

Gretchen Whitmer

Democrat

Candidate for Governor: Michigan State University College of Law. Michigan State University, BA Communications. Michigan State Representative from the 69th District 2000-2006. Michigan State Senator from the 23rd District 2006-2015. Minority Leader of the Michigan Senate 2011-2015. Ingham County Prosecutor July 2016-December 2016. Campaign Website: gretchenwhitmer.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/gretchenwhitmer>. Twitter: twitter.com/gretchenwhitmer.

1. Fixing the roads by investing \$3 billion per year in the Rebuild Michigan Infrastructure Bank to rebuild our crumbling infrastructure, including water pipelines and expanding access to broadband. Making health care more affordable for families, like when I worked across the aisle to expand Medicaid to cover over 680,000 Michiganders. I'll take on Trump and Republicans who threaten our health coverage and protect people with pre-existing conditions. Making the first two years of college debt-free and funding more trade schools and skills training programs so Michiganders can get a good job and support their families.
2. The key to a good job is a good education. My Good Schools Now education plan will: put Michigan on a path to universal preschool; triple the number of literacy coaches in our

schools; respect our educators and treat them as professionals instead of attacking them for Lansing's policy failures; expand career counseling and skilled trades training so every student has a path to a high-wage job, whether college is right for them or not; hold all schools to the same high proficiency standards - traditional and charter schools alike.

3. My Better Skills, Better Job plan focuses on raising household incomes by expanding education and skills training, investing in our infrastructure, aggressively pursuing economic development and supporting small business growth so that everyone has a path to a good job and a secure future. We must also raise the minimum wage to \$15 and enact strong paid family leave policies to help working families get ahead. My administration will also adopt strong Buy American, Buy Michigan policies to ensure more of our tax dollars go to Michigan businesses that hire Michigan workers.
4. Diversifying Michigan's energy generation portfolio is good for our environment and our economy. I support increased investment in the renewable energy sector of the economy and the 92,000 Michigan jobs it supports. Michigan is home to 21% of the Earth's fresh water, and we've got to protect it. An oil spill in the Great Lakes would be an absolutely devastating blow to our environment and our economy. My administration will immediately file to enjoin the easement and begin the legal process for shutting down Line 5.
5. I have always been on the front lines fighting for women's rights. As Senate Democratic Leader, I shared my own story of surviving sexual assault to fight Republican efforts to erect more barriers for women in their health care. As Ingham County prosecutor, I established a new domestic violence unit, and I recently released a plan to combat sexual assault on campus. As governor, I will fight for equal pay and end pay disparities for women of color, enact earned paid sick leave, and ensure quality, affordable childcare, because the average cost of infant care in Michigan is too high.
6. We've got to level the playing field so the amount of money in your bank account does not determine the level of justice you receive. That's why as Prosecutor, I prioritized rehabilitation programs for nonviolent first-time offenders. As governor, I'm committed to building a diverse cabinet that represents every community in Michigan so every voice is heard. I support universal voter access, so everyone who is approved for a driver's license or state ID should be automatically registered to vote, and any registered voter should be able to vote absentee or by mail.

Running mate: Garlin D. Gilcrest II

Democrat

Did not respond in time to be included.

Bill Gelineau

Libertarian

CEO, Abacus Title Agency. Owner and Licensed Title Agent for a Grand Rapids based real estate title insurance agency. Attended the University of Michigan and Wayne State University. Pre-law student majoring in English and Michigan History. Extensive professional certifications and currently hold a state license. Read personal biography at: <https://liberty4gov.org/about-bill/> This provides extensive personal background from growing up in Downriver Detroit to my long professional and political career in Michigan. All of that training provides a balanced perspective needed to develop cooperation in Lansing. Campaign Website: ComeTogetherMichigan.org. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Gelineau4Governor/>.

1. (a) It is no accident that I chose the domain ComeTogetherMichigan.org as my campaign website. I believe that the election of a non-Democrat/Republican would send a strong message to the legislature to develop non-partisan consensus. (b) I would work diligently to reform the spending priorities in our state. I've identified several large areas - these include prison reform - where tremendous assets are wasted. Also, the elimination of corporate subsidies - which squeeze out necessary funding for roads, schools, and other priorities. (c) Mental health initiatives to ensure stable opportunities for all citizens.
2. The core of making changes is recognition of limited resources. Prison and business subsidy reform is an essential component of developing the resources to make other planned improvements possible. There won't be massive new revenues available. My priorities would include funding to return to 70/80's levels of student/counselor ratios. We need these objective "ombudsman" for students to provide perspective, support, and a safe place for students to reveal obstacles to success. Counselors would also become a key asset in our battles with suicide and opioid use. Also, expand parental engagement from K forward.
3. (a) My Drop-th-Cap initiative: <https://liberty4gov.org/drop-the-cap/>, is widely agreed by economists to provide confidence to investors to bring their companies to Michigan. It is vital to tell companies they won't be overtaxed. (b) By ending corporate welfare, we have the resources to invest in students to fill the high-skill positions available. (c) Legalization of cannabis. There are massive opportunities in the agricultural and industrial sectors in which our farms and business can provide leadership and high-margin success.
4. These intertwined issues require more than 625 characters. A good starting place is the position paper on our website: <https://liberty4gov.org/environmental-policy/>. I've outline the creation of an Evaluation Board which could recommend areas forever "off limits", such as the Straits. However, the most important matter is finding the revenues to clean up all the

Governor & Lieutenant Governor, continued

toxic sites in Michigan. Nobody else in the race has proposed a plan such as the IFT expansion explained on my site. I'm also the only candidate putting the "How" into a clean energy future. Again, with limited space, you should check out my website.

5. I don't believe it is the role of the government to provide special status or ensure anything other than equal opportunity to any group. However, as Governor, I will enforce the laws of the State to make sure discrimination or other systemic biases are eliminated. As a father with daughters and grand-daughters, my efforts will always be to ensure a Full and Equal opportunity for them to compete in the workplace, free of institutional discrimination. I believe we should eliminate the income tax on those under 25 and below \$25,000/yr. Income to help lift women and children out of poverty.
6. (a) The legalization of marijuana - consequences of which have fallen hard on many minority communities. (b) I've pledged to commute the sentences of all drug offenders who have not committed a violent crime. (c) I will work to amend Elliot-Larsen to include transgender persons. Everyone has the right to enjoy the full benefits of citizenship. (d) Investigation and prosecution of abusive police practices - and the elimination of military-style SWAT teams and use of military vehicles as everyday common practice. (e) I will appoint a cabinet of qualified people that reflect all the faces and communities of Michigan.

Running mate: Angelique Chaiser Thomas Libertarian

Chief Operating Officer. B.S. Political Science - University of Detroit Mercy. J.D. University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. MBA - Northwestern University. Certificate in Change Management - Michigan State University. Deeply versed in Public Policy, Michigan Law, and Administrative Systems. Campaign Website: www.liberty4gov.org.

Todd Schleiger US Taxpayers

Driver/ Fleet Manager. High School Online Business classes. I manage equipment under federal guidelines along with 23 drivers. I deal with customers on daily basis, whether good or bad I have settle their complaints with compromises or a remedy of other sorts. Such as a refund or credit towards their next load of product. Campaign Website: checktodd.com. Facebook: <http://facebook.com/toddschleiger>. Twitter: twitter.com/toddschleiger.

1. I would have to say exactly what I have been saying for the last 3 years. Lowering Auto Insurance up to 70%. I have a plan to lower Health Insurance Premiums by up to 50%, and creating 500,000 new jobs in Michigan. Between infrastructure, legalized cannabis, solar and wind generation, roads, and environmental this all in 4 years.
2. I am the only candidate that comes to the table with a 20 billion dollar budget. Broken down as the following 1.2 billion towards bringing 2 years of community college into the public school realm, this would include trade schools and vocational schools. 17.8 billion into pre-k and k-12 bringing a minimum pay to any teachers through out the state of 60,000 dollars, putting more money to the classrooms than the administrations. That leaves 1 billion to bring our schools into a more efficient and safe standards, such as protecting our children by hardening our school buildings and more police on site.
3. Between my restructuring of our complete tax system, and the creation of 500,000 new jobs in my four years we will move Michigan forward as a leader in cyber and manufacturing along with renewable energy. By cutting and removing certain taxes that overlap or burden our businesses, creating a three tier income tax that will benefit 80% of the working people of Michigan putting more money back into their paychecks. We all know if we have more money, we spend more money.
4. The answer to Enbridge Pipeline 5 is simple and straight forward, it has to go. Know amount of insurance or promises can pay for a devastating leak if it were to occur. We are the stewards of the land and must do all that we can to support it, that is why I will mandate an increase in percentages to renewable energy to 33% by 2025. By bringing back the Public Works and forcing the utilities to comply without substantial rate increases, they have profited billions on the people and can afford to spend more of their profits. This field alone will create over 100,000 new jobs. Even more if we include infrastructure needs
5. This is a hard question to answer, for the issues that are being seen are more towards where salaries are negotiated than at a starting job say at a factory. I would mandate that where a company must start all its employees at the same rates per hour or salary, equal pay for equal work. If the employee has worked at a job equally as long as another employee whether male or female should be making the same wage as long as they have had the same training as the other. Example a skill trades person should make more than John Doe of the street if hired into the same job
6. I will bring back the Common Law Grand Jury or also known as The Peoples Grand Jury, This will empower the people to literally remove an official who has taken an oath of office to defend our Constitution. Judges, police enforcement, elected officials who abuse their powers granted by the people will think before they act on violating the peoples rights. Judge Antonin Scalia wrote the Peoples Grand Jury is a fourth branch of government belonging only to the people, not to answer to the other three branches in 2005. This will promote social and racial justice in our state.

Running mate: Earl P. Lackie US Taxpayers

Did not respond in time to be included.

Jennifer V. Kurland Green

Radio Personality - The Offensive Feminist with Jenny K - currently on hiatus. Associate's Degree, Liberal Arts, with Honors - Schoolcraft College. Bachelor's Degree, Political Science Public Affairs - Wayne State University. Redford Union School Board elected 2012 term of 2013 - 2018, served as President for 3 1/2 years, current Treasurer. Elections pollworker/ chairperson since 2006. Appointed - Redford Township Festival Committee since 2012, served as Secretary for 2 years. Redford Jaycees - multiple executive positions, 60th President. Michigan Junior Chamber - District 4 Director, 2015. Campaign Website: www.kurland4michigan.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/kurland4mi>. Twitter: twitter.com/kurland4mi.

1. Flint, Public Education, and Prisons/Policing. Flint is the canary in the coalmine for our crumbling water and sewer infrastructure on top of our crumbling roads and bridges. We need to replace all lead water lines statewide. We must properly fund public education, earmark general fund money for Pre-K-12, and include funding for infrastructure, curriculum, and technology. We must end the war on drugs and mass incarceration. Ending solitary

confinement, raising the age for prosecution of minors, requiring community policing, and ending the cash bail system will help fix our broken criminal justice system.

2. We must bring technology to all classrooms around the state, and fund professional development for teachers. We must properly fund school infrastructure and fund early childhood opportunities. We can make public colleges and then public universities free for all Michiganders while expanding college and trade opportunities to high school students. We must end the for-profit charter school system and school of choice, both of which has been increasing segregation in our schools. We must properly fund a statewide ALICE program, end abstinence-only education, and stop the school to prison pipeline.
3. We must increase the minimum wage to \$15/hr immediately, and permanently fix the minimum wage to other indicators like inflation, housing, and food costs. Climate change is real and green jobs are the jobs of the future. We can put our tradespeople to work making wind farms, solar panels, and becoming innovators of hydro power. We must transition to a more diverse economy by creating grants for Michiganders who wish to start new businesses without personal capital. The legalization of marijuana and subsequent ability for our state to grow industrial hemp will also create new economic opportunities and industries.
4. We must completely transition over to clean, green, renewable energy. We can fully meet our energy needs with wind, solar, and hydropower. We must charge the full cost of pollution permits to include the health effects to the public, cleanup, and require full disclosure of all chemicals and pollutants released. We must immediately shut down and decommission Enbridge Line 5, and halt all current pipeline projects for future, stringent environmental assessments before future approvals or completion of any pipeline projects. We need to recombine the DEQ and DNR, and create legislation to allow for permit denials.
5. We must increase the minimum wage to \$15/hr. We need to end abstinence-only education and begin teaching age-appropriate consent to all students. We have the ability to create legislation that will end the wage-gap in Michigan, and we must enshrine equal rights for all into our state constitution. We must fully protect abortion rights as part of women's health care, and end the "women tax" on items like sanitary products. It is imperative that we treat the LGBTQIA community with equal protection, including housing rights, job protection, adoption rights, and health care.
6. We must give the Michigan Civil Rights Commission teeth. This includes expanding Elliot Larson to include all LGBTQIA citizens, and the ability to have some level of enforcement capabilities. We must end the drug war, end the cash bail system, and transform our prisons and police policies to those of community policing. We must work to end gentrification by requiring community benefit agreements to coincide with local business tax breaks, create new economic opportunities for those in impoverished communities with a grant program for small business and fix inequities in public education.

Running mate: Charin H. Davenport Green

Did not respond in time to be included.

Keith Butkovich Natural Law

Retail Management. Common sense. Campaign Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/butkovichforgovernor>.

1. Reduce auto insurance costs by eliminating no fault and other requirements. I would also make carrying insurance optional, as the government should not be able to force you to buy anything. Eliminate the income and property taxes, then the sales tax, and other charges. Taxation is theft. Legalize drugs, not just marijuana and alcohol, without taxation. Stop jailing people for victimless crimes.
2. Part of the problem is the federal Department of Education, which I would constantly lobby to remove their regulations forced upon the state. I would eliminate state regulations, allowing education to return to the local level and the people. Other options, such as online school, home school, etc would be encouraged instead of pushing a government school program. Post-secondary would not be subsidized by the taxpayers. This would force these institutions to cut costs and remove bloated administrations.
3. Let people keep the money they have earned. Taxation is theft. I would also remove burdensome regulations on businesses. The economy will explode because government will be out of the way.
4. Common sense. Don't dump into streams and rivers. The government is one of if not the largest polluters, so reducing government would be a major key in this. The officials involved in Flint, both local and state, should be sued if the people choose to go that route. No immunity. Pipeline 5 needs to be repaired. I would not ban pipelines and drilling, provided they are safe and companies clean up any problems they may cause. The residents would be the ones who could sue. I would not ban nuclear energy.
5. People should have to stand on their own merits. Sex, race, religion, etc should not be a factor in any hiring. I am against affirmative action. Smart employer realize this, and would not underpay someone just because they are a woman or otherwise, because they know good people are in demand by many companies.
6. Government should get out of marriage. Adults should be allowed to marry who they wish, and however many people they wish. A marriage license is just another tax. All people should be treated equally in court. Police officers should not be given special treatment just because they wear a uniform. Murder is wrong, no matter who commits it. Self defense must be thoroughly proven in court.

Running mate: Raymond Warner Natural Law

Retired. Graduated Redford Union 1965. Attended Highland Park College and Wayne State University. Twenty years of civil service. Political activist since 1964.

VOTE411.ORG
ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED



Michigan Secretary of State

Four-year term Vote for one

Description: Secretary of State serves as chief motor vehicle administrator and chief election officer for Michigan and also maintains the state's official repository of records and certifies documents as Keeper of the Great Seal. Candidate for Secretary of State must be a registered voter in Michigan on the date he or she is nominated for the office. He/she may serve a maximum of two full terms.

Questions

1. Describe your qualifications and experience for the office of Secretary of State and explain your reasons for running. How would you be an asset?
2. What voting reforms do you support?
3. What are your top priorities as Secretary of State and what actions would you take to implement them?

Mary Treder Lang Republican

Did not respond in time to be included.

Jocelyn Benson Democrat

CEO & President Ross Initiative for Sports in Equality (RISE). Wellesley College; Harvard Law School. Campaign Website: www.votebenson.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/votebenson/>. Twitter: twitter.com/jocelynbenson.

1. I have over a decade of experience as a national leader in election law and administration and have authored, "Secretaries of State: Guardians of the Democratic Process," the first major book on the role of the Secretary of State in enforcing election and campaign finance laws. I have a proven track record running organizations including the Ross Initiative for Sports in Equality (RISE) and the Wayne State University Law School, where as dean I froze tuition for incoming students and increased scholarship funding that led to a 14 percent reduction in tuition for all students.
2. I believe it should be easier to vote and harder to cheat. My plan includes online voter registration, automatic voter-registration, no-reason absentee voting, early voting, and new laws to prohibit voter intimidation. My election security plan includes risk-limiting post-election audits (RLA); improved poll worker training, recruitment, and accountability; the convening of an Election Security Commission; tough, new penalties for equipment tampering; and strengthening the accuracy of the Qualified Voter File by joining the Electronic Registration and Information Center (ERIC.)
3. The people of Michigan deserve a Secretary of State who works as hard as they do. No one should have to spend more than 30 minutes to renew their driver's license, register their vehicle or cast a ballot. As Secretary of State I will set a goal for a "30-minute guarantee" for services administered and overseen by the Secretary of State. Additionally, I will fight to ban fee increases that have hit families hard in recent years; will implement a plan to secure our elections, protect our sacred right to vote, and take Michigan from worst to first in ethics and transparency.

Gregory Scott Stempfle Libertarian

I currently work as a Medical Technologist in the Henry Ford Hospital System and live in Ferndale. Stempfle has a BS in Clinical Laboratory Sciences and MS in Molecular Biology, both from

Wayne State University. Campaign Website: <https://stempfle4sos.com/>. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Gregory-Stempfle-for-Secretary-of-State-114624199243815>.

1. I have been involved in Michigan politics and the Libertarian Party for over 20 years. In that time, I have run for public office, and been a campaign manager and treasurer. When the Libertarian Party of Michigan qualified for the 2018 primary election for the first time, I chaired the committee that redrafted the party bylaws to bring them up to date with current Michigan election law. This experience has given me a unique insight into Michigan's election and campaign finance laws and how to improve elections to make them more fair and representative of the voting public.
2. I support expanding the absentee voting program. All voters should be able to request an absentee ballot for any reason, including those who find themselves working long hours or unable to get transportation to the polls on Election Day. I support adopting ranked choice voting, an election reform that requires a winning candidate to receive a majority of support in order to win a primary or general election. Ranked choice voting reduces negative campaigning, encourages the election of candidates that are more representative of their district.
3. My top priority will be to encourage the Michigan Legislature and Governor to enact voting and election reforms. I would also like to conduct an audit of the state election system to look for potential flaws and increase accountability. As a hospital laboratory technologist, we are always trying to find ways of process improvement and increase accuracy. I will use this understanding to work towards streamlining and automating Secretary of State services.

Robert Gale US Taxpayers

Self Employed Businessman. Attended MCCC and MSU.

1. I am a taxpayer not a professional politician like my opponents I accept no special interest money and I am not obligated to no one I am the owner of a very successful business for over thirty years built from the ground up I will get the job done
2. This will be put under review
3. Downsize by closing nonefficient and outdated Secretary of State offices throughout the state and opening new smaller efficient locations and kiosks in high traffic areas such as major box stores and shopping malls with a major emphasis on doing business online from anywhere the current system is all over the map with no definite plan in place lines are too long and employees are negative towards customers it is time for a complete overhaul by saving taxpayers money in wasted dollars

Michigan Attorney General

Four-year term Vote for one

Description: Attorney General is in charge of prosecuting the laws of the state of Michigan. Candidate for Attorney General must be a registered voter in Michigan on the date he or she is nominated for the office. He/she may serve a maximum of two full terms.

Questions

1. Describe your qualifications and experience for the office of Attorney General and explain your reasons for running. How would you be an asset?
2. What would be your top priorities as Attorney General and what actions would you take to implement them?
3. What recommendations would you make to the Governor and State Legislature regarding the administration of justice and safety in Michigan?

Tom Leonard Republican

Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives. BA, University of Michigan. JD, Michigan State University. Campaign Website: tomleonardforag.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/TomLeonard28/>. Twitter: twitter.com/tomleonard28.

1. I have spent my entire career making Michigan safer and stronger, and I can think of no better place to continue that important work than the office of the attorney general. I served as an assistant prosecutor in Genesee County, putting murderers and drug dealers behind bars. I have also been an assistant attorney general, defending taxpayers from frivolous lawsuits filed by convicted felons. If elected, I will be the first attorney general Michigan has had with previous experience working in the office. That gives me the unique ability to hit the ground running and implement my plan for the office on day one.
2. I have a detailed plan for the office, including an increased focus on fighting violent crime, rooting out sexual predators, and continuing to reform Michigan's broken mental health system. My experience working in the office and my experience working on those issues in Genesee County will allow me to reorganize the department, reallocate resources and manpower and get these new initiatives up and running sooner than anyone else can do it. I am prepared on day one to build new partnerships with local prosecutors and judges on these important issues and begin making a difference.
3. We have made important progress on issues like criminal justice reform and mental health reform over the past few years, but there is no such thing as good enough. In particular, many of the recommendations from the House CARES Task Force I created have been passed into law to reform our broken mental health system, but there are still many bills yet being written and reforms being worked out. That progress needs to continue in the next year to make sure we continue to implement the changes that our members heard about from parents, law enforcement and health officials at town halls and forums all across the state.

Dana Nessel Democrat

Managing Partner - Nessel & Kessel Law; Democratic Nominee for Attorney General. University of Michigan - BA. Wayne State University - JD. Campaign Website: www.dana2018.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/DanaMIAG2018>. Twitter: twitter.com/dananessel.

1. I began my career as an Assistant Prosecutor in the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office handling the county's most difficult cases. In 2012 I initiated the precedent-setting case *DeBoer v. Snyder*, which was consolidated into *Obergefell v. Hodges* in the United States Supreme Court. We won, legalizing same-sex marriage nationwide. I am also the President & Founder of the Fair Michigan Foundation, a task force that investigates and prosecutes hate crimes. I am running to be the People's Attorney in a state that has prioritized corporate interests over the needs of Michigan residents for too long. That ends if I am elected.
2. (a) I will protect our Great Lakes & provide clean water for all. I will close Line 5, fight for justice in Flint in criminal & civil cases, and hold chemical companies accountable for PFAS. (b) I will fight for consumers & seniors. I will prosecute Medicaid fraud, create an auto insurance fraud division, & protect students from aggressive debt collection. (c) I will protect workers and ensure safe workplaces free from discrimination, sexual harassment or environmental hazards. I will take on right to work laws so that all Michiganders have a good paying job with access to affordable health care & a retirement plan.
3. My recommendation would be simple, put people first. For too long, the people of Michigan have gone without a champion in the Attorney General's Office. It is my intent to return the office of the AG to one that works for the people of Michigan and protects working families, and I will do that by being the same fighter as Attorney General that I've been as an attorney for the last 25 years. Michigan needs an AG who fights for working families instead of corporations and special interests, and puts the paychecks of regular people ahead of corporate profits.

Michigan Attorney General, continued

Lisa Lane Gioia

Libertarian

Small business owner (translation of patent applications and intellectual property law documents). Bachelor of Arts with Distinction, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (1989); The Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies, Yokohama (1990-1991). Campaign

Website: lisaforliberty.com. Facebook: <http://facebook.com/lisaforliberty>. Twitter: twitter.com/lisaforliberty.

1. Laws created in Lansing are often partisan, short-term solutions devoid of respect for individual rights and consideration of potential ramifications. The Office of the AG is the last line of defense, also against abuses of government and law enforcement. The Office must be set in a direction of prioritizing thoroughness and objectivity – a goal achievable only by a leader who is not beholden to any level of government nor to any special interests, and who has business experience to eliminate inefficiency, complacency and incompetence rampant in government, and whose intent is to serve, not rule, the public.
2. Top priorities include legalization of cannabis, civil asset forfeiture, occupational licensing, and auto insurance. Further, given the increasing ineptitude of many bureaucrats and the increasing militarization of federal and state law enforcement, the Office must promote a culture of welcoming not only complaints from citizens, but also reports from public servants brave enough to come forward with knowledge of malfeasance in their organizations. The “circle the wagons” approach of fellow officials can no longer be tolerated, and a policy of defending Michiganders against all forms of abuse must be made clear.
3. Policies/laws relating to prohibition, especially of cannabis with its proven medical benefits including those to opiate addicts and PTSD sufferers, are being applied in a horrifically disproportionate manner to minorities, and create inescapable cycles of violence in our urban areas. All persons incarcerated for non-violent, marijuana-related crimes should be freed, their rights restored, and the records of previously convicted should be expunged. Legalization would end an untold number of crimes, result in savings in incarceration costs, free-up law enforcement resources, and provide an economic boon to our state.

Gerald T. VanSickle

US Taxpayers

Did not respond in time to be included.

Christopher Graveline

No party affiliation

Candidate for Michigan Attorney General; I had to quit my job as a federal prosecutor to run. MA - International Affairs: Catholic University of America; JD: University of New Hampshire Law School; BA - Liberal Arts: Magdalen College. Campaign Website: <http://cgforag.com>. Facebook: <http://ChrisGravelineforMichiganAttorneyGeneral>. Twitter: twitter.com/CG4AG.

1. For the last five years, I served as the Chief, Violent and Organized Crime Unit, US Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Michigan. I concentrated our office's efforts in reducing homicides and non-fatal shootings in Detroit. By working collaboratively with our local/ state partners, we successfully dropped these crimes by over 30%. Prior to my work as a federal prosecutor, I was a prosecutor in Wayne County and a US Army lawyer. In the Army, I prosecuted the high profile and politically sensitive Abu Ghraib cases. I am running because partisanship should play no role in the work of the AG's office.
2. My top priority is to remove partisan political considerations from the AG's office. I would put an end to the practice of using this office to advance the political parties' policy arguments through lawsuit. I would be vigilant in the hiring process to ensure that we build a strong and competent team with politics playing no role in that process. In terms of the work of the office, I would focus our resources on helping our cities and municipalities in curbing violent crime, the opioid trade, human trafficking, and identity theft. I would shift more resources to aggressively pursue consumer protection enforcement.
3. I believe that the AG should focus on enforcing laws that are already enacted as opposed to actively advocating for specific new policies. With that understanding, public safety demands joint action and the ability to communicate and share information. I would recommend to the Governor that we ensure that law enforcement on the local and state level have the necessary systems in place to ensure efficient information sharing. Also, I would encourage the legislature and Governor to consider additional programs and assistance to citizens returning to society from a period of incarceration to aid in that transition.

U.S. Senator — Michigan

Six-year term Vote for one

Description: U.S. Senators share the responsibility with U.S. Representatives for enactment of the nation's laws as provided in the U.S. Constitution. Senators ratify international treaties and confirm Presidential appointments of Cabinet members, federal judges, and foreign ambassadors. A Senator must be at least 30 years of age and a U.S. Citizen for at least 9 years. There are 100 Senators, two from each state.

Questions

1. **Priorities:** What are your top three national legislative priorities and how would you address them?
2. **Immigration:** What are your concerns and plans regarding U.S. immigration policies?
3. **Health Care:** What are your concerns and plans regarding U.S. health coverage policies and programs, including those affecting maternal and child health?
4. **Economy:** What federal policies do you support to help members of all strata of the American public improve their economic positions?
5. **Environment & Energy:** What policies do you support to meet U.S. energy needs while protecting our water, air and land for current and future generations? Explain how those actions or policies would affect the future of the Great Lakes.
6. **Elections:** What federal policies do you support regarding campaign funding and voting rights?

John James

Republican

President of James Group International and CEO of Renaissance Global Logistics. United States Military Academy. Bachelor of Science Penn State University. Master of Supply Chain Management and Information Systems University of Michigan. Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.). I spent half of my adult life serving this country. I led two platoons in Iraq and brought all my men home to their families. The other half of my adult life was spent serving my community and creating jobs right here in Michigan. I served on the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund and the Board of Directors of the Jalen Rose Leadership Academy. Campaign Website: johnjamesforsenate.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/JohnJamesMI/>. Twitter: twitter.com/JohnJamesMI.

1. (a) Economic Opportunity. Putting in place a tax policy that helps create the environment where jobs can be created and where families keep more of what they earn to meet their needs. (b) National Security and Veterans. We also have to take care of our veterans. The toughest fight our forces face should not be in a VA hospital. This in particular is a priority for me when I reach the Senate. (c) Infrastructure. Upgrading the Soo Locks and our roads must become a national priority.
2. We are a nation of immigrants and a nation of laws. Our economy and national identity depend on a workable legal immigration system. But it needs to be tough as well. I oppose sanctuary cities and would work to ensure sanctuary cities are defunded. I also would work to ensure we have secure borders. I will work to support reform of the legal immigration system that provides greater security while supporting our economy.
3. We need to look at everything that comes in between a patient and their doctor. We must keep the decision making ability in the hands of doctors and health professionals. After that, we need to look at everything that happens after that patient walks out of the doctors office and has to pay for the care. We need to focus on patient-centered, market based solutions. Mothers and children across Michigan deserve better. Our Veterans deserve better.
4. Michigan is one of the most innovative states in America. We are home to some of the most innovative manufacturing innovators in the world, and one of the most diverse agriculture sectors in the nation. Both of these important industries are sensitive to government regulation, tax and trade policy. The best thing the federal government can do in many cases is get out of the way. That means reducing regulation instead of increasing regulation. Putting in place a tax policy that helps create the environment where jobs can be created and where families keep more of what they earn to meet their needs.
5. Our Great Lakes are a national treasure. They support a robust fish and tourism industry here in Michigan. We must protect the lakeshore and update infrastructure such as the Soo Locks to ensure the economic impact of the lakes to our state is not interrupted. I will champion policies and programs that protects environmental quality throughout the Great Lakes and protects them from invasive species like Asian Carp. The same applies to the land we farm and live on and the air we breathe. We enjoy an incredible agricultural diversity in this state and

need to guarantee it for future seasons.

6. As a cadet in the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, I swore an oath to support and defend the Constitution. Voting and sharing our opinions and values is how we pass our democracy to future generations. We must protect the integrity of our elections and protect against voter fraud. It is equally important that we maintain a campaign finance system that is honest, transparent and accessible by every American citizen. When you take away an American's right to vote or their right to share their views, you hurt our democracy.

Debbie Stabenow

Democrat

U.S. Senator. Michigan State University, B.A., MSW. As the first woman elected to the United States Senate from Michigan, I have a strong record of getting things done for Michigan families. I will continue to be a champion for Michigan and to work across the aisle to help move Michigan forward. Campaign Website: debbiestabenow.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/stabenow/>. Twitter: twitter.com/stabenow.

1. One of my top priorities is helping create jobs in Michigan. I am focused on growing a diverse economy that includes manufacturing and technology, small business creation and agriculture, education and career training. The first bill I passed into law as a U.S. Senator banned oil and gas drilling in the Great Lakes. I authored the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative that has been successful in cleaning up our waters and led the fight to restore funding after President Trump tried to zero it out. I have been a champion for Michigan agriculture and rural communities and authored the 2014 and 2018 bipartisan Farm Bills.
2. I have heard from thousands of Michigan citizens about their concerns with our broken immigration system and there is no question that we need comprehensive immigration reform that works for our families, workers, businesses, and farmers each and every day. I support the DREAM Act, the Keep Families Together Act, and comprehensive immigration reform.
3. Health care is a human right and everyone should have affordable, quality health care. I helped lead the fight to stop Republicans from dismantling our health care system and taking away health care from millions of Americans, and am focused on lowering health care and drug costs for Michigan families. I led bipartisan efforts to increase funding for community health centers and extend the Children's Health Insurance Program, which 100,000 children in Michigan rely on, and am working to pass my Quality Care for Moms and Babies Act to provide funding for new partnerships to improve maternity and infant care.
4. Everyone deserves a fair shot to work hard and be successful. And right now, that fair shot is not available to everyone in Michigan or our country. Work should be rewarded – in our tax code, in our wages, and in our quality of life. If you work full time, you should not be in poverty. I know that not every young person will pursue a four-year college degree. I am working with businesses, building and construction trades, parents, students, and educators to promote job opportunities in skilled trades and technical careers. If we make things and grow things in Michigan, our families will be able to stay in Michigan.

U.S. Senator — Michigan, continued

5. I have lived in Michigan my whole life and understand that our Great Lakes are vital to our economy and Michigan way of life. That is why I authored the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, which has been successful in cleaning up our waters. I will continue working to protect the Great Lakes for the next generation. We can protect our environment while creating new clean energy jobs. It's critical that we reduce our dependence on fossil fuels. We should continue investing in clean energy technologies – a wind turbine is made with over 8,000 parts, every one of which can be made in Michigan.
6. All voters must be able to cast their votes without barriers, fear, or intimidation. That is why I am a cosponsor of the Voting Rights Advancement Act, and will continue pushing to make sure elections are fair and transparent. It's so important that we reduce the influence of special interests in our election. I strongly oppose the Supreme Court's Citizens United decision. I also cosponsored and voted for the DISCLOSE Act that would cut down on dark money. You can count on me to continue fighting for the people of Michigan every day in the U.S. Senate.

George E. Huffman III US Taxpayers

Did not respond in time to be included.

Marcia Squier Green

Instructor, Sales & Equipment Mgr for Tumblebunnies, a mobile, on-demand exercise company for kids. Bachelor of Science Degree from Wayne State University on a full academic scholarship, Majoring in Psychology. 2 Terms on the Board of Directors for Ingleside-Grossedale Park Association (2nd Vice President & former Chairman of the Board). 2016 U.S. House Candidate for Michigan's 14th District. Lifelong Michigander who cares more about People than Megacorporations. Campaign Website: MarciaSquier.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/MarciaSquier4Senate/>. Twitter: twitter.com/triple_marcia.

1. My top 3 national legislative priorities are: (a) Retroactively ending the War on Drugs. (b) Ending Foreign Interventionism & endless war-for-profit. (c) Giving the People the representation in government that they deserve. I would like to repeal and replace the following pieces of legislation: Help America Vote Act (HAVA), Patriot Act, Controlled Substances Act, DARK Act, Authorized Use of Military Force (AUMF), National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA), Telecommunications Act & Federal Reserve Act. I would support the expansion of Medicare & Public Education for All.
2. If we end the wars on drugs and terror, we would reduce our overbloated and unsustainable military industrial complex. We would also see a positive shift in immigration patterns, as people from other countries might be more inclined to stay in their homeland, easing the refugee crisis. Drug cartels would see their power and influence diminish, reducing undocumented immigration and crime in general. As for those who are migrating to the U.S. legally, they should have to pass background checks for violence. In addition, if we shift away from fossil fuels and towards renewables, we would benefit the entire world.
3. Millions of people are not getting the health care they deserve because of cost. We deserve Medicare for All & access to life saving remedies. We should shift funding away from more death & destruction and towards more worthwhile endeavors like healthcare & education. We are dying from lack of proper healthcare, while millions of people overseas have also died as a result of our weaponry & interventionism. Right now, we offer publicly funded healthcare to minors, seniors, & pregnant women. We need to stop discriminating against everyone else and ensure their rights to life, liberty & the pursuit of happiness too.
4. I support publicly funded health-care for All people, regardless of age, and education for All, from preK to PhD, plus skilled trades. I support a jobs program focusing on what I call #HIRE, which stands for Healthcare, Infrastructure, Renewables and Education. We should be our healthiest, most educated selves in order to reduce income inequality and further civilization.

5. I want to shift away from fossil fuels and towards renewable off-grid energy, which would bring an end to all the leaky oil pipelines that criss cross our waterways and land, causing pollution and environmental damage. We should offer incentives and tax breaks to small businesses that are in the environmental and energy industries. This would be very beneficial to the future of the Great Lakes, as well as the environment as a whole.
6. I support banning SuperPAC's and Corporate donations, lowering the voting age to 16 or 17, and having automatic voter registration, up to and including election day. I also support hand-counted paper ballots with citizen oversight, not machine-counted ballots with government oversight. In addition, I'm the only candidate for US Senate in Michigan who has pledged to file for recounts in any and all suspicious precincts in my race, since our voting machines and central tabulators are extremely easy to manipulate in order to produce fraudulent results.

John Howard Wilhelm Natural Law

Retired economist. Ph.D., Economics University of Michigan 1974. By training a Soviet/Russia specialist in addition to my training in economics. I have been working with third parties, the most recent the Modern Whig and Modern Whig and Green Parties, on the issue of voting system reform to open up our political processes to third parties. Campaign Website: www.nationalrenewalparty.org and voting reform site www.nationalrenewal.org.

1. (a) Voting reform at the federal level to open up our political processes to third parties. (b) Promoting a better discussion of the policy issues we face especially in a post peak-oil period. (c) Working to get better Russia and Middle East policies. Get Elected.
2. My concerns are that we have not had an honest discussion of this issue. Given the impending reality of peak oil we face some troubling issues concerning population sustainability on which the issue of immigration looms large. On this issue I have been much informed by articles published in the Social Contract in Petoskey, Michigan by Dr. John Tanton. It is outrageous that groups like Southern Law Poverty Center have labeled John Tanton a racist for his efforts on immigration reform. Political correctness in this area has done a lot of damage to a much needed honest discussion of this issue.
3. My concerns is that we have done a very poor job of intelligently discussion this issue. If elected I would support a bill putting a sunset on Obama Care, if and only if as part of that effort a hard copy of David Goldhill's 2009 Atlantic article on health reform were given to every American taxpayer. That would make it much more difficult for the two parties to peddle a lot of nonsense about this issue which is dumbing down our electorate and preventing us to get good health care for all of these categories.
4. None. There are certain strata whose economic position public policy ought to help. But besides this all the evidence indicates that we are consuming beyond sustainable levels, especially given impending peak oil. On this score, our compelling need is to develop stabilization policies for a sustainable economy. If elected, I would push for the Joint Economic Committee to initiate a discussion of this issue. As Tim Jackson of the British Sustainable Development Commission has pointed out we have virtually no economic scholarship on this vital issue.
5. A stiff carbon tax with the revenue going towards supporting good public transportation in central cities like Detroit, research on alternative sustainable energy sources and reducing our blooming national debt
6. Our most important voting right in addition to the right to vote is to have a good voting system not our current plurality voting system which is the worst. I support approval voting (see my website www.nationalrenewal.org) to open up our political process to third parties. On campaign finance reform. We need to repeal all campaign finance laws and start over again. The current ones are very discriminatory against third parties and have done a lot to undermine the effectiveness of our political system. Our focus has been on the supply side, not on the demand side of the problem. I want to change that.

U.S. Congress – Michigan District 6

Two-year term Vote for one

Description: Representatives share the responsibility with Senators for enactment of the nation's laws as provided in the U.S. Constitution. Laws that require payment of taxes are initiated in the House of Representatives. A Representative must be at least 25 years of age and a U.S. Citizen for at least 7 years. There are 435 Representatives based on Congressional districts reapportioned after each census. Michigan has 14 districts as of 2012. District 6 includes Kalamazoo, Allegan (part), Berrien, Cass, St. Joseph, Van Buren counties.

Questions

1. **Priorities:** What are your top three national legislative priorities and how would you address them?
2. **Immigration:** What are your concerns and plans regarding U.S. immigration policy?
3. **Health Care:** What are your concerns and plans regarding U.S. health care policies and programs, including those affecting maternal and child health?
4. **Economy:** What federal policies do you support to help members of all strata of the American public improve their economic positions?
5. **Environment & Energy:** What policies do you support to meet U.S. energy needs while protecting our water, air and land for current and future generations? Explain how those actions or policies would affect the future of the Great Lakes.
6. **Elections:** What federal policies do you support regarding campaign funding and voting rights?

Fred Upton Republican

U.S. Representative (MI-06). University of Michigan. Currently serving Southwest Michigan as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives (MI-06). Campaign Website: www.fredupton.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/uptonforallfus>. Twitter: twitter.com/UptonForAllOfUs.

1. Keeping our economy moving. I supported landmark middle-class tax cuts. Already, we've seen major investments by employers in our district and wages rising at the fastest rates in close to a decade. Protecting and preserving our Great Lakes. I fought hard for full funding of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, new pipeline safety laws, and for full funding to dredge our harbors and rivers. Implementing the 21st Century Cures Act and combating the opioid crisis. "Cures" is making a real difference in the lives of patients and families. Our bill boosts research and development into cures and treatments.
2. I remain ever-committed to working in a bipartisan manner to fix our broken immigration system. During my time in Congress, I have actively discussed immigration reform with farmers, advocacy groups, business owners, law enforcement officials, and DACA recipients. We need a balanced, pragmatic, and comprehensive approach to immigration reform. I supported a discharge petition demanding debate and consideration of several immigration proposals, and I will continue to push for legislative solutions which include border security and long-term

certainty for DACA recipients.

3. As a member of the bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus, my focus remains on ensuring everyone has access to affordable, quality health care and those with pre-existing conditions are protected. Here's how: Passing the 21st Century Cures Act. Leading the effort to preserve Medicare and seniors' access to their doctors, and prevent spikes in Medicare Part B premiums. Renewing the Children's Health Insurance Program for the longest extension in the programs history and supporting community health centers for low-income families. Modernizing our mental illness health care and combating the opioid addiction epidemic.
4. Southwest Michigan's economy remains one of my top concerns. I supported landmark, middle-class tax reform for individuals and businesses to spur economic growth and create good-paying jobs. Already, we've seen major investment by employers in our district. Additionally, educating our students for the 21st Century economy is fundamental to providing upward mobility for all. This summer, Congress passed the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act which provides more than \$1 billion to fund school-based CTE programs to prepare students for the modern workforce.
5. I remain focused on an "all-of-the-above" energy strategy that focuses on emerging energy technologies like wind, solar, nuclear and hydropower mixed with traditional energy solutions. As a member of the bipartisan Climate Solutions Caucus we must continue to use innovation

U.S. Congress — Michigan District 6, continued

and common-sense policies to protect our environment. When it comes to the Great Lakes I helped deliver full funding of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative when it was on the chopping block. I also championed bipartisan pipeline safety legislation. We must continue to work together to protect our Great Lakes and environment.

6. I have a consistent, bipartisan record of supporting common-sense campaign finance laws to ensure transparency and accountability in our elections. I supported the landmark Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act, also known as McCain-Feingold, which limits donations to federal candidates and requires their public disclosure. I am also a longtime cosponsor of the bipartisan Voting Rights Amendment Act which would modernize the original Voting Rights Act to reflect today's challenges. The bill would update part of the law struck down by the Supreme Court in 2013 to ensure that all Americans can exercise this fundamental right.

Matt Longjohn

Democrat

Candidate for Congress in Michigan's 6th district. Bachelor's of Science-Kalamazoo College. M.D, MPH-Tulane University. My qualifications for representing Michigan's 6th Congressional District include a deep attachment to the area (6 generations of family in SW MI); experience in building more than 250 coalitions across the country that implemented 39,000 community changes; and being recognized as one of the top healthcare innovators in the nation who created jobs and better health while saving Medicare billions. Campaign Website: mattlongjohnforcongress.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/mattlongjohnforcongress/>. Twitter: twitter.com/MattLongjohn.

1. Improving the health and quality of life for everyone in the country. As a healthcare innovator, I have created jobs, prevented illness, saved lives and saved money. Our environment, our education, housing, transportation and food systems must also promote health. Fighting to make our government truly representative. We must get dark money out of politics and increase the influence of everyday people. Reforming the tax code to help families and small business. Washington's 'trickle down' policies haven't worked, and too many people are being left behind. Tax policy must prioritize working families and small business.
2. Immigrants have always been an important part of our society. We continue to need immigrants to help fuel and diversify our economy. We must protect our sovereignty and national security, but building a wall is a waste of money. No human is merely "an illegal," and the rights of all immigrants need to be respected. I support DACA and a path to citizenship for Dreamers. I will protect and expand student and agricultural worker visa programs. Splitting up refugee families by placing adults in military detention while putting their kids in foster care is dangerously close to recreating the internment camps of WWII.
3. I'm running for Congress to improve people's health and quality of life. Quality of life depends on affordable healthcare, a safe and healthy environment, and educational as well as economic opportunities. I believe in universal healthcare, keeping mental and reproductive health in all insurance plans, and expanding Medicare by offering it on the insurance exchanges as a public option. Medicare must also be able to negotiate lower drug prices. I believe it's a women's right to make her own reproductive health care decisions. I will always protect funding for children's health insurance and community health centers.
4. Too many hard-working families are struggling to make ends meet. Washington's approach to stimulating the economy through 'Trickle Down' tax breaks for corporations and the wealthiest among us has resulted in a larger income gap. We need more balanced economic

policy prioritizing workers and small business. Liveable wages and well-paying jobs need to be protected—not just created. I support "equal pay for equal work" for women and other groups experiencing discrimination, and believe trade agreements must not incentivize employers to leave the country or help them profit by devaluing American labor.

5. Clean air, water, and land is fundamental to our health and our economy. The Great Lakes and other natural resources in Michigan are treasures, fueling agriculture and tourism. Protecting them is a fundamental job of public leaders. We need to remove Line 5 responsibly and invest in creating green energy jobs at the same time, so we can ensure the protection of Lake Michigan while helping transition workers to sustainable well-paying jobs. We must continue to improve air-quality by maintaining emission standards. I also support agricultural innovation to diversify our food system, improve yields, and limit soil loss.
6. We must reform campaign financing and other aspects of our political system to reduce the risk of corruption and protect voters' rights. All political contributions must be transparent so we can hold policy-makers accountable to voters, not just their mysterious corporate donors. We must limit gerrymandering, and have public financing of elections to ensure small-dollar individual contributions aren't overwhelmed by corporate lobbyists and large-dollar contributions. Voter suppression is wrong. We must protect the integrity of our voting system, but never limit anyone's ability to exercise their right to vote.

Stephen J. Young

US Taxpayers

Facilities Maintenance Manager. US Naval Nuclear Power Program, Naval Electronics Technician. GE Boiling Water Reactor, Senior Reactor Operator NRC license. College Education 3 years of Nuclear Technology. A citizen of these united states of America, having taken an oath of office to uphold and defend the constitution. Something that will always be first as said citizen. Campaign Facebook: <http://StephenJYoungforUSCongressMI6>.

1. (a) Stop all unconstitutional spending- Speak and vote against all unconstitutional bills. (b) Work to stop and remove federal government overreach for programs not authorized by the constitution. As nessecary, teach the Constitution to Congress. (c) Support President Trump in all of his constitutional acts.
2. The federal government is not fulfilling it's constitutional responsibility in protecting American borders. The constitutional law must be enforced.
3. Under the U.S. Constitution, there is no lawful authority to set up or administer health care to any individual, organization, corporation, state of country. Women and families have been giving birth for about seven thousand years, most of that without health insurance. Health insurance is a personal choice and responsibility.
4. Get the federal government out of private business and the economy will prosper. Cut income and corporate taxes and the economy will prosper.
5. Promote oil, coal energy, nuclear energy and other forms of practical, economical and reasonable forms of energy. The water belongs to We the People and the states in some cases, not to the federal government. The air belongs to our Creator. While not overly polluting our air and water is a concern to all reasonable people, it is not a lawful responsibility of the federal government under our constitution.
6. The more the federal government involves itself in attempting to control elections and funding, the more corrupt they have become.

Michigan State Legislature

Questions

1. **Priorities:** What are your top three state legislative priorities and how would you address them?
2. **Education:** What measures do you support/propose to achieve improved educational outcomes and accessibility for Michigan students from early childhood through post-secondary education?
3. **Economy:** What policies do you support to increase jobs and help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?
4. **Elections:** What state policies do you support regarding campaign funding and voting rights?
5. **Environment & Energy:** What actions or policies do you support to protect Michigan's water, air and land for current and future generations, while meeting the state's energy needs? Explain how those actions or policies would affect the future of Enbridge Pipeline 5.
6. **Justice:** What policies will you pursue to promote social and racial justice in our state?

State Senate, District 20 — Kalamazoo County

Four-year term Vote for one

Description: The Michigan Senate shares responsibility with the Michigan House of Representatives to enact new laws and amend or repeal existing laws. State Senators may serve a maximum of two full terms. They must be at least 21 years of age and a registered voter in their district. There are 38 State Senate districts which are re-apportioned after each census.

Margaret E. O'Brien

Republican

State Senator/Licensed Real Estate Agent. Bachelor of Arts, James Madison College at Michigan State University. State Senator, 2015-present. State Representative, 2011-2014. Portage City Council, 2003-2010. Licensed Real Estate Agent, 2003-present. Social Worker, 1995-2003. Campaign Website: www.margaretobrien.com. Facebook: <http://facebook.com/margaretobrienforstatesenate>. Twitter: twitter.com/mobrien2027.

1. My three priorities are roads, education and continued job growth. (a) Roads- We have invested billions of dollars the last couple years in to our roads, and are putting in over \$200 million more using unanticipated revenues. Each year since the Roads Package was passed, we have increased road funding- part through fees/taxes and part through increased general funds. (b) Education- We are investing a record \$14.7 billion into K-12 education. We must invest more into the at risk population to improve proficiency in reading, math and science. (c) Job Growth- we must continue to attract high wage jobs and emerging sectors.
2. (a) Ensure reading proficiency by 3rd grade- this can be accomplished through investment in to children who start school behind which includes at risk children & ESL. (b) Advocate CTE & college prep- Career & Technical Education has been an area that was neglected in the 2000's. We must ensure our students can see the opportunities offered through CTE & college prep. Many industries with high wage jobs are understaffed. (c) Mental health services counseling- we need to address violence in neighborhoods and schools. Schools are a logical place for students to receive help if parents allow. (d) Pre-K- continued investment.
3. (a) Education is the best way for students to be able to have many options. (b) Re-training programs- many community colleges offer certificate programs with jobs waiting at the end of

their program. Additionally, a local organization in my community focuses on hard to employ people- lack of HS diploma, criminal record, transportation barriers, single parent, poor work history. This program partners with employers to teach 3-6 week programs with a job at the end. The short class time allows for better chance of success. (c) Ensuring MI has a competitive regulatory & tax climate. We have done that in the last 8 years.

4. (a) Transparency in campaign financing- I would support more frequent reporting. I voted for more frequent reporting requirements. (b) Fair elections- ensure every citizen has the opportunity. I have supported expanded use of absentee voting and cosponsored legislation to do this.
5. Michigan has the benefit of amazing resources- water, land. We must ensure are policies are scientifically driven. Also, we must look to creative ideas. A group of Michigan Tech students recently analyzed all wires/pipes/lines that go under the straits & have offered some ways to improve safety. We must ensure that Pipeline 5 never leaks. I supported a bill that would have closed it down. If it is not closed down, we need to be vigilant in watching the line. As we look at energy resources, it is important to have affordable and sustainable energy options. Too often, the poorest pay the highest bills.
6. (a) I sponsored bi-partisan legislation with Senators Gregory & Knollenberg to educate young people about traffic stops & to ensure officers give their name and how to file complaint information to anyone they stop. We need to reduce the risk of violence in what is already a tense interaction. (b) More attention to education- African American students are more likely to struggle than others. We need to ensure we have support services available that will work for them. (c) We need to ensure that our sentencing policies are fair. Over the last 8 years, we have opened more alternative courts which is a win for everyone.

Michigan State Legislature, continued

Sean McCann

Democrat

Small Business Owner. Western Michigan University, Bachelors of Political Science, Class of 1993. Kalamazoo City Commissioner - 1999-2009. State Representative (60th District) 2010-2014. Campaign Website: <http://seanamccann.com/>. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/McCannForStateSenate/>. Twitter: twitter.com/SeanAMcCann.

1. (a) Protect and expand healthcare for Michigan's citizens. We need to expand the Healthy MI program, and undo the recently enacted punitive and misguided work requirements to remain eligible for healthcare in this program. (b) Investing in our roads and infrastructure. The state needs to make a greater investment in our roads and infrastructure than it has in the last seven and a half years, and I will advocate for this as state senator. (c) Investing in education. Michigan needs to invest in early learning, K-12 education, and our institutions of higher learning to ensure we can compete in the 21st century economy.
2. Michigan's children will not have higher outcomes or greater accessibility to higher education until our teachers and classrooms are truly high-performing and cutting edge. This takes a serious financial investment by the State of Michigan. I will pursue this doggedly as your state senator. We need to make sure our students are set-up for success from the start. We must invest in early childhood education, and work to make sure that all students have an opportunity to pursue further education, at either a university or trade school, upon leaving high school.
3. I strongly believe the basis of a strong economy is a well-educated and well-trained workforce. To this end, I support ensuring that we have strong public schools accessible to all people, as well as increasing support for trade schools and community colleges. We need to ensure that we are ready for the 21st century economy, and that Michigan's workers can take on new fields in technology, renewable energy, and other new and emerging fields. We have harmed working people and their ability to organize to improve their economic positions by adopting misdirected policies like so-called Right-to-Work.
4. We need to bring serious reform to how our elections operate and how district maps are drawn in Michigan. As a state representative, I introduced legislation to create an Independent Legislative Redistricting Commission. I strongly support the current Voters Not Politicians ballot proposal. I support all the measures called for in the Promote the Vote ballot initiative, such as no excuse absentee voting. We should be encouraging participation in democracy, not suppressing it. We must also bring an end to unaccountable outside political spending, commonly referred to as "dark money", and ensure transparency.
5. I oppose the bills that would create a panel of corporations that oversee the rule-making of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. We should rely on scientists and experts to determine our environmental protections. I support the immediate decommissioning of Line 5. The current situation represents a ticking time-bomb of potential environmental disaster for the Great Lakes. I support the conversion of power plants from coal to natural gas, as well as establishing standards that continue to move Michigan to using ever increasing sources of clean and renewable energy, like solar and wind.
6. I strongly support the enactment of Ellison-Larsen civil rights protections for LGBTQ citizens of Michigan to ensure that all citizens share in the same civil rights protections. We must put these protections in state statute to ensure they are immune to staffing changes in government agencies. We must also address racial inequality through criminal justice reform. All people, regardless of race, should be treated equally before the law and by law enforcement. This must be addressed by both reform within the law, as well as ensuring our law enforcement have adequate training and tools to tackle inherent bias.

Lorence Wenke

Libertarian

Greenhouse Business Owner - retired, part owner. Kalamazoo Christian Graduate. Calvin College 1965. WMU 1967. I was a Kalamazoo County Commissioner for 8 years - 3 as Chairman 1995-2002. I was a Michigan State Representative for 6 years - 2003-2008. I have a unique combination of government experience and small business ownership experience that is a good basis for elected office to the State Senate. Campaign Website: LorenceWenkeforStateSenate.com. Facebook: <http://LorenceWenkeforStateSenate.com>. Twitter: twitter.com/Lorence4Liberty.

1. Education - Parents, schools, the state's students and teachers must require more hours of schoolwork with higher standards for good grades. Family Issues - We must not reward irresponsible family planning decisions with generous tax dollars for many years. The state should supply free long-term reversible birth control and eliminate taxpayer dollars from irresponsible parents. Reduce alcohol costs to the taxpayer - We should tax producers of alcohol like we tax tobacco producers and use the taxes to offset the cost to society of alcoholism.
2. We need more required hours in school. We need parents, teachers, administrators and state education officials to work harder at education and make it more difficult to get a 4.0. We must find a way to motivate parents to get involved in their children's education and to have a financial cost to their family if they choose not to get involved in their children's education. We must not let the serious students be held back by students who do not care. The state needs to encourage and provide financial support for skilled jobs training similar to what we provide college students.
3. I support reasonable minimum wage increases adjusted for inflation. I support tax payer subsidies for private business development when the project is not profitable but performs a public service such as Dan Gilbert is doing in Detroit. The state needs to encourage and provide financial support for skilled jobs training similar to what we provide college students. We need to stop paying people who will not work and make those dollars available to people who will work. Schools providing childcare at school after regular school hours at a cost to working parents would be helpful.
4. I support the constitutional amendment which will change how and who draws the lines for voting districts. I support the transparent public accounting of all dollars used to influence elections in support of issues or people. I do not think corporations should be able to contribute money towards elections. I support no reason absentee voting if we can implement safeguards against fraud.
5. We must reduce the amount of chemicals that move from farmland, housing and manufacturing into our ground water, rivers and lakes. I voted in support of the first renewable energy bill in Lansing that required energy producers to produce 10% renewable energy. The Enbridge Pipeline needs to be replaced with a more secure pipeline. All lead water pipes used in Michigan for municipal water systems should be replaced. Vehicle emissions need to be reduced and the use of driverless electric vehicles encouraged.
6. I am very active in supporting LGBTQ issues and have been an activist for 15 years. I am a member of a church which recognizes women equal to men. I want my daughter and granddaughters protected at all costs from sex predators, and I want predators locked up and treated for a long time. I have long been a member of the NAACP and support its goals with contributions. I vote for people who agree with me that the way most churches treat women, people of color and LGBTQ people is wrong. The gap between rich and poor in our state is growing in favor of the rich and adjustments must be made.

State House of Representatives See questions on page 8 for Michigan State Legislature

Two-year term Vote for one

Description: *The Michigan House of Representatives shares responsibility with the Michigan Senate to enact new laws and amend or repeal existing laws. State Representatives may serve a maximum of three full terms. They must be at least 21 years of age and a registered voter in their district. There are 110 State House districts which are re-apportioned after each census*

District 60

City of Kalamazoo, Township of Kalamazoo (all except precinct 12)

William Baker

Republican

On leave from the Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital's Environmental Services Department. BS in Mathematics from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Campaign Website: <https://www.political-bank.com/find-candidates/william-baker-aede7ee0-1125-4a38-873d-25993fed5493>. Facebook: <http://facebook.com/baker4mihouse/>.

1. My top priority would be to scale back State spending to focus on the most important areas. I would start by cutting pay of Legislators. Second, and concurrently, I would seek to roll back taxes for everybody. I will propose cutting state income taxes to 3% and ending excise taxes on tobacco and alcohol products (only 3.7% of State revenue). Lastly, to improve education in Michigan, we need to create an environment conducive to the expansion of educational services. I would make all educational spending, including student loan payments, tax deductible.
2. In order to improve educational outcomes for our students, we need to expand the educational opportunities that are available for everyone. Michigan needs to expand school choice and to allow vouchers to be provided directly to parents so that educational funds can be saved for future years or spent as they see fit. Additionally, all educational spending should be tax deductible on the state income tax each year, this would include all tuition and fees for all levels of education as well as full student loan payments for those currently burdened with college debt.
3. One of the hardest thing for someone to do after being released from jail is to obtain employment due to licensing requirements with a "good morals" clause. Therefore, the State of Michigan needs to reform its licensing requirements so that it is easier for individuals to obtain a job or strike out on their own. Additionally, we need to be a state that is conducive to entrepreneurship by lessening the tax burden on everyone and by ending economic protection through subsidies and regulation.
4. The biggest thing about campaign funding is just making sure that everything donated is reported. Who donated, how much was it, when was it, and so on. The only way to effectively reduce the importance of donations from political groups is to limit the power of elected officials. By removing power from State Legislators and returning it to individual citizens, there would be no reason for special interests to lobby politicians.

5. Due to the economic protection granted to our energy providers, the Enbridge Pipeline 5 carries roughly three quarters of the natural gas and oil required by the Lower Peninsula. Therefore, any direct shutdown would have massive implications felt for days or weeks. In order to lessen the importance of this pipeline, we need to deregulate the energy market and allow for increased competition from other providers. To balance our economic needs with protections of our natural resources, the State should focus on private property rights and allowing individuals the right to keep their land in any condition they choose.
6. The most effective way to promote social and racial equality, is to make the law blind again. When we see each other as individuals, treating everyone as a person with rights unto themselves, we can move away from the blinding hatred that divides us. As a society, we need to stop expecting government to oversee every transgression and be tolerant of the peaceful ignorance of others. Again, by limiting the power of legislators, there will be less chances for the government or protected industries from maintaining the injustice in our state. By returning power to the people, we return equality to all.

Jon Hoadley

Democrat

State Representative. Michigan State University 2006. State Representative 2015-Present. Small Business Owner. Campaign Website: www.JonHoadley.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/jon.hoadley>. Twitter: twitter.com/jonhoadley.

1. (a) Creating Welcoming Communities and an Economy That Benefits Everyone. (b) Protecting Our Environment. (c) Prioritizing Education.
2. We all know the importance of education and the profound impact it has on our children and future. We need to put students first, increase funding for public schools, end the profit motive in education, empower parents, and support public education employees. Let's decrease student debt and make community colleges and public universities tuition free. Together we can ensure our children are going to school in welcoming environments that promote learning and success.
3. When corporations pay their fair share and increase wages, the families of workers and our economy win. We need to end the corporate tax breaks that don't create jobs, stand up for workers, and protect our seniors. Together we can raise wages, improve healthcare with Medicare-for-all, and re-build the middle class.

Michigan State Legislature, continued

4. Our democracy needs to be more responsive to voters. While in the State House, I've introduced legislation to end gerrymandering and protect voting rights through a Voter Bill of Rights. To make government more responsive, we need to reduce the amount of money in politics, reform the legislator-to-lobbyist system created by term limits, put citizens in charge of redistricting so voters are picking their elected officials and not the other way around, and make sure the right to vote is protected.
5. Whether we are playing pick up sports in public parks or spending a summer weekend on the Great Lakes, Michiganders each have a rich history with our environment. We need to invest in renewable energy, increase clean air standards, and hold polluters accountable. Line 5 must be decommissioned immediately. We need to protect our water and decrease our reliance on fossil fuels. When we protect our environment and invest in new technologies we improve our communities and economy.
6. We need opportunity for all. I've been a champion in the legislature for social justice and ending discrimination. Too many Michiganders have been incarcerated due to discriminatory practices and policies. We must confront racism, end discrimination against LGBT people, pass criminal justice reform, welcome new Americans, protect civil rights, and say no to policies that try to divide our community. Together we will create a thriving, welcoming Michigan.

District 61

City of Portage. Townships of Oshtemo, Prairie Ronde, Schoolcraft, Texas

Brandt Iden Republican

State Representative, 61st District. I graduated from Kalamazoo College with degrees in Political Science & Economics. I have served the past 4 years as your State Rep and the 4 before that as your Kalamazoo County Commissioner. In all my time of serving you, I have remained accessible, continue to listen, and work hard on policies that matter most to you and our community. I am also a business owner and have served on the Boards for Big Brother Big Sister and for Junior Achievement of Southwest Michigan. Campaign Website: www.voteiden.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/idenatwork>.

1. My top three legislative priorities have been to enhance community safety, to continue to grow jobs and the economy, and to ensure government responsibility. I have strengthened community safety through my efforts against sexual abuse and assault. I have promoted a growing economy and increased jobs through passing meaningful reforms that expand career paths for our students, especially those in skilled trades and vocational careers. I have ensured government responsibility by eliminating oppressive and unnecessary government fees and I continue to work towards increased transparency in our state government.
2. I have continually sponsored and voted for policies that expand educational options for our students, especially those related to skilled trades and vocational careers. Specifically, I passed P.A. 185 of 2018 which allows high school students to obtain real life experience, earn school credit, and explore future careers. I also voted in support of the 21st Century Skills package, which gives students a greater variety of high school credit options. Further, I voted for the largest education funding increase in state history, and I will continue to work to ensure all of our public schools have the resources they need.
3. I have continuously voted for incentives that attract businesses and entrepreneurs to our region. I have helped our community employers to establish thousands of new, stable, and high paying jobs and have sponsored various methods of connecting students to meaningful and successful careers. I support the historic preservation tax credit and have voted in support of incentives for urban redevelopment projects around the state. Our community has one of the lowest unemployment rates in Michigan and we need to continue policies like this so that Michigan can stay on the right track.
4. Out of all 50 states, Michigan recently ranked very last in transparency. This is unacceptable. We need increased transparency in government, and that includes transparency of campaigns and campaign finance. Further, I voted in support of no reason absentee voting and continue to support that policy to make sure every person has an adequate opportunity to voice their opinion.
5. Ensuring clean water is paramount in Michigan. I helped create a unit at the Michigan DEQ that is now equipped to detect and treat PFAS. I obtained state funding for PFAS testing and clean up because Michigan residents deserve clean water. I voted for reduced energy waste, encouraged use of renewable resources and environmental cleanup, and continue to support measures that protect our outdoors. Enbridge Line 5 is not a long-term solution to Michigan's energy needs. The state should pursue one of the many other studied methods of energy delivery to continue to ensure affordable and reliable energy to northern Michigan.
6. In order to pursue social and racial justice, I have to listen. A top social injustice I continuously hear about is the challenge of workforce re-entry for those with a criminal record. A great force of change is gainful and meaningful employment and I have been working hard on encouraging workforce access. We need to be better at rehabilitating those in our criminal justice system instead of handing out oppressive, lifetime barriers. I have sponsored a variety of measures that make it easier to enter the workforce to be able to provide for oneself and a family and I will continue to promote these policies.

Alberta Griffin Democrat

Professor at Western Michigan University, and President AGS Data Analytic Consulting. BS of Dietetics and Biology, MA of Family Education and Nutrition Education, Ph.D.C. in Health Science and Statistics. Campaign Website: <https://www.albertagriffin61st.com/>. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/albertagriffin61st/>. Twitter: twitter.com/berta_griffin18.

1. Education, making sure we are not only investing in our children, but also making long term investments in our schools and staff. Equality, we are facing a trying time in our nation's history. The current administration is leading attack after attack on our American values. We need to be prepared to have open and honest discussions at all levels of government. Choice, the potential new make up of the courts can create a pre-Roe set of circumstances. In that scenario the number of abortions, deaths and infections goes up dramatically. As a data scientist I want to study these issues.
2. I believe reliance on input from the educators as professionals is the first step. Next is funding, Prop A changed the make up of general funds education dollars in the 90's, since then the funding formula has been off balance, and created a separation of resources to the districts who need it most. This then spirals into so many other places of our society, and then costs us

- as taxpayers more. The last step is utilizing metric based performance reviews to generate quality assessments of process, protocols, and professionals over time to determine what is working and what is not.
3. The fair wage and the time to care ballot initiatives are great examples of ways we can fight wage disparity without crippling business. People at those income levels are spenders, they spend to zero almost monthly. I know, I've been there. That will generate economic growth in our small businesses and retail communities. Then if we couple that with real tax reform to allow our large employers to find incentives to create jobs and take risks for growth.
4. The security of our democracy is key to all we hold dear. We need to audit our security, build programs that will promise its security in future elections. Election hacking is the #1 threat to our democracy. Campaign funding has been a very tough issue to address, we need to provide a space for open forum and debate while not limiting the freedom of speech that the Supreme Court has determined the law of the land regarding SuperPAC funds. I believe that if there is to be free speech attached to money and politics, all contributions should be disclosed and made public.
5. We deserve responsible leadership in Lansing that understands that Michigan's access to clean, fresh water is one of its greatest assets. It has made us unique throughout history. We seem to be the only state in the Midwest that has no comprehensive plan for wind and solar energy. The pipeline needs maintenance, waiting any longer could be dire. The long term environmental implications need to be reviewed. As a member of the House, I will review those items and work to build plans where everyone can benefit and our assets are protected.
6. As the mother of three African American children, I am scared. When my kids leave the house I have to remind them how to respond and act when approached by any person of authority. This is something I learned as a child. I had hoped we would live in a world by the time I was a parent where those conversations were obsolete. Sadly, they are not. As for specific policies, I can tell you that I believe that fairness and justice should be a key part of our governing policies. Police should be allowed to protect themselves, citizens should not live in fear of police, we cannot govern from fear and expect just outcomes

District 63

Calhoun County: City of Marshall. Townships of Athens, Burlington, Clarendon, Eckford, Emmett, Fredonia, Homer, Leroy, Marengo, Marshall, Newton, Tekonsha.

Kalamazoo County: City of Galesburg. Townships Brady, Charleston, Climax, Comstock, Kalamazoo (precinct 12 only), Pavilion, Ross, Wakeshma.

Matt Hall Republican

Constitutional Law Attorney, self employed. BBA, Business Management & Public Administration, Cum Laude, Western Michigan University. Juris Doctor, Advanced Constitutional Advocacy, Magna Cum Laude, WMU Cooley Law School. Former West Michigan liaison for Michigan Attorney General's office. Worked in the private sector for combat propulsion systems manufacturer. Longtime former Kalamazoo County resident, who now lives in Emmett Township. Campaign Website: <http://www.electmatthall.com>. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/electmatthall>. Twitter: twitter.com/electmatthall.

1. (a) Lower auto insurance rates. Michigan has the highest auto insurance rates in the country. I support lowering auto insurance rates by providing more plans and more choices for consumers and cracking down on fraud. (b) Continue strengthening our economy. We can further grow our economy and expand job opportunities by promoting skilled trades training, cutting taxes, supporting a quality education, and eliminating/modernizing overburdensome regulations. (c) Rebuild our infrastructure. We should dedicate our fuel tax money toward rebuilding our roads and ensure our water infrastructure provides clean drinking water.
2. (a) Not enough elementary school students are proficient readers. Early literacy programs must be made a priority. (b) Repeal common core. More control and decision making authority should be returned to local school boards. (c) State accountability and funding systems should be changed to focus on subject matter mastery and a student should be encouraged to move at his or her personalized pace. (d) Vocational, career, and technical education in our state must become a higher priority and receive additional support.
3. (a) Help hardworking taxpayers by improving skilled trades training opportunities and cutting taxes, so people can keep more of the money they have earned. (b) I support cutting overburdensome government regulations and mandates that kill job creation. (c) I support repairing Michigan's crumbling infrastructure. Taxpayer dollars spent on repairing roads, bridges, and other infrastructure projects must be spent responsibly and contractors must be held accountable. Road tax money must be dedicated to repairing our roads. Public/private partnerships should be encouraged to repair our state's infrastructure.
4. I support requiring photo identification to vote.
5. Environmental regulations should be based on scientific evidence and not politics. I support science based, reasonable environmental regulations.
6. (a) I will continue to advocate for the sanctity of life. I will support legislation aimed at reducing the number of abortions occurring in our state. (b) I support reforming Michigan's civil asset forfeiture laws to require a criminal conviction before the government can seize a person's assets. A person is entitled to due process under the law before his or her property is taken away by the government.

Jennifer Aniano Democrat

Teacher. B.S. Journalism. B.S. History M.Ed. with teaching certification. Working on Doctor of Education. Teacher Kalamazoo Public Schools. Vice President Kalamazoo Education Association. Campaign Website: [Jenanianoformi.org](http://jenanianoformi.org). Facebook: <http://@jenanianoformi>.

1. (a) Education. (b) Labor. (c) Infrastructure.
2. School funding must be increased and equitable. Skilled trades should be a part of the curriculum for graduation. Testing needs to be reduced. We should focus on closing the opportunity gap, not the achievement gap. Two-year degree programs and certification programs should be free or heavily subsidized. The cost of four-year degrees must go down.
3. I believe this starts with ending right-to-work. Giving power back to the every day workers in Michigan will ensure a better economy.
4. Everyone eligible to vote should easily be able to do so. We need to do a better job of giving voting access to our elderly, disabled, and poor.

Michigan State Legislature, continued

5. I support protecting our Great Lakes and easing into renewable energies. I understand the necessities of pipelines; however, I believe we need to protect our Great Lakes. There have been too many oil disasters in recent history for the people of Michigan not to want to protect our most precious resource. We are the gatekeepers of the Great Lakes and we need to behave as such.
6. We have to first look at sentencing and how this practice is utilized across the state. We also have to make sure all public employees are aware of social justice, racial justice, and the systemic issues that plague our state.

Ronald Hawkins Libertarian

Did not respond in time to be included.

John Anthony La Pietra Green

Attorney, solo practice – election law, Constitutional & civil rights, freedom of information, etc. BA Macalester College 1978 (planning/public admin). JD Cooley Law School 2008 (admin law & Constitutional law/civil rights; studied legislative process, election law, plain-English legal writing). I've been an attorney 10 years – after working 10 years each in the public, non-profit, & private sectors. So I now what working people face in dealing with government. And I know government is business – but Public business, the business Of the People, to be done For the People. So we need to make sure it's done By the People – in the public eye, with full public transparency & accountability. Campaign Website: <http://www.newmenu.org/johnanthony> (and coming soon: <http://jalp4tP.catesby.org/>). Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/jalp4thePeople>.

1. (a) Strengthen government by the People, boost Social Justice & Grassroots Democracy, help Michigan rise from dead last in integrity/accountability (<https://www.publicintegrity.org/2015/11/09/18427/michigan-gets-f-grade-2015-state-integrity-investigation>) by learning from best practices & improving on them to serve People of all parties (or none). (b) Make long-term Sustainability a major policy goal in fields ranging from roads to energy to water. (c) Apply other Green Values: Ecological Wisdom, Non-Violence; Community-Based Economics, Decentralization, Feminism, Personal/Global Responsibility, Respect for Diversity.
2. Social justice/Give all students high-quality critical education meeting their needs/interests. Tuition-free college, erase student debt. Grassroots democracy, decentralization/Give local people more say in how public \$\$ are spent to educate their kids as good learners/citizens. Student/parent control of student data. Strong public oversight of any public \$\$ for charters/privatization. Community-based economics/State, Federal gov't help overcome varying local ability to fund education, reach fairness/equality. Respect for diversity/Fund community-targeted programs, not cookie-cutter teach-to-test approaches.
3. Ecological wisdom, sustainability/Green New Deal creating jobs for 100% fully renewable energy production, sustainable use by 2030; real jobs program hiring for needed public works. There'll be no economy or jobs if we don't end the fossil-fuel economy & reverse climate change. Social justice/Living wage (\$15/hr a starting point); equal pay for comparable work; index expensing of top compensation to average worker pay. Community-based economics: Gov't is for ensuring general welfare; make stimulus efforts bottom-up, with local oversight/accountability. Respect for diversity: End discrimination, stop wasting talent.
4. Grassroots democracy, social justice: Empower & enable all voters to vote (no caging out); all votes count; only voters to replace elected officials. Robust rights of recall/referendum/initiative; End referendum-proofing. Non-partisan redistricting (or PR); end gerrymanders. Fair access for candidates of any party (or none) to the ballot & public financing/forums. Stronger FOIA/open-meeting laws, tougher conflict of interest definition & limits; disclose public officials' finances & gifts to them. Citizen review/control boards for all government enforcement actions. (I take no PAC \$\$, max \$100 from citizens).
5. Fully sustainable energy production & use by 2030; drop all-of-the-above plans which allow nuclear/fracking. Progressive utility rates to boost conservation, cut consumption, reduce stress on infrastructure & "need" for extracting energy. Ban fracking; leave fossil fuels in the ground. Clean, fresh water is a human right; Michigan must protect Great Lakes (esp. from more pipeline spills, like Enbridge in Kalamazoo River; shut down line 5) & ensure sustainability. New/wider roads don't cure congestion (<http://wp.me/a4Avdc-1m>); focus on maintenance, guaranteed durability. See GPML platform: <http://wp.me/a4Avdc-2f>.
6. Some government agencies have an inspector general or other ombudsperson. Most often, they watch how public money is spent. But we also need to watch how elected officials use

power entrusted to them by the people to bring justice for the people. We need independent citizen oversight of county prosecutors, sheriffs, courts, the Attorney General's office. I will take seriously any credible claim of abuse of power, whether against a race or class or on any other basis. And I will work to end abuses, and empower and protect citizens who make such claims, so our state will have justice we can trust – for the people.

District 66

Kalamazoo County: City of Parchment. Townships of Alamo, Cooper.

Van Buren County Cities: Bangor, Gobles, Hartford, South Haven.

Van Buren County Townships: Almena, Antwerp, Arlington, Bloomingdale, Bangor, Columbia, Covert, Decatur, Geneva, Hamilton, Hartford, Keeler, Lawrence, Paw Paw, Pine Grove, Porter, South Haven, Waverly.

Beth Griffin Republican

Did not respond in time to be included.

Dan Seibert Democrat

Systems Engineer at Perrigo. Bachelor of Science in Engineering. Website: <https://www.seibertforstaterep.com>. Campaign Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/VoteDanSeibert/>. Twitter: twitter.com/MrDanielSeibert.

1. Honest and accountable government - Expand FOIA, require financial disclosure for public officials, and a minimum 5 year cooling off period before a legislator can become a lobbyist. Reinvest in Michigan - Stop wasting taxpayer dollars on corporate welfare and invest in infrastructure and public education. Affordable access to broadband - Encourage public/private solutions to communities instead of tax breaks to large corporations which continue to ignore our communities.
2. All children learn uniquely and we need to give our teachers the flexibility to adequately reflect that. By reducing class size and assessing progress in a way that reflects actual abilities instead of test preparation, we can focus on preparing students for the future. Furthermore, post-secondary education (college, vocational, etc.) needs to be available and affordable to students in every community.
3. I support a shift in our priorities away from providing corporate welfare and toward investment in public infrastructure and education. A skilled workforce and reliable infrastructure would make Michigan a place where people want to live and businesses want to invest. We need to raise the minimum wage and remove barriers to employment to help move low income families off of public assistance.
4. Protecting the right to vote is crucial. We must end gerrymandering to get fair representation; expand access to the ballot with no-reason absentee voting, online and same day voter registration; secure the integrity of our elections with voter-verified paper audit trail.
5. Repairing environmental damage is expensive, if not impossible, so it is important to recognize that protecting the environment is a legacy for future generations as well as a smart investment. Instead of providing polluters departmental oversight, we need the DEQ to become a proactive partner with industry to mitigate environmental contamination while still performing meaningful oversight. To help facilitate the transition to clean and renewable energy, Michigan should restore a fair net-metering system. The risk posed by Line 5 is too great to ignore and plans need to be made for an orderly, but speedy, shut down.
6. By providing equal access to opportunity through quality education for children of all communities, a raise in the minimum wage, and meaningful criminal justice reform we can begin to address the inequalities that exist in our state. Michigan needs to focus on providing equal justice, regardless of income, with reforms in areas that disproportionately punish the poor, such as civil forfeiture and the cash bail system. By increasing utilization of problem-solving courts and enhancing reintegration programs we can reduce recidivism and strengthen our communities.

State Board of Education

Eight-year term Vote for up to two

Description: The State Board of Education has eight members and has leadership and general supervision responsibility over all public education, including adult education and instructional programs in state institutions, except institutions of higher education granting baccalaureate degrees. It shall serve as the general planning and coordinating body for all public education, including higher education, and shall advise the legislature as to the financial requirements in connection therewith. It shall appoint a Superintendent of Public Instruction who shall be responsible for the execution of its policies.

Questions

1. Describe your qualifications and experience for State Board of Education and explain your reasons for running. How would you be an asset?
2. What actions would you recommend to improve our education system?
3. What are the most pressing issues facing the State Board of Education and what actions would you take regarding them?

Tami Carlone Republican

CPA, Business Owner, and Process Improvement Expert of 30 years. University of Michigan Bachelor of Business Administration Accounting Major. Campaign Website: [TamiCarlone.com](http://www.TamiCarlone.com). Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Tami4ED/>. Twitter: twitter.com/T2CPA.

1. My career lends itself perfectly to a seat on the Board. I am also a National, State & Local Education Advocate of 18 years. As a member of the national network of education advocates, Truth in American Education, I keep the pulse of our nation's schools every day, & we share best practices. I am a member of U.S. Parents Involved in Education & am on the Board of Michigan PIE. I co-authored 2018 HB 4192 to repeal Common Core & give MI students the proven best. I am an award-winning educator of adults & children of all ages, abilities & income levels. I am running so I can return Truth & Excellence to MI schools.
2. Teachers must deal with way too much these days, like jumping through one governmental

hoop after another, excessive paperwork & data collection, meetings & more. We need them connecting with students & focused on teaching in their classrooms. We must make sure what teachers are learning in teacher college makes them ready to meet the demands of the job, like expertise in phonics. Excellent teachers can change lives. We must stop the teach to the test mentality that is killing our children's love of learning. We must get out of Common Core & the related testing & give our students the proven best standards & tests.

3. All one must do is look at the results to know MI is in trouble regarding education. MI ed spending is up to \$14.8 billion in 2018 (up each year despite declining enrollment) yet school results are on a steady decline. The Wall Street Journal summed it up perfectly 1/2018, "Few state school systems report worse achievement metrics than MI." We are bottom ranked for special education. I am passionate about making MI a powerhouse in education for ALL children. We should be the state others look to as the example. Every ed \$ must have a positive impact on classroom learning. Ed policy makers must be held accountable.

State Board of Education, continued

Richard Zeile

Republican

Co-President, State Board of Education, 2017-2018. Pastor, St. John's Lutheran, Taylor, since 2001. D.Min. Detroit Ecumenical Seminary; Ed.Spec. Wayne State; MDiv Concordia, Ft. Wayne, IN; MTS Harvard Divinity, Cambridge, MA; MA Rackham, UofM; BA Valparaiso Univ, IN; 2 Unit CPA Detroit Sinai-Grace. Campaign Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Richard-Zeile-DRZ-for-State-Board-of-Education-106714412694744/>.

1. I currently serve on the Board, elected Co-President by Democrat & Republican members, where I identify incoherence and true costs of policy choices. I represent us at NASBE, the National Association of State Boards of Education, serving as an officer. I published my doctoral thesis on Detroit school closings in the 1990s and write op-eds regularly on Board issues. I taught in Detroit for 25 years and helped to organize a MEAP award-winning charter school in the city. I was president of another academy there during reorganization after the preceding board mishandled funds. My children attended Detroit public schools.
2. (a) Focus on ends (student achievement), not means (compliance issues). (b) Focus on competence rather than credentials for students. (c) Avoid mission creep: adding to a school's tasks/responsibilities so that the school's mission (literacy & numeracy) becomes unfocused. (d) Beware of policy/programming that supplants rather than supplements parental involvement and responsibility. (e) Develop clear policy that enables local schools to take initiative and responsibility for student achievement. (f) Maximize choices for parents and students in enrollment, program, and philosophy of education. (g) Encourage character values.
3. (a) Select a new Superintendent of Public Instruction in 2019 to succeed the late Brian Whiston. I look for someone who has lived with the policies he/she has put in place and has familiarity with Michigan schools. (b) Identify the factors that enable 3rd grade students to read and be ready for subsequent learning. (c) Clarify the empowering character of basic literacy and numeracy. When one can access others' experiences, and understand the workings of the world around her, that gives meaning to life that was not there before; this is the blessing of education which applies regardless of job status, or role in life.

Judy P. Pritchett

Democrat

Retired Chief Academic Officer, Macomb Intermediate School District; over 25 years of public school experience. PhD - Oakland University - 2002. Education Specialist - Oakland University - 1997. Master - Oakland University - 1994. Bachelor of Arts - Oakland University - 1988. Associate of Arts - 1971. Campaign Website: votejudypritchett.com. Facebook: <http://facebook.com/judypritchett>.

1. As a retired educator with more than 25 years of experience - most recently, as Chief Academic Officer of Macomb Intermediate School District (MISD) - and as a concerned grandparent of children educated in Michigan's public schools, I am confident my passion for and academic grounding in public education, practical experience as a teacher and administrator, and commitment to building collaborative relationships with local and state leaders will make me a valuable contributor to the Board.
2. We have an obligation to the children in the state of Michigan to find solutions to our financial and achievement issues with common sense focused policies. All children who enter the school house door must be treated equally and provided the resources they need. Instead of closure and punishment, we must work together as a community to provide support to improve schools across the state. Financial resources need to be provided based on the needs of the students.
3. One issue facing the Board is the selection of a new State Superintendent of Schools. If elected to the Board, I will make my decision in a deliberate manner considering the background of the individual related to their experience in schools, leadership positions and decision-making ability. Another issue is the reliance on state assessments for judgments about a schools' overall achievement levels and the performance of teachers. Discussion needs to center on consistency on test format and clear targets.

Tiffany Tilley

Democrat

Director of the Southfield Community Anti-Drug Coalition. Norwich College (in progress), Master of Arts in International Relations-International Development; and University of Detroit Mercy, MBA 2014. Campaign Website: www.votetiffanytilley.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/tiffanytilleyforstateboard/>.

1. I am currently the Director of the Southfield Community Anti-Drug Coalition. I have experience working in city and county government. I also have experience teaching K-12 in Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb Counties. I was an instructor at Wayne State University in the K-12 SEMAA Program which was sponsored by NASA. Project Management experience in Real Estate Development led to 9.9 MM going towards renovating low-income communities in Oakland County. I also have experience in Contract Negotiations, Financial Analysis and Recommendations on Multi-Million Dollar Entities.
2. Increasing public funding to the Dep. of Ed and local districts by lobbying the legislature. This is crucial, because per pupil funding is below more than half of the states in the U.S. Many certified teachers leave MI due to low salaries and attack's on benefits. More funding will allow for special programs to help combat illiteracy, fix the failing infrastructure in many of the districts and help retain teachers in urban areas to reduce class sizes helping to close the Achievement Gap statewide. Lastly, strengthening anti-bullying polices across the state and have each local district adhere to the same standards.
3. The most important thing the Board will do is to hire a new Superintendent that will implement important policies Statewide. This is important because the Superintendent will be responsible for addressing issues such as overcrowding, failing infrastructure, determining a new method to increasing funds to the districts since multiple mileages to increase funding has been defeated. As a Board Member it will be my duty to make sure that person is qualified, and has a track record of improving educational systems. Most importantly that, that person has a history of putting children first.

Scotty Boman

Libertarian

Science and Mathematics Professor at Macomb Community College & Wayne County Community College Dist. Wayne State University: Teaching Certificate (1998) and MAT (1999). Western Michigan U: MA in Physics (1987), and BS (1985) Majors: Physics and Philosophy. Minor: Math-

ematics. Campaign Website: <http://scottyboman.org>. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/scottyboman>. Twitter: twitter.com/boman2012.

1. I've been a professional educator for over 20 years. I served on the Wayne State University Student Council in 1999. I was Chair of the Libertarian Party of Michigan in 2006. My most important qualification is that I am a professional educator who recognizes the failure of compulsory education run from Lansing. Of course I can't change that directly, but I can be an advocate for reform. End State control. I support returning the money parents would spend on public schools to parents who wish to enroll their children in private schools. The same for parents who wish to use these funds for home schooling purposes.
2. Over-specialization is the primary cause of extinction. We need to diversify and move away from the top-down approach that seeks to standardize education. One size does not fit all. Central control caused the downward slide. I support returning the amount of money parents would spend on public schools to parents who wish to enroll their children in private schools. The same for parents who wish to use these funds for home schooling purposes. This is a compromise. Ideally politician would not intervene in the education process and people would not have that money stolen from them by the government for that purpose.
3. (a) Over-standardization: Issue guidelines that encourage schools to be laboratories of innovation. Encourage distance learning opportunities that would be accessible by traditional students and home-schooled students alike. Give schools and families control of curriculum, not politicians. (b) Coercive funding mechanisms: Advise the legislature on initiatives to restore local and parental control. People should not be forced to pay for education they don't use. (c) Safety: "Gun-Free Zones" are favored by terrorists. Permit people legally qualified to carry firearms elsewhere to carry them in schools.

John J. Tatar

Libertarian

Retired teacher 31 years. Retired lieutenant colonel, army reserves. BS Education WSU, MS Ed Administration, Vocational endorsement, Command & General Staff USAR. Campaign Website: johnjtatar.com. Facebook: <http://johnjtatar>.

1. I have spent many years in a classroom and on a construction site where the students built a house. The Home Construction class built 15 homes in Livonia. I also taught Command & General Staff College to officers in the army. I experienced why students learn and have been successful teaching/training for 31 years. I believe that education has fallen off the rails of its true intent, to give our youth a vision of all that life has to offer though critical thinking and what it means be a citizen in our Republic(s). My experience is invaluable to the education of our youth & future of our Republic(s).
2. Eliminate Common Core, no child left behind, Return to the arts, industrial arts, home and family living, the trades and basic skills etc. Teach the Constitution, civics, what it means to be a productive citizen living in the Republic(s). Teach true and accurate history; for those that do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it. Education should be a general study of many areas of life so that students can choose their own pathway for their future. Return to the basic principles of our Declaration of Independence/Constitution and the important part every citizen must play to maintain our liberties.
3. Get the federal government as well as the state influence out of curriculum. Return the curriculum back to local boards of education and the parents. Teach the youth of our nation to be self-reliant, self governing, and self controlling, the corner stone of our Republic(s), where the people are the government and we delegate authority to those we wish to govern us - by the people and for the people. I also feel that the electronic technology, wi-fi, cell towers on school property, 5G etc. being pressed upon us needs to slow down until further investigation/research is conducted to see that it causes no harm to us.

Karen Adams

US Taxpayers

Retired. Bachelor's degree from Kuyper College. Campaign Facebook: <http://kadamsmotherof7@gmail.com>.

1. Lots of experience in the teaching field! Think of me as Laura Ingalls, having taught several different subjects at several different grade levels at one time, only over a 28 year period, and mostly in my home, which functioned as a one room schoolhouse. I have also helped and supervised the education of other students who had been floundering in the system. I have had children in the public school system, in private school, and homeschool. I have taught 4 years as a tutor with Classical Conversations, as well as numerous other enrichment classes. I understand the dynamics of teaching and the classroom setting.
2. OK, ready to get radical? Greatly reduce the teacher/student ratio! Teachers are put at an extreme disadvantage when asked to actually impart information to 25 or more students at one time. But this is not "new" radical, this is "old, tried-and true" radical. We used to be the most literate nation in the world. Small schools and good student/teacher ratio worked, and it can work again. What is more important-buildings or true learning? Let's put aside the false security of bigness and get back to really teaching Michigan's precious souls with personal attention and care that teachers want to give, but can't.
3. Apathy-or worse-the feeling that nothing can be done to really improve the education of one's own community, because the all-important decisions come from the top-down. It is time the State Board of Education quit allocating responsibilities to itself that actually belong to parents and local school boards. Let's give those responsibilities back where they belong. The State Board of Education has become an octopus, with tentacles reaching in areas that have nothing to do with education. Let's keep it tight and efficient!

Doug Levesque

US Taxpayers

Did not respond in time to be included.

Sherry A. Wells

Green

Attorney, Author, Publisher, Public Speaker, Genealogy Researcher, Community Activist. Assoc. Arts, Grand Rapids Jr. College; B.A. Education, K to Jr. High, minors Spanish, Political Science, Michigan State University; J.D. Law Degree, Wayne State University. Campaign Website: sherryawells.net. Facebook: <http://SherryAWellsforStateBoardofEducation>.

1. Attended public schools in Detroit, rural Kent County. Due to "teacher surplus," teaching certificate expired. Instructed intro. law classes, wrote a text. Presented Esperanto at foreign

State Board of Education, continued

language teacher conferences. Involved parent at schools, ran for local school board, elected to city charter commission. I do my "homework:" attend State Board of Education and school board and related meetings across Michigan to listen and learn. "Poverty is the biggest obstacle to education"—children must be our primary investment, with the community not corporations at the forefront. An attorney on the board would be an asset.

2. Prioritize, not profitize, our public schools—for-profit charter schools need to be abolished and "innovative" schools be authorized by the local school districts. Provide wraparound services so children do not come to school hungry, traumatized. Special education needs to be proactive, not waiting for the "squeaky wheel." Schools should be cooperative advocates not adversaries with all parents so "Every Student Succeeds," "No Child is Left Above," become realities not slogans. The legislature needs to support education and not lose federal monies, such as that lost for Early Childhood Enrichment by not matching.
3. Increasingly, corporations control education across the USA—that pressure must be resisted. The Green Party is a progressive party, not a caucus; a stronger, not corporate-bought voice needs to be on the Board and push it to take its concerns to the people and request their active support to insist that the legislature come through for our children—the money can be found. (Search "482 Forward"). The legislature mandated that children be able to read by 3rd grade or be flunked, but it is not funding that mandate. Preschool programs are predictors of success but underfunding keeps women workers poor and turnover high.

Mary Anne Hering Working Class

College teacher, Henry Ford college; Socialist activist in the working class at Ford Rouge plant. B.A. University of Illinois, Chicago (UIC). M.A. Ecological Psychology, MSU. Extensive education through organizing in the working class in Detroit Metro area and through ties with co-workers. Campaign Website: Independent website: www.workingclassfight.com.

1. As a long-time teacher, I have been a steadfast advocate for students and their families, the support staff of the college, as well as part-time teachers who are the backbone of the teaching staff, with lower pay and no benefits. I have also organized in the working class for decades and can give voice to workers who see their children and grandchildren deprived of a quality education because the state cuts money from public education. I can speak up for teachers and other employees who are deprived of the means they need to educate young people and whose wages and benefits are reduced because of those cuts.
2. Take a page from history, including recent history, where teachers, students, school employ-

ees and people from their communities organized to fight for their right to have better wages, working conditions, and more resources in the schools. I think the educational system would be improved when those most affected organize to demand that public money go for public education. And I would stand with those people and assist in any way I could to help with that social fight. Because that is what it took for the working class to ever have the right to public education in the first place and it's what it will take again.

3. Crumbling infrastructure in the schools. The handing over of public money to for-profit charter schools. Abysmal test scores reflecting the tremendous disparity that exists in our public school systems. I would stand up and say, enough is enough! The issue is money: Tax breaks to corporations and money to private schools means public money is being stolen from our public school systems. All school districts need high funding and districts that have more problems, need even more. The actions I would recommend would be to support people in their communities to organize to stop the theft and demand full, high funding.

Logan Smith Working Class

Student. High School Diploma - Cass Technical High School, Detroit. Campaign Website: Independent Website: workingclassfight.com.

1. I've lived in Detroit all my life. I was a student in the Detroit Public Schools where I saw first-hand the problems that children of working people had to deal with. I feel that as a person who has actually had to deal with our education system here in Michigan myself, I am very qualified for this position.
2. The solutions for the problems that our school system faces are not difficult to figure out: fund poor schools. Provide supplies, fix the broken buildings, hire more teachers, and raise teachers' pay. Make public colleges and universities free for anyone who wants to attend, so that people can get a degree without going into crushing debt. To pay for this, take the wealth back from corporations that were bailed out with money taken from our schools.
3. Schools need all the money that's been stolen back, and much more. Not enough textbooks, underpaid teachers, and huge class sizes are just some of the issues that students of working people face thanks to a vastly underfunded educational system. The State Board of Education does not have the power to fix that; in fact, no politicians have that power. The only way that things are going to change is if ordinary people, teachers, students, parents, organize together and disrupt business as usual to stand for what's right.

University of Michigan Board of Regents

Eight-year term Vote for up to two

Description: The University of Michigan Board of Regents has eight members and has general supervision of the university and the control and direction of all expenditures from the institution's funds. The board shall elect a university president who shall be the principal executive officer.

Questions

1. Describe your qualifications and experience for the University Board and explain your reasons for running. How would you be an asset?
2. What recommendations would you propose to make university attendance more afford-

able and reduce the burden of student financial debt?

3. What are the two most pressing issues facing this university today and what is your position on those issues?

Andrea Fischer Newman Republican

Director, Borden Dairy Director, Prime Flight Aviation Consultant, Delta Air Lines; University of Michigan Regent. J.D., George Washington University National Law Center 1983. B.A., with honors, University of Michigan 1979. Campaign Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/MichiganAndi/>. Twitter: twitter.com/MichiganAndi.

1. I care deeply about public education. Through service, I have gained the perspective and the experience to know what it takes to ensure that the University of Michigan continues to be the greatest public university in the country and that it is affordable and available to all Michigan families. My work experience is an asset; I have spent my career in senior management at Delta Air Lines, Northwest Airlines and as a partner at a leading law firm and am currently serving on two corporate boards. My service on the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics and NACIQI has further prepared me to serve the University.
2. It is critical that we make Michigan affordable for all Michigan families. The University can improve processes for managing existing resources. It can and should be aggressive about fiscal stewardship – in procurement, public private partnerships, eliminating overlapping functions, and centralizing functions wherever sensible and efficient. The University should also focus on growing the endowment, reviewing its management for best practices and continuously developing new sources of revenue. There are growing opportunities in supporting tech transfer, research and campus startups and other innovative work on campus.
3. The first is making the University affordable for all Michigan families and students. The University belongs to all of us and must therefore be available to everyone. Growing the endowment and managing resources efficiently are key to succeeding in making sure anyone who wants a Michigan education can afford one. The second is supporting and preparing University of Michigan graduates to lead in this economy. The economy is changing rapidly; the University should embrace it, harness our broad and deep talent to grow the entrepreneurial curriculum and projects at the university which will help graduates succeed.

Andrew Richner Republican

Did not respond in time to be included.

Jordan Acker Democrat

Partner and Director of Business Development, Goodman Acker, Southfield; Attorney and Former Obama Official. U-M B.A., 2006. American University, J.D. 2010. Campaign Website: www.mgoacker.com. Facebook: <http://facebook.com/MGoAcker>. Twitter: twitter.com/JordanAckerMI.

1. I'm proud to have a range of experiences in the public and private sector: having worked at Homeland Security, in the Personnel Office of the White House, and now in a small business, where I'm responsible for a multi-million dollar marketing budget. But these

boards are also in need of fresh perspectives. I would be the first board member (and am the first nominee of either major party) to have graduated from college this century. This is a perspective that is needed in the room.

2. We must increase the spend level from the endowment, back to 1990s levels. While Michigan's endowment has almost doubled from its 2006 level, to \$11+bn, Michigan has cut the spend toward the general fund (including on student aid, recruitment, and other programs) from 6% of the endowment to 4.5%. The first thing we must do with this expanded pool is to expand the Go Blue Guarantee to all three campuses, finally making a Michigan education within reach in Ann Arbor, Flint, and Dearborn. We must also make transferring credits between campuses easier.
3. The Regents must work to expand the presence statewide of the University statewide, and to be more affordable and accessible. The Regents must make sure that the University serves Michiganders first, and should work to make sure that the University serves Michiganders from underrepresented areas, like Macomb County, Detroit, and the U.P., have access to a University degree. Finally, the University must do better when it comes to transparency. I believe we must make serious changes to avoid some of the issues that have plagued not just other Universities, but also our own.

Paul Brown Democrat

Finance; Managing Partner at eLab Ventures - We invest in and support new and lifesaving technologies. Petoskey High School. University of Michigan, B.A. (history). Wayne State, J.D. University of Michigan, MBA. Campaign Website: www.GoBlueVoteBrown.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/GoBlueVoteBrown>. Twitter: twitter.com/GoBlueVoteBrown.

1. I have two degrees from UofM and teach a course on finance and business there. I sit on many private and public boards including the League of Conservation Voters and the Michigan History Foundation. I was the VP of Capital Markets at MEDC where I helped build our State's economy by leveraging talent and innovation out of UofM. I am a small business owner and help companies bring UofM research to the public. I'm running because since my opponent has been on the board tuition has increased 600% and African American enrollment has decreased 50%. I want to use my experience to decrease tuition and increase diversity.
2. There are many things we can quickly to make UofM more affordable. UofM could increase scholarships by over \$50M per year if it went back to taking 5.5% a year out of the endowment. UofM has run an average annual budget surplus of over \$300M the last ten years. The University endowment could refinance graduates student loans at below market terms. These "investments" would be comparable in return and risk to others in the endowment's portfolio. UofM must roll back ballooning administrative costs. Lastly, UofM must help lead the effort to convince the electorate and the administration to increase spending on education.
3. Public universities like UofM were created to be affordable and accessible to the students of Michigan, no matter what community they came from or the wealth of their families. We must hold down tuition, increase the availability of scholarships and we must construct admissions policies that grant students admission based on their ability and performance

University of Michigan Board of Regents, continued

regardless of their opportunity. Lastly, UofM must focus on extending its positive economic impact throughout the state both through its educational and healthcare systems.

James Lewis Hudler

Libertarian

Did not respond in time to be included.

John Jascob

Libertarian

Associate Managing Editor, Securities, Wolters Kluwer Legal and Regulatory U.S. A.B., University of Michigan (1987); M.A.T., University of Massachusetts Amherst (1990). J.D., Concord University School of Law (2002); LL.M. University of Alabama School of Law (2015).

1. I am running because I am deeply committed to the value of a liberal arts education and the importance of free academic inquiry in a free society. I will bring to the board a background in the areas of law, finance, and education. I work as a securities law editor at a leading legal publisher, after having spent many years in financial services, and I previously taught Latin at both the university and secondary levels. I am a member of the State Bar of California, Phi Beta Kappa, and American Mensa.
2. The cost of university attendance has skyrocketed over the past generation, forcing many students from middle and lower income families to incur crushing levels of debt to obtain a college degree. Similarly, taxpayers face the prospect of increasing tax burdens to fund a state-sponsored institution that is largely immune from market forces. As Regent, I will oppose tuition increases, while seeking to reduce administrative costs by privatizing non-essential, non-academic services. I also advocate decentralizing the Ann Arbor, Dearborn, and Flint campuses to reduce overhead and increase student and faculty autonomy.
3. First, the University must zealously protect free speech and open debate on campus and resist attempts to silence unpopular points of view. I strongly oppose speech codes or other attempts at prohibiting expression protected by the First Amendment. Second, tuition costs continue to escalate, foreclosing educational opportunities for many potential students. I will oppose further tuition increases, while advocating privatization, decentralization, and student cooperatives to reduce costs and increase student and faculty participation in university governance.

Joe Sanger

US Taxpayers

Did not respond in time to be included.

Crystal VanSickle

US Taxpayers

Did not respond in time to be included.

Kevin A. Graves

Green

Teacher. University of Michigan-Biochemistry and Psychology.

1. I graduated with a double major (Biochemistry and Psychology) from the University of Michigan. Then, I went to work at the University of Michigan and Wayne State University in research laboratories and earned 5 biochemical research publications. Through the years, I've had my share of problems with administration and have heard complaints from other students and workers. So, because I personally faced discrimination at the University of Michigan I would be an "asset" to protect the rights of students and workers.
2. I would propose free college tuition for students with family gross income of \$50,000 or less for the previous year before entering college and have student loan forgiveness for graduates with gross income of \$50,000 or less per year. So, for most so poorly paid teachers they would receive student loan forgiveness.
3. On the most pressing issues facing the University of Michigan is the high cost of going to the University of Michigan and the other most pressing issue is discrimination. My "position" on the high cost of going to the University of Michigan; to college is that the high cost of college is a deterrent to even the thought of going to college: parents know that they can't afford it, so they may not encourage academic excellence as readily. As such, we must lower the cost of college! As a minority, my "position" on wrongful discrimination (sexism, homophobia, and racism) is obvious: I'm against it! I'm for Equal Rights!

Marge Katchmark Sallows

Natural Law

Did not respond in time to be included.

Michigan State University Board of Trustees

Eight-year term Vote for no more than two

Description: The Michigan State Board of Trustees has eight members and has general supervision of the university and the control and direction of all expenditures from the institution's funds. The board shall elect a university president who shall be the principal executive officer.

Questions

1. Describe your qualifications and experience for the University Board and explain your reasons for running. How would you be an asset?
2. What recommendations would you propose to make university attendance more afford-

able and reduce the burden of student financial debt?

3. What are the two most pressing issues facing this university today and what is your position on those issues?

Dave Dutch

Republican

Did not respond in time to be included.

Mike Miller

Republican

Vice Chairman of the Board Orchid Orthopedic Solutions. Mike graduated in 1971 from Michigan State University with a BS in Labor and Industrial Relations. Campaign Website: www.mikemillerformsu.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/mikemillerformsu>. Twitter: twitter.com/MikeMillerForM1.

1. I founded a company twenty-nine years ago. We started with four employees and grew that company to its current size employing two thousand people with thirteen manufacturing plants around the world. We have 900 Michigan employees. Similar to building and succeeding with a large commercial enterprise, leadership of a big university requires exceptional skill and experience in the areas of critical thinking, financial acumen, team building, human resources and corporate governance. These are experiences and skills I can bring to MSU. I have also served on many boards, both for profit and non-profit.
2. Tuition hikes in excess of inflation are not sustainable. World class businesses and universities face the same cost challenges: salaries, supplies, healthcare, capital, etc... Yet every day world class industries do more for customers without charging more, often by seeking out superior technology. A world class university must do the same or it will cease to be world class. Productivity improvements must become the norm at MSU, not an exception. In the years to come, working class Michigan families must find the price of an elite education at MSU to be more affordable, not less.
3. (a) Hiring an exceptional new president for the next decade to guide MSU. (b) Healing the wounds caused by the Nassar crisis and creating an environment of safety for all students. Stakeholders deserve a more open and transparent board. As a result of recent events (Nassar) it is imperative that the board more closely comply with the Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of Information Act. Past compliance has too often meant obeying the letter of these laws. We must do better and adhere to the SPIRIT of these laws, erring always on the side of openness rather than evasiveness.

Brianna T. Scott

Democrat

Attorney in Private Practice and Business Owner. Michigan State University, B.A. Marketing; Wayne State University Law School, Juris Doctorate. Campaign Website: www.Brianna4MSU.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Brianna4MSU/>. Twitter: twitter.com/Brianna4MSU.

1. As a MSU alum who struggled to pay tuition, former Asst. Prosecutor and attorney with 18 years experience, woman of color and parent of a current MSU student, my experiences have allowed me to be able to relate to and understand the struggles of many college students. My unique legal background will be an asset to the Board in dealing with the legal issues at hand. Additionally, my credentials and professional experiences on Boards, as President of the Muskegon Rotary Club and extensive community activism have prepared me to be an effective

Trustee with the ability to lead MSU through the current crisis and beyond.

2. As a parent paying tuition for a current MSU student, in addition to making my voice heard on this issue with our Legislature, my plan would involve providing college Freshmen with a Tuition Freeze for 4 years. This will allow parents and students the ability to budget for their time at MSU, without the concerns of ever increasing rates each year. As well, I'd like to institute a plan similar to what U of M offers through its endowment, enabling families that meet certain income requirements to qualify for free tuition up to four years. I'd also like graduated loan forgiveness for graduates who stay in MI for 10 yrs.
3. (a) Finding and hiring the next President that has the integrity, temperament and experience necessary to lead MSU forward. I want to have active student, faculty/staff involvement in board activities and decision making to provide important feedback, concerns and opinions to help administrators improve the quality of their decisions. (b) Taking the lead in creating and maintaining a campus culture of care and safety & providing resources that support those efforts. Ensuring departments work collaboratively with each other, off-campus service providers and law enforcement so that all investigations follow protocols.

Kelly Charron Tebay

Democrat

Relationship Manager, United Way for Southeastern Michigan. MSU Board of Trustees. BA International Relations with Muslim Studies Specialization. MS Law Enforcement Intelligence and Analysis with Certificates in Homeland Security and Critical Thinking. Campaign Website: www.kellytebayformsu.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/KellyTebayforMSU/>. Twitter: twitter.com/KellyforMSU.

1. I am a passionate MSU alumnus who is not far removed from my time on campus. I feel the pain that students are facing today and share the frustration with the university's handling of its cultural problems. As a survivor of sexual assault that I experienced at MSU, I understand this pain that many students have gone through. I have 10 years of professional fundraising experience. I currently connect private sector organizations with those in-need at the United Way for SE Michigan. I help those who don't have opportunity gain access to it, and I see how hard life is when you don't have economic privilege or education.
2. We start by streamlining financial aid to ensure that every in-state student who comes from a household with income of less than \$65,000 is guaranteed free tuition. For students who come from households with income of less than \$120,000, but above \$65,000, we must target grants and scholarships to ensure that their tuition remains proportionately priced. Combined, these two ideas form the basis for my Go Green Guarantee. But we can and must do more than just focus on tuition. We must address housing and meal affordability and access, and also streamline credit transfer from other colleges.
3. I cannot summarize this in 2 reasons, so I've narrowed it to 3. I have listed 10 of them at kellytebayforMSU.com (a) To rebuild the public's trust that has been broken through holding the board accountable and transparent with decision making, and by making them be as accessible as every elected official should be. (b) To change the culture on campus, from the way the university handles sexual assault to the way it deals with affordability and diversity issues. (c) Making MSU more accessible and affordable to all Michiganders, focusing on reducing financial hurdles, increasing credit transfer and improving campus diversity.

Michigan State University Board of Trustees, continued

Bruce Campbell Libertarian

Retired; advocate for the poor; leadership in community. BA from MSU. post grad work, Paris, FR and Lausanne, Switzerland. Charter member Justin Morrill College. Campaign Website: <http://michiganlp.org>.

1. Teacher social worker postal clerk/ Master 30 yrs.; union treas. & steward 2 yrs.; curriculum adviser 6 yrs.; Downtown Development, chaired subcommittee 1 yr; advocate for poor (took homeless in) lifetime; fund raiser for charity 15 yrs.; leadership in civic and religious organizations 53 yrs.; various occupations from farm work to assembly, bus driver to lifeguard - managed city pool, reading tutor, working with gifted and talented. With a vast field of experience, being able to listen to all sides, do research and find viable solutions are major reasons for running for Trustee and are valuable assets to this work.
2. Some ideas to help make college education cheaper would include: (a) cut the budget 10% across the board, eliminate duplication; (b) expand work/study program, create with business community apprenticeships, or internships; and (c) allow more credit approval for classes taken at community colleges, AP classes and the 13th high school year (even vocational tech) towards undergraduate courses.
3. MSU Trustees are in the process of hiring a new university president. This person should have varied experience in business and education. This person should be thoroughly vetted and not political. A person who loves to work with students and is available to all with an open door. How to handle future sexual scandals and avoid "cover-ups" is a major issue that still plagues our school. Policies should be in place and enforced to provide a safe environment for all persons; i.e. zero tolerance for sexual harassment, bullying and hazing. We need to be fiscal responsible, accepting and pro peace.

Tim Orzechowski Libertarian

Did not respond in time to be included.

Janet M. Sanger US Taxpayers

Technical Service Specialist. Campaign Website: votesanger.com.

1. I have worked in the Michigan power industry for over 30 years. I take a common-sense

approach in all that I do. My wife and I have home educated our children for 18 years, and I am familiar with a variety of educational options.

2. The university should expand digital platforms that reduce cost and staffing.
3. I see the board's most pressing issues as providing affordable, quality education, and ensuring student safety. I believe we need to expand our educational delivery options to reach more students, and at the same time reduce tuition costs. As for ensuring student safety, I would like to see all assault allegations turned over to an impartial law enforcement agency.

John Paul Sanger US Taxpayers

Technical Service Specialist. Campaign Website: votesanger.com.

1. I have worked in the Michigan power industry for over 30 years. I take a common-sense approach in all that I do. My wife and I have home educated our children for 18 years, and I am familiar with a variety of educational options.
2. The university should expand digital platforms that reduce cost and staffing. This would also allow more students to access a college education.
3. I see the board's most pressing issues as providing affordable, quality education, and ensuring student safety. I believe we need to expand our educational delivery options to reach more students, and at the same time reduce tuition costs. As for student safety, I think that all assault allegations need to be turned over to an impartial law enforcement agency.

Aaron Mariasy Green

Did not respond in time to be included.

Bridgette Abraham-Guzman Natural Law

Did not respond in time to be included.

Wayne State University Board of Governors

Eight-year term Vote for no more than two

Description: The Wayne State University Board of Governors has eight members and has general supervision of the university and the control and direction of all expenditures from the institution's funds. The board shall elect a university president who shall be the principal executive officer.

Questions

1. Describe your qualifications and experience for the University Board and explain your reasons for running. How would you be an asset?
2. What recommendations would you propose to make university attendance more afford-

able and reduce the burden of student financial debt?

3. What are the two most pressing issues facing this university today and what is your position on those issues?

Diane Dunaskiss Republican

Wayne State University Board of Governors. Public School Educator, Retired Small Business Owner. BA Elementary Education - Wayne State University. MA Reading & Special Education - Oakland University. Educational Administration - Wayne State University. Campaign Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/DunaskissForWSU/>.

1. As a graduate of Wayne State I ran for the Board of Governors because of my desire to give back through public service. I have been elected and have served three terms on the board and have held the offices of Board Chair and Board Vice-Chair and I am currently the Chair the Academic Affairs Committee. As a former public school teacher and administrator and a small business owner I bring extensive knowledge of best practices in teaching and a solid understanding of sound fiscal policies. My political background and relationships with elected officials make me a strong advocate to secure adequate state funding.
2. Wayne has consistently maintained the lowest tuition rates of the three major research universities in the state. It is critical that we strengthen our relationships with our legislators to secure adequate state funding to help reduce the burden on families. We must be strategic in our spending by concentrating on student success. By focusing on academic achievement, our students can graduate in four years, thereby incurring less debt and entering the job market as soon as possible. Encouraging students to utilize the dual enrollment and offering courses in a digital format can further reduce costs to students.
3. Continuing to attract students to Wayne by engaging in strategic funding to increase student achievement is the highest priority. We must promote continued excellence in teaching and remove barriers to graduation by closely monitoring and revising curriculum, and providing academic support. I have been a strong advocate for our "Finish in Four" initiative to encourage students to complete their degrees in four years. Sustaining our position as a preeminent, Carnegie I research institution is vital to the university, to our urban health initiatives and to our students who engage in research.

David Nicholson Republican

President and CEO PVS Chemicals, Inc. BA in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin - Madison 1992. MBA - Strategy/Finance from the University of Chicago 1997. Campaign Website: <https://bog.wayne.edu/members/nicholson>. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/NicholsonForWSU/>.

1. In 2014 I was appointed to the board by Gov. Snyder and I've been vigilant in my commitment to the students, staff and alumni. In 1999, I joined the family business at PVS Chemicals, Inc. as CEO of manufacturing assets, recently I was elected to President/CEO. WSU plays a fundamental role in the success of Detroit and vice-versa. My business background, local Detroit roots and my political connections have yielded tremendous results for WSU Warriors thus far through effective advocacy and creating partnership opportunities to develop a stronger, smarter and safer community.
2. My recommendations would align very closely with the views our WSU President has on this

very important topic. Strategic spending focused on student achievement will help to encourage students to finish in four years instead of six years and incur less debt. Additionally, by utilizing my political network and strong relationships with elected officials in the Michigan Legislature I can effectively ensure that WSU fully secures adequate state funding wherever possible to help create more affordable opportunities.

3. Improving the budget process, increasing public safety, campus wide WIFI upgrades and continued improvement in graduation rates by implementing research driven strategies and programs to increase achievement. Developing innovative academic programs and business collaborations that will thrive in Detroit based markets to benefit the entire state. Additionally, the creation of a centralized community engagement database is a priority. Strategic financial planning will also put WSU on the map as an economic powerhouse and prompt the creation of better paying, high quality jobs for Michigan's future.

Bryan C. Barnhill Democrat

Did not respond in time to be included.

Amil Kumar Democrat

Urologist, Asst. Clinical Professor MSU. President - Michigan United Physicians. Bachelor of Medicine - University of Bombay. Resident Wayne State University. Campaign Website: <https://www.kumarforwaynestate.com/>. Twitter: twitter.com/DrKumarMichigan.

1. Academically, I have been a lifelong teacher. I am a clinical assistant professor for Michigan State University residency program. I have been chief of staff North Oakland Medical Center, Chairman of the Board of Doctor's Hospital, Chief of Surgery at Crittenton Hospital, and Board Member of Oakland County Medical Society. Politically, I have been a candidate for the 11th district US Congress position and I am active in the Michigan Democrat party. As a businessman, I am president of Michigan United Physicians and CEO of a surgical center. My wife, both children and I are all Wayne State Graduates.
2. This approach is 3 pronged. My first recommendation is to politically maneuver better funding from the state. Currently WSU is the least financially supported amongst the 3 main universities. We have a promising future with great programs in place. My second recommendation is to increase the endowments and alumni donations which could be used to offset financial difficulty of students by increasing scholarships and student financial aid. Thirdly, holding administration accountable to excessive expenses toward administrative costs. Thereby, decreasing expense which can be translated to lower tuition fees.
3. One of the most pressing issues is promotion of programs. This can be achieved through better funding. With this funding, we would have an opportunity to provide for our local community and attract students across the state who are seeking higher education. The second issue is retention of students to complete their graduation. I believe that we need to have our students actively involved in their education and pursuing opportunities that offer them chances to apply classroom curriculum. I would encourage participation by our local community. Local businesses can offer internships to help keep students engaged!

Wayne State University Board of Governors, continued

Jon Elgas Libertarian

Tester at Refrigeration Reserch. BBA from Saginw Valley State University. Campaign Website: www.facebook.com/jon.elgas?ref=br_rs. Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/jon.elgas?ref=br_rs.

1. Since I don't have an education degree, I believe that this will help be bring main street solutions to the leadership of Wayne State University. I will also post when/where Board Meetings are taking place, as well as how I voted with an explanation both on my Facebook page. I want to be known as someone who is transparent and as someone with integrity both are qualities that are needed in every elected postion.
2. First, I would like to have a special tuition rate for people who live in the city of Detroit. Second, I believe having a trade school at Wayne State will be most helpful. By doing this it would allow students into Wayne State, while spending less cash. Third, I believe that students who know what they want their major to be should have the ability to skip the general studies that most collages require, and go into the classes that are required for the major. This would be the most effective way to reduce to the costs of collage.
3. (a) College costs I believe that students who know what they want their major to be should have the ability to skip the general studies that most collages require, and go into the classes that are required for the major. This would be the most effective way to reduce to the costs of collage. (b) Since Wayne State is in the city of Detroit, the view of Detroit has an effect on the perspective of Wayne State. Depending on the feasibility, I would like to see the Main campus stay in Detroit, while having secondary campuss in other counties of the State.

John T. Hargenrader Libertarian

Product Applications Engineer. B.S.E.E. Catholic University of America. Campaign Website: www.johnhargenrader.org. Twitter: twitter.com/JohnHargenrader.

1. I have experience with campus life, residence halls, tuition costs, and financial planning for col-

lege. I have 5 children so far that have attained Masters or PhD level education. I have written articles, including one for the Center for Michigan Studies on the School Aid Fund. I am keenly aware of the Endowment means used by Universities for long term fiscal stability.

2. The Endowment for Wayne State must be drawn upon in a manner similar to personal IRA's. The total fund must have economic entropy, that assures the funds are used for the good of the Campus community over a reasonable period of time. The concept of Endowments being managed to live in perpetuity defeats the purpose of charity. Endowments must be not become so large that fiscal preservation of Endowment Assets takes precedent over the current and near term mission of the University. Endowments should be used to lower tuition specifically, and to maintain the highest level of academic excellence.
3. (a) Campus Security, in the face of the economic condition of the surrounding Detroit community is key to a positive Campus Life. The Drug and Alcohol culture on college campuses must not be allowed to interfere with the ability of serious academics. Wayne State must be a place where students of integrity are drawn, to meet goals of personal excellence. (b) As one of three Research Institutes protected within the Michigan Constitution, and taxpayer funded, Wayne State has an obligation to Michigan taxpayers to maintain diversity, with priority on admissions given to Michigan Residents.

Christine C. Schwartz US Taxpayers

Did not respond in time to be included.

Marc Joseph Sosnowski US Taxpayers

Did not respond in time to be included.

Kalamazoo County Commission

Two-year term Vote for one

Description: The Board of Commissioners is the legislative policy-making branch of Kalamazoo County Government. The Board is responsible to the citizens for development and administration of policies and the annual budget. The Board has 11 members who are elected from districts according to population.

Questions

1. How will your talents, experience and skills enable you to succeed in your work as a Commissioner to improve the quality of life for residents of Kalamazoo County?
2. What are the two most critical issues facing your District in the next ten years? What actions will you take as a member of the Commission to address them in the next two years?
3. What policies and programs will you promote to enhance citizen engagement in the well-being of our communities and the democratic process?
4. How will your political philosophy or platform guide your actions on the Commission?

District 1

Kalamazoo City precincts 1, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 27 Kalamazoo Township precincts 10, 11

Ronald Olson Republican

Age 65. Retired paperworker. HS Grad Vicksburg HS Class of 1970. Attended KVCC. Volunteer work for the Republican Party of Kalamazoo County and the Eastside Neighborhood Association with the Building Blocks program. Campaign Website: http://www.facebook.com/Olson4KalCo/?modal=admin_todo_tour. Email: floatsfast@aol.com. Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/Olson4KalCo/?modal=admin_todo_tour. Phone: (269) 200-6129.

1. As a life-long resident of Kalamazoo, I know the history of this community and what issues are important to the citizens of our district. In my career at Graphic Packaging, I learned the value of hard work and commitment can bring that to the commission. I will represent the perspective of the working-class taxpayer, but will represent all the citizens of this district and the county.
2. Lowering crime in the District and trying to fix the flooding problems.
3. Affordable housing is quickly becoming a major issue in the Kalamazoo inner city and throughout the county. I have a plan to help control the flooding we've seen all around the County. I tend to look at things from a different angle.
4. Although running as a Republican I have to represent everyone not only in my district but everyone in Kalamazoo County.

Stephanie Moore Democrat

Age 46. Elected, serving second term on the Kalamazoo County Commission. Served as Vice Chair and now Chair. Associate Degree from Kalamazoo Valley Community College. (Re)Elected to serve four terms on the Kalamazoo City Commission 2007-2014. Seasoned community organizer, experienced policy maker. Campaign Email: Stephny4@yahoo.com. Facebook: <https://m.facebook.com/groups/121826751770>. Phone: (269) 547-9002.

1. My 11 years of political experience has prepared me to continue success in serving the constituents of district one and all of Kalamazoo county. My experience includes drafting and approving local city policies and ordinances, and reviewing and approving annual city and county budgets. I continue to promote strong community relationships for improvement of health, safety and quality of life for all citizens. I continue to support and encourage the creation of economic development strategies through the county and region. I continue to serve as a key representative for district 1 by identifying gaps and recommending equitable strategies.
2. Reduction of Poverty and opportunities which result in Shared Prosperity are priorities for district 1. Working with the Equity task force I am committed to evaluating current county policy with an equity lens specifically related to personnel practices and health and human services polices. I plan to propose equitable polices to address hiring and promoting practices which support diversity and inclusion and I plan to recommend policies which create sustainable programs and initiates which county departments implement daily.
3. Human Resource policies and those related to Health and Human services, the heartbeat of Kalamazoo country.
4. I plan to continue to work in a bipartisan manner to engage all commissioners to best serve all of Kalamazoo county.

District 2

Kalamazoo City precincts 3, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 23, 24 Kalamazoo Township precinct 1

Paul Haag Democrat

Age 48. Union Representative SEIU Healthcare Michigan. M.A. Sustainable Development School for International Training Graduate Institute, Brattleboro, VT. 2013. US Marine Corps 1987 - 1991. US Peace Corps 1999 - 2001. B.S. Political Science Indiana State University 1995. M.A. Sustainable Development SIT Graduate Institute 2013. More than 20 years experience super bing and managing in a wide range of industries including pharmaceuticals, agricultural, meat processing and organized labor. Campaign Email: Paul.haag@seiuhealthcaremi.org. Facebook: <http://Community for Paul Haag>. Phone: (269) 548-9939.

1. Strong team building and collaborative skills coupled with my sincerity and commitment to representing all, especially the most marginalized members of our community, will translate into meaningful accomplishments.
2. I will spend all of my available time focused on learning about the evolving needs of my community and plan accordingly.
3. County ID. End Gerrymandering. End school to prison pipeline. Refocus on the physical environment. Commit to strong public schools.
4. My political philosophy is based on equity and justice for all, regardless of race, color, country of origin, religion, ability, orientation, etc. I will serve all with a desire of being inclusive.

District 3

Kalamazoo City precincts 2, 4, 12, 19, 22, 25, 26

Charley Coss Republican

Age 59. Business Owner/Operator for over 30 years. City of Kalamazoo Planning Commission. MPA - State Government (WMU). BA - Communications (WMU). Self Employed Property Development. 30 Years Corporate Communications - Small & Large Businesses, Local and County Government, Non Profits. BA in Communications and MPA in State Government from WMU. City of Kalamazoo - 9 years CDAAC & 5 years Planning Commission, Chair Imagine Kalamazoo Advisory Committee. Special Olympics of Kalamazoo (Area 16) for 10 years & currently a Ski Patroller for 9 years. Campaign Website: <http://www.votecoss.com>. Email: charley@votecoss.com. Facebook: <http://facebook.com/votecoss>. Phone: (269) 290-1237.

1. The Kalamazoo County Commission is dysfunctional. The lack of communication and partisan fighting has caused projects to fall behind schedule, and long term planning is practically non-existent. This is costing the County residents future money. My background in managing large projects and understanding budgetary processes is greatly needed. We need to have clear goals and find agreement with all commissioners; we need to put our residents and local issues first. Simply put - Clear Vision, Being on Time and Under Budget-these are what the Commission needs now. These are my strengths that I have. Keep It Local & Deliver for Kalamazoo.
2. Jobs and Housing. These are the most critical issues for everyone in the county. We need to encourage more businesses to expand and locate in Kalamazoo. Our Water quality, Affordable housing, and a reasonable tax base are all elements to bringing good paying jobs and enriching careers to our County. Our water quality should be a "non-issue" not in the news, we

Kalamazoo County Commission, continued

need to improve this situation. Our tax rates need to be competitive and this is accomplished by clear goals and efficient and new work methods for county services. We can restructure our departments, flatten organizationally. Bring in our housing partners to find solutions.

3. A citizen-centric government is most effective, but people are busy and time is precious. We need to accommodate county residents by providing services when & where they need them. We need more time shifting services, such as 24 hour self service portals and remote offices. We need to have our meetings throughout the county in various locals. This will encourage more participation from the local residents and bring more input otherwise not heard. By going to the various communities throughout the county access is more practical for those with limited time.
4. Keep it Local! I believe in supporting our local public safety who risk their lives for us every day. We need to remember what our veterans have done for us and be there for them throughout their lives!!! And also importantly – respect our Seniors, let’s put our Seniors First! We need results not resistance. We should prioritize local issues, and not chase every irrelevant national issue for personal gain. This wastes our time, your hard earned tax dollars and doesn’t help anyone in our county. These personal pet projects may sound good but they don’t create better jobs or affordable housing. Deliver for all of Kalamazoo!!!

Tracy Hall Democrat

Age 46. Instructor, KVCC, Political Science & Sociology. Instructor, WMU, Gender & Women’s Studies. Master of Arts, Political Science, WMU. Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, WMU. I am currently serving my first term on the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners. I’ve been teaching political science courses for 15 years and have a strong intellectual understanding of how local governments work. I also serve on a variety of other boards and committees. As a teacher and an activist I have a proven track record of communicating well with individuals from all walks of life. Campaign Website: <http://hallforkzoo.com>. Email: tracy.hall19@gmail.com. Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/tracyhall4kzoo/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel. Phone: (269) 720-7747.

1. One of the main reasons I ran for public office was to help improve the quality of life for all residents. My professional experience as a college educator provides important guidance and knowledge that directly aids my understanding and my commitment to improve the quality of life for all residents. I bring to the county commission a strong intellectual understanding of the many social problems people face on a daily basis. I also have personal experience, like growing up in poverty or in a family that has been deeply impacted by addiction, that allows me to better understand the many issues people are facing on a more personal level.
2. The two most critical issues facing our County, not just in my district, are homelessness and poverty. We have many great organizations and programs throughout the county that directly work on these issues, but the number of individuals that are impacted by them is far too high. The Commission can help address these issues by directing the County to serve as the convener to bring the different local units of government and organizations together to remove the siloes that may exist, and to work together to create action plans that will address and reduce the number of individuals that are impacted by these two critical issues.
3. Enhancing citizen engagement is crucial. For far too long many have felt unheard, their vote doesn’t matter, or have felt an overall skepticism toward all levels of government. Things are changing though. People are more engaged than ever. It’s not uncommon for us to hear from many citizens during “citizen time.” I would love to see even more during our meetings. I believe strongly that we need to update and improve many aspects of the democratic process. We should be making it easier for people to vote not harder, allow for “no reason” absentee voting, and early voting. I also strongly support the “voters not politicians” ballot initiative.
4. My philosophy has been guiding my actions on the Commission and will continue to do so if I am fortunate to get re-elected. I am working to make Kalamazoo an even better place to live, work, and go to school. While I strongly stand for progressive values, I believe in working across partisan lines, listening to all citizens, and engaging citizens as well. I have had the privilege of working on important issues like the County ID and the Senior Millage. I will continue to work hard on issues that directly impact residents of Kalamazoo County.

District 4

Kalamazoo City precincts 5, 6, 10 Kalamazoo Township precincts 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 12
City of Parchment

Michael A. Seals Democrat

Age 57. Kalamazoo County Commissioner District 4. Davenport College Associates Degree in Business Management/Communication/Marketing. 8 years U.S. Navy. 15 Years at Consumers Energy as a Line Worker. 10 years on the United Way Board of Directors. 28 years at Kalamazoo East Side Neighborhood Association, 6 years As President. Labor Council since 1994 and current 2nd Vice President; and many more community events. Campaign Email: Mikes1023@aol.com.

1. During my last 8 years on the board I have worked on all Infrastructure projects, Brought to the public a chance to vote on Homelessness, Bringing a new mileage to the ballot “Say Yes to Seniors”, to help make sure our seniors have the supports they need. I have continually supported local jobs for our community and make sure our tax payers money stays here in our county. I serve on the Airport Authority, where we are resurfacing our runway in 2019 and with in a few years later extending our runway which will allow us to land bigger aircraft. Mental Health Board is consider to be the best in state and fully support our staff. Many more!!!
2. We have many challenges but the most important is making sure that we treat our employees fairly and with respect. Team work is a challenge but I believe in our Administration can help make our county the best place to work. The completion of our infrastructure projects and the New Kalamazoo County Services Building.
3. Since I started at the County Commission has consistently been improving the attendance of our meetings, We have consistently improved the applications for Volunteer committee’s and boards. We review all policies every year and will do so in the next few month. I am open to hearing in any concerns from our citizens. Any policies that improve the quality of life for all citizens in our county I will support.
4. My Philosophy is based on what is best for all citizens in our county not any specific group of citizens, I have always tried to make the best decisions and I am opened minded to hear others and what they feel is the best. My Job is to Serve All the People. I hope that you find me to be your candidate on August 7.

Janine M. Seals (write-in)

Age 51. Owner JS Property Services Landlord and Commercial Property Cleaning services. Master of Management In Business from University of Phoenix. Bachelors Degree in Business University of Phoenix. I currently sit on the board of the Ecumenical Senior Center as the Treasurer. I work diligently to maintain quality programs for our seniors. I continue to lobby on their behalf in the community for resources that will assist in improving their quality of life. Active member of Trenches Community Church on the praise team and part of Her Time Women’s ministry. Campaign Email: janine4Kalamazoo@gmail.com. Facebook: <http://janine4kalamazoo>. Phone: (269) 760-8919.

1. As a democrat and a long-time active member of the community, I have decided to step up to be a write-in candidate to serve as a voice for the people of Kalamazoo County. There are issues in our community that go unaddressed and people who need someone to advocate on their behalf. I stand prepared to listen to the people in our community and fight for what is right. In addition to my commitment to serving the people of Kalamazoo County, I also recognize the County continuously faces financial challenges and my finance background provides the education and skills to be a fiscally-responsible leader in making decisions with taxpayer dollars
2. The two critical issues include maintaining the quality of the water and encouraging business growth. I will advocate for providing regular updates for citizens on the water quality status as well as assist with actions to proactively address any future water challenges. Advocating for business growth and development ensures opportunities for expanded tax revenue while also providing employment opportunities for area residents. I will work with local business associations and support organizations to identify additional resources to support business growth as well as explore opportunities for linkages with small business programs for the area
3. As a write-in candidate, I understand the importance of voting and believe all residents should be educated and engaged in the democratic process. I plan to support get-out-to-vote initiatives, particularly in targeting new voters and encourage policies that ensure disabled/seniors residents have transportation to voting precincts to enhance citizen engagement, I will encourage more residents to participate in citizen engagement activities such as their neighborhood associations, national night out and community events to build stronger communities. I will be a strong advocate for senior citizen programs using millage dollar.
4. I’m asking that you “Write In Janine Seals” for Kalamazoo County Commission District 4. As a 30-year resident of Kalamazoo my loyalty to this community is solid. As a commissioner my goal would be to be firm, fair and consistent. I remain dedicated to building relationships locally and regionally; working towards intergovernmental cooperation to ensure proper resources and support for my District’s needs. My proactive leadership style will be critical in helping make wise fiscal decisions, while working to highlight and address the needs of our community.

District 5

Alamo Township, Kalamazoo Township precincts 3, 6, 9
Oshtemo Township precincts 1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 10

Chad Dillon Republican

Age 31. Western Michigan University, Bachelor of Arts and Science, Political Science. Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran. Served six years in the Michigan Army National Guard. Campaign Facebook: <http://m.facebook.com/pages/category/Government-Official/Chad-Dillon-540348336137863/>.

1. Everyday I assist veterans and members of our military navigate the government to access the help they need. I will leverage my experience to improve programs and effectively reach out to those in our community that need assistance.
2. The increased tax burden is a problem that will continue if we do not act. Our local taxes continue to rise hurting the most vulnerable in our community. I will fight to relieve this burden on our seniors and every hard working person in Kalamazoo. Kalamazoo county has a large population of veterans and not enough is being done to assist them. We have seen the issue get politicized and that does not help those veterans that need the counties help. I will work to make Kalamazoo the most veteran friendly county in Michigan.
3. (No response from candidate)
4. I am committed to putting the citizens of Kalamazoo county first. The county commission should be focused on serving the people here in Kalamazoo not using this position as a step towards their next political ambition. I look forward to helping Kalamazoo continue to grow and lowering the tax burden on every taxpayer.

Julie M. Rogers Democrat

Age 42. Physical Therapist at Borgess Health and current Kalamazoo County Commissioner, 5th District. Master’s in Physical Therapy from Marquette University. Graduate of Mattawan High and Kalamazoo Math & Science Center. Attended many Michigan Association of Counties and National County Conferences. 4 term National Association of Counties Health Policy Committee member. Liaison: Kalamazoo County Brownfield Authority, County Economic Development Corp, Workforce Development Board, County Public Arts Commission, County Appointments Committee. Borgess Diversity Council, Chapel Hill United Methodist Church Faith in Action Team. Past: Girls on the Run Coach, West MI Cancer Center board member. Campaign Website: <http://juliemrogers.com>. Email: julie@juliemrogers.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/vote4rogers>. Phone: (269) 349-3352.

1. I’ve served 3 terms on the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners and many County advisory boards. I’m the only Commissioner with a health care background, practicing as a full time physical therapist. A significant part of the county budget is spent on our community health department. Also, I’ve served 4 terms on the National Association of Counties Health Steering Committee, crafting America’s public health policy. I’ve advocated for Federal workforce development training grants including skilled trades apprenticeship programs. Over 1,500 jobs have been created while I’ve served on the Kalamazoo County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority.
2. (a) Jobs for Kalamazoo are my top priority. I’ve been working to retain employers and attract new ones. My service on Workforce Development Board and Kalamazoo County Brownfield Authority and Economic Development demonstrates my commitment to job growth. (b) Protecting Essential County Services (public health, road patrol/public safety, infrastructure, veterans

Kalamazoo County Commission, continued

services and parks) is critical to Kalamazoo's health and wellbeing. With shrinking Federal dollars for these mandated services, I'll advocate for public-private partnerships, work for sound budget policies and support cost-effective services to stretch our resources as far as possible.

- For 6 years, I've held quarterly community coffees to interact with residents. I also publish newsletters, maintain a Commissioner Facebook page and website, and make my personal phone and email publicly available for input. In 2017, my budget amendment put the annual County budget online (a first) for citizens' input. I co-authored a grant awarded to Kalamazoo County & City of Kalamazoo by the MacArthur Foundation aimed at reducing the number of young adults in our jail. I plan to work with law enforcement, judges, prosecutor and community groups to develop goals and benchmarks toward improving this critical area. Our youth are our future!
- Collaboration and compromise are critical to building consensus. While we may not all agree on policy, respecting differences and moving Kalamazoo County forward to solve difficult issues is key. I have introduced several resolutions and policies that have passed either unanimously or with bipartisan support. This year I was one of 23 County leaders chosen nationwide for County Leadership Institute training in Washington, DC. I will share lessons learned with my colleagues while trying to solve key issues. Collaboration with other local governments is also important to the success of our region. I seek local input prior to decision making.

District 6

Townships of Cooper, Richland, Ross

Ron Kendall Republican

Age 32. Legislative Director; Michigan House of Representatives. B.A. Public Policy; Western Michigan University. First term County Commissioner. Six years in the Michigan Legislature. Campaign Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/ronkendallforcountycommission>. Phone: (269) 760-0322.

- I will continue to advocate for the voters of the out county areas. I will work with my colleagues to pursue the best available options for my citizens.
- Continuing to address the long term debt obligations of the county. Fostering a stronger relationship with all municipalities to continue to draw in investment in jobs and housing throughout the county.
- I support people attending our meetings and reaching out directly to their commissioner to advocate their position. I will also encourage people to participate in the Citizen Budget Survey located on the county's website at www.kalcounty.com.
- I will continue to advocate for fiscal responsibility and living within our means. Being prudent with the resources we have best positions the county now and for years to come.

District 7

Townships of Charleston, Climax, Comstock, Wakeshma City of Galesburg

Roger Tuinier Republican

Did not respond in time to be included.

District 8

Townships of Brady, Pavilion, Prairie Ronde, Schoolcraft City of Portage precinct 2

John Gisler Republican

Age 74. County Commissioner - South County. AB Wabash College - Zoology/Chemistry; MBA Syracuse University - Finance. Kalamazoo County Commissioner 2011-2012 and 2015-2018. Extensive business experience in the pharmaceutical industry, including 14 years as a manager with responsibility for multi-million-dollar budgets. Campaign Email: jgisler5@comcast.net. Phone: (269) 323-0259.

- My years as a manager with budget responsibility, coupled with my MBA in Finance, will enable me to help keep Kalamazoo one of the most fiscally sound counties in Michigan.
- We must learn to prioritize our annual budget. We cannot continue to provide all services to all people all the time. Some services may have to be reduced or even eliminated. Taxes should not be increased.
- I will scrutinize every expenditure of taxpayer dollars. I will seek to limit government intrusion into our daily lives and encourage policies that promote personal responsibility and individual liberty.
- I will continue to promote fiscal responsibility and encourage priority-based budgeting. Kalamazoo County is one of the most financially sound of Michigan's 83 counties. We must keep it that way!

Cody Dekker Democrat

Age 33. I currently Deliver Flowers and work in the Greenhouse at VanderSalm's Flowershop and Garden Center. I was educated in K-12 at Vicksburg Public Schools. I attended Columbia College Chicago with a concentration in Film. I have recently been accepted to WMU and plan on continuing my education. I have been fighting to improve the quality of life for others and standing up for those undervalued and unheard my entire life. I have worked since 16, jobs from busboy to political organizer, from childcare worker to delivery driver. I have worked hard to ensure that the promise of this country for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness is fulfilled to all of the people in this nation. Campaign Email: codydekker@gmail.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Cody-Dekker-for-Kalamazoo-County-Commission-349262298596517/>. Phone: (269) 779-3665.

- In my 33 years I have risen through adversity, loss, and struggle. Through these experiences I have developed and built up skills including, perseverance and resilience, compassion and empathy, courage and strength, and problem solving. I am a naturally social leader who builds close personal relationships with individuals of every diverse background. I am a bridge builder. I have been fighting for fairness and equality in Kalamazoo County my entire life. All of these things will make me an effective County Commissioner who will work with all commissioners to end partisan grid lock and improve quality of life in District 8 And the county.
- Above all I will listen and concur with my constituents about the issues that are most critical

to them. I think the upcoming Senior Millage vote is an incredibly important action. We live in a society with no excuse for the current treatment of some of our most vulnerable citizens and I will work to fix that. I also think that we are at a critical tipping point regarding the health of our planet. Without it nothing matters. I will work to foster more sustainable, green, economically healthy agriculture. This will improve the health and well being of residents, the environment and the economy, in District 8 and Kalamazoo County.

- I support and will fight for crucial reform to the Democratic process to create more authentic engagement, including no reason absentee voting, making election day a holiday, voting on multiple days, fixing gerrymandering, holding frequent meetings and town halls with constituents, and public finance reform. Another vital policy I support and will fight for is the senior millage. There is no acceptable amount of delay, or lack of care and services for some of our most vulnerable residents. I believe that these policies are also consistent with the will and values of the residents of District 8.
- My political and personal life philosophy is that decent, kind people will create decent, kind policies, laws and budgets. I will bring compassion, compromise, and relationship building to the work of the Commission. I have a philosophy of open and transparent government so I will always connect with and be honest and straight forward with the people of district 8 and Kalamazoo County. I believe that we are only as well as the least well off of us and I will always fight and advocate for policies that improve and protect the quality of life of our residents. I know that we can always make progress and will consistently strive to do that.

District 9

Texas Township Oshtemo Township precincts 4, 5, 7, 8

Dale Shugars Republican

Age 65. Dale Shugars, CPA, CAE, Management and Consulting Services. BBA- Western Michigan University, 1975, Majors in Accountancy and Political Science. Graduate of Portage Northern High School, 1971. County Commissioner, 4 years. State Senator, 8 years. State Representative, 4 years. Portage City Council Member, Mayor Pro Tem, 7 years. Former Small Business Owner. Treasurer and Secretary of the Michigan Fitness Foundation. Member of MICPA- PAC, Kalamazoo Area Runners. Former Board Member of Urban Alliance, MRC, Boys Scouts. Two-time Recipient of MSAE Key Award for Leadership. Campaign Email: daleshugars@gmail.com. Phone: (269) 207-5275.

- With nearly twenty-three years experience serving the Kalamazoo Area (as a Portage City Council Member, MI State Representative, MI State Senator, County Commissioner) I have gained valuable experience and understanding of the laws, politics and dynamics of the townships, cities, villages and the County governments. This experience is extremely important as we work to improve governmental services while increasing their efficiencies. Having the knowledge and a trusted relationship with all levels of government is important as the region continues to grow.
- (a) There is a growing demand for a County Park on the west side of the County to service the citizens in that area. The Parks Director and the Parks Commission have been working on this goal and the Commission needs to continue to help and support their efforts. (b) The financing of the 911 Consolidated Dispatch Authority will run out in four years from the PSAPs. We need to work with all townships, cities, and citizens to develop a sustainable funding model after the PSAPs are no longer contributing (total approximately \$5.5 million a year)!
- I will promote respect of all people through kindness and engagement (listening and interacting through constructive dialogue). We may not all agree on everything but we can agree to listen and be respectful of all. Commissioner John Gisler suggested a Citizens Budget Survey a couple of years ago and this year the County has begun the first such survey. As elected officials being accessible and approachable is a high priority of mine.
- My servant leadership is conducive for bringing people together in solving problems facing the County through listening to everyone. I have a seasoned perspective of governance, the Commission (the policy making body) hires the Administrator (responsible for the daily operations) and we both work as a team leading the County government within the laws of the State and Federal governments and with all citizen input. We need individuals with leadership experience and the desire to listen to all citizens in developing policy and budget for local issues and priorities in spending. I have the experience and skills to accomplish these objectives.

Christine Morse Democrat

Age 45. Attorney (retired). Student in KVCC's Culinary Arts Program. Community activist. J.D. Wayne State University Law School; B.A. in Political Science Michigan State University; Current student of KVCC's Culinary Arts Program. My background is in politics, law, charitable organizations and more recently community activism. I have a husband with a small business and three children in Portage Public Schools. I have lived on both coasts, Japan, Chicago, and the east side of Michigan. I want to help make my chosen home town the absolute best it can be for its citizens now and in the future. Campaign Email: morsechristine@hotmail.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/vote4Morse>. Phone: (269) 743-9634.

- To me, the most important aspects of being a County Commissioner include: educating our constituents on what the Board of Commissioners provides to the community; learning from our constituents what is important to them in terms of county management; and putting those ideas into action. Educating and learning require communication skills. I am a people person first and foremost. I truly enjoy getting to know new people from all walks of life. This skill will serve to provide District 9's constituents with a responsive Commissioner who respects their opinions.
- For District 9, I believe the critical issues include continued business growth and development as well as promotion of all of the wonderful assets our District already offers. In recent years, Texas Corners and Oshtemo have been experiencing growth in both large and small businesses that create a sense of community and convenience that our residents enjoy. People generally value having local choices for shopping, dining, recreation and working. As a Commissioner, I will work to promote District 9 as an attractive location for businesses big and small to provide options for our residents for both work and play.
- If elected, I will hold monthly meetings in District 9 with the intent of informing the constituents of the Board's recent activity. Additionally, said meetings will give constituents an opportunity to raise issues relevant to the County as well as any concerns they may have. Through my Facebook site, I will continue to promote County activities as well as encourage any questions or comments the constituents have concerning County activities. I would also like to

Kalamazoo County Commission, continued

highlight the incredibly diverse programs and entities that the County provides and supports through Facebook postings to raise awareness as to all that the County does.

4. My goal for serving on the the Board of Commissioners is to provide a responsive, listening ear to the people I will serve. We have to use the available information to determine what will most benefit the majority of the people we serve. What the people want is more important than my personal stake in any particular issue or for any future political aspirations I may have. I also think that the Board should avoid becoming so partisan on every issue. We are all neighbors. I believe on most issues, we can find common ground. The principles of cooperation and collaboration will inform my actions as a Commissioner if I am elected.

District 10

City of Portage precincts 1, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18

Steve Carra Republican

Age 29. Legislative Aide for State Representative Steve Johnson. Graduated from Portage Northern High School in 2007 and WMU in 2011 with degrees in economics and political science and a minor in mathematics. After pursuing degrees in economics and political science, I did research assistance at Acton Institute in Grand Rapids. My time there helped organize my thoughts and strengthen my convictions while simultaneously understanding and embracing the concepts of liberty and the proper role of government. Campaign Website: <http://www.facebook.com/SteveCarra4KalamazooCounty/>. Email: stephencarra@gmail.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/SteveCarra4KalamazooCounty/>. Phone: (269) 267-4641.

1. My analytical skills, education in economics and political science, and work experience at Acton Institute and as a legislative aide in the state legislature have equipped me with the tools necessary for effective, efficient and accountable leadership. With each vote I take, I will consider whether it increases government intrusion in our lives and if it restricts the actions of people in their individual lives who are abiding by the rule of law. With my youth, energy and innovative mind, I will successfully protect your rights and restore responsible government in my hometown community.
2. The proposed event center is an important issue facing our community. I would like to see it downtown and would enjoy attending events there, but I don't feel restaurants in the outskirts of town should have to pay a 1% tax for its production. I'm looking forward to continuing conversations to ensure the right decision is made in this endeavor. Secondly, I will continually stand on the side of the taxpayer. Less taxes means more freedom to spend your money as you see fit. In general, I believe you know what's best for you and your family and I want to protect your ability to keep more of your hard earned money.
3. I pledge to be accessible and transparent. Good governance is of, by and for the people and you deserve to be heard throughout the process. In hopes of engaging the public in decision making, I will hold monthly office hours to give people the chance to share their thoughts and concerns with me. Everyone drops a pearl, a wise man picks them up. I want to hear what you believe will enhance the well-being of the community. In addition to being accessible to you, I will explain each of my votes and post them on social media. Together, we can make good policy for our community.
4. Grounded in the principles of constitutional governance, I will respect all tax payers, not just the ones who want special treatment. I am for lower taxes across the board, not just for the politically connected. Each vote I take, I will be looking out for you. With responsible government and more freedom as a philosophy, I believe the decision making process should be left to the local community and families to discern what is in their best interest.

Mike Quinn Democrat

Age 71. Co-owner with my wife of Shamrock Montessori. M.S. Statistics, WMU 1998. B.A. Applied Mathematics, WMU 1991. H.S. Diploma, Loy Norris 1965. Two terms on County Commission. Nine years on County Veterans Committee. Four years on Portage Board of Review. Peace Corps Volunteer, Nicaragua 1975-77. Marine Corps Viet Nam veteran. Co-owner of small business for 33 years. Campaign Email: mikedquinn@sbcglobal.net. Phone: (269) 267-2880.

1. My life orientation is toward service: in the Marine Corps in war, in the Peace Corps in natural resource development, in small business as a preschool owner, and in local government. These experiences, often challenging, have been formative. I have learned the value of initiative and persistence, and strive to work with others to muster all available resources against the problems we face. I have found ideology to be a poor guide for action; far better to keep an open mind, listen to people, study the problems, and pray for wisdom.
2. District 10 is one of the more fortunate and prosperous districts in the county. Portage city government deserves a lot of credit for that, and for economic development. The foresight and generosity of Portage voters maintains great public schools in this city. However, mental health and substance abuse issues, senior issues, and food insecurity for some are problems to be worked on here. County programs directed to these issues should be equally available to all residents in need of them, and at convenient times and accessible locations.
3. Kalamazoo County government has quite a number of citizen boards and committees corresponding to the multitude of county activities. By and large, these boards and committees are populated by citizens with keen interest and some expertise in the relevant issues. County government would do well to hear from them more often, and to give more weight to their recommendations before taking actions. Showing respect to those unpaid volunteers in that way could do a lot to encourage their continued engagement.
4. Resources should be directed to improve the social safety nets for those most in need of aid and services: children, adults, and elderly in poverty, the homeless, the mentally ill, and those with substance abuse problems, among others. To say that it costs too much in taxes to help the vulnerable is bogus. The costs, direct and indirect, of leaving people in the street are much higher than the costs to get them into stable housing. Putting elderly into nursing homes costs way more than helping them stay in their own homes. Ignoring the mentally ill and addicted is far more expensive than effective treatment programs.

District 11

City of Portage precincts 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 12, 15, 17, 20

Scott McGraw Republican

Age 57. Kalamazoo County Commissioner, 11th District. B.A., English, Western Michigan University. Portage Central High School. Current county commissioner for 11th District for the past two terms. Small business owner for 20+ years, member of Portage Rotary Club, Kalamazoo County Farm Bureau, Michigan Press Association, Kalamazoo Gospel Mission Board of Directors, Discover Kalamazoo, governmental lake boards for Austin, Long and Gourdneck Lakes, Chair of Kalamazoo GOP, Secretary of 6D GOP, attend Portage Radiant Church. Campaign Website: <http://www.scottmcgraw.vote>. Email: scott@scottmcgraw.vote. Phone: (269) 548-7004.

1. Having grown up in Portage and returned here to raise my family, I have a prospective that helps in representing the people of this area. My professional acumen is in management and communications. As a small business owner for more than 20 years, I have the abilities and experience to help guide the county forward during these difficult times. I will continue to work hard for Kalamazoo County to keep our county government running effectively and make it responsive to the citizens. We all deserve a government that is dedicated to service and accountable with our tax dollars.
2. The plunging property values within our core city and ineffective programs and services. I have supported a re-investment program by the county to help redevelop blighted and vacant land as taxable properties in the city. I am on the building advisory committee for the new county complex and our desire is to see a new courthouse developed in the downtown around property that is prime for future development, spurring \$100 million+ in new values. Our old courthouse has been sold and will come back on the tax rolls. The county has helped nurture a new hotel downtown, expanding on to our former property behind the county building.
3. I believe in Freedom of Speech and support the county's policies regarding that. I encourage citizens to express their opinions, but it isn't a burden for every citizen to attend the BOC meetings. I meet daily with people in my district and throughout the county to gather their input and know the pulse within the community. That is a burden the commissioners should bear. I participate on many board and committees to help the county connect with its citizenry. As commissioners, we need to engage with our citizenry and be their voice in county government. I have taken on a commitment of dozens of committees to ensure those values.
4. I believe strongly in something that former President Ronald Reagan once said, "Government's first duty is to protect the people, not run their lives." Too often, our government (at all levels) is trying to control the lives of its citizens through regulation, laws and taxes. I believe in lower taxes, less government and personal freedom. That's not as impactful at the county level, but can still be relevant. Our focus should be on the people of the county and what affects them. As commissioners, we need to make sure we have the best and brightest people employed and engaged at the county and we need to support administration to lead them.

Meredith Place Democrat

Age 29. Contract Administrator, Clerical-Technical Union of MSU. University of Iowa, BA (2012). Majors: Political Science and Communications Studies. Certificate: Sustainability. Commissioner; Planning Commission, City of Portage; Vice-Chair, Environmental Health Advisory Council, Kalamazoo County; Member, League of Women Voters Kalamazoo-Area; 2nd Vice-Chair, Executive Board Member, Kalamazoo County Democratic Party; Treasurer, Michigan Democratic Party 6th District Federal Committee; State Central Delegate, Michigan Democratic Party. Campaign Website: <http://www.facebook.com/vote4meredith/>. Email: vote4meredith@gmail.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/vote4meredith/>. Phone: (319) 775-2395.

1. My service on numerous public boards as well as institutional knowledge from my husband, who served 14 years on the county board, prepares me to hit the ground running as a County Commissioner. I currently serve on the Portage Planning Commission; I am Vice-Chair on the Environmental Health Advisory Council for Kalamazoo County, a member of the League of Women Voters, and I am leader in multiple organizations in my community. By staying active in my community and continuing to build relationships with individuals across the county, I bring valuable insight to the position with solutions to problems the county is currently facing.
2. As a Commissioner, I will focus on issues related to revenue distribution and economic development. Counties are receiving less funding from the federal and state government. Yet we still need to provide essential services to our community. I will address these shortfalls by taking an active role in the budget process, collaborating with other communities, and building public-private partnerships. I will take a multifaceted approach to facilitating growth in our community through strategic partnerships with economic development engines like Southwest Michigan First to partnering with neighborhood associations on neighborhood beautification.
3. As a Commissioner, I will work to make the budget process more collaborative and transparent through district meetings, distribution of a multi-media budget survey, and information sharing. To encourage citizen participation, I will tirelessly promote advisory boards and committees to the public and all civic-minded organizations. The experiences I have gained through serving on advisory boards is invaluable; I believe those who serve not only gain a better understanding of how government works but provide necessary perspectives needed to address real issues facing our community.
4. I believe that in a democracy all citizens deserve to have a seat at the table. Before I ask someone to vote for me, I will ask them what they care about most and how they want to be represented. Government is a collection of our community's values and should reflect the best of us. The board needs a Commissioner who will listen and who bring back the focus from playing politics to building a community we are all proud to call home.

Michigan Supreme Court Justice

Eight-year term Vote for no more than two

Description: The Michigan Supreme Court is the state's highest court and makes the final determination and interpretation of Michigan's laws. It supervises all other state courts.

Questions

1. What educational, occupational, civic and community experiences have you had that particularly qualify you for this judicial office? Why are you running?
2. Do you believe the current process for electing Supreme Court Justices should be altered in any way - including how candidates are nominated for election or appointed for vacancies

and how campaigns are funded and regulated?

3. What, in your opinion, are the two greatest areas of need in the Michigan justice system, and how should the Supreme Court respond to them?

Samuel Bagenstos

Frank G. Millard Professor of Law, University of Michigan Law School. Civil Rights Attorney. B.A. with highest honors and highest distinction, Univ. of North Carolina (1990). J.D., magna cum laude, Harvard Law School (1993) (first in class). Campaign Website: <http://www.BagenstosForJustice.com>. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/BagenstosForJustice/>. Twitter: twitter.com/Bagenstos4MI.

1. Early in my career, I was a law clerk to Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg on the U.S. Supreme Court. I served two stints in the U.S. Department of Justice, first as an attorney in the Civil Rights Division's Appellate Section during the mid-1990s, then returning as Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights under President Obama and Attorney General Holder. I have argued four cases in the Supreme Court of the United States. I have litigated for voting rights, disability rights, women's rights, and accountability for the Flint Water Crisis. The Court needs justices who have fought for people's rights.
2. There is no perfect system of selecting judges. Our current system is suboptimal, however, in two respects. First, in our current process, candidates are nominated by political parties, but they appear on a "nonpartisan" ballot that hides that information from voters. Either a purely nonpartisan system or an honestly partisan system would be preferable. Second, campaigns for the Michigan Supreme Court are expensive, and they are largely funded by attorneys and others who might have business before the Court. That corrodes public confidence in the impartiality of the Court. Campaign finance reform would improve things.
3. First, the Michigan Supreme Court must be prepared to perform the state courts' historic function of serving as the last line of defense for basic rights, such as the rights to liberty, equality, and a clean environment. As the federal courts pull back from protecting these rights, the role of the Michigan courts will grow in importance. Second, the Michigan Supreme Court should use its administrative authority to maintain public confidence in the courts (by addressing such issues as jury diversity) and to promote alternatives to the criminal justice system as appropriate (for example, through problem-solving courts).

Megan Kathleen Cavanagh

Attorney; Shareholder, Garan Luow Miller P.C. B.S. Engineering, University of Michigan, 1993. J.D., Wayne State University School of Law, 2000. Campaign Website: www.cavanaghforsupremecourt.com. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/CavanaghForSupremeCourt>. Twitter: twitter.com/megankcavanagh.

1. I graduated from the U of M College of Engineering and Wayne State University Law School. I have over fifteen years of experience as an appellate attorney, representing people in all levels of state court and handling over 150 appeals. I have held leadership positions with the Appellate Practice and Negligence Sections of the State Bar of Michigan. I am a member of the Attorney Grievance Commission. My experience reflects a commitment to improving the fairness of Michigan's justice system. I believe that each person should stand on equal footing before the Court and receive fair consideration of the issues.
2. I am comfortable with the people of the state of Michigan judging my experience and temperament and determining whether I am the best candidate for this important office. Spending by interest groups on issue ads (dark money) undermines public confidence in the judiciary because it makes the public believe that Justices are bought and paid for when this branch of government does not operate that way. The job of a Justice is to make decisions according to the law, no matter who likes that decision. Public funding would eliminate the influence of dark money on judicial elections.

3. The two greatest areas of need are reform of the juvenile justice system and improving access to justice. The Supreme Court should be actively engaged with other stakeholders in considering solutions such as diversion programs, community based detention, and specialty courts. Our current justice system doesn't provide equal access to justice for those most vulnerable among us. Everyone has the right to effective counsel and I will fight to fulfill that promise for all regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, disability status, geography or income level.

Elizabeth T. Clement

Did not respond in time to be included.

Doug Dern

Lawyer. JD from Cooley law school. Twitter: twitter.com/Mich13.

1. Life. I have been a lawyer working in the trenches helping everyday people. I have a deep understanding of how rule rulings effect the common Jane. My opinion is that the current justices have lost site of that.
2. No.
3. Police corruption is always a concern. The Flint water situation should be a concern. I think the current is light on reviewing criminal appeals. The Flint water crisis is the result of corporate greed.

Kerry Lee Morgan

"Of Counsel" to the law firm of Pentiuik, Couvreur, & Kobiljak, P.C. Regent University, M.A. Public Policy, magna cum laude, 1985. Detroit College of Law, J.D., 1981. Michigan State University, B.A. Political Science and Criminal Justice, with honors, 1977. Campaign Website: <https://www.pck-law.com/About-Our-Attorneys/Kerry-L-Morgan.shtml>.

1. The Supreme Court needs Justices who will apply the law as written, not as it ought to be written in the mind of the Judge. My background in the law for over thirty five years has taught me the importance of this purpose. My experience in the practice of law before judges has taught me that judges are sometimes reluctant to simply apply the law as written. I can bring a balanced respect for the written law and the Constitution in particular to the bench, so that Justice may be done.
2. The nomination and election process for Supreme Court Justices is adequate. Campaigns will always be funded in part by special interest sand those who propose schemes to limit the effect of those interests, have an interest of their own in influencing the outcome of elections. The People are the best check on those interests and funding abuses through the ballot box. Government "solutions" and the snake oil of "bipartisan" support are designed to simply increase major party control of the Supreme Court and should be avoided.
3. The future of the judicial system is for the People to decide, but that future must recover a solid commitment to the rule of law, not the law of judges. Michigan Lawyers must also be freed from the politicized State Bar of Michigan by elimination of compulsory membership. The Supreme Court should be leading this fight. Instead, it sides with the Bar. It compels lawyers to pay money to the Bar for the propagation of ideas with which they disagree. The Court also tramples down the natural rights of conscience in the process. Securing natural rights is the states only compelling interest.

Kurtis T. Wilder

Did not respond in time to be included.

Campaigning at the Polls

Michigan election law stipulates that individuals who wish to campaign or distribute election information must conduct their activities at least 100 feet away from a building entrance in which a polling place is located. The "100 foot rule" applies to the following activities:

- Approaching voters to influence their vote.
- Distributing campaign literature or write-in stickers
- Displaying signs, posters, or bumper stickers related to election issues
- Displaying information regarding ballot proposals (this includes the "pro" and "cons" of ballot proposals)
- Circulating petitions
- Soliciting donations

These activities and materials are also prohibited in hallways used by voters to enter or exit a polling place.

According to Michigan law, election officials may ask voters entering the polls to remove campaign buttons, or to cover clothing bearing a candidate's name or slogan pertinent to election issues. Although voters may bring campaign literature or election information like the LWV Voter Guide with them into the polling place for their own use, election officials may ask them to conceal the materials so that they do not influence other voters. Election officials periodically check voting stations to make sure they are free of campaign literature.

Based on Election Officials' Manual, Michigan Bureau of Elections, pg. 24, updated August 2017.

Ballot Proposals

Statewide Proposal 18-1

A proposed initiated law to authorize and legalize possession, use and cultivation of marijuana products by individuals who are at least 21 years of age and older, and commercial sales of marijuana through state-licensed retailers.

This proposal would:

- Allow individuals 21 and older to purchase, possess and use marijuana and marijuana-infused edibles, and grow up to 12 marijuana plants for personal consumption.
- Impose a 10-ounce limit for marijuana kept at residences and require amounts over 2.5 ounces be secured in locked containers.
- Create a state licensing system for marijuana businesses and allow municipalities to ban or restrict them.
- Permit retail sales of marijuana and edibles subject to a 10% tax, dedicated to implementation costs, clinical trials, schools, roads, and municipalities where marijuana businesses are located.
- Change several current violations from crimes to civil infractions.

Should this proposal be adopted? YES NO

Statewide Proposal 18-2

A proposed constitutional amendment to establish a commission of citizens with exclusive authority to adopt district boundaries for the Michigan Senate, Michigan House of Representatives and U.S. Congress, every 10 years.

This proposed constitutional amendment would:

- Create a commission of 13 registered voters randomly selected by the Secretary of State:
- 4 each who self-identify as affiliated with the 2 major political parties; and
- 5 who self-identify as unaffiliated with major political parties.
- Prohibit partisan officeholders and candidates, their employees, certain relatives, and lobbyists from serving as commissioners.
- Establish new redistricting criteria including geographically compact and contiguous districts of equal population, reflecting Michigan's diverse population and communities of interest. Districts shall not provide disproportionate advantage to political parties or candidates.
- Require an appropriation of funds for commission operations and commissioner compensation.

Should this proposal be adopted? YES NO

Statewide Proposal 18-3

A proposal to authorize automatic and Election Day voter registration, no-reason absentee voting, and straight ticket voting; and add current legal requirements for military and overseas voting and postelection audits to the Michigan Constitution

This proposed constitutional amendment would allow a United States citizen who is qualified to vote in Michigan to:

- Become automatically registered to vote when applying for, updating or renewing a driver's license or state-issued personal identification card, unless the person declines.
- Simultaneously register to vote with proof of residency and obtain a ballot during the 2-week period prior to an election, up to and including Election Day.
- Obtain an absent voter ballot without providing a reason.
- Cast a straight-ticket vote for all candidates of a particular political party when voting in a partisan general election.

Should this proposal be adopted? YES NO

There's More on Your Ballot!

In addition to the races and proposals covered in this Guide, others may be on your November ballot.

Prepare to vote by reviewing a sample of your ballot at the Michigan Secretary of State website.

- Go to: www.michigan.gov/vote
- Enter your name, birth month and year, and zip code
- Click on View My Sample Ballot

**Help prevent delays on election day by studying the candidates and issues
and by using your sample ballot to record your choices before going to the polls.**

How to Judge a Candidate

Source: League of Women Voters Education Fund

Elections present voters with important choices. Whether it is a local race that will affect your community or a national race that could change the direction of the country it is a time to consider the issues which you care about and decide which candidate you support.

How do voters go about comparing and then judging candidates?

The seven steps outlined below are designed to help you judge a candidate.

Step 1: Decide what you are looking for in a candidate.

Candidates can be judged in two ways: the positions they take on issues and the leadership qualities and experience they would bring to office. Both are important. Your first step in picking a candidate is to decide the issues you care about and the qualities you want in a leader.

When you consider issues, think about community or national problems that you want people in government to address. For example, you may be interested in the threat of nuclear war, government funding for student loans or teenage unemployment. Those are issues.

When you consider leadership qualities, think about the characteristics you want in an effective leader. Do you look for intelligence, honesty, and ability to communicate?

Step 2: Find out about the candidates.

First, find out which candidates are running in the race you are following by using the League's online election resource VOTE411.org (www.VOTE411.org). You can find the number for your local elections office and data on the candidates. A Voters Guide, published by your local League of Women Voters, is another source of information. Use the Secretary of State website – www.michigan.gov/vote - to find out all the eligible candidates that will appear on your ballot. Be sure to notice minor party and/or independent candidates.

Step 3: Gather materials about the candidates.

Put together a "library" of information about the candidates. Call campaign headquarters and watch the press. Sources of information from which you may choose include:

- www.Vote411.org or League Voter Guide
- Campaign literature, including campaign websites
- Nonpartisan online voter information websites
- Direct mail letters
- Press reports (newspapers, television, and radio)
- Radio and television ads
- Candidates' speeches
- Candidate debates (information on League hosted debates is available on VOTE411.org)

In a local race, interviews with the candidates can be helpful. For incumbents, a look at their voting records on issues that you have listed as important can tell you the candidates' positions on those issues.

Step 4: Evaluate candidates' stands on issues.

As you read the materials you collect, keep a record. Do the materials give you an overall impression of the candidates? What specific conclusions can you draw about the candidates' stand on issues?

Step 5: Learn about the candidates' leadership abilities.

Decide if a candidate will be a good leader is difficult. How can you know if someone will be honest, open or able to act under pressure if elected to office? Here are some ways to read between the lines as you evaluate the candidates' leadership qualities.

- Look at the candidates' background and their experience. How well prepared are they for the job?
- Observe the candidates' campaigns. Do they accept speaking engagements before different groups - even those groups that might not be sympathetic? Do they accept invitations to debate? Do the campaigns emphasize media events where the candidates can be seen but not heard?
- Review the campaign materials. As you read the materials and watch the campaign develop, add to your journal information that provides insights into candidates' personalities and leadership qualities. For example, do campaign materials emphasize issues or just images? Are they accurate?

Step 6: Learn how other people view the candidate.

Now that you have accumulated information from campaigns and other sources, you will want to learn what other people think about the candidates. Their opinions can help to clarify your own views, but do not discount your own informed judgments. You may be the most careful observer of all!

- Seek the opinions of others in your community who keep track of political campaigns. Interview three people (not family members) such as shopkeeper, neighbor, or politically active volunteer, to find out which candidate they support and why. Learn what has shaped their political opinions. Was it an event? An idea or program proposed by a candidate? A particular issue about which they feel strongly? A long-standing party loyalty?
- Learn about endorsements. This is a way for interest groups and organizations to give a "stamp of approval" to a candidate. Endorsements provide clues to the issues a candidate supports. Get a list of endorsements from each candidate's headquarters. Find out what these groups stand for and find out why they are endorsing this candidate.
- Look into campaign contributions. Where do the candidates get the funds to finance their campaigns? Do they use their own money or raise funds from a few wealthy donors, from many small contributors, or from Political Action Committees? Many types of information about campaign contributions must be reported to the government and are watched by the press. Check the newspaper for stories on campaign finance. How might these campaign contributions affect the candidates' conduct in office? You might also want to analyze an incumbent's voting record on issues important to PACs and other campaign contributors.
- Throughout the campaign, opinion polls will be taken by a variety of groups to evaluate public support for the different candidates. Polls reveal who is leading at a certain point in the race. As you read the polls, ask these questions: Who sponsored the poll? Were all the figures released? What kinds of questions were asked? Were they slanted or unbiased? Who were respondents selected - randomly or such a way to include all segments of the population? How many people were included in the poll sample?

Step 7: Sorting it all out.

Review the information in your notes and compare all the candidates. Ask yourself these final questions:

- Which candidate's view on the issues do you agree with the most?
- Who ran the fairest campaign?
- Which candidate demonstrated the most knowledge on the issues?
- Which candidate has the leadership qualities you are looking for?

Is the choice clear? If so, pick a candidate.

Seeing through distortion techniques.

All candidates are trying to sell themselves to voters. Sometimes their language is so skillfully crafted that they distort the truth in way that are difficult for even the most careful observer to detect. Here are some examples of distortion techniques that you should watch for as you review candidates' campaign materials.

Common Distortion Techniques

Name calling/Appeals to prejudice:

- These are attacks on an opponent based on characteristics that will not affect performance in office. References to race, ethnicity or marital status can be subtly used to instill prejudice.

Rumor mongering:

- These include statements such as, "Everyone says my opponent is a crook, but I have no personal knowledge of any wrongdoing," which imply (but do not state) that the opponent is guilty.

Guilt by association:

- These are statements such as, "We all know Candidate B is backed by big money interest," that attack candidates because of their support rather than because of their stands on the issues.

Catchwords:

- These are phrases such as "Law and Order" or "un-American" that are designed to trigger a knee-jerk emotional reaction rather than to inform.

Passing the blame:

- These are instances in which a candidate denies responsibility for an action or blames an opponent for things over which he or she had no control.

Promising the sky:

- These are unrealistic promises that no one elected official could fulfill.

Evading real issues:

- These include instances in which candidates may avoid answering direct questions, offer only vague solutions or talk about the benefits of proposed programs but never get specific about possible problems or costs.

Prepare a Candidate Report Card

- List your priority
- List your positions and rank the candidates on how they stand on the issues and your positions
- List the leadership qualities you want and rank the candidates on those qualities.

Now that you have thought through your choices, DO SOMETHING!

- Back the candidates you believe in.
- Talk to your friends and family about "your" candidate.
- Don't be afraid to ask questions at candidate meetings, debates, or rallies or when a campaign worker rings your doorbell.
- Call television and radio stations to praise or criticize campaign spots.
- Be a letter writer. Tell candidates, newspapers and party leaders how you feel about the issues.
- Volunteer to work on a campaign or make a donation.
- **If you're 18, register to vote. Then, on Election Day, go to the polls and vote!**

10 Reasons to Vote

1. Your vote does count.
2. Democracy only works if we vote.
3. If you don't vote, others decide your future.
4. You cannot change a situation by ignoring it.
5. Voting is power.
6. Elections determine leaders and politics.
7. Without your vote, your voice will not be heard.
8. When you don't vote, special interests take control.
9. If you don't vote, don't complain.
10. People have died for the freedom to vote.

KALAMAZOO COUNTY PRECINCT LOCATIONS

Polls Open Tuesday, November 6, 2018 —7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Alamo Township

- #1 Township Hall 7901 North 6th St.
- #2 Alamo Community Church 7925 North 6th St.

Brady Township

- #1 Township Hall 13123 South 24th St.
- #2 Chapman Memorial Church 7520 East U Ave.

Charleston Township

- #1 Township Hall 1499 South 38th St.

Climax Township

- #1 Township Hall 110 North Main St.

Comstock Charter Township

- #1 Galesburg Baptist Church 10100 Shadowland Dr.
- #2 Comstock Community Center 6330 King Highway
- #3 Comstock Christian Reformed Church 5300 Comstock Ave.
- #4 Northeastern Baptist Church 6536 East G Ave.
- #5 Church of God Family Worship Center 5841 East H. Ave.
- #6 Kalamazoo Community Church 2435 North 26th St.
- #7 Northeastern Baptist Church 6536 East G Ave.

Cooper Charter Township

- #1 Township Hall 1590 West D Ave.
- #2 Fire Station #2 3160 McKinley St.
- #3 Bethel Baptist Church 5701 Mt. Olivet Rd.
- #4 North Bridge Church 8824 Douglas Ave.
- #5 Cooper's Landing Apartments Community Room 5001 Cooper's Landing

Kalamazoo Charter Township

- #1 Lakewood Fire Station 3100 Lake St.
- #2 Northwood Fire Station 2617 N. Burdick St.
- #3 Grace Harbor Church 811 Gorham La.
- #4 West Main School Professional Development Center 1625 West Main St.
- #5 Westwood Fire Station 1310 Nichols Rd.
- #7 Hillside Middle School 1941 Alamo Ave.
- #8 Westland Meadows Community Room 4300 Leisure La.
- #9 Second Christian Reformed Church 3015 Nichols Rd.
- #10 Eastwood Fire Station 2703 East Main St.
- #11 Northeastern Elementary School 2433 Gertrude St.
- #12 Sunnyside United Methodist Church 2800 Gull Road

Oshtemo Charter Township

- #1 Township Hall 7275 West Main St.
- #2 Fire Station #2 3500 South 6th St.
- #3 People's Church 1758 North 10th St.
- #4 Voyage Church - Fellowship Hall 6339 Atlantic Ave.
- #5 West Kalamazoo Christian Church (Lobby) 454 S. Drake Rd.
- #6 West Kalamazoo Christian Church (Auditorium) 454 S. Drake Rd.
- #7 Voyage Church - Gymnasium 6339 Atlantic Ave.
- #8 Oshtemo Community Center 6407 Parkview Ave.
- #9 Oshtemo Branch Library 7265 West Main St.
- #10 Oshtemo United Methodist Church 6574 Stadium Drive

Pavilion Township

- #1 Lakeland Reformed Church 10442 South Sprinkle Rd.
- #2 Country Christian Church 9286 South 36th St.
- #3 Township Hall 7510 East Q Ave.

Prairie Ronde Township

- #1 Township Hall 8140 West W Ave.

Richland Township

- #1 Gull Lake United Methodist Church 8640 Gull Road
- #2 Township Hall 7401 North 32nd St.
- #3 Haven Church 5350 North Sprinkle Rd.

Ross Township

- #1 Augusta Village Hall 109 W. Clinton St.
- #2 Yorkville Community Church 11523 East D Ave.

Schoolcraft Township

- #1 Township Hall 50 East VW Ave.
- #2 & 4 Ken Krum Recreational Center 519 East Clay St.
- #3 Vicksburg United Methodist Church 217 South Main St.

Texas Charter Township

- #1 Calvary Reformed Church 7829 South 5th St.
- #2 Township Hall - Lower Meeting Room 7110 West Q Ave.
- #3 KVCC Groves Campus 7107 Elm Valley Dr.
- #4 & 5 Southridge Reformed Church 6726 Texas Drive
- #6 Calvary Reformed Church 7829 South 5th St.

Wakeshma Township

- #1 Township Hall 13988 South 42nd St.

Galesburg City

- #1 City Hall 200 E. Michigan Ave.

Kalamazoo City

- #1 & 3 First United Methodist Church 212 S. Park St.
- #2 & 4 Bernhard Student Center Western Michigan University
- #5 Arcadia Elementary School 932 Boswell Lane
- #6 Friendship Village Kiva 1400 N. Drake Rd.
- #7 & 9 Douglass Community Association 1000 W. Paterson St.
- #8 & 27 Mt. Zion Baptist Church 120 Roberson St.
- #10 Spring Valley Center for Exploration 3530 Mt. Olivet Rd.
- #11 Eastside Community Center 1301 East Main St.
- #12 Oakwood Bible Church 4100 Oakland Dr.
- #13 & 14 St. Joseph's Catholic School - Bennett Building 930 Lake St.
- #15 Washington Writer's Academy 1919 Portage St.
- #16 & 18 Milwood Community Church 3306 Lovers Lane
- #17 Milwood United Methodist Church 3919 Portage St.
- #19 & 25 Southern Heights Christian Reformed Church 4141 E. Hillandale Dr.
- #20 Kalamazoo Public Schools Building 3333 S. Westnedge Ave.
- #21 & 24 Girl Scouts Building 601 W. Maple St.
- #22 Winchell Elementary School 2316 Winchell Ave.
- #23 Parkwood-Upjohn Elementary School 2321 S. Park St.
- #26 Parkview Hills Clubhouse 3707 Greenleaf Circle

Parchment City

- #1 City Hall 650 S. Riverview Dr.

Portage City

- #1 & 15 Portage Public Schools "Dog House" Multipurpose Gym ... 1000 Idaho Ave.
- #2 Goldentree Apartments Community Room 4795 E. Milham Rd.
- #3 Portage Senior Center 320 Library Lane
- #4 & 6 Lord of Life Lutheran Church 9420 Portage Road
- #5, 10, 12 Portage Schools "Stable" Multipurpose Gym 8305 S. Westnedge Ave.
- #7 K-RESA Service Center 1819 E. Milham Rd.
- #8 & 14 Chapel Hill United Methodist Church 7028 Oakland Drive
- #9 Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 1747 W. Milham Ave.
- #11 & 19 Kalamazoo First Assembly of God 5550 Oakland Drive
- #13 St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church 1150 W. Centre Ave.
- #16 & 18 The Bridge Church 7200 Angling Road
- #17 Pathfinder Church 8740 S. Westnedge Ave.

Source: Kalamazoo County Clerk / Register Office

