Published by the League of Women Voters of the Lima Area
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This nonpartisan publication has been published by the League of Women Voters of the Lima Area to provide a forum for political candidates.

The materials contained in this publication were assembled in the following manner:
➢ Questions were selected by the League of Women Voters of the Lima Area and addressed to the local candidates.
➢ Questions were selected by the League of Women Voters of Ohio and submitted to statewide candidates.
➢ Questions were selected by the League of Women Voters of the United States and submitted to the Presidential Candidates.
➢ Judicial Candidates responded to questions from Judicial Votes Count.
➢ Candidates submitted their information electronically.
➢ Candidates were informed that their responses would be printed in their own words, which has in fact been done, and that each would be solely responsible for the contents of the replies.

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Nonpartisan
Citizen Education
THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE LIMA AREA ARE:
➢ Women and men of all ages from Allen County interested in the issues affecting our community.
➢ Providers of voter education guides at every election to educate and inform on Local, State and National issues.
➢ Host to local meetings with speakers and programs on current issues.
➢ Distributors of educational materials for high school and middle school students to increase awareness of government functions.
➢ Facilitators engaging political candidates in public forums and debates to increase voter awareness.
➢ Advocates for voter registration and greater citizen participation in the governmental process.
➢ Members of the State and National League of Women Voters network.

The League of Women Voters of the Lima Area encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

The League of Women Voters is where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement. Learn more at www.lwv.org and www.VOTE411.org.

Go to www.lwvlima.org to see how you can become involved

VOTE • Tuesday, November 3, 2020 • Polls Open 6:30 A.M. to 7:30 P.M.
**PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES**

Term Commences 1/20/21

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Duties: The President is: the head of state of the United States of America; the Chief Executive Officer; and, the Commander in Chief of all military forces. The powers of the President are prescribed in the Constitution and federal law. The President appoints the members of the Cabinet, ambassadors to other nations and the United Nations, Supreme Court Justices, and federal judges, subject to Senate approval. The President, along with the Cabinet and its agencies, is responsible for carrying out and enforcing the laws of the United States. The President may also recommend legislation to the United States Congress.

Term: Four years. Limit of two terms.

Base Salary: $400,000 per year.

Party: Democrat

Howie Hawkins

Jo Jorgensen

Party: Libertarian

Q. What is the most important issue facing our country and how do you plan to address it during your first 100 days in office?

Candidate has not yet responded.

Q. What will you do over the long term to ensure access to quality healthcare for all?

Candidate has not yet responded.

Q. What aspects of our current immigration policy will your administration address first?

My immigration policy is built around keeping families together. It’s past time to reform our broken system, restoring family unification and diversity as its core pillars. As President, I’ll reverse Trump’s assault on our values on Day One, ending his cruel border policies that rip children from their mothers’ arms. I’ll act immediately to protect Dreamers and their families, and invest real political capital in finally delivering reform and invest in shifting our criminal justice focus from incarceration to prevention.©League of Women Voters of the U.S. ©League of Women Voters of the U.S.

Q. What will you do over the long term to ensure access to quality healthcare for all?

This pandemic makes clear: All Americans need access to quality, affordable health insurance. That’s why I’ll protect and build on the Affordable Care Act. I helped to secure the final key votes to pass that landmark law, protecting 100 million Americans who can no longer be turned away or denied coverage for pre-existing conditions, and bringing coverage to 20 million more. As President, I’ll build on that progress with a public option and lower health care and prescription drug costs. I’ll make all COVID-19 testing, treatment, and vaccines free; double funding for community health centers that are so often on the frontlines of care; and much more.

**U.S. STATE REPRESENTATIVE OHIO**

DISTRICT 4

Responsibilities: To represent the people of Ohio, their district and the United States in dealing with matters of national and international importance. The general welfare should be a prime concern.

Term: 2 years

Salary: $74,000

Shannon Freshour

Party: Democrat

Current Job Position: Civil Litigation Paralegal for 20+ years

Education: B.A. in Political Science and Art History, M.A. in American Government

Q. Given our experiences with Covid-19, what precautions would you put in place to allow safe, secure elections whereby voters are not choosing between their health and their right to vote, especially during these crises, we have an enormous opportunity, if we come together. As President, I’ll draw on the best of us, not the worst. I’ll work as hard for those who don’t support me as for those who do. That’s a president’s job: to represent us all. To take responsibility. To protect the nation. To unite and to heal. ©League of Women Voters of the U.S.

Q. How will you address racial injustice in our country on day one of your administration?

America is at an inflection point. It’s past time to end our inequities and deal with the denial of our nation’s promise to too many for too long. I’ll fight to end the health inequities that COVID-19 amplifies; and give every child the same strong start in life by offering universal Pre-K, truilling funding for Title 1 schools, and making public college debt-free for most families. I’ll make racial equity central to our recovery, closing the racial wealth and income gaps, boosting home ownership, and investing in communities and entrepreneurs of color – building a stronger, more inclusive middle class for the future. And, I’ll work for real police reform and invest in shifting our criminal justice focus from incarceration to prevention.©League of Women Voters of the U.S. ©League of Women Voters of the U.S.

Q. What aspects of our current immigration policy will your administration address first?

My immigration policy is built around keeping families together. It’s past time to reform our broken system, restoring family unification and diversity as its core pillars. As President, I’ll reverse Trump’s assault on our values on Day One, ending his cruel border policies that rip children from their mothers’ arms. I’ll act immediately to protect Dreamers and their families, and invest real political capital in finally delivering legislative immigration reform, with a roadmap to citizenship for the nearly 11 million undocumented people who already do so much to make our communities strong. We have to enforce our laws, but in a way that’s humane, respects due process, honors our values, and sees the big picture. ©League of Women Voters of the U.S.

Q. What will you do over the long term to ensure access to quality healthcare for all?

This pandemic makes clear: All Americans need access to quality, affordable health insurance. That’s why I’ll protect and build on the Affordable Care Act. I helped to secure the final key votes to pass that landmark law, protecting 100 million Americans who can no longer be turned away or denied coverage for pre-existing conditions, and bringing coverage to 20 million more. As President, I’ll build on that progress with a public option and lower health care and prescription drug costs. I’ll make all COVID-19 testing, treatment, and vaccines free; double funding for community health centers that are so often on the frontlines of care; and much more.

Q. What actions would you take to balance public health and economic recovery in the US, both in light of COVID-19 and for the long term?

It’s a false choice to think we have to choose between our public health and economy; they’re linked. On Day One, I’ll implement the COVID strategy I’ve laid out since March – surging testing and protective gear; distributing vaccines safely and free of politics; helping schools and small businesses cover costs; and getting state and local governments resources to keep educators, cops, and firefighters on the job. I’ll respect science and tell the truth, period. And I’ll build our economy back better, creating millions of good-paying jobs. I’ll revitalize manufacturing, build a clean energy economy, and boost caregiving – easing the squeeze on working families, providing paid leave, and getting caregivers the respect and pay they deserve.©League of Women Voters of the U.S.
in November? Include how you would fund any necessary precautions and changes. Ohio should be using election security funds given through the CARES ACT to mail, pre-paid ballots to all registered voters and have a robust early voting program to ensure the maximum number of people can participate in this election. Additionally, every county in Ohio should have multiple secure drop boxes, located in areas of greatest need. For a longer-term solution, I support automatic voter registration and restoration of the Voting Rights Act to full strength.

Q. What policies and actions will you promote to pursue social and racial justice in our country? Although no policy or law can change hearts and minds of those committed to supporting racism, we have a requirement implement anti-discrimination laws and policy that punish racism in all aspects from healthcare to financial lending to police reform. There must be actionable punishments for embedding racism in society. We also need to develop anti-racism education programs in schools and all other aspects of broadening our understanding of the American experience.

Jim Jordan
Party: Republican

Current Job Position: US Representative to Congress, District 4
Education: Graham High School, B.S, Economics, University of Wisconsin; M.A. Education, The Ohio State University; J.D; Capital University Law School

Q. Given our experiences with Covid-19, what precautions would you put in place to allow safe, secure elections whereby voters are not choosing between their health and their right to vote, especially in November? Include how you would fund any additional precautionary measures and changes.

Both major parties want to exploit Covid for political gain. Safety is not the concern of either. Libertarians were repeatedly denied injunctive relief in court to keep us from having to engage the public to collect hundreds of thousands of signatures during a pandemic to be on the ballot. Outside of social distancing at polling locations, this is the LAST year we should tamper with the process. We far more need to ensure its validity.

Q. What policies and actions will you promote to pursue social and racial justice in our country? Police need to be accountable to the same laws they enforce, not be above them. Qualified Immunity must be abolished.

Q. What policies and actions will you promote to pursue social and racial justice in our country? These principles will help secure social and racial justice.

Steve Perkins
Party: Libertarian

Current Job Position: Educator
Education: B.S. in Technology Education from BGSU
Training & Experience: Twenty plus years as an educator. I have conducted classes in over 45 states.

Q. Given our experiences with Covid-19, what precautions would you put in place to allow safe, secure elections whereby voters are not choosing between their health and their right to vote, especially in November? Include how you would fund any necessary precautions and changes.

Both major parties want to exploit Covid for political gain. Safety is not the concern of either. Libertarians were repeatedly denied injunctive relief in court to keep us from having to engage the public to collect hundreds of thousands of signatures during a pandemic to be on the ballot. Outside of social distancing at polling locations, this is the LAST year we should tamper with the process. We far more need to ensure its validity.

Q. What policies and actions will you promote to pursue social and racial justice in our country? Police need to be accountable to the same laws they enforce, not be above them. Qualified Immunity must be abolished.

Bob Cupp
Party: Republican

Current Job Position: State Representative for Allen County (District 4).
Education: Ohio Northern University – B.A. in political science; J.D.(law degree); Columbus Grove local schools.

Q. What additional safeguards to Ohio's elections process should be implemented to prepare for possible crisis events that impair the right to vote? There must be some form of paper trails in all voting machines. Ohio election authorities are taking extra precautions this year for in-person voting, whether on election day or, starting Oct. 6 in advance of Election Day. These precautions include physical distancing polling places, extra sanitizing, and recruiting extra poll workers. In addition, Ohio permits voting by mail for over 3 weeks prior to Election Day, including some weekend days. All registered voters have been mailed absent ballot request forms by which to have a ballot mailed to them to vote in their own homes and then mail back. Fortunately, Ohio has bi-partisan local boards of elections, meaning that each political party has a check on the other in election procedures to ensure that the law is complied with and there is no “cheat -ing” in favor of either part. Not all states have this safeguard. A big concern is multiple lawsuits before the election attempting to have federal courts change election requirements and procedures at the last minute. It is very disruptive, but cannot be legislated against.

Q. What policies and actions will you promote to protect our water, air, and land? How do you plan to address climate change?

Clean water, air, and uncontaminated land are essential to a healthy community. Ohio’s newest water quality initiative, dubbed H2Ohio, will help keep reduce soil erosion, as well as the run-off of fertilizers and animal waste. It is a green plan and reminds us of Erie. It engages landowners and others to follow best practices, and it provides voluntary incentives to landowners to participate.

Jennifer Brunner
Party: Republican

Current Job Position: Judge, Ohio Tenth District Court of Appeals
Education: J.D. Capital University Law School, Order of the Curia; B.S. Sociology – Gerontology, Miami University, Cum Laude
Training & Experience: Court of Appeals Judge since 2014; 17 years private law practice, during period of 1987 through 2014 when not in elected public service (founded was initially home-based law firm, 1988 with 3 small children at home); USAID Rule of Law Expert for 4 engagements in Republic of Serbia on Judicial Reform and Government Accountability (anti-corruption) and 1 engagement in Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, all during period of 2012-2015; International Election Observer in Arab Republic of Egypt for 3 engagements in 2014-2015; Secretary of State of Ohio 2007-2011 (first female elected); Franklin County Common Pleas Court Judge 2000-2005; Ohio Secretary of State’s office deputy director and legal counsel 1983-1987; Ohio Senate legislative committee secretary 1978-1981; Member of 5 state/local boards: Ohio Student Loan Commission early 1990’S, Franklin County Board of Elections 1997; Ohio Cultural Facilities Commission 2011-2012; Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, Marriage & Family Therapist Board 2012-2014; Central Ohio Transit Authority

Responsibilities: The Supreme Court is the court of last resort in Ohio. The Supreme Court has appellate jurisdiction in cases involving questions arising under the Ohio or U.S. Constitution, cases originating in the courts of appeals, and cases in which there have been conflicting opinions on the same question from two or more courts of appeals. The Supreme Court hears all cases in which the death penalty has been imposed.

Term: 6 years
Salary: $148,700

Matt Huffman
Party: Republican

NO REPLY RECEIVED

Responsibilities: To represent the people of the district and the State of Ohio in dealing with matters not allocated to the federal government.

Term: 4 yrs.
*Base Salary: $60,584

Ken Poling
Party: Democrat

NO REPLY RECEIVED

Responsibilities: The Ohio Supreme Court has appellate jurisdiction in cases involving questions arising under the Ohio or U.S. Constitution, cases originating in the courts of appeals, and cases in which there have been conflicting opinions on the same question from two or more courts of appeals. The Ohio Supreme Court has appellate jurisdiction in cases involving questions arising under the Ohio or U.S. Constitution, cases originating in the courts of appeals, and cases in which there have been conflicting opinions on the same question from two or more courts of appeals. The Ohio Supreme Court hears all cases in which the death penalty has been imposed.

Term: 6 years
Salary: $148,700

1. List your judicial experience (court and years)

2. What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?

3. List your judicial experience (courts and years)

4. What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?

5. List your judicial experience (courts and years)

6. What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?

7. List your judicial experience (courts and years)

8. What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?
to practice before the United States Supreme Court. I have represented clients in administrative proceedings
before numerous state and local boards, served as a special prosecutor for... (Answer exceeded work count.)

3. Why are you running for this particular court seat?

I love the law, I love Ohio and I enjoy helping people. I am privileged, having traveled to every county in
this state when I served as Secretary of State, to have worked with Ohio’s 88 county boards of elections as we
all together served Ohioans. I chose to run for the Ohio Supreme Court for three reasons: First, I want to be
a part of a court that ensures that the first decision interpreting the state constitution’s new provisions for fair
districts for Congress and the Ohio General Assembly, when challenged — and they will be — is fair and
according to state constitutional requirements. As Secretary of State, my office sponsored a public contest
to draw districts to show we could end gerrymandering. We used a formula that served as a basis for devel-
oping the state constitution’s formulas for fair districts. We proved it could be done. Nothing is more basic
to the health of Ohio’s democracy than fair districts and I want to participate in any review of that process
occurring after the 2020 census. I want to use my... (Answer exceeded work count.)

Jennifer Brunner’s response continued from page 3

Judi French

Current Job Position: Justice, Ohio Supreme Court
Education: B.A. (Political Science); M.A. (History); J.D. (Law with honors), The Ohio State University
Training & Experience: Justice, Ohio Supreme Court (2013-present); Judge, Tenth District Court of Appeals (2004-2012); Chief Legal Counsel to the Ohio Governor (2002-2004); Assistant Attorney General/Chief Counsel to the Attorney General of Ohio (1997-2002); Chief Legal Counsel, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (1993-1997); Associate Counsel, Steelcase, Inc. (1993); Associate, Porter Wright Law Firm (1988-1993).

1. List your judicial experience (court and years)

– Justice, Ohio Supreme Court 2013 – present – Appointed January 2013; elected November 2014. – Serve
on seven-member court with statewide jurisdiction over all legal matters, including discretionary and non-
discretionary appeals, original actions, death penalty appeals, and disciplinary matters. – Serve as frequent
presenter before high school, college, law school, legal professional, and general public audiences on mat-
ters of access to justice, civic education, law, and campaign policy. – Appointed by United States Supreme
Court Chief Justice Roberts to serve on the Federal Appellate Rules Committee. Judge, Tenth District
Court of Appeals 2004 – 2012 – Appointed October 2004; elected November 2004; re-elected November 2010. – Serv
e on eight-member court with jurisdiction over civil, criminal, and administrative appeals; authored
800 opinions. – Served as administrative judge (2007 and 2008) and as presiding judge (2009)

2. What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?

For more than two decades, I have dedicated my career to public service. Before becoming a judge, I had
served as chief legal counsel to the governor, an assistant attorney general, and a state government lawyer.
Those years in public service are critical to my understanding of state laws, my adherence to constitutional
principles and my commitment to public service. I also have legal experience in the private sector, having worked in a law firm and a large manufacturing corpora-
tion. That private experience helps me understand the practical impact of our decisions and appreciate
the impact of our judicial rules and procedures. Finally, as the daughter of a schoolteacher, I appreciate my
Ohio roots and education, and I am committed to using my voice as a Justice to be a part of civic educa-
tion in Ohio. I speak frequently to students, educators, and civic organizations. Since taking office, I have
taveled to all 88 counties (I am on my fifth time around) and I have... (Answer exceeded word count.)

3. Why are you running for this particular court seat?

I first aspired to be a justice because it offers interesting, challenging, and meaningful work that serves the
public interest. I aspire to be re-elected to the office because I want to continue that work, both on and off the
bench. As a justice, I am able not only to bring attention to needs within the legal profession, the judiciary, and
the public as a whole, but also to advocate for change to meet those needs. In particular, during my next term,
I intend to continue the court’s work to improve our efficiency and that of all Ohio courts. I also intend to con-
tinue my work with the Ohio Access to Justice Foundation and local legal aid organizations to bring
more attention, resources, and innovation to the needs of undeserved Ohioans.

John P. O’Donnell

Current Job Position: Judge Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, General Division
Education: Cleveland State. Joseph High School, Miami (O.) University, Cleveland Marshall College of Law.
List your judicial experience (court and years)

I have been a judge for over 16 years. I have presided over hundreds of jury trials, both criminal and civil,
and scores of bench trials. I have handled death penalty cases. I was selected by the Chief Justice of The
Ohio Supreme Court to be one of only eight judges in Ohio to preside over a commercial docket dedicated
to the swift and just resolution of business disputes. I have presided over a criminal mental health docket
specializing in the issues arising in the adjudication and disposition of cases where a defendant has a seri-
ous mental illness with a psychotic feature. I have a reputation for political independence, a necessity for
any good judge.

(2) What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?

I was a civil trial attorney who was in court almost every working day for approximately 10 years.

(3) Why are you running for this particular court seat?

The Ohio Supreme Court decides issues affecting everyone on a wide variety of subjects: constitutional
law; education; collective bargaining; employer/employee rights; civil rights; utility rates; criminal law;
commerce; legislative districts and others. I want to bring to these issues an independent perspective,
informed by practical experience and the law, to decide these cases for the common good of all Ohioans.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Responsibilities: The 19 member board is responsible for overseeing the Ohio Department of Education
and creates policy and makes recommendations for K-12 education in Ohio.
Term: 4 years
No Salary
Diana M. Fessler
NO REPLY RECEIVED

Given our experience with Covid-19, what role can the state board play in helping schools protect the
health and well-being of citizens while providing for the education of our children?

Allen County

Responsibilities: To exercise financial control of County expenditures; to authorize public works;
to purchase land and buildings; to let contracts; to plan and administer welfare. The Board of County
Commissioners also appoints other officials to operate various departments.
Term: 4 yrs
Salary: $72,346

Cory Noonan - NO REPLY RECEIVED
Party: Republican
Responsibilities: To exercise financial control of County expenditures; to authorize public works; to purchase land and buildings; to let contracts; to plan and administer welfare. The Board of County Commissioners also appoints other officials to operate various departments.

Term: 4 yrs
Salary: $72,346.

Dan Beck
Party: Independent

Current Job Position: Campaigning for Allen County Commissioner
Education: Attended Ohio State University. Many Management and Leadership Schools. FBI National Academy, National Sheriffs Institute.
Training & Experience: U.S. Navy, 4 years, 6 Deployments, Vietnam combat veteran. Private Practice/Managing Partner in a firm. 7 years. Municipal law enforcement, 17 years. Elected Sheriff of Allen County, 16 years.

1. As in most municipalities, the need for infrastructure repair and replacement outweighs the resources available. What do you see as the most pressing infrastructure needs in Allen County, and how will you prioritize resources to replace or repair them?
2. The Coronavirus has had an economic impact upon our country, city and county. If there is a need to increase general fund income revenue, what resources (other than sales tax) should be pursued?
3. What qualifies you to fulfill the position of Allen County Commissioner?

Norman B. Capps
Party: Democrat

Current Job Position: Perry Township Trustee 14 years Operate family farm
Education: Graduated Lima Senior High 1966 Attended OSU Lima

1. As in most municipalities, the need for infrastructure repair and replacement outweighs the resources available. What do you see as the most pressing infrastructure needs in Allen County, and how will you prioritize resources to replace or repair them? Roads and bridges are the most pressing issues facing Allen County. Recent increases in gas and license plate fees will help but will not be enough to meet needs. Building maintenance issues are becoming a major concern. The next area for concern is expanding utilities to urbanized areas of the County to accommodate expansion of commercial, industrial, and residential areas.
2. The Coronavirus has had an economic impact upon our county, city and county. If there is a need to increase general fund income revenue, what resources (other than sales tax) should be pursued? The first step to increase County revenues would be pursuit of restoring Local Government Funds that were cut by the State several years ago. Next we simply have to become more efficient in our day to day operations. Economic development is being promoted and as new commercial enterprises are completed they will add needed tax dollars to the general fund.
3. What qualifies you to fulfill the position of Allen County Commissioner?

Tuitt Construction Retired LU776 Pipefitters and Plumbers Journeyman pipe fitter/ journeyman. Have a degree in Business Management. Hired by the Wood County Prosecutor's Office in 1995 and served 27 years as Allen County’s representative to Ohio EPA, defending our community in environmental matters. My business management skills and work ethic were born on our family farm operation and I've spent a lifetime involved in Allen County’s agricultural, commercial, and industrial sectors. I have spent eight years as a highly engaged board member on the Lima Allen County Chamber of Commerce – which assists nearly 900 local businesses. I was appointed by the Allen County Commissioners to serve on the Local Emergency Planning Committee in 2012 and remain a member until today. I am currently the President of Perry Athletic Boosters and have served on numerous boards and committees.

1. As in most municipalities, the need for infrastructure repair and replacement outweighs the resources available. What do you see as the most pressing infrastructure needs in Allen County, and how will you prioritize resources to replace or repair them? Roads and bridges are the most pressing issues facing Allen County. Recent increases in gas and license plate fees will help but may not be enough to meet needs. Building maintenance issues are becoming a major concern. The next area for concern is expanding utilities to urbanized areas of the County to accommodate expansion of commercial, industrial, and residential areas.
2. The Coronavirus has had an economic impact upon our country, city and county. If there is a need to increase general fund income revenue, what resources (other than sales tax) should be pursued? The first step to increase County revenues would be pursuit of restoring Local Government Funds that were cut by the State several years ago. Next we simply have to become more efficient in our day to day operations. Economic development is being promoted and as new commercial enterprises are completed they will add needed tax dollars to the general fund.
3. What qualifies you to fulfill the position of Allen County Commissioner?
as opportunities for advancement and success.

While the actual number of inmates is unpredictable we plan for approximately 240-270 inmates per day to meet the daily needs met for inmates in the jail. Those costs depend 100% on the number of inmates housed. It's difficult to label one item as the greatest challenge for The Allen County Sheriff's Office as many things are derived has given me an advantage to knowing the process. Also working in the Treasurer’s Office as Chief Deputy of Finance, I obtained the knowledge of balancing the daily receipts of real estate taxes as well as mobile home and our in house escrow program. Someone coming in fresh, would not have the background knowledge of daily balancing and processes; along with monthly, biannually and annual processes.

What is the greatest challenge to the office of the Allen County Sheriff?

How can the services provided by the Allen County Clerk of Court’s Office be maintained or improved?

Today, the Recorder’s Office is extremely user-friendly. You may visit the actual office or visit the website. Our office is located in downtown Lima. We offer a public website where you can search a name or a specific legal description to locate your real estate documents. Documents may be displayed, printed or e-mailed free of charge. We record in real-time. Our daily work is current and up-to-date. However, if I could improve the services to make the Recorder’s Office more customer-friendly, I would expand the office hours. I would modify the office hours to be more favorable to the customers’ schedules.

How can the services provided by the Allen County Recorder’s office be maintained or improved?

As your County Engineer, my job is to administer all aspects of design, construction, repair and maintenance of our local roads and bridges here in Allen County, which includes 352 miles of roads and 377 bridges. With help from my staff, our goal is to provide the safest and most efficient roadway system possible. Unfortunately, maintaining this system has become extremely difficult due to inadequate funding over the last fifteen (15) years. This lack of funding has caused significant deterioration to our infrastructure. While our bridges are in good to fair condition overall, our roadways need attention. Therefore, I plan to dedicate more revenue to upgrading our roadways. To help prioritize our needs, I implemented a pavement management system two (2) years ago. This database tracks the age and condition of each section of roadway and enables us to manage the maintenance of our county roads on both a micro and macro level, therefore helping us to save money.

What do you see as the most pressing needs for roads and bridges (commonly referred to as infrastructure) in Allen County and how will you prioritize resources to repair or replace them?

How can the services provided by the Allen County Clerk of Court’s Office be maintained or improved? The technological advancements we have made over the past decade have allowed us to become more efficient and effective in the services we provide to the citizens of Allen County. As the custodian of records for all three divisions of the Common Pleas Court (Civil, Criminal and Domestic Relations), as well as Court of Appeals, it is imperative that the filing, indexing and preservation of all court pleadings and orders of the court continue to be our highest priority. We are constantly improving upon efficiencies by digitizing court record archives and moving to electronic filing. In addition to the technological advancements, we have made continuing education a priority for our staff. The laws governing our Legal and Title Departments are ever changing and we work diligently to stay abreast of new legislation that affects our office. All of this is done in effort to remain efficient, effective and courteous public servants.

How can the services provided by the Allen County Recorder’s office be maintained or improved?

What do you see as the most pressing needs for roads and bridges (commonly referred to as infrastructure) in Allen County and how will you prioritize resources to repair or replace them?
Responsibilities:
To rule on cases involving disposition of wills, the administration of estates, and guardianships, adoptions, questions of mental or physical disability. They are also responsible for issuing marriage licenses. They also preside over Juvenile Court and rule in cases involving persons under 18 years of age. The Juvenile Court has authority in cases of delinquency, unruliness, juvenile traffic offenses, abuse, neglect, and dependency. The Juvenile Court may be part of the Court of Domestic Relations or the Probate Court.

Term: 6 yrs.
Salary: $140,550

Todd E. Kohlrieser
Party: Republican

Current Job Position: Juvenile Court Chief Magistrate
Education: J.D. from Ohio Northern University
Training & Experience: Licensed Attorney since 2002 Member of the Allen County Bar Association; Member of the Ohio State Bar Association; Member of the Lima Noon Optimist Club

1. List your judicial experience (courts and years).
I graduated from Ohio Northern University in 2002, earning my Juris Doctorate degree. I worked as a general private practice attorney at the Law Offices of Thomas Kuhn and Randy Reeves, focusing on credit disputes, civil litigation, and criminal law. In 2003, I became an Assistant City Prosecutor for the City of Lima, working at the Lima Municipal Court for five years. I was appointed as a Magistrate of the Allen County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division in 2008. Since January 1, 2015, I have served as the Chief Magistrate of the Allen County Juvenile Court. I have served the citizens of Allen County, Ohio for the past seventeen years, and I look forward to continuing to serve our community.

2. What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?
I am a parent of two young children. The daily challenges of raising children, being fair, but stern, is something I take with me every day. I also have been a volunteer coach for the youth of our community. I love children and interacting with them. I strive to positively impact the lives of our citizens every day, and that includes the youth of our community. I am also aware of the challenges of a single-parent family, as I am a child of divorced parents myself. I understand the turmoil and struggles that children experience and the sacrifices that parents make on a daily basis. I have used those experiences and that knowledge as a foundation for fairness and justice in all of my decisions.

3. Why are you running for this particular court seat?
I have had the honor and privilege of serving this great community for the past seventeen years; first, as an Assistant City Prosecutor; and, for the past twelve years, as a Magistrate of Juvenile Court. Over those twelve years, I have been able to successfully handle every type of case at Juvenile Court. I have listened to the parties and the attorneys, taken evidence, conducted various hearings, and issued decisions and orders. I have accomplished all of this by listening to our citizens, being fair and impartial, and upholding the law. I have a real passion for children and in protecting our community. I grew up in the Greater Lima, Allen County Region, and I desire for this community to continue to grow and prosper; for our own children and for generations to come. I have the knowledge, commitment, and work ethic to ensure that Probate and Juvenile court will continue to serve our citizens in the future. My goals as the next Probate and Juvenile Court Judge are to work to make the courts user friendly, both when individuals are in the building, as well as through the use of our website. (Answer exceeded word count.)

LOCAL OPTIONS

SPECIAL ELECTION BY PETITION - Local Option Election for Particular Business Location - Elida B

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.
Shall the sale of wine and mixed beverages be permitted for sale on Sunday between the hours of ten a.m. and midnight by Casey’s Marketing Co, doing business as, Casey’s General Store#3779, an applicant for a D-6 liquor permit, who is engaged in the business of operating family oriented, full-service convenience stores a4411 Elida Rd., Elida, Ohio 45807 in this precinct?

LOCAL ISSUES

Amanda Township Zoning Referendum

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.
Shall an amendment to the Amanda Township Zoning Resolution requested by Joshua Eugene Vandemark to rezone 1.63 acres, located in the northwest corner of Allen County Tax Parcel#45-1000-03-19-000 (225 feet east and west by 315 feet north and south), from Agricultural District to B-1 Local Business District for the purpose of using this portion of this property as a wedding and events venue, to be known as The Vandemark Estate and Events Venue, be approved?

Bath Township, Zoning

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.
A proposed amendment to the Bath Township Zoning Resolution & Zoning Map to create a Planned State Route 309 Corridor Overlay District (PCOD). The subject corridor properties are bordered on the south at State Route 309/from Saratoga Avenue at the west to a point at the east located 2 parcels west of Devonshire Drive; and extending to the north between 1and 6 parcels. The Bath Township Zoning Resolution #107 creates a zone along State Route 309 in Bath Township on the southern edge of the Lost Creek subdivision, normally at a depth of about 2 to 3 lots. The resolution does not change the existing zoning. A property owner in the PCOD may request that the regulations on business type, business activity/architectural, landscaping, and other restrictions within the zone apply to their specific property by submitting a development plan to the Bath Township Trustees. If the Trustees find by majority vote that the owner’s development plan complies with all the restrictions created by the PCOD, then the zoning would change for that specific property to the extent necessary to allow for the implementation of that specific planned project. Shall the zoning amendment as adopted by the Board of Trustees of Bath Township be approved?

Monroe Township

Proposed Tax Levy (RENEWAL)

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.
A renewal of a tax for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, or sites therefore, or sources of water supply and materials therefore, or the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire alarm telegraph, or the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighters or firefighting companies to operate the same, including the payment of the firefighter employers’ contribution required under section 742.34 of the Revised Code, or the purchase of ambulance equipment, or the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company at a rate not exceeding 4.9 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to $0.49 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for five years, commencing in 2021, first due in calendar year 2022.

Perry Local Schools District

Proposed Tax Levy (RENEWAL)

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.
A renewal of a tax for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, or sites therefore, or sources of water supply and materials therefore, or the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire alarm telegraph, or the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighters or firefighting companies to operate the same, including the payment of the firefighter employers’ contribution required under section 145.18 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, or the purchase of ambulance equipment, or the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company at a rate not exceeding 4.4 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to $0.44 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for five years, commencing in 2021, first due in calendar year 2022.

Perry Township

Tax Levy (RENEWAL)

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.
A renewal of a tax for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, or sites therefore, or sources of water supply and materials therefore, or the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire alarm telegraph, or the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighters or firefighting companies to operate the same, including the payment of the firefighter employers’ contribution required under section 742.34 of the Revised Code, or the purchase of ambulance equipment, or the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company at a rate not exceeding 4.9 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to $0.49 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for five years, commencing in 2021, first due in calendar year 2022.

Village of Cairo

Proposed Levy (RENEWAL)

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.
A renewal of a tax for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, or sites therefore, or sources of water supply and materials therefore, or the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire alarm telegraph, or the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighters or firefighting companies to operate the same, including the payment of the firefighter employers’ contribution required under section 145.18 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, or the purchase of ambulance equipment, or the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company at a rate not exceeding 4.4 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to $0.44 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for five years, commencing in 2021, first due in calendar year 2022.

Spencerville Local School District

Proposed Tax Levy (RENEWAL)

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.
A renewal of a tax for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, or sites therefore, or sources of water supply and materials therefore, or the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire alarm telegraph, or the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighters or firefighting companies to operate the same, including the payment of the firefighter employers’ contribution required under section 742.34 of the Revised Code, or the purchase of ambulance equipment, or the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company at a rate not exceeding 4.9 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to $0.49 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for five years, commencing in 2021, first due in calendar year 2022.

Village of Lafayette

Proposed Tax Levy (RENEWAL)

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.
A renewal of a tax for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, or sites therefore, or sources of water supply and materials therefore, or the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire alarm telegraph, or the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighters or firefighting companies to operate the same, including the payment of the firefighter employers’ contribution required under section 145.18 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, or the purchase of ambulance equipment, or the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company at a rate not exceeding 4.4 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to $0.44 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for five years, commencing in 2021, first due in calendar year 2022.

Allen County--Senior Citizens Services Levy

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.
A renewal of a tax for the purpose of providing and maintaining Senior Citizens Services or facilities for the elderly, specifically through the Allen County Council on Aging, Inc.; Delphos Senior Citizens, Inc.; Senior Citizens Association, Inc of Bluffton, Ohio; and Senior Citizens Services, Inc. at a rate of 1 mill for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to $0.14 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for five years, commencing in 2021, first due in calendar year 2022.

Amanda Township Zoning Referendum

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.
A renewal of a tax for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, or sites therefore, or sources of water supply and materials therefore, or the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire alarm telegraph, or the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighters or firefighting companies to operate the same, including the payment of the firefighter employers’ contribution required under section 742.34 of the Revised Code, or the purchase of ambulance equipment, or the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company at a rate not exceeding 4.4 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to $0.44 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for five years, commencing in 2021, first due in calendar year 2022.
The League of Women Voters of the Lima Area gratefully acknowledges the following individuals and organizations whose generous contributions make it possible for us to provide copies of this Voter Guide and other LWV educational efforts.

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To view additional information on judicial candidates, you may go to judicialvotescount.org at blogs.uakron.edu. You may go to VOTE411.org to find information on local issues and candidates who responded after our publication date.

The League of Women Voters was established in 1920 to provide nonpartisan voter information. Any citizen, male or female, can become a member of the League. To learn more about membership visit our website at www.lwvlima.org.

In order to continue providing this non-partisan Voter Guide to the area, the League of Women Voters of the Lima Area is seeking individual and corporate underwriting for future Voter Guides.

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