



VOTER'S GUIDE

*Election Day:
Tuesday
November 4,
2008*

League of Women Voters Statement

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Athens County Commissioner

Name	James L. Pancake	Larry Payne
Party	Democrat	Republican
Education	Graduate of Nelsonville York High	BS Education, Ohio State University
Occupation	Retired	Membership Service Coordinator Athens Area Chamber of Commerce
Training and Experience	I have served as a township trustee in York Township for 10 years. I served in the Marines for three years of which one year I was stationed in Vietnam. I have written grants and served on various Boards including the MRDD Board. I have been a volunteer firefighter for over 10 years. I have coached little league baseball and baseball and I have served as on the Executive Board of IBEW local 1466. I am retired from American Electric Power where I had 35 years of service and at the time of retirement I was a substation technician.	Twice elected Mayor of Albany, 14 years economic development experience, currently serving 4th term on the Athens County Port Authority-the economic development entity of the County Commissioners, ATCO - Chairman Board of Directors, 20 plus years on the Athens County Cooperative Extension Advisory Board, 10 years President Athens Farmers Market, Co-Chair Athens County Business Education Partnership, 12 years with the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce, 19 years Columbia Gas of Ohio.
1. What is your position on the Harmony Road "viewshed" controversy? (Hillside across from WalMart)	I do not agree with the way this landowner managed this property. It has caused a once scenic view to be destroyed and in over a year no development has occurred on it. Since tourism is a major industry in Southeastern Ohio it is important that all steps be taken to ensure that landowners understand the importance of maintaining certain properties to enhance our natural beauty. The County Commissioners should investigate tax incentives for landowners who maintain the natural beauty of land located in our view sheds out in the county.	There are two parts to this issue. One, once the land was sold by the county to local developers it became private property. As long as a property owner meets any applicable county or state rules they are free to do whatever they want to with their property. This is a basic America right. The second part is what could have been done before the land was sold. The county receives millions of dollars in tourism each year. A partnership to create a county/city nature area might have been a better solution to this issue.
2. What cuts would you make to balance the county budget given that funding will likely decrease?	Each County Official and department head must identify ways to cut their budgets to assist in the overall balancing of the budget. I will sit down with each to see what problems will be created by budget cuts and how those might be minimized. We cannot however, ignore that some areas may need increases because of underfunding in the past or the changing times. It will take a tremendous amount of review to make these decisions.	If revenues increase there will be no need to make budget cuts. If budget cuts would be needed I would weigh the expert advice of the County Budget Commission before making any decisions. If budget cuts are needed, hard decisions would have to be made and, I would act accordingly.

Athens County Coroner

Name	Todd R. Fredricks, DO	Harold C. Thompson III, D.O.
Party	Republican	Democratic
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BS Biology/Psychology California State University at Chico DO Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine Residency Family Medicine Selby General Hospital, Marietta, OH Graduate of all Army Officer Professional Education through Command and General Staff College 	D.O.
Occupation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assistant Professor of Family Medicine, OUCOM Family Practitioner, UMA, Parks Hall, Athens, OH Colonel, US Army, BTN Flight Surgeon, 772d TRP CMD AVN, West Virginia Army National Guard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency Medicine/Urgent Care Physician Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine; Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine
Training and Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 years of Emergency Medicine Experience 7 years of Family Medicine Experience 2 Combat Tours of Iraq 1 Peacekeeping Tour of Kosovo 1 Humanitarian Deployment to Panama Numerous peacetime deployments for State Emergency Duty in Ohio and West Virginia and training with first responders Senior Medical Advisor to US Army Air Ambulance Company 	<p>Harold "Clay" Thompson III, D.O. has practiced medicine in Athens County Ohio for over 30 years. He began his full time practice of Emergency Medicine at Mt. St. Mary Hospital (now, Doctor's Hospital of Nelsonville) Emergency Dept. in November 1977. He also had a family medicine practice in Nelsonville during that time.</p> <p>In 1979, Dr. Thompson became a full time faculty member in the Dept of Family Medicine, Section of Emergency Medicine, at the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine in Athens. At that time, he closed his family practice and, as part of his academic and clinical duties, began practicing Emergency Medicine at O'Bleness Memorial Hospital ED in Athens. In 2000, he discontinued his Emergency Medicine practice and opened ExpressCare, an urgent care clinic in Parks Hall located on the Ohio University campus. He continues as a full time faculty member and has directed multiple grants helping to greatly support and diversify the student body and faculty. He has been granted several awards for teaching and mentorship to medical students and undergraduates.</p> <p>Dr. Thompson is also the 9-year host of Family Health, a syndicated radio show of family health topics to nearly 300 stations nationally and internationally with a daily listenership of approximately 14 million.</p> <p>Other community service includes;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical Director, Health Pro Ambulance, June 1999- 2008 Medical Director, Athens County Jail, Athens, Ohio 1988-1994; 1996-1998 Board of Directors and Consultant Physician for medical policy for Buckeye Home Health Service (A non-profit organization) 1979-1982 Dr. Thompson is also a member of the American Osteopathic Medical Association, Ohio Osteopathic Association, and National Osteopathic Medical Association.
1. What can the Coroner do to support the City-County Health Department and the Emergency Management Agency in the area of medical security?	The Coroner is a physician just like our County Health Commissioner. The Coroner can work with and advise both the Health Department and Emergency Management Agency on ways to reduce or prevent injuries and fatalities. In the event of a county emergency, the Coroner can serve as a triage officer and advise, assist with and help direct medical responses to the emergency situation. I have experience in inter-agency response and can work effectively with other agencies in the event of a county emergency.	As with every other county office, the safety of our community and families in times of a disaster is our first concern. One of my first acts would be to review our county's emergency preparedness plan to make sure that my office and the county are as prepared as possible. I will also be concerned, as I always have been, with improving the public health of our community by anticipating problems in order to minimize them.
2. How do you view the relationship between the Coroner and local law enforcement agencies?	For two reasons the relationship between the Coroner's Office and local law enforcement agencies is very close. The first is that a strong investigative focus on the part of the Coroner greatly assists local law enforcement and the County Prosecutor in addressing crime. The second aspect of this relationship is one of adviser to both law	The coroner and local law enforcement agencies must work in a collaborative environment that meets the public good to investigate the cause and manner of death occurring under unusual circumstances. This is because meticulous collection of information between agencies involving such deaths is very necessary. Each agency is responsible for collecting information that must be

Name	Todd R. Fredricks, DO	Harold C. Thompson III, D.O.
	enforcement and first responders on matters of injury and death. I view the job as one that can augment education efforts in the community on the part of our dedicated first responders.	shared between them to arrive at accurate causes of death. This collaboration has always existed and I will continue to work as coroner with the local law enforcement agencies as I have as an Emergency physician.

Athens County Sheriff

Name	Stephen D. Kane	Patrick Kelly
Party	Republican	Democrat
Education	Law Enforcement Degree, Ohio University, numerous law enforcement training classes throughout my career.	1970 Graduate of Nelsonville–York High School and Tri-County Joint Vocational High School. Pat graduated from Hocking College with an Associates degree in Police Science in 1996. Pat is presently completing his B.S.S. degree at Ohio University in Behavioral Studies.
Occupation	Retired Special Agent Supervisor, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation, Ohio Attorney General's Office.	Pat Kelly is a former Lieutenant with the Athens County Sheriff Office and owner of Kelly Investigative Services. Pat serves as an Adjunct Instructor at Hocking College and Washington State Community College and contracts independently with the Institute for Human Services where he has written and teaches curriculum for topics including, Child Exploitation, Deviant Behaviors, Criminal Gangs and Methamphetamine, Heroin and Hard Drugs.
Training and Experience	I worked in criminal investigations throughout the State of Ohio in narcotics, crime scene and corrupt public officials cases. I was a district Supervisor with over 18 years of management experience. Over 30 years of Law Enforcement experience and training.	Veteran, United States Marine Corps, Military Police Officer. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20+ years law enforcement. As a lieutenant with the Athens County Sheriff's Office Pat Kelly served in a variety of supervisory capacities including supervising the day-to-day operations of the Sheriff's Office. Pat supervised the investigations divisions and supervised the day-to-day management of the patrol division while organizing and implementing training for the sheriff's office and other area law enforcement agencies. • International Police Trainer, United States Department of Justice and Department of Defense, Baghdad, Iraq, 2005. • Pat's staff developed the curriculum for Iraq's new three year "Police Sciences College."
1. How do you plan to cope with increased gasoline costs and what alternatives do you see to cruiser patrol?	I would like to continue to promote the videoconference arraignments and hearings at the Regional Jail in Nelsonville with the Athens Co. Municipal Court. This would save the county money on transportation costs and the deputies cost in work time. I will also work with the Athens Co. Engineer's office to obtain bulk fuel tanks and buy fuel at bulk government rates. The cruisers would then be filled and maintained at the Athens Co. Highway Garage. I also believe we should follow the lead of other successful counties throughout the United States and develop substations in rural parts of the county (i.e., Coolville, Albany and Nelsonville). This will reduce the response time and fuel costs, plus it would provide the deputy a more localized place to handle administrative responsibilities.	As your sheriff, we will explore ways to reduce fuel consumption without jeopardizing your service and safety. The same principles apply to county vehicles as with personal vehicles. They include proper maintenance, reducing speed and proper planning. We will be looking at the fuel efficiency of the cars in the fleet, as well as their impact on the environment and invest in hybrid vehicles when possible. We will also implement sector patrolling which will reduce mileage driven. I believe in building safe and healthy communities, now and into the future. Athens counties economic growth relies on a safe environment for their citizens.
2. What are you going to do as a public official to create a climate in which victims of domestic and sexual violence feel safe and comfortable to come forward?	The Athens Co. Sheriff's Office needs to bring back a Victim Advocate position to assist victims and families of assaults and criminal acts. As Sheriff, I plan to work with the Athens Co. Prosecutor's Office to oversee cases involving acts of violence from the beginning to their conclusion. I believe it is important to provide constant support for the victim during this stressful process. Furthermore, the State of Ohio Attorney General's Office has training and grant monies available for such programs. As Sheriff, I will seek these grants to implement this program.	The community's safety priorities and needs have always been my first and highest priority. As your sheriff, one of my primary focuses will be to create a atmosphere of privacy in a non-threatening environment for the victim of domestic violence or sexual assault to speak with a trained professional and to work with "My Sisters Place", our victims advocate and other appropriate agencies to provide services and support to the victims of assaults. Your sheriff's office will be staffed with professionals trained to quickly and competently investigate these offenses and create an atmosphere of safety for the victim.

State Representative – 92nd Ohio House District

Name	Debbie Phillips	Jill Thompson
Party	Democrat	Republican
Education	B.S.S. from Ohio University	bachelor's degree, Ohio University's School of Business - 1992
Occupation	Founder and Executive Director of the Ohio Fair Schools Campaign.	Athens County Auditor
Training and Experience	Debbie Phillips is a Democratic City Council Member in Athens, representing the 4th Ward. She is the Chair of the Planning and Development Committee, which oversees proposed developments, subdivisions, and implementation of the Comprehensive Plan in Athens. Phillips is the Executive Director of the Ohio Fair Schools Campaign, which organizes and advocates for high quality education opportunities for all Ohio children. Phillips serves on the Athens Regional Planning Commission and the General Policy Council of the Buckeye Hills Regional Development District. She is a member of the Near Eastside Neighborhood Association and the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce.	I have twice been elected by the Southeast District of the County Auditor's Association of Ohio to serve as Southeast District President, I am a graduate of the Jo Ann Davidson Leadership Institute. I am a member of the Farm Bureau, as well as the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce, and have served as past President of The Plains PTO. I have also served as the Treasurer of the Board of the United Seniors of Athens County.
1. What is your position on cuts in Medicaid funding? Universal health care?	Medicaid provides critical healthcare services to many Ohio families and children. In our district about half of our children (47%) are enrolled in Medicaid. Each Medicaid dollar spent generates \$3.18 in economic activity. I oppose cuts because: 1) Ohioans must have access to quality healthcare (which helps reduce costly visits to emergency rooms) 2) Medicaid spurs our economy by creating jobs/local payroll tax revenue Universal healthcare - Leadership at the federal level must take the first step to establish a standard and then states can follow. In the interim, Medicaid buy-in, PASSPORT waivers, and the expanded SCHIP increase coverage for citizens.	While I believe we need to be fiscally responsible and good stewards of taxpayers money, it is equally important that we protect Ohio's most vulnerable citizens. As a County Auditor, I have been a strong advocate for protecting taxpayer dollars and I believe we need to apply those same principles and practices to the state budget and focus on ridding the medicaid system of fraud, waste and abuse. We must protect taxpayer dollars in order to preserve critical services for Ohio's poor and needy. I am also committed to working towards ensuring health care by increasing the affordability of and access to health care.
2. Do you favor or oppose increased funding for elementary and secondary education?	I favor increasing the state level of funding for K-12 public education. With an eye toward increasing Ohio's competitiveness, a school funding solution will require careful planning to ensure funds are targeted toward the areas of greatest need while remaining fiscally responsible with the limited dollars available. School levies divide communities and the over-reliance on local property taxes is unfair to our children and taxpayers (particularly seniors on fixed incomes). As State Representative I would work to fix the system at the state level to ensure every child has access to quality education while protecting our local taxpayers.	Support. Every child deserves a quality education, regardless of where they live. We must work to increase state funding for local schools, especially here in southeastern Ohio, and reduce the reliance on local property taxes here in our area.

State Senate - 20th District

Name	Timothy J. Kettler	Rick Shriver	Jimmy Stewart
Party	Green	Democrat	Republican
Education	Brunswick, Ohio High School Graduate; attended Kent State Univ.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B.S., Radio-TV, Ohio University, 1977 • Masters, Telecommunications, Ohio University, 1983 	B.B.A. in Economics, Marshall University; M.B.A., Xavier University; Attended Ohio University for additional study in accounting
Occupation	Self-Employed, Wastewater Systems Maintenance, Repair and Operation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morgan County Commissioner (2005 – present) • Associate Professor, Ohio University-Zanesville (1992 – present) 	Full-time legislator
Training and Experience	22 years experience in the field.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County Commission in Morgan County for over 3 years • College Professor for 25 years at public and private institutions • President of the Morgan County Chamber of Commerce • Past president of the Morgan Drug and Alcohol Council • Past president of the Malta-McConnelsville Jaycees 	Caterpillar Equipment salesman for Walker Machinery; Athens City Councilman (1998); Athens City Auditor (1998-2002) and State Representative for the 92nd House District, representing the residents of Meigs, Athens, Morgan and portions of Washington County (2003-2008)

Name	Timothy J. Kettler	Rick Shriver	Jimmy Stewart
1. What is your position on cuts in Medicaid funding? Universal health care?	Medicaid has proven to be a cost efficient and effective system, delivering healthcare services to citizens and providing care without prejudice at the lowest administrative cost. I vigorously oppose cutting funds for the Medicaid program. I am a state council member of SPANOhio and support passage of the Health Care for All Ohioans Act to establish non-profit universal healthcare in Ohio. The Act, HB186 and SB168 extends healthcare coverage to every Ohio resident and worker without exemption, simplifies collection of funds and disbursement of payments and sets progressive guaranteed rates to businesses and employers in a publicly funded system.	With so many residents of Ohio already without access to health services, the state must maintain or increase funding for Medicaid. Health care should be a right, not a privilege, for the working families and seniors of Southeastern Ohio, and I believe that state programs that provide health care to the residents of this area must be strengthened. The burden of providing health care cannot be shifted to the backs of the region's small businesses, and state support is the clearest way to close gaps in coverage.	Before cuts are considered, we must do more to eliminate waste in Medicaid so that limited dollars can be focused on direct care. In fact, I sponsored legislation to <i>increase</i> the number of children covered under the State Children's Health Insurance Program (ultimately incorporated in the state budget). While I support more and better healthcare services for low-income Ohioans who don't otherwise have access to it, I'm not sure that mandating government-run healthcare for everyone is the best plan. However I have requested additional hearings on pending Single-Payer legislation, as I believe this idea certainly deserves a much more thorough investigation of its possible merits. In the meantime we must focus on making healthcare more affordable for businesses to cover their employees and for families to purchase plans that best fit their needs.
2. Do you favor or oppose increased funding for elementary and secondary education?	I support increased state funding while setting local property tax ceilings. The primary concern of any funding discussion must be that it is first constitutional so that it guarantees an equal education for every Ohio student. This will be best accomplished in a readjusted local/state partnership. Any successful funding plan will not be cheap, nor should it be. We must recognize education funding as a top priority and act now.	There are few issues more pressing than the need to boost state funding to public schools in Southeastern Ohio. While my opponent did nothing to address the school funding crisis in the House, public schools struggled to meet the demands of their budgets, and school buildings continued to crumble without new infrastructure investments. As a Member of the Senate, I will fight for more funding for Ohio's public schools so that the residents of Southeastern Ohio will no longer have to choose between higher taxes and schools that can prepare students for the challenges of a 21 st century economy.	I favor more funding for education and am proud that my record of support for our schools has earned me the endorsement of the Ohio Education Association. As a legislator, I have worked on and influenced state budgets. I firmly believe that the smartest investments we make as a state are in areas, like education, that lift and support families, and will actually save our society money in the long run. However, money isn't the only answer for ensuring our kids get a good education – it takes parents, teachers and the entire community to continually challenge our kids to succeed.

U.S. Congress - 6th District

Name	Dennis Spisak	Richard "Dick" Stobbs	Charlie Wilson
Party	Green Party of Ohio	Republican	Democrat
Education	B.S.C. from Ohio University 1981, M.A. from The Ohio State University 1989	Master Science Administration, Central Michigan University Bachelor Business Administration, Ohio University Associate Law Enforcement, Jefferson Community College FBI special training and Ohio Peace Officer Instructors certification (Lifetime) Numerous law enforcement, government and administrative training courses	Ohio University, Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science
Occupation	Educator	Retired Law Enforcement, Deputy Recorder	US Congressman
Qualifications for Office	Qualifications for Office:=2 03 years Board of Education Member- Struthers City Schools 23 years experience as a teacher and principal.	I have a lifetime of public service in various forms: volunteer firefighter and emergency squad, law enforcement including Sheriff of Belmont County and the United States Department of Justice, civic and community activities. I served in the United States Army, 11 th Armored Cavalry Regiment (Blackhorse) in Vietnam, receiving an Honorable Discharge, the Bronze Star and several other awards and decorations. I believe my record of service and honesty, along with my desire to "change business as usual in Washington," makes me the best suited to represent the 6 th Congressional District.	Political Experience: Representative, United States House of Representatives 2006-present Senator, Ohio State Senate, 2004-2006 Representative, Ohio State House of Representatives, 1996-2004 (Minority Whip – 1998-2000, Asst Minority Leader, 2000-2002) Professional Experience: President, Wilson Funeral and Furniture Company Incorporated, 1966-2006 Welder, Painter, and Assembly Line Worker 1961-1965
1. What should the federal government do, if anything, to ensure that every American has health coverage?	I believe we should have a single-payer universal health care system for all Americans with no co-payments, no deductibles, no premiums, and no one excluded from coverage. Since everyone will have health care coverage, people can choose and see their own doctors for routine care and encourages doctors to practice medicine of the highest quality. I believe health care should be secure. Americans should no longer have to worry about losing coverage if they lose or change their job. Employers should no longer have to worry about the ever-increasing costs of health care.	The Federal Government should take a leadership role in ensuring health care is available to every American, but should not provide the coverage. For Americans without health insurance, many are eligible for some existing government assistance...we need to ensure they are aware and enroll in those. Cost control is vital; we need to crack down on fraud, waste and abuse. We must crack down on frivolous lawsuits, which add \$50 billion annually to our health care system. We need to place priority on "wellness care" to prevent many of the chronic diseases, which consume a significant portion of health care budgets.	Clearly free market healthcare has failed. Everybody needs good healthcare and yet 47 million Americans don't have it. The trick, as a conservative Democrat, is working with all parties to figure out how to pay for it. I look forward to working with the next administration on this vitally important issue.
2. What Steps do you propose to strengthen the U.S. Economy?	We need a buildup. We need to get back to making stuff, based on real engineering not just financial engineering. We need to launch an E.T., energy technology, revolution with the same urgency as this bailout. Otherwise, all we will have done is bought ourselves a respite, but not a future. The exciting thing about the energy technology revolution is that it spans the whole economy — from green-collar construction jobs to high-tech solar panel designing jobs. Our No. 1 resource is our people. Let's put people back to work — retrofitting and repowering America.	Step one to strengthen the economy is reducing government over-spending. We need to demand accountability in spending within government agencies. We need to have a Presidential line-item veto to eliminate pork. I propose initiating a Jobs Action Team , composed of members from Chambers of Commerce, Industry Agriculture, Labor Organizations, Clergy, local Government Officials and interested citizens. As U. S. Representative I would seek out CEOs and Corporate Executives to visit the District, meet with the Jobs Action Team, encouraging them to locate in the 6 th District. I believe that the U. S. Representative should work FULLTIME bringing jobs to the District.	Strengthening the U.S. economy needs to start at home. The best service that I can provide as a Member of Congress is to help foster an economic environment that will lead to business expansion and job creation. I'm proud I took a tough vote to help stabilize our economy. What we did will help free up credit and ensure small business viability. The Financial Rescue Package also included alternative energy tax incentives which will help create jobs. Alternative energy is a challenge and an opportunity. I pledge to continue doing whatever it takes to revive our local and national economies.

U.S. Congress - 18th District

Name	Zack Space
Party	Democratic
Education	BA – Kenyon, JD – Ohio State
Occupation	Congressman
Qualifications for Office	I've established a clear record of accomplishment for Ohio's working families, veterans, and agriculture producers. I convened a series of economic townhall meetings called RENEW Ohio-18 to develop a plan to create jobs, and I have been fighting to bring health insurance to the most vulnerable in our society – our children. I've also put forth a plan to break our dependence on foreign oil. From Day One, I've worked hard to listen to my constituents to hear what their concerns are. I believe the people of Ohio deserve representatives who are eager to listen to them – a representative on our side.
1. What should the federal government do, if anything, to ensure that every American has health coverage?	Addressing the health care needs of seniors, working families, and veterans to ensure they have affordable, accessible health care is a top priority. I successfully passed legislation that will provide reimbursements to private hospitals to treat veterans when the VA system is overwhelmed, preventing our heroes from paying out of pocket for treatment. I've been fighting to expand the SCHIP program so our children have access to the quality health care they need to grow into healthy adults. Ensuring that everyone gets access to the quality health care they need will continue to be a top priority.
2. What Steps do you propose to strengthen the U.S. Economy?	I've been fighting to improve the economy in our region by combining the ingenuity we have here with the innovation we need to attract jobs in emerging technologies like broadband and alternative energy. I believe that we need to capitalize on the natural resources we are blessed with, including our fertile farmland and abundance of coal, to ensure that they continue to be economic engines for our region. The federal government cannot singlehandedly create new jobs, but in partnership with state and local governments, the federal government can create the conditions to attract new industries and new jobs.

Fred Dailey, Republican candidate, response was not received by publication deadline.

Attorney General

Name	Richard Cordray	Mike Crites	Robert Owens
Party	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Biography	http://www.cordrayforohio.com/about/biography.html	http://www.critesforohio.com/biography	http://owens2008.com/home/about-robert/
1. What specific actions should the Attorney General take to protect consumers in Ohio?	<p>“Ohio’s Attorney General should use all the powers of the office against anyone who tries to scam Ohioans or use ‘gotcha’ tactics to take their hard-earned dollars. As Attorney General, I would carry on the work begun in the State Treasurer’s office to educate consumers about predatory practices and making informed financial decisions. Financial education helps, but the rule of law is the critical tool to protect the financial security of Ohioans. Specifically, we will continue our work on foreclosure prevention (taking on predatory lenders, appraisers, flippers, and foreclosure “prevention” scammers); stand up for fair consumer practices by credit card companies (including marketing to students on campus); initiate a Senior Strike Force to prevent consumer fraud against seniors; and battle every kind of unfair financial practice that takes money out of our pockets or jobs from our hometowns.”</p>	<p>“As Attorney General I will make the protection of Ohio consumers one of my top priorities. I am a career prosecutor, not a career politician. I have 21 years of prosecutorial experience, more than the last seven Attorneys General combined As United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio I prosecuted every type of criminal from members of the Mafia, to dangerous drug dealers to tax evaders. I pledge to use that experience to uphold the consumer laws of Ohio and to go after criminals, both individuals and businesses, who illegally prey on Ohioans.”</p>	<p>“Protecting consumers starts by sacredly guarding their tax dollars, eliminating the “corruption tax,” which by some accounts has been as much as \$2,000 per family. This means changing the system that awards no-bid contracts to large campaign contributors representing special interests. It also means eliminating the current “slush funds” that are created by monies collected by the attorney general’s office through settlement and litigation. Those funds should be returned to the people’s treasury. As attorney general, I will work to reduce regulation on small business (often falsely marketed as “consumer protection”), while increasing focus on prosecuting fraudulent business practices. Finally, consumer protection means fighting crime. I will work to expand capabilities for the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) forensic lab in order to better support law enforcement across Ohio. I will also work to expand education to communities and law enforcement regarding citizen rights to self defense.”</p>
2. What changes would you propose in the authority of the Attorney General?	<p>“As the only candidate who has actually worked in the Attorney General’s office as Ohio’s first State Solicitor, I understand the expansive powers of the office and do not plan initially to seek broader powers. Instead, I intend to exercise my authority to uphold the standards of professionalism and restore public trust in the office. I also will protect the financial interests of Ohioans and be a strong partner to local law enforcement. I will reconstitute the Criminal Law Project to help local prosecutors arguing in the Ohio Supreme Court to keep criminals behind bars, establish commissions to assist on budgetary issues for local law enforcement, and work closely with small businesses to provide an early warning system and dispute mediation to reduce costs. If the structure or functions of the office prove inadequate, I will work with both sides of the aisle in the General Assembly to address that.”</p>	<p>“I believe the Ohio Revised Code statutes that refer to the Office of Attorney General currently in place are well thought out and give the office an appropriate amount of authority. We have arrived at this special election not because of a failing in the authority of the office of Attorney General, but rather because of the personal failings of the last Attorney General. The office has worked very well under the last several Attorneys General and therefore I do not believe that sweeping new authority is needed. However, I have offered several policy proposals as to how I would improve the office, including the creation of an Ad hoc committee to streamline the various ongoing investigations into the office, the creation of new fellowships to reward professionalism and improve morale, and a Public Corruption Commission to ensure that these types of scandals never again taint the office.”</p>	<p>“The attorney general should not have the authority to unilaterally distribute hundreds of millions of dollars in no-bid contracts. I am the only candidate to propose, from the beginning of the race, that every contract be subject to a full, open competitive bid process. All financial transactions of the attorney general’s office should be readily available (i.e. online), open to public and media scrutiny. The only way to restore integrity to the office of attorney general is through independent oversight and full transparency. I am the only candidate to sign the Buckeye Institute’s “Transparency in Government” pledge. Let there be no more blind trust in politicians. The system itself must be changed. As an independent, I alone have the ability to make these changes without concern from party politics and big money special interest pressure.”</p>

Justice – Supreme Court of Ohio

Name	Maureen O'Connor	Joseph Russo	Peter Sikora	Evelyn Stratton
Biography	http://www.oconnorforjustice.com/about.php	http://www.judgerussoforjustice.com/about.htm	http://www.sikoraforjustice.com/About.html	http://www.strattonforsupremecourt.com/?page=about_justice_stratton
1) What is your response to research indicating that judicial decisions tend to favor large campaign contributors?	<p>“I do not agree that objective research indicates that decisions of the courts favor campaign contributors. Contributions follow the philosophy of a justice, not the other way around. There are limits on the dollar amount for contributions. These amounts are deemed reasonable and as long as Ohio maintains an elected selection process for our judiciary and the contributors follow the law on campaign limits and there is open disclosure, the system should work as it is intended.”</p>	<p>“I am very concerned by public surveys that find that 83% of voters believe campaign contributions influence the decisions of the Ohio Supreme Court. Numerous newspaper articles have pointed to a correlation between campaign contributions and the votes of members of our Court. The New York Times in the article “Campaign Cash Mirrors a High Court’s Rulings” points to a correlation between campaign contributions and individual Ohio Supreme Court Justice’s votes in judicial decisions in Ohio. In that article, the Times states that Ohio Supreme Court Justices “routinely sat on cases after receiving campaign contributions from the parties involved” and “on average . . . voted in favor of contributors 70 percent of the time.” My opponent votes in favor of her contributors 74% of the time. I have proposed a rule that would force Justices to disqualify themselves from cases involving their largest contributors. My opponent opposes this rule.”</p>	<p>“The strength of our judiciary rests in the confidence Ohioans have in the fairness and impartiality of the court. The legitimacy of the court is undermined when studies show people believe contributions influence decisions. There is a serious need to restore confidence in the court, based on the fact that Supreme Court Justices routinely sit on cases after receiving campaign contributions from the parties involved or from groups that filed supporting briefs. On average, they voted in favor of the contributors 70% of the time. This emphasizes the need for balance on the court – so that every citizen can be assured that all perspectives will be considered before decisions are made.”</p>	<p>“I believe this portrays an inaccurate perception of the judiciary that is fueled by the media, not by reality. A New York Times article, published two years ago, reported that I had voted in favor of my contributors in 55% of the cases in which I participated through March 2006. This was the lowest percentage attributed to any justice identified. However, this also indicated that in 45% of those cases I had voted against those who had contributed to my campaign. The vast majority of the contributions to my last campaign were \$100 or less. In addition, there are now campaign limits of \$3000 per person and \$5500 per political action committee. These limits greatly reduce the ability of a contributor to use the size of a contribution to influence a judge’s decision.”</p>
2) Do you believe that all Ohioans have adequate access to legal help and the legal system? If not, what can be done to provide wider and better access?	<p>“Ohio has a good system of representation for those who are unable to afford legal representation. Our members of the bar are generous in their efforts to provide services. Having said that I believe that any system can be improved upon and ours is no exception. The bar in Ohio is encouraged to participate in rendering pro bono services. I believe that an expansion of the program to start in law school will assist in creating and expanding a culture of pro bono representation among the new lawyers. ”</p>	<p>“Ohioans do not have adequate access to legal help. There are several ways to provide wider and better access. First, for simple cases, we must make forms and instruction available to the general public, as they have in Maricopa County, Arizona, where they have thrown open the doors of the courthouse to the general public with help from court staff and law school students to enable the general public to access the legal system and settle their simple disputes often without the help of a lawyer. In addition, I believe that we must properly fund our legal clinics throughout the state so that the public has access to attorneys to handle more intricate legal matters. Finally, a rule requiring every attorney in the State, as part of their Continuing Legal Education requirements, to provide pro bono services to the public should be considered.”</p>	<p>“As a society we need to ensure that people have access to affordable quality legal assistance. It is incumbent upon all of us – as well as those in the legal profession – to come forward and assist those who can not afford representation. Specifically, this includes an increase in pro-bono efforts in the legal community.”</p>	<p>“No. The availability of legal resources for those unable to afford an attorney is a problem in Ohio. In an effort to help persons gain access to the courts, the Supreme Court of Ohio supports the Legal Aid Society and provides financial assistance to the group. The Court is in the process of developing legal forms to assist persons in legal matters which should result in better access to the courts. I also have supported efforts to recruit and train attorneys to provide pro bono services to qualified homeowners in foreclosure cases. Attorneys should be encouraged to assist those who cannot afford an attorney in all areas of the law. I will also focus efforts on pro bono services for Ohio’s military veterans and reserve troops in my work on mental health court reforms.”</p>

District 9 - Board of Education

Name	Michael L. Collins	Larry Good	William Moore
1. What recommendations should the State Board of Education propose to ensure that community schools and voucher programs are accountable to the public?	<p>One of my top five major objectives is to revise and revamp the charter school and voucher programs. My overriding philosophies to set policy to meet this objective are: 1) all charter schools and voucher programs need to meet the same academic and facility standards in the same time frame as public schools; 2) dollars that follow charter school programs and vouchers need to be allocated on a post-performance as opposed to a pre-performance basis; 3) charter schools and voucher programs need to validate student attendance on a monthly basis to receive payment; 4) no public dollars will follow students to any educational environment that does not meet the same standards in the same time frame as public schools.</p>	<p>I feel public funds should not be directed to them for various reasons; one being that voucher schools are not held accountable for academics or finances.</p>	<p>I would require the highest and most stringent reporting, evaluation, and inspection from any community school for profit and any voucher program. During my last term on the State School Board from 1997-2000, I opposed the creation of community schools for profit and the voucher program. I continue to oppose both programs because they drain valuable resources from the public schools.</p>
2. Do you believe creationism (intelligent design) should be taught in the public schools?	<p>Creationism and intelligent design should not be offered as an alternative to science instruction in any public school. If a high school can afford to offer an alternative course offering in philosophy, then this might be a good place for this topic to be discussed.</p>	<p>Basically I believe the sciences should be taught in the science classes and philosophy should be taught in philosophy class.</p>	<p>I have no agenda to change the current science curriculum.</p>

State Issues 1, 2, & 3

<p>ISSUE 1: PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO PROVIDE FOR EARLIER FILING DEADLINES FOR STATEWIDE BALLOT ISSUES</p>	<p>ISSUE 2: PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO AUTHORIZE THE STATE TO ISSUE BONDS TO CONTINUE THE CLEAN OHIO PROGRAM FOR ENVIRONMENTAL, REVITALIZATION AND CONSERVATION PURPOSES</p>	<p>ISSUE 3: PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION TO PROTECT PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS IN GROUND WATER, LAKES AND OTHER WATERCOURSES</p>
<p>(Proposed by Joint Resolution of the General Assembly of Ohio) To amend Sections 1a, 1b, 1c, and 1g of Article II of the Ohio Constitution</p>	<p>(Proposed by Joint Resolution of the General Assembly of Ohio) To adopt Section 2q of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio</p>	<p>(Proposed by Joint Resolution of the General Assembly of Ohio) To adopt Section 19b of Article I of the Constitution of the State of Ohio</p>
<p>A YES vote means approval of the amendment. A NO vote means disapproval of the amendment. A majority YES vote is required for the amendment to be adopted. If approved, this proposed amendment will be effective immediately.</p>	<p>A YES vote means approval of the amendment. A NO vote means disapproval of the amendment. A majority YES vote is required for the amendment to be adopted. If approved, this proposed amendment shall take effect immediately.</p>	<p>A YES vote means approval of the amendment. A NO vote means disapproval of the amendment. A majority YES vote is required for the amendment to be adopted. If approved, this amendment shall take effect 12-01-08.</p>
<p>League Explanation of Issue 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This proposed constitutional amendment seeks to make the petition filing deadlines earlier for statewide ballot issues. Currently, the deadlines are 90 days before the election for statewide initiative petitions (laws and constitutional amendments proposed by citizens) and 60 days for statewide referendums (citizen-initiated votes to repeal new laws). The amendment would change these deadlines to 125 days for both. The proposal adds deadlines for public officials to act on the petitions. It requires the secretary of state to determine whether there are enough valid signatures on a petition by the 105th day before the election. Challenges must be filed in the Ohio Supreme Court not later than 95 days prior to the election. The Ohio Supreme Court must make its decision not later than 85 days prior to the election. If necessary, 10 additional days shall be allowed for the filing of additional signatures. The secretary of state shall check the additional signatures not later than 65 days before the election. Any challenges must be filed in the Ohio Supreme Court not later than 55 days before the election, and the court must rule on any challenges not later than 45 days before the election. If no ruling is made, the petition and signatures shall be presumed to be sufficient. The proposed amendment would give the Ohio Supreme Court sole authority to consider these cases. Currently lower courts may hear these challenges. 	<p>League Explanation of Issue 2: This ballot issue proposes a constitutional amendment that would add to funding for The Clean Ohio Program. The amendment is identical to the bond issue passed by the voters in 2000 and will provide the state with the authority to issue an additional \$400 million of bonds. These bonds could be used for the benefit of both governmental and non-governmental entities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation: Up to \$200 million in bonds could be issued for conservation purposes such as preservation of natural areas and farmlands, provision of recreation facilities, and natural resource management projects. Repayment of these bonds would be a general obligation of the state backed by the taxing power of the state. Revitalization: Up to \$200 million in bonds could be issued for revitalization purposes such as environmental cleanup of publicly or privately owned lands. Repayment of these bonds would be secured by specific state revenues such as receipts from liquor taxes. Limitations: The proposed amendment limits the amount that could be borrowed in any one fiscal year for either conservation or revitalization purposes to no more than \$50 million. In addition, the state can borrow amounts which were authorized but not issued in prior fiscal years. Reissuance: After a bond is repaid, another can be issued as long as the total amount outstanding does not exceed \$200 million for that type of bond. Debt Service Expense: The Legislative Services Commission estimates that issuing \$400 million of obligations could increase the state's annual debt service expense by up to \$40 million. The Ohio Office of Budget and Management calculated that principle and interest payable in 2008 for all of the bonds already issued by Ohio is \$1,231,640,023. This bonding authority must be approved by the voters because the Ohio constitution does not permit an appropriation being made for a period longer than two years. 	<p>League Explanation of Issue 3: This proposed amendment resulted from the Ohio legislature's passage of the Great Lakes Water Compact this past spring. Some lawmakers feared final approval of the Compact might limit private water rights. The constitutional amendment is intended to recognize that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Property owners have a protected right to the "reasonable use" of the ground water flowing under their property, and of the water in a lake or watercourse that is on or flows through their property. An owner has the right to give or sell these interests to a governmental body. The public welfare supersedes individual property owners' rights. The state and political subdivisions may regulate such waters to the extent state law allows. The proposed amendment would not affect public use of Lake Erie and the state's other navigable waters. The rights confirmed by this amendment may not be limited by sections of the Ohio Constitution addressing home rule, public debt and public works, conservation of natural resources, and the prohibition of the use of "initiative" and "referendum" on property taxes.
<p>Proponents of the proposed amendment argue that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The earlier deadlines will allow more time to determine the validity of the petition and the signatures. This should reduce the number of invalid issues that appear on ballots and reduce voter confusion. If deadlines are met, absentee voters and election-day voters will know which issues were supported by sufficient valid petitions. The process should be more efficient because the amendment provides for specific deadlines for each step of the process. Having the Ohio Supreme Court as the sole arbiter of challenges expedites the process. 	<p>Proponents of the proposed amendment argue that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Bond monies could be used to improve drinking water, help keep rivers and streams clean, Preserve and protect wildlife and farmland, and expand outdoor recreational opportunities for Ohioans. Bond monies could be used to reduce the number of polluted industrial sites and clean up brown fields Revitalization of public and private lands could stimulate economic development in urban areas and increase private investment in Ohio. 	<p>Proponents of the proposed amendment argue that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> This amendment, if approved, is intended to reaffirm the rights and expectations of Ohio landowners to have reasonable use of the water on or under their properties. The proposed amendment does not establish absolute private ownership of water. It reiterates the state's right to regulate water use and water quality.
<p>Opponents of the proposed amendment argue that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The revised deadlines may still not allow time to print correct ballots. The revised deadlines decrease the time for each step of the review and may be difficult to meet. The earlier deadlines for referenda may result in long delays for voter consideration of challenged laws because laws challenged by the referendum process are suspended until approved by voters. Challengers have 90 days after a law is passed to file a referendum petition. Because this may not be completed before the filing deadline for ballot issues, a vote on the challenged law may be postponed until the following general election. As sole arbiter of challenges, the Ohio Supreme Court will not have the benefit of a record from lower courts. 	<p>Opponents of the proposed amendment argue that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Tax monies will be diverted to paying principle and interest, and this may limit the availability of state revenue for other state programs. This authority is not time-limited and permits new bonds to be reissued after the retirement of the original bonds without further vote of the people. Proceeds from the sale of the publicly funded bonds may be used to benefit private entities. 	<p>Opponents of the proposed amendment argue that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The amendment is unnecessary because current Ohio case law already recognizes property owners' interests in the reasonable use of surface and groundwater. The Ohio Constitution should be a body of fundamental principles, and should not be amended unless there is a compelling reason. The amendment could cause unexpected consequences and unintentional changes in current law.

State Issues 5 & 6

<p>ISSUE 5: REFERENDUM ON LEGISLATION MAKING CHANGES TO PAYDAY LENDING PRACTICES</p>	<p>ISSUE 6: PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO AUTHORIZE A CASINO IN CLINTON COUNTY, OHIO</p>
<p>As of September 23, 2008, this issue had not been certified to be on the Nov. 4, 2008, ballot. (A referendum on Section 3, House Bill 545)</p>	<p>Proposed by Initiative Petition - As of September 23, 2008, this issue had not been certified to be on the Nov. 4, 2008, ballot. To add a new Section 6a to Article XV of the Ohio Constitution</p>
<p>A YES vote will cap the annual interest rate on payday loans at 28% and allow only the new regulations to apply to payday lenders. A NO vote may allow payday lenders to charge up to 391% annual interest on a loan. Specifically, a NO vote may create a situation in which both the old and new laws coexist—thereby allowing payday lenders to choose to operate under either law. A majority YES vote will allow only the new regulations affecting payday lenders to be in effect. If approved, changes regulating payday lenders would go into effect immediately.</p>	<p>A YES vote means approval of the amendment. A NO vote means disapproval of the amendment. A majority YES vote is required for the amendment to be adopted. If approved, the proposed amendment will take effect 30 days after the election.</p>
<p>League Explanation of Issue 5: Voters are being asked if they want to uphold the legislature's repeal of lenders' authority to charge interest that could be as high as 391%. If the referendum is approved (the "yes" votes prevail), all short term lenders, including payday lenders, would be subject to the following limitations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cap the interest that payday lenders can charge consumers at 28%. Limit the amount consumers may borrow from payday lenders to 25% of their monthly income, up to \$500 per loan. Limit consumers to four short-term loans per year. Provide for a minimum of at least 30 days for a borrower to repay a loan. 	<p>League Explanation of Issue 6: This amendment would authorize a privately owned casino in Clinton County.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The operator would be required to pay a tax of up to 30% annually on gross casino receipts. "Gross casino receipts" excludes payments to winners. The tax would be allocated in the following ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ohio General Assembly would have the authority to determine a reasonable amount to be used to fund a Gaming Regulatory Commission, and receipts will be used to pay the expenses of administering the tax. Up to 1% of the tax collected would be used to fund prevention and treatment programs for gambling addicts. Following those expenditures, 10% percent of any remaining casino tax receipts would be distributed to Clinton County, and the remaining receipts distributed among all 88 Ohio counties on a per capita basis, to be used as each county sees fit. If another casino were permitted in Ohio, the tax on the Clinton County casino would drop to 25% of the gross casino receipts or the rate paid by the additional casino, whichever is less. The casino operator must make a minimum initial investment of \$600 million for the development of a destination resort that would include the casino, a hotel and other related amenities. The state may establish an initial license fee not to exceed \$15 million, which will be credited against the first \$15 million of taxes on gross casino receipts. There can be no further licensing fees for the Clinton County casino. The state may not limit the amounts of the wagers or the hours of operation. The casino may conduct

<p>ISSUE 5: REFERENDUM ON LEGISLATION MAKING CHANGES TO PAYDAY LENDING PRACTICES</p>	<p>ISSUE 6: PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO AUTHORIZE A CASINO IN CLINTON COUNTY, OHIO</p>
<p>Proponents of the referendum argue that: 1. The new regulations would cap the interest for payday loans at 28%, which effectively ends lenders' ability to charge up to 391% interest. 2. Limiting the number of loans customers can take out annually would help break the cycle of debt in which many customers find themselves trapped. Data show that 99% of payday loans go to repeat borrowers—who typically take out 12 or more loans a year. 3. Passage of Issue 5 would give borrowers more time to repay a loan—and by limiting the amount a consumer can borrow, would help insure that customers do not borrow more than they can afford to repay.</p>	<p>any type of card or table games, slot machines or electronic gaming devices permitted by the state of Nevada and states adjacent to Ohio, except bets on races or sporting events. 6. Persons must be 21 years old to place wagers at the casino.</p> <p>Proponents of the proposed amendment argue that: 1. Thirty-eight states—including Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, and Pennsylvania—have casino gambling. By authorizing a casino in Ohio, the profits could benefit our state rather than other states. 2. All counties in Ohio may receive tax revenue generated by the casino, and each county can decide how to best spend its money 3. The casino will also be required to pay all other applicable taxes. 4. The casino will create jobs in Clinton County. 5. The casino will stimulate the economy by adding restaurants, hotels and ancillary businesses.</p>
<p>Opponents of the referendum argue that: 1. The 28% ceiling on interest rates will not allow lenders to make enough profit to stay in business; lenders will be forced to close locations convenient for borrowers and jobs will be lost. 2. The loans provide emergency assistance to cash-strapped borrowers who have no other credit options—and the loans are more affordable, if repaid promptly, than bank overdraft fees and credit card late fees. 3. A borrower's choice is limited if the number of loans available in a year and the amount of each loan are curtailed. Each borrower should have the right to make their own financial decisions without government restrictions.</p>	<p>Opponents of the proposed amendment argue that: 1. The Ohio general revenue fund, which supports basic services for Ohioans, will get \$0 from the gross casino receipts tax. 2. If an additional casino were an Indian casino, which is exempt from taxes, the Clinton County casino might not pay any taxes, either, on the gross casino receipts. 3. Ohioans may spend money at the casino they would have spent at other existing Ohio businesses such as restaurants, movies, or sports events, adversely impacting those businesses. 4. Ohio lottery profits, currently dedicated to education, may decrease because people will gamble at the casino instead of playing the lottery. 5. The number of gambling addicts in Ohio would increase, and the tax receipts dedicated to providing treatment for addicts (0.3% of gross casino receipts) could be insufficient.</p>
<p>Websites: In support of placing new restrictions on payday lenders: PROTECT HB 545 Committee (http://www.yesonissue5.com/) In opposition to placing new restrictions on payday lenders: Committee to Reject H.B. 545 (www.ohioans4financialfreedom.com)</p>	<p>Websites In support of the proposed amendment: My Ohio Now (http://www.yesonissue6.com/) In opposition to the proposed amendment: Vote No Casinos (www.votenocasinos.com)</p>

Athens County Ballot Issue 38

<p>#38 PROPOSED TAX LEVY – REPLACEMENT COUNTY OF ATHENS</p>
<p>A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.</p>
<p>A replacement of a tax for the benefit of the County of Athens for the purpose of MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF THE ATHENS CITY-COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT at a rate not exceeding 0.3 mill for each one dollar of valuation which amounts to \$0.03 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for 10 years, commencing in 2009, first due in calendar year 2010.</p>

Athens City Ballot Issue 7

<p>#7 RESOLUTION R-07-08 CITY OF ATHENS</p>
<p>A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.</p>
<p>Ballot Language: Shall the term of the office of President of Council of the City of Athens be changed from two to four years, effective on the first day of January following the next municipal election?</p>
<p>League Explanation: The organization of the City of Athens is governed by the Ohio Revised Code. This code creates a mayor form of government, with an elected mayor and a city council. The president of city council is an elected officer who is not a member of the council but presides over its meetings. The Ohio Revised Code provides that the president of council and its members are elected for a two year term. It also permits the voters of a municipality to chose to elect the president of council and/or its members for a four year term. This proposition would extend the term of the president of council to four years to be elected in the mid-term of the mayor.</p>
<p>Arguments submitted by the city council in favor of the proposition: 1. This will promote a continuance of experience in the operation of city government by insuring that a new mayor will be working with an experienced president of the council. 2. This will improve the consistency of city government.</p>
<p>Arguments against the proposition: 1. As long as city council members are elected for two year terms it is more appropriate that its president also serve for a two year term. 2. A two year term insures greater responsiveness by the president of council to the wishes of the voters.</p>

Athens City Ballot Issue 37

<p>#37 PROPOSED TAX LEVY – RENEWAL ATHENS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT</p>
<p>A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.</p>
<p>Shall a levy renewing an existing levy be imposed b the Athens City School District, Athens County, Ohio for the purpose of "PROVIDING FOR THE EMERGENCY REQUIREMENTS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, in the amount of \$3,200,000, and a levy of taxes be made outside of the ten-mill limitation estimated by the county auditor to average 7.28 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to \$0.728 of one hundred dollars of valuation, for a period of 4 years, commencing in 2009, first due in calendar year 2010.</p>

HOW TO VOTE FOR A WRITE-IN CANDIDATE

Follow these three steps:

- 1. Find the race you want to vote in.**
- 2. Write in the candidate's name in the appropriate place.**
- 3. Fill in the oval next to the name you have written.**

Both the line for the candidate's name and the oval must be filled in for the vote to count.

Poll workers are not allowed to remind you that there are write-in candidates; however, if you ask a poll worker for information, they will provide it for you.

Important Voter Information is available from the following websites:

- athenscountyvotes.org – the Athens Public Library and League of Women Voters have partnered to provide various voter services to Athens County.
- athensboardofelections.com - Athens County Board of Elections located at 15 S. Court St., #130 in the city of Athens, OH 45701. Phone (740)592-3201, Fax (740)592-3262. Open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.
- www.seorf.ohiou.edu/~voters – The League of Women Voters of Athens County Board of Directors website.
- www.sos.state.oh.us/SOS/pollinglocation.aspx?page=361 – The Ohio Secretary of State website.

Smart voting
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Serving Athens County, Ohio

