

Wood County Green Party **2024 Voters' Guide**



Early Voting Starts October 7th!
Voting Day November 5th!

Presented by the Wood County Green Party. For more information, visit our website www.woodcountyohgreenparty.org, email joe.demare@woodcountyohgreenparty.org or call or text 419-973-5841

Introduction:

My Co-Chair Helen Dukes and I welcome you! This is the third year the Wood County Green Party has produced its Voters' Guide. Each year, we receive more requests and more thanks for providing this service.

The League of Women Voters election guide is an invaluable resource for voters, but it suffers from the fact that it allows candidates to write their own descriptions. This allows candidates to gloss over bad decisions. It also allows candidates who are at extreme ends of the political spectrum to present themselves as reasonable and center of the road. The motto of the Green Party is "Neither Left nor Right but In Front!" meaning we do not adhere to political dogma, but we take positions based on ten Key Values. Those values are Ecological Wisdom, Grassroots Democracy, Social Justice, Non-Violence, Feminism, Personal and Global Responsibility, Decentralization, Locally Based Economics, Diversity, and Future Focus. These are the values we used when reviewing the candidates in this Guide.

There are 32 candidates vying for 13 offices in Wood County this election cycle. Taking the time to research each one is extremely difficult for most people. Yet, voting in elections is one of our greatest responsibilities as citizens. We hope you find this guide helpful in making those decisions.

This year we had a record number of volunteers helping to gather the data and analyze the candidates. Thank you to Ruth Walker, Eric Britton, Kristen Varallo, Josiah Klein, and Kat Brown! While the Wood County Green Party does not cross endorse candidates from other parties, we can certainly advise you when their positions are in agreement or in conflict with our Key Values and let you decide. We also do not hesitate to advise you when it is important NOT to vote for a candidate. We are in unprecedented times. Some of the candidates running in our elections represent a real danger to Democracy and our Nation. We have tried to identify those candidates, here.

Unfortunately, the one Green on the ballot, Jill Stein, has had her candidacy withdrawn because the State Committee filed incorrectly. So, votes for her probably will not be counted though negotiations continue. Never has Ohio faced a more important Presidential election and been less important in terms of the outcome. As I write this, Trump leads Ohio by 10 points. There is no contest here. Yet, we know that many Republicans concerned about the future of the country will not vote for Trump, and many Democrats alienated by issues like the genocide in Gaza will not vote for Harris. For those people, please consider voting Green.

---Joe DeMare, Co-Chair Wood County Green Party.

State Issue 1:

Creating a Citizen Redistricting Commission

Wood County Green Party Urges a “YES” vote on Issue 1.

Ohio is one most heavily gerrymandered states in the union according to the Brennan Center. Most State House and Senate districts are so heavily gerrymandered that there are almost no competitive races. Many races go uncontested. This violates the Green Party Principle of Grassroots Democracy. Republicans have a super majority in both Houses of state government, even though registered Republicans represent less than 1/5th of the electorate. So a tiny minority is controlling every aspect of State Government thanks to gerrymandering.

Twice, Ohio citizens have approved referendums demanding an end to partisan gerrymandering. Both times the referendums have passed overwhelmingly. Both times they completely failed to end gerrymandering because they continued to rely on elected Republican state officials to redraw district maps. Those officials simply ignored the mandate to draw fair, non-partisan districts.

This referendum creates a redistricting commission made up of 1/3 Democrats, 1/3 Republicans, and 1/3 independents. It is modeled after a similar Commission that has redistricted the state of Michigan, resulting in many more competitive races. Almost three quarters of registered voters in Ohio are unaffiliated, that is they belong to no political party. Right now, they have no representation in state government.

Republicans have rewritten the summary language on this amendment, falsely representing that it requires gerrymandering rather than outlawing it. Republican Senator Gavarone was particularly instrumental in creating the misleading language that will appear on the ballot. But the League of Women Voters and many other pro-democracy organizations urge its passage.

County-Wide Issues

Tax Levy Renewal

Wood County Green Party Urges a “YES” vote on this Tax Levy Renewal

Tax Levy, Renewal, 1.6 mills, 10 years commencing in 2025 ADAMHS Board - Providing Mental Health and Addiction Services

Addiction and poor mental health are increasingly serious problems in our society. The ADAMHS Board provides essential services to Wood County residents. While the Board does not provide services directly, they fund many important organizations in the County including: Wood County Addiction Response Collaborative (ARC); Children’s Resource Center (CRC); The Cocoon; Wood County Educational Services Center (WCESC); Harbor; The National Alliance on Mental Illness in Wood County (NAMIWC); OhioGuidestone; Unison Health; and the Zepf Center. This is not a new tax or an increase, it is simply maintaining vital services Wood County residents rely upon.

Local Levies

Wood County Green Party Recommends “YES” votes on local levies.

There are 29 levy requests for local cities, towns and villages on the ballot this year. Almost all are renewal or replacement levies. These levies support vital services such as schools, roads, fire, and ambulance. Costs have increased for everything in this society, yet most of these services are being provided with little or no increase in funding. In general the Wood County Green Party supports local levies for services.

Federal Elections

President

Dr. Jill Stein/Green

The Wood County Green Party would ask you to vote FOR Jill Stein, but her name has been withdrawn because of filing mistakes made by the State Committee. Votes for Jill in Ohio will not be counted.

Jill Stein was born in 1950 in the Chicago suburb of Highland Park. She was raised in the Jewish reform tradition, attended public schools and graduated magna cum laude from Harvard in 1973 with a triple major in psychology, sociology, and anthropology. In 1979, she graduated from Harvard Medical School. For the next 25 years, she served as a practicing physician in the Boston area. As a physician, she became increasingly concerned with the effects of toxic pollution on the health of her patients, particularly children. She authored several books and studies and became an activist, shutting down coal plants and incinerators in poor areas.

Repeatedly, she saw her efforts to improve people's lives and health blocked by corporations with corrupt influence over legislators. In 1998, she championed a campaign to allow public funding of elections, culminating in a referendum that passed by a 2 to 1 margin. However, the Democrat-controlled legislature later repealed the law in an anonymous voice vote. This betrayal of Democracy helped drive her to the Green Party.

She has run for several offices including Governor and US Representative. She was elected to the Lexington Town Council in 2008. She has run for President as a Green three times, 2012, 2016, and this year, 2024. She has run on very progressive issues, some of which the Democrats have co-opted such as student debt forgiveness and the Green New Deal. All her positions align with the Ten Key Values of the Greens, since she uses those values to evaluate her position. One of the best examples is her call for an immediate end to the genocide in Gaza. As a Jewish person, she recognizes the evil of genocide and stands against Zionism. Her activism has led to several arrests and an illegal detention during the presidential debates of 2012. She embodies the very best Green values, speaking Truth to power and standing on principle, even as others sell out.

Chase Oliver/Lib

Chase Oliver (Libertarian) started out as a political activist in Atlanta, Georgia, after working in restaurant service for 13 years.

Oliver campaigns on the principles of reducing the power of the federal government and allowing both people and corporations to make their own decisions without strong influence from government. His support for third parties in defiance of a broken two-party system is a point of common ground with the Green Party among many other policies.

He supports the right to abortion, reforming the prison-industrial complex, making government officials accountable to their crimes, and recalling US military presence worldwide. However, he also believes that eliminating federal administrations will be sufficient with market forces to ensure freedoms are protected at the state and local level. This would likely result in further expansion of corporate power. The services rendered by organizations such as the Department of Education or the Environmental Protection Agency would need replacements as well, at the state or perhaps even local level, which would constitute many significant steps back from the progress the Green Party wishes to see.

Although the Greens agree with the Libertarians on some specific issues, the Libertarian philosophy more often leads to conflicts. For example, when Libertarians controlling the Perrysburg City Council eliminated public transportation, the Greens campaigned for a year to bring it back. We do not recommend voting for Chase Oliver.

President (Continued)

Richard Dunkin/Ind	Peter Sonski/Sol
<p>Richard Duncan has worked as an economist his whole career from equity analysis in 1986 Hong Kong to the World Bank in Washington D.C. as a financial sector specialist, to global head of investment strategy at ABN AMRO Asset Management in London.</p> <p>Although he wishes to draw employers back to the US to give us higher wages and healthcare coverage, Duncan would do this by creating advantageous zoning for corporations. He has also stated his support for continuing the aggressive foreign policy of the US military-industrial complex. These ideas are NOT in-line with the values of the Green Party.</p>	<p>Peter Sonski (Solidarity) is currently at the end of his second term on Connecticut’s District 17 Board of Education. He has worked for 8 years in Washington D.C. at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, the largest Catholic church in North America, as well as assistant editor on the Catholic Register. He is a grassroots organizer who does charitable work in his communities.</p> <p>Sonski advocates for strong tax credits for housing, healthcare, and education. He believes in supporting workers and local businesses to form an economy based on broad ownership. He is also anti-choice, against LGBTQ+ marriage rights, and deeply informed by his faith in the policies he supports. The American Solidarity Party he is part of is an offshoot of Christian Democracy.</p> <p>Government based on religion is in direct conflict with the Green Party's principle of Grassroots Democracy, since Democracy requires equal participation from all citizens regardless of religious faith or lack thereof.</p>

President (Continued)

Kamala Harris/Dem

Kamala Harris was born in 1964 to immigrant parents. Her mother was from India and her father was from Jamaica. She was raised largely by her mother, after her parents' divorce, though her father remained a part of her childhood in California. She earned a bachelor's degree from Howard University, and then a law degree from the University of California College of Law, San Francisco. She started working as a deputy district attorney in 1990, advancing to district attorney in 2004 and then was elected Attorney General in 2010. In 2016 she ran a successful campaign for US Senate, replacing the retiring Barbara Boxer. In 2020, she began a campaign for President, but dropped out early in the primaries and was later recruited to be Joe Biden's running mate.

Harris's website focuses on creating an "opportunity economy" through a series of liberal economic policies such as establishing a minimum tax on billionaires, tax cuts for the middle class, tax credits for those starting businesses, and a \$25,000 credit for first time home buyers. She promises to "Strengthen and Bring Down the Cost of Health Care" by expanding the Affordable Care Act (ACA), and to "Tackle the Climate Crisis." She touts the Inflation Reduction Act's (IRA) "historic" investment in climate action, and promises to fight for the freedom to "live free...from the pollution that fuels the climate crisis." She supports a woman's right to chose. Her website and campaign have taken many more positions on issues too numerous to list.

Generally, her public policy statements align with Green Party values. However, her actions and the actions of the Administration are often at odds with them. Hundreds of billions of dollars in the IRA are earmarked for climate "solutions" that actually increase CO2 in the atmosphere, such as Carbon Sequestration and Storage (CCS) and nuclear power. While much of the money for wind and solar is tax credits, support for nuclear and CCS is often in direct cash subsidies. Under Biden's policies the growth of wind energy in the US has slowed, though solar growth remains steady. Kamala now supports fracking. Under Biden, production of fossil fuels has skyrocketed to record levels. The ACA is also inherently flawed. The idea that the government can keep premiums low by directly paying insurance companies is a failure, just as the Romneycare it was modeled on failed. What the US needs is single payer, universal health care. The world also needs peace, and Harris's support for the Palestinian genocide being carried out by Israel is unacceptable. While Democrat policies are better than Republican policies, they are still inadequate.

Donald Trump/Rep

**The Wood County Green Party Urges you:
DO NOT VOTE FOR DONALD TRUMP!!**

Donald Trump was born in 1946 in New York City. His father was a wealthy, unscrupulous real estate developer who skimmed money from publicly funded projects for his own private projects. Donald went to a private boarding school, New York Military Academy, then Fordham University before finally earning a bachelor's in economics from the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce in 1968. He escaped the draft in the Vietnam war by claiming bone spurs. He then worked for his father's real estate firm, building and expanding it, while facing accusations of discrimination and unscrupulous business practices. Many of his businesses failed, with his resort business declaring bankruptcy in 2005 and 2009. Even as his businesses were going bankrupt, he achieved fame and gained a reputation as a shrewd businessman hosting the Fox network's "Celebrity Apprentice" game show. He was later convicted of fraud for his Trump Foundation charity and fined \$25 million for his fraudulent Trump University. During this time, his father, Fred, transferred hundreds of millions of dollars to Donald in fraudulent real estate deals.

His 2016 presidential run was enabled by a series of missteps by the Democrats, including a scheme where Democrats promoted and voted for Trump in Republican primaries. Jill Stein's candidacy has been blamed for Trump's victory, yet she called for recounts in states where Trumps vote totals were wildly different from pre and post election polls. Democrats did nothing. Trump stopped the recounts with an army of lawyers and the collusion of Republican Secretaries of State. His Presidency was marked by gross incompetence when facing crises such as the Covid pandemic. He also suspended all enforcement of environmental laws, gave tremendous tax breaks to the wealthiest Americans, stacked the Supreme Court with partisan hacks who overturned Roe V Wade and a host of laws that protected people from discrimination and predatory businesses, and he fanned hateful and bigoted rhetoric that has damaged the psyche of America.

His 2024 Presidential campaign has been worse. He is openly calling for the end to democratic elections in the US, promising to be a dictator, and his Project 2025 is nothing less than a plan to turn the United States into a third world nation with the elimination of social security and other anti-poverty programs, dismantling of democratic institutions and jailing of his political opponents.

US Senate

Sherrod Brown/Dem

Incumbent Sen. Sherrod Brown (D) was first elected to the U.S. Senate in 2006, and achieved re-election in 2018, winning in six traditionally Republican House districts. Brown represented Ohio's 13th Congressional District from 1993 to 2007, served as the Ohio Secretary of State from 1983 to 1991 and represented District 61 in the Ohio House of Representatives from 1975 to 1982.

Brown is widely regarded as a progressive Senator; an advocate of the Ohio working class and a defender of reproductive and voting rights. Brown emphasizes a commitment to creating clean energy jobs, and supporting Ohio farmers by reducing barriers in voluntary markets. He has been endorsed by Ohio Citizen Action, Planned Parenthood, the UAW, and many other organizations. His voting record receives high marks from organizations promoting environmental, labor, and social justice issues. His positions and record largely support the Green Party's values of social justice, environmentalism and participatory democracy, though he follows the Party line on issues like Israel's attacks on Gaza.

Bernie Moreno/Rep

The Wood County Green Party Urges you: Do NOT Vote for Bernie Moreno.

Bernie Moreno (R) is a businessman with a background in auto sales. Moreno ran for the U.S. Senate in 2022, suspending his campaign before the Republican primary election. Moreno boasts that he is not a career politician and has never held office, and crowns himself an "outsider in Washington (DC)".

Moreno is openly endorsed (for U.S. Senate) by former President Donald Trump (R), numerous Republican U.S. Senators, and organizations including Ohio Right to Life (anti-abortion) and Moms for America, a conservative advocacy organization that launched the National Parents Strike in 2021 to protest school mask mandates. Moreno actively supports coal, oil and nuclear fueled energy. Additionally, Moreno has expressed support for building a wall on the U.S. Southern Border and ending birthright citizenship. His philosophies support social inequity, non-renewable energy and religion-influenced politics.

Donald Kissick/Lib

Donald Kissick (Libertarian) introduces himself as an Ohioan, auto worker, and United States Navy veteran.

Kissick's website specifies his 2018 Senate campaign priorities which included cutting government spending, fair tax reform, immigration system reform, and termination of foreign aid. Kissick publicly endorses Chase Oliver (Libertarian) for the 2024 Presidential Election.

The Libertarian Party emphasizes individual freedom and reducing excessive taxation, overspending and censorship by government. The party also advocates for peaceful, anti-war foreign policy and reform of the U.S. criminal justice system. However, the Libertarians' opposition to environmental regulation and any kind of government run social benefit programs would result in increased poverty and a degraded environment. While Greens and Libertarians agree on some issues, we generally disagree on policy and philosophies.

US Congress 5th District

Keith Mundy/Dem

Keith Mundy (D) is running for Congress in the Ohio 5th Congressional District, advancing from the Democratic primary in March 2024. Mundy is an Ohio native with a background as a business owner, legal researcher and labor law investigator.

His political philosophies emphasize needed reform to U.S. drug policy, immigration, criminal justice and health care systems. Among many issues addressed on his website, Mundy proposes to demand clean energy legislation, protect Social Security benefits and make higher education affordable and accessible.

His stated positions generally agree with Green Values, In his Ballotpedia questionnaire he emphasizes that he sees this year's election as a question of fascism versus Democracy.

Bob Latta/Rep

**The Wood County Green Party Urges You:
Do NOT vote for Bob Latta!**

Bob Latta (R) is running for re-election to the U.S. House, representing Ohio's 5th Congressional District. Latta served in the Ohio House of Representatives from 2001 to 2007, the Ohio State Senate from 1997 to 2000, and as Wood County Commissioner from 1991 to 1996. Latta is a senior member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, and serves as Chair of the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology. In his tenure, Latta signed an amicus brief to support the lawsuit (Texas v. Pennsylvania) in which Texas contended the results of the 2020 presidential election. Latta voted against an independent investigation of the January 2021 U.S. Capitol attack, and cosponsored the Federal Marriage Amendment, a resolution proposing to constitutionally ban same-sex marriage (2015).

US Congress 9th District

Marcy Kaptur/Dem

Democrat Marcy Kaptur, the incumbent, has a PhD in Urban Planning and is the longest-serving woman in the House of Representatives, first elected in 1983. She currently serves on the House Appropriations Committee, is Ranking Member on the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and serves on the Subcommittee on Defense and the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies.

Her record supports reproductive freedom. The Ohio Fraternal Order of Police and Lucas County Sheriff Mike Navarre endorsed her for re-election, noting her extraordinary support for funding. Both the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare and Foreign Policy for America endorsed her in 2022. She supports government funding for the development of renewable energy. When President Trump attempted to zero out funding to the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, she worked in a bipartisan manner to restore it. Rep. Kaptur is the Co-Chair and Co-Founder of the Congressional Ukraine Caucus.

Her stated positions are largely in line with Green Party Values

Tom Pruss/Lib

Thomas Pruss has been in the printing industry since 1985, and has owned and operated NorthCoast Print Mail Marketing since 2017. He serves as the Vice President of the Northwest Ohio Polish Cultural Center and previously was President for the Polish American Community of Toledo (PACT).

He previously ran for the Toledo School Board and the Lucas County Clerk of Courts. Pruss wants government spending cut by ending wars, and ending the Department of Education and student loans. He favors market-driven healthcare with a safety-net only for the vulnerable, green energy market-driven with energy independence, simplifying immigration reform to allow immigrants to come, work, and thrive as part of our communities. He wants an end to the death penalty, corporate bailouts, drug criminalization, and abortion restrictions before viability. He advocates making Social Security optional, which would bankrupt the Social Security system.

Derek Merrin/Rep

The Wood County Green Party Strongly Urges you, do NOT vote for Derek Merrin.

Derek Merrin is serving his fourth term in the Ohio House after being appointed in 2016. He has a Masters of Public Administration and was elected to the Waterville City Council at the age of nineteen. Two years later, he was elected Mayor. Along with his time in public office, Merrin previously worked for Ohio Auditor Dave Yost.

He is endorsed by former President Trump and both the Toledo Police Command Officers Association and Toledo Police Patrolman's Association because Rep. Kaptur supports legislation to end qualified immunity while Merrin voted to change the definition of "obstruction of justice" to include distracting a police officer.

He voted yea on two bills that prohibit abortion after a fetal heartbeat is detected. He voted to pass a bill that amends the definition of nuclear energy to be reclassified as green energy in Ohio and voted no on bipartisan HB 79 to offer energy efficiency programs. He was rated 8% and 10% by Ohio Environmental Council Action Fund and 0% by Equality Ohio. Merrin's record does not align with the Green Party.

State Elections

Supreme Court Justice

NOTE ON SUPREME COURT RACES: Currently, the Republicans have an absolute majority and control over the Ohio State Supreme Court. As with the federal supreme court, the Republicans have turned away from being fair and impartial on questions of law, and are actively promoting Republican policies. The results have ranged from very serious, such as approving hopelessly biased voting district maps, to the ridiculous, such as ruling that "boneless chicken wings" can be full of bones. As a result, the Wood County Green Party recommends that you do NOT vote for any Republican Ohio Supreme Court Candidates. Judgeships are supposed to be non-partisan, so party affiliation will not appear on the ballot, but we have included it here.

Michael Donnelly/Dem	Megan Shanahan/Rep
<p>Justice Micheal Donnelly has served on the Ohio Supreme Court since early 2019. Prior to that, he was a judge on the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas for 14 years. His prior legal experience included work as an assistant prosecutor in Cuyahoga County and civil litigation (including personal injury and workers compensation cases). Justice Donnelly has consistently been part of the majority voting to rule the proposed gerrymandered legislative redistricting maps pushed by the Republicans unconstitutional, and dissented from the recent Ohio Supreme Court decision largely upholding the misleading re-write of the ballot description the Republican-controlled Ohio Ballot Board approved for November's Issue 1 (creating a Citizens' Redistricting Board). He also wrote the majority decision striking down a fee First Energy included on customer bills . Justice Donnelly has been endorsed by Ohio Citizen Action, the Planned Parenthood Action Fund and numerous labor groups.</p>	<p>The Wood County Green Party Recommends: Do NOT Vote for ShanahanT</p> <p>Megan Shanahan, the Republican running against Justice Donnelly, has been a judge on the Hamilton County Common Pleas court since 2015. She is a member of the Federalist Society, and actively criticized the "cancel culture" at Xavier University when student groups complained about the appointment of conservative Justice Deter as a "justice in residence" at Xavier. She strongly supported an initiative to amend the Ohio Constitution and overturn an Ohio Supreme Court decision prohibiting judges from considering public safety when setting bail. She has been endorsed by the Ohio Republican Party, the Ohio NFIB and the Ohio Farm Bureau. She has been endorsed by Ohio Right to Life and other anti-choice groups.</p>

Supreme Court Justice

Melody Stewart/Dem	Joe Deters/Rep
<p>Justice Melody Stewart was elected to the Ohio Supreme Court in November 2018. She had previously served as a judge on the Ohio Eighth District Court of Appeals since 2006, Her prior experience included work as a health care administrator, assistant law director for the city of Cleveland, as a law professor and assistant dean at Cleveland State's law school, as well as private legal practice as a civil litigator. Justice Stewart has consistently been part of the Ohio Supreme Court majority voting to rule the proposed gerrymandered legislative redistricting maps pushed by the Republicans unconstitutional. She dissented from the recent Ohio Supreme Court decision largely upholding the misleading re-write of the ballot description the Republican-controlled Ohio Ballot Board approved for November's Issue 1 (improving Ohio's redistricting process to reduce the potential for gerrymandering). Justice Stewart has been endorsed by Sherrod Brown, Ohio Citizen Action, the Planned Parenthood Action Fund, the OEC Action Fund and numerous labor groups.</p>	<p>The Wood County Green Party urges you: Do NOT vote for Joe Deters</p> <p>Joe Deters, the Republican running against Justice Stewart, was appointed to the Ohio Supreme Court by Governor DeWine in early 2023 despite having no prior judicial experience. He had been the Hamilton County prosecutor from 1992 to 1999 and 2005 to 2023, and is proud of being "tough on crime" including supporting use of the death penalty. Deters was the Ohio State Treasurer from 1999 until he resigned in the 2004 pay-to-play scandal involving his chief of staff, Matt Borges. (Deters was not charged in the scheme). Deters has been endorsed by the Ohio Republican Party, Ohio Right to Life, Ohio Chamber of Commerce and the Ohio Farm Bureau. We recommend voting against Justice Deters.</p>

Supreme Court Justice

Lisa Forbes/Dem	Daniel Hawkins/Rep
<p>Judge Lisa Forbes, a Cleveland area Democrat, has been a judge on the Ohio Eighth District Court of Appeals since 2020, She has a BS from Cornell and a law degree from Case Western, and worked as a member of the Cleveland office of a national law firm. Judge Forbes has been endorsed by Ohio Citizen Action, the Planned Parenthood Action Fund, the OEC Action Fund, Cleveland Stonewall Democrats, the mayors of Cleveland and Cincinnati, and numerous labor groups.</p>	<p>Republican Judge Daniel Hawkins is currently a judge on the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas. Before he was elected to that post, he was a municipal court judge (focussed on cases involving housing and neglectful landlords) and an assistant prosecutor. He has a degree in criminal justice from BGSU and went to law school at Ohio State after deciding he wanted to be a prosecutor. Hawkins decided to run for the Ohio Supreme Court in part because he disagreed with a court decision limiting what factors judges could consider in setting bail. Judge Hawkins has been endorsed by the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, Ohio NFIB Ohio Farm Bureau and Ohio Right to Life. We recommend a vote against Judge Hawkins.</p>

Ohio State Senate

Theresa Gavarone/Rep	Paloma De LaFuente/Dem
<p>The Wood County Green Party Urges you: Do NOT vote for Theresa Gavarone</p> <p>Theresa Gavarone is the incumbent. In 2023, she led the fight against a woman's right to choose, making false statements campaigning against Ohio's abortion rights amendment. This year, she rewrote the summary language on State Issue 1, misleading voters into believing Issue 1 requires gerrymandering instead of prohibiting it. She has repeatedly and consistently taken steps to deregulate environmental protections. In fact, when asked about the repeal of the nakedly corrupt HB6 and its effects on green energy, she deflected to discuss the impact it would have on jobs in her district. Furthermore, she has continually supported anti-LGBTQ+ legislation.</p>	<p>Paloma De La Fuente's defining trait is definitely her youth, and that comes with positives and negatives. On the one hand, her lack of experience shows when she makes public statements like, "We see the radical of both sides ruling politics right now and a lot more people are in the middle than we think." That said, she more than makes up for it with her strong progressive stances for which she is both highly informed and incredibly passionate.</p>

Ohio House of Representatives, 44th District

Dan Blyth/Dem	Josh Williams/Rep
<p>Dave Blyth is a union activist and has a long career behind him of supporting workers' rights. He has strong progressive stances on important issues like voter's rights, reproductive rights, and equality. His environmental stance is a little lacking as it seemingly focuses solely on the health of Lake Erie while ignoring the global ecological crisis. That said, by far his most passionate stance seems to be on Ohio's gun violence epidemic and his approach to de-escalating it aligns nicely with Green Party values of non-violence.</p>	<p>In his single year in the Ohio House, Williams has repeatedly supported anti-LGBTQ+ legislation. He's also shown support for the frankly dangerous HJR 4 which would "Protect individuals from being compelled to wear a mask." This is an obvious threat to public health as, despite what some people might tell you, the COVID-19 pandemic hasn't actually ended yet.</p>

Ohio House of Representatives, 75th District

Jan Materni/Dem	Haraz Ghanbari/Rep
<p>Jan Materni has served on the Perrysburg City Council. Her website and public statements represent positions that align very closely with Green Party values. She specifically says that she will work to develop Ohio's wind and solar resources and protect Ohioans' freedoms such as the right to choose. Jan Materni participated in the June 24th protest organized by the Wood County Green Party on the second anniversary of the Dobbs decision that overturned Roe V Wade and eliminated abortion access for millions of women. She also wants fair funding for school districts, and to protect freedoms such as gay marriage and family planning. Jan Materni's positions closely match those of the Green Party.</p>	<p>The Wood County Green Party urges you: Do NOT vote for Haraz Ghanbari.</p> <p>Since his appointment to the Ohio House in 2019, Haraz has fought against clean energy, supporting and sponsoring legislation aimed at blocking wind and solar development in Ohio, while fighting for continued tax payer support of coal and nuclear power. Consistently siding with the most extreme elements of the Republican Party, he has pushed for policies such as forced genital examinations for suspected trans athletes. He has violated the oath he took as a member of the armed forces to protect the constitution by endorsing the insurrectionist Donald Trump for US President, saying nothing as Trump violated the sanctity of his fellow veterans' graves for campaign purposes. At every opportunity, he has worked against the Green Party's Key Values such as Grassroots Democracy and Ecological Wisdom. His website and campaign material contain almost no policy information, but his actions as Representative demonstrate he needs to be removed from office.</p>

Wood County Elections

County Commissioner

Philip Chrysler/Dem

Democrat Philip Chrysler is retiring from Active Service as Operations Superintendent at Ohio Air National Guard at the rank of E-8/Senior Master Sergeant after 24 years of Active Service, 30 Years total service. He has a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice. His vision is for well-maintained infrastructure, enhanced county communication (including coordinating with townships and cities), and strengthened county support services. He would work to ensure the enforcement of Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations regulations by defending those budgetary line items at the local level, and attempt to find additional funding for them so that we can mitigate the impact CAFO's have on those around them. Chrysler has been endorsed by OEC Action Fund (Ohio Environmental Council) and AFSCME Power in Action, along with AFSCME Ohio Council 8 and AFSCME Retirees (American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees). Philip Chrysler's goals better match those of the Green Party.

Ted Bowlus/Rep

Republican Ted Bowlus is completing his second four-year term as commissioner. Dr. Bowlus is a board certified podiatric surgeon who treats diseases and injuries that occur to the lower leg, ankle, and foot. He has a Bachelors from Western Michigan; a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degree from Kent State, and a Masters Degree in Neuroscience from University of Toledo Medical Center. He formerly served on the Eastwood Board of Education and County Board of Health. He advocates the return of the Commissioners' pre-COVID practice of holding monthly public meetings that include a question-and-answer period on site in the various municipalities around Wood County and including appearances at Township meetings. He was happy that appropriations raised by only 4% since 2002, but favored funding the project at the Wood County jail, which is part of a five-phase, \$28 million project.

County Recorder

Jeremy Schroeder/Dem	Connor Rose/Rep
<p>Democrat Jeremy Schroeder is a Graphic Designer/Programmer who has had some college. His experience includes more than nine years as Mayor of the Village of Weston, and two years on Village Council. He is a manager for a large-format renting facility called Off Contact. He wants to work closely with the staff to identify any concerns that are held within the office, and then expand to those who use the Recorder's Office. He would foster a collaborative environment that promotes leadership and teamwork to enhance the service delivery and office operations.</p>	<p>Republican Connor Rose is a Realtor / Auctioneer who won over the incumbent by nine votes in the Republican primary. His education includes Bowling Green Highschool, Hondros College of Real Estate, and Reppert School of Auctioneering. He has three top initiatives when it comes to the services of the Recorder's Office: improving efficiency, enhancing accessibility, and ensuring accuracy of public records by implementing new technology and/or manipulating the technology in place if possible.</p>

County Treasurer

Sean Elliot/Dem	Jane Spoerl/Rep
<p>Democrat Sean Elliott has a Bachelor's of Business Administration from the University of Toledo (major: accounting; minor: business law) and has been a licensed certified public accountant since 2009. He has worked for a Big 4 accounting firm, auditing large, publicly traded companies. Since 2013, he has worked as a senior financial analyst in the healthcare industry.</p>	<p>Republican Jane A. Spoerl, the incumbent, had 30+ years experience in retail, commercial and investment banking prior to her eight years (two terms) as Wood County Treasurer. She serves on the Wood County Board of Revision, Budget Commission and Data Processing Board. She is a board member of Otsego Endowment Fund and BG Kiwanis; treasurer of Wood County Republican Women's Club and Grand Rapids Cub Scout Pack #325.</p>