

Board of Education

Bellefonte Area Board of School Directors

Description:

Candidates (choose 5):

Mark William Badger



Party: D/R

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: N/A

Date of Birth: 10/02/1970

Education: Graduate of Glossop High School and Staffordshire University

Qualifications: B.Sc. (Hons) and Ph.D. from Staffordshire University

Mailing Address: 334 Blanchard Street Bellefonte, PA 16823

Facebook: N/A

Twitter: N/A

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: My top three priorities will be to ensure that we are offering all students in the Bellefonte School District the best educational experience we can offer, to recruit and more importantly retain the best teachers, and to be fiscally responsible. We want to maintain our high academic standards, but schooling is so much more than that. Just as important is having a great extra curricular programs that can help students explore and grow. We need to ensure that we support our teaching and support staff to the fullest. These are the folks that mold and mentor our students, and we want them to be just as enthusiastic to be going to work every day as they do about going home. We have a big obligation to our taxpayers and we want to make sure that we are staying within the bounds of our budgets, and not put any more burden on them; but at the same time we have to keep developing the school system and facilities so that they benefit the majority of the school district residents.

Julie Fitzgerald



Party: D/R

Biographical Info:

Education: B.S. Psychology, Ursinus College M.S. Educational Leadership, Central Connecticut State University

Qualifications: Career and volunteer experiences have focused on education, Willingness to serve, Long time resident of school district and parent of current student and alumni

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: My campaign is built around three simple concepts. I call them the ABCs of Education Accountability Public education provides a foundation for our community. The school board needs to be transparent in every action and identify how its decisions align with the values set forth by our community. Building for the Future All spending priorities must balance our need to be proper stewards of our tax dollars while simultaneously planning for the education of tomorrow. With a changing, global economy, our district will need to continue to maintain fiscal responsibility while investing in facilities, programs and technologies that prepare students for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Communication The school board needs to listen to the community it serves. Too often school directors come in with an agenda. I would like to see the board prioritize new ways to engage and educate the community about its work and how decisions made affect the community.

Kimberly Hearn



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: August 15

Education: Bachelor Degree in Elementary Education from University of Phoenix; Associate Degree in Business from South Hills Business School

Qualifications: I have a passion for public education. I am currently on the Bellefonte Area School District Board of Directors.

Mailing Address: 152 Lighthouse Lane Bellefonte, PA 16823

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: In the next 4 years of my term, I would like to see the completion or a master plan for completion of all facilities and the entire sports complex to ensure that each one of our students are being given every opportunity to achieve success in the classroom and in extra curricular areas. Some of our schools may be reaching the end of their life cycle, I will work hard to ensure that all of our students will have facilities that our students, staff, parents, and community can be proud of. I will seek out alternative funding sources, by researching innovated new ways or advocating to our state representatives, to help reduce the tax burden our District places on the residences of our community. I would also like to create a new literacy program where I will research, review, and work to implement literacy innovations for our younger students and their families of our community. I feel that I can be a positive asset to the school by giving a perspective of an alumni, a parent, a community member, and an educator by helping to shape and guide the education for current and future generations of Bellefonte. I would be honored if you continue to allow me to be your voice for Bellefonte Area School District.

Max O. Kroell



Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: June 23, 2001

Education: Graduating from Bellefonte Area High School in June. Attending The Pennsylvania State University, Main Campus, in the Fall

Qualifications: Student member of the BASD Construction Committee. Bellefonte Area School District Student for the past 13 years, K-12. Bellefonte Area School District, President of the Class of 2019.

Mailing Address: 365 Meadow Lane Bellefonte, PA 16823

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Max-O-Kroell-for-Bellefonte-School-Board-2301426913203836/>

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: If elected, my first and foremost priority will be to ensure that the students and educators of Bellefonte Area School District are the priority in every decision made. As someone who has spent the last 13 years as a student in the Bellefonte Area School District, I understand the challenges our students and educators face and want to bring light and give voice to those challenges. This would include supporting every educational opportunity, as well as extracurriculars and athletics which are so vital to the educational process, and developing our students to be the leaders of tomorrow. My second priority will be to ensure that all school facilities in the Bellefonte Area School District are up to date, safe, and conducive to learning. By updating outdated facilities, we will be able to advance and improve the educational process. This also includes improving our extracurricular and athletic facilities so that our students have excellent facilities to pursue their interests in the many opportunities our district offers. My final priority, but a very important one is to be a good steward of taxpayer dollars. It is important the the District avoids increasing tax rates, as not to place a financial burden on the taxpayers. It is my goal to ensure that we take advantage of grants and other sources of revenue to ensure that we can provide our students and staff with every opportunity possible, while still making smart money management decisions and avoiding increases in tax rates

Robert Lumley-Sapanski



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: April 27, 1952

Education: B.S. College of Agriculture, Penn State

Qualifications: 20 years on BASD School Board, Pres Pa School Board Assoc 2012, 6 yrs Pres BASD Board, Pa Master School Board Member Award, National School Board Distinguished Board Member Honoree

Mailing Address: 400 Raspberry Lane Bellefonte, PA 16823

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: I am proud of our accomplishments in my 20 years on the board but am still committed to providing a first-rate education in a safe environment. We are currently conducting a long overdue overhaul of our exterior facilities. We have not had a track in decades, our stadium was an embarrassment and we have very limited practice areas. I chair the Capital Campaign that is raising funds privately to make this happen without a tax hike. This will not only benefit our students in classes, band and sports but will be a great community venue. Our elementary schools are also in need of attention. We're currently seeking community input on how to remedy this situation and gathering the cost of options such as renovations or new construction. We will then go back out to the public, decide how to proceed and do so. Finally, I am committed to continually addressing how we educate our students, no matter their career path. Writing and speaking skills are crucial for success but creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, leadership and technology/media literacy are additionally what employers and higher education institutes seek. Our administrators have a clear knowledge of these challenges/opportunities and together we need to move beyond the industrial revolution classroom to a model that best serves all our students

Donna Smith



Party: D/R

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: 8/31/62

Education: Bachelor of Science Degree in Education from Clarion University of Pennsylvania, 60+ Graduate Credits, non-degree program

Qualifications: Parent of two BASD graduates, grandmother, experienced teacher, active community member, retiree, champion for public schools

Mailing Address: 251 Reichenbaugh Lane Bellefonte, PA 168238590

Facebook: @DonnaSmith4SchoolBoard

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: My top priority will remain what it has been for the past 33 years that I have spent as a teacher in this school district – our students. I will do my best to be a champion for every single one of them and will always put students' best interest first. A second priority is providing a high quality education at an affordable cost, which in turn provides homeowners with strong property values. I will strive to be a responsible steward of taxpayer money. Balancing needs with wants is challenging, but with transparency and welcome input from our staff, administrators, parents, and community at large, we can find this balance in cost-effective ways. Finally, completing the athletic facilities and planning for a new and/or renovated elementary school(s) is crucial, but I will do my part to listen to the community and do extensive research before making decisions. My vision is that Bellefonte is a premiere district where all students learn, grow, and thrive.

State College Area Board of School Directors

Description:

Candidates (choose 5):

Amy Bader



Party: D/R

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: <https://www.facebook.com/Amy-Bader-School-Director-SCASD-1482685855155109/?eid=ARBpWQOodcEobvuOM3uovzjrM-5FvJ3-eJ20HYErb5GFm0-XEOiR7tjwNIQ62rG0XzImpSXKdm5ky3bt>

Date of Birth: 02/03/1972

Education: VMD, Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania MA, Biology, Temple University BA, Biology, Temple University

Qualifications: Served on SCASD School Board 2015-present, current board member Dyslexia Reading Center of Central PA, previous board member Our Children's Center Montessori Preschool

Mailing Address: 1880 S Allen St State College, Pennsylvania 16801

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Amy-Bader-School-Director-SCASD-1482685855155109/?>

[eid=ARDanD_ZA2xIx1rbJh77bbDF5bbK8It2nZrwmDSuZNShtcMM_emfvXPX62fa1e-JJMxIK3UXhkFqZD](https://www.facebook.com/Amy-Bader-School-Director-SCASD-1482685855155109/?eid=ARDanD_ZA2xIx1rbJh77bbDF5bbK8It2nZrwmDSuZNShtcMM_emfvXPX62fa1e-JJMxIK3UXhkFqZD)

Twitter: n/a

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: My first priority would insuring continued focus and progress on the SCASD Strategic Plan, approved in 2017. This six-year plan incorporates a variety of key issues, including engagement and support of the whole student, growth for every student, closing opportunity and achievement gaps, and successful transitions and readiness for a purposeful life. Second, threaded throughout the strategic plan are goals regarding educational equity and inclusivity, which I strongly support. Educational equity encompasses a variety of concerns and touches nearly every child in some way. Creating equity establishes a culture and climate where all children can develop their skills and reach their potential. Last, a continued priority for me is fiscal stewardship. The district has maintained its financial health while achieving a variety of goals in the past several years, including the completion of updates to long-neglected facilities, improving security in buildings, significant curriculum updates and the implementation of a STEM and International Baccalaureate programs, all while planning for future needs.

Todd L. Baney



Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: <https://www.facebook.com/Todd-Baney-for-SCASD-School-Board-610707656047633/notifications/>

Date of Birth: 11/05/1969

Education: BS in Chemical Engineering from PSU 1993; MBA from PSU in 2015

Qualifications: Spent 8 years in the Army as a Chemical Officer from 1994 to 2002, where I was spent 4 years in leadership positions to include Company Commander and served 4 years in various level Operations Office where I honed my planning and organizing skills. Received an MBA in 2015 while working for a fast, growing small company.

Mailing Address: 108 Doubletree Place Port Matilda, PA 16870

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Todd-Baney-for-SCASD-School-Board-610707656047633/notifications/>

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: I am running for School Board Director because of my experience and skills I have developed as an Army Officer and company executive, along with my MBA, can be an asset to the school district. I will help with the budgeting process and decision-making to provide reasonable and feasible options while providing fresh eyes. Additionally, I feel that the School Board should be apolitical. I will put aside any political differences to make sure all decisions are based on education and education only. All the incumbents running are registered in the same party. I want to insure we aren't developing an echo chamber among our current board. As a parent of a current eight-grader, I am very interested in seeing how the school time change is impacting the district. Has attendance been impacted? Are scores up? Are grades up? If not, was it worth it for 8 minutes a day.

Gretchen Brandt



Party: D/R

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: December 20, 1973

Education: BA International Relations & Germanic Studies--University of Colorado, Boulder; MA Public Administration--Central Michigan University

Qualifications: Masters in Public Administration; Worked for the City of Cadillac, Michigan in local government; Worked for the City of Boulder, Colorado in local government

Mailing Address: 815 Walnut Spring Lane State College, PA 16801

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gsb125/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/gsb125>

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: 1) The State College Area School District Board of Directors passed a policy on Inclusive Excellence and hired a Director of Equity and Inclusivity during my tenure on the Board. Following through with the policy and supporting our new director is a top priority for me. Turning the policy into action includes listening to the experiences of students in our district and responding to them by taking action in a collaborative way with the community, the board, and the administration. 2) Maintaining facilities in the district so that our students, faculty, and staff have safe and clean environments in which to learn and work. This includes ensuring that our current building projects proceed in a timely fashion and stay on budget. Additionally, we need to make sure that we give attention to our facilities master plan so that our buildings remain in good repair on a cycle in order to avoid multiple building projects occurring simultaneously in the future. This will allow us to avoid an undue financial burden on the district and taxpayers at a later date. 3) The State College Area School District is in good financial health and recently received a AAA bond rating from Moody. Only districts in superior financial health receive this highest rating, and we are proud of the fiscal responsibility we have achieved and maintained over the last 3 1/2 years. We intend to maintain this level of fiscal health in the district and give it top priority.

Amber Concepcion



Party: D/R

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: March 25, 1979

Education: State College Area High School, 1997. Penn State University, Schreyer Honors College, 2001. (B.A. political science) Georgetown University, 2007. (M.A. in Government, ABD for doctorate in International Relations)

Qualifications: Board President, 5 yrs. Board Vice-President, 2 years. Board member, 8 yrs. Member of Finance, Facilities, and Communications committees. Local business entrepreneur. Previously board member for Our Children's Center Montessori Preschool and the Cooperative Playschool. Parent of three children in SCASD.

Mailing Address: 403 Canterbury Dr. State College, PA 16803

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AmberConcepcionSCASDBoardMember>

Twitter: @AmberConcepcion

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: 1. Academic excellence and growth for every student. The district must provide every student with rigorous, engaging, and effective curriculum and instruction. We must continue a regular curriculum update cycle and support relevant professional development for faculty and administrators, while keeping current with educational and child development research. 2. Welcoming, safe, and inclusive schools. Our schools must support the well-being of children from diverse backgrounds and circumstances, and provide a safe and nurturing environment for all our children. I will continue advocating for effective initiatives related to school climate, equity, and caring for every child in partnership with families. 3. Financial sustainability. Careful budgeting has led to the district's current strong financial position, and we must continue to ensure the district's long-term financial health. We are closely monitoring major cost drivers, such as growing employee benefit costs, so that we can meet future operating budget needs, while also planning for future facility needs.

Daniel Duffy



Party: D/R

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: November 2, 1949

Education: B.S. St. Joseph's College (Philadelphia) 1971; M.S Penn State University 1974; D.Ed. Penn State University 1983

Qualifications: I have been a resident of the State College community since coming here for graduate school from the Philadelphia area in 1972. My children attended the State

College Area schools, graduating from State High in 2003 and 2004, I worked in education as a consultant and as a school psychologist for almost 35 years before retiring in 2011. I am seeking a second term as School Director for the State College Area School District.

Mailing Address: 252 Ellen Ave State College, PA 16801

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/pg/DanDuffy4SchoolBoard/about/?ref=page_internal

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: My priorities for service as school director address the need for a balanced approach to budgeting and programming, the critical importance of school safety and student mental health, and recognition of the key role of parents and families as partners in guiding the learning and development of our students, their children. First, we need to strike a balance in our budget process to stay focused both on managing our long term construction debt obligations while remaining alert to the need for improvements in classroom instruction. We need to be prepared to respond when changes in programs and instruction are required to achieve our strategic goals to prepare students for lifelong learning and participation in the world's economy. My second priority is to support the district's efforts to provide physically safe school environments while assuring that the mental health needs of our students are fully recognized and addressed. We must continue the productive and collaborative working relationships with local police to assure student safety. It is equally necessary to develop preventative programs that support students who may be at risk for mental disorders. My third priority is to advocate for school programs that are based upon the principle that parents know their children best and possess the power to be the most influential in their child's life. Students will be most successful and schools the most effective when there is a strong partnership between home and school.

Laurel Zydney



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: 01/30/1962

Education: Public Schools K-12; 1978 Skyline HS, Dallas TX; 1982 BA in History, Yale.

Qualifications: Elected to SCASD Board 2011; Committee memberships: Finance, Communication, CCL (Culture, Climate, & Learning); ongoing board member education through conferences and workshops. Parent of current HS student and 2 SCASD graduates. Community involvement: WPSU Folk Show host; St. Andrew's Church; Community Cafe; PSU Women's Club. Previous experience (Delaware): school and state PTA officer; school and district level shared decision making and long-term planning boards.

Mailing Address: 866 Walnut Spring Lane State College , PA 16801

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: My top priorities are proactive community engagement, transparent governance and budgeting, and comprehensive educational opportunities for all students. Reaching out to families of current and future students, as well as to the broader community, is critical to assuring the community understands the challenges facing students and schools in our fast-changing society and to maintaining community support of public education. The Board should proactively encourage input as the district assesses needs, evaluates and strengthens existing programs, and considers innovative educational approaches and options. The Board must also be highly transparent in establishing priorities and respectful budgets for current operations and long-term projects. With thoughtful, inclusive planning, the district can continue to provide safe and nurturing schools where every child gets a strong foundation that includes excellent academics, life skills and career preparation, and opportunities for participation and achievement in athletics, the arts, service, and leadership.

Municipal Councils & Supervisors

Bellefonte Borough Council Ward 1

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Douglas A. Johnson



Party: D/R

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: N/A

Date of Birth: 1-20-1951

Education: Bellefonte Area High School US Army Signal School Engineering courses, Job related.

Qualifications: 1 Term Bellefonte Planning Commission 1 Four year term Bellefonte Borough Council

Mailing Address: 610 East Linn Street Bellefonte, Pa 16823

Facebook: N/A

Twitter: N/A

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: 1. Formulate the budget and enforce ordinances and resolutions, adopt a budget and the difficult task of levying taxes when needed. Work with the Borough administration and the tax base to formulate a budget affordable to the residents of Bellefonte. We need to find other resources to fund our Borough and infrastructure. 2. Consider studies to consolidate both police, and fire services in the Borough of Bellefonte and surrounding townships. Approve expenditures and hire employees in the best interest of the borough residents. 3. Be a problem solver as an agent for the borough citizens, be the recipient of complaints, ideas and suggestions of the borough residents. Thus being a public servant to our borough residents. Make every effort to attract new commerce to Bellefonte. Work closely with County government to exchange ideas and infrastructure demands within the Borough of Bellefonte. This can only be accomplished by open dialog between the Borough and County officials.

Bellefonte Borough Council Ward 2

Description:

Candidates (choose 2):

Deborah Cleeton

Party: D

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: 1951

Education: Graduate State College Area High School

Qualifications: Bellefonte Zoning Hearing Board; board of directors, Center for Alternatives in Community Justice; planning committees, Bellefonte Arts & Crafts Fair/Bellefonte Victorian Christmas; volunteer, RSVP

Mailing Address: 450 South Allegheny Street Bellefonte, PA 16823

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: Public transportation: Advocate for the use of public transportation to reduce traffic congestion and lower carbon emissions. Renewable energy: Encourage pilot programs to explore renewable energy generation for the residents and businesses within the Borough. Considerate Development: Promote economic development that supports the needs of all citizens of our community.

Gina Thompson



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: 1/31/1984

Education: M.Ed. Curriculum and Instruction, Penn State University. B.A. Secondary Education, Social Studies. Penn State University

Mailing Address: 230 Burnside St. Bellefonte, PA 16823

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gthompsonbellefontecouncil/>

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: My top three priorities as a Bellefonte Borough Council member are to 1) enhance and support outdoor recreation in this region; 2) help to develop a successful and thriving downtown; and 3) maintain a fiscally responsible budget. I am deeply passionate about the outdoors. There is nothing more wonderful about this region than its beautiful forests, streams, and availability for outdoor recreation. Outdoor recreation brings in tourism and positively affects towns that take advantage of it. I look forward to supporting opportunities that bring people into our region to experience all that we have to offer in regards to the outdoors. My other passion is local living and local community. I've been a resident of Bellefonte for 15 years and it's been exciting to see this town become a vibrant and energetic community. People from all over the region and state are visiting Bellefonte and eager to experience what we have to offer. I will continue promote growth and sustainability in our community and to support the local businesses in any way that I can. Finally, as chair of the finance committee, I understand how important it is that residents do not see large increases in their taxes. Therefore, it's important to me to carefully examine our expenditures and ask the difficult questions of how, why, and where borough money goes. My goal is to continue to maintain a fiscally responsible budget as we have now and to prevent unnecessary spending.

Bellefonte Borough Council Ward 3

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Joanne Tosti-Vasey



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: <https://www.facebook.com/JoanneTV4PDSC>

Date of Birth: 1953

Education: Ph.D. Penn State University, M.S. Virginia Tech, B.S. Virginia Tech

Qualifications: Member of Council since 2016; Current President of Council; Vice-Chair, Spring Creek Watershed Commission; Vice-President, Bellefonte Historic Preservation Foundation; Member, Bellefonte Inter-Valley Chamber of Commerce; Chair, Centre County Advisory Council to the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission; Civil Rights and Women's Rights Activist

Mailing Address: PO Box 68 Bellefonte, PA 16823

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/JTostiVaseyBellefonteCouncil>

Twitter: @tosti-vasey

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: If re-elected, I will continue to 1) Work with the business and the arts/cultural communities (e.g., Downtown Bellefonte, Inc.; Bellefonte Inter-Valley Chamber of Commerce; Bellefonte Historical and Cultural Association; Historic Bellefonte, Inc., etc.) to continue developing a vibrant downtown Bellefonte. 2) Work with the county government to balance the needs of our shared town. Since becoming a member of council, I worked with the county commissioners to create a successful annual joint town hall meeting where both the county and Bellefonte Borough presents what's happening here and then listening and responding to community questions. 3) Plan for and develop an integrated Waterfront District and downtown Commercial District in an architecturally and environmentally sensitive and appropriate manner. This includes working with the Bellefonte Historic and Architectural Review Board, the Industrial Authority, and the multiple community preservation organizations. These priorities, however, won't come without due diligence and oversight. We need elected officials who are concerned about an open and responsive local government who listen to the public and who work with local businesses for an improved downtown. I'll fight for these priorities.

Benner Township Board of Supervisors

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Thomas Kalinowski



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: <https://www.facebook.com/Kalinowski4Benner-150903922495549/>

Date of Birth: September 18, 1962

Education: B.A. History, University of Delaware

Qualifications: Concerned citizen

Mailing Address: 45 Ash Street Bellefonte, PA 16823

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/thomas.kalinowski.142>

Twitter: kalinowski4ben1

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: My top priority will be climate change. Last year was, by far, the wettest ever in Benner Township. State College normally averages 40 inches of rain a year; last year it reached 64 inches. This is not a unique event - this is the new normal. Benner Township needs to adopt new strategies to deal with a new climate. In the short term, we need to create a literal rainy-day fund to deal with climate-related emergencies. In the long term, we need to update the township's zoning ordinance to reflect the new reality. Another top priority is police protection. Unlike neighboring Spring and Patton Townships, Benner does not have its own police force, instead relying on the State Police for law enforcement. A plan is now in place in Harrisburg to charge municipalities like ours for State Police protection - under the current formula Benner would have to pay over half a million dollars a year. Whether share the Spring Township police force, continue to use the State Police, or create our own police force, we're going to have to find a way to pay for it. Finally, our township's residents are concerned about the current Board's efforts to use a rezoning effort to

reduce environmental protection for Spring Creek, which is the jewel of Centre County and the state's top trout fishing stream. I want to see our environmental protections maintained, which will also involve mean anticipating the effects of climate change.

Larry J. Lingle

Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: Larrylingleforsupervisor.com

Date of Birth: 9/24/55

Education: Graduation from State College Area High School Graduation from Centre County Vo-Tech

Qualifications: Faith United Methodist , Mission Team Leader Benner Twsp Planning Commission Sowing Seeds in Belize ,Board member

Mailing Address: 1275 Purdue Mountain Road Bellefonte, PA 16823

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: Improve communication with Twsp Residents. (Face book) Helping to review current zoning issues with upgrades to be user friendly to current land owners. Help to provide better road conditions.

College Township Council

Description:

Candidates (choose 3):

Dustin Best



Party: N

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: Facebook: @BestCollegeTownship

Date of Birth: August 27, 1983

Education: M.S. Biotechnology B.S. Biology A.A.S Nanotechnology

Qualifications: Leadership, Values, Vision. Quality Professional, Veteran & National Guard Member, Penn State and Lock Haven Alum, Family-man, Avid Outdoorsman.

Mailing Address: PO Box 664 Lemont, PA 16851

Facebook: @BestCollegeTownship

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: It all begins and is centered with Vision: To be the Centre region leader in sustainable economic development, environmental stewardship, and community engagement. To accomplish this these three lines of effort, we must consider the following practices: 1. Economic development • Invest in small business, keep what we have and attract more. Lean on local "downtown" atmospheres • Sustain existing larger commercial business • Attract more innovative companies and small industrial, such as renewable energy and sustainability businesses 2. Environmental stewardship • Invest and promote in renewable energy-this is the future of both a healthy earth and a thriving economy (commercial business, small business, residential)-Green building codes, etc. • Reduce waste, continue to work with the COG on education and easier ways to recycle, etc. • Preserve open space and offer incentive to do so 3. Community • Develop a Township Vision and community mission • Continue to foster a relationship to the Penn State. Lean on the expertise available right next door for solutions to issues. • Transparency and improve access to ordinances. Where does all our tax money go. It isn't easy to find our ordinances and comply as a good citizen. • Work better and more consistently with our neighboring municipalities • Offer solutions to issues and make resources available

D. Richard Francke



Party: D/R

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: March 30, 1966

Education: Diploma, State College Area High School; Bachelor of Science, Operations Management; Minor, Business Logistics, Pennsylvania State University

Qualifications: Retired First Sergeant, Pennsylvania Army National Guard; Previous Member, College Township Zoning Hearing Board; Previous Commissioner, College Township Planning Commission; Current Councilman, College Township Council; Current Commissioner, Centre County Planning Commission

Mailing Address: 1621 Elizabeth Road State College, PA 16801

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: One of the many projects I've had the honor of participating with my Council peers on is the development of a draft Mission Statement for College Township: "To protect and enhance quality of life, while facilitating responsible growth and maintaining harmony between rural and urban areas, in an efficient and responsible manner for all its citizens." This Mission Statement is supported by a number of goals that help focus my and, hopefully, the Township's efforts. Of those, my top three priorities of the six currently proposed are: to promote economic (re)development activities that increase citizen access to quality work opportunities while maintaining the Township's tax base; to insure the availability and access to adequate and affordable housing for every resident; and to facilitate Township growth while protecting and preserving the environment and maximizing the use of public infrastructure. None of the above can occur in exclusion of any of the others. To accomplish them will require good communication to ensure our elected and appointed officials understand the wants, desires and needs of those they represent. With that understanding, sound planning principles must be employed to chart the path forward via zoning, ordinances, policies, etc. Finally, the path will require leadership to make the tough and sometimes unpopular decisions to keep the Township moving forward without sacrificing what we hold dear today.

Steven J. Lyncha

Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: - no response -

Carla Stilson



Party: D

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: carlaforcouncil.org

Date of Birth: 09/29/1982

Education: B.S. Secondary Education- English & Communications, Penn State University

Qualifications: 6 years on College Township Council

Mailing Address: 1528 Puddintown Rd. State College, PA 16801

Facebook: Carla Stilson for College Township Council

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: An elected official's priorities often come out as "sticking points" that they bring up repeatedly, whatever issue comes across their desk. My top three are the following: 1) Communication and Readability. It's our responsibility to provide information via a variety of media. That information, as well as our rules and regulations, should be clear, concise, and at an 8th-grade reading level. 2) Connection. I constantly seek ways to connect spaces so people can experience their community without relying on cars. College Township has a great start in this regard, but there remain many opportunities to improve. 3) Affordability. The mean household income in our township has been outpacing the state average for decades, which means many of our most valuable community members can no longer afford to live in our community. I am always looking at how our decisions will affect our neighbors who don't have flexibility in their budgets.

Paul Takac



Party: D

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: www.Paul4CollegeTownship.com

Date of Birth: April 25, 1965

Education: B.A. State University of New York at Buffalo M.A. Southern Methodist University M.S. Maryland University of Integrative Health

Qualifications: Successful 30+ career in business and education. Long time resident of College Township and the Centre Region.

Mailing Address: 1341 Shamrock Ave. State College, PA 16801

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Paul-Takac-for-College-Township-Council-103208741055060/>

Twitter: @Paul4CollegeTwp

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: In College Township we must strike the right balance between economic growth and quality of life for those who live and work here. Out of date zoning and ordinances must be updated and modernized to encourage desirable development. Residents already face significant impacts, such as increased residential traffic, from recent development that must also be addressed. Additionally, I support the development of a comprehensive College Township Land Use plan to guide future decision-making. Finally, I will make it a priority to increase Township Council's communication and engagement with the community. Not only will I promote the Township's social media communication strategy, I plan to focus on proactive outreach and improved responsiveness to ensure that all stakeholders are heard. To address these and other issues I will leverage the values, skills, and experience gained over a successful 30+ year career in business and education in order to partner with residents, business owners, and community organizations as we navigate this time of significant challenge and great opportunity.

Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors Ward 1

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Laura Dininni



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: March 14, 1968

Education: BS, Psychology, 1991

Qualifications: I'm a 30 year resident of the region, and an active community member knowledgeable about the issues.

Mailing Address: 784 Beaver Branch Road Pennsylvania Furnace, PA 16865

Facebook: <https://fb.me/LauraDForFergusonTownshipSupervisor>

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: My first priority is that citizens are given a seat at the table and voice in decision-making. I'll establish citizen advisory committees to assist with important decisions affecting the community. Committees I've helped to establish include the Township Parks Committee and a Sourcewater Protection Stakeholder Committee. I strongly support government that's transparent, accessible and responsive to citizens. I'll continue to work one-on-one with, and advocate for citizens. And I'll continue to build an economic development strategy that invests in our natural and agricultural heritage. We have a beautiful natural world around us in Ferguson Township. Not only beautiful, it is also a solid base on which our agricultural economy was founded and a way to grow the economy sustainably. I will continue to work with the residents of Ferguson Township to plan and invest in economic and community development that builds on the natural beauty and heritage of the Township.

Ralph F. Wheland



Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: Coming Soon!

Date of Birth: May 4, 1950

Education: Graduate of State College Area High School, U.S. Air Force Electronics School

Qualifications: I am a life-long Ferguson Township resident who has served 23 years on the planning commission, at times as the chair. I have also served as the Ferguson Township representative to the Centre Region Planning Commission and on various subcommittees throughout the years focusing on local development and township ordinances.

Mailing Address: 3500 Tadpole Rd Penna. Furnace , PA 16865

Facebook: Coming Soon!

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: 1. Fiscal responsibility through prudent use of Township resources and tax revenue.

Ferguson Township has historically been conservative in budget management and I would strive to continue that policy. 2. Intelligent development and farmland preservation. .

Growth is vital to a community, but must be carefully planned as permitted through zoning. 3. Quality of life. I would support our police, and public works departments as they

ensure and enhance public safety. I would promote development of parks and open space for resident recreation and athletic opportunities.

Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors Ward 2

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Prasenjit Mitra



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: 05/09/1971

Education: Ph.D., Electrical Engineering, Stanford University, 2003 M.S. Computer Science, The University of Texas at Austin, 1994 B. Tech. (Hons.), Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, 1993

Qualifications: I am not a politician. I have been my academic my whole life. I have extensive leadership experience and want to use my skills to serve my township. I have

been chosen as a Fellow in the Academic Leadership program for the Big 10 Academic Alliance in 2019. I have served as the Associate Dean for Research for the College of Information Sciences and Technology at Penn State. Prior to that I was the chair of the faculty council (equivalent to a department chair) in our college. I have raised over four million dollars in research funding and successfully spent it to pursue high quality research.

Mailing Address: 2367 SAGAMORE DRIVE STATE COLLEGE, Pennsylvania (PA) 16803

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: 1. Citizen Engagement and Involvement: Use my information technology background to figure out how we can inform and get better participation from our citizens in municipal governance and decisions. Website improvements, more effective use of social media, comprehensive communication strategies, engaging with community activists and action groups, hosting or facilitating community days/events have all been shown to be effective. 2. Climate Change: We need prudent and sustainable development of our township. We need to preserve the farmlands where advisable and we need to develop our town sustainably to leave a better place for our children and grandchildren. I will focus my efforts towards sustainable plans for evidence-based, cost-effective methods to reduce the carbon footprint of our township. 3. Responsible Spending: My objective is to get the best value for any township money we spend. I am not penny-wise/pound-foolish. That is, my objective is not always to reduce current spending if it increases our costs down the road. But, I want to be a very prudent steward of our taxpayers' money. How much money do we have? What is the best way to spend that money? I am a deliberate decision-maker not afraid of investing in our future but I also want to cut waste wherever I can to get the best possible deal for our taxpayers.

Janet Whitaker



Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: April 11, 1950

Education: BA. Social Science

Qualifications: High School teacher for 24 yrs. Ferguson Township Supervisor 4 yrs.

Mailing Address: 1225 Deerfield Dr. State College, PA 16803

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: If elected, I would like to help in passing legislation that encourages family values. As an alternative to digital entertainment, I would emphasize family activities through the development and maintenance of parks. In regards to the general welfare of the community, I would support the police and first responders in keeping our community safe from drugs and gangs. Safety and a healthy community are important. Maintaining roadways, finding alternative ways to reduce traffic and remaining sensitive to our townships infrastructure are things I am passionate about. I would like to see our township be on the cutting edge in the treatment and eradication of Lyme disease. Educating the public about how prevalent the tick problem is in Ferguson Township is key. I would work to encourage well planned business development in the township. Job are vital to living in a dynamic community. If elected, I would listen to my constituents ideas and concerns when weighing and making decisions that affect our community. .

Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors Ward 3

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Patty Stephens



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: 53 years old

Education: BA - Penn State, MSSA - Case Western Reserve

Qualifications: 24 years as a Navy Wife active in Military organizations and community service at each duty station. I was a proud stay at home mom/ foundation for our children through our 7 Duty stations and countless moves (domestic and overseas).

Mailing Address: 1406 Linn St. State College, PA 16803

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: My top 3 priorities would be protecting the environment, the growth and protection of public transportation and community engagement. I believe addressing each of these can be done through personal education, practice and active listening. I enjoy living in a university town that offers many classes and lectures on environmental issues. I enjoy the information and the discussions. As a non driver, I practice the use of public transit daily. Advocating for increased use of public transit is very important to me. Having always been the "new person", I have made a habit of getting involved as a way of knowing my community and neighbors. I enjoy giving back to each community that I live in.

Jeremie Thompson



Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: <http://www.jeremiethompson.com>

Date of Birth: March 4, 1989

Education: Penn State University, 2012: BS in Labor and Employment Relations with concentrations in Human Resources & Organizational Leadership; and a Minor in Business and The Liberal Arts.

Qualifications: Ferguson Township Planning Commission & Centre Regional Planning Commission Representative. Career experience in Customer Service and Retail Management.

Mailing Address: 1003 West Aaron Drive 5H State College, PA 16803

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/JeremieFTWP/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/JeremieFTWP>

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: 1. Housing: Promote housing options that are more inclusive to families, young professionals, seniors, and people with disabilities. We need to collaborate with residents, housing professionals, the Centre Region Council of Governments (COG), and other stakeholder groups collectively to create solutions that address the housing concerns and needs of the Township. 2. Transportation: Transportation improvements that will mitigate traffic issues while ensuring safety throughout our neighborhoods. We have numerous options from education, engineering, and enforcement that we can implement to address

cut-through traffic, speeding, dangerous intersections/roads, school bus safety concerns, etc. Furthermore, we should look ahead at the future of multi-modal transportation and ways we can better serve our residents no matter how they travel around the Township. 3. Planning: Analyze the impacts of current development and explore/plan for future development opportunities. We should address long-term planning in a smart and proactive manner. In addition, further development should take into account the capabilities of fire protection & public safety, transportation, and other essential services and resources.

Ferguson Township Supervisor At Large

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Lisa Strickland

Party: D

Biographical Info:

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/lisaforFerguson>

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: As Supervisor, my top priorities will focus on preserving and enhancing our quality of life in Ferguson Township: Protecting our natural and agricultural areas, responsible budgeting and spending, and ensuring public safety. In the face of increasing growth and development pressures, all three of these issues pose challenges to the Township. To ensure the protection of natural resources and sustainability of agriculture, it will be vital that we preserve the Regional Growth Boundary and concentrate development within this area. I will be committed to managing the rising costs of infrastructure and public services in a fair and equitable way through strategic spending and critical reviews of budget line items. Finally, I will pursue long range planning with input from across the community to ensure that public safety needs from emergency services to safe pedestrian crossings and bike lanes are prioritized and funded.

Halfmoon Township Supervisor-4 yr term

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Patricia Hartle

Party: R

Biographical Info:

Mailing Address: 266 Toe Hill Rd. Port Matilda, PA 16870

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: - no response -

Frank Keshvari

Party: D

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: 01/16/1958

Education: BS

Mailing Address: 83 Blue Spruce St. Port Matilda, PA 16870

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: 1 - Balance Budget 2 - Watch expenses 3 - Cater to Taxpayers

Halfmoon Township Supervisor-6 yr term

Description:

Candidates (choose 2):

Charles Beck



Party: R

Biographical Info:

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: You should be free to do what you want with your property, so I'd like to reduce ordinances requiring permits for activities such as building an accessory structure like a deck, shed, gazebo, or play structure. It's also important to invest money in infrastructure. Some well populated roads could use widening, shoulder work, or pothole repair. But this money has to come from somewhere, and it shouldn't come from raising taxes. Instead, some areas of spending could be cut to allow for the money to be used more wisely. We should also make the municipal building on Municipal Lane more accessible to residents, while also fully utilizing the building for Township use, instead of renting additional space. I've lived in Stormstown my whole life, and I love the balance between rural and urban living. But now, Halfmoon Township is becoming too similar to State College. Let's keep Halfmoon Township rural.

David Piper

Party: R

Biographical Info:

Mailing Address: 5001 Halfmoon Valley Rd. Warriors Mark, PA 16877

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: - no response -

Mark Stevenson

Party: D

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: N/A

Date of Birth: August 11, 1961

Education: BA - Penn State: Prelaw; MA- American University: International Economics and U.S. Foreign Policy; Chartered Financial Analyst, (CFA)

Qualifications: Served for 11 years as Halfmoon Township Supervisor, including Chair of the Board multiple years; Served on the SEDA-COG Board of Directors; Served as Vice Chair on the Spring Creek Watershed Commission; Currently Vice Chair and Halfmoon's representative to the Upper Bald Eagle - Halfmoon Council of Governments; Certificate of Completion - Penn State Economic Development in Pennsylvania Course; Working with Port Matilda Volunteer Fire Company to help strengthen their membership and finances;

Mailing Address: 463 Shanely Drive Port Matilda, PA 16870

Facebook: N/A

Twitter: N/A

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: My three top priorities: 1) Build the financial strength/viability of the volunteer fire companies and EMS providers that keep our township safe; 2) Explore ways to purchase the development rights for some or all the land in Halfmoon Township that abuts Patton Township near Grays Woods to keep it ag land forever; and 3) Build community in Halfmoon Township so our residents can enjoy an increasingly connected and vibrant place to live. Strengthening our first responders: We live in a region that is the largest in the state still supported by volunteer fire companies, but these public safety bodies are struggling mightily to find volunteers and to stay financially solvent. And they face these struggles to keep us safe purely as volunteers. I will address this crisis by supporting significant increases in our annual budgets to fund these organizations and do everything I can to drive up their membership ranks. Exploring permanently preserving land: While a long shot, I would love to use the Township's Open Space Preservation Program to leverage the County's Ag Land preservation program and private donors' funds to attempt to negotiate the purchase of development rights so this land can never be developed. I

will work with interested land preservation organizations to pursue this goal. Building Community: I will seek to establish a Halfmoon Citizens Sustainability Group to pursue more sustainable ways to conduct township business, which in the long run saves us all money

Harris Township Board of Supervisors

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Bruce E. Lord



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Education: PhD, Penn State

Qualifications: Harris Township Board of Supervisors; Chair, COG Parks Capital Committee; Chair, COG Steering Committee for Parks and Recreation Regional Comprehensive Plan; Past Chair Harris Township Shade Tree Commission; and Past Chair Harris Township Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.

Mailing Address: 224 East Main Street Boalsburg, PA 16827

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: My top priority is to work with our Planning Commission and Township Staff to insure that development in the township is done in a responsible manner that preserves the unique character of the Township. Continue to work with other municipalities in the Centre Region to develop a comprehensive plan to guide recreation and open space planning in to the future. Cooperate with staff and my fellow supervisors to be good stewards of our residents tax dollars, while keeping the Township on a fiscally sound footing.

Patton Township Board of Supervisors

Description:

Candidates (choose 2):

Elliot Abrams



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: weatherscaape.org

Date of Birth: 5/31/1947

Education: BS, MS in Meteorology, PSU Distinguished graduate, USAF Officer Training School

Qualifications: Have served for 36 years, but still leaning. Elected officials are working for the people, not the other way around

Mailing Address: 115 Saraway Port Matilda, PA 16870

Facebook: Elliot Abrams fan page

Twitter: accuElliot

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: 1. Maintain and improve upon the practice of good service for the people of Patton Township. It is important to listen to concerns and respond as well as possible. 2. Make sure that when we spend taxpayer dollars, a guiding principle is that we are investing for the future. We provide services realizing our population includes individuals with varying needs, wants, abilities, appearance, passions, concerns, lifestyles and beliefs. 3, Work to maintain and enhance quality of life. Provide and improve the services people expect from their municipality and stay within the budget.

Aaron M. Miller



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: <https://www.facebook.com/Aaron-Miller-for-Patton-Township-Board-of-Supervisors-1949407928700396/>

Date of Birth: 6-11-1983

Education: Ph.D. Human Development and Family Studies, August 2019

Qualifications: Resident of Patton Township and a desire to serve my community

Mailing Address: 118 McKivison Court State College, PA 16803

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Aaron-Miller-for-Patton-Township-Board-of-Supervisors-1949407928700396/>

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: 1. Affordable housing - The cost of living continues to rise, as do real estate prices. The effect this has on the rental market, and on lower to middle income families, cannot be overstated. It's become a big challenge for young professionals and families to get established in this and surrounding townships. Finding affordable housing solutions while working with the township, CRCOG, developers and non-profit organizations (SCCLT for example) is one of my major goals as a supervisor. 2. Parks and play spaces - One of the greatest assets our region has is its parks and open spaces. Organizations like Clearwater Conservancy and our CR Parks and Rec have done amazing work at making recreation spaces for families, both natural and planned. Something I would like to see is a continued push to create bike trails and walking paths connecting new developments to the rest of the community. 3. Promoting and growing local business - In Patton Township the growth of commercial space along North Atherton Street continues, and yet most of these spaces are filled by national chains. I would like to see some of the new commercial spaces, such as those in the proposed Patton Crossing plan, be taken up by local entrepreneurs. Local restaurants are more likely to be invested in the community and driven to appeal to customers outside of the student population.

Rush Township Supervisor

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Samuel Estright

Party: D

Biographical Info:

Mailing Address: 175 State St. Box 116 Sandy Ridge, PA 16677

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: - no response -

Jason Vaux

Party: R

Biographical Info:

Mailing Address: 164 Hillside Rd. Philipsburg, PA 16866

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: - no response -

Spring Township Board of Supervisors

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Frank Royer

Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: - no response -

State College Borough Council

Description:

Candidates (choose 4):

Jesse Barlow



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: www.barlowforcouncil.com

Date of Birth: July 8, 1955

Education: B.A., Mathematics and Computer Science, University of Kansas, 1977; M.S. Statistics, Northwestern University, 1980; Ph.D. Computer Science, Northwestern University, 1981.

Qualifications: Board Member, State College Land Trust, 2014-2016; Member, Borough Council, since 2016; Member, Information Technology Committee, National League of Cities, since 2017.

Mailing Address: 1427 S Pugh St State College, Pennsylvania 16801

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/barlow4boroughcouncil/>

Twitter: None

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: My first goal is to work toward a sustainable State College Borough and Centre Region. On June 3, Borough Council unanimously passed a resolution I authored to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions and to move toward 100% renewable energy by 2050. The Borough has already set short term goals up to 2022, we need to set intermediate goals for years in between 2022 and 2050. During the zoning rewrite, I will continue to push for greener building standards and I will continue to argue for sustainable growth in the Centre Region. We also need to work with the Centre Region Council of Governments to plan for a future with a changing climate. My second goal is to remain engaged in Council's important work in sustaining strong neighborhoods, in sustaining a budget that works for us, and keeping a downtown that we all enjoy. These issues play an important part in keeping State College's high quality of life. My last but not least goal is to embrace State College's diversity and pursue policies that are welcoming to all residents. That includes student residents, retirees, long-term residents, and young professionals. That means being welcoming to LGBTQA residents, residents of color, and immigrants. During my first term, with my enthusiastic support, Council passed an ordinance banning gay conversion therapy in the Borough and established an LGBTQ Advisory Board. State College's diversity will continue to be an important part of its future.

Deanna Behring



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: <https://www.behringfortheborough.com/>

Date of Birth: 9/8/63

Education: B.A. Economics, French and Public Policy (Albion College, MI); M.A. International Economic Development (Ohio University); PhD Communications (Penn State University)

Qualifications: Proven executive leadership in academia and government, including in the White House (Clinton administration) and Central Intelligence Agency; Community leader and Board member (Central Pennsylvania Community Action; Awesome Foundation; Friends of Fuse; various parent and booster organizations);

Mailing Address: 413 Ridge Avenue State College, PA 16803

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BehringfortheBorough/>

Twitter: @Behring4Borough

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: My priorities are the three Es: Environment, Economy, and Equity. Environment--we must be more aggressive to adapt to a changing climate by promoting low-carbon living with walking/biking trails, support for public and creative transportation options, and borough investments. Economy--we need to actively support innovative people and ideas to diversify our economic base, keep young people in the borough, and strengthen our tax base. Equity--we need to move quickly to address the lack of affordable housing and ensure a safe place for all members of our community. All of this must be underpinned by fiscal responsibility, with better transparency and communication with our partners in the business and non-profit sectors, our university neighbor, our surrounding communities, and other government entities. With training in economics, public policy and communications, and experience building multicultural partnerships for program development, I am ready to deliver on this vision!

Tom Dougherty III



Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: tomd4bc.com

Date of Birth: 10/08/1998

Education: Pittsburgh Central Catholic High School Class of 2017 - University of Pittsburgh Russian Summer Language Institute - Penn State College of Liberal Arts 2021

Qualifications: Student Representative on the State College Borough Council. 2018 through 2019 - University Park Undergraduate Association At-Large Representative and

Intrafraternal Council Representative 2018 through present - Vice-President of Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity Nittany Chapter 2018 through present

Mailing Address: 232 East Nittany Ave State College, PA 16801

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/tomd4bc/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/tomd4bc>

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: Increase equitable growth of State College in a safe way - The Borough of State College is reflecting a more diverse community and we must make sure that we are growing our community sustainably. Planning welcoming and embracing events for our different communities, while focusing on the safety of those groups is key to growing a safe and truly great State College. Before the end of 2020 I want to have a State College Borough PRIDE Festival to demonstrate our welcoming community to all people and reassure that their safety is our priority. Coordinating other events with the Community Engagement Office in the borough will make our State College a Safe Space. More access to Affordable Housing for an Affordable Community - Allowing all members of our community to apply for affordable housing. With the increase of apartments downtown, there should also be an increase of units allocated for low-income residents. I want to make sure all members of our community can find State College a comfortable place to live in. This includes attracting diverse businesses to stimulate our local economy with the continuation of Co-operative spaces. An increase of sustainable initiatives throughout State College and the implementation of a renewable energy goal by the end of 2020 - With the urgency of climate change, the State College Borough should be making strives to be a leader in sustainability and the Green movement. We can be the role model throughout Pennsylvania.

Janet Engeman



Party: D/R

Biographical Info:

Education: B.A Economics

Qualifications: Incumbent State College Borough Council Member, Experience in Management, Design, Organization, and Facilitation. Environmental Activist.

Facebook: Janet Engeman for State College Borough Council

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: My top three priorities are: Livability: We must address affordable housing, environmental issues such as clean air and water, local job development, and promotion of diversity. Transparency: We must continue to support and encourage community involvement in local decision-making. Sustainability: We must do our part to combat climate change by supporting green solutions for energy and life style activities.

Lynn B. Herman



Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: October 30, 1956

Education: B.A. Political Science, B.A. History, Masters of Public Administration

Qualifications: I was elected PA State Representative for 24 years for this area including State College Borough, serving on the House Education Committee and Sub-committee on Higher Education so the concerns of our local schools and Penn State could be heard, Chairman of the House Local Government Committee where all the legislation dealing with boroughs, townships, and Councils of Governments came through my committee for consideration, member of the Local Government Commission, Chairman of College Township Council, Chairman of State College Borough Authorities Board and Tree Commission.

Mailing Address: 638 E. McCormick Ave State College, PA 16801

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: My top priority is the preservation of State College Borough's neighborhoods, community parks, open spaces, and beautiful tree lined streets. Neighborhood preservation for Borough residents is imperative as we have seen single family homes being sold and turned into apartment dwellings to accommodate the ever increasing demand for more housing for Penn State students. Many students, and other college age people with disrespectful behaviors, come to State College for sporting events, the Arts Festival, 4th Fest, and other occasions and encroach on the quality of life for long-time State College residents. I would put pressure on Penn State officials to provide more dormitory space on campus for future college applicants. More University Park dormitories would curb the need for more housing in State College neighborhoods. I favor zero based budgeting as a method of holding the line on property taxes. I will work for necessary improvements of our local streets with minimal disruption to residents and neighborhoods. Street contractors need to do a better job than past years in repaving Atherton Street so as to minimize traffic disruptions, uneven street lanes, and pot holes.

Peter Marshall



Party: D/R

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: None

Date of Birth: 5/14/37

Education: Bachelor's Degree in Business at Westminster College, New Wilmington, PA
Master's Degree in Public Administration from the Wharton Graduate School, University of

Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Qualifications: Full time municipal manager for 40 years. Managed State College for 17 years. Managed university communities for 30 years. Municipal consultant in Pennsylvania with over 45 contracts. I am very knowledgeable about Pennsylvania municipal law, municipal services, municipal finance. I am also very familiar with the kinds of problems that State College and other University communities face. If elected, I will not require time to become familiar with State College operations or with the role of a State College Council member.

Mailing Address: 500 E. Marylyn Ave. H-127 State College, PA 16801

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: Family Friendly Neighborhoods The Borough should work to improve family friendly neighborhoods. It is important for families to continue to find the Borough as a great place to live. Families add to the fabric of our community and they typically pay the Earned Income Tax (EIT), the Borough's most important revenue source. Losing families would affect the ability of the Borough to continue to provide quality services. I will seek creative ways to help neighborhoods. A Welcoming Community It is critically important for State College to be a welcoming and safe place for everyone who lives here and works and studies here, regardless of race, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or physical or mental abilities. The Borough Council and staff should be the leaders in these efforts. Environmental Sustainability Environmental sustainability should also be a priority for State College. This must continue as aggressively as possible.

Katherine Watt



Party: O

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: <https://bailiwicknews.com/2019-borough-council-campaign/>

Date of Birth: Dec. 6, 1973

Education: B.A. Philosophy, Penn State University, 1996. Paralegal Certificate, Raritan Valley Community College, 2003.

Qualifications: Experienced muckraking journalist and political agitator.

Mailing Address: 156 West Hamilton Ave. State College, PA 16801

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Bailiwick-News-561442980728785/>

Twitter: None

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: Black box accounting, cost-shifting (private profit at public expense), and municipal subordination are three primary tools used by corporations, state and federal legislators and courts, to restrict the self-governing liberty of local citizens. For example, see the "Solicitor Advice" note on p. 16 of the 2017 Borough "Procedures Manual for Council Members," threatening noncompliant elected representatives with court-imposed financial ruin if they freely exercise their voting rights on public issues by declining to follow solicitor advice. To expand local citizens' range of self-governing options, and thereby increase economic and ecological resilience, I plan to 1) present information during public meetings, about how and why anti-democratic tools and procedures are used; 2) support measures to increase fiscal transparency and individual legislator accountability for fiscal votes, and to reduce the public budget impacts of private corporations' cost-externalization programs; and 3) advocate for municipal challenges to state and federal preemption and corporate-personhood doctrines.

Walker Township Supervisor

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Jim Heckman



Party: R

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: 01-18-1949

Education: Bellefonte Area High School Graduate

Qualifications: Twelve Years Auditor, Eighteen Years Supervisor, Thirty-Nine Years Forest Fire Warden, Fifty-Two Years Volunteer Fire Fighter for Walker Township

Mailing Address: 640 Hublersburg Rd. Howard, PA 16841

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: I will always do my best for the residents of Walker Township. I will communicate with the residents and ensure that their needs are met . I will also ensure that the roads are improved and kept to the standards of Walker Township. I will work with developers of the township and see that regulations are followed.

Centre County Offices

Centre County Board of Commissioners

Description:

Candidates (choose 3):

Steven Dershem



Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: www.dershem.com

Date of Birth: June 1961

Education: Bellefonte Area High School, B.A. Labor Studies, Penn State University

Qualifications: Extensive business, community and government leadership experience.

Mailing Address: 725 E. Linn Street Bellefonte, PA 16823

Facebook: @Dershemcommissioner

Twitter: @DershemSteve

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: Many of the challenges facing the next board of commissioners will be financially related. Maintaining the mandated and necessary services that Centre County performs, while keeping tax rates stable will occupy most of the efforts of the next board. Challenges with flat or decreasing federal and state human service funding, while addressing ever increased costs of operation will certainly remain a focused priority for me into the future. Addressing the impact of the heroin and opioid crisis will also be an important priority. Continued collaboration between law enforcement, the medical treatment, and recovery and education communities must be promoted and strengthened, with the recognition that other substance abuse issues are also on the rise. Partnering with community humane organizations and volunteers, I believe that our county correctional facility could be a hub for abandoned animal care and human rehabilitation. I will make researching and implementing a successful program a priority.

Chris Exarchos



Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: www.votechris.net

Date of Birth: 09/05/44

Education: Ph.D Penn State

Qualifications: Two terms College Township Council Two terms Centre County Commissioner

Mailing Address: 191 Grove Cir PO BOX 1027 Lemont, PA 16851

Facebook: Chris Exarchos, candidate for Centre County Commissioner

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: 1. Mental Health: The county should be investing additional resources in mental health services, and not be in the electric utility business. They can buy "green" energy over the grid. Instead, the \$1.6 million allocated for solar panels could have been used to provide additional lifesaving mental health services. 2. Rural Broadband: The cost to extend the infrastructure over great distances to serve small populations is prohibitive for private providers. A comparable electricity problem was solved by the Rural Electrification Act. We need a similar program for broadband. We need to work with our State and Federal partners to find ways to incentivize the private sector, or form cooperatives. 3. Fiscal Management: The \$5 vehicle registration tax should be repealed. The flat tax is not fair for all vehicle owners. The County doesn't own any roads or bridges. There are better ways to achieve the same goals.

Mark Higgins



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: www.pipehiggins.com

Date of Birth: July 2, 1963

Education: Graduated in three years from Michigan State University with majors in General Business Prelaw, Marketing, and Human Resources and a minor in Computer Science, 1984. Leadership Centre County Graduate 2014.

Qualifications: Commissioner since 2016. Commissioner Higgins currently serves on 32 authorities, boards, and commissions at the local, regional, state, and national level. Over thirty years as a business turnaround expert and, over that time, has saved and created hundreds of jobs at seven different businesses.

Mailing Address: 528 McCormick Ave. State College, PA 16801

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/higginsforcommissioner/>

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: My priorities are: 1. Continue to improve the quality of life in Centre County – utilizing innovative problem solving skills I developed as a business turnaround expert saved taxpayers millions, resulting in no county property tax increases. I will use further savings to reduce incarceration, improve county services and increase funding for children, seniors, mental health, public libraries and other areas. 2. Diversify our economy and help create jobs – increase innovative county support, funding and public private partnerships that opened three business incubators, supported entrepreneurs, and recruited, retained and created over 330 new non-university jobs. 3. Support our rural communities and agriculture – we preserved record farmland acreage in 2018 with more scheduled for preservation. Rural broadband is crucial to the sustainability of agriculture and rural communities. I would expand our successful public private partnership to provide broadband service to more underserved areas. I will continue working to help farmers in crisis.

Michael Pipe



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: <https://www.pipehiggins.com/>

Date of Birth: September 9, 1985

Education: 2009, Pennsylvania State University, B.A. Political Science; 2014, Leadership Centre County; 2015, National Association of Counties' County Leadership Institute

Qualifications: Centre County Commissioner, 7 years; Pennsylvania Workforce Development Board, 4 years; C-NET Board of Directors, 7 years; Centre County Agricultural Land Preservation Board Liaison, 4 years; Centre County Criminal Justice Advisory Board, 7 years; Centre County Fire Chiefs Association Liaison, 7 years; Centre County Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities/Early Intervention Advisory Board, 7 years; Centre County Metropolitan Planning Organization Coordinating Committee, 7 years; Centre County Prison Board of Inspectors, 7 years; Centre County Re-Entry Coalition, 5 years; Chamber of Business & Industry Centre County Board of Directors, 3 years; County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania – Elections Reform Committee Co-Chair, 3 years

Mailing Address: PO Box 562 State College, PA 16804

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/votemikepipe/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MichaelPipe>

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: I'm running for re-election to create a better future for the residents of Centre County. My top priorities are continuing to support our first responders, to reform our criminal justice system, and to invest in workforce development. The Board of Commissioners has invested in our first responders, making sure they have the tools to keep themselves, and us, safe. We dedicated \$1.2 million into the expansion of the Public Safety Training Center and are committed to its future sustainability. I've collaborated with community members on our Re-Entry Coalition, promoting the successful return of incarcerated citizens to our community, and will continue to support effective programs that divert eligible individuals from repeated incarceration. Further, we have increased treatment programs for incarcerated individuals with mental health and substance abuse illnesses and we will pursue additional services. I'm honored to serve on both the Pennsylvania Workforce Development Board and the regional workforce development organization, and will focus on supporting strategies to create more opportunities for people to find family-sustaining employment.

Centre County Controller

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Henry Fifield



Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: April 21, 1961

Education: > Rutgers Business School, M.S. in Financial Accounting > Pace University, B.B.A. in Accounting

Qualifications: Currently serving as the Deputy Controller. Prior to joining the Controller's office, spent twenty plus years in the private sector with two companies, AOL Time Warner and Medimedia USA. Held multiple senior-level finance and operations positions. Member of Government Finance Officers Association.

Mailing Address: 118 Aster Ave Bellefonte, PA 16823

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: 1. Utilize the experience/knowledge I've gained as Deputy Controller to ensure a seamless transition to the role of Controller. I'll continue to acquire the expertise needed to perform the Controller's specific job duties, so I can immediately provide the effective leadership needed to operate efficiently and be responsive to the needs of our citizens. 2. Continue to earn the Government Finance Officers' Association's "Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting" for our Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. I'll work hard to ensure the Controller's Office provides the required oversight needed to uphold the high standards of fiscal reporting that Centre County constituents deserve. 3. Create user-friendly, online versions of the county's complex financial statements to help promote a better understanding of how our tax dollars are

spent. By providing more simplified reporting formats, residents will be able to readily access information regarding the county's revenues, expenditures, and services provided throughout our community.

Jason Moser



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: <https://friendsofjasonmoser.com>

Date of Birth: November 21, 1980

Education: Bachelor's Degree & Graduate Program in Public Budgeting and Financial Management from Penn State University

Qualifications: 10+ years with multi-million dollar budgetary responsibilities; oversee dozens of employees with focus on accountability; past-president of Pennsylvania Restaurant and Lodging Association's Keystone Chapter, statewide Membership committee chair; and Habitat for Humanity of Greater Centre County Board member with strong knowledge of non-profit and government accounting; 2013 Leadership Centre County Graduate with strong ties to the community

Mailing Address: PO Box 116 Bellefonte, PA 16823

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofJasonMoser/>

Twitter: @friendsofjasonm

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: My top priorities as Centre County Controller are modernization, accountability, and transparency. I will work to modernize the infrastructure of the County's financial system. There have been significant improvements in budget and financial tracking software over the past decade that will help streamline collection and retention of County financial records. I will strengthen accountability and transparency by making the Fraud and Abuse Tip Line visible for employees and residents of Centre County to report any suspected wrongdoing and ensure that County resources are used legally and responsibly. I will create transparency in the Controller's office by making County audits and financial reports accessible to taxpayers by making sure they are up-to-date and available online.

Centre County Coroner

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Scott A. Sayers



Party: D/R

Biographical Info:

Education: 1985 Graduate of Bald Eagle Area High School Attended Lock Haven University 1988 Graduate of Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science

Qualifications: Coroner since 1998. Has Diplomatic status with ABMDI, the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators.

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: Continue to serve cooperatively with state and local law enforcement, EMS, fire personnel, medical profession and other government agencies. Be an active member of the HOPE initiative and help combat the on-going opioid crisis in Centre County.

Centre County Prothonotary

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Jeremy S. Breon



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: September 23, 1985

Education: Penns Valley High School- Penn State World Campus- Duke Paralegal Program

Qualifications: I currently serve Centre County as First Deputy Prothonotary. I have 8 years of experience working in the office of Prothonotary and Clerk of Courts. I am responsible for handling and processing Civil and Criminal Documents. I receive and process passport applications as a Certified Passport Acceptance Agent. I participate in court proceedings including: Naturalization, Jury Selection, Sentencing and Bail Hearings.

Mailing Address: PO BOX 99 AARONSBURG, PA 16820

Facebook: Friends of Jeremy Breon

Twitter: @friendsofBreon

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: 1. Maintain an office open to the public with friendly knowledgeable staff- Based on my 8 years of experience working in the Centre County Prothonotary office I have developed the skill set needed to run the office effectively and efficiently. 2. Implement New Rules and Systems - Work with the Judiciary and AOPC (Administrative Office of Pennsylvania

Courts) to implement new rules and initiatives as directed or required by law. Working together we can implement new policies to assist the residents of Centre County. 3. Explore new ways to help our residents- The people of Centre County depend on the services provided in the Prothonotary office. I will utilize my skill set to assist the residents of Centre County. With my 8 years of experience I am prepared to manage and lead the office on day one. Make 8 years of experience count! Please vote Jeremy Breon for Centre County Prothonotary November 5.

Patrick Miller



Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: March 31, 1984

Education: Penn State Law JD, 2019; Oregon State University BA, 2016

Qualifications: As a recent graduate of Penn State Law School, I understand the court system and what to look for to improve it. I also understand how important the Prothonotary's Office is to the structure and function of county court operations. I know well how important it is for both civil and criminal court documents to be filed properly, and for court services to be as efficient and user-friendly as possible. I believe that I am the most qualified candidate for this position, and with my optimistic approach and organizational vision, I can help cut costs and help ensure that the county court system operates better for the residents of Centre County!

Mailing Address: PO Box 290 Boalsburg, PA 16827

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MillerForProthonotary

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: 1. I will work toward getting better communication out to the Centre County public regarding what the Prothonotary's Office does exactly, and how important it is to the structure of our court system. 2. I will take a serious look at how all of the operations of the office are currently working, and how it can be significantly improved in order to make sure we have the most efficient services available for the citizens of Centre County. We should always be looking for ways to cut costs and save taxpayer money! 3. I will listen to the residents of Centre County to learn how they believe the Prothonotary's Office can be improved, and how I can be of assistance in making everyone's day at the courthouse a much easier process. I am always willing to learn and improve.

Centre County Recorder of Deeds

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Georgiann Bennett



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: email: Gbennett4recorderofdeeds@gmail.com

Education: Graduate of Bald Eagle Area High School

Qualifications: Co-Owner/Operator of a Farm, Penn State University, Accounting/Budgeting/Customer Service, Cannon Instrument, Customer Service, Account Analyst, Clinton County Recorder-Registers Office/ Observed and Participated in an endeavor to learn firsthand the Inner workings and Technical Aspects of the Recorder of Deeds Office

Mailing Address: 168 Goodhart Road Centre Hall, Pa 16828

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/georgiforrecorder>

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: Exploring and finding additional ways to help veteran's record necessary forms so they can access what are already present or available benefits from the VA Finding more ways to promote and spread the word about the affordable housing fund, therefore helping more residents realize their dreams of owning a home in Centre County. Lend a helping hand and inform citizens of programs that can help them be aware of fraud and abuse scams

Joseph L. Davidson



Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: N/A

Date of Birth: 1960

Education: Penn State - Business Administration State College Area High School

Qualifications: Elected Recorder of Deeds in 1999 Over 35 years experience in Retail, Customer Service, and Management.

Mailing Address: 116 Outer Dr State College, PA 16801

Facebook: Committee to Elect Joe Davidson

Twitter: N/A

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: One of my top priorities during my time in office and going into the future will be to manage advancing technologies and implement any new technology into our recording process. Our office has been a technology pioneer in the state of PA becoming the fifth

county to enact electronic recording processes, digitized millions of records dating back to the beginning of Centre County, and redacted sensitive information from public records. Through my involvement in the state association, and connections with industry partners, we're able to design and implement methods for efficiency and best business practices. A second priority is to ensure that the recent proposed state legislation that makes fees for recording documents in all PA counties uniform, are fair and reasonable to Centre County users. My third priority will be to maintain our excellent customer service practices, and to never lose site of the basic function of county government: public service.

Centre County Register of Wills

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Christine Millinder



Party: D/R

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: N/A

Date of Birth: December 20, 1968

Education: Graduate of Bald Eagle Area High School

Qualifications: Currently serving in my 1st term as Centre County Register of Wills & Clerk of Orphans' Court. More than 31 years experience in the administration and legal matters in the Register of Wills & Clerk of Orphans' Court. Serves on the Executive Board of the Register of Wills & Clerks of Orphans' Court association.

Mailing Address: 266 Commerce Street Pleasant Gap, PA 16823

Facebook: Christine Millinder for Register of Wills

Twitter: N/A

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: I will continue to make it a priority to provide quality, efficient and courteous service as your full-time Register of Wills & Clerk of Orphans' Court. I will make sure my staff is cross trained in all areas of the office providing the highest level of confidentiality with personal and confidential information. I will continue to regularly review and upgrade our technology with the latest advances in online availability in the most cost efficient manner.

Centre County Sheriff

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Hobson McKown (Write-In)



Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: hobsonforsheriff.com

Date of Birth: 1985

Education: Centre County School of Hard Knocks, Aug 2016-Aug 2017. Grassroots Centre County and Pennsylvania litigation and legal planning, 2008-To Date. Magisterial District Judge certification training course, Nov-Dec 2009. Computer Programming and Applications, Associate in Specialized Business, 4.0 GPA, Bradford School, Pittsburgh, Pa., 2005. Constitutional Law, Warren Area High School, 2004.

Qualifications: Decade-long engagement with law, governance, courthouse and courtrooms, within and within Centre County, including with Sheriff's officers around the state. Have never been an officer in someone's home without either warrant or consent. Lifelong citizen of Pennsylvania, born and raised in Warren County, and a Ferguson Township resident of over a decade. Insider familiarity with Centre county jail practices and administration. Have litigated constitutionality and construction of Sheriff-related responsibilities in advocacy for the people, acknowledging delicate balance of Sheriff's dual role as kingsman and community advocate.

Mailing Address: PO Box 798 State College, PA 16804-0798

Facebook: facebook.com/McKownForSheriff

Twitter: twitter.com/ForHobson

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: I am your next Sheriff of Centre County, Hobson McKown. As a citizen seeking to give his personal service to the commonwealth via obtaining commission of Sheriff, I will be seeking reforms judicial, municipal, and penal. As a counter-balance to the courts, I will require writs and warrants conforming strictly to law and rule, so that I may return the same for the sake of the public. As chief law enforcement officer, I will issue education to state, regional, and local law enforcement officers, I will supersede as law allows in cases of maladministration, and I will seek arrest of those public criminals who do not take well to training, instruction, and reading law. As a member of a board of county gaolers, I will seek to conform commitment and release protocols in a manner greatly reducing false imprisonment rates. As Sheriff, I will operate no unlawful warrantless, suspicionless checkpoints.

Bryan Sampsel



Party: D/R

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: June 30, 1970

Education: 2 plus years at Pennsylvania State University Criminal Justice Field, Alfred University Short Course , PCCD Act 2 Deputy Sheriff Academy

Qualifications: Deputy Sheriff Academy, Firearms Instructor, Active Shooter Instructor, Diversity Training, Stewards of Children Training, Bomb Threat Management Training, Post Blast Investigator School, Surveillance and Detection Course, Tactics for Facing Active Shooter, Management of Aggressive Behavior for Public Safety Officers and several update trainings for the last 16 plus years. Served 6 years as 11B/11H with the Pennsylvania Army National Guard

Mailing Address: 964 Woodland Dr. Bellefonte, Pa 16823

Facebook: Bryan Sampsel for Centre County Sheriff or Centre County Sheriff's Office page for current events

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: If re-elected, the first priority is to continue to build on what we have accomplished the first 3 plus years. We have introduced a Senior "Check In" program, Mobile computers in the vehicles to make the Deputies work more streamline, started carrying AED's, Medical Bags, Naloxone in vehicles and introduced TASERS to the Deputies too provide a less lethal force option. We also sponsor 2 Medicine Drop Boxes and participate in National Drug Take Back Day. I would like to continue to provide our high level of service to the Citizens of Centre County, continue with current programs and look into new community initiatives. The second priority is too continue to send the Deputies to CIT or Crisis Intervention Training. We currently have a little over a third of the Deputies trained. With

the increase in mental health issues, I believe this is very important aspect of our job. The third priority is to look into grants or funding for Body Cams or In-Car Cameras. I believe that this would help bring clarification with any incident that would occur. I would like to keep moving the Centre County Sheriff's Office forward and provide as much to the Citizens of Centre County as possible. We currently participate in several community events and enjoy engaging the community. With over 16 years of service with the Centre County Sheriff's Office, I would appreciate your vote for Bryan L. Sampsel on May 21st and in November so I can continue to work hard and serve you.

Centre County Treasurer

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Colleen Kennedy



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: colleenkennedyfortreasurer.com

Date of Birth: September 9, 1969

Education: BA in Music, UCLA; Master of Education (MEd), UCLA; Accounting, Cal State Los Angeles

Qualifications: I've worked in Accounting for twelve years. I was recruited out of my Accounting program to work in government as an auditor. I've also volunteered as treasurer for non-profit organizations. For the past seven years, I've worked in the Accounting Department for a local manufacturing company.

Mailing Address: 119 Amblewood Way State College, PA 16803

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Kennedy4Treas/

Twitter: @Kennedy4Treas

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: My primary focus is modernization of Centre County's financial processes. Businesses have been transitioning from paper to electronic transactions for years in order to save money and environmental resources, and the county should follow this example. Expanded modernization would allow the county to cut costs while at the same time offering more to residents: more transparency, more services, and more convenience. I would work to implement time-saving online services that other counties in the commonwealth have put in place for submitting forms and payments, such as for dog licenses and filing hotel occupancy taxes. Finally, I would utilize the office of the Treasurer to inform Centre County families about valuable financial programs like PA ABLE, which provides tax-free savings plans to Pennsylvanians with disabilities; or PA 529, a program that offers education savings plans with tax incentives; or the recently launched Keystone Scholars program, which gives \$100 to new parents as seed money to put towards their child's education. I am eager for the opportunity to use my skills in service of my community. I believe in "serving gladly," and I would bring this attitude to every aspect of my service as Centre County Treasurer.

W. Blaine Thomas



Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: n/a

Date of Birth: July 8, 1965

Education: Accounting Degree, Penn College, 1985 Bald Eagle Area High School Graduate

Qualifications: 22 years Accounting/Manager Bellefonte Bi-Lo Grocery Store 20+ Property management for Thomas Family Real Estate Production and Quality Control Manager, Forefront Construction

Mailing Address: 476 Blanchard Street Bellefonte, PA 16823

Facebook: Thomas for Treasurer

Twitter: n/a

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: If I am elected and earn the voters trust in November, my three (3) top initiatives will be: 1) Overseeing the on-going cash management for the county. Any opportunities to find a way for the county to earn optimal interest in reserve funds or saving money through competitive bid processes can be the difference in a tax increase or possible reduction of services. 2) Continue to maintain and develop a strong personal working relationship within all departments of the Centre County government which would benefit all county residents. 3) I would like to continue serving our residents with an emphasis on excellent customer service. This includes online options and utilizing technology for residents unable to make it into the office during regular business hours.

Centre County Judicial

District Judge District 49-01-01

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Donald M. Hahn



Party: D/R

Biographical Info:

Date of Birth: October 20, 1964

Education: B.A., Pennsylvania State University, 1987; and J.D., Villanova University School of Law, 1992.

Qualifications: member, State College Borough Council (1996-1999, 2006-2013); recipient, Pennsylvania Bar Association Pro Bono Award (2003, 2013); president, State College Borough Council (2012-2013); president, Middle District Bankruptcy Bar Association (2015-2016); Mayor of State College (2018 to present)

Mailing Address: 225 Bradley Avenue State College, PA 16801

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: As magisterial district judge, my top priority would be to maintain the high level of service, fairness, and justice that State College has come to expect from Judge Carmine Prestia and from Judge Clifford Yorks before him. As an attorney since 1992, I have appeared before many judges and intend to emulate those whom I encountered who are patient, inquisitive, transparent, and thoughtful. I would also like to promote restorative justice and greater access to translators. Restorative justice would help educate young summary offenders about the consequences of their actions and give them an opportunity to redeem themselves in the eyes of their victims and the community. Greater access to translators would seek to help even the scales of justice for our growing international community, who may be otherwise handicapped by a limited knowledge of English.

District Judge District 49-03-02

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Kelley Gillette-Walker



Party: D/R

Biographical Info:

Education: Diploma, Bald Eagle Area High School; Bachelor of Arts, The Pennsylvania State University; Juris Doctor, The James E. Beasley School of Law of Temple University

Qualifications: Licensed attorney since 2000, Incumbent Magisterial District Judge 49-3-02 since 2014

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: Priority number one is and always has been to follow the law as it is written and apply it equally to everyone. Like Lady Justice who is blind, it does not matter who is before me or whether I personally agree with the law. I am not an activist judge that interprets the law as I think that it should be; instead, I try to be careful to review developments in case law and rules in order to understand the law and render a decision that comports with the law as it is written. My second priority is to continue to be a good steward of the funds that my court handles. From the beginning of my first term, I have been very cognizant of not only how funds are being spent, but also how they are coming into my court. With a case load of almost 10,000 cases and yearly budget of over \$350,000.00, I must ensure that every dollar that is spent is done so wisely and not wasted, knowing that it comes from the hard-working people of Centre County. It is also my duty to ensure that outstanding case balances are paid timely and kept up to date. Part of the revenue in my court comes from performing marriage ceremonies, including doing so twice a year at the State Correctional Institutions at Rockview and Benner. The third priority is to continue to be respectful and understanding of people from all walks of life who come to my court. Including following requirements for interpreters, making sure that all participants are safe and secure and keeping the people that I work with happy and secure.

District Judge District 49-03-05

Description:

Candidates (choose 1):

Steven F. Lachman



Party: D/R

Biographical Info:

Campaign Website: stevlachmanforjudge.com

Date of Birth: 3/15/1958

Education: B.A. in Political Science, Vassar College, 1980. J.D. cum laude, Vermont Law School, 1985. M.S. in Geography, Penn State University, 1999. Ph.D. in Geography, Penn State University, 2003.

Qualifications: - Magisterial District Judge in State College since January 2014. - Member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Judicial Administration Committee - Member of the Centre County Criminal Justice Advisory Board. - Assistant Professor of Legal Writing, Penn State Dickinson School of Law, 2008-12. - Attorney for Pennsylvania Dept. of Environmental Protection, 1988-1997. - Attorney for Allegheny County Public Defender's Office, 1986-1988. - Author of four law journal articles.

Mailing Address: 817 Saxton Drive State College, PA 16801

Facebook: n/a

Twitter: n/a

Questions:

Q: *If elected, what will be your three top priorities, and how will you address them?*

A: As a Magisterial District Judge, I seek to: (1) make the court a welcoming place where people are respected and know their grievances will be heard and judged fairly; (2) educate persons who have made bad decisions so that they understand their own motivations and can take control of their lives in a positive way; (3) apply the law so as to uphold the legislature's intent and simultaneously treat people fairly and preserves their constitutional rights. 1. Justice is not rushed. I listen patiently to all cases before me. I take the time to explain my decisions and to explain the law. I expect my staff to provide the highest level of service to the court's clientele. We take public service seriously. For persons of diverse cultural or national backgrounds, I go out of my way to make sure they understand our legal system, because if they do not understand it, they will not see it as legitimate. 2. Most of my caseload consists of college students drinking to excess. I try to educate the students to make better decisions and to understand the consequences of alcohol abuse. Most first time offenders can have their cases dismissed if they complete community service and alcohol education. 3. I never forget that the purpose of law is to serve people, and that to prevent overreaching by the government, constitutional rights must be protected. The law is not stagnant. I actively keep up with changes in the and participate in dialog to improve it.