

Voters Guide

3 presidential tickets will be atop ballots in Centre County



ABBY DREY adrey@centredaily.com

A voting booth is set up at the Centre County satellite elections office in the Bryce Jordan Center for the election.

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Description of office: The president is the head of state of the United States of America, the chief executive officer and the commander in chief of all military forces. The powers of the president are prescribed in the Constitution and federal law. The president appoints the members of the Cabinet, ambassadors to other nations and the United Nations, and Supreme Court justices and federal judges, subject to Senate approval. The president, along with the Cabinet and its agencies, is responsible for carrying out and enforcing the laws of the

United States. The president may also recommend legislation to the United States Congress.

How elected: Every four years political parties nominate candidates to run for president of the United States in a general election that is held on a Tuesday after the first Monday in November. The president and vice president are not elected directly by the people, but by presidential electors who make up the Electoral College. This process was written into the U.S. Constitution in 1787. The number of each state's electors is equal to the number of senators and representatives that state has in Congress. Pennsylvania has

20. The campaigns choose their own electors, who are generally loyal party members who can be counted on to cast a ballot that's in line with their state's popular vote. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the state gets Pennsylvania's entire electoral vote. A candidate needs 270 electoral votes to win the election. Although Pennsylvanians will choose the electors and not the president and vice president, the names of the electors do not appear on the ballot. Instead, the paired names of the candidates for president and vice president are on the ballot under the heading "Presidential Electors." All votes cast for the candi-

dates for president and vice president are counted as votes for that party's electors.

Term: 4 years; limit of 2 terms
Salary: \$400,000

Vote for the candidates of one party for president and vice president.

Democratic:
Joseph R. Biden
Kamala D. Harris
Website: joebiden.com
Republican:
Donald J. Trump
Michael R. Pence
Website: donaldrump.com
Libertarian:
Jo Jorgensen
Jeremy Spike Cohen
Website: jo20.com

Candidates pursue seats in Congress, state offices

PENNSYLVANIA ATTORNEY GENERAL

Description of office: The basic duties of the attorney general, as outlined by the Commonwealth Attorneys Act, are to: serve as the commonwealth's chief law enforcement officer; collect all debts, taxes, and accounts due to the commonwealth; represent the commonwealth and all its agencies in any action brought by or against the commonwealth; administer the provision relating to consumer protection laws; and represent the commonwealth and its citizens in any action brought about for violation of the antitrust laws.

Term: 4 years
Salary: \$167,838
Candidates (choose 1):

Josh Shapiro
Party: Dem
Education: Bachelor of Arts in political science from University of Rochester, Class of 1995. Juris Doctor degree, Georgetown Law, Class of 2002.

Campaign website: <http://www.joshshapiro.org/>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/JoshShapiroPA/>
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/JoshShapiroPA>

Q: What are your top three priorities to address as attorney general?

A: We must continue battling the heroin and opioid crisis that is taking 12 Pennsylvanians' lives each day. Our efforts must focus on a multi-pronged approach of prosecuting high-level drug dealers, holding pharmaceutical companies accountable and making treatment more accessible and affordable. We must stand up for consumers against predatory lending companies, scammers, and others trying to take advantage of Pennsylvanians. That includes ensuring Pennsylvanians have access to affordable, quality health care. We must keep our communities safe, by collaborating effectively across law enforcement, reforming our criminal justice system to ensure equal enforcement, taking crime guns off our streets, and much more.

Q: The Office of the Pennsylvania Attorney General is responsible for law enforcement and the equal protection of law for all citizens. What do you see as the primary challenges to achieving equality under the law?

A: Throughout my career in public service, I've always been someone who has stood up to defend all Pennsylvanians — no matter what they look like, where they come from, who they love, or who they pray or don't pray to. I have consistently defended the rule of law and Pennsylvanians' rights against anyone, from high-level drug dealers, to predatory lending companies, to greedy

pharmaceutical companies, to the federal government, and more. The laws of our commonwealth and our country must be applied equally, and that can only be done by enforcing the law without fear or favor. We must also ensure the highest ethical standards across law enforcement and our entire government.

Q: What role will your administration play in reforming systemic problems and supporting restorative justice in our criminal justice system?

A: I've taken steps to reduce Pennsylvania's prison population and recidivism rate, and to instead focus on data-driven programs to eliminate bias in the system. I've also worked with Gov. Wolf to form Pennsylvania's first statewide reentry council to reduce barriers for those returning from prison. And I've created a statewide Conviction Integrity Unit to review past convictions. This year, I brought together law enforcement, union leaders, and activists from across the commonwealth to pass a bill that ends the practice of law enforcement agencies unknowingly hiring officers with documented patterns of excessive use of force or other misconduct. I'm committed to finding fair methods that will reduce incarceration rates and discrimination.



Heather Heidelbaugh
Party: Rep
County: Allegheny

Education: J.D., University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law; B.A. in economics and political science, University of Missouri-Columbia

Qualifications: Experienced trial lawyer with more than 35 years of courtroom experience who understands the complexities of the law, the intersection between policy and law, and how the law impacts the lives of citizens

Campaign website: <http://heatherheidelbaugh.com/>
Facebook: <http://facebook.com/HeatherforAG/>
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/heidelbaugh4ag>

Q: What are your top three priorities to address as attorney general?

A: 1. Keep Pennsylvania safe—The Commonwealth Attorneys Act states one of the main roles of the AG is criminal prosecutions. This would be my top priority. The AG works with local DAs and law enforcement to keep Pennsylvania residents safe, including a strong commitment to addressing drug trafficking and the opioid crisis. 2. Put people before politics—Restore the AG's Office to following mandates set forth in the Commonwealth Attorneys Act and perform lawyering for the people of Pennsylvania versus using the office for political gain. 3. Protect



KEY INFO

KEY INFORMATION

- Register to vote by 5 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 19.
- Apply for an absentee or mail-in ballot by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 27.
- The election is Nov. 3.
- Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- This Voter's Guide may be taken into the voting booth.
- Mail-in ballot applications and ballots can be tracked at www.centrecountyvotes.com.

FOR ELECTION INFORMATION

Contact the Centre County Board of Elections with all questions: Elections@centrecountypa.gov or 355-6703 or go to www.CentreCountyVotes.com

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

The material in this guide was compiled by the League of Women Voters of Centre County with assistance from the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania. This material may not be altered or reprinted without the permission of the League. Each candidate's reply has been printed as submitted. Candidates were invited to participate in the Vote411 online voter's guide via email. All reasonable efforts were made to encourage candidates to participate. The candidates listed are those whose names appear on the ballot as of Sept. 17 when the ballot was approved by the Pennsylvania Department of State.

They are listed according to their party and then alphabetically. Nothing in this guide should be construed as an endorsement or non-endorsement of any candidate, party or initiative by the League of Women Voters.

ABSENTEE VOTING

Pennsylvania registered voters who are ill, disabled or will be absent from the municipality on Election Day may vote by absentee ballot. Completed applications for civilian absentee ballots must be received by the county Board of Elections by 5 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 27. You can request an application be mailed to you by calling the Centre County Elections office at 355-6703 or you can apply online at VotesPA.com. If you are registered in another county, you must request your application from that county.

Any disabled voter having questions regarding the accessibility of a polling place should consult the Centre County Board of Elections.

MAIL-IN VOTING

Pennsylvania registered voters may vote using the new no-excuse mail-in ballot. Completed applications for mail-in ballots must be received by the Centre County Office of Elections by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 27. You can request an application be mailed to you by calling the Centre County Elections office at 355-6703 or you can apply online at VotesPA.com.

WRITE-IN VOTING

Information for write-in voting will be available at the polling place.

COMPLETING YOUR MAIL-IN OR ABSENTEE BALLOT

Upon receiving your mail-in or absentee ballot, please follow all directions, blackening circles of the candidates you selected. The completed ballot must be placed, first, in the white secrecy envelope, marked "Official Election Ballot" and sealed. This envelope, then, must be placed in the outer envelope addressed to the Centre County Elections Office in Bellefonte. Seal this envelope and complete the declaration on the back of the envelope, being sure to sign your name. No postage is necessary. You may then place your ballot in the U.S. mail, drop it in one of the secure drop boxes throughout the county, or take your completed ballot in person to the Centre County Elections Office at the Willowbank Building in Bellefonte. Completed ballots should be

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VOTE

the mentally ill-Establish a blue ribbon panel of experts from Pennsylvania to examine the treatment of the mentally ill, address the current state of mental illness, and more. The panel would issue a report suggesting structural changes.

Q: The Office of the Pennsylvania Attorney General is responsible for law enforcement and the equal protection of law for all citizens. What do you see as the primary challenges to achieving equality under the law?

A: Keeping Pennsylvania safe has to be the top priority of the AG. The AG's statutory role is the prosecutor of crime. The AG has to prioritize resources, so scarce resources are used for the highest priority tasks of the office. Crime enforcement, in conjunction with the DAs is the first priority. Crime operates across county and jurisdictional lines, so coordination with multiple county DAs is critical. Investigations that may take years and cost millions can't be wasted by prosecutors failing to follow criminal procedure. The AG must take an active role in the management of the office. The purpose of prosecuting crime is to ensure safety, not create headlines. With that purpose in mind, equal protection for all should be achieved.

Q: What role will your administration play in reforming systemic problems and supporting restorative justice in our criminal justice system?

A: As the county councilperson at large on Allegheny County Council, I was critical of the operation of the county jail. The Allegheny County jail had more suicides than any other jail in the country. I determined that one county employee had repeatedly failed to process the proper release of a large number of people from the jail, and she was terminated. Each day someone is in jail, it costs taxpayers, they become a suicide risk and lose their liberty unnecessarily. As AG, I would continue to advocate for government institutions to properly run jails and prisons. Jails and/or prisons must be properly run so we have the space to jail criminals, not those who don't belong there.

Daniel Wassmer
Party: L
County: Pike
Education: B.A. - Adelphi University 1983; MBA - Adelphi University 1986; J.D. - New York Law School 1989

Qualifications: Educator, government attorney and someone with actual knowledge from courtrooms not a self aggrandized aspirational political office seat warmer....

Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/2705423013115791>

Q: What are your top three priorities to address as attorney general?

A: -Major criminal justice police reform. -Decriminalize marijuana (and other drugs) shifting to a medical treatment options (someone with a state authorized "license" can sell drugs reaping a huge profit but a person selling a nickel bag of marijuana is charged with a crime - shouldn't be!) -Stopping the threat of anti-trust litigation by both old parties which is used simply as a ploy to leverage "campaign contributions" as a form of legalized extortion against our competitive big tech firms and permitting a real "free market" to pick winners and losers. (Note: This is the only time in modern history where companies delivering "convenience" and "lower prices for consumers" have been shaken down allegedly to protect consumers [what nonsense]).

Q: The Office of the Pennsylvania Attorney General is responsible for law enforcement and the equal protection of law for all citizens. What do you see as the primary challenges to achieving equality under the law?

A: Education and I am the only educator in the field! Secondly police reform and I am the only person who has ever worked in a firm handling matters as an FOP outside counsel. In that role I personally saw the negatives of policing as well as people who were honest hard working "peace keeping" officers. We need fewer police and more peacekeepers. I have a plan including a non-confrontational resolution option which Pennsylvania ought to explore as well as a plan to remove bad officers by removing

the "wall of silence" within police departments. Lastly the silencing of people with "atypical ideas" created by the two old parties needs to stop! Both of these parties purposefully engage in speech chilling behavior which is detrimental to ideas!

Q: What role will your administration play in reforming systemic problems and supporting restorative justice in our criminal justice system?

A: That is my number one concern. The Pennsylvania criminal system is a joke and the incumbent has literally done nothing to address it! He now wants 4 more years. Moreover the other old party candidate also simply looks at this as a mental health issue and fails to address: economic issues, educational opportunities, rehabilitation, purposeful systematic discrimination literally caused by the U.S. government, disparity in sentencing, how the justice system operates, etc.. I don't see that the incumbent has ever held a position ever in the private labor market! Moreover the other old party candidate seems inclined to handle election law challenges as a primary function. This is not what we need in Pennsylvania from an attorney general.

Richard L. Weiss
Party: Grn
County: Allegheny
Education: B.A. University of Pittsburgh; J.D. University of Denver; LL.M. American University; M.B.A. University of Chicago

Qualifications: Admitted to the Attorney Bar in Pennsylvania and New York.
Campaign website:
http://www.greenslate2020.org/attorney_general
Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/richard.weiss.1485537>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/RichardLWeiss>

Q: What are your top three priorities to address as attorney general?

A: 1. Save the taxpayers' money. Reduce prison population by 50%, by not seeking cash bail, not bringing charges merely for drug possession or consensual relations between adults. Only those who are actually a threat to the community should be incarcerated. Others should be diverted from the prison system to programs designed to help them pay their debt to society and reintegrate into the community. Prosecutorial resources can then be directed to addressing violent crime, combating corruption and consumer protection. 2. Reformation of the system of policing. Citizen review boards are only a start. Community and police must establish standards of conduct and need special prosecutors for police misconduct. 3. Promote restorative justice.
Q: The Office of the Pennsylvania Attorney General is responsible for law enforcement and the equal protection of law for all citizens. What do you see as the primary challenges to achieving equality under the law?

A: The primary responsibility of the attorney general is public safety, with the goal of attaining peace characterized by a community that is inclusive and harmonious. Conflict must be resolved in a way that restores peaceful social life. This can only be accomplished through respect of all members. The primary challenge now is lack of faith of the community in the police and of the police in the community. Our system of justice is based on the principle that it is better to let a guilty person go free than to convict an innocent one. I would rather take a bullet than shoot an innocent person. Let us develop a system of policing based on that principle. We must refrain from attacking, arresting or shooting anyone not actually a threat.
Q: What role will your administration play in reforming systemic problems and supporting restorative justice in our criminal justice system?

A: My administration will support restorative justice, which is another way of viewing crime and how to respond to it. Restorative justice includes all parties in a collaborative process of apology, changed behavior, repair of the harm, and reintegration of parties with their communities. This process has a better record of reforming offenders and healing victims than simply punishing which has had a low success rate. It also diverts offenders from incarceration to alternatives like community service, but as agreed by offenders and victims, who are more likely to view it as

a sincere apology if voluntarily undertaken than sentenced. I support the statements of former Austin District Attorney Ronnie Earl in this video: tinyurl.com/RonEarl.

PENNSYLVANIA AUDITOR GENERAL

Description of office: The principal role of the auditor general is to determine whether state funds are being used in accordance with the purpose and guidelines that govern each use of the commonwealth's dollars. The auditor general conducts financial and performance audits of individuals, state agencies, and organizations that receive state funds, including school districts, state liquor stores, and public employee pension funds. These audits are designed to measure how effectively government programs are using public money to meet their stated goals and objectives. The office performs more than 6,000 audits each year and is responsible for auditing all Pennsylvania state programs that are allocated federal funds.

Term: 4 years
Salary: \$167,838
Candidates (choose 1):

Nina Ahmad
Party: Dem
County: Philadelphia
Education: Ph.D. in chemistry, postdoctoral training in molecular genetics

Qualifications: Policy maker (deputy mayor and advisor to President Obama on AAPI) Co-owner-Community Development finance business Trustee of Foundation, Grant making Chair-\$40MM in grants and Investment Committee: oversight on half-billion-dollar endowment. Board member, National Organization for Women

Campaign website:
<http://www.ninaforpa.com>
Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/NinaforPA/>
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/NinaAhmadPHL>

Q: What are your top three priorities in office?
A: Healthcare, education and jobs: To reduce healthcare costs I will find efficiencies in reimbursements to pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs), 3rd-party administrators of prescription drug programs. I will lead the design of an audit to assess pandemic preparedness incorporating the lessons learned from the current COVID-19 pandemic on all fronts including healthcare, education, and the economy. Developing data-driven analyses to identify funding gaps in education, I will advocate for equitable funding, universal pre-K, and affordable post-secondary education. I will harness science and technology to create family sustaining jobs of the future and will advocate for work force development dollars to be invested in this sector.

Q: What distinguishes you from other candidates who are seeking to be Pennsylvania's next auditor general?
A: I believe the auditor general's office can be a powerful tool for progressive change. As the chief fiscal watch dog, I will ensure tax dollars are used with integrity, transparency and accountability and assess the equitable use of the dollars. As a scientist trained to understand the value of data, I will use audit data to generate public policy information to support equitable legislation. As a small business owner and a former deputy mayor of Philadelphia, I am well versed in looking for efficiencies to maximize the impact of our dollars. As the former president of the Philadelphia chapter of the NOW and having served on President Obama's Commission for AAPI, I deeply understand the power of advocacy and its role in equitable public policy.

Timothy DeFoor
Party: Rep
County: Dauphin
Education: Harrisburg Area Community College, Associate of Arts, paralegal studies; University of Pittsburgh, Bachelor of Arts, general studies (concentration sociology and history); Harrisburg University, Master of Science, project management
Qualifications: Former special investigator, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Office of Inspector General; retired special agent, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Office of Attorney Gen-

eral; Dauphin County controller (2016 to present); former certified internal auditor with the International Organization for Standards
Campaign website:
<http://www.defoor4pa.com/>
Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/DeFoor4PA>

Q: What are your top three priorities in office?
A: 1) We are in a COVID-19 world. Both the federal and state governments are distributing grants and other COVID-19 funding to individuals, small business, and large businesses. My first priority as auditor general is to make sure those funds were allocated to those individuals and businesses for who they were intended. 2) Work to have a more transparent government. For example, I will work to end political loopholes like the "honor system" that allows state agencies to keep high-dollar, taxpayer funded contracts hidden from the public. 3) Bring in subject matter experts to audit the progress and performance of any new and expensive initiatives and projects to determine how and if taxpayer dollars are being spent wisely.
Q: What distinguishes you from other candidates who are seeking to be Pennsylvania's next auditor general?
A: My 25 years of experience fighting fraud and waste sets me apart from other candidates. I feel passionately about the need to ensure government accountability and have devoted my career to eliminating fraud from both public and private sectors. I first served the commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a special agent for the Office of Attorney General. I then served as a special investigator for the Office of Inspector General. After that I ventured into the private sector as an internal auditor and fraud investigator for University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Health Plan and various federal contractors. I currently serve as the Dauphin County controller, being the only African American to be elected as a row officer in Dauphin County history.

Jennifer Moore
Party: L
County: Montgomery
Education: Master's of Business Administration-Grand Valley State University; Bachelors of Business Administration-Management, Grand Valley State University
Qualifications: Chair of the Board of Auditors, Upper Providence Township
Q: What are your top three priorities in office?
A: 1. Transparency: How many times have you heard a fellow Pennsylvanian joke about the "temporary" Johnstown flood tax that we have been paying since 1936? How about the the gas tax, or turnpike tolls that are consistently repurposed for other projects? Taxpayers deserve to know where their money is going. Funds should be spent on what they were appropriated for. 2. COVID-19 has significantly impacted our state. Areas like education and unemployment have all been affected. It will be very important to audit the performance of related programs as well as ensuring that funds were properly allocated. 3. Combat government waste and inefficiency. I will work to ensure effective use of taxpayer dollars.
Q: What distinguishes you from other candidates who are seeking to be Pennsylvania's next auditor general?
A: As a Libertarian, I am independent of the politicians who are making financial decisions for the commonwealth. As an auditor, this allows me to be a truly non-partisan fiscal watch dog. Professionally, I have spent almost twenty years in healthcare finance. I have extensive experience in looking for irregularities in financials and insuring data integrity. I was elected to the Upper Providence Board of Auditors in 2017 and have been serving as the chair of the board for the past two years.

Olivia Faison
Party: Grn
County: Philadelphia
Education: Queens College - Flushing, NY B.A. degree - February, 1985 Major: biology - Minors: chemistry, music; University of Nebraska Medical Center - Minority Health Careers Opportunity Baccalaureate Program 1983 Highest Academic Achievement

Olivia Faison
Party: Grn
County: Philadelphia
Education: Queens College - Flushing, NY B.A. degree - February, 1985 Major: biology - Minors: chemistry, music; University of Nebraska Medical Center - Minority Health Careers Opportunity Baccalaureate Program 1983 Highest Academic Achievement

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Joe Torsella
Party: Dem
County: Montgomery
Education: University of Pennsylvania (B.A.); New College, Oxford University
Qualifications: Current treasurer of Pennsylvania; former ambassador to the U.N. for Management and Reform; former president and CEO of the National Constitution Center; former Philadelphia deputy mayor for policy and planning

Campaign website:
<http://www.joetorsella.com>
Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/JoeTorsellaforTreasurer>
Twitter:
<http://www.twitter.com/JoeTorsella>
Q: What is the most important duty of the state treasurer? If elected, how would you carry out that duty?
A: From Day One, my most important duty has been restoring integrity to an office too often marred by scandal: 3 of the last 5 elected treasurers have been indicted. Upon taking office, I immediately banned the use of middlemen to win investment contracts and introduced treasury's first conflict-of-interest policy and chief integrity officer. My top priority now is building solutions to help Pennsylvanians recover from COVID-19 on solid financial ground. We created the Keystone Scholars program, which gives at-birth college and career savings accounts to every child born or

Q: What are your top three priorities to address as attorney general?
A: -Major criminal justice police reform. -Decriminalize marijuana (and other drugs) shifting to a medical treatment options (someone with a state authorized "license" can sell drugs reaping a huge profit but a person selling a nickel bag of marijuana is charged with a crime - shouldn't be!) -Stopping the threat of anti-trust litigation by both old parties which is used simply as a ploy to leverage "campaign contributions" as a form of legalized extortion against our competitive big tech firms and permitting a real "free market" to pick winners and losers. (Note: This is the only time in modern history where companies delivering "convenience" and "lower prices for consumers" have been shaken down allegedly to protect consumers [what nonsense]).

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the "wall of silence" within police departments. Lastly the silencing of people with "atypical ideas" created by the two old parties needs to stop! Both of these parties purposefully engage in speech chilling behavior which is detrimental to ideas!

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Richard L. Weiss
Party: Grn
County: Allegheny
Education: B.A. University of Pittsburgh; J.D. University of Denver; LL.M. American University; M.B.A. University of Chicago

Qualifications: Admitted to the Attorney Bar in Pennsylvania and New York.
Campaign website:
http://www.greenslate2020.org/attorney_general
Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/richard.weiss.1485537>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/RichardLWeiss>

Q: What are your top three priorities to address as attorney general?
A: 1. Save the taxpayers' money. Reduce prison population by 50%, by not seeking cash bail, not bringing charges merely for drug possession or consensual relations between adults. Only those who are actually a threat to the community should be incarcerated. Others should be diverted from the prison system to programs designed to help them pay their debt to society and reintegrate into the community. Prosecutorial resources can then be directed to addressing violent crime, combating corruption and consumer protection. 2. Reformation of the system of policing. Citizen review boards are only a start. Community and police must establish standards of conduct and need special prosecutors for police misconduct. 3. Promote restorative justice.
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Q: What role will your administration play in reforming systemic problems and supporting restorative justice in our criminal justice system?

Award - 4.0 GPA - 1983 Oratory Award - 1983 Citizenship Award - 1983

Qualifications: I am a mother, a grandmother and a great-grandmother (my most impressive qualifications). I have worked as a receptionist, a legal secretary, and a medical secretary, a lab technician, a computer, math, and science teacher, an analytical chemist and a scientist at the time of my retirement.

Q: What are your top three priorities in office?

A: 1) There is a desperate need for a third party. I welcome the values that the Green Party Pillars describe - grassroots democracy, ecological wisdom, social justice, and peace. (I would like to throw in honesty and respect). 2) Racist laws like the Supreme Court's Dred Scott decision show how deep racism is ingrained in our society. Unfair laws and practices like voter suppression, purging voters off lists, and long voting lines must end. 3) Quality education and climate change - Growing up, I remember the fog being so thick, you could not see down the street. Upon my return, no one can recall the last time they have seen fog hit the streets of Philly. We have lost a very important regular occurring weather pattern without anyone noticing!

Q: What distinguishes you from other candidates who are seeking to be Pennsylvania's next auditor general?

A: I was not groomed to be a politician, however having been blessed with a natural curiosity, and being a highly trained professional analytical chemist, I am well-equipped for the task of problem solving. The scientific approach enables me to view problems from a fresh point of view.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE TREASURER

Description of office: The duty of the Pennsylvania treasurer is to safeguard the commonwealth's financial assets, which total more than \$120 billion in public monies. The office manages several programs in order to better serve the financial needs of Pennsylvanians. The Treasury Department is also responsible for: reuniting unclaimed property with its rightful owner; investigating loss, theft, and fraud involving commonwealth checks; reviewing real estate leases and contracts entered into by commonwealth agencies; and maintaining the Pennsylvania contracts electronic library. The treasurer has specific duties in addition to the oversight of the department: serving as chair of the Board of Finance and Revenue, which selects banks to serve as depositories for state money; setting interest rates paid on commonwealth deposits; and hearing and deciding state tax appeals.

Term: 4 years
Salary: \$167,838
Candidates (choose 1):

Joe Torsella
Party: Dem
County: Montgomery
Education: University of Pennsylvania (B.A.); New College, Oxford University
Qualifications: Current treasurer of Pennsylvania; former ambassador to the U.N. for Management and Reform; former president and CEO of the National Constitution Center; former Philadelphia deputy mayor for policy and planning

Campaign website:
<http://www.joetorsella.com>
Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/JoeTorsellaforTreasurer>
Twitter:
<http://www.twitter.com/JoeTorsella>

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A: From Day One, my most important duty has been restoring integrity to an office too often marred by scandal: 3 of the last 5 elected treasurers have been indicted. Upon taking office, I immediately banned the use of middlemen to win investment contracts and introduced treasury's first conflict-of-interest policy and chief integrity officer. My top priority now is building solutions to help Pennsylvanians recover from COVID-19 on solid financial ground. We created the Keystone Scholars program, which gives at-birth college and career savings accounts to every child born or

Q: What are your top three priorities to address as attorney general?
A: -Major criminal justice police reform. -Decriminalize marijuana (and other drugs) shifting to a medical treatment options (someone with a state authorized "license" can sell drugs reaping a huge profit but a person selling a nickel bag of marijuana is charged with a crime - shouldn't be!) -Stopping the threat of anti-trust litigation by both old parties which is used simply as a ploy to leverage "campaign contributions" as a form of legalized extortion against our competitive big tech firms and permitting a real "free market" to pick winners and losers. (Note: This is the only time in modern history where companies delivering "convenience" and "lower prices for consumers" have been shaken down allegedly to protect consumers [what nonsense]).

Q: The Office of the Pennsylvania Attorney General is responsible for law enforcement and the equal protection of law for all citizens. What do you see as the primary challenges to achieving equality under the law?

A: Education and I am the only educator in the field! Secondly police reform and I am the only person who has ever worked in a firm handling matters as an FOP outside counsel. In that role I personally saw the negatives of policing as well as people who were honest hard working "peace keeping" officers. We need fewer police and more peacekeepers. I have a plan including a non-confrontational resolution option which Pennsylvania ought to explore as well as a plan to remove bad officers by removing

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adopted in Pennsylvania, and we fight to hold Wall Street accountable to taxpayers, as trustees for our public pension systems and through legal action when necessary.

Q: What distinguishes you from your opponents in the general election?

A: I have spent my career in the public sector, fighting for the responsible use of taxpayer funds in our civic institutions. Before serving as treasurer, I was the U.S. ambassador for U.N. Management and Reform. Prior to that, I was the founding president and CEO of the National Constitution Center and Philadelphia's deputy mayor for policy and planning. What these roles have in common is a dedication to the highest and best use of funds, contributed by the masses, toward a common goal. They each require the careful stewardship of someone else's contribution: to reinforce effective international cooperation; to build a beautiful civic resource for our nation; or to resolve a \$1.25 billion deficit and revitalize a vibrant major American city.

Stacy L. Garrity

Party: Rep
Did not respond to questions



Joe Soloski

the CPA Examination in 1985

Qualifications: I'm a Libertarian that advocates for small government. I also operated my own accounting practice for more than 30 years.

Campaign website:

<http://joesoloski.com>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/SoloskiForLiberty>

Q: What is the most important duty of the state treasurer? If elected, how would you carry out that duty?

A: The state treasurer must monitor the revenue inflows and disbursement outflows of the commonwealth, as well as managing the invested funds of the state of Pennsylvania. My years of background as a certified public accountant lend themselves well towards those responsibilities. Managing and working with people within the treasurer's office is also an important requirement. Having worked with hundreds of clients, over the years, as well as working with my clients' employees, I will take that operating experience with me to the Office of the Treasurer to make that office a great place to work as well as operating the office at the lowest cost and most efficient way possible.

Q: What distinguishes you from your opponents in the general election?

A: I am a Libertarian. My principles are very liberty-minded and I abhor wasteful and unnecessary government. I will be bringing a fresh attitude that advocates for the taxpayers of Pennsylvania. The position of treasurer is an administrative one; not one that enacts policy, as does the state Legislature and the governor. To that end, I will be working to influence the governor and the Legislature to minimize taxes, and cut the costs of government wherever possible. The budget of the commonwealth has exploded over the past 20 years and the Republicans and Democrats, who have been in power for more than 150 years, are doing little to curb the runaway growth of state government and advocate for the taxpayers of Pennsylvania.

Timothy Runkle

Party: Grn
County: Lancaster

Education: B.S. geology, Millersville University

Qualifications: EcoDistricts Accredited Professional, Green Party of Pennsylvania treasurer (2017 - present)

Campaign website:

<http://www.greenslate2020.org/>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/Tim4ElectedOffice>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/LancasterGreens>

Q: What is the most important duty of the state treasurer? If elected, how would you carry out that duty?

A: Through the many boards on which the state treasurer serves, they function as the head investor of the commonwealth's financial investments. The state treasurer has the ability to direct sustainable and ethical investments including which banks hold your tax dollars or how the state pension funds are managed. The duty of transparency, through right-to-know legislation, requires the state treasurer to be clear about the state's business. I will take the office beyond transparency and to a place of responsible management of your investments.

Q: What distinguishes you from your opponents in the general election?

A: I intend to use my office to push forward an agenda that is future focused and serves the people of Pennsylvania. Every monetary decision I make will consider how we can 1) prepare the state for a Green New Deal by investing in sustainable jobs and eliminating dirty industry handouts, 2) restructure our outdated tax code by closing corporate tax evasion loopholes and providing for equitable taxation, and 3) reform the criminal justice system by ending cash bail and reducing incarceration and recidivism.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Description of office: Congress, the legislative branch of the federal government, is composed of two houses. The upper house is the Senate. The lower house is the House of Representatives. A majority vote in both houses is necessary to pass a law. All bills must pass the House and Senate and be signed by the president. The U.S. Constitution requires that the House of Representatives be composed of elected representatives (also called congressmen and congresswomen) from each state. There are 435 members of the House of Representatives. The number of representatives from each state is proportioned according to its population, with 18 representatives from Pennsylvania. A U.S. representative must be at least 25 years old, have been a citizen of the United States for the past seven years, and be an inhabitant of the state they represent at the time of the election. The House of Representatives is responsible for creating the budget and initiating bills to collect taxes and other money. The House is also responsible for impeaching federal officials (the Senate then tries the case) and electing the president if there is a tie in the Electoral College.

Term: 2 years
Salary: \$174,000
Pennsylvania District 12 Candidates (choose 1):



Lee Griffin

Lee Griffin

Party: Dem
County: Northumberland

Education: Bachelor's degree in philosophy from IUP

Qualifications: 8 years of business management experience in warehousing and distribution, leading hundreds of employees, negotiating multi-million dollar contracts with national package carriers and overseeing a multi-million dollar annual budget.

Campaign website: <http://www.leegriffinforcongress.com/>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/LeeGriffinForCongress>

Q: What would be your top priorities as a U.S. representative over the next two years?

A: My top priority would be working to ensure a strong recovery from the coronavirus outbreak for everyone. Our recovery will take some time, and the federal government needs to be there to support small business, farms and workers as we rebuild our economy. Another top priority of mine is health care. Too many families can't afford the cost of treatment or medication they need. We need to bring down the costs of medications and treatments and ensure that everyone has coverage. Additionally, climate change needs to be addressed with green energy, cutting carbon emissions and carbon capture initiatives. We need to act swiftly and decisively to prevent the worst effects from happening and ensure a brighter future for us all.

Q: The landmark Shelby v. Holder decision overturned protections in the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that required certain states and local governments to obtain federal preclearance before implementing voting laws or

practices. Since then, the U.S. has experienced a surge of legislation that makes it more difficult for many people to vote. What voting reforms do you see as essential to making U.S. elections accessible and secure?

A: The right to vote is an essential part of our country's foundation, and it should not be infringed upon. Voting should be celebrated, encouraged and made simple for voters. Groups like Fair Fight do great work to ensure voting rights are protected. Pennsylvania has set a strong example with Act 77, with improvements to the process that include voting from home and funding for counties to upgrade their voting systems. The federal government should provide funding to states to follow Pennsylvania's lead to make upgrades to their systems and ensure there are enough voting machines and poll workers at each polling place. The federal government should also strengthen the Voting Rights Act and work to improve access to voting across the nation.

Q: How would you go about finding consensus and reducing gridlock in Washington, D.C.?

A: Building consensus is about setting aside differences, focusing on shared goals and genuinely valuing the perspective of those you disagree with. Debate is healthy, and engaging with differing points of view makes us better. I would make it a point to build relationships with representatives from across the aisle and seek their input on issues to develop mutual respect. Unfortunately, money can also be a barrier to building that consensus. I would vote to protect our elections and lawmaking process from the influence of powerful special interests. I also support overturning the Citizens United decision as an important measure. We need representatives who are willing to work across party lines to serve the people and not special interests.



Fred Keller

Fred Keller

Party: Rep
County: Snyder

Education: Shikellamy High School

Qualifications: 25 years in wood products manufacturing, including as manager of Conestoga Wood Specialties' Beavertown factory overseeing \$50 million budget and 250 employees. Started a successful small business in residential construction and management. 8 and a half years as state rep in the Pennsylvania General Assembly.

Campaign website: <http://FredKellerForCongress.com>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/VoteFredKeller/>

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

Q: What would be your top priorities as a U.S. representative over the next two years?

A: My top priorities are the top priorities of the people of Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District, including combating the public health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic; helping our small businesses and workers keep more of their money by lowering taxes and reducing excessive government regulation; supporting regional infrastructure projects like the Central Susquehanna Valley Thruway and the I-99 corridor project while expanding rural broadband access to support tele-health, education, and commerce; and providing relief for our nation's farmers.

Q: The landmark Shelby v. Holder decision overturned protections in the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that required certain states and local governments to obtain federal pre-clearance before implementing voting laws or practices. Since then, the U.S. has experienced a surge of legislation that makes it more difficult for many people to vote. What voting reforms do you see as essential to making U.S. elections accessible and secure?

A: The 15th Amendment to the United States Constitution prohibits the federal and state governments from denying a citizen the right to vote "on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude," and the 19th Amendment protects the voting rights of all sexes. As a member of Congress, I will protect these important constitutional rights while making every effort to combat voter fraud and uphold the integrity of our elections.

Q: How would you go about finding consensus and reducing gridlock in Washington, D.C.?

A: We have already had suc-

cess in working stakeholders and members of both parties to pass legislation that benefits the people of PA-12. For instance, we introduced and passed with bipartisan support language to the Older Americans Act strengthening health care protections for seniors by adding fall-related traumatic brain injuries to the list of conditions covered by the law. We worked with The National Association of State Head Injury Administrators, health care providers across PA-12, and members of Congress from both parties to find consensus. We also drafted and introduced with bipartisan support legislation to stop the Bureau of Prisons from moving inmates during the pandemic to protect the health and safety of the PA-12 residents.

Liz Terwilliger (write-in)

Party: L
County: Bradford

Education: I earned my associate degree (A.S.) at Corning Community College in 1991, my bachelor's (B.S.) in speech language



Liz Terwilliger

pathology and audiology at Ball State University in 1994 and my master's degree (M.A.) in communication disorders-speech language pathology at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, in 1997.

Qualifications: We need leaders who bring us together, listen to diverse voices and lead us forward. I've used those skills for 17 years in homes of families across 6 Pennsylvania counties. We come together, listen to with respect and move forward to help their child grow. I have the experience needed to lead us forward.

Campaign website:

<http://www.lizterwilligerforcongress.org>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/LizTerwilligerForCongress2020/>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/LizT4Congress>

Q: What would be your top priorities as a U.S. representative over the next two years?

A: My priority would be to shift power from politicians back to the people. To that end I would work for term limits, input from more diverse voices and single issue legislation. Term limits would balance representation across districts and create opportunities for more diverse representation. I would work to bring more voices, more perspectives, to political debates. We need to hear from more than just those in power to solve complex problems for all people. To bring in more voices, I would work to make legislation more accessible. Single issue legislation would make it easier for everyone to know what is in a bill. With term limits, more diversity and more accessibility I believe we can shift power back to the people.

Q: The landmark Shelby v. Holder decision overturned protections in the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that required certain states and local governments to obtain federal pre-clearance before implementing voting laws or practices. Since then, the U.S. has experienced a surge of legislation that makes it more difficult for many people to vote. What voting reforms do you see as essential to making U.S. elections accessible and secure?

A: I believe the federal government has a responsibility to protect the voting rights of every American citizen. That responsibility is embodied in the 14th Amendment, which states that "No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States." If elected I would work to protect our election system from outside interference and to protect the rights of every citizen to vote. While I agree that we need to protect our election system from fraud, I believe that we need to encourage people to vote, not pass restrictions that make it harder. If elected, I would work to increase engagement in politics, to encourage every eligible voter to participate.

Q: How would you go about finding consensus and reducing gridlock in Washington, D.C.?

A: I've spent my career building consensus in challenging situations, helping families find common ground and a path forward. I would bring those skills to Washington. As an outsider, I wouldn't carry baggage of partisan rancor, which would help me be a mediator. I propose single issue legislation to reduce gridlock. In the recent criminal justice reform attempt, each party proposed a package that the other party wouldn't support.

Both said they were trying to do something but the other side was obstructing. Meanwhile nothing got done. I would propose one reform at a time, for example a national ban on choke holds. It would be more transparent and accessible to the public, who could then hold their representative accountable.

Pennsylvania District 15 Candidates (choose 1):

Robert Williams

Party: Dem
County: Clearfield

Education: Two years of education at SDSU, went to Fresno City College and have been certified as adult



Robert Williams

educator, minister, and EMT.
Qualifications: Life experience

Campaign website:

<http://williamsfor15.com>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Williamsfor15/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/williamsfor15>

Q: What would be your top priorities as a U.S. representative over the next two years?

A: Rebuilding the national stock pile for any more pandemics. We must create a national police department, and guarantee that training is the same in every city, county, and state. But most importantly we have to secure jobs for all of our citizens and being the most advanced nation in the world, this is possible.

Q: The landmark Shelby v. Holder decision overturned protections in the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that required certain states and local governments to obtain federal pre-clearance before implementing voting laws or practices. Since then, the U.S. has experienced a surge of legislation that makes it more difficult for many people to vote. What voting reforms do you see as essential to making U.S. elections accessible and secure?

A: Any U.S. citizen, must be allowed to vote. There does not need to be a test or job requirement to vote, the fact that you are an American citizen you have the right to participate in the electoral process.

Q: How would you go about finding consensus and reducing gridlock in Washington, D.C.?

A: Work with the representatives across the aisle. Term limits are the answer, and I strongly believe that our founding fathers did not intend for us to make holding a public office a life time position.

Glenn "GT" Thompson

Party: Rep
County: Centre

Education: B.S., Penn State; M.A., Temple University

Qualifications: Former therapist and licensed nursing home adminis-



Glenn "GT" Thompson

trator; former Bald Eagle school board member; former Centre County GOP chairman; member of Congress PA-5 (2009-2019); member of Congress PA-15 (Current).

Campaign website:

<http://www.GTThompson.com>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/TeamGT/>

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

Q: What would be your top priorities as a U.S. representative over the next two years?

A: COVID-19 has altered the health and livelihoods of millions, presenting great uncertainty. My immediate priority is to address public health challenges, while also supporting workers and small businesses, so the economy can regain footing and continue with the unprecedented growth we have seen over the past few years. While there is much uncertainty, there are opportunities to use technology to advance our everyday lives and business. This is true for many sectors of our economy, including health care, agriculture, manufacturing, and education. I have led in Congress on agriculture, tele-health and technical education. I will continue to build upon those successes while also being a strong voice and advocate for the constituents.

Q: The landmark Shelby v. Holder decision overturned protections in the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that required certain states and local governments to obtain federal preclearance before implementing voting laws or practices. Since then, the U.S. has experienced a surge of legislation that makes it more difficult for

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many people to vote. What voting reforms do you see as essential to making U.S. elections accessible and secure?

A: The Voting Rights Act has been instrumental in increasing minority registration and ballot access. The Shelby v. Holder ruling maintains pre-clearance requirements, but applies it only to jurisdictions currently subject to a court order. Pennsylvania is not one of those states. The court presented Congress with a historic opportunity to craft a new formula that will cover areas with evidence of discrimination. This is not a partisan issue, all Americans should push for inclusion and participation in the electoral process. However, the assertion that it is more difficult to vote does not reflect the data. In 2018, minority voting was at an all time high, with Latino votes doubling since 2014, and African American and white turnout up by 10%.

Q: How would you go about finding consensus and reducing gridlock in Washington, D.C.?

A: As a founding member of the Problem Solvers Caucus, I have worked in a bipartisan manner with my colleagues to achieve common ground and consensus throughout the legislative process. I credit my career in healthcare and my volunteer experiences, whether with the scouts, as an EMT and fire fighter, or as a school board member, with providing me the ability to work with people from all walks of life. Georgetown University's McCourt School of Public Policy issues a bipartisan index each Congress. I was ranked 42 out of 435 members. I do not strive for this ranking, it's a product of how I operate. I believe the constituents expect this from their voice in Washington. It is an honor to serve them and I am humbled by their continued support.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Description of office: The General Assembly is the legislative branch of government in Pennsylvania. It is composed of two houses: the Senate is the upper house, and the House of Representatives is the lower house. A majority vote in both houses is necessary to pass a law. The House of Representatives consists of 203 members. Representatives must be at least 21 years old, have been citizens and lived in their respective districts one year before their election, and must live in their districts during their terms of service.

Term: 2 years

Salary: \$90,335

District: 76

Candidates (choose 1):



Joe Waltz

Joe Waltz

Party: Dem

County: Clinton

Education:

Graduate of Montoursville High School and Mansfield University with a degree in education.

Qualifications:

Served as an educator for 34 years, active in various local organizations including City of Lock Haven Planning Commission and chairman of the Clinton County Democratic Party.

Campaign website:

<http://www.ElectJoeWaltz.com>

Facebook:

<http://www.Facebook.com/ElectJoeWaltz>

Twitter:

<http://www.Twitter.com/ElectJoeWaltz>

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: As indicated, Pennsylvania recently modernized its election process with reforms that I heartily support. Yet another reform that I would support includes allowing for voter preregistration. This would allow a young person to register to vote even if they don't turn 18 before the next election day. Providing this opportunity would ensure that the individual is registered and able to vote as soon as eligible. This preregistration could even be done in a high school class setting in the hopes of increasing civic engagement as well as voter turnout at election time.

Q: While there have been some

positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: I believe that first and foremost gerrymandering needs to be quickly eliminated. At the moment, hard line politicians who represent districts that have been drawn in a hyper partisan way have little incentive to work across the aisle in order to get anything done for the citizens of Pennsylvania. It is difficult for challengers to succeed in those districts, which continues the status quo. Ensuring districts are fairly formulated, not on the basis of voting patterns and partisan strongholds, will help ensure our elections are fairer and that Pennsylvania's voices are heard at the ballot box. It would also ease stalemates as new ideas and leaders are elected to serve.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: Absolutely, yes. Congressional districts were recently redrawn, but Pennsylvania's legislative districts are still among the worst gerrymandered in the country. I feel that the voters of our commonwealth should decide who will represent us, not the power brokers in Harrisburg who currently draw up legislative districts to serve their own interests.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the commonwealth?

A: Recently I read an article that called the internet the new Main Street, suggesting that the use of technology needs to be as accessible to those with disabilities as are public buildings. Start with the availability of high-speed internet for all, which I support, and it could include speech-to-text and screen readers software that can also be used with videos and other content. Now, persons with disabilities can apply for jobs online and possibly even work from home, as well as attend higher education classes remotely to increase job skills. I would also support efforts to encourage businesses to provide specific training for persons with disabilities, which would provide more opportunities for our handicapped and disabled population.

Stephanie Borowicz

Party: Rep

Did not respond to questions

District: 77

Candidates (choose 1):

H. Scott

Conklin

Party: Dem

County: Centre

Education:

Philipsburg-Osceola Area High School - Clearfield County Career & Technical School

Qualifications:

Scott Conklin has served as board chairman of Centre County, chairman of the Salary Board, Retirement Board member, Employee Benefits Trust Member, and Board of Assessment Member, prior to representing the 77th Legislative District. He is also a business owner in Centre County.

Campaign website:

<http://www.conklinforpa.com>

Facebook:

<http://facebook.com/Conklinforpa>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/Conklinforpa>

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: Voting in our elections is a right afforded to all Pennsylvania citizens and should be both protected and expanded. I support reforms that would allow for automatic and early voting, along with encouraging the federal government to restoring the Voting Rights Act. If Pennsylvania can modernize voting, while continuing to maintain the integrity of election security, I believe that we will see increased voter turnout and more involvement in our political process. Additionally, voters in more rural areas

should have the same access to modern and secure voting machines as those in the southeast and southwest, and I support standardizing our voting processes across the state, in a secure fashion.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: When I was first elected to the House in 2006, I supported a number of reforms to help heal the gap in trust Pennsylvanians held with their government. We stopped midnight voting so that we were accountable to the people, and increased governmental transparency by creating open records laws. Today, I support any reforms that make the legislative process more effective, while also protecting the rights of Pennsylvanians. I believe that an independent redistricting commission is a vital step to ensure that voters are accurately represented in Harrisburg.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: The current system that Pennsylvania utilizes for redistricting is out-dated and advantageous to whichever political party holds a majority at the time of the national census. I support reforming this process to create an independent redistricting commission that would redraw both congressional and legislative districts. Once Pennsylvanians are fairly represented, then Pennsylvania will truly have a government of, by, and for the people.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the commonwealth?

A: The Declaration of Independence clearly states that every American deserves life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That right is only possible if we all have a standard of accessibility to public resources that are meant for everyone. In other words, I support reforms that would improve accessibility for people with disabilities to government resources and programs. The Centre region has done a terrific job of ensuring that those with disabilities are able to utilize the programs available. In Harrisburg, I will fight to ensure that these programs are sustained and expanded so that no one is left behind.

Steve Yetsko

Party: Rep

County: Centre

Education:

Bachelor of Science in economics from Penn State with honors in economics

Campaign website:

<http://www.letsgowithyetsko.com>

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: I have voted in the 77th District for the past 20 years and I have always been able to securely, privately, and independently cast my ballot. I'm sure there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections, and I would be delighted to consider them for my support. I don't think there is currently a big issue with disenfranchisement in the 77th District, but if there is I would want to know about it. Free and fair elections are very important to me.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: Since the mid-March shutdown, Pennsylvania's state government has become completely dysfunctional. The governor has been given the ability to rule by decree, with no legislative or

public discussion. The governor's arbitrary and opaque decisions create many serious concerns about civil and religious liberties. There needs to be serious discussion about legislative limits on executive power.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: The Pennsylvania 77th District is definitely a gerrymandered district, and became even more gerrymandered during the last redistricting. I am not opposed to a state constitutional amendment in this regard, but I would need to see details before I could support it. I would need to understand how "independent" the independent commission really was. The organization Fair Districts PA has some great ideas in this regard.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the commonwealth?

A: We would have to specifically look at the many barriers that exist and address them individually.

District 81

Candidates (choose 1):

Ian M. Kidd

Party: Dem

County: Huntingdon

Education:

Huntingdon Area Senior High School, 2014; Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania, secondary education, 2019

Qualifications: From 2014 through 2018, I served in various roles for the Rick Rogers campaign, including speech writer, event coordinator, Centre County campaign director, and deputy campaign manager. I have a degree from Lock Haven University in social studies as well as political science.

Campaign website:

<http://sites.google.com/mckmatter.com/ian-for-pa/home>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/ianforpa>

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: I have publicly called for Election Day to be classified as a state holiday in Pennsylvania. Each and every American citizen possesses the right to vote. I believe that voting is a right for all citizens, and that the path back to participating in the political process must be made more accessible for those who have paid their debt to society. We must ensure each and every citizen's ability to receive access to mail-in voting options, and must pass same-day registration in Pennsylvania. Democracies are maintained by expanding the opportunity to engage with and shape our communities.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: I believe Congress should not be rewarded with any recesses until all proposed legislation for the calendar has been considered. We must ensure the incorporation of an independently commissioned nonpartisan map for legislative districts in Pennsylvania. Constituents want their representation to work across the aisle, to do whatever it takes to improve their lives and the lives of their loved ones. Until entrenched politicians are forced to represent the entire constituency, we will continue to see tribalism in Harrisburg. We must pass HB 2638, and continue to work with the activists who have brought this issue to the fore.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: Yes. In a democracy, it is the citizens who are supposed to be responsible for choosing their representation, not the other way around. The crisis of partisan

gridlock in Harrisburg will not be solved by those directly responsible for the chaos which has unfolded. Put the power back where it belongs: with the people.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the commonwealth?

A: The ADA was a landmark milestone in the fight to ensure the accessibility of equal right and opportunities for Americans with disabilities. Today we must build upon the work instigated by those who have come before us. I will work with individuals within my district to predict and respond to any issues which create a more restrictive environment, ensuring accessibility both physical and figurative. It is my duty as a state legislator to be accessible to my constituency and to be responsive to any opportunities we discover to further improve the inclusiveness of our society.

Rich Irvin

Party: Rep

County: Huntingdon

Education:

Juniata Valley HS, Indiana University of Pennsylvania — B.S. accounting

1994

Qualifications:

18 years Huntingdon County treasurer and currently serving as state representative

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: My 11th grade civics teacher always told us to "exercise your right to vote." As a Pennsylvania citizen we have options to register to vote: while renewing driver's license, online, in person at our elections office and by mail. We must continue to educate the electorate that your vote does matter, elections have been decided by only one vote. Security in voting is the complaint I hear most often. Many residents feel elections can be swayed by individuals registered to vote in more than one county or state. With the passage of no question absentee voting and adjusting the time frame election boards can receive mail in ballots, I expect more voters to use this new system to cast their vote.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: In my opinion there are many parts of Pennsylvania's state government that are dysfunctional. Too many of our state agencies are run by career bureaucrats whom legislate the law through regulations passed on to the citizens of Pennsylvania just trying to start a business, earn a living and raise their family. Common sense can go a long way in Harrisburg and that is what I do my best to take with me every time I make a vote on behalf of the 81st District.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: For the past two sessions I have supported and co-sponsored legislation to form an independent commission. Voters should choose their legislator not the other way around.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the commonwealth?

A: Everyone is entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness regardless of a disability. The biggest issue I have experienced with the Disabilities Act is, when an individual is working to advance their career, pay could put their disability and medical benefits in jeopardy by earning too much money. Once they reach that earnings level all assistance could be removed and the disabled individual would otherwise not be able to afford to

SEE VOTE, 5B



Rich Irvin



Ian M. Kidd



Steve Yetsko



H. Scott Conklin



ABBY DREY adrey@centredaily.com

The ticket office at the Bryce Jordan Center has been converted into a Centre County satellite elections office for the election.

FROM PAGE 4B
VOTE

live on the pay level they worked so hard to reach. Government should not inhibit individuals from working to their maximum potential.

District 171

Candidates (choose 1):



Peter Buck

Peter Buck

Party: Dem

County: Centre

Education:

Ph.D. educational theory and policy, Penn State

Qualifications:

Current: chair, Intergovernmental Solar Working

Group / vice-chair, Climate Adaptation and Action Plan Technical Advisory Group / president-elect, Pennsylvania Environmental Resource Consortium / former: chair, Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors / member, Centre Region Council of Governments

Campaign website:

<http://www.buckforpa.com>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/BuckForPA/>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/buckforpa>

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: I support open primaries and ranked choice voting. While I am in a party, I believe they have too much control of our elections. Elections in a fair and free country should be both fair and free. By limiting people's choices, we gag the expression of voters' values. Ranked choice voting is

working in many places. While slightly more complicated, ranked choice voting can be handled by modern technology and voter education quite easily. We can create a system that weighs our preferences better than the blunt either-or system that's in place.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: I support a limit on individual campaign contributions. Having looked at some of the contributions from individuals with deep pockets to some of my future colleagues and seeing their voting records, I'm appalled. This is legal bribery that I am committed to ending. I support shrinking the lower chamber's size by 1/3, from 203 to around 140. The state House of Representatives is just too big, too expensive, and bogged down in pointless gridlock. After our next census, we should begin the process to a smaller more efficient house. I support legislation to slow down the revolving door of legislator to lobbyist. The natural gas industry is a notably bad actor in this space.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: Yes. A free people need fair representation. When legislators draw voting maps, they will do so in order to keep themselves in power no matter what party they are in. Human nature and the nature of holding onto political office will override almost any legislators' sense of fairness. That's what happened in Pennsylvania, as legislators worked behind the scenes with a lot of data to make maps that work for

them and their fat cat donors and special interests. A constitutional amendment that forms an independent commission will ensure a fair process that makes maps by and for the people.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the commonwealth?

A: The Americans with Disabilities Act touches nearly every aspect of our society and economy. As a Unitarian Universalist, I believe in the dignity of all people. I have three statements, from the personal to policy. First, my staff will do everything we can to create a welcoming environment for disabled people. Second, we must address issues of acceptance, stigma and discrimination by being mindful of the challenges of all people by talking about ableness and sharing and listening to stories. Third, and most importantly, I would follow the Employment First Commission's October 2019 recommendations to support inclusive and competitive employment, accreditation, education, and funding that increases compliance and enforcement.

Kerry A. Benninghoff

Party: Rep
County: Centre
Education: State College Area High School; Penn State

Qualifications: Former health care worker; 2-term Centre County coroner; multiple terms as state legislator — Finance, State Government, and Policy Committee chairman; chairman — Cancer Caucus

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

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Penn-

sylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: I am proud to have worked on and voted "yes" to the most significant package of election law improvements in 75 years. We, the Legislature provided \$90 million in state aid to help counties pay to replace their voting machines that Gov. Wolf unilaterally outlawed. In addition, our legislation allows Pennsylvanians to vote by mail without extenuating circumstances and to submit their absentee or mail-in ballots up to 8 p.m. on Election Day. The bill also moved voter registration deadlines to 15 days prior to an election and added an additional \$4 million for census outreach in Pennsylvania.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: Most legislation that is passed is usually "agreed to" in a bipartisan manner and vote. When 4,000-plus bill ideas are introduced each year to become law, you need a very deliberate process both in committee as well as the House floor to sift out those bills where agreement can be reached. While many people think emotional debate and even disagreement is a negative thing, it is actually beneficial. Similar to the process of tempering steel, you take raw material, heat and hammer it and eventually pound or mold it into the desired end product. In much the same way, the legislative process is deliberate and insightful but not immediate, so that the final product is not written by quick, raw emo-

tions, but researched deliberation and debate.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: As a legislator, I have co-sponsored redistricting bills to remove "politics" from the process. I continue to be open to these ideas and have participated in many local discussions on this. I want to be careful to not replace one undesirable system with another potentially flawed one. Our democracy is too valuable to allow any special interest to gerrymander legislative districts. It is important to note that my office serves anyone who contacts us regardless of their "assigned" legislative district or their political affiliation.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the commonwealth?

A: One of the most significant roles of our commonwealth is to take care of those facing challenges beyond their control. These challenges, while varied, should not limit these individuals from enjoying a happy and engaging life in their communities. I enjoy supporting local events, fundraisers, and legislation to assist in gaining employment for our citizens with intellectual disabilities. I have also sponsored legislation to ensure support services can be provided to them while living in their family's home or other community-based settings.

Hobson McKown (write-in)

Party: L

Did not respond to questions

FROM PAGE 1B
VOTING

submitted so as to be received by the Elections Office no later than 8 p.m. on Nov. 3.

If you have not used the secrecy envelope before submitting your ballot or you have damaged your ballot, please contact the Centre County Elections Office.

ELECTION DAY PROBLEMS

If your right to vote is challenged at the polls on Election Day and the problem cannot be resolved at the polling place, the judge of elections at the polling place should telephone the county Board of Elections. The problem could be resolved by phone if your name appears on the county records. If it does not and you want to try to resolve the problem, then you can go in person to the county Board of Elections where a judge from the Court of Common

Pleas will be on duty to resolve election problems. Alternatively, you can ask for and vote by provisional ballot. If it is later determined that you were eligible to vote, your ballot will be counted. You will be given instructions on how to determine if your vote was counted. If you have any questions or need to report any problems, call 866-OUR-VOTE for assistance in English or Spanish or 888-API-VOTE for assistance in Asian languages.

IDENTIFICATION AT THE POLLING LOCATION

If you are a new voter or if you are voting at a polling place for the first time, then you must bring your voter ID card or a photo ID such as a driver's license, student ID or some other form of federal or state government-issued ID. Some forms of non-photo ID are also acceptable such as a firearm permit, current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck or government check. If you do not have

any acceptable ID, then you must be allowed to vote by provisional ballot.

If you are not a new voter and are not voting at your polling place for the first time, you are not required to bring or provide identification.

ONLINE VOTER'S GUIDE

The Vote411 Online Voter's Guide is available at www.vote411.org. Links to this guide as well as links to Vote411 and other useful information for voters can be found on the

League of Women Voters of Centre County website at lwvcentrecounty.org.

Membership in the League is open to all women and men 16 years of age or older, and inquiries are welcome. Contributions to support this activity are greatly appreciated. Visit lwvcentrecounty.org to make a tax-deductible contribution to LWVCC Education Fund or mail to LWVCC, P.O. Box 962, State College, PA 16804.