



CLINTON COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

NEWSLETTER



Congresswoman Elissa Slotkin, Attorney General Dana Nessel, Governor Gretchen Whitmer and Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson are all up for reelection,



A Message from the Chairman

“The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.”

This seems like a prevalent and appropriate battle cry for the current, highly polarized political times. This is the underlying idea that brought me to my first Dems meeting back in 2014.

An assumption is made when you walk through that door the first time as well. The assumption is that you have sought out that group because you want to do something to enact change. Even if a person claims that they “just want to check it all out,” we know that if offered a chance to do something that fits their comfort and skill levels and time commitment criteria, they will probably agree to it.

The question is, what is that chance? Do they even know what they are looking for? The choices are limitless and nearly every position is available, from volunteer to party officer. We regularly reshuffle people when new talent comes in.

Many times, potential party members are scared off by the perceived pressure to volunteer when they visit for the first time. I think what most people are looking for is a way to dip their toes in the water and find out what they want. Maybe that isn't a formal position in the Party, such as Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or Treasurer. Maybe that doesn't even mean going to a meeting right away. Maybe it's as simple as seeking out your precinct delegate and opening a dialogue with them or asking if you can assist them.

The precinct delegate is the liaison between the Democratic Party and other Dems in their precinct or neighborhood. Precinct delegates have a lot of different ways of doing this but it all amounts to meeting Dems and Dem-friendly people in their neighborhoods and building

These relationships really become invaluable when it's time to mobilize the vote or protest.

relationships with them. Without these relationships and the open dialogues, they foster, Clinton County Dems would not be able to effectively represent the Dems in Clinton County. These relationships really become invaluable when it's time to mobilize the vote or protest. I would say that most of the actual nitty gritty work occurs at the precinct level with your like-minded neighbors.

So, as you read through this edition of our newsletter, please understand that your action is needed. We need the "silent majority" to act and act now. It isn't necessary to make that an epic action, however. You could contact your precinct delegate and ask if you can help. Don't know who your precinct delegate is? Contact us at clintoncodems.org and we'll provide that information for you.

In solidarity,

Eric Schlenkermann
Chair, Clinton County Dems



How to Fix the United States Supreme Court

By Tina Andrews

Ahhh, the Supreme Court, what a supreme disaster. From granting corporations personhood status in *Citizens' United* in 2010 to overturning *Roe v. Wade* in 2022, the Supreme Court has gained more and more power over our lives, much to our detriment.

Republicans, whether in the majority (denying a Democratic Supreme Court nominee a hearing) or the minority (using the power of the filibuster), have blocked many Democratic Supreme Court nominees over the years. This has led to the Supreme Court we have today, one run by ultra-conservative ideologues. This new brand of Supreme Court justice is using his/her religious beliefs to change America. What about separation of church and state, you ask? Unfortunately, while the First Amendment to the Constitution protects the free exercise of religion and excludes the establishment of a national religion, it does not stop elected officials or Supreme Court justices from using their religion to make decisions.

What do we do now? In 2021, Representative Ro Khanna [introduced a bill](#) *“To establish a process by which appointment of Supreme Court Justices can occur at regular time intervals, and for other purposes”* to change

how Supreme Court justices are nominated. In short, every President would be given the opportunity to appoint a Supreme Court justice every first and third year of their presidency. The Senate is then given 120 days to act on the nomination. If they do not act, after 120 days the

This is not packing the court ... it is right-sizing the court to accurately reflect the current size of the federal court system.

nominee automatically becomes a Supreme Court justice. Voilà, we now have an apolitical nomination process for Supreme Court justices! In addition, this bill limits the justices to 18-year terms. One idea for realigning the Supreme Court in the near term is to expand the court to 13 justices. A bill introduced by [Senator Ed Markey](#) in 2021 would do just that and restore balance to the court by having one justice to oversee each of the 13 Circuit Courts of Appeal. This is not packing the court, as some would say, it is right sizing the court to accurately reflect the current size of the federal court system.

We can make these bills a reality if we all get out and vote for democrats who will uphold the rights we hold so dear such as voting, racial justice, freedom of speech, reproductive rights, etc.: I realize the Biden Administration hasn't been able to fulfill the progressive agenda as we'd hoped, but we cannot forget that they are up against two so-called Democrats in the Senate who are obstructing the administration's agenda., and the Republicans are weaponizing the minority filibuster to stop good Democratic legislation in its tracks. Democracy is on the ballot, and the power is in your hands to change the political landscape up and down the ballot!



According to a Pew Research Center Survey:

- **61%** of US adults say abortion should be legal all or most of the time.
- **57%** of Americans disapprove of SCOTUS ruling overturning Roe v Wade.
- **73%** of US adults say religion should be kept separate from government policies.

Looking back to 2010, although 77% of the public says "there should be limits on the amount of money individuals and organizations can spend on political campaigns, it was the Roberts' Court which decided Citizens United, unleashing unlimited cash that has perverted our elections. Source: Pew Research Center Survey.

Recent Supreme Court Decisions Could be Just the Beginning

As upsetting as several Supreme Court decisions have been, more rough times likely lie ahead. The Supreme Court has agreed to hear a case (*Moore v Harper*) that tests the power of state legislatures to set rules for federal elections. The case could upend federal elections by eliminating virtually all oversight of those elections by state courts. If affirmed by the 6-member super majority of right-wing justices currently comprising the Supreme Court, it will give state legislatures wide authority to gerrymander electoral maps and pass voter suppression laws. It could even lead to the loss of Michigan's Independent Citizens' Redistricting Commission, approved by a majority of Michigan voters in 2018. Read a short but comprehensive article, [The 'Independent State Legislature Theory,' Explained](#), from the Brennan Center for Justice to help you stay informed.

Don't Drink the Water

By Ellen Link



[MLive](#) reported that on the morning of June 9 this year, the U.S. Coast Guard was called out to deal with a 5,300-gallon oil spill into the St. Mary's River by Algoma Steel of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. The approx. 75-mile river connects Lake Superior and Lake Huron and provides a border between Michigan and Ontario, Canada. Residents in the area were warned not to drink the well water.

Sean McBrearty, whose organization [Oil and Water Don't Mix](#) has long been fighting for the removal of Line 5 from the Straits of Mackinac, viewed the St. Mary's spill as a glimpse of the dire threat posed by Enbridge's almost 70-year-old Line 5 pipeline. He pointed out that while the spill into St. Mary's was large, it pales in comparison to the 23 million gallons of oil that run through Enbridge's Line 5 pipelines along the bottom of the Straits every day.

About a week later—on June 15—another spill occurred, this time into the Flint River. EGLE officials described the material, an estimated several thousand gallons that stretched five miles long, as “oil-based and dark black with a petroleum smell that looks similar to motor oil.” [According to MLive](#), the substance came from Lockhart Chemical Co., which manufactures and markets chemical additives including additives for metalworking fluids and greases. While Lockhart has agreed to take responsibility, the cost for which has already exceeded \$1 million, its trustworthiness had already come into question. “It was cited by EGLE in April for 13 violations of environmental law, including its storage of liquid industrial by-products in concrete vaults that had no leak detection capability.”

Why are corporations continually allowed to endanger our environment and our lives? Will the final verdict on Line 5 come only after it has been allowed to remain in place and, like so many other Enbridge calamities (the Kalamazoo River horror springs to mind), end up leaking into and despoiling the world's largest freshwater system? The lies about Michigan's need for Enbridge's oil and the great jobs it will ensure have already been [debunked](#). Being able to say “I told you so” will not assuage the painful acknowledgment of yet another human-made environmental disaster. And those who championed Line 5, most but not all of them Republicans, won't even bow their heads in shame.

Being able to say “I told you so” will not assuage the painful acknowledgment of yet another human-made environmental disaster.

Governor Whitmer may not prevail, but it won't be for lack of trying. She understands that protecting our natural resources protects our lives and livelihoods. It is our job to make sure *all* candidates for office, whatever their position, understand and acknowledge this truth—and then to make sure they follow through.

Under the Dome

Legislative Update for Clinton County Democrats

By Tim Hughes



Reproductive Freedom, Voter Rights Proposals Likely Lead November Ballot

Backers of constitutional amendments guaranteeing voter rights and reproductive freedom have filed impressive numbers of signatures to get their proposals on the November 8th ballot.

Reproductive Freedom for All would amend the constitution to make reproductive freedom a right and repeal an old law that makes abortion a felony.

That law was overruled by the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision but was reinstated when the Supreme Court overturned Roe. The group filed 753,759 signatures, about 329,000 more than needed, and the most ever filed in Michigan for a ballot proposal.



Promote the Vote is a coalition pushing for voting rights changes to the constitution that could not be altered or amended by the legislature. They filed 670,000 signatures in support of their proposal on the July 11th deadline, about 245,000 more than necessary.



Their plan would allow 9 days of early voting, continue the current practice of allowing voters without ID to cast provisional ballots, allow voters to request absentee ballots for future elections, require ballot drop boxes for every 15,000 voters, provide publicly paid postage for absentee ballots, and

establish that only state and local election officials can conduct post-election audits.

Supporters of a term limit change bypassed the petition process altogether and convinced the legislature to vote to put the measure on the November ballot. The plan would reduce the maximum length a lawmaker can serve in the Legislature from 14 years to 12 years but would allow them to serve the full tenure in one chamber. Lawmakers can now serve up to six years in the Michigan House and eight years in the Senate. The proposal also requires certain financial disclosure from state lawmakers, the governor, the secretary of state and the state attorney general.

The one-time list of 13 potential ballot proposals for the November 2023 ballot shrunk to about four, as the cost and difficulty of gathering signatures, along with a scandal that showed massive fraud in the signature gathering process for Republican gubernatorial candidates, took its toll on many ballot proposal campaigns.

Only one of ten initiative campaigns met the June 7th deadline for creating new laws. Initiatives put proposed laws before the legislature, who can enact them or put them on the ballot. A proposal to cap interest rates for payday loans at 36 percent and allow the state attorney general to prosecute lenders who exceed that rate was the only initiative campaign to file. They filed 405,694 signatures. 340,057 valid signatures are needed.

Among those who failed to file initiative signatures were Republican backed groups trying to make it harder to vote, institute a voucher system with public funds going to private schools, decertify the 2020 election, limit the Governor’s executive order authority, and require a “forensic audit” of the 2020 election.

Also lacking signatures was a proposal to raise the Michigan minimum wage.

Whitmer Bipartisan Budget Invests in Working Families, Veterans, Education, Infrastructure and Pensions

Governor Gretchen Whitmer negotiated a \$77 billion budget for FY 2023 with the Republican-controlled legislature that invests in working families to deal with kitchen table issues that affect their daily lives.



“This budget will deliver more funds to local communities helping them invest in police officers and firefighters, speeds up replacement of lead service lines, and reduces congestion at local rail crossings, said Whitmer. “The budget also delivers on critical community projects, funding the construction of a new veterans’ home in Marquette, modernizing Michigan’s armories, and upgrading Selfridge Airforce Base in Macomb County. Finally, the budget keeps promises made to hardworking municipal employees, shoring up their pensions.”

Highlights of the budget include:

- A 5% ongoing and 1% one-time increase in statutory revenue sharing, helping local communities deliver critical services and invest in first responders.
- \$4 billion to repair roads and bridges for local and state highways.
- \$850 million to support municipal and Michigan State Trooper pensions.
- \$10 million to modernize Michigan’s armories and \$97.6 million for a new veteran’s home in Marquette.
- \$48 million to complete lead service line projects.
- \$610 million to increase per pupil funding from \$8,700 to \$9,150, for a total of \$19.6 billion in K-12 spending
- \$414.5 million in wageses to direct-care workers.



The general omnibus budget was contained in HB 5783 and the education budget was included in SB 845. Both bills passed overwhelmingly in both houses of the legislature and have been enrolled for presentation to the Governor.

A Path Forward for Democrats

By Ethan Reader – Youth Columnist

In the aftermath of the overturning of Roe v. Wade Democrats are faced with a new challenge. As long as it remains unlikely that federal legislation will ever codify the protections Roe provided, women’s reproductive rights will be a state-by-state decision. Some states activated severe bans upon Roe’s overturn, some have prohibitions set to begin in the coming months, and still others are drafting new legislation to further strengthen restrictions. The question that remains in the face of this reality is: how do the voters and the Democratic Party respond?

We have already seen Vice President Kamala Harris’s calls for more voter turnout in the coming election being met with pushback by a public that feels

“We did our jobs and turned out to elect you and Biden, why haven’t you done yours?”

betrayed by the current administration. “We did our jobs and turned out to elect you and Biden, why haven’t you done yours?” is a common question being asked in the comment sections of popular social media sites. However, this line of thought plays directly into the hands of the Republican Party’s decades old plan. Voter turnout amongst Democrats in mid-term elections under a Democrat president has always given the Republican Party an advantage. Harry Enten, writing for *Fivethirtyeight*, detailed this advantage ahead of the 2018 midterms and showed that under a Democrat president, the Republican Party enjoys a 5% advantage in voter turnout. Meanwhile, Democrats do not gain any advantage under a Republican president, merely they equalize the scales.

This is not to reinforce that tired, oft repeated line of “blue no matter who” instead I want to take what we know about voter turnout in mid-terms and look one level below. How do Democrats turn out to their primary elections? Even more poorly, even in an election like 2020 that had historically high voter turnout. Using registered Democrats in Michigan as an example, while 68% of these voters cast ballots in the presidential election, the number of their votes in both the state primaries and the presidential primaries is less than half of that turnout at 31% and 28% respectively. In the 2018 gubernatorial election, a similar trend follows. In the primary, turnout was 30% while in the general election, turnout was 61%. This does show an improvement from the 2014 gubernatorial election in which only 14% of Democrats turned out for primaries and 40% for the general.¹

I use that example to illustrate that, while there is significant voter turnout for presidential elections, state election involvement is increasingly minimal from registered Democrats. Republican voter participation does not see these massive dips in participation, thus in years where we expect to see the fabled “blue wave” that is promised almost every presidential election, we fail to see results. This pattern is essential to Republican voting efforts, and it is why their foremost goal is always “state’s rights” beyond any held ideology. They win state elections. So, it makes sense that the party wants everything handled by the states. Sure, they

¹ Statistics gathered from raw numbers from the Secretary of State’s provided voter turnout information.

may not win a majority in California or New York but as of July 8, 2022, the Republican party holds 23 state trifectas, or states where all three branches of government are controlled by one party, compared to the Democrats' 14. Amongst those trifectas Republicans control 16 veto-proof majorities to Democrats' eight.

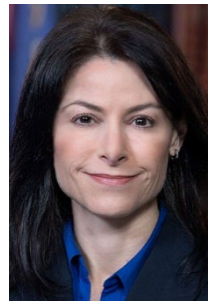
The only way for Democrats to truly make meaningful and lasting gains throughout the tenure of the current Supreme Court, which continues to put a heavy emphasis on "states' rights" over individual rights, is to take control in more states. It is not a perfect solution as there are some states that have been deemed unwinnable for good reason, but the first step is to identify which states have enough inactive Democrat-leaning voters and find new ways to engage them in their state election cycles. Simply put, if we cannot beat the Republican Party with our current strategy, we ought to beat them at their own game.

Citizens' Corner

Democracy is on the ballot in 2022! It's all about turnout and that depends on YOU!

By Melany Mack

This year voter turnout is more critical than ever. Recent decisions by the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) have made it painfully clear that we are dependent on our state's government to protect our rights. We will also be dependent on our governor and elected officials to take the actions necessary to protect our environment.



All this makes it vitally important that Governor Whitmer, Attorney General Nessel, and Secretary of State Benson are re-elected in November. It is likewise essential to elect Democratic majorities in the state house and senate because, without them, it is unlikely that Governor Whitmer can assure access to reproductive rights or lead the way to enacting sensible measures to increase safety and curb gun violence.



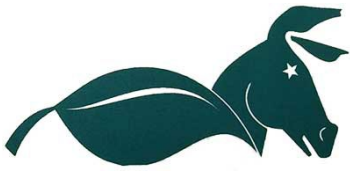
Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson has provided helpful information, [Voting in Michigan's 2022 Election](#), to assure that every voter has the information needed to cast their ballots. Take time to read it and share it with others who would benefit from it!

CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS YOU BET



NOT SO MUCH





Getting to Know Our Candidates



Senate District 28 – Two Primary Candidates

Salman Rais

DeWitt has been my home since 2008. I am a physician with a master's degree in Health Services Administration from Central Michigan University. I enjoy living in Clinton County, a great place to live and raise children. My three children attend public schools.

We need to protect the future of our children with quality education, access to healthcare, and taking care of our environment. Having worked within the medical system for many years, I know firsthand how difficult it can be for people to access quality, affordable care, and I will work to improve that situation. In the course of my profession and in my campaign, I have spoken with many Clinton County residents. I recognize the importance of agriculture and manufacturing in our community. It is vital that these sectors receive the support they need to continue to thrive. I am running for public office to work for these goals.

I chose to join the Democratic party because I find that Democrats are more accepting of different perspectives. I will work in the legislature to increase understanding and to help heal partisan divisions. I adopted a simple and low-key campaign strategy because I wanted to listen deeply to my fellow citizens to learn about the issues that were most important to them. With your support, I will bring fresh ideas and diverse experience to the 28th State Senate district.

Sam Singh

My story is one of civic engagement. My parents immigrated to Michigan from India in the 1960s for a better life and an opportunity for the American Dream. From an early age, my parents taught me the value of giving back to the country that had given them so much. I took those lessons to heart, knowing how hard my parents worked to provide a good life for my brother and me.

The year after I graduated from MSU, I was elected at the age of 24 to the East Lansing City Council. In 2005, I was elected as the youngest mayor in the city's history at that time. I worked tirelessly to build bridges between the university and the broader Mid-Michigan area. I served six years in the Michigan Legislature where I was a passionate champion for issues facing working families, K-12 education, veterans, climate, and health care. In my last term, I was elected to serve as the Democratic Leader. In that role, I was the voice for Democrats statewide as we fought against destructive policies led by the Republican majority.

My wife Kerry Ebersole Singh, Chief Talent Solutions and Engagement Officer at the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, and I have a son, Remy, who is looking forward to starting kindergarten in the fall.

I am excited to be running in the new 28th District to represent the families of Clinton, Ingham, and Shiawassee counties. Please visit votesamsingh.com to learn more.

Senate District 34

Unopposed in Primary

Christine Gerace

Hello, I'm Christine Gerace and the lone Democrat running in Michigan's Senate District 34 that includes ESSEX and LEBANON TOWNSHIPS in Clinton County.

Let me tell you a little bit about myself. First, I worked as a geologist exploring, mapping, and protecting the underground rivers of Mammoth Cave National Park, and then moved on to work with the Indiana DNR to regulate the coal mining industry. It took a lot of diligent work (and free overtime, no union, darn) for the 15 years I was there. I always got the tough companies, and sometimes we had to shut them down for several days until they fixed things. There were no wind turbines then, and very little solar. Things have improved in the area of alternative energy and I will support even more improvements! Eventually, I moved back to Michigan to be closer to my Dad and then took up medical massage and now own a successful small business.

Since returning to Michigan, I noticed that industry is overusing our aquifers, and that chemicals are polluting our soils and water, and water infrastructure is so old it is rotting and poisoning our kids. That's nuts and WE can change that!

Other importance issues to me include voting rights for all, a woman's right to choose, and guns of war in the wrong hands.

As for my campaign, I can always use more volunteers to help cover the 11 counties in Senate District 34.

Please visit my website for more information, to volunteer, and/or to contribute at www.ChristineGerace.com

State House District 75 – Three Primary Candidates

Don Keskey

I have been an attorney for 48 years, 25 years as an Assistant Attorney General under Michigan Attorney General Frank J. Kelley, and then in private law practice.

While serving in the AG's office, I engaged in successful lawsuits against polluters of Michigan's ground waters and rivers and represented Michigan in a PBB case resulting from the mixing of a retardant chemical in cattle feed distributed throughout Michigan.

I also supervised numerous attorneys in regulating Michigan's electric and gas utilities, intrastate railroads, all highway motor carrier transportation, communications companies, passenger ferry boats, private water companies, and pipeline and oil/gas drilling facilities. I also represented Michigan and 30 other states in successfully challenging the federal government's failure to dispose of high-level nuclear waste stored along the Great Lakes and in other states, and testified before Congress on this subject.

In private practice, I have represented nonprofit ratepayer groups in numerous cases to oppose utility rate increases, to support expansion of high-speed broadband internet service in rural areas and customer-owned and community solar projects, and in nuclear waste matters.

I have litigated hundreds of cases before state and federal agencies including the Michigan Public Service Commission, the Federal Communications Commission, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and state and federal Courts, including several cases before the Michigan Supreme Court and the United States Supreme Court.

I am endorsed by the [Michigan Farm Bureau](#). Visit my website donkeskey.com for more information or e-mail me at donkeskey2022@gmail.com.

Emily Stivers

An Ingham County Commissioner, I'm passionate, hard-working, and 100% committed to our shared Democratic values. Experience governing during crisis matters. I'm the only candidate currently holding elected office who served during the pandemic or Trump administration. I've worked with colleagues – Democrats and Republicans – to make Ingham County the state model for COVID relief, allocating and spending \$69 million more efficiently, effectively, and equitably than any other county.

I'm also the only candidate who is LGBTQIA, has kids in public schools, and is endorsed by Planned Parenthood. Most of my Democratic colleagues on the County Board, Parks Commission and CMHA-CEI Board endorse me, proving my ability to forge strong relationships and accomplish policy goals. As a County Commissioner, I've stood strong and worked for our community despite being screamed at, threatened, and even stalked.

With a background in education and Public Policy degrees, I'm a policy wonk and pragmatist who knows how to work out a government budget and perform cost-benefit analyses. We have a lot of lawyers in the legislature; my perspective will be valuable.

In 2024, we'll need strong leaders to defend our free, fair elections from Republican attacks. As your state rep, I'll always stand strong and keep working for you.

Please visit [my website](#) to see my extensive list of endorsements – including State Rep. Julie Brixie and Clinton County Commissioner Dwight Washington – plus my full resume and policy positions. Thanks for your consideration!

Penelope Tsernoglou

Since beginning my campaign, I've knocked on over 8,000 doors across every corner of our community, attended dozens of events, and had countless conversations with Democratic voters and community leaders. I am forever grateful for the new friendships I've made in Clinton County.

What I've learned is that a mother in St. Johns is no different than a mother in my home of East Lansing. A retiree in Ovid shares the same concerns as my neighbors in Meridian Township. We all care deeply about protecting our youth from gun violence, ensuring reproductive freedom, funding our public schools, and ensuring that future generations have clean air and water, and our seniors have access to affordable, quality health care. I'm a mom, an attorney, a small business owner, a former Ingham County Commissioner, and a Democratic activist for over 20 years. I know my experience and accomplishments are unmatched in this race.

I've worked hard to meet you and will work even harder for you in the legislature. I'm proud to be the "only Democrat that's ever come to my door" for so many of you. I believe showing up matters; that's why I've invested so much time in your community. And once I'm in the legislature, I'll continue to show up for you by advocating for our shared Democratic values as well as the issues unique to our rural communities. Please reach out to me at votepenelope@gmail.com, (517) 974-2638, or visit my campaign [website](#).

State House District 77– Three Primary Candidates

Logan Byrne

An attorney, dedicated public servant, and alumnus of both Michigan State University College of Law and Eastern Michigan University, I am the local Clinton County candidate for Michigan's 77th House District. Growing up on a small family farm, I developed a strong work ethic and an appreciation for community. After studying Criminology at EMU with plans for a career in law enforcement, I decided to pursue further education and obtained my law degree from MSU College of Law to advance the lives of others through impact advocacy.

Politics has become inordinately divisive in recent years, which has created a deadlock in the legislature and prevented meaningful progress. I understand that the current political climate needs to change so that communities can begin to rebuild damaged relationships. I am a young professional, not a politician, and take pride in my ability to reach across the

political aisle to build meaningful relationships with members of all political affiliations. As such, I hope to facilitate bipartisan legislation and foster a cooperative State House environment. Ultimately, I decided to run for State Representative of Michigan's 77th House District because more young professionals need to step up and take a seat at the decision-making table.

Some of my key priorities include: (1) protecting voting rights; (2) passing common sense gun reform; (3) protecting reproductive rights; (4) prioritizing working families; (5) supporting education; and (6) supporting farmers. Visit [my website](#) for more information. Thank you and I hope to have your support August 2.

Emily Dievendorf

I'm running for State Representative in the 77th District because having experience in the fight for our basic rights and needs matters now more than ever. I am the most experienced candidate in this race. I have spent 20 years working in public policy and human rights advocacy. I've made the 77th District my home for 25 years. I'm also the founder of a new nonprofit bookstore located in Downtown Lansing.

I, too, have a stake in the fight to win back our reproductive rights, provide a living wage to all Michiganders, support small businesses, adequately fund our public schools, ensure people can stay in their homes and address gun violence. I am a passionate advocate for the 77th District that I have known, loved and been investing in for decades - alongside YOU.

I have spent my life championing issues related to our most marginalized communities. Throughout my public service career, I have fought for equity, financial stability, and equal access and opportunity for all individuals and families. As Executive Director for Equality Michigan, I advocated for LGBTQIA+ communities at every level of government. Previously, I worked for two Michigan Democratic state legislators. I've served on the boards of the Lansing Association of Human Rights, Firecracker Foundation, Lansing Area AIDS Network, and with the Ingham County Women's Commission. I'm also a federal appointee to the Michigan Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. Learn more about me at [my website](#).

Every election matters. Vote your ethics. Vote your standards. Vote for justice and change.

Jon Horford

Over the years, I've had many different titles in this community—student, athlete, coach, volunteer, mentor, and small business owner, to name a few. Now, I'm working to earn your vote for State Representative in the 77th District on August 2.

I grew up in Lansing and went to Grand Ledge schools. After living all over the country, my wife and I have settled where we're from because we believe mid-Michigan holds the key to career opportunities, a bright future for our children, and expanded affordable housing

options in our state. To make that happen, we will need strong, compassionate leaders who have experience serving our community.

Below are some of the groups and individuals who have endorsed my campaign and my goals for Mid-Michigan:

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan	Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce
Equality Michigan (100% Pro-Equality Candidate Designation)	Michigan Talent Agenda
Michigan Farm Bureau	Michigan Licensed Beverage Association
Michigan Professional Firefighters Union	Michigan Restaurant and Lodging Association
Small Business Association of Michigan	Michigan Manufacturers Association
Greater Lansing Building Trades	Roads + Michigan County Road Association
Southeast Michigan Building and Construction Trades	Sue Leeming - Mayor of DeWitt
LiUNA Local 499	Andy Schor - Mayor of Lansing
IBEW Local 665	Thom Sowle - Mayor of Grand Ledge
IBEW Local 352	Sarah Anthony - State Representative
Sheetmetal Workers Local 7	Tyrone Carter - State Representative
Michigan Carpenters and Millwrights	Terrance Augustine - Eaton County Commissioner
Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce	

See [my website](#) for more information. I hope we can add your name to this growing list of supporters!

State House District 93

Unopposed in Primary

Jeffrey Lockwood

I was born in Saginaw and raised in a family who have been Michiganders for many generations. We have deep roots in this community and state. I am the son of a hard-working UAW member and a Registered Nurse, who engrained a strong work ethic in me at an early age. I am no stranger to hard work.

I am a union pipefitter. My wife Gina, a victim's advocate, and I have six-year-old twins, Caleb and Landon. As parents, like so many of you, we work hard to provide our children with the same opportunities that we experienced ourselves while growing up. However, due to failed policies in Lansing, we, the same as many of you, are finding it difficult to provide those opportunities to our kids. Underfunded school systems, a shortage of quality childcare providers, and cuts to special education and mental health programs make it harder for working families to be able to provide for our families and set them on a path to succeed. On the other end of the age spectrum, retirees on fixed incomes are burdened with unfair taxes on their pensions.

I strongly believe in providing Michiganders with the necessary tools to succeed through a government that works for everyone.

When elected, I will focus on our future and the future of our children. I believe we have too many politicians focused on their own political careers and ignoring the needs of the people whom they represent. I will work to change that. Visit [my website](#) for more information.

Clinton County Commission - District 6

Unopposed in Primary

John Andrews

I would like to introduce myself as a candidate for the Clinton County Commission for District 6. I am a father, a Democrat, and a seven-year veteran of the United States Army.

I grew up in rural Gratiot County, where my ancestors have lived for over 100 years. After high school, I joined the US Army, serving in Germany and Oklahoma. After leaving active duty, I served in the Michigan National Guard while obtaining a bachelor's degree in Anthropology from Central Michigan University, where I met my wife, Tina. I volunteered at the CMU Museum and at various archaeological sites in Michigan, where I worked with people from many walks of life.

After college, we moved to Arizona, where I worked as an archaeologist and museum educator, publishing a book on the prehistoric Hohokam people and an article in the Michigan Archaeologist. Tina and I moved back to Michigan to start a family, and we have a son in the US Navy and a daughter at Michigan State University. Both attended public schools. We have lived in Clinton County for over 18 years.

I served on my local homeowners' association and was instrumental in the establishment of a park in our community. I currently work as an Information Technology professional and am actively involved in helping make our community a vibrant and welcoming place for all.

Tina and I have volunteered for numerous Democratic candidates handing out literature, phone banking, and letter/postcard writing. After the January 6th attack on the US Capitol, we joined the Clinton County Democratic Party and became members of the Communications Committee. We built and maintain the party's current website.

I am new to politics and am running to bring another Democratic voice to the Clinton County Commission. You can learn more on my Facebook page:

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

Clinton County Commission - District 7

Unopposed in Primary

Dwight Washington

My work and community involvement are devoted to helping assure that our youth can enjoy the opportunities and natural resources that have been available to past generations. Serving as a Clinton County Commissioner for the last six years has enabled me to foster strategic relationships which have benefited the local and regional coalitions addressing economic, environmental, and health/social equity issues. This is important to me because my family has called southern Clinton County and Bath Township our home for four generations.

I earned a doctorate from Michigan State University (Department of Community, Agriculture, Recreation, and Resource Studies) and a master's degree from Harvard University Graduate School of Education (Education and Human Development). I have worked as a school counselor and as a college psychology instructor. Presently, in addition to serving on the Board of Commissioners, I provide expert consultation on environmental and water policy. I also work with the Meta Peace Team to provide nonviolence skills training.

My work and academic experiences have been a tremendous asset as a county commissioner. I served on several boards and committees focused on strengthening local, state, and national policies to protect the environment and to improve social/psychological wellbeing.

My top three priorities include economic sustainability, community well-being, and environmental conservation. These priorities have guided my work with fellow commissioners to make critical decisions, build consensus, and establish policy. I am counting on your support for re-election in November so that I can continue my efforts to help make Clinton County a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

Attention voters in Watertown Township! Opportunities to vote for write-in Democratic candidates!

Take a screen shot of this page so you write in the names exactly as written below!

Catherine Lynn Lippert for County Commissioner, 4th District.

Ann Marie McCulloch for precinct delegate in Watertown Township, Precinct 2.

Katheryn Louise Elliott for precinct delegate in City of St. Johns Precinct 3.

Catherine Lynn Lippert

A long-time Democrat and Watertown Township resident is running as a write-in candidate for **Commission District 4**. There is not currently a Democratic candidate on the ballot for this seat.

Please WRITE-IN **Catherine Lynn Lippert for County Commissioner, 4th District**.

Cathy lives in Watertown Township with her husband, Gerry, another strong Democrat. They have 6 grown children and one grandchild. Cathy works as a comptroller for a local technology

company and serves as treasurer of Clinton County Democratic Party. She loves all sports, all outdoor activities, reading, sewing and yoga. Cathy believes in equality and dignity for all, treating our planet with diligent care, and that we are stronger together as love unites us.

Ann Marie McCulloch

Local Democrat **Ann Marie McCulloch** will appear as a write-in candidate for **Precinct Delegate in Watertown Township's 2nd Precinct**. Please write her name in on your August 2 ballot to help ongoing efforts to ensure fuller participation by Democrats at the Precinct Delegate level. Ann joins Nettie Pearl Walker-Wood whose name appears on the ballot.

Ann is a current Lakeside Preserve homeowner, and mom to a sophomore at DeWitt High School and a junior at Albion College. She works as a director for Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest academic honorary society, and is a member of University United Methodist Church and the Clinton County Democratic Party. Ann graduated from Albion College, studying political science and public service. She hopes to help local Democrats increase their presence and profile in Watertown Township while supporting candidates committed to meaningful dialogue and bipartisan progress.

Please WRITE-IN **Ann Marie McCulloch for precinct delegate in Watertown Township, Precinct 2.**

Attention voters in St. Johns Precinct 3!

Opportunity to vote for write-in Democratic candidate!

Katheryn Louise Elliott

Democrat and St. Johns resident **Katheryn Louise Elliott** is running as a write-in candidate for **Precinct Delegate in City of St. John's 3rd Precinct**. Please write her name on your August 2 ballot.

Katheryn is a long-time resident of St. Johns, where she raised her three children. Two children serve St. Johns as volunteer firefighters, and her youngest begins college in the fall. Katheryn loves writing, dance, theater, and music of all kinds; you may have seen her this summer as one of the emcees at the St. Johns Summer Concert in the Park Series.

Katheryn is a Human Resources professional currently working in Organizational and Professional Development at MSU. In addition to experience coaching leaders, training, and employment law, Katheryn has a master's degree in Public Administration. She is also a graduate of the Michigan Political Leadership Program.

Katheryn hopes to use her skills and experience to help the party identify and develop the next generation of Democrat candidates, and to facilitate county-level strategic planning for the 2024 election cycle.

Please WRITE-IN **Katheryn Louise Elliott for precinct delegate in City of St. Johns Precinct 3.**