



Primary Election

Voter's Guide

The **Dominion Post**

dominionpost.com

Sunday, May 24, 2020

WE ARE STILL WORKING FOR YOU!



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Fleischauer**



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COVID-19 UPDATE *Every Sunday from 4:00-4:45 p.m.*

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The Legislative Session is over, but your Mon
County Delegates are helping our neighbors by:

- Packing and delivering meals and prescriptions
- Assisting with unemployment, housing, business loans and grants
- Working with the Governor and state agencies on summer feedings, vote by mail, and race disparities



WORKING TOGETHER TO STAY SAFE AND GET WV BACK TO WORK!

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friendsofbarbara@gmail.com
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Delegate Evan Hansen
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304-290-4200

Delegate Danielle Walker
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Williams4house@gmail.com
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PRIMARY 2020

More names on ballot than still in 2020 race for President's office

Newsroom@DominionPost.com

While West Virginia's ballots contain the names of 11 Democrats and seven Republicans running for president, many of those candidates have already withdrawn from the race.

The ballot lists Democrats Michael Bennet, Joseph R. Biden, Michael Bloomberg, Pete Buttigieg, Tulsi Gabbard, Amy Klobuchar, Deval Patrick, David Lee Rice, Bernie Sanders, Tom Steyer, Elizabeth Warren and Andrew Yang, and Republicans Roque "Rocky" De

La Fuente, Bob Ely, Matthew John Matern, Donald J. Trump, Joe Walsh and Bill Weld.

But according to news reports, as of April 20, Democrats Bennet, Bloomberg, Buttigieg, Gabbard, Klobuchar, Patrick, Steyer, Warren and Yang have ceased their campaigns. Democrat Bernie Sanders has also suspended his campaign.

On the Republican side of the ballot, Walsh and Weld have ended their bids for the nomination.

ELECTION QUESTIONS: West Virginia Secretary of State's website is wvsos.gov.

In Monongalia County, County Clerk Carye Blaney's office can be reached at 304-291-7230. Her website is www.monongaliacountyclerk.com.

In Preston County, County Clerk Linda Huggins' office number is 304-329-0070, and the website is www.prestoncountyclerkwv.com.

Some state races unopposed in primary; not featured here

Newsroom@DominionPost.com

Some state level offices are being sought by only one person on each party. The Dominion Post did not do candidate profiles on these races for the primary election. All the candidates will be contacted before the November general election and information will be presented to our readers.

Secretary of State Mac Warner, a Republican, will face Democrat Natalie Tennant in the general election.

In the contest for state auditor, incumbent Republican John "JB" McCluskey will face off against Demo-

crat Mary Ann Roebuck Claytor this fall.

Incumbent Democrat John Perdue is running for another term as state treasurer. His Republican opponent in November will be Riley Moore.

In the 14th District State Senate race, incumbent Republican Randy Smith and Democrat David C. Childers are both unopposed in the primary.

In the State House of Delegates 5th District, Democrat Dave Pethtel and Republican Phillip T. Wiley are unopposed in the primary.

TWEET @DominionPostWV

DEADLINES: June 3 is the deadline to submit an application to vote absentee by mail. The county clerk must receive the application by this date.

June 8 is the deadline to hand-deliver the absentee ballot to the county clerk's office.

June 9 is the deadline to mail an absentee ballot to the county clerk. The ballot must be postmarked by this date.

Vote



Cindy SCOTT

for Circuit Court Judge

25 Years Serving Monongalia County

- ✓ 22 Years in the Courtroom
- ✓ 10 Years Assistant Prosecutor
- ✓ 12 Years Defense Attorney
- ✓ 3 Years WVU Division of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

✓ VOTE CINDY SCOTT

www.CindyScott4Judge.com



Paid for by the Committee to Elect Cindy Scott

Mon County voters asked to renew four levies

BY BEN CONLEY

BConley@DominionPost.com

The renewal of four existing excess levies is on the June primary ballot for voters in Monongalia County.

Passed in May 2016, the five-year levies help fund public transit, parks/trails, volunteer fire departments and public libraries.

They expire on June 30, 2021. If passed in June, the levies would be extended for four years.

The levies were initially slated to go on the general ballot in November. However, at the request of the agencies involved, they will be on the primary ballot, giving the agencies an additional six months to plan and prepare before the existing levies end.

By moving the levies from five to four years going forward, it syncs them with the normal election cycle.

The levies to be on the May ballot include:

Transit levy

If passed, rates for the levy would remain unchanged at 2.2 cents per \$100 assessed value on Class II (residential) property and 4.4 cents per \$100 on Class III and IV (commercial).

The levy will generate approximately \$1,994,843 annually, for a four-year total of \$7,979,372.

Mountain Line Director Dave Bruffy said levy funds have been used to offset funding lost from the county due to declining coal severance dollars. Additionally, vehicle purchases and service increases have been funded.

All levy-funded buses are marked with a large green checkmark.

"We increased our service by about 30% with the levy funding, in addition to preserving what we already had and were in danger of losing," Bruffy said. "Without those levy funds, we would have never been able to increase those services or even keep the services we had."



If renewed, a transit levy will generate almost \$2 million annually over four years. It will continue to help Mountain Line increase services.

Ron Rittenhouse/The Dominion Post

Parks and trails levy

If passed, the levy supporting a number of parks, trails and recreation groups would also remain unchanged from its current version, though the way the funds are divided would be different.

The levy would generate \$4,207,312 over four years on rates of 1.16 cents on \$100 of Class II and 2.32 cents on Class III and IV.

Annually, BOPARC would receive \$257,572 for continued work improving and upgrading the Morgantown Ice Arena.

The three county parks would divide \$275,000 annually for operations and expenses and \$332,273 annually for capital improvement projects.

The operation and maintenance of the Mon River and Deckers Creek Rail-Trails would receive \$95,397.

A new addition this time around would be the West Virginia Botanic Garden, which will get \$38,158 each year for operations and development of a welcome center.

The Cheat Lake and Laurel Point soccer clubs will receive \$38,158 annually, and Westover Park will get \$15,270 for its baseball fields.

Volunteer fire levy

If passed, rates would actually drop in the first year of the new levy, from the current rates of .84 (II) and 1.68 (III and IV) to .76 and 1.52.

Those rates will climb slightly in years two, three and four, capping out at .41 and 1.64, which will still be lower than the existing rates.

The levy is anticipated to raise \$689,129

in the first year and a four-year total of \$2,865,324.

In year one, it will raise \$50,000 annually for each volunteer department and the county's hazardous incident response team, as well as \$10,000 for the brush fire team and \$15,000 for the Monongalia County Volunteer Fire Company Association. Those numbers increase slightly each year. For example, \$50,000 becomes \$51,500 in year two, and so on.

"It's very, very important for the fire departments," Volunteer Fire Association President Bob Brookover said of the levy funding. "The way things are nowadays and the cost of everything is making it extremely hard for volunteer departments to stay in existence."

Library levy

If passed, rates would remain unchanged.

The levy is expected to raise about \$489,644 annually, for a four-year total of \$1,958,576, at rates of 0.54 cents on \$100 at Class II and 1.08 cents at Class III and IV.

"It makes up about 24% of our total budget, and that's the total system budget, so this covers general operations for the Morgantown [library], the Aull Center and all the branches — Cheat Area, Clinton District, Clay-Battelle and Arnettsville," Library Director Sarah Palfrey said.

"If we lost that, there would be a significant reduction in locations, staffing and services."

TWEET @DominionPostWV

Elect Cindy Frich House of Delegates

- ✓ Pro-Business & Pro-Job
- ✓ Supports Education
- ✓ 100% Voting Record
- ✓ Legislative Excellence Award
- ✓ Friend of the WV Taxpayer Award
awarded by West Virginians Against Government Waste
- ✓ Sponsored over 100 bills that became law



**Supports the Opportunities
& Values of the American Dream**
Be Safe. You Are Essential.

Paid for by Cindy Frich for House of Delegates, Marlene Frich, treasurer.

PRIMARY 2020

U.S. SENATE 2020

Richie Robb

Party: Democrat

Age: 74

Residence: South Charleston

**Richie Robb**

Education: B.A. Marshall University, history, and J.D. Capital University.

Political and civic experience: Mayor of South Charleston, 1975–2007; elected member of West Virginia Democratic Party Executive Committee.

Campaign statement: West Virginia has fallen behind the rest of the nation. We need good jobs. We must emerge from this COVID-19 crisis with a commitment

to catch up. Elected leaders constantly talk about this but little has been done. Mayor of the state's 10th largest city for 32 prosperous years and awarded the Bronze Star, I am a practicing attorney, married to a teacher, and we have two children and an adorable granddaughter.

Top priorities: Good jobs. Former U.S. Sens. Robert Byrd and Jay Rockefeller made bringing good jobs to West Virginia their priority. This has not occurred since they left office. There are any number of ways this can be done, but most of all we need the know-how and commitment to do it. Medical care needs to be affordable, accessible and easy to understand with an emphasis on prevention.

Paula Jean Swearengin

Party: Democrat

Age: 45

Residence: Coal City

**Paula Swearengin**

Education: High school diploma

Political and civic experience: I have spent decades fighting for clean air, clean water and economic diversity. I have worked with many organizations, including the Sierra Club, Ohio Valley Environmental

Coalition, Keeper of the Mountains Foundation, Alliance for Appalachia, We the People Detroit and 360.org. I have even had the honor of speaking at the United Nations.

Professional experience: Office management, bookkeeping, medical billing.

Campaign statement: It is time for West Virginia voices to be heard in Washington and for West Virginians to be the top priority for our elected officials. That is what our campaign is all about. Our campaign is the only one in this race that refuses corporate and corporate PAC money, which means we are only beholden to the people of West Virginia, not corporations or special interests. We are fighting for you and the future of West Virginia.

Top priorities: I will fight for bold policies like universal health care and getting dark money out of politics. West Virginia needs economic diversity and the Reclaim Act can revitalize towns across this state. Add comprehensive broadband to that and our state can thrive. I will also be working with people on the front lines of our communities for policy roundtables to involve West Virginians in the process. We know how to solve our problems because we live them.

Shelley Moore Capito

Party: Republican

Age: 66

Residence: Charleston

**Shelley Capito**

Education: B.S. in zoology from Duke University and a M.Ed. from the University of Virginia.

Political and civic experience: Served four years as a member of the West Virginia House of Delegates before repre-

sented West Virginia's 2nd Congressional District for 14 years (2001-2014) in the U.S. House of Representatives. The first female elected to represent West Virginia in the U.S. Senate in 2014.

Professional experience: First dedicated professional life to serving students, working as a college counselor and advisor at West Virginia State College (now University). Also served as director of the Educational Information Center for the West Virginia Board of Regents.

SEE CAPITO, K-6

Preston, Mon both have unopposed races in June

Newsroom@DominionPost.com

Some county offices in Monongalia and Preston counties are being sought by only one person per party — or fewer.

In Preston, incumbent County Commissioner Don Smith, a Republican, has no opposition on either side of the ballot. Likewise incumbent Assessor Connie Ervin, is also a Republican.

Prosecuting Attorney Melvin C. Snyder III has decided not to seek re-election. Only one person, fellow Republican Jay Shay, has filed for the office.

Preston will elect three magistrates. Division 1 incumbent P.L. Grimm and Division 2 incumbent Bo Ward are unopposed. Information on candidates for the Division 3 magistrate seat are elsewhere in the voter's guide.

Magistrate races are nonpartisan.

For the office of Preston surveyor, only

Democrat Ken Moran is running. And only Ed Utterback is running for conservation district supervisor, a nonpartisan position.

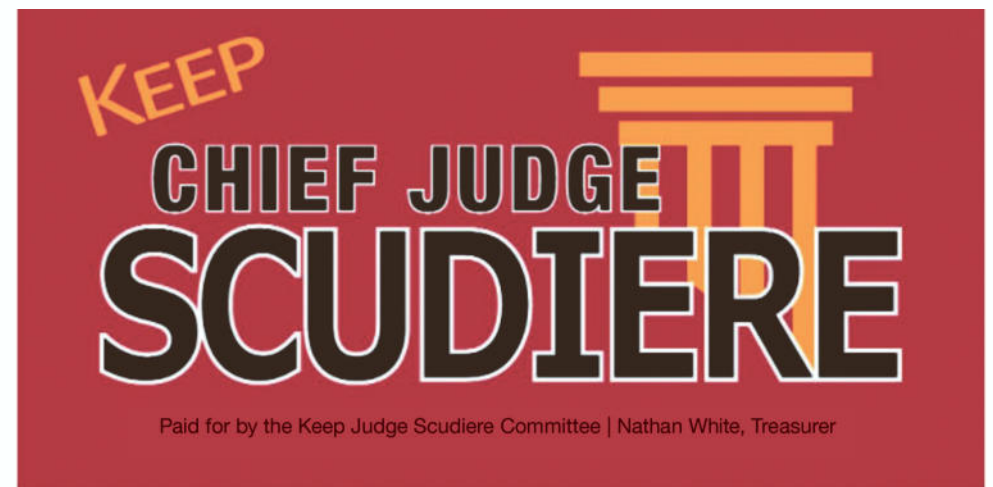
Mon County

In Mon, Democrat Jeff Arnett and Republican incumbent Ed Hawkins will square off in November but have no competition in the primary.

Mon Prosecuting Attorney Perri Jo DeChristopher, a Democrat, has no opponent on either side of the ticket. Likewise, Mon County Assessor Mark Musick, a Democrat, is the only person seeking that office.

Monongalia County has four magistrates on the ballot. In Division 3, incumbent Jim Nabors is unopposed.

Rick Abel is unopposed for the Mon conservation district supervisor seat.

**Chief Judge Scudiere has:**

- been on the bench for over a year
- been Chief Judge during the COVID-19 pandemic & helped keep the Justice Center running
- has done over 1,100 hearings
- is the Mon County Drug Court Judge
- has been a trial attorney for over 37 years
- has practiced both civil & criminal law

Because Experience Matters.

ARLIE CAMPBELL for MAGISTRATE Division 4



Endorced by the



COUNTY: Monongalia

PARTY: Nonpartisan

TOWN OF RESIDENCE: Morgantown, lifelong resident of Monongalia County

OCCUPATIONS: Retired; Consol, mine foreman papers, UMWA Local 4043; Mylan, Laborers Local Union 379 AFI-CIO; Farmer (present)

POLITICAL EXPERIENCE: Protested for fair property tax appraisals in Monongalia County (2011, featured in the Dominion Post), advocate for West Virginia Victims R US (attending rallies in Washington D.C.), and member in good standing for the West Virginia Association of Municipal Judges

EDUCATION: Attended St. Francis, Westover Jr. High, and a graduate of Morgantown High School (1973). Completed 2 years of training in graphic arts, during this time I competed and won 1st and 2nd place in Job Interview competition at the West Virginia State Leadership Contest in Ripley, WV, and advancing on to Nationals held in Tusla, OK. Coaching certification. First aid trained. Completed Municipal Judge Training in 2019.

CIVIC EXPERIENCE/ACTIVITIES: Member of American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) - to uphold our Constitutional freedoms; Member of Westover Rotary Club; Member of National Rifle Association; Worked with youth sports, coaching with multiple organizations. Assisted in fostering a child from Children's Home Society, bringing him to our home to live and assisted him in enrolling into post-secondary education, as well as paying his tuition and fees. Special Olympics advocate. A community service provider through the Monongalia County probation office for approximately 6 years, working with young adults in completing community service hours. Attended the U.S. Court of Appeals in the Fourth Circuit, and heard trials at the WVU College of Law, an extraordinary opportunity to see a federal appellate court in my home state.

Why am I seeking a position as magistrate?

I am not a politician. I'm not going to stand here and tell you what you want to hear just to get your vote.

I will tell you this, I am for the people and the people's rights and I want to uphold the constitution. I believe everyone should be treated fairly with dignity and respect. I am compassionate towards what others are going through and promise to help them to the best of my ability. Furthermore, I will recuse myself for any case I feel as though I cannot be impartial.

I will not be asking for or receiving any campaign contributions, as I believe that these contributions can bring into question a magistrates ability to be fair and unbiased when making a decision. My campaign is completely self-funded.

I believe that Monongalia County people are ready for change. I also believe there should be term limits for every elected position. I can offer the people a choice in this election. Coming in as the common blue-collar worker, I will bring a different perspective into the courtroom, with fresh opinions and contrasting views.

THE ELECTION

If elected I promise to donate 10% of my wages to a different local non-profit organization every month.

I am running for Monongalia County Magistrate, Division 4. I am asking that you vote for me, Arlie Campbell, in Division 4.

Magistrates are elected during the primary election on June 9th. I would strongly encourage early voting to avoid long lines. Early voting will run from May 27th thru June 6th. If you are not registered to vote, you can register up to May 19th. Every vote counts! Let your voice be heard!

Thank You,
Arlie Campbell
Candidate for Magistrate, Division 4
Monongalia County

Disclaimer: This promise is only intended to show that money is not my motivation in running for magistrate. No promises have been made to any persons or organizations with the intent to influence their vote.
- Arlie Campbell

Paid for by the Candidate

CAPITO

FROM PAGE K-5

Campaign statement: I'm forever humbled by the confidence voters placed in me to serve as their voice in Washington. I look forward to traveling the state in the months to come and campaigning. Working together, we can win big in 2020 and deliver even better results

Allen Whitt

Party: Republican

Age: 52

Residence: Kenna

Education: B.A. in communications, Auburn University.

Political and civic experience: 10 years as a pro-family lobbyist.

Professional experience: Seven years as the president of the Family Policy Council of West Virginia.

Campaign statement: West Virginia has the chance to replace the third most liberal Republican in the Senate with an unwavering conservative who will defend

in the years to come.

Top priorities: In the five short years since being elected to the Senate, I have been a driving force behind legislation increasing cancer survival rates among children, combating the growing crisis of women's deaths related to pregnancy and childbirth complications, ending the curse of Alzheimer's disease and investing in research to explore innovative treatments and cures for diseases.

constitutional rights and support the small businesses that are the backbone of our economy. While our current senator has voted for federal funding for abortion, backed gun control proposals and broken her campaign promise to vote to repeal Obamacare, I am 100% pro-life, pro-2nd Amendment and pro-freedom.

Top priorities: I want to help President Trump roll back the assault on our freedoms, particularly the right to life and the right to bear arms. I want to help make sure that West Virginia can develop a prosperous economy, not one that relies on handouts that simply further a culture of despair. The best way to support workers is to create the conditions for them to prosper. I will also only vote to confirm originalist justices.

Richard N. Ojeda (D) and Larry Eugene Butcher (R) did not respond.

U.S. HOUSE 2020

Natalie Cline

Party: Democrat

Age: 39

Residence: Wheeling

Education:

Williamstown High School, in 1999; West Liberty University; Salem International University; West Virginia University, Bachelor of Science in international studies, 2005; Master's of Business Administration in international business, 2009

and a Master's of Arts in linguistics, 2013.

Political and civic experience: No response.

Professional experience: Currently

telecommutes as a computational linguist for a software company based in Herndon, Va. Has taught at both West Virginia University and George Mason University, and has worked as a computational linguist since 2015, working primarily with government agencies, government contractors and law enforcement agencies to provide entity and relationship extraction services.

Campaign Statement: I am fighting for better health care, public education and to strengthen our labor unions. My campaign has proposed multiple legislative ideas, such as the Family Reinvestment Act, which would provide funding to open medical facilities and mental health centers, instead of watching them close.

Top priorities: No response.

Republican David McKinley is unopposed in the primary. Information on him will be included in the general election The Dominion Post Voter's Guide. Democrat Tom Payne did not respond.

GOVERNOR

Shelby Jean Fitzhugh**Party:** Republican**Age:** 80**Residence:** Martinsburg**Shelby Fitzhugh****Education:** Sophia High School, 1959; accounting, Prince George's Community College; real estate school.**Political and civic experience:** None.**Professional experience:** Tax preparer, four years; real estate agent; administrative assistant

to chair of master's program in social studies, benefits administrator, Catholic

University, Washington, D.C.

Campaign statement: I will listen to the suggestions and ideas of those who do the work. I will build highways so businesses can transport their goods. I will develop affordable spay and neuter clinics and make West Virginia a no-kill state. Together we can make West Virginia great again for individuals, families, workers, industries and tourists.**Top priorities:** Tackling opioid addiction, restructuring the state child care system, more county vocational schools to retrain displaced workers, more computers and smartboards in K-12 schools and college classrooms.**Jim Justice****Party:** Republican**Age:** 69**Residence:** Lewisburg**Education:** Master's of Business Administration, Marshall University.**Jim Justice****Political and civic experience:** Like President Donald J. Trump, I am not a politician. I've worked my entire life creating jobs, starting businesses and helping communities across West Virginia. God has blessed me,

and I love West Virginia. I led the Mountain State Coal Classic Basketball Tournament to help raise scholarship dollars for kids, given Christmas gifts to thousands of children and helped communities across the state during horrific natural disasters.

Professional experience: Before being elected governor, I served as the president and CEO of 102 different companies and employed thousands of West Virginians. Before my election and dur-

ing my time leading my family's companies, I launched a massive expansion of multiple businesses, including significant coal reserve expansion, Christmas tree farms, cotton gins, turfgrass operations, golf courses, timber enhancement and land development projects.

Campaign statement: We're turning West Virginia's economy around, and we're investing in our roads and schools. There is still work to be done, and I'm just getting started because I want jobs, opportunity and hope for all West Virginians. There are challenges ahead and more work to do, and I am focused every day on building on the successes we have achieved during my first term. I ask for your vote to serve as your governor.**Top priorities:** Thanks to my leadership, the state's economy is strong and growing stronger every day. We must continue to grow our economy, attract jobs, fix our roads and highways, address the drug crisis and recover from the COVID-19 global pandemic. I work every day to attract more people, more jobs and more opportunities to West Virginia.**Charles R. Sheedy Sr.****Party:** Republican**Age:** 62**Charles Sheedy Sr.****Residence:** Cameron, Marshall County**Education:** Communications, engineering tech, Point Park, Fairmont State, Mountain State.**Political and civic experience:** Not a politician or businessman, retired common sense working man. Member of various civic organizations.**Professional experience:** Combat veteran, DOH administrator, retired with

no outside interest. No certifications or licenses to maintain or business to operate. Maintained a budget within WVDOH and administered improvements to the roads within Marshall County.

Campaign statement: True lifelong Republican. Lower taxes; less government; fix, not waste money. Work for term limits for elected officials to end corruption. A full-time governor that will live in Charleston at the mansion.**Top priorities:** Sweeping tax reforms to lower taxes for senior citizens and lower income. Tax exemptions for military. Smaller government and less regulations. Fix broken agencies and departments. Less waste of taxpayer dollars by government.**Brooke Lunsford****Party:** Republican**Age:** 53**Residence:** Salt Rock**Brooke Lunsford****Education:** WVU Tech graduate, 1989, B.S. accounting; Insurance Schools of West Virginia; WW real estate schools, Realtor.**Political and civic experience:** Finra Series 6 and 63, past licensed member of The Rotary International,

Paul Harris Fellow and past president; member of the chamber of commerce; past member of The Gideon's International.

Professional experience: I have 30 years in the insurance industry, which prepares me to handle the health insurance crisis, the rural hospital crisis and the long-term care needs of assisted living patients. I was involved in the

fiber optic cable revolution and worked in 10 states. I work on projects today with the foremost experts in wireless and broadband. I can help West Virginia with that experience.

Campaign statement: Restore the hope! This is the time for an experienced executive to step in and rescue West Virginia from last place. If you don't see a problem, you can't solve a problem. Health care, roads, population loss, education in gutter and, most of all, 7,150 kids need foster care!**Top priorities:** 7,150 foster kids, that's my top priority. Marry education and foster care, so kids have safety and a warm place to live, and so teachers can get paid to mentor and save these kids.

Grow tourism to get rid of personal state income tax. Develop tiny homes and cabins. Build these to the national building code and start selling them in state, and we export them to other states. Build 100 homes in each county between \$100,000-\$190,000.

More gubernatorial candidate information on Page 8.

Re-Elect Magistrate Sandy Holepit

Division 4

- 12 Years Experience and Dedication
- Adjudicated 20,000+ Cases
- Lifelong West Virginian
- WVU Graduate/Certified Teacher
- Member ROBES to Schools
- Created "Classrooms to Courtrooms"
- Firm but Fair
- Endorsed by Mon/Preston Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 87



Together we make a difference
SANDY HOLEPIT

Ad paid for by committee to re-elect Sandy Holepit

GOVERNOR

George Douglas Six

Party: Republican

Age: 61

Residence: Wadestown

**George Six**

Education: Bachelor's degree, agricultural business management.

Political and civic experience: Never been a politician.

Professional experience: Lifetime of business and farming experiences. Thirty-two years of business experience in the

real estate industry, surveying, engineering and aerial mapping. Eight years working in the finance industry, the poultry industry in Moorefield, Alma, Va., Timberville, Va., and Petersburg.

Campaign statement: No reply.

Top priorities: No reply.

More gubernatorial candidate information on Page 9.

H. Wood "Woody" Thrasher

Party: Republican

Age: 65

Residence: Bridgeport

**Woody Thrasher**

Education: Bachelor's degree, civil engineering, West Virginia University, 1977.

Political and civic experience: Commerce secretary, 2017-2018; Harrison County Chamber of Commerce; West Virginia Chamber of Com-

merce; West Virginia University Hospital Board.

Professional experience: Started The Thrasher Group in 1983, current chairman of the board of The Thrasher Group.

Campaign statement: West Virginia is hurting and has been losing population at an alarming rate. We need broadband, school choice and better roads. We need more and better jobs. Most importantly, we need a full-time governor. We must protect the unborn and fight the drug epidemic. I'm a conservative who will protect our values.

West Virginians can have the American dream and this is the West Virginia I will fight for.

Top priorities: West Virginia must diversify the economy for more and better jobs, stronger schools and infrastructure improvements, which includes broadband. Our drug crisis must be aggressively attacked on multiple fronts and our coal and gas industries need more support. Our constitution must lead the way and our conservative values must be protected.

Jody Murphy

Party: Democrat

Age: 47

Residence: Parkersburg

Education: UCLA; University of Concord located at Athens, i.e. Concord College, Class of 1996.

Political and civic experience: None.

Professional experience: Former director of Pleasants Area Chamber of Commerce, Pleasants County CVB and

official with the Pleasants County Development Authority. Founder and chairman for MOV Launchpad Initiative, a new business and entrepreneurship pitch context. Newspaper reporter for almost 15

**Jody Murphy**

years who covered government, education and business

Campaign statement: I want my children

and my children's [children] to live in West Virginia. I don't want to go to Ohio or North Carolina to visit my grandchildren. To do that we need to recruit and retain residents and grow and diversify the economy. I can do that.

Top priorities: Recruit and retain residents. We need more taxpayers, not more taxes. Diversify the economy. I propose giving land away for industry and manufacturing. Provide opportunities for free post-secondary education.

Stephen Smith

Party: Democrat

Age: 40

Residence: Charleston

**Stephen Smith**

Education: I went to Holz Elementary in Charleston before my family moved to Texas. I graduated from Plano Senior High School, Harvard College (B.A.) and the London School of Economics (master's). But the most important lessons I've learned came from fighting alongside working families. At

age 21, I was arrested alongside cooks and janitors fighting for a living wage. We won that fight, and I've since spent my career fighting crooked politicians and corporate lobbyists.

Political and civic experience: I have worked with dozens of organizations — both as a staff person and volunteer: Cub Scouts, Coalfield Development Corporation, KISRA, Kanawha Public Library, T-ball assistant coach, West Virginia Center on Budget and Policy. My political experience is mostly working behind the scenes, helping train more than 175 West Virginians who are under-represented in government to run for office.

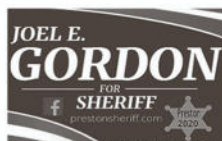
Professional experience: Most recently, I ran the West Virginia Healthy Kids and Families Coalition — a group

that helped start 300 rural small businesses, after school programs and community health projects and won 27 policy victories at the Capitol (raising the minimum wage, expanding school breakfasts, child abuse prevention and more). That organization won statewide and national recognition for creating jobs, bringing millions to the state in economic activity and winning victories for West Virginia's most vulnerable children.

Campaign statement: We want a people's government. Find the people who work the hardest and sacrifice the most — that's whose side we're on. We're the only campaign that's visited every county at least twice, holding 197 town halls; the only campaign with a unionized staff; the only campaign with a full policy platform (and how we pay for it), written by West Virginians. Read our plans at wvcantwait.com/platform-plans and help us make them better.

Top priorities: My priority is to serve the people of West Virginia, not lobbyists. We're the only campaign that rejects corporate PAC money, and the only one that supports caps on drug prices, a corporate crime and political corruption division in the state police, an end to election buying, full cannabis legalization, \$150 million in tax breaks for small businesses, the broadband middle mile and teacher raises. That's also why we're winning in the polls and fundraising. www.wvcantwait.com.

- It's **YOUR** Community
- It's **YOUR** Law Enforcement
- It's **YOUR** Candidate with a Plan

***"Why am I running for Sheriff?"***

"Hello, I'm Joel Gordon Candidate for Preston County Sheriff. Citizens, like you, know the issues, see the problems and recognize the challenges we face in Preston County, and you have reached out to me asking for New Ideas to resolve Our Problems, and I understand. We need to revisit and maximize our resources and manpower. We must implement cost effective ideas and seek solutions to better serve Our Communities. We must better utilize "Your Officers", improve the department's working environment, increase your service visibility, continue to use Your Tax Dollars Wisely and we must always remember, **We Work for You.**"

Vote **JOEL E. GORDON**
For Preston County Sheriff

**3RD on the
BALLOT -**

1ST for Change and Justice.
It's Time for a Better Tomorrow.

Paid for by: Committee to Elect Joel E. Gordon — Joel E. Gordon, Treasurer

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Sam Brown Petsonk**Party:** Democrat**Age:** 35**Residence:** Edmond, Fayette County**Sam Petsonk****Education:** Brandeis University, B.A.; Washington & Lee University School of Law, J.D.**Political and civic experience:** Legislative assistant to U.S. Sens. Robert C. Byrd and Carte Goodwin; AmeriCorps/VISTA worker in Mullens, Wyoming County.**Professional experience:** As a lawyer for nonprofit legal services, I have represented hundreds of working families to deliver millions in judgments, black lung benefits, safe and healthful workplaces — all critical for our state during this era of pandemic. As a legislative assistant advised U.S. Sens. Robert C. Byrd and Carte Goodwin. Established a nonprofit workers' rights law practice. Held the Skadden Public Interest Fellowship to create the Miner Safety & Health Project in West Virginia, American Bar Association's Steiger Fellowship in the attorney

general's Consumer Protection and Antitrust Division.

Campaign statement: As a Morgantown native and a ninth generation West Virginian, I care deeply about the people of the Mountain State. I live in Fayette County and work in Beckley. I owe a great deal to Mon County, where my parents met each other and much of my family has lived and worked over the years. Since the 1980s, we've seen tens of thousands of West Virginians lose their jobs, health care and sometimes their life savings, as our factories and mines have downsized or closed.**Top priorities:** Protecting what our people have earned and defending our basic rights. To those ends, I will: withdraw support for Morrissey's lawsuit to strip health care from hundreds of thousands of West Virginians; enforce wage and benefit laws to prevent more West Virginians from losing wages, benefits or retirement income (including intervening in hospital mergers, mass layoffs, and Chapter 11 bankruptcies to protect critical health care, jobs and communities; enhance consumer protection by increasing the number of settlements and enforcement actions by the attorney general.**Isaac Sponaugle****Party:** Democratic**Age:** 41**Isaac Sponaugle****Residence:** Franklin, Pendleton County**Education:** Bachelor of Science in business administration from West Virginia University with an emphasis in finance; WVU College of Law, J.D.**Political and civic experience:** House of Delegates, 55th District, 2012, 2014, 2016 and 2018. Current Minority Deputy Whip. Statewide Select Committees of the West Virginia Law Institute and State Supreme Court of Appeals' Community Supervision Committee. Represented 15th Senatorial District on the State Democratic Executive Committee. Pendleton County Democratic Executive Committee chairman since 2011. State Bar Association, South Branch Valley Bar Association, Pendleton County Bar Association, West Virginia Association for Justice, Pendleton Community Care Board of Directors, Pendleton County Chamber of Commerce, Pendleton County Farm Bureau, Franklin Lions

Club, National Rifle Association.

Professional experience: General partner in the Sponaugle & Sponaugle law firm located in Franklin. Practicing law in State West Virginia since 2004.**Campaign statement:** My wife, Tasha, and I live in Franklin. I'm an attorney and a member of the House of Delegates. In 2012, I became the first person elected from Pendleton County in 46 years to the Legislature. I'm the current Minority Deputy Whip and have served four consecutive terms as a Delegate. I've fought against bills pushed by the corrupt special interests. I've fought to protect the health-care, wages, and property rights of all citizens. I will continue this fight as your next attorney general.**Top priorities:** My top two priorities as attorney general are: first, stop Patrick Morrissey's attack on our health care system. As attorney general, he is suing the federal government to end the Affordable Care Act. If successful, 37% of West Virginians with a pre-existing condition may lose their health insurance coverage. If you had or get cancer, heart disease, a stroke, high blood pressure or even diabetes, then you have a pre-existing condition. Morrissey wants to either cancel or increase the cost of your health insurance for it.

Republican Patrick Morrissey is unopposed in the primary election. He will be included in the general election The Dominion Post Voter's Guide.

GOVERNOR

Ben Salango**Party:** Democrat**Age:** 46**Residence:** Charleston**Ben Salango****Education:** Political science from West Virginia University, 1994; J.D., West Virginia University College of Law, 1998; Shady Spring High School, 1991.**Political and civic experience:** Kanawha County commissioner.**Professional experience:** Attorney, founding partner of Preston & Salango, PLLC; founder and owner, 304Tees.**Campaign statement:** I'm a Kanawha County commissioner, attorney and small business owner. I've spent my career fighting for the little guy. As

commissioner, I secured 12 weeks of paid family leave for workers, created union jobs, cleared the wait list for seniors who needed hot meals and built the Shawnee Sports Complex. I know how to get things done. It's why I have the support of the AFL-CIO, firefighters, educators, sheriffs and labor unions across our state.

Top priorities: As governor, I will work to make health care affordable and accessible for West Virginians and protect our rural hospitals from bankruptcy. I will diversify the economy and strengthen our workforce by expanding vocational and technical training. My plans will actually fix and upgrade roads, and strengthen our public schools by reducing class sizes and give educators a raise in order to recruit and retain teachers and school service personnel.

These gubernatorial candidates did not respond: Republican Mike Folk and Democrats Douglas Hughes and Ron Stollings.

Vote for My Daddy, Please!!!

- Devoted husband and father
- Trade/Labor Union endorsed
- Education Union endorsed
- VFW Post 826 (Kingwood) member
- Preston County Chamber of Commerce member
- 17 years and still serving, WV Army National Guard
- Pro-Amendments - Took Oath to Support and Defend U.S. Constitution
- Principal, Terra Alta East Preston School



Army Veteran
JUSTIN HOUGH (R)
 For House (52)

Paid for by the candidate.

For more information visit: <https://facebook.com/HoughforHouse52/>
 or email Justin at houghforhouse52@gmail.com

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

Kent Leonhardt

Party: Republican
Age: 66
Residence: Monongalia County
Education: Bachelor of Science, wildlife management; master's, business management; graduate, USMC Command and Staff College; graduate Defense Intelligence College; fellowship with Director National Security Agency.



Kent Leonhardt

Political and civic experience: Current commissioner of agriculture, Farm Bureau, Marine Corps League, American Legion.
Professional experience: Currently serve as the commissioner of agriculture for West Virginia, former state sen-

ator, farmer, formerly served in the United States Marine Corps retiring at Lt. Col.
Campaign statement: While serving as the commissioner of agriculture over the last three years, my team and I have worked to find efficiencies, as well as start new programs to benefit West Virginia agriculture. We are continually working towards helping veterans, eliminating oppressive regulations on our farmers, improving our environment and supporting growth within our agribusinesses. If re-elected, I look forward to continuing to lead improvements at the WVDA for a more prosperous West Virginia.
Top priorities: Continuing to promote agricultural education, expanding specialty crops while maintaining the ones we have, continuing to ensure a safe, affordable and abundant food supply.

Roy Ramey

Party: Republican
Age: 50
Residence: Lesage, Cabell County
Education: Marshall University.
Political and civic experience: Not a professional politician, with no previous office. Previous activism to influence legislation for agriculture, gun rights and home school freedom.
Professional experience: Small farmer using regenerative practices as used by Joel Salatin. Army Reserves, with over 31 years of service and still serving



Roy Ramey

as an officer.
Campaign statement: Small local farms supporting local communities using regenerative practices will provide quality, nutritious food which strengthens the local economy and improves food safety and security while providing more job opportunities.
Top priorities: Reduce the onerous bureaucracy for small farmers, restore consumer rights of access to foods such as farm fresh dairy, improve environment by reducing harmful toxins used in agriculture, reduce government spending in order to cut taxes, education in regenerative practices, reduce the bar to enter into the field of agriculture, improve market access of local fresh foods.

Bob Beach


Party: Democrat
Age: 60
Residence: Morgantown
Education: Fairmont State University, Political Science; Spruce School of Real Estate; Andrew Young School of Public Policy.
Political and civic experience: 2011-present, West Virginia State Senate; 2001-10, West Virginia House of Delegates; 1998-2008 Monongalia Planning Commission; former House of Delegates chair of Agriculture; Legislative Committee on Agriculture, 20 years; WVU Davis School of Agriculture Visitation Team; Southern Legislative Conference, Ag. Committee member; former Senate chair of Transportation; Blue Ribbon Commission on Transportation; Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability; West Virginia Holocaust Education Commission; Marion County Historical Society.
Professional experience: Executive director of Garrett Community College



Bob Beach

Foundation, real estate, retail grocery supervisor, perishable meat commodities buyer.
Campaign statement: Life would be vastly different if not for agriculture. Agriculture is not simply plants and animals, but includes urban and rural development of water, food, fiber and even internet. While the foundation has been traditional farming applications rooted in our soil, agriculture offers a bounty of education and economic opportunities. Agriculture is not a single seed or idea, yet carefully planted and cultivated will grow a community. Let's grow West Virginia together.
Top priorities: As your next commissioner of agriculture, I see farmers uniquely positioned to drive our economy forward and in turn our lifestyle choices. Our pandemic situation has shed a light on our national food supply and just how fragile it can be. We must nurture and foster new horizons within our West Virginia food supply and storage. As such, we should have a department which is responsive to the agricultural community; transparency and communication are crucial if we are to elevate sales and production.

More commissioner of agriculture candidate information on Page 11.



POLIS

FOR WV SENATE - DISTRICT 13

A VOICE FOR VALUES

Paid for by Committee to Elect Rebecca Polis for West Virginia Senate 2020

Not sure if your vote will count if you write in someone's name?

According to the West Virginia Secretary of State, only official write-in candidates will have their votes tallied; people who simply have their name written on a ballot are not eligible to win any election.

In each election, official write-in candidates' names will be posted at the entrance of each polling place and will be provided at the poll worker table inside the polling place, upon request by a voter.

An individual may file as an official write-in candidate by submitting a Write-In Candidate Certificate of Announcement with the proper filing officer no later than the 49th day before the election.

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

William "JR" Keplinger

Party: Democrat
Age: 51
Residence: Moorefield
Education: Bachelor of Science from West Virginia University in resource management and economics from the School of Agriculture.
Political and civic experience: Elected Hardy County commissioner, served 18 years as well as being an elected board member of the West Virginia County Commissioners Association for 12 years during that time. Moorefield Lions Club member, 17 years; Fraternal Order of Eagles; Hardy County Rod & Gun Club; since 11 years of age, I have picked banjo with my family bluegrass band performing for numerous community benefits, and I am a member of the Moorefield Church of the Brethren.
Professional experience: I am a third generation farmer. I live on the family farm. We raise 700,000 broiler chickens per year and have 65 head of brood cows.



William Keplinger

Also, since 1991, I have operated a successful business that provides animal bedding for farm animals, called Keplinger Shavings.
Campaign statement: Agriculture is a bright spot in West Virginia's economy. Even in these times of uncertainty in our international trade arenas, our agriculture can and will continue to benefit the citizens of our state. We are part of the bigger picture. We need to encourage all West Virginians to take a look at the advance technology that allows you to make a part-time or full-time income doing something you love to do. votekeplinger.com.
Top priorities: Food safety is of priority for the West Virginia Agriculture Department. Plant and animal health go hand-in-hand with the health of all citizens in our great state. We need to market West Virginia products! We need to allow the citizens to have the opportunity to purchase West Virginia products. By expanding agriculture technologies and increasing agriculture opportunities, the State of West Virginia will have a bigger, better, more stable economy.

Dave Miller

Party: Democrat
Age: 74
Residence: Tunnelton
Education: Graduated Tunnelton High School, B.A. Fairmont State University, M.A., physical education and administration from the University of Virginia.
Political and civic experience: While I was a teacher and administrator, I was elected to both the House of Delegates and the Senate in the West Virginia Legislature. I served as deputy commissioner of agriculture under Gus Douglass for five years.
Professional experience: I am



Dave Miller

presently retired. I have been an active beef and field crop farmer for years and participated in our local farmers' markets. I have been a teacher, principal, coach and director of personnel in West Virginia's public schools. I have served WVU and four WVU presidents in key positions, including as WVU government relations director for State Government and then as WVU associate provost and director of extension.
Campaign statement: I have focused on listening to voters across West Virginia, while using social media and small group meetings to communicate with constituents. Many have told me they respect my experience in small farming and my service in education, in state government and the West Virginia Legislature. I believe I am qualified for this office and would be very proud to serve.

More supreme court of appeals candidate information on Page 12.

STATE SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS DIVISION 1

Tim Armstead

Age: 55
Residence: Elkview
Education: B.A. history and political science, University of Charleston; law degree, WVU College of Law.
Political and civic experience: Chief justice, January 2020-present; and justice, September 2018-present, West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals; speaker of the West Virginia House of Delegates, 2015-2018; House minority leader, 2007-2015; minority chair, House Judiciary Committee, 2005-2007; member, West Virginia House of Delegates, 1998-2018; executive assistant to the chief-of-staff, office of Gov. Cecil H. Underwood, 1997-1998; member, Archives and History Commission, 1990-1994; press intern, office of Gov. Arch A. Moore Jr., 1986-1987.
Professional experience: In-house attorney, natural gas industry, 2001-2016; attorney, Steptoe & Johnson, 1998-2001; executive assistant to the chief-of-staff for Gov. Cecil H. Underwood, 1997-1998; attorney, Carey, Hill and Scott, 1994-1997; for-



Tim Armstead

mer adjunct professor of constitutional law, University of Charleston; law clerk to United States District Judge David A. Faber, 1992-1994; attorney, Spilman, Thomas, Battle & Klostermeyer, 1990-1992; library assistant, West Virginia Archives and History Library, 1983-1986.
Campaign statement: I am honored to serve as chief justice of your supreme court. I have worked hard to restore our people's trust in the court and have helped establish high standards of ethics and accountability. A fiscal conservative, I have reduced the court's budget, eliminating wasteful spending of the taxpayers' hard-earned tax dollars. If re-elected, I will continue this work. I will follow the Constitution and the rule of law and not legislate from the bench.
Top priorities: While we have made tremendous progress, we must continue to rebuild the trust of our citizens by performing our work with integrity, efficiency and openness. In addition, the opioid crisis in our state has resulting in devastating abuse and neglect of many children. Our judges need additional tools, such as drug counseling and family services and additional family treatment courts to help ensure each child can grow up in a safe, healthy and loving home.

WORKING FAMILIES NEED
A STRONG CREATIVE TEAM

IN THE HOUSE:

Barbara Fleischauer John Williams
Rodney Pyles Danielle Walker
Evan Hansen

AND IN THE SENATE:
Mike Caputo

Proven Leadership for Working Families

PROUDLY ENDORSED BY THE
MONONGALIA PRESTON LABOR COUNCIL

STATE SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS DIVISION 1

David Hummel, Jr.

Age: Currently I am 49, but by the June 9 election I will be 50

Residence: Moundsville



David Hummel

Education: J.D., University of Oklahoma College of Law, with Distinction, 1995; B.B.A. (business administration) Marshall University, cum laude, 1992; National Judicial College, general jurisdiction course, October 2009, Reno, Nev.; graduate of John Marshall High School, Glen Dale, Marshall County.

Political and civic experience: At the age of 38, I was elected to serve as a circuit court judge. In 2016, I was re-elected and am currently in my second eight-year term serving as the chief judge of the Second Judicial Circuit (lower portion of the northern panhandle). I am the only candidate in my race who does not reside in Kanawha County. Counties north of Kanawha County have unique issues which I am thoroughly knowledgeable about.

Professional experience: As an attorney actively engaged in the practice of law, I represented individuals, businesses or the State of West Virginia (five years as an assistant prosecuting attorney) in

nearly every aspect of the law. As a circuit court judge, I have presided over thousands of criminal and civil actions, including more than 70 jury trials. I am the only candidate in my race who has this valuable experience.

Campaign statement: I am the only candidate in my division who has ever been a circuit court judge. Although it is not a requirement, I believe that serving as a circuit court judge provides invaluable insight and experience to being truly qualified to serve as a justice of West Virginia's highest court. In that position, I preside over the Drug Treatment Court where we work to help people and families overcome addiction and manage mental health issues.

Top priorities: When elected, I want to take the knowledge and experience I have gained over my career, including the 12 years as a circuit court judge, and work to further develop West Virginia's approach to dealing with addiction and mental health issues. All too often, persons charged with crimes or alleged to have abused children are drug addicts and/or have undiagnosed and untreated mental or psychological disorders. I know we can do more and better.

STATE SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS DIVISION 2

Jim Douglas

Age: 69

Residence: Charleston

Education: B.A., 1973, Morris Harvey College (now UC), double major in history and political science; M.A., 1975, WVU, in German history and lit-



Jim Douglas

erature (later named German studies); and J.D., 1977, WVU, where I served as president of the Student Bar Association.

Political and civic experience: Democrat Executive Committee, vice chair, Braxton County, 1993; Lions Club; board member and officer, West Virginia

SEE DOUGLAS, K-13

Richard Neely

Age: 78

Residence: Charleston

Education: A.B. Dartmouth College (economics) 1964; LL.B. Yale Law School, 1967.



Richard Neely

Political and civic experience: Captain, U.S. Army Artillery, Republic of Vietnam, 1967-1969; member, West Virginia House of Delegates from Marion County, 1971-1973; chairman, Marion County Board of Public Health,

1969-1973; justice and chief justice, West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, 1973-1995.

Professional experience: Practicing lawyer 1969-1973; West Virginia Supreme Court Justice and chief justice 1973-1995; practicing lawyer at Neely & Callaghan, Charleston, 1995-present; general counsel, Charleston Gazette 2010-2018; general counsel, WiLine Net-

works Inc. 2015-present; professor of economics, University of Charleston, 1978-1989; member of the Yale Law School Executive Committee, 2008-2012; author of several books and major articles, including the book, "How Courts Govern America" and The Atlantic cover story, "The Politics of Crime."

Campaign statement: At present West Virginia courts are a shambles, which means that, because of inordinate delay and indifference to the problems of working people, the courts aren't performing their primary function. I pledge to use the courts at every opportunity to return control of this country to the working people.

Top priorities: Currently the West Virginia Supreme Court is backed up between 19 and 28 months. This is because the court refuses to follow Article 8, Section 4 of the state Constitution. Where courts are incompetent the strong beat the weak every time, I will work to make the courts efficient again.

STATE SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS DIVISION 3

Lora Ann Dyer

Age: 44

Residence: Ripley



Lora Dyer


Education: I was the first member of my family to attend college. I graduated from Marshall University. I then studied environmental engineering in England and ultimately earned my law degree at West Virginia University.

Political and civic experience: Elected circuit judge in 2016, worked on number of initiatives

since taking office. As a public servant, I created the Jackson County Drug Court, initiated programs to tackle truancy and worked with local churches and organizations to find solutions to the drug crisis. One of my greatest joys in service is speaking to our children at schools and other events about their dreams and goals for a bright future.

Professional experience: My first legal job was with the West Virginia Supreme Court where I worked for Justice Albright. I also worked as a law clerk for Judge Stucky, and then as an assis-

SEE DYER 3, K-13



**KEEP
MAGISTRATE
TIM POCIUS**

POCIUS FOR THE PEOPLE

Paid for by the candidate.

VOLUNTEER FIRE LEVY



YES

Help Us, Help You!



Mon County Fire Levy

Paid for by Mon. Co. Volunteer Fire Companies Assn.



STATE SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS DIVISION 2

DOUGLAS

FROM PAGE K-12

Symphony Orchestra, 2010 to present; member, Usher and Administrative Council, Christ Church United Methodist, Charleston, 2015 to present; adjunct professor for Glenville State College and Fairmont State College.

Professional experience: Law clerk for the Honorable William M. Kidd, chief judge of the 14th Judicial Circuit, 1976; prosecuting attorney, 1985-88, Braxton County; Legal Services coordinator, RESA IV, 1988; 2017-present, Family Court judge, Kanawha County; member, West Virginia State Bar Board of Governors, twice; Client Protection Fund Committee, 2007-present; 20-plus years, family law CLE instructor; published author, ABA; argued over 40 cases to the West Virginia Supreme Court; tried cases in 44 of the 55 state counties.

Kristina "Kris" Raynes

Age: 45

Residence: Eleanor, Putnam County



Kristina Raynes

Education: 1992 graduate, salutatorian, Buffalo High School; 1996, B.A., cum laude, criminal justice, Marshall University; 2000, J.D., University of Akron School of Law.

Political and civic experience: I am a former vice chair of Putnam County Republican Executive Committee; former member of West Virginia State Republican Executive Committee; former president of Putnam County Republican Club; current member of Putnam County Republican Women; co-chairperson/board member of Dress for Success, River Cities; secretary/treasurer for the Putnam County School Employee Federal Credit Union; 2017 Putnam County Republican Woman of the Year; 2020 James H. Caruthers Award for Outstanding Putnam County Republican of the Year.

Professional experience: I began at the Summit County Prosecutor's Office in Ohio in 2000, where I tried dozens of

Campaign statement: Sitting around the kitchen table drinking coffee in the morning, what is important to you is whether you will get to see that little grandchild or whether you, a single working mom, will get child support. I am the only supreme court candidate who has a substantial background in family law, as a parent, a grandparent, an attorney and a Family Court judge, and that's what I bring to the table ... your kitchen table.

Top priorities: It is my intention to restore practical experience to the supreme court. There are justices there now who have never cross-examined a witness, never picked a jury and never argued a case in front of the court on which they now sit. Family law needs a justice champion. This court needs someone who will put the brakes on those justices with no family law background and who will say, "But what about the kids?"

felony trials and my first aggravated murder/death penalty trial before I was 30 years old. In 2006, I took a position as a special assistant United States Attorney with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of West Virginia. In 2008, I came to the Putnam County Prosecutor's office where I focus on felonies, especially crimes against children.

Campaign statement: As a state and federal prosecutor, I have been holding people accountable for their actions for over 20 years. I believe that I can transfer that skill set as a prosecutor over to the supreme court to create more transparency of the court to the public and to ensure accountability of the court to the citizens of West Virginia.

Top priorities: As a supreme court justice, I believe my role would be to interpret the law, not to create the law. It is not my goal to be an activist judge with an agenda to legislate from the bench. I would like to assist the drug courts/treatment courts to ensure more success for defendants who are in recovery. I believe that will have a chain-reaction effect on the problem of abused and neglected children in West Virginia.

STATE SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS DIVISION 3

DYER

FROM PAGE K-12

tant prosecutor before leaving for private practice, where I represented a diverse group of clients, from large companies to police officers. I also worked as general counsel for the West Virginia State Auditor's Office before being elected circuit judge.

Top priorities: Justices on the supreme court are the leaders of the

West Virginia judiciary — the administrative office, circuit clerks, magistrate, family and circuit courts. As the leader, it is imperative that the supreme court provide guidance and training, communicate objectives effectively, put together cohesive teams and adopt appropriate rules to deal with the challenges facing the court system, especially the current abuse and neglect crisis.

John A. Hutchison

Age: 69

Residence: Beckley

Education: B.A., Davis & Elkins College; J.D., West Virginia University Law School.



John Hutchison

Political and civic experience: Appointed to the bench in the Tenth Judicial Circuit (Raleigh County) by Gov. Gaston Caperton in 1995 then elected to that seat in 1996 and re-elected in 2000, 2008 and 2016. Appointed to the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals by Gov. Jim Justice in December 2018. Former registered official with the Secondary School Activities Commission in soccer and baseball. Former member of the board of directors of the Beckley-Raleigh County YMCA.

Professional experience: Assistant basketball coach, Davis & Elkins College, 1972-1974; teacher, Raleigh County Public Schools, 1974-1975; dorm director and assistant basketball coach, Concord University, 1975-1977; partner, Gorman, Sheatsley and Hutchison, 1985-1990; Nationwide Insurance, West Virginia

Trial Division Office, 1991-2019; worked as a construction laborer, carpenter's helper, framing carpenter and steelworker on the bridge construction over the New River in Hinton during holidays and summer breaks from school.

Campaign statement: I'm running for the supreme court of appeals because we must restore confidence in a judiciary wracked by scandal and tainted by politics. Justices must strictly adhere to the Code of Judicial Conduct and avoid not only conflicts of interests but even the appearance of conflicts of interests. Every litigant who appears before the court deserves to know that their case will be decided fairly, impartially and according to the rule of law.

Top priorities: The court must move proactively to reduce recidivism and its resulting cost by expanding the use of special courts such as the adult and juvenile drug court, family treatment courts and service members courts. Evidence shows these courts hold offenders accountable while helping to keep them from re-offending. Finally, the courts should partner with law enforcement and schools to help keep our kids in the classroom and out of the courtroom.

More state supreme court of appeals Division 2 candidate information Page 14.

Division 3 candidate Bill Schwartz did not respond.

STATE SENATE DISTRICT 2

Elijah Dean

Party: Republican
Age: 34
Residence: Metz
Education: High school, Calvary Christian School in Fairmont. Currently enrolled in online classes at Grantham University, studying engineering management technology.
Political and civic experience: Concerned registered voter since 2003, wanting to be a voice for the working class.
Professional experience: Underground union coal miner since 2012 at Marion County Coal Co. (Loveridge). My current job is as a weekly examiner/fireboss. Past jobs were shuttlecar operator, roof bolter and trackman.

Campaign statement: If elected, I will protect our freedoms, jobs and people while growing a business environment for future generations.
Top priorities: Roads, cell phone reception, high-speed internet access, veterans and jobs.



Elijah Dean

Carla Jones

Party: Democrat
Age: 66
Residence: Fairview
Education: 1971 graduate of Eisenhower High School, Rialto, Calif.; Community College of the Air Force; A.A.S. water and wastewater technology, Fairmont State College; 2005 graduate of Fairmont State University, B.S. civil engineering technology with a minor in safety.

Political and civic experience: An advocate for literacy, I currently volunteer as a reader for Read Aloud West Virginia in Marion County. When time and travel permit, I volunteer with HeadCount, helping to get people registered and out to vote, and with Reverb, a nonprofit which promotes environmental sustainability within the music scene.



Carla Jones

SEE JONES, K-15

STATE SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS DIVISION 2

William R. “Bill” Wooton

Age: 75
Residence: Beckley, Raleigh County
Education: Woodrow Wilson High School (Beckley); Marshall University; West Virginia University College of Law, editor-in-chief, West Virginia Law Review; Order of the Coif; graduated at the top of my class.



William Wooton

Political and civic experience: West Virginia House of Delegates, 14 years, served as majority leader; West Virginia State Senate, 12 years, Judiciary chair for 10 years; member, West Virginia Law Institute; member, Access to Justice Commission; board member, Camp Dawson Events Center; judge advocate, Post 32, American Legion; member, Board of Directors, Beckley-Raleigh County Chamber of Commerce; board member, Raleigh County Convention Center; board member, Raleigh County Community Action Association.

Professional experience: I have been engaged in the private practice of law for more than 40 years. I have been involved in virtually every type of legal proceeding possible in West Virginia and have a wealth of professional experience that is

more varied and broad-based than any other candidate. Also, I served as law clerk to a federal appellate judge, am a former assistant attorney general, former prosecutor and have extensive quasi-judicial experience as legislative Judiciary Chair.

Campaign statement: Service to my state and community has always been an important part of who I am. I am running to continue my public service and because my experience makes me uniquely qualified to be a supreme court justice. I am a retired National Guard Colonel, worked as a prosecutor, served as House of Delegates Majority Leader, was long-time Senate Judiciary Committee Chair and I have a wealth of experience in the private practice of law.

Top priorities: Recent events have damaged public confidence in our supreme court. No component of the judicial system should ever again be suspected of wasting taxpayer dollars. As a justice, I will insist that the court adopt complete transparency with regard to all spending, including detailed accounting of all expenditures related to travel, office furnishings and equipment. Absolute transparency with regard to all judicial branch spending is essential to restore the public’s faith in our highest court.

Joanna I. Tabit

Age: 59
Residence: Charleston
Education: Marshall University, B.B.A. in business management, magna cum laude, 1983; West Virginia University College of Law, 1986.



Joanna Tabit

Political and civic experience: Currently a circuit judge in Kanawha County, I was appointed to the bench by Gov. Tomblin in 2014 and elected in 2016. In 2018, I ran for justice of the supreme court in a fractured field in a compressed election cycle and finished a very close second to the eventual winner in my first statewide campaign. Energized by your support, I am continuing my commitment to the people of this state by running again.

Professional experience: With over five years as a circuit judge in the state’s largest and busiest county, I have the necessary experience to serve on the court. Prior to taking the bench, I spent my entire professional life, 28 years, in the courtroom as a member attorney at

Steptoe & Johnson PLLC, a deputy attorney general with the Office of the Attorney General in West Virginia, and as a personal law clerk to Justice Thomas McHugh.

Campaign statement: I am a lifelong West Virginian and ran for public office to improve the lives of the people of our state. I will be a justice for all West Virginians and believe that it is critical to take politics out of our supreme court.

Now more than ever our court needs a proven, qualified judge with circuit court experience. I have the experience, integrity and energy to lead the court in the next generation.

Top priorities: Our court system is experiencing unforeseen challenges stemming from the drug epidemic. Continued funding for treatment courts, including adult and juvenile drug courts, veterans’ courts and family treatment courts, is essential to combat the crisis. Further, our court should partner with local and state agencies and engage in multidisciplinary strategic planning to identify policies or practice changes to help children and youth who are often adversely affected by the plight of addiction.

VOTE FOR

Public Library System Levy

Support Your Local Public Library!

- Arnettville Public Library
- Aull Center for Local History
- Cheat Area Public Library
- Clay-Battelle Public Library
- Clinton District Public Library
- Morgantown Public Library

The library levy is a county wide vote to renew the direct tax-based funding to the Morgantown Public Library System. It currently makes up about 25% of the total operating budget- personnel utilities, books and materials, and programming at all 6 locations.

To learn more, find us on Facebook @VoteForMPLSLevy or email at MPLSLEVY@gmail.com

Paid for by Vote for the Morgantown Public Library System Levy Committee

STATE SENATE 13TH DISTRICT

Rebecca Polis

Party: Republican
Age: 70
Residence: Fairmont
Education: B.A. Florida Beacon College; master's in strategic leadership, Restoration College; honorary doctorate, Logos University; certified life coach, Destiny College.



Rebecca Polis

Political and civic experience: Marion County GOP Executive Committee member; West Virginia GOP State Executive Committee member.

Campaign statement: "A Vote for Values."
Top priorities: Education that elevates women's potential, family values, addiction recovery, job generation.

Democrat Mike Caputo is unopposed in the primary election for 13th District state senator. Information on him will be included in the general election The Dominion Post Voter's Guide.

Republican John Provins did not respond.

JONES

FROM PAGE K-14

Professional experience: The USAF started me in a career of water and wastewater treatment, which post-service I worked for municipalities as large as Houston, Texas, and as small as Farmington. Working and raising a family, I returned to school to pursue civil engineering. After working as a structural designer in Arizona, I returned home to West Virginia and finished my career with Dominion Energy, enjoying my time as a union inspector on gas distribution pipelines.

Campaign statement: As a veteran, retired union worker and loving friend and neighbor, I'm willing to put in the time and hard work to serve all West Virginians to move our state forward.

We face many challenges with foster care, addiction, lack of adequate health care and many communities need clean water. Working people and small businesses need to be prioritized over out-of-state corporations. I'll fight for you, my friends and neighbors, and be "A Voice For All of Us."

Top priorities: As your state senator, I'll work relentlessly to champion public education from pre-K through higher ed; push for improving our state's infrastructure, including repairing and restoring our roads and bridges, expanding our broadband capabilities and updating water and wastewater systems; and fight for legislation and resources to battle our addiction epidemic. Without advances in these issues, we can't expect to bring in jobs or keep our sons and daughters from leaving the state.

Rupublican Mike Maroney and Democrat Josh Gary did not respond.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES 49TH DISTRICT

Brandon Antion

Party: Democrat
Age: 40
Residence: Grafton
Education: M.S., Educational Leadership.
Political and civic experience: First time candidate. Multiple activities through the school system.
Professional experience: Broadcasting, 1999-2004; educator, 2004-present.



Brandon Antion

Campaign statement: What if we fully funded our public schools, leveled the playing field for small business and gave our communities a voice on issues that matter to them at the Capitol?
Top priorities: Right to repair legislation to encourage small business success, public school excellence, affordable health care for all West Virginians.

Republican Amy Summers is unopposed in the primary election for delegate from the 49th District. Information on her will be in the general election Voter's Guide.
Democrat Mike Manypenny did not respond.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES 50TH DISTRICT

Joey Garcia

Party: Democrat
Age: 37
Residence: Fairmont
Education: J.D., West Virginia University College of Law; B.A., History, West Virginia University; Fairmont Senior High School graduate.
Political and civic experience: Board Member, Marion County Chamber of Commerce, 2020-present; treasurer, Fairmont Marion County Regional Airport Authority, 2019-present; member, Fairmont Lions Club, 2019-present; chair, West Virginia Juvenile Justice Reform Oversight Committee, 2015-2018; member (designee), West Virginia Consolidated Public Retirement Board, 2013-2015.



Joey Garcia

Professional experience: Worked as an attorney for over 10 years. From 2012 to 2017, worked in the office of the governor of West Virginia, including serving as deputy general legal counsel and legislative director to Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin. Since 2017, practiced law at the Manchin Injury Law Group in Fairmont, representing individuals as a trial lawyer in personal injury, civil rights and consumer protection cases.

Campaign statement: I am running

SEE GARCIA, K-16



D. (PONCH) REYES

for MAGISTRATE



Excellence Through Experience



US Marine Corps Vietnam Veteran
21 Years with the West Virginia State Police
22 Years US Army Reserves
Doctorate of Jurisprudence
West Virginia University School of Law 1993
20 Years Assistant Prosecutor
Monongalia County



Paid for by Reyes for Magistrate Committee



GARCIA

FROM PAGE K-15

for the West Virginia House of Delegates to put families first and make sure Marion County will always be a great place to live, work and raise a family.

Top priorities: I will fight to bring more high quality jobs to Marion County, ensure access to quality health care for all Marion County residents, and support measures that invest in Marion County's future. I will advocate for investing in our public school teachers and service personnel, our local higher education institutions (WVU, Fairmont State University and Pierpont CTC) and our secondary roads and broadband infrastructure.

Aryanna Islam

Party: Democrat
Age: 20
Residence: Fairmont



Aryanna Islam

Education: East Fairmont High School, 2018; West Virginia University 2022, political science and addiction studies.

Political and civic experience: Member of WVU Democrats; United States Senate Page, 2017; intern for Sen. Joe Manchin, 2019; West Virginia House intern, 2020.

Professional experience: Current college student.

Campaign statement: West Virginia's beauty is not only in its mountains, streams and valleys but also in its

people. We have a long labor history, whether that be coal miner unions, teacher unions or all the strikes in between. That is what makes us who we are and I want to make sure we don't lose that special quality. I am running so young people like me are able to stay here and build a life.

Top priorities: Protecting the public education system and teacher unionization rights, alleviating the addiction crisis by focusing on the most vulnerable populations and assessing what they need and elevating the economy by supporting small businesses instead of giving tax breaks to big corporations. Also shifting our state government from bowing down to outside interests, like ALEC, and instead investing in our own people.

Andrew Mills

Party: Democrat
Age: 41
Residence: Carolina



Andrew Mills

Education: Graduated Hampshire High School, attended Potomac State College and Fairmont State University, completed basic training at Fort Sill and AIT at Redstone Arsenal in 1997. Completed the State Police Academy Basic Class 155 in 2013.

Political and civic experience: Volunteer and advocate for The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention; help organize and run the annual Morgantown Community Out of the Darkness Walk, which raises funding for suicide prevention programs such as Safe TALK, ASIST training, as well as other programs throughout the state.

Professional experience: Over 23 years of military experience with the U.S. Army Reserves which includes four deployments to: Afghanistan, 2002; Iraq, 2008; Afghanistan, 2011; and again in 2015. Performed several duties overseas, including squad leader, accountable officer and NCOIC, handling thousands of civilian contractors. Retired on Jan. 14, 2020, with rank of Staff Sergeant. Attended the State Police Academy Class 155. Joined WVU Police Department in 2012 and Fairmont State University Police in 2018.

Campaign statement: I live by the values of honesty and integrity. I have always lived to help and protect others, and I will continue to do it as your delegate. I know when to listen, when to negotiate and reason and when to fight. I never fight as hard as when I'm fighting to protect others. As your delegate, I promise to always fight for you, the working families of Marion County, and never take a corporate donation.

Top priorities: Jobs, roads, education and the opioid crisis. Create jobs by taking tax breaks given to out-of-state corporations and give them to local businesses. Repeal Right to Work, putting West Virginians to work on our infrastructure with good union jobs. Make education the priority and bring respect back to educators. Use cannabis legalization to fully fund PEIA. Fight the opioid crisis by listening to those on the front line fighting this epidemic every day.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

51ST DISTRICT

Jeffrey A. Budkey

Party: Democrat
Age: 19
Residence: Morgantown



Jeffrey Budkey

Education: North Allegheny Senior High School, West Virginia University John Chambers College of Business.

Political and civic experience: N/A

Campaign statement: It's time to bring fresh voices and ideas to Charleston. My motto is "Make a better world where you're going, than the one you're coming from." Making a better world means building each other up, not ripping each other down. Treating everyone with respect and dignity. Working together for the betterment of all people is real progress.

Top priorities: Raising the state minimum wage to a living wage, bringing good jobs back to West Virginia, ending discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, raising state education performance by hiring more good teachers and making class sizes smaller so kids get the chance to succeed that they deserve, ending the opioid epidemic that has impacted so many lives and much more.

More House 51st candidate information on Page 17.

Republicans Phil Mallow, Darton McIntire and Guy Ward are unopposed in the primary election for delegates from the 50th District. Information on them will be included in the general election The Dominion Post Voter's Guide. Democrats Michael Angelucci, Jon Dodds, Jarryd Powell and C.A. Starcher did not respond.

Let's Keep
CHIEF
MAGISTRATE

JIM
NABORS

MAGISTRATE

A name you know, a man you can trust!

HONEST, RESPECTED, QUALIFIED

Paid For By The Candidate

HOUSE OF DELEGATES 51ST DISTRICT

Barbara Evans Fleischauer**Party:** Democrat**Age:** 66**Residence:** Morgantown**Barbara Fleischauer****Education:** B.A., Allegheny College; J.D. WVU.**Political and civic experience:** Current member of House of Delegates; minority chair House Committee on Judiciary; former chair, House Committee on Constitutional Revision; former co-chair, Joint Veterans Affairs, Joint Equal Pay Commission and Joint Juvenile Task Force; former vice chair, House Health and Human Resources; current House and joint member, Judiciary, Health & Human Resources, Veterans Affairs, and Rule-Making Review Committees; current member, House Rules Committee; past member, House Finance, Select Committee on Workers Compensation, Technology Committees.**Professional experience:** Licensed attorney in West Virginia since 1982; former special assistant attorney general and general counsel, United Mine Workers District 31, investigator.**Campaign statement:** My experience helps me get things done at the Legislature during the short 60 day session, and all year long. I listen and respond when citizens ask for help. I am a fighter when it comes to fairness for individuals, for our county and for West Virginia. I am a hard worker. My legal training helps me to be a strong advocate for women and families, veterans and seniors, employees and small businesses.**Top priorities:** We all want a West Virginia where everyone can feel at home. We need to focus on common goals, rather than squabbling over issues that divide us. My top priorities will be fixing our health care system so that it works even in a crisis, good jobs with decent benefits and fixing our roads. I always fight for public and higher education and those with extra needs so that we all feel at home.**Evan Hansen****Party:** Democratic**Age:** 53**Residence:** Morgantown**Education:** M.S., energy and resources, University of California-Berkeley; B.S., computer science and engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.**Evan Hansen****Political and civic experience:** First elected to the House of Delegates in 2018. A father, scientist and founder of a small business. Member of Morgantown Rotary and the Chamber of Commerce and serves on the Spark! Imagination and Science Center and Read Aloud boards. Also serves on the U.S. EPA's Local Government Advisory Council. Prior to being elected, provided invited testimony before state and federal legislative committees.**Professional experience:** Founded and serves as president of Downstream Strategies, a 14-person consulting firm based in Morgantown. Offers consulting services to help build resilient communities, promote economic development and protect the environment. Evan has 30 years of experience consulting for government agencies, nonprofits, attorneys, businesses and individuals. Developed computer models, provided testimony on issues related to environmental laws and policies and led multi-disciplinary research teams that integrate science and policy.**Campaign statement:** In my first two legislative sessions, I've brought principled, thoughtful leadership to Charleston. As a scientist, I base decisions on facts and evidence, and not the requests of lobbyists. I support wise investments in West Virginia's future to strengthen public education and trade schools, fix local roads and infrastructure and address the drug epidemic. I've also taken bold steps to create 21st century jobs that will diversify West Virginia's economy.**Top priorities:** After spearheading passage of the bipartisan solar jobs bill in 2020, I'll continue to work toward diversifying West Virginia's economy so that our children and grandchildren have opportunities to stay in the state. I'll help restart our economy that has been damaged by the COVID-19 pandemic. I'll invest in public education and the foster care system and advocate for Monongalia County to get its fair share of state funds to fix local roads and infrastructure.**Danielle Walker****Party:** Democrat**Age:** 43**Residence:** Dellsow**Danielle Walker****Education:** New Iberia Senior High School; University of Louisiana at Lafayette (some college); accounting certificate from the Teche Area Technical Institute.**Political and civic experience:** House of Delegates, District 51, 2019-present; candidate, House of Delegates, District 51, 2018.**Professional experience:** Direct care worker employed by Public Partnership, home school educator for youngest son.**Campaign statement:** I am running to keep my seat in the people's House because I want to continue making a difference. I began as an activist for kindness and justice, and am an activist legislator, speaking for the voiceless, fighting for the vulnerable and to make our government serve the needs of the people of West Virginia. Policy matters and I am fighting for good policies and good laws in West Virginia.**Top priorities:** Fostering a fair economy that protects unions and workers; affordable housing; fighting for the equal and fair treatment of all no matter the disability, sexuality, gender, race, ethnicity, religion or economic status; criminal justice reform; food insecurity and tackling the stigma around it; cannabis legalization; investing in quality public education; addressing the addiction epidemic by improving access to treatment and recovery services.

Republicans Cindy Frich, Joe Statler, Justin White, Todd Stainbrook and Zach Lemaire are unopposed in the primary election for delegates from the 51st District. Information on them will be included in the general election The Dominion Post Voter's Guide.

WEST VIRGINIA AFL-CIO
CHARTERED NOV. 22, 1957

WORKING FAMILIES NEED
STRONG, CREATIVE LEADERSHIP
IN THE LEGISLATURE

VOTE

Justin Hough
House of Delegates

PROUDLY ENDORSED BY THE
MONONGALIA PRESTON LABOR COUNCIL

HOUSE OF DELEGATES 51ST DISTRICT

John Williams**Party:** Democrat**Age:** 29**Residence:** Morgantown**Education:** Bachelor's degree, West Virginia University.**John Williams****Political and civic experience:** I was elected to the House of Delegates in 2016 and am currently finishing my second term. Additionally, I proudly serve on various boards within our community.**Professional experience:** I work in financial services for Northwestern Mutual, where I work with clients to help them achieve their financial goals, while making sure

that we protect what they already have.

Campaign statement: My involvement in government stemmed from my strong desire to work for the community and its people, that I care about. West Virginia, and more specifically Monongalia County, has always been my home, and I want to make it an even better place to live for all of its inhabitants.**Top priorities:** Roads, senior issues, education and economic development have been and continue to be my priorities. I believe that I have contributed to the advancement of those issues in many regards. However, there is still a lot of work to be done, and I would be humbled if the citizens of the 51st District would permit me the opportunity to continue working on their behalf.**Rodney A. Pyles****Party:** Democrat**Age:** 74**Residence:** Morgantown**Education:** B.A. and M.A. degrees in political science, West Virginia University.**Rodney Pyles****Political experience:** Monongalia County assessor, 1989–2012; deputy assessor, 1985–1988; director of Archives and History, State of West Virginia, 1977–1985. elected to the House of Delegates, 2016. Morgantown Historic Landmarks Commission, 1986–2017; Morgantown Museum Commission, 2016–2019; Morgantown Library Board, 1988 – 1991; Democratic State Executive Committee, 2010–2018.**Campaign statement:** If re-elected I will continue working to enact and pro-

tect programs that benefit working families, minorities, senior citizens and those in need. I will work for better funding for roads and infrastructure, and will oppose further cuts to higher education. I will work to find a solution to funding PEIA without placing additional burdens on the public employees and retirees who rely on it.

Top priorities: Work to pass the Livable Home Tax Credit to allow the elderly and disabled a tax credit for modifications to make their homes more accessible.

Work to expand the PROMISE Scholarship to cover the full costs for students in STEM fields along with nursing and teaching, and a tuition loan forgiveness program for students who remain in the state for at least five years after graduation.

Work to increase the Homestead Exemption, not increased since 1985.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES 52ND DISTRICT

Justin Hough**Party:** Republican**Age:** 34**Residence:** Kingwood**Justin Hough****Education:** Master's of education, Fairmont State; B.S. in journalism, WVU; educational leadership, Salem University.**Political and civic experience:** Candidate in 2018. Although I do not have previous political experience, the experience throughout my life and careers have outfitted my toolbox with the necessary tools to work with our citizens and lead our county and state.**Professional experience:** The following are my job titles/descriptions, but more importantly I am a devoted husband and loving father, a friend and leader to those I work with, and a caring neighbor: PK-8 school administrator, principal at Terra Alta East Preston School, Preston County; former special education teacher, Preston High School; 17-year member and veteran still serving in the West Virginia Army National

Guard, Public Affairs NCO, former Military Police.

Campaign statement: I am running to represent you, the people, in District 52 in the West Virginia House of Delegates. I am passionate about our communities, county and state, and want to do my part to keep us great. We'll do that through transparency, proven leadership, investing in our people and local business, and ensuring that we promote the interests of Preston County and West Virginia and not outside establishments. My family and I thank you for your support.**Top priorities:**

1. Invest in our state and our people; prevent population decrease in our state (10,000-15,000 per year) by investing in small businesses (tax breaks too small, local businesses, not out of state millionaires and billionaires) and incentives to attract business opportunities.

2. Roads.

3. Tax breaks for our seniors.

4. Opioid epidemic.

5. Support for proper public education reform developed by educators, not politicians.

6. Fiscal responsibility, investing in people, rather than handouts and bailouts.

Robert "Mac" McCrum**Party:** Republican**Age:** 76**Residence:** Kingwood**Robert McCrum****Education:** Graduated Kingwood High, 1961; Fairmont State, A.B., 1964; WVU, M.A., 1968; M.A. plus 45, 1969; with additional hours to M.A., plus 90.**Political and civic experience:** Preston County Board of Education, more than 13 years; president of both Bruceton and Kingwood Lions Clubs; Court Appointed Special Advocate for children in the foster care system; Vietnam veteran; VFW; American Legion, Commander; announcer for the parades of the Buckwheat Festival for five years.**Professional experience:** Teacher or principal at Albright, Reedsville, Masontown, Bruceton, Kingwood, Newburg, Terra Alta, Rowlesburg and Valley. Since 2003, I have been substituting in

Monongalia and Preston counties.

Campaign statement: I left the BOE because too many decisions are being made by unelected bureaucrats. As teacher and principal, I listened to people — their thoughts and concerns. I may not always agree with what you say or want, but I promise your voice will be heard. That is the way that I was raised by Mary Elizabeth and Britches McCrum and how Jackie and I raised Beth, Rachel and Brent.**Top priorities:** (1) I will be a voice and vote for the people of Preston County.

(2) Our secondary roads need work, too. District road people seem to make most of their decisions without talking to the people who travel these roads. Let's stop this.

(3) Our schools need to provide opportunities for kids statewide to get job skills — welding, machine repair, carpentry, plumbing, electrical, etc., so they don't have to go to a four-year college to get a good job.

EARLY VOTING

Newsroom@DominionPost.com

Early voting in person will take place Wednesday through June 6. All registered voters are eligible for early voting.

In Monongalia County, early voting will be available 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday at five locations:

- Mountaineer Mall, 5000 Green Bag Road, Unit D-20;
- Mason Dixon Park, 79 Buckeye Road, Core;
- Westover Community Building, 399 Cowl St., Westover;
- WVU Alumni Center, 1 Alumni Drive, Morgantown;
- Fort Pierpont, Suite No. 102, 200 Fort Pierpont Drive, Morgantown.

For maps leading to those locations, go to monongaliacountyclerk.com

In Preston County, the early voting location changed this year to the Corner Mall of the Kingwood Plaza, on W.Va. 7 in east Kingwood. Polls will be open there 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday.

Democrat Junior "JR" Wolfe is unopposed in the primary election for delegate from the 52nd District. Information on him will be included in the general election The Dominion Post Voter's Guide. More 52nd House candidate information Page 19.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES 52ND DISTRICT

Terri Funk Sybolt

Party: Republican
Age: 66
Residence: Kingwood
Education: Newburg High School, 1971; Fairmont State University, leadership and management; licensed real estate agent (inactive); IAAO courses, and appraisal courses by the State Tax Department.



Terri Sybolt

Political and Civic Experience: four years West Virginia state delegate, 16 years as Preston County assessor (total 38 years in the assessor's office), member of the Kingwood Lions Club, previous Valley District Lions Club member, member of Gladesville CEOS, member of Preston County and West Virginia Farm Bureau, charter member of the Preston County FFA alumni, member of Preston County Chamber of Commerce and former board member, member of the NRA, Mountaineer Friends of the NRA and

the WVCDL.
Campaign Statement: I believe we should open a meeting with prayer and the pledge; allow God in our schools, where teachers should be allowed to teach; work and support our family and our parents, seniors, veterans and first responders; be able to own a gun to protect our family and property. I don't believe that we should kill unborn babies. And guys dressed as females shouldn't be allowed in bathrooms with little girls. That is just wrong.

Top priorities: Continue to make West Virginia a better place to live, work and raise a family. Roads are a top priority. Working together we can make "Randy's Dream" come true.

Continue to help citizens get back to work. I truly believe that financial problems are a big contributing factor in a failing marriage. When unemployed and low self-esteem people turn to alcohol, drugs and violence, that turns into unsafe conditions for children and expands our foster care programs.

Stormy Matlick

Party: Republican
Age: 42
Residence: Tunnelton
Education: Bachelor's Degree in Human Services.
Political/civic experience: None.
Professional Experience: Student Support Specialist, Preston County Schools.

Campaign statement: I am ready to be the voice of those who don't feel like they have one. I will be the change we need to see. In order to see change, we must initiate it.

Top priorities: Roads, education, welfare reform, drug epidemic.



Stormy Matlick

Cory Chase

Party: Democrat
Age: 36
Residence: Dryfork, Tucker County
Education: Tucker County High School, 2001 Cayce/Reilly School of Massotherapy, 2002 B.S. liberal arts and sciences from WVU in 2009, Magna Cum Laude



Cory Chase

Political and civic experience: Tucker County Development Authority Board member; Davis Renaissance Group, treasurer; Mountain Laurel Learning Cooperative Fundraising Committee.

Professional experience: Licensed Massage Therapist and small business owner since 2003. Currently working as the project coordinator for Heart of the Highlands Trail System. Born and raised on a cattle farm. Have had various jobs in restaurants, retail, spas, painting, farm-work, summer camps and teaching skiing.

Campaign statement: I am running for the West Virginia House of Delegates to represent the people of Preston and Tucker counties, and I'm joining over 90-plus other candidates from across the state who have taken the West Virginia Can't Wait pledge: I won't take corporate cash; I will stand with working people; I will never hide from a debate; I will do the work; I won't blame people who are struggling with their pain. Learn more: www.ChaseForWV.com

Top priorities: Fight corruption: Regulate lobbyists, prosecute political crime, get big money out of politics. End the addiction crisis: Stop pill mills, provide real recovery options, let adults use cannabis. Invest in West Virginia: Fix our roads and fund rural schools, shrink the wealth inequality gap, provide childcare for West Virginia families. Health care freedom: Help seniors and control ripoff drug prices; single-payer health care saves taxpayer money. I hunt and own guns: Defend Second Amendment and responsible gun owners.

Republican D.R. "Buck" Jennings is unopposed in the primary election for delegate from the 53rd District. Information on him will be included in the general election The Dominion Post Voter's Guide. Democrat Candi Sisler has withdrawn from the race, but her name will still be on the ballot.

MON COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE DIVISION 1 (NON-PARTISAN)

Debra Scudiere

Age: 65
Residence: Westover
Education: Bachelor's, WVU, 1976, double major in French and English with a secondary school teaching certificate; Doctor of Jurisprudence, WVU College of Law, 1982, West Virginia Law Review; president, Marlyn E. Lugar Trial Association; Order of the Barrister.



Debra Scudiere

Political and civic experience: Past president of the West Virginia State Bar; past president of the

Southern Conference of Bar Presidents; and a Fellow of the West Virginia Bar Foundation. Previously named in Best Lawyers in America for mediation, litigation and personal injury litigation. Served on the Board of Directors of West Virginia Senior Legal Aid Inc. Taught pre-trial litigation and trial advocacy at the WVU College of Law. Served on the Board of Governors of the West Virginia State Bar to the American Bar Association's House of Delegates.

Professional experience: In only a year as a Judge of the 17th Judicial Circuit, I have already conducted over 1,100 hearings and several full trials. I preside

SEE SCUDIERS, K-20

Michael Simms

Age: 41
Residence: Cheat Lake
Education: B.A. political science/Pre-Law, WVU; J.D., California Western School of Law.



Michael Simms

Political and civic experience: Member of Cheat Lake Rotary; former mentor; Big Brothers, Big Sisters of America; Adopt a Highway Road Cleanup volunteer; Salvation Army bell ringer.

Professional experience: Owner/operator of Simms Law Office in Morgantown since 2007, broad representation of individuals in civil, criminal and juvenile matters.

Campaign statement: Over the past

13 years, I have represented a wide cross-section of our community, including veterans, educators, union workers, students, truck drivers and small business owners. This experience, along with the fact I am the only candidate who has built a law practice from the ground up, has given me a deep understanding of the needs of our community. It's time for a new way forward and a new energy in circuit court.

Top priorities: I will start a Veterans Treatment Court, increase referrals to Teen Court and revitalize Drug Court. I am also committed to protecting our abused and neglected children, producing better outcomes for families impacted by the substance use epidemic and keeping our community safe. I will bring balance to the court, will issue prompt, well-reasoned orders and will ensure that all are treated with dignity and respect.

Cindy Scott

Age: 55
Residence: Morgantown
Education: WVU, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration; WVU College of Law, doctor of jurisprudence.



Cindy Scott

Political and civic experience: Served Monongalia County as both a defense attorney and an assistant prosecutor. I have served on the Monongalia County Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) since 2012 and previously on the Monongalia/Preston Counties Violence Against Women Act STOP Team. I served on the Human Rights Committee for the Monongalia County Youth Services Center and worked directly with the Court Appointed Special Advocates for victims of child abuse/neglect. I am a member of Kingdom: A Community Church and regularly teach Bible school.

Professional experience: Currently, I am an assistant director for WVU's Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Office of Equity Assurance, where I work to prevent and address discrimination, harassment and intimate partner violence involving WVU's faculty, staff and students. My responsibilities include leading the Prevention and Education Team, assisting with the Peer Advocate Program and reviewing Title

IX case investigations. Upon graduating from WVU College of Law in 1994, I began a 12-year career as a private practice attorney, focusing on criminal defense through West Virginia Public Defender Services.

Campaign statement: For 25-plus years, I have practiced law in Monongalia County, with more than 22 years spent in the courtroom. Additionally, my work at WVU has deepened my understanding of the equality concerns in our community and the opportunities for awareness education. My representation in hundreds of courtroom proceedings and my specific knowledge of Monongalia County have uniquely prepared me to serve as judge. I have a complete mastery of courtroom rules and proceedings, and I have the benefit of lessons learned from past rulings from the bench.

Top priorities: Because of my extensive courtroom experience, I will hit the ground running as judge and work to make both timely and effective rulings. My unique background has prepared me to appreciate the intricacies of each case and to know when alternative sentences should be considered and when incarceration is necessary. Above all else, the citizens of Monongalia County must be protected and deserve a circuit court judge who can understand offenders, deter crime and make the right decisions under any circumstance.

SCUDIERY

FROM PAGE K-19

over criminal cases, civil lawsuits, Monongalia County Adult Drug Court, child abuse and neglect matters, extraditions, weddings and adoptions. I also serve on the State Mass Litigation Panel and have been assigned by the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia to work with other judges on the Marcellus Shale cases and the opioid crisis.

Campaign statement: I was a courtroom attorney for 37 years before I became a judge. I appeared in courts all across the state. I tried cases, represented parties and made arguments in front of lots of judges. I know the law. I

know what courtrooms are all about. My actual courtroom experience — day-in-and-day out for 37 years and then my year as a judge — make me the best choice to continue as circuit judge.

Top priorities: As a sitting circuit court judge, my job is to make sound, timely rulings. As a result of those decisions, drug dealers and dangerous criminals are put in jail; children are protected from abuse and neglect; and citizens in civil suits get their day in court. I will continue to treat people in my court with respect and to make clear, timely rulings because their problems are serious and they deserve finality, clarity and decisiveness.

MON COUNTY MAGISTRATE DIVISION 1
(NON-PARTISAN, ELECT 1)

D. Ponch Reyes

Age: 73
Residence: Morgantown
Education: Doctorate of Jurisprudence, West Virginia University School of Law, 1993.



D. Ponch Reyes

Political and civic experience: I am a Vietnam veteran. Served in the Marine Corps Second Battalion, Third Marine Regiment, Golf Company operating out of Khe Sanh. I also served 22 years with the U.S. Army Reserve, retiring with the rank of master sergeant. My last duty unit was the 2nd Battalion, 312 Regiment of the 174 Infantry Brigade.

Professional experience: I was a

West Virginia State trooper for 21 years, retiring with the rank of corporal. I served 20 years as an assistant prosecutor for Monongalia County and have tried cases in both magistrate and circuit court.

Campaign statement: Through my service and dedication, I have the qualifications to serve this community with knowledge and wisdom. I have practiced law both as defense and prosecution. I have handled an extensive and diverse judicial court caseload. I can ensure that each individual is treated fairly, with courtesy and respect. I have 27 years experience in the law field and I am asking for your vote.

Top priorities: My goal as magistrate will be to conduct court with confidence, integrity and impartiality.

Ron Bane

Age: 54
Residence: Morgantown
Education: Ph.D., safety engineering, Kennedy Western University; MBA, health/health care administration/management, West Virginia University; M.S., safety engineering, WVU; B.A., political science, WVU.



Ron Bane

Political and civic experience: Mountain Line Transit Authority, 2008-present; current secretary, past treasurer, Mountaineer Lacrosse Officials Association, 2010-present; current president, Morgantown Utility Board, 2006-2020; past vice chair, past treasurer, Morgantown City Council, 2001-2017, past deputy mayor; Morgantown Parking Authority; Morgantown Traffic Commission; Morgantown-Monongalia Metropolitan Planning Organization; Leadership West Virginia, 2009; Leadership Monongalia.

Professional experience: West Virginia University, Mountainlair night operations manager, 2017-present; West Virginia University Hospitals, increasing roles of responsibility, including safety officer, 1994-2017; Carolina Food Processors, director of Safety & Environmental Health, 1993-1994; Sterling Faucet Plumb-

ing Group, assistant to safety manager, 1992-1993.

Campaign statement: Vote Ron Bane for fair and impartial justice in Division 1. I bring a fresh perspective and commonsense approach to the bench. As a citizen judge, I will honor the dignity of all those who come before me and extend respect to all who respect our court. I will discharge my duties and responsibilities with vim and vigor so that justice can be expeditiously pursued and the rule of law consistently upheld.

Top priorities: Steer at-risk youth toward help and support vulnerable citizens. Employ varying strategies to lower repeat offender rates. Prioritize domestic violence and mental hygiene cases. Advocate for an effective and efficient justice system. Reduce regional jail trends and taxpayer costs. Ensure sufficient court resources to match county growth. Minimize the need to use retired/special judges to handle caseloads. Collaborate with others on strategies to address community issues. Approach the mental health crisis with care and compassion. Champion recovery and sobriety in addiction and substance abuse cases.

**MON COUNTY MAGISTRATE DIVISION 2
(NON-PARTISAN, ELECT 1)**

Tim Pocius

Age: 53
Residence: Paradise Lake, Morgantown

Education: Attended Fairmont State University, studied accounting; attended ACT 120 training at Indiana University of Pennsylvania; magistrate training with Supreme Court of Appeals in Charleston.



Tim Pocius

Political and civic experience: Appointed by Chief Judge Susan Tucker to Division 2 magistrate in March 2019; board member of Monongalia County Day Report Center; volunteer, National Crime Victims' Rights Week RDVIC Walk a Mile in Their Shoes; sponsor of St. Jude Telethon.

Professional experience: March 2019 to present, magistrate Division 2 Monongalia County; 2008-2019, Monongalia County Sheriff's Department bailiff/assistant court security administrator; 2004-2008, resource officer Intermediate Unit One Alternative School,

Brownsville, Pa.

Campaign Statement: "Pocius for the People." I am one of you. I am a hard-working citizen of Monongalia County. It is a privilege to serve you as magistrate. My opponents want the public to believe that a law degree is necessary to be a magistrate. The job requirements state otherwise. I have the ability to apply case law while injecting common sense. I am the jury of your peers. You will be represented by one of your own.

Top Priorities: Address the drug epidemic by working with prosecutors, arresting officers, Day Report, probation, defense attorneys and most importantly, the defendants and their victims. Focus on domestic violence and victims' rights. Focus on truancy and educating parents on the importance of children staying in school. Focus on fiscal responsibility as it relates to courtroom efficiency by streamlining timeliness of conducting cases. Continue representing citizens of Monongalia County with common sense and compassion, and letting their voices be heard.

Phillip Todd Gaujot

Age: 51
Residence: Cheat Lake



Todd Gaujot

Education: John Marshall Law School, Atlanta, doctor of jurisprudence; University of Colorado at Boulder, B.A. political science.

Political and civic experience: Condemnation commissioner.

Professional experi-

ence: 20-plus years in the oil and gas and telecommunications industries, the majority of which has been in the capacity of an independent contractor.

Campaign statement: My pledge is to be a fair and impartial jurist, setting aside ideologies and beliefs, to judge each issue on its own merit.

Top priorities: To work hard each day, to practice civility and to work well with the other magistrates to assure that the magistrate court system performs its duties.

Stephanie Nethken

Age: 35
Residence: Maidsville



Stephanie Nethken

Education: Morgantown High, 2003; WVU, 2007, Honors Scholar; WVU Law, 2014.

Political and civic experience: I have no experience in politics. I am involved in the community. I am a certified Girls on the Run coach, Community Youth League

cheer coach, The Dominion Post advisory board member for 2018-2019, volunteer with various organizations and Monongalia County Bar Association member.

Professional experience: I have been

practicing law as an attorney for the past five years and am still practicing today. I have been in front of magistrates in Monongalia, Preston, Marion and Harrison counties on all different types of issues, including felony preliminaries, misdemeanors, evictions, protective orders and civil cases. I also represent clients in mental hygiene hearings. I am specifically trained on how to interpret and apply the laws.

Campaign statement: My campaign slogan is "Peace, Love and Justice for All." There is so much hate in this world and I want to bring compassion back into the courts. So many people just go through the motions and do not really care about the people they are repre-

SEE NETHKEN, K-22

**MON COUNTY MAGISTRATE DIVISION 4
(NON-PARTISAN, ELECT 1)**

Sandy Holepit

Age: 67
Residence: Morgantown
Education: WVU graduate, WVU post-graduate studies, West Virginia Supreme Court Continuous Education and National Writers Institute.



Sandy Holepit

Political and civic experience: Governor's Council to Implement Jobs through Education; designed Monongalia County's classrooms to courtrooms; previous five-year board secretary for Mountain Line; recognition for West Virginia quarter design, American Federation of Teachers member; community fundraiser for local Scouts and cancer victims; promoted safe school laws and stronger juvenile penalties; past member of University Car Club; Ambassador for Progress; and West Virginia Magistrate Association.

Professional experience: Current

Monongalia County magistrate with 12 years experience, former certified West Virginia teacher, former licensed West Virginia auctioneer and prior award-winning insurance agent/owner.

Campaign statement: I have been honored for the past 12 years to serve Monongalia County as magistrate. Our county is the second busiest in the state and I have adjudicated over 20,000 cases and numerous other hearings. In order to ensure an efficient and excellent court, experience is critically important. I have shown to have the qualities it takes to be an effective and excellent magistrate and ask the citizens to rehire me for another term.

Top priorities: My priorities are to continue to serve the citizens of Monongalia County to the very best of my ability. I promise to always strive to keep them safe and dispatch fair and equal justice. I promise to continue to be relentless in the pursuit of making a difference in our county, and I promise, as before, not to break my promises.

Arlie Campbell

Age: 64
Residence: Morgantown
Education: Attended St. Francis, Westover Junior High and a graduate of Morgantown High School, 1973. Completed two years of training in graphic arts, during this time I competed and won first and second place in job interview competition at the West Virginia State Leadership Contest in Ripley, advancing on to nationals held in Tulsa, Okla. Coaching certification. First aid trained. Completed municipal judge training in 2019.



Arlie Campbell

Political and civic experience: Protested for fair property tax appraisals in Monongalia County, 2011; advocate for West Virginia Victims R Us; member of West Virginia Association of Municipal Judges, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Westover Rotary Club and National Rifle Association. Coached youth sports. Assisted in fostering from Children's Home Society,

community service provider, working with young adults in completing community service hours. Attended the U.S. Court of Appeals in the Fourth Circuit at the WVU College of Law.

Professional experience: Retired; Consol, mine foreman papers; UMWA Local 4043; Mylan, Laborers Local Union 379 AFI-CIO; ordained minister (present); and current farmer.

Campaign statement: I'm not a politician. I am for the people and their rights. I want to uphold the Constitution. Everyone should be treated fairly, with dignity and respect. It is the job of the magistrate to protect the best interest of all people. I believe that people are ready for a change and I am offering them a choice in this election. As the common blue collar worker, I will bring a different perspective to the courtroom.

Top priorities: I want to help change people's lives by treating them fairly and with respect. My top priorities will be to be respectful of people and be a good listener in making fair and unbiased decisions based on the law and merits of the case. If elected, I promise to donate 10% of my wages to a different local non-profit organization every month.

MON COUNTY SHERIFF

Perry Palmer

Party: Democrat

Age: 60

Residence: Morgantown

Education: St. Francis High School, West Virginia State Police Academy.



Perry Palmer

Political and civic experience: Vice president, West Virginia Sheriffs Association; board member, Coordinating Council on Homelessness; CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate); MECCA 911 Policy Board

since 2013; Monongalia County Sheriff's Association since 1991; West Virginia Deputy Sheriff's Association since 1991; team member, Sarah's Table, Knights of Columbus, St. John University Parish.

Professional experience: Prior to being elected sheriff of Monongalia County in 2016, I had been a leader in the Monongalia Sheriff's Department since I began my career in 1991. I was appointed to chief deputy in 2012. In addition to the responsibility for 100-plus employees, I oversee the preparation and administra-

tion of budgets in excess of \$7 million for the six divisions within the sheriff's office and serve as treasurer of Monongalia County.

Campaign statement: It has been my life's honor to serve as your sheriff for these past three years. Monongalia County is my home and my heart. I respectfully request your vote in May. I wake up every day excited and committed to working hard for our citizens. I am doing everything possible to keep Monongalia County safe. I have worked hard, and I am proud of what my colleagues and I have accomplished.

Top priorities: Monongalia County is experiencing significant growth and prosperity. With that increased growth comes increased crime. I have been on the front lines of fighting crime and keeping our community safe since 1991. As sheriff, I will keep Monongalia County safe. I will continue to work with every agency to keep our community drug-free. As sheriff, I have done everything possible to keep drugs out of our community and away from our kids.

John N. Kisner

Party: Democrat

Age: 65

Residence: Westover



John Kisner

Education: University High School graduate, with some college.

Political and civic experience: No political experience outside of running a campaign for sheriff in 2016.

While working at Monongalia County Sheriff's office, I interacted with many civic organizations as a representative of our sheriff's department. I was deeply involved in our county schools as an SRO/PRO at all levels. As a deputy/police officer I interacted with many citizens. Each of these interactions I view as civic experience.

Professional experience: Thirty-eight years in law enforcement, 25 years with Monongalia County Sheriff's Department. Deputy chief for Westover Police Department. First DARE officer in Monongalia County. I have worked at 10 different law enforcement agencies.

My experience ranges from agencies with two officers up to 800 officers. I have experience in the area of implementing policy and procedure for law enforcement. I have overseen and supervised federal level protective forces.

Campaign statement: It's all about "quality of life" in our county. I believe in a strong, educated public as it relates to your constitutional rights. I believe in a strong and educated law enforcement presence. I believe in transparency. I believe in accountability. Currently we do not have any of the above in the sheriff's department. If you believe these things, then vote for me and watch the change.

Top priorities: Efficiency: We do not need more; we must do better with what we have. Accountability: Citizens can hold me to account for all actions of this department. Transparency: Citizens will be able to question what we do and how we do it. And this will be accomplished by setting up a Citizens Review Board to ensure we are meeting the needs of our citizens. Actively pursue all illegal drug activity in our neighborhoods and countywide.

MON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION (NON-PARTISAN, ELECT 2)

Ron Lytle

Education: B.A., WVU.

Political and civic experience: Mon BOE incumbent, PACE Enterprises board member, longtime supporter of numerous service organizations.



Ron Lytle

Professional experience: President, Lytle Construction Corp.

Campaign statement: I would appreciate the opportunity to con-

tinue serving the best school system in the state of West Virginia, and I will continue to focus the generous state and local resources where they belong — in the classroom.

Top priorities: Will continue to advocate for public educational opportunities for all students; will continue to improve school buildings for stellar learning environments, for present and future societal needs; will continue to foster an educational experience which accounts for cognitive, emotional and physical health; will continue to let staffers know their good work is appreciated.

Nancy Walker

Age: 63

Residence: Morgantown

Education: Completed medical imaging studies program through WVU.



Nancy Walker

Political and civic experience: Mon BOE incumbent (six terms); Board member past campaign chair of the United Way of Monongalia and Preston Counties; West Virginia School Boards Association member; past memberships on

boards of Prevention Research Center and Performance Teaching Standards for the State of West Virginia.

Professional experience: Registered echocardiographer and vascular ultrasonographer, Mon Health Medical Center.

Campaign statement: To continue support to students, families and staff in the ongoing mission for academic excellence in changing environments.

Top priorities: The implementation of the 2020-30 Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan to keep Mon County as an educational leader, now and in the future.

Micah Weglinski

Age: 41

Residence: Cheat Lake

Education: Elementary education degree, with a master's in library and information sciences.



Micah Weglinski

Political and civic experience: Mon County Democratic Executive Committee; Pantry Plus More, vice-president.

Professional experience: Former ele-

mentary school teacher and school library media specialist; stay-at-home dad.

Campaign statement: I now serve as vice president of Pantry Plus More, a nonprofit dedicated to ending childhood hunger in Monongalia County. This experience has shown me that access to resources and high-quality education are imperative for every child to reach their full potential.

Top priorities: Ensure funding for public education is protected and not diverted to private charter schools; explore ways to expand Extended Day Learning programs; expand vocational and technical education opportunities.

NETHKEN

FROM PAGE K-21

sending and treat every case the same. I believe that every case is different and people should be treated with respect. We all deserve basic human rights.

Top priorities: To follow the law and apply it correctly. Also to try to make sure hearings start on time. Also I would like to explore the possibilities of the

court system working out some sort of partnership with drug treatment centers that would allow magistrates to send addicts straight to rehab. Some people that do jail time on a misdemeanor drug charge will sit in jail before a bed becomes available when it would be more beneficial for them to serve their time in a long-term treatment center.

PRESTON COUNTY SHERIFF

Joel E. Gordon**Party:** Republican**Age:** 60**Residence:** Masontown**Joel Gordon**

Education: Law and Public Policy designated Towson Maryland High School, Class of 1977. Graduate of the Baltimore City Police Academy. I have successfully completed numerous college level and professional development continuing education courses, including important practical application specialties such as budgetary process, grant writing, narcotics demand reduction and crime prevention. I make it a point to learn new things each and every day.

Political and civic experience: I am a first-time candidate for elected office. As a licensed amateur radio operator/club recording secretary I have participated in many voluntary public service events. During my time as Kingwood Police chief, as a certified instructor, I volunteered my time as a substitute Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) instructor for the Preston County Schools. I am a past president of the local Business Builders Chapter of Business Network International and an NRA member.

Professional experience: I am a former Baltimore City police officer, Alpine Lake Resort general manager, Kingwood Police chief, vice chair of a regional narcotics and violent crime task force, and security consultant. I am author of the book "Still Seeking Justice: One Officer's Story." I am currently a regular contributor and an associate editor for the nationally recognized law enforcement publication The Blue Magazine (The Independent Voice of Law Enforcement thebluemagazine.com).

Campaign statement: I am your change candidate. Over 28 years having resided in Terra Alta, Kingwood, Tunnelton and Masontown, I understand the needs of our communities. I will work toward meeting National Accreditation standards and establishment of a volunteer reserve deputy unit. Our mission and motto will be Partners in Safety. We will tackle the problems that plague our county head on with renewed partnerships with federal, state and regional partners. I will vigorously defend our Constitution.

Top priorities: We must tackle our drug and addiction crisis with outreach and demand reduction initiatives in addition to prosecution. Unsolved criminal cases need a thorough review. Community deputy assignments and volunteer civilian action recommendation teams will allow us to utilize our knowledge and resources together in the best ways possible. With proper prioritization, efficient use of talent, grant funding and professional best-practice implementation we will ensure a reduction in criminal activity for a better tomorrow.

Professional experience: I am a former Baltimore City police officer, Alpine Lake Resort general manager, Kingwood Police chief, vice chair of a regional narcotics and violent crime task force, and security consultant. I am author of the book "Still Seeking Justice: One Officer's Story." I am currently a regular contributor and an associate editor for the nationally recognized law enforcement publication The Blue Magazine (The Independent Voice of Law Enforcement thebluemagazine.com).

Jason Peaslee**Party:** Republican**Age:** 43**Residence:** Kingwood

Education: 1995 graduate of Preston High School, graduate of East Coast School of Auctioneering and numerous vocational training classes regarding work with instant growth. Those include safety and emergency response, just to name a few.

**Jason Peaslee**

Political and civic experience: Kingwood Lodge #90 former YPO member.

Professional experience: I am the owner and active manager of Instant Growth Hydroseeding. I started the company in 2006 and have built the company to over 70 employees and manage a large and complex budget. I know what it takes to manage complex budgets and motivate individuals to work. Since the inception, I have been personally involved in all aspects, even site visits, for all of the company's contracts. I am active in everything I do.

Campaign statement: My statement is simple, #takingbackpreston-county. We have assembled some of the brightest minds in law enforcement and created an incredible platform of action points I am confident my administration can accomplish. I don't want to make a promise I can't deliver on. Our county is in dire need of a change, and I believe an individual like me, willing to surround himself by a team of accomplished advisors, will deliver the change we all desire.

Top Priorities: I have many, but the three main are the same no matter what any naysayer will attempt to argue. My administration will obtain justice for Buckie, we will perform a narcotics roundup unlike anything this county has seen, and we will increase visibility and response in all communities inside our county. Everything starts from the top down and as sheriff; our community will see me working with all of my deputies on a daily basis.

Professional experience: I am a former Baltimore City police officer, Alpine Lake Resort general manager, Kingwood Police chief, vice chair of a regional narcotics and violent crime task force, and security consultant. I am author of the book "Still Seeking Justice: One Officer's Story." I am currently a regular contributor and an associate editor for the nationally recognized law enforcement publication The Blue Magazine (The Independent Voice of Law Enforcement thebluemagazine.com).

Paul "Moe" Pritt**Party:** Republican**Age:** 49**Residence:** Terra Alta

Education: East Preston Senior High, 1988 graduate; Fairmont State University, 1992, B.S. in criminal justice, minor political science; West Virginia State Police Academy, 1994, certified law enforcement officer; law enforcement instructor in pistol, rifle, shotgun, radar/lidar, pepper spray, expandable batons. Over 700-plus annual in-service credit hours training in criminal investigations, policy, management, law enforcement oversight as well as liability, budget and human resources and other policing aspects.

**Paul Pritt**

Political and civic experience: I was offered and accepted the position of chief deputy and have served in that role since Jan. 1, 2013. I have been a youth league coach and board member for over 20 years, coaching T-ball, Little League baseball as well as Little League and pony league girls' fast pitch softball. I am currently the girls' fast pitch softball head coach at Preston High, a role I took last year after being a volunteer coach.

Professional experience: A life-long resident, I have been a police officer in Preston County over 26 years. I have trained numerous officers, have investigated serious crimes from murder and sexual assault to as minor as traffic offenses and shoplifting. As chief deputy, I assure accountability and appropriate response to reported crimes as well as seeing that matters are thoroughly investigated for successful prosecutions, while being fiscally responsible and using personnel efficiently to cover the county.

Campaign statement: My goal is continuity in having an efficient, accountable, successful law enforcement agency that aggressively attacks those that prey on our citizens. Continuation of efforts that have resulted in over 130 felony drug arrests and seizure of over \$90,000 in cash and assets, as well as proactive patrol by all deputies leading to reduction and solving crimes like burglaries and breaking and entering incidents, reducing from 210 in 2012 to less than 65 in 2019.

Top priorities: If elected, I will see that the office operates in an efficient, fiscally responsible manner, holding employees accountable for actions, see that the sheriff's office functions are carried out in accordance with law. Will be fair, impartial and professional in all dealings with the public and represent Preston County and its citizens equally. Will be accessible to all citizens and work with all local, state and federal entities to reduce crime and curb drug dealing and usage.

Professional experience: A life-long resident, I have been a police officer in Preston County over 26 years. I have trained numerous officers, have investigated serious crimes from murder and sexual assault to as minor as traffic offenses and shoplifting. As chief deputy, I assure accountability and appropriate response to reported crimes as well as seeing that matters are thoroughly investigated for successful prosecutions, while being fiscally responsible and using personnel efficiently to cover the county.

Democrat Arnold Tichnell is unopposed in the primary election for Preston County Sheriff. Information on him will be included in the general election The Dominion Post Voter's Guide.

**Election Day
is Tuesday, June 9.
Early voting begins
Wednesday and runs
through June 6.**



PRESTON COUNTY MAGISTRATE DIVISION 3 (NON-PARTISAN, ELECT 1)

James L. "Jimmy" Maier

Age: 60

Residence: Kingwood



**James
Maier**

Education: Central Preston High School graduate, attended WVU, computer school graduate.

Political and civic experience: Mayor of Kingwood; Kingwood Sewer Board chairman; Kingwood Water Board member; Kingwood Parks & Recreation Board member; founding member of Heat for Preston Foundation; American Cancer Society volunteer; supporter and sponsor of Cancer Survivors dinners of Preston County; fundraiser for Preston High sports; member of Your Community Foundation.

Professional experience: I have owned a business (Monroe's Restaurant) for 22 years in Preston County. I participated in city government for 10 years. Both jobs required abiding by laws and codes of West Virginia, organizational skills, the ability to listen to many dif-

ferent perspectives in order to reach the correct decision and the strength to stand by my decisions.

Campaign statement: I will follow the laws and codes of West Virginia as written. I will be fair and just with everyone who comes before the court. I will represent the office with courtesy, dignity and impartiality. I cannot and will not be swayed by outside influences. I am committed to doing the job well for the citizens of Preston County. I believe I am a fair and just man who is not afraid of the challenge.

Top priorities: My top priority is ensuring that fairness and justice is always served in Preston County Magistrate Court. I want to make Preston County a better place to live. I want the residents of Preston County to know that I will be prepared to be a magistrate who serves the people and their best interests. With your continued support, we can be sure that Preston County is a safe and wonderful place to live and raise our children.

Peggy Pase

Age: 51

Residence: Kingwood

Education: I graduated from Central Preston Senior High in 1986. I graduated with honors from West Virginia University at Parkersburg (WVUP), with a bachelor's degree in legal studies. While at WVUP, I helped re-establish the Legal Aid Society at West Virginia University at Parkersburg. I worked with Steve Shaffer and Paul Estep to completing my legal studies internship. I am currently working toward my master's degree in legal studies from Washington University School of Law.

**Peggy
Pase**

Political and civic experience: I proudly hold the office of secretary for the Preston County Solid Waste Authority. I was a Girl Scout leader for four years and coached softball league for three years.

Professional experience: I currently work with my parents, Charlie and Sue Pase, at their facility, Preston Tire &

Recycling Inc. Prior to obtaining my degree, I worked as a union laborer for 18 years.

Campaign statement: While this is the first time I have run for any public office, I believe when you see a problem in your community, you have two choices: complain about it or do something about it. Well, I am a doer; I see the problems facing our county and communities and want to do something to help resolve them, which is the reason I decided to run for magistrate. I strongly believe in holding individuals accountable for their actions.

Campaign statement: I am fair, yet tough. I do not believe in the "good 'ole boy" way of running things. It's time for a change! Time to get tough on the crime and drug problem facing our communities and time to hold people accountable for their actions.

I believe the people of Preston County deserve a magistrate that has their best interest at heart and will protect the rights of the good, hardworking people of Preston County. I understand the importance and value of public service.

Rhonda Sybolt

Age: 52

Residence: Rowlesburg

Education: 1985 graduate of Clay-Battelle High School.



**Rhonda
Symbolt**

Political and civic experience: I have never held a political position. I am currently a member of and the treasurer for Macomber Community Church. I am a member of the West Virginia Beekeepers Association, the Preston County Beekeepers Association, a member of the West Virginia Education Association Union and a partner in hope with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Professional experience: I worked in the Preston County Magistrate Court from October 2004 to March 2013, both as a magistrate assistant and as a deputy clerk. I participated in several State Supreme Court training sessions in

Charleston for magistrate assistants and deputy clerks. I have been trained in the West Virginia Supreme Court's judiciary computer system and am very knowledgeable in all magistrate court systems and procedures. I am currently the payroll supervisor for Preston County Schools. We currently employ and pay more than 750 employees on a fifth and 20th of the month schedule.

Campaign statement: I am tough, I am fair, I am honest and I am trustworthy! These things should not only be hoped for from your magistrate but they should be expected.

Top priorities: If elected, I want to bring back tougher penalties for repeat offenders. While the law only allows for certain sentencing, it does in fact leave a margin of discretion, by the magistrate, in fines, plea agreements, bail, bonds, etc. I want there to be consequences to actions, not just a slap on the wrist and out the door you go.

Aaron Knotts

Age: 48

Residence: Kingwood

Education: Bachelor of Divinity



**Aaron
Knotts**

Political and civic experience: 15 years as a pastor along with work in and with nonprofits.

Professional experience: WVARNG veteran, youth leader and assistant director in group home and residential treatment facilities for

juvenile sex offenders and drug and alcohol rehabilitation for juvenile felons. Currently a business owner and school bus operator.

Campaign statement: With honesty and integrity, through faith and perseverance, we have the right and obligation to protect, provide and guide our families. Taking responsibility for our actions and theirs, establishing a prosperous future.

Top priorities: To set a standard of excellence for myself that would make me an asset to Preston County and its office of magistrate.

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PRESTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION (NON-PARTISAN)

Elect one each from District 1 and District 3. Elect two from District 2.

Jeanne Dreisbach

District: 1
Age: 64
Residence: Bruceton Mills



Jeanne Dreisbach
Education: B.S. and M.A. from WVU
Political and civic experience: No political experience.
Professional experience: Thirty-plus years in education, including 21 years, 1993-2013, as a teacher in Monongalia County (UHS), also head coach for UHS girls' lacrosse; three years as cadet services

coordinator/principal, 2013-16, at Mountaineer ChalleNge Academy; three years as assistant principal, West Preston School, 2016-19; Preston County Schools Middle Schools athletic director for winter sports 2019-20. Retired from Preston County Schools June 2019.
Campaign statement: I feel that any board of education can benefit from members who have experience in education, especially administrative.
Top priorities: My top priority is to ensure that Preston County Schools are providing high quality services to all students in clean, safe and caring environments.

Pamela "Pam" Feathers

District: 3
Age: 52
Residence: Reedsville



Pamela Feathers
Education: 1985 graduate of Trinity High School in Washington, Pa.; Slippery Rock University; Clarksburg Cosmetology.
Political and civic experience: Four years

on the Preston County Board of Education.
Professional experience: Mom.
Campaign statement: I have a vested interest being the mother of a 2018 graduate from Preston High School and a current freshman at PHS. Individual student achievement has always been my motivation.
Top priorities: Continue to bridge the gap in communication between administration, the board and our community while earning trust through the integrity of my actions.

What ballot will you receive when you go to the polls?

It depends on what party you are registered with. According to Monongalia County Clerk Carye Blaney's website:

- If you are registered as a Democrat, you will receive a Democrat ballot.
- If you are registered as a Republican, you will receive a Republican ballot.
- If you are registered with the Mountain or Libertarian Parties, you will receive only a non-partisan ballot. That is the ballot for offices, such as magistrate, judges and board of education seats, that are not elected by party.
- If you register as No Party Affiliated or if you register as a member of any other political party than one of the four parties listed above, you may choose either a Democrat or Republican ballot. If you do not make a ballot choice, you will be given a non-partisan ballot.

Political party registration only affects your ballot style in primary elections. During the general election, all voters will receive the same ballot style.

Bruce P. Huggins

District: 2
Residence: Kingwood
Education: I have a bachelor's degree in



Bruce Huggins
social studies with certification 5-12, minor in safety studies (driver education) from WVU. My master's degree is also from WVU in learning disabilities, certification K-adult and am also certified in mental impairment K-adult.
Political and civic experience: The only political experience that I have is that I am currently on the board of education and was appointed in November when Robert McCrum resigned to run for the House of Representatives.
Professional experience: I am a retired teacher from Preston County

Schools. I taught 34 years starting out at the old Central Preston High School, then at West Preston Middle School and then starting at Preston High School from 1992-2019. I also worked with the athletic department as an assistant athletic director, co-athletic director and athletic director. I also had the privilege of coaching baseball, JV girls' basketball and JV boys' basketball.
Campaign statement: Preston born, Preston proud, Preston future
Top priorities: 1. Continue the transparency of the board of education.
2. Strive to make Preston County Schools a system that all of Preston County can be proud of.
3. Continue to build the confidence of Preston County citizens that they can believe and trust the board now and in the future.
Continue strong support for our CTE programs. We have outstanding programs that are doing amazing things for our students.

Peter M. Liga

District: 2
Age: 56
Residence: Kingwood



Peter Liga
Education: High school, black seal low pressure boiler license, West Virginia journeyman electrician, West Virginia residential HVAC technician.
Political and civic experience: Over the years, I have served on several homeowner association boards as both a board member and as board president.
Professional experience: I am a lead (foreman) at West Virginia University Facilities Maintenance. I hold licenses in low pressure boiler operation, West Virginia journeyman electrician and West Virginia residential HVAC technician. I also owned a commercial cleaning and maintenance business for 18 years.

Campaign statement: I feel I can use my personal and professional experience to help give knowledgeable input to the rest of the board in maintenance and operational issues. My years of working in the various building trades makes me uniquely able to help the board make informed choices on how best to utilize the money entrusted to the board by the county taxpayers.
Top priorities: I have reviewed school expenses. After salaries and benefits, the next largest expenditure is utilities. Utilities are projected to cost the school board over \$1 million. I feel with my background in facilities maintenance, I will be able to assist the BOE to reduce utilities costs. By reducing these costs, we can then focus our attention on maintaining/improving the infrastructure of the county's school buildings. My responsibility will always be to the taxpayers of Preston County.

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Mon County Precincts

Precinct 1 — Mountainview Elementary School, 661 Green Bag Road, Morgantown.
Precincts 2A and 2B — Morgantown High School 109 Wilson Ave., Morgantown.
Precinct 10 — WVU Alumni Center, 1 Alumni Drive, Morgantown.
Precinct 13 — Mountaineer Middle School, 991 Price St., Morgantown.
Precinct 16 — BOPARC Senior Recreation Center, 287 Eureka Drive, Morgantown.
Precincts 23 and 25 — St. Mary’s Catholic Church, 3334B University Ave., Morgantown.
Precinct 26 — Suncrest Middle School, 360 Baldwin St., Morgantown.
Precinct 30 — Sabraton Baptist Church, 1641 Sabraton Ave., Morgantown.
Precinct 32 — Eastwood Elementary, 677 201st INF/FA Memorial Way, Morgantown.
Precinct 33 — Rock Forge Presbyterian Church, 3085 Earl L. Core Road, Morgantown.
Precinct 35 — Mountainview Elementary, 661 Green Bag Road, Morgantown.
Precinct 36 — North Elementary School, 825 Chestnut Ridge Road, Morgantown.
Precinct — 38 Brookhaven Elementary School, 1215 Baker St., Morgantown.
Precincts 40 and 41, Mason Dixon Elementary School, 7041 Mason-Dixon Highway, Blacksville.
Precinct 44 — Granville Fire Department Bingo Hall, Station 2, 507 Scotts Run Road, Morgantown.
Precinct 47 — Scott’s Run VFD (Cassville), 719 Mason Dixon Highway, Morgantown.
Precinct 48 — Granville Fire Dept. Bingo Hall, Station 2, 507 Scotts Run Road, Morgantown.
Precinct 51 — Clay-Battelle High School, 6226 Mason-Dixon Highway, Blacksville.
Precinct 51M — Clay-Battelle High School, 6226 Mason-Dixon Highway, Blacksville.
Precinct 52 — Mason-Dixon Park, 79 Buckeye Road, Core.
Precinct 58 — Mylan Park Elementary, 901 Mylan Park Lane, Morgantown.
Precinct 59 — Smithtown School Community Center, 56 Smithtown School Road, Morgantown.
Precinct 61 — Ridgedale Elementary School, 1550 Goshen Road, Morgantown.
Precinct 62 — Brown’s Halleck Community Center, 33 Brewer Road, Morgantown.
Precinct 63 — Mountainview Elementary School, 661 Green Bag Road, Morgantown.
Precinct — 64 Skyview Elementary School, 668 River Road, Westover.
Precinct 67 — Arnettsville Community Center, 4105 Fairmont Road, Morgantown.
Precinct 68 — Mylan Park Elementary School, 901 Mylan Park Lane, Morgantown.
Precinct 71 — Westover Community Building, 399 Riverview Ave., Westover.
Precinct 74 — Granville VFD, 320 Main St., Granville.
Precinct 76 — Suncrest Middle School, 360 Baldwin St., Morgantown.
Precinct 77 — Cheat Lake Community Church, 527 Tyrone Road, Morgantown.
Precinct 78 — Cheat Lake Elementary School, 154 Crosby Road, Morgantown.
Precinct 79 — Cheat Lake VFD, 409 Fairchance Road, Morgantown.
Precinct 81 — University High School, 131 Bakers Ridge Road, Morgantown.
Precinct 82 — Cheat Lake VFD, 409 Fairchance Road, Morgantown.
Precinct 83 — University High School, 131 Bakers Ridge Road, Morgantown.
Precinct 86 — North Elementary School, 825 Chestnut Ridge Road, Morgantown.

DEADLINES: June 3 is the deadline to submit an application to vote absentee by mail. The county clerk must receive the application by this date.
June 8 is the deadline to hand-deliver the absentee ballot to the county clerk’s office.
June 9 is the deadline to mail an absentee ballot to the county clerk. The ballot must be postmarked by this date.

Preston County Precincts

Precincts 1, 1T, 2 and 2T— Bruceton Mills Fire Hall, 142 Union St., Bruceton Mills.
Precinct 3 — Shady Grove Church of the Brethren, 21 Shady Grove Road, Bruceton Mills.
Precinct 4 — Masontown Fire Hall, 362 N. Main St., Masontown.
Precinct 5 — Mount Moriah Christian Center, 8921 N. Preston Highway, Albright.
Precinct 6 — North Preston Senior Center, 13553 N. Preston Highway, Bruceton Mills.
Precinct 7 — Craig Civic Center, 311 Tunnelton St., Kingwood.
Precinct 8 — St. Joseph’s Church, 22 Church Drive, Kingwood.
Precinct 9T — Valley District Senior Center, 54 W. Highland Ave., Masontown.
Precinct 10 — Masontown VFD, 362 N. Main St., Masontown.
Precinct 11 — Arthurdale Heritage building, 18 Q Road, Arthurdale.
Precincts 12 and 12T — Reedsville VFD, 291 Kingwood St., Reedsville.
Precinct 13T — Craig Civic Center, 311 Tunnelton St., Kingwood.
Precinct 14 — Terra Alta Ambulance building, 1124 E. State Ave., Terra Alta.
Precincts 15T and 16 — Craig Civic Center, 311 Tunnelton St., Kingwood.
Precincts 17 and 17T — Albright Community Center, 2960 St. Joe Road, Albright.
Precincts 18 and 18T — Terra Alta VFD, 1120 E. State Ave., Terra Alta.
Precinct 19 — Aurora Memorial Building, 24076 George Washington Highway, Aurora.
Precinct 20 — Terra Alta Ambulance building, 1124 E. State Ave., Terra Alta.
Precinct 21 — Gladesville Community Building, 2929 Gladesville Road, Independence.
Precincts 22 and 22T — Newburg Senior Center, 36 Morgantown Ave., Newburg.
Precinct 23 — Maple Springs Family Life Center, 3075 Maple Spring Highway, Eglon.
Precinct 24 — Fellowsville VFD, 18 Fire Loop Road, Tunnelton.
Precincts 25, 25T and 26 — Tunnelton VFD, 42 Bank St., Tunnelton.
Precincts 27 and 27T — Rowlesburg VFD, 13 Elm St., Rowlesburg.
Precinct 28 — Maple Springs Family Life Center, 3075 Maple Spring Highway, Eglon.

ELECTION QUESTIONS

West Virginia Secretary of State’s website is wvsos.gov.
In Monongalia County, County Clerk Carye Blaney’s office can be reached at 304-291-7230 or www.monongaliacountyclerk.com.
In Preston County, County Clerk Linda Huggins’ office number is 304-329-0070, and the website is www.prestoncountyclerkwv.com.

Promote your employees

Have you recently hired a new employee or promoted a valued one?
Let us know so we can share the information with the community.
Send press releases and photos to newsroom@dominionpost.com

WHY YOU SHOULD VOTE | IMPACT

It Makes a Difference

It's Election Day. Do you know where your vote is? If you're keeping it in your back pocket, you may be doing yourself and those around you a civic disservice.

The fact is that your vote could make all the difference in not only swaying an election, but in fulfilling your duty as a proud American citizen.

'BUT, MY VOTE DOESN'T COUNT'

We've all heard the claim from nonvoters that their one vote simply doesn't mean much in the grand scheme of things, especially in the presidential election that is determined by the Electoral College.

Not so fast, say politicians and pro-voting organizations.

Here are some important events in U.S. history that were decided by just a few votes, according to the State of Illinois:

- Richard Nixon, not John F. Kennedy, would have become President of the U.S. in 1960 if one person from each voting place had voted differently.
- If just one U.S. Senator had voted differently, U.S. President Andrew Johnson would have been removed from office in 1867.
- Texas might not have become part of the United States in 1845 if one U.S. Senator had voted differently. The vote in the U.S. Senate was 27-25 to invite Texas to become a state. If it had been a tie, Texas would not have been asked to become part of the Union.

'BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW TO VOTE'

General discomfort can be a major factor in keeping many people away from the voting booth.

If voting intimidates you or you need motivation in keeping it on your schedule, involve a family member or acquaintance in your planning

process. Coordinate to meet the morning of the election and head to the polls together.

Voting with a significant other, parent or close friend can help calm any nerves and also help you from backing out. Add in a breakfast, lunch or dinner to make the event a memorable one that you may turn into a regular occurrence.

