

League of Women Voters 2018 General Election *Voters' Guide* for Kent County

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VOTE411.org

This printed guide is just a start. Go online to **VOTE411.org**, the League's newest information resource on candidates and races.

VOTE411.org includes all the responses from all the candidates, as well as websites, Facebook pages, twitter, email, phone, and other links to find out more. Just enter your address and create your own ballot. You can also view this *Voters' Guide* there.



This *Voters' Guide* is published by the League of Women Voters of Kent County and covers all races and their candidates appearing on the 2018 General Election ballot for Kent County residents. The League has a long tradition of publishing the verbatim responses of candidates to questions important to voters. All candidates who filed with the State Board of Elections were invited to submit information about their candidacy, including their responses to a series of questions posed for each office, to our web-based VOTE411 system. Those candidate responses appear in their own words and are included as profiles and answers in this *Guide*.

The League offers this *Voters' Guide* to assist citizens in their decision-making process as they prepare for participation in the 2018 Gubernatorial election.

The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. This *Guide* is for the benefit of individual voters and should not be marked by others for organizations or individual voters. Material from the *Guide* may not be reproduced in whole or in part without permission of the League of Women Voters.

The League assumes no liability for errors or omissions. The candidates' answers in the *Guide* appear as submitted. Only candidates whose names are on the 2018 primary ballot are included in this *Guide*.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization whose membership is open to all persons at least 16 years old. Its mission is to encourage the informed participation of voters in the democratic process. The League promotes political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in their government.

The League of Women Voters is where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement. Learn more at **www.lwv.org** and **www.VOTE411.org**.

The League thanks all candidates who submitted answers to our questions and our generous donors who made this *Guide* possible.

General Election Date is Tuesday, Nov 6, 2018

Registration Deadlines

In person: Tuesday, Oct 16, 2018 & at
Early Voting sites, Oct 25 - Nov 1
By mail: Tuesday, Oct 16, 2018
Online/email/fax: 9 pm Oct 16, 2018

Important Voting Information

There are three ways to vote this year:

- At the Early Voting location listed below
- At your local polling place on Nov 6,
7 am to 8 pm
- By absentee ballot

Early Voting

**Early voting is Thursday, Oct 25, through
Thursday, Nov 1, 10:00 am until 8:00 pm**

The Early Voting location for Kent County is

**The Kent County Public Library
408 High Street
Chestertown, MD 21620.**

Contact your local office of the State Board of Elections for other information about registering to vote, polling locations, change of address, and any other questions you may have about the voting process.

Kent County Board of Elections

135 Dixon Drive
Chestertown, MD 21620-1141
Cheemoandia Blake, Election Director
410-778-0038, Fax: 410-778-0265
www.kentcountyelections.org
Email Address: elections@kentgov.org

LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all persons at least 16 years of age. As a member of one of the local Leagues of Women Voters, you will automatically be a member of the League of Women Voters of the United States and receive publications and other benefits from both the US and Maryland Leagues. Please contact your local League (listed below) to become a member.

League of Women Voters of Kent County

P.O. Box 374
Chestertown, MD 21620
410-810-1883
<https://kent-lwvmaryland.nationbuilder.com>

Like us on Facebook!

YOUR DONATION IS IMPORTANT!

Help the League of Women Voters keep government power in the hands of the people by assisting citizens to become educated, active, and engaged in public policy decisions. If you believe that this is important and want us to continue to provide candidate forums and debates, *Voters' Guides*, and the website VOTE411.org, please make a tax-deductible contribution to the LWV Maryland Education Fund. We depend on your donations for our work! Make checks out to "LWVMD Education Fund" and send to our address above.

Thank You!

*Learn more at www.lwv.org and
www.VOTE411.org.*

Statewide Offices

Maryland Governor / Lt Governor

GOVERNOR DUTIES: The Governor is the chief executive officer of Maryland and appoints judges to the state courts and the heads of statewide departments. The Governor also makes other appointments as provided by the Maryland Constitution or by law and proposes the annual operating and capital budgets to the legislature. The Governor may veto legislation passed by the legislature.

SALARY: \$180,000 per year.

TERM: Four years, limit of two consecutive terms.

HOW ELECTED: Elected statewide as a team with the Lt. Gov.

LT. GOVERNOR DUTIES: The Lieutenant Governor assists the Governor and is elected jointly on a ballot with the gubernatorial candidate. The Lieutenant Governor fills the office of Governor in case of death, resignation, or disability and carries out specific duties assigned by the Governor.

SALARY: \$149,500 per year.

The Issues

QUALIFICATIONS: How does your experience prepare you for the duties of Governor?

BUDGET: What are your priorities for the state budget, particularly regarding education and transportation?

REDISTRICTING: What changes, if any, do you support in the process

for drawing congressional and legislative district lines in Maryland?

ENVIRONMENT: What are the most significant environmental challenges and how will you address them?

DISCRIMINATION: What policies will you support to address discrimination based on race, gender, religion, disability, or poverty?

HEALTH CARE: What are the most significant health challenges facing Maryland and how will you address them?

OTHER PRIORITIES: What are your priorities on issues not covered by the other questions?

Candidates

Vote for 1

**Larry Hogan / Boyd K.
Rutherford
Republican Party
Campaign Website:**

<http://www.LarryHogan.com>

No response received by deadline.

**Ben Jealous / Susan Turnbull
Democratic Party
Campaign Website:**
<http://benjealous.com>

QUALIFICATIONS: I've been a partner in a business or ran large advocacy organizations since I was 26 years old. As a businessman, I've helped to grow small businesses in Maryland and across the nation. While leading the NAACP, I was named Marylander of the Year for my pivotal roles in abolishing the death penalty, passing the Maryland DREAM Act, helping pass marriage

equality, and expanding voting rights.

BUDGET: As a businessman, I'll also make sure our transportation policies also encourage economic growth and help to create good jobs. We don't have a money problem when it comes to education, we have a priority problem and we need a governor who is willing to make education a number one priority. We will fully fund our schools and make sure lottery and casino revenues supplement education funding.

REDISTRICTING: I believe that Maryland should lead the fight on redistricting reform in a fair and non-partisan manner that does not indefinitely hand control of the House of Representatives to Republicans. Redistricting compacts such as the one passed by the Maryland legislature and vetoed by Hogan are a fair solution to increase the accountability of Congress to the voters and reduce gerrymandering.

ENVIRONMENT: My vision in regards to the environment brings together the economy, civil rights, and public health. I will build on the surge of clean energy jobs and put our state on a path to 100% clean energy well before 2050 and reverse Trump's attempts to kill the progress we've made on cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay. Bill McKibben, Friends of the Earth Action, and 350.org have all endorsed my campaign.

DISCRIMINATION: I've dedicated my life to service and I have a long track record of securing progressive victories in our state. Growing up as the child of a biracial Maryland couple who were forced to leave the state in order to legally marry, Marylanders know I'll stand up to

Trump's hateful attacks on our environment which disproportionately harms marginalized communities and his attacks on our public schools.

HEALTH CARE: As a businessman and civil rights leader, I believe we have to stop rising healthcare premiums and drug costs from bankrupting our families, small businesses and seniors. As governor, I'll work for a Medicare For All system which will provide affordable care for all, help our small businesses grow, and provide more tools to stop pharmaceutical companies from spiking drug costs on our seniors.

OTHER PRIORITIES: Maryland's economy is ranked near the bottom for this region and our wages are flat. As a businessman, I know how to create good paying jobs and I'll ensure we get our healthcare costs under control so that families keep more money in their pockets and small businesses can grow. I'll also ensure more capital goes to entrepreneurs instead of large corporations. Learn more at www.benjealous.com.

**Shawn Quinn / Christina Smith
Libertarian Party
Campaign Website:**
<http://www.citizen4quinn.com>

QUALIFICATIONS: Shawn Quinn has lived a lifetime doing the types of jobs that real people do, not politicians. This gives him a street-level view of life that somebody only used to the "big picture" will miss. Shawn served for twenty years in the United States Navy. Shawn Quinn worked in law enforcement for five years. He has seen firsthand

what an impersonal government does to the people.

BUDGET: Shawn Quinn plans to drastically reduce the income tax within his first two years of office. These tax cuts will be paid for by reducing the role of government in areas best handled by private-public partnerships. Shawn wants to achieve cost savings in education by leveraging technology throughout. This includes everything from computers in the classroom up to entire virtual schools.

REDISTRICTING: Shawn Quinn wants to give all citizens a voice at the state and federal level. Lines shouldn't be drawn just so that the party in power can stay in power. Take the power to draw boundaries away from partisans and politicians. Draw the lines algorithmically using fixed rules. This takes human bias away from drawing boundary lines as much as possible.

ENVIRONMENT: The health of the Chesapeake Bay is the number one environmental problem facing Maryland. It is our most important resource. The entire ecology of the state flows into and from the Chesapeake Bay. Shawn plans to go after polluters directly. Individuals and businesses polluting the Chesapeake Bay or damaging the environment in any way will be held financially responsible.

DISCRIMINATION: Discrimination in any form is bad for all of us. When a person is not allowed to live to their full we all miss out of all of their possible achievements. There are already laws on the books to address discrimination. If somebody has an idea to improve an existing law or policy then Shawn will weigh the merits of each proposal individually. Every change will be

looked at for its benefit to people.

HEALTH CARE: The biggest health crisis facing Maryland and the nation is the opioid epidemic. People need help. People are scared to get help. They have seen what the government does to nonviolent drug offenders. We need to completely end the War on Drugs in Maryland. We will turn the government into a partner instead of an enforcer. We will stop ruining lives by people to prison over a chemical or a plant.

OTHER PRIORITIES: Politics in Annapolis needs a cultural change. When Shawn Quinn is Governor, there will be no special favors. When Shawn Quinn is Governor, he will make our legislature answer to the people every year. Not just every four years. Shawn Quinn will break the two-party agenda here in Maryland. Shawn cares what people think. People are more important than philosophy or politics or policy.

Ian Schlakman / Annie Chambers
Green Party
Campaign Website:
<http://schlakman.com>

QUALIFICATIONS: I believe that people are no longer willing to limit their choices. They want new leadership. I am a small business owner and a community organizer. My running mate and I are people who see the need for new systems and a new vision for our economy. I envision programs that will make Maryland a national leader and I will represent Marylanders who want to live in a state that wants justice for all.

BUDGET: We'll create programs for the well-being of all Marylanders

and create universal, single-payer health care for all Marylanders. We'll raise taxes on millionaires and use the new tax revenue and invest in the well-being of all Marylanders. Public school funding should be allocated according to the needs of disadvantaged students. We'll prioritize public transit over the construction of new roads.

REDISTRICTING: We support creating a non-partisan commission to draw congressional & legislative district lines. Gov. O'Malley's defense of drawing Democrat-friendly districts in 2010 is a stain on Maryland's commitment to fair elections. As a technology consultant I know how to utilize resources to solve problems. We need an open dialogue on using technology & data analysis to create fair legislative districts.

ENVIRONMENT: Our largest environmental challenge is re-prioritizing the health of our environment. The health of our communities are top priority, & we'll put an end to harmful activities by setting & enforcing limits on pollution & environmental use. We must set a goal of fueling our needs through 100% renewable sources, & then put Marylanders to work building the infrastructure we need to get the job done.

DISCRIMINATION: Our priorities of creating a universal, single-payer health system, free tuition to public colleges and universities, a basic income, and jobs guarantee are all designed to address discrimination by giving Marylanders the tools they need to be successful regardless of the privileges or lack of privilege they possess based on their race, gender, religion, disability, or wealth.

HEALTH CARE: The most significant health challenge facing Maryland is ending our existing model of employer-based, private insurance & transitioning to a model in which health care is recognized as a human right. We will create a universal, single-payer health care system by funding adequate medical care for every resident of Maryland. We'll also fight to make sure our state produces clean & healthy energy.

OTHER PRIORITIES: From urban to rural areas we're hearing that residents are concerned that in a wealthy state like ours basic services like schools and fire departments are facing cuts. This is why we're calling for a millionaires tax to close our communities budget gaps. We will continue to post our priorities to www.schlakman.com/issues as Marylanders continue to ask us to respond to their top priorities.

Maryland Comptroller

DUTIES: The Comptroller is the financial officer of Maryland, responsible for collecting, managing and planning for revenue to support the state budget. The Comptroller collects and administers Maryland taxes on income (both personal and corporate), retail sales, motor vehicle fuel tax, tobacco, beer, wine and liquor, and estate tax. The Comptroller serves on the Board of Public Works along with the Governor and the state Treasurer, who is appointed by the General Assembly.

SALARY: \$149,500 per year.

TERM: Four years, no term limit.

HOW ELECTED: Elected statewide.

The Issues

QUALIFICATION: How does your experience prepare you for the duties of this office?

REVENUE SYSTEM: What policies will you implement to improve the efficiency and fairness of the collection of Maryland taxes?

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS: As a member of the Board of Public Works, what criteria would you use for evaluating contracts and capital projects that are subject to approval by that Board?

OTHER PRIORITIES: Please describe any other priorities you have for this office.

Candidates

Vote for 1

Anjali Reed Phukan
Republican Party
Campaign Website:
<http://mscomptroller.com>

QUALIFICATIONS: I believe the top tax collector, auditor & maintainer of the public general ledger should be proficient in accounting. I am a certified public accountant, legally licensed to practice public accounting in Maryland. I also have an MBA in finance & another masters degree in information systems. I have private, federal & state work experiences in financial management systems, tax, accounting & audit.

REVENUE SYSTEM: I will update information systems statewide for usability and security, and promote tax credits and other incentives such as energy star, solar panels, etc. I also will reduce interest and penalties for people who are being

proactive & voluntarily reporting additional income the state would normally not have time to audit; coming clean should never be penalized.

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS: I want spending to be more spread across Maryland, for all to enjoy the amazing nooks and crannies of our beautiful state. Safety is my number one priority in public works - safe roads for motorists, law enforcement, cyclists, pedestrians, businesses and our delicate environment. The prior history of contractors completing projects in time, safely, and within budget should also be reviewed.

OTHER PRIORITIES: I think it is unfair to tax retirement income. If we remove it all together we would increase our property and sales tax base, hence bring up our net revenues. I will also increase transparency across the comptroller office, not just in the general ledger, but also in how the state audits and comes to final resolution with tax payers. I will lovingly enforce the law equally for all.

Peter Franchot
Democratic Party
Campaign Website:
<http://www.franchot.com>

QUALIFICATIONS: As Maryland's independent fiscal watchdog, I'm proud of my record of achievement and results that I've delivered for Maryland taxpayers since I became Comptroller in 2007. Thanks to initiatives that we have implemented, and the hard work of the dedicated public servants in our agency, ours is regarded as the most efficient and effective

Comptroller's Office in the nation.

REVENUE SYSTEM: Our main focus continues to be processing tax returns accurately and efficiently. We have improved our agency's responsiveness to taxpayers and reduce call wait times. In my agency, tax fairness is a top priority. We continue to embrace innovative ways to make sure that everyone is paying their fair share. Moving forward, I will continue to build upon the tremendous progress we have made.

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS: As a BPW member, I am proud to be a strong fiscal watchdog for Maryland's working families. I have advocated against single-bid contracts, fought for the inclusion of more Minority and Women-owned contracts in the procurement system, and have worked in a bipartisan fashion to instate reforms to our state's previously broken procurement process.

OTHER PRIORITIES: If elected to another term as Comptroller, I will continue to provide the independent leadership that Marylanders expect and deserve this office. I will fight for policies and priorities that grow our economy, safeguard our fiscal future, and protect the financial well-being of working families and small businesses.

Maryland Attorney General

DUTIES: The Attorney General is the chief legal office of Maryland, providing legal advice to the Governor, the legislature, and all State departments, boards and most

commissions. The Attorney General represents the state in all cases that relate to the Governor, the General Assembly, and most state agencies. The office also has responsibilities for consumer protection, civil rights, medical and investment fraud, and the juvenile justice system.

SALARY: \$149,500 per year.

TERM: Four years, no term limit.

HOW ELECTED: Elected statewide.

The Issues

QUALIFICATIONS: How does your experience prepare you for the duties of this office?

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE: What steps will you take to improve the efficiency and fairness of legal processes in Maryland?

LITIGATION: When should the Attorney General join lawsuits relating to federal regulations or corporate misconduct?

DISCRIMINATION: What policies will you support to address discrimination based on race, gender, religion, disability, or poverty?

OTHER PRIORITIES: What actions will you take to address other issues, such as domestic violence, human trafficking, substance abuse, and protection of consumers?

Candidates

Vote for 1

Craig Wolf
Republican Party
Campaign Website:
<http://wolf4ag.com>

QUALIFICATIONS: I am a former state and federal prosecutor, counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee, business leader and

decorated Soldier/Veteran. I have also been a volunteer EMT/Rescue Diver. I have a lifetime of public service and management. I believe the AG should focus on public safety, not politics and partisanship and should focus on issues of importance to all Marylanders regardless of party.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE:

The Attorney General should be focused on balancing the need to enforce the laws and ensure public safety while ensuring due process for all Marylanders. The AG should lead by example by being ethical, avoiding conflicts of interest and making sure that all voices are heard before weighing in on a particular case, while at the same time vigorously enforcing the laws of the state.

LITIGATION: With respect to federal regulations, the Attorney General should weigh in only when there is a compelling state interest, a sound legal basis and a determination that the case can be won on the merits. Those decisions should not be based on political considerations. With respect to corporate misconduct, the AG ensure respect for the law and hold corporations fully accountable for misconduct.

DISCRIMINATION: There is no room in this state for discrimination based upon race, gender, religion, disability or poverty/class. The Attorney General should be vigilant to ensure that our laws are respected and people are treated equally.

OTHER PRIORITIES: As a prosecutor/counsel to the Senate Jud. Comm., I focused on domestic violence/sexual exploitation/trafficking. The AG

should make protection of the most vulnerable a priority. The opioid crisis in Maryland needs leadership from the AG to bring together the law enforcement, public health and recovery communities to find appropriate solutions. Consumer protection must be a priority as well.

**Brian E. Frosh
Democratic Party
Campaign Website:**

<http://www.brianfrosh.com>

QUALIFICATIONS: I have served as Maryland's Attorney General for the past three years. Prior to being elected Attorney General, I was Chair of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee, where I sponsored many laws that now protect Marylanders and our state including the law prohibiting oil drilling in the Chesapeake Bay, the Maryland Recycling Act and the Maryland Firearm Safety Act.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE:

Among the many steps that my office has taken to improve the efficiency and fairness of the legal processes in Maryland is our fight for and achievement of reforming the cash bail system, which jailed people in our state simply because they were poor. I will continue to work with the legislature to find and invest in strategies that increase public safety and recidivism.

LITIGATION: The Attorney General should join lawsuits relating to federal regulations or corporate misconduct when there is evidence that the people or state of Maryland have been or will be adversely effected.

DISCRIMINATION: In 2015, my office was the first in the country to

issue guidelines to all law enforcement agencies prohibiting profiling based upon race, religion, ethnicity, gender, sexual preference, etc. We published a study of discrimination against LGBT citizens that was cited by the Supreme Court in its historic Obergefell decision. We have penalized and shut down industries that prey on the poor.

OTHER PRIORITIES: Over the past three years my office has achieved hundreds of millions of dollars of settlements and judgments from Wall Street Banks, Predatory Lenders, Automakers, Tobacco Companies, and Polluters who sought to injure or defraud Marylanders. My office is working with the multi-state investigation of opioid manufacturers. If re-elected, I pledge to remain the People's lawyer & continue our efforts.

U.S. Senator

DUTIES: U.S. Senators make laws along with the members of the House of Representatives, ratify treaties, and conduct investigations on issues of national importance. The Senate confirms Presidential appointments.

HOW ELECTED: Elected statewide. In 2018, Maryland voters will elect one of our two Senators. About one-third of the 100 members of the Senate is elected every two years. Senators must be at least 30 years old, have been citizens of the United States at least 9 years and be residents of the state they want to represent.

TERM: Six years.

BASE SALARY: \$174,000 per year.

The Issues

QUALIFICATIONS: How does your experience prepare you for the duties of this office?

HEALTH CARE: What changes in federal healthcare policy do you advocate and why?

DISCRIMINATION: What policies will you support to address discrimination based on race, gender, religion, disability, or poverty?

ECONOMIC POLICY: What policies will you support to strengthen the national economy, such as those affecting international trade, taxes, labor rights, and infrastructure?

IMMIGRATION: What changes, if any, will you support in immigration policy?

ENVIRONMENT: What are the most pressing environmental challenges and how will you address them?

OTHER PRIORITIES: What other issues are priorities for you?

Candidates

Vote for 1

**Tony Campbell
Republican Party**

Campaign Website:
www.campbell4maryland.com

QUALIFICATIONS: I have 30 years of government and non-profit experience. I served on a Congressional staff and as a presidential appointee at Social Security Administration. As a former Army officer, I understand national security issues as well as the need for sound foreign policy based on our national interest. I have real world experience and academic knowledge which is necessary to

serve in the US Senate.

HEALTH CARE: I advocate for an end to ObamaCare. The national government should not be in the business of mandating health care coverage. A possible change I would be in favor of is looking at providing block grants to states from the national government to try to solve the opioid epidemic. Another change in health policy would be to allow Veterans to go to any hospital to get the care they need.

DISCRIMINATION: The Constitution of the United States guarantees liberties for citizens so they are equal under the law through the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment. Education Reform is one of the most pressing issues which can help to eliminate discrimination in our country. I support School Choice initiatives for all parents to send their children to the schools of their choice.

ECONOMIC POLICY: I am against raising taxes. I support a balanced budget amendment. I am in favor of bi-lateral Fair Trade policies.

Keeping America Secure is a key focus of my campaign for US Senate. Our cyber infrastructure is severely compromised with American companies being hacked by foreign countries. Our energy grid infrastructure is also at risk and should be priority of the national government.

IMMIGRATION: National Sovereignty is connected to the ability of a country to protect its borders. I support enhancing our border security through a variety of means including building a border wall and increased border agents. I am against current policies of the diversity lottery and chain migration. I am against a pathway

to citizenship for undocumented people. I would support permanent residency status.

ENVIRONMENT: In Maryland, a pressing environmental challenge is the dredging of our waterways. Maryland is unique in the amount of waterways we have and the need we have for a partnership with the US Army Corps of Engineers. As your next United States Senator, I will work to fully fund dredging projects to make sure our beautiful Chesapeake Bay is environmentally healthy.

OTHER PRIORITIES: Advocating Success, not subsistence. The American Dream has been not possible for a lot of Marylanders. As your next United States Senator, I want to promote a vision of economic success. I believe limited government intervention is important so people can build a legacy of wealth creation to pass onto their children and grandchildren.

Ben Cardin
Democratic Party
Campaign Website:
<http://www.bencardin.com>

QUALIFICATIONS: In the Senate, I fight every day for the issues of concern to my fellow Marylanders, promoting policies, legislation and programs that help our local and regional economy, encouraging public safety and supporting public health. My success navigating the Small Business, Environment & Public Works, Finance and Foreign Relations committees allow me to effectively continue my advocacy for Marylanders.

HEALTH CARE: Health care is a

human right. We should have seamless quality health care from pre-natal to death that is affordable without sacrificing quality and basic protections. Congress must restore the payments to insurers that have helped keep premiums in reach for millions. I have long supported a public option in the health exchanges that would increase competition, put patients first and lower costs.

DISCRIMINATION: Bills I have authored or cosponsored include: the End Racial and Religious Profiling Act, a resolution to remove the deadline for the Equal Rights Amendment, the Democracy Restoration Act, The Equality Act of 2017 and the Paycheck Fairness Act. I continue to support legislation to protect our LGBT students and adults. I support an increase in the federal minimum wage.

ECONOMIC POLICY: We should modify our tax code to truly target middle-income and working families, help small businesses & make smart investments in infrastructure & green technologies. Investments should address income inequality & raising wages. We need trade agreements that level the field for our workers, including robust & enforceable labors rights, environmental provisions & anti-corruption provisions.

IMMIGRATION: I support bipartisan, comprehensive immigration reform, but Congress must first pass legislation to permanently protect Dreamers. We need a legal pathway to residency for TPS recipients. We don't need a wall but we can strengthen technology and other border security. We must stop President Trump's proposal to slash legal

immigration, break up families and mostly close America's doors to refugees.

ENVIRONMENT: The president's unwillingness to confront climate change. I will fight for federal resources that compel this administration to invest, especially in clean air, clean water, renewable energy and public transit. We've seen success with funding for the Chesapeake Bay. If the Trump administration will not take steps necessary to protect our environment, we must encourage states to continue their work

OTHER PRIORITIES: Opioid addiction and abuse is a public health crisis. We must fight it head on with every available resource at all levels of government. Our drug laws must be smart, fair and rational, and treat addiction as a disease that requires treatment. We should improve access to evidence-based treatment centers, promote prevention education methods, and provide support for those in or seeking recovery.

Arvin Vohra
Libertarian Party
Campaign Website:
<http://votevohra.com>

QUALIFICATIONS: As an educator and entrepreneur, I have seen the damage government has done. I advocate repealing regulations, ending government involvement in education, abolishing public schools, abolishing all government welfare, and ending the income tax. As Vice Chair of the Libertarian Party, I support ending the welfare-warfare state, ceasing involvement in foreign civil wars, and downsizing

the military.

HEALTH CARE: I will sponsor legislation to abolish Obamacare, Medicare, Medicaid, the FDA, and cut taxes accordingly. Consider this: laser eye surgery, which is not covered by government insurance, has dropped from several thousand dollars to a few hundred per eye. EpiPen, which is covered, has increased in price from a hundred to several hundred dollars. Free markets make medicine actually affordable

DISCRIMINATION: I will sponsor legislation to immediately end Affirmative Action and all other government racial quotas and preferences. I will also work to eliminate all "anti-discrimination" laws, which accomplish nothing besides creating resentment. Any business has the right to refuse service to anyone, or fire any employee, for any reason. I will defund related government programs and cut taxes accordingly.

ECONOMIC POLICY: I will work to end the income tax by cutting federal spending, eliminating federal departments, firing federal employees, dismantling the welfare state, shutting down foreign military bases, and bringing the troops home. We'll have more money to spend on businesses that work, creating more free market, legitimate jobs, while also attracting job creating businesses to America.

IMMIGRATION: I will sponsor legislation to open borders and end all welfare, including food stamps, public schools, social security, medicaid, and college financial aid. I also support ending the income tax, in order to attract entrepreneurs and job creators. Anyone who wants to come to America to work and

create jobs should be welcome. No one who comes to America should get a cent of welfare.

ENVIRONMENT: The federal government is the biggest polluter in America. Much of that comes from massive military production of unneeded equipment. If elected, I will sponsor legislation to end production of needless military equipment, and to cease all environmentally destructive military overreach. I will work to end all involvement in foreign civil wars, bring the troops home, and cut taxes accordingly.

OTHER PRIORITIES: I will sponsor legislation to end all welfare, to encourage personal responsibility. I will sponsor legislation to end the drug war, to eliminate prohibition-created violence. I will sponsor legislation to cut federal spending, fire federal workers, dismantle federal agencies, in order to increase freedom and end the income tax.

Neal Simon
Unaffiliated Candidate
Campaign Website:

<http://www.nealsimon.com>

QUALIFICATIONS: I've run several professional services companies in my career, where I was surrounded by many smart people with different ideas. My job in managing those companies was to listen, bring people together, and find common ground. I have also been very involved in my community as a volunteer, board member, and board chair. I've chaired the Montgomery County and Greater Washington Community Foundations.

HEALTH CARE: It is time for the two parties to stop fighting over how to pay for an inefficient, costly health care system and instead find ways to reduce the crippling cost of healthcare for businesses and families. We need to enact reform that will incentivize wellness instead of incentivizing more procedures, to lower the overall cost of care.

DISCRIMINATION: I believe that America should be a place where everyone is treated equally, regardless of their race, religion, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status. I support equal pay for equal work, and other measures designed to accomplish this goal. I believe deeply that America should be a place where everyone can work hard and get ahead.

ECONOMIC POLICY: One of my primary objectives as your Senator is to create high-paying jobs in Maryland. I will work with our Governor & other leaders to attract large businesses and incentivize investment in small businesses, especially in lower income parts of our state. As far as infrastructure, I find it inexcusable that the two major parties have failed to work together to invest in our future.

IMMIGRATION: Immigration is an area where, despite 15 years of debate, the parties have been unable to agree on immigration reform. We need comprehensive reform that will strengthen our borders, increase temporary work visas, expand the e-verification program, keep immigrant families together, and create paths for the law-abiding immigrants who have been here for a long time.

ENVIRONMENT: It is clear that the greatest environmental threat to our civilization is climate change, which

is real and needs to be addressed in partnership with other countries. In Maryland, we need to protect the Chesapeake Bay from sediment flowing over the Conowingo Dam, I will work with our Governor, as well as Senators from NY and PA to ensure we have the federal resources we need to keep the Bay clean.

OTHER PRIORITIES: The extremes of the two parties have co-opted our government, and altered the rules in their favor. We need political reform, and it's clear that neither party is going to fix the brokenness in our government. I support 5 policies that will change the way Washington works: ending partisan gerrymandering, opening primaries, campaign finance reform, term limits, and modernizing the senate rules.

Michael B. Puskar
Write-in
Campaign Website:
<http://mbpuskar.com>

QUALIFICATIONS: The most important experience anyone can have when representing the People is living the way the majority of the People live. I am a working-class man for the working class. This is an asset lacking in or lost to most elected officials.

HEALTH CARE: One word: UNIVERSAL. Healthcare is a right, and certain groups take advantage of the People's health for their own gain. While current proposals are far from the right solution, we need to move in that direction. Have you (or anyone you know) had a point in life when medical bills/costs were an impediment? There's no need for

that to be.

DISCRIMINATION: Everyone is equal/equitable. Women & men deserve equal pay. No one should be singled out by law enforcement because of skin color. 1A allows for freedom of religion, so anyone can worship (or abstain therefrom) as they wish. Income inequality is too huge an issue in our wealthy nation: we need to stop giving breaks to those who don't need them - that is why they are called "breaks!"

ECONOMIC POLICY: America First, but that does not mean alienating allies. Workers first, but we need to help small biz too. Taxes: what if we stop paying elected officials far more than we ourselves make? MD's per capita income is about \$80k - Congressional salaries are >2x that for working as little as 1/3 of a year! As for infrastructure, we need to spend more there than on the war machine. Give jobs to vets!

IMMIGRATION: 1. Legal immigration needs to be prioritized to asylum seekers: We have an ancestry of immigrants based on need, not based on whom we like or dislike. 2. For every issue (not just immigration), I will put children first. So, when it comes to families not entering legally, we need to look at the needs of migrant children.

ENVIRONMENT: Climate change is an issue. Going green is an eventual ideal, but we cannot do it overnight... miners still have jobs; most people can only afford gas-powered cars. The aforementioned economic issues need fixing first.

OTHER PRIORITIES: With children first, education matters greatly, and dealing with income equality/healthcare can assist with that. Eliminating college debt would help immensely and allow for a

more diverse/stress-free assortment in the workforce. I also strongly support the rights of veterans. The gov't can't do enough to repay those who have sacrificed much for us. Finally, I support animal welfare. #MustLoveDogs

Lih Young
Write-in
Campaign Website:
<http://www.vote-md.org>

QUALIFICATIONS: Reformer/advocate/activist. Promote fairness/freedom/justice/peace; productivity/accountability/cost-effectiveness. Identified "socio-economic-political- election- media-budget- legislation- system problems"; local- global; testify/recommend to officials, law enforcement, 3 branches. TV programs producer speaker; field/studio. Expertise, commitment: intensive/extensive/diversified civic services

HEALTH CARE: Support single-payer healthcare by government, affordable health care. Our health care system should not be controlled by for-profit corporations. To improve quality, affordable health care for all as a fundamental right and should be achieved by the government. Medical costs should not be shifted onto other programs (e.g., Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries). Promote productivity, accountability

DISCRIMINATION: Equal protection, non-discrimination; employment/business/activities; rights/homes/vehicles/resources/reputation/ freedoms/ affiliation, environment; document, evidence. Equal pay, sick paid leaves.

Prosecute "official misconduct-government gang- MURDER-FRAUD- CRIME- INJUSTICE NETWORKS" operation; threat/coercion/victimization; physical/mental/financial/medication /litigation/levies/ foreclosures

ECONOMIC POLICY: Prosecute/eliminate " official misconduct-government gang-MURDER-FRAUD-CRIME-INJUSTICE NETWORKS" operation, unjust/false/misleading practices; private-public; 3 branches, local-fed- global, inc. non-profit, think tanks. Protect people/families/businesses: lives, rights, reputation, assets, vehicles, resources. Promote productivity, public interest, cost-benefits, social needs, budget constraints.

IMMIGRATION: SUPPORT: Comprehensive immigration reform. Promote humanity, productivity, justice, peace. Protect people, families, environment. Prosecute "official misconduct-government gang- MURDER FRAUD- CRIME-INJUSTICE networks"; unjust practices, victimization, deprivation, destruction; threat, coercion; unjust arrest, detention, torture. Reduce fees, fast processing of citizen application/replacement card

ENVIRONMENT: End: dependence/subsidies for fossil fuels, coal, nuclear energy, offshore oil drilling, spills. Curb carbon pollution, medical costs. Improve regulation/oversight. Promote clean air, water, renewable energy. Protect public health, environment. Promote efficiency, technology, research. Reduce unjust practices, hacking, manipulation, obstruction; false excuses, distortion. Prosecute wrongdoers.

OTHER PRIORITIES:

Prosecute/eliminate "official misconduct-government gang-MURDER- FRAUD- CRIME-INJUSTICE NETWORKS"= "cruel tyranny"= "robbery machine"= "ROBBER-ISM"= "super classes of frauds, crimes, parasites, disservices"; public-private; 3 branches, local- global. Promote accountability, social needs. objective evaluations. Televised candidate debate; maintain/disseminate accurate meaningful records,proceeding

Representative in Congress Congressional District 1

DUTIES: Representatives make laws along with the members of the Senate, and may conduct investigations on issues of national importance. Laws that impose taxes always begin in the House of Representatives. Representatives can recommend that the Senate remove from office a public official accused of a crime.

TERM: Two years

BASE SALARY: \$174,000

HOW ELECTED: Elected by voters in each congressional district. Maryland has eight of the 435 Representatives, based on the state's population in the 2010 Census.

The Issues

QUALIFICATIONS: How does your experience prepare you for the duties of this office?

HEALTH CARE: What changes in federal healthcare policy do you advocate and why?

DISCRIMINATION: What policies will you support to address discrimination based on race, gender, religion, disability, or poverty?

ECONOMIC POLICY: What policies will you support to strengthen the national economy, such as those affecting international trade, taxes, labor rights, and infrastructure?

IMMIGRATION: What changes, if any, will you support in immigration policy?

ENVIRONMENT: What are the most pressing environmental challenges and how will you address them?

OTHER PRIORITIES: What other issues are priorities for you?

Candidates

Vote for 1

Andy Harris

Republican Party

Campaign Website:

<http://www.andyharris.com>

QUALIFICATIONS: Having raised my family in the 1st District, I understand the difficulties that face families in today's economy and culture. As a practicing physician, I have first-hand experience with the problems people have dealing with insurers, the high cost of health care and the difficulty finding providers, especially for our seniors. As a veteran, I know how hard it is to find the benefits they earned

HEALTH CARE: We have to bring down the cost of health care and health care insurance, which was a failure of the Affordable Care Act. We can do this by opening up price transparency in the health care system, by bringing down the cost of drugs, and most importantly, by re-establishing high risk health insurance pools in which the cost of high premiums are brought down by sharing the cost among everyone.

DISCRIMINATION: Discrimination in any form should not be tolerated in a free society like America - which was established on the principle that all people are created equal - and should therefore be treated that way. One policy that I support is the conscience protection laws that are unfortunately necessary at the state and federal level for freedom of religion protection.

ECONOMIC POLICY: The tax reform passed last year was essential in re-establishing America's pre-eminence in the global economy. Lowering our business tax rates to be competitive world-wide will result in millions of jobs returning to the United States. I support the proposals to increase investment in our infrastructure which has fallen so far behind - including public-private partnerships and rural broadband.

IMMIGRATION: We have to enforce our current immigration laws while offering continuing temporary legal status to DACA recipients. We should end the diversity visa lottery and shift to a merit-based system like Canada. Finally, we have to recognize that many industries in the 1st District, like seafood processing and tourism, depend on temporary foreign labor - so we have to enhance the H2B visa

system.

ENVIRONMENT: The Chesapeake Bay is a national treasure and an economic boon to Maryland and the First District. That's why I have supported full and continued funding of the Chesapeake Bay Program in the federal budget. We have to work with our upstream states to make sure that progress continues, and we have to come up with innovative affordable solutions to the problems of the Conowingo Dam sediment.

OTHER PRIORITIES: American defense strength has to be restored. It has languished under the last administration, and that has led us to a more dangerous world situation in areas like Eastern Europe, the South China Sea, and the Korean peninsula. American pre-eminence in the world has to be re-established, as we are the leading force for freedom and liberty throughout the world - much of which looks to us to lead.

Jesse Colvin

Democratic Party

Campaign Website:

<http://www.jessecolvin.com>

QUALIFICATIONS: I've spent my adult life running towards difficult problems. 9/11 led me to study Arabic, teach English in Syria, and join the Army. I served as a intelligence officer and U.S. Army Ranger through four combat deployments to Afghanistan. Afterwards, I worked to identify insider fraud at an investment bank. Our country and our district need leadership, vision, and action - right now.

HEALTH CARE: Healthcare is a right. I want to allow any individual

or business to purchase Medicare coverage; convert Medicaid into a branch of Medicare, so each enrollee receives equal benefits and states can go back to education and transportation; convert CHIP into MediKids, so every baby receives comprehensive healthcare until she is an adult; and permit Medicare to negotiate prescription drug prices.

DISCRIMINATION: Discrimination of any sort is abhorrent and contrary to our ideals. As an Army Ranger, I fought to protect and defend our Constitution, which ensures equal protection under the law for each American. I support prohibiting all forms of discrimination as I believe this will make our nation stronger and more just. Similarly, I firmly support guaranteeing women's right to equal pay for equal work.

ECONOMIC POLICY: The next generation of software developers, solar panel technicians, or cybersecurity experts can learn, work, and grow businesses in MD1. Let's invest in tomorrow. Let's invest in solar jobs, MD1's burgeoning ecotourism economy, and technologies and sustainable practices that protect the Bay and allow farmers to increase harvests and more effectively access markets near and far.

IMMIGRATION: We need a comprehensive immigration bill that honors our "nation of immigrants" history and protects Dreamers, offer a pathway to citizenship to aspiring Americans, and secures our border. Most people agree with these goals: the only thing stopping us is partisan politics. I will work with any other representatives to find common ground.

ENVIRONMENT: Sea-level rise is

the one of the most pressing challenges facing MD1. To prevent disaster, we must convert our economy into a renewable one: it's cheaper, safer, and one of the fastest growing industries in country and state. Solar will soon enough be the cheapest source of energy on the planet. We should help fund installations because they provides clean energy and well-paying jobs.

OTHER PRIORITIES: Our district's drug-related deaths trend nearly 50% higher than the national average. We must join together—regardless of our differences—to face this challenge. We need a comprehensive plan that includes prevention, treatment, and recovery. To succeed, it must also have buy-in from federal, state, and local governments as well as healthcare professionals, insurers, and communities themselves.

Jenica Martin
Libertarian Party
Campaign Website:

<http://www.martin4congress.us>

QUALIFICATIONS: I hold a M.A. in Public Policy. I worked with a non-profit legislative organization in Washington, D.C. I successfully fought against labor law violations for 1600+ workers in NYC. I worked with the Catholic Charities Department for Persons with Disabilities as an advocate for the disabled community. And, now I serve as an advocate for abused and neglected children in foster care.

HEALTH CARE: Repeal the ACA and other Federal interventions while, fostering a stronger health care market encompassing already established innovations (Prepaid

Group Plans, Affordable Primary Care, Reverse Deductibles, and Secure Health Insurance). Eliminate federal interference that hinders market innovations. Market innovations promote lowered costs and better access to secure health care.

DISCRIMINATION: Government should neither deny nor abridge any individual's human right based upon sex, wealth, ethnicity, creed, age, national origin, personal habits, political preference or sexual orientation. This includes supporting legislation such as, the Protecting Girls' Access to Education Act, the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act, and the Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act.

ECONOMIC POLICY: Cut federal spending from 21% of the GDP to less than 18% then, balance the budget to pay down the debt. Reform federal laws that impede the privatization of state and local infrastructure. Foster universal savings accounts for families to build wealth without double taxation. And, eradicate tariffs on imports that reduce production costs and promote domestic industry investments.

IMMIGRATION: Allow states to regulate and operate their own migrant worker programs. Reform the H-1B visa program for highly skilled migrant workers by eliminating the cap. Restrict noncitizen access to means-tested welfare. And, expand legal immigration opportunities by implementing easier and more affordable pathways to citizenship (current programs can take up to 10 years for citizenship acquirement).

ENVIRONMENT: Limit the quantity

of emissions and funnel the proceeds from sales to those who are exposed to the pollutants. Eliminate the federal regulatory intervention of renewable energy access. Protect State's rights to regulate off-shore drilling and 'fracking'. And, foster stronger protection for national waterways and air quality.

OTHER PRIORITIES: Combat the opioid crisis by implementing the financial accountability of pharmaceutical companies. Eliminate proposals to utilize taxpayer dollars to address opioid addiction consequences. Offer greater and easier access to alternative pain management options including, medicinal marijuana. Require greater cessation educational programs and options for patients prescribed opioid based medications.

Maryland State Senate

DUTIES: State Senators represent residents in each legislative district in the Maryland General Assembly. The General Assembly enacts laws, raises revenue through taxes and fees, and appropriates funds for all state agencies in an annual budget. The General Assembly may propose amendments to the state Constitution for ratification by the voters. The Senate also confirms the Governor's appointments of judges and the heads of certain government agencies.

SALARY: \$50,330 annual base.

TERM: Four years, no term limit.

HOW ELECTED: The state is divided into 47 legislative districts, and each district elects one State Senator.

Senator District 36

HOW ELECTED: District 36 includes all of Kent and Queen Anne's counties and parts of Cecil and Caroline counties. One Senator is elected by all qualified voters in the areas cited.

The Issues

QUALIFICATIONS: How does your experience prepare you for the duties of this office?

REDISTRICTING: What changes, if any, do you support in the process for drawing congressional and legislative district lines in Maryland?

ENVIRONMENT: What are the most significant environmental challenges and how will you address them?

DISCRIMINATION: What policies will you support to address discrimination based on race, gender, religion, disability, or poverty?

EDUCATION: What education policies would you support and how would you fund them?

HEALTH CARE: What are the most significant health challenges facing Maryland and how will you address them?

TRANSPORTATION: What are your transportation priorities and how should they be funded?

Candidates

Vote for 1

Stephen S. Hershey Jr.

Republican Party

Campaign Website:

<http://www.SenatorHershey.com>

QUALIFICATIONS: It has been an honor to serve as your State Senator for the last 5 years. The last 4 years I have held a leadership role as the Minority Whip, I am a member of the Senate Finance Committee, Health Policy Subcommittee, Committee on Legislative Ethics, Oyster Advisory Commission and Rural Healthcare Workgroup. I own a specialty construction company. Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and MBA.

REDISTRICTING: To achieve fair representation, reform is essential. The last 3 years, I have joined Gov. Hogan and co-sponsored legislation to create a nonpartisan, independent commission to draw district boundaries. The surest way to end partisan gerrymandering is to re-elect Gov. Hogan to a 2nd term, only then will Maryland's democrat leadership remove this power from the governor and hand it to a commission.

ENVIRONMENT: As a representative of the Eastern Shore, I understand the importance of healthy waterways, clean air and an environment that promotes tourism through a multitude of outdoor activities. But there must be a balance. Our laws and regulations cannot be so burdensome to diminish our commercial seafood and farming industries. I'll continue to fight for a balance between our environment and our economy.

DISCRIMINATION: All citizens have the right to be treated fairly

and we, as legislators and as a community, should do all that we can to ensure this happening, both in terms of opportunity and in the actual results. I have zero tolerance for discriminatory practices.

EDUCATION: Maintenance of Effort and costs of teacher pension plans make it difficult for Counties to make budgetary decisions that affect all citizens. I oppose unfunded mandates by the State on the Counties, policy changes must have funding sources. I was a co-sponsor of Gov. Hogan's bill creating a lockbox to ensure money from gambling revenues is used to supplement K-12 education funding not supplant it.

HEALTH CARE: Access to quality healthcare and costs are the biggest challenges. I just passed two bills that: 1) creates the Rural Health Collaborative to support Mid-Shore communities and stakeholders in planning a regional health system; 2) will reimburse EMS for providing the non-emergency community based services in our Mobile Integrated Health program. I'm committed to sustaining the Chestertown Hospital.

TRANSPORTATION: We've had many successes in my transportation priorities. The US 301/Rt 304 overpass is open, the expansion of Rt 404 is fully functioning, the new Dover Bridge will open in the next month and the TOLLS at the Bay Bridge have been REDUCED. I am still working on a solution to reduce traffic on Kent Island, relocating the toll facility in Cecil County and moving forward with the Chestertown bypass.

Heather Lynette Sinclair

Democratic Party

Campaign Website:

<http://www.heatherlynettesinclair.com>

QUALIFICATIONS: I'm an Eastern Shore Native, juvenile sex trafficking survivor, paralegal, former small business owner, a single mom and a citizen's lobbyist for 6 years passing people-centered bills across party lines without special interest backing. I'm a fighter for the people, and I bring a sense of hope to people when they hear my life story. That's what District 36 needs.

REDISTRICTING: No response received by deadline.

ENVIRONMENT: Maintaining the health of the Chesapeake Bay, addressing land erosion, the Conowingo Dam debris, protecting farm land and farmers while striking a balance to create green energy policies that help the shore become self-sustaining, cleaner and create jobs are top priorities. We can't pass one-sided policies that are meant to reduce our damage while increasing our energy bills.

DISCRIMINATION: Populations that face significant discrimination through our current policies, but remain largely under-represented in Annapolis, are on my platform: women, veterans, the homeless population. I had HB280 introduced and passed; making birth certificates for the homeless absolutely free. I have experienced the failing out-dated policies that reinforce discrimination and oppress certain populations.

EDUCATION: I support local school board autonomy; moving our schools, especially Title 1, into the 21st century providing education well above the standard of a free, appropriate, public education and "MOE," and taking an active role in listening to educators, parents and students rather than the current standard of listening to special interest lobbyists. I would utilize the promised Casino funds.

HEALTH CARE: District 36 has the highest rate of opioid overdose deaths in MD. I've worked to reform healthcare policies with some success and my initiatives make healthcare transparent so that you know what you are getting and the cost. Because healthcare is profit-centered and lacks transparency, it's filled with corruption that prohibits us all from getting quality, affordable healthcare.

TRANSPORTATION: Support the Transportation Fund, and restoring the highway user funds to the counties as well as combining the state's marketing efforts to attract tourism to create additional funds for transportation issues in the District.

House of Delegates

DUTIES: Delegates share responsibility with State Senators for enactment of the State's laws as provided for in the Constitution of the State of Maryland. This includes the approval of all state taxes and

the spending budget for all state programs.

SALARY: \$50,330 annual base.

TERM: Four years, no term limit.

House of Delegates District 36

HOW ELECTED/

QUALIFICATIONS: District 36 includes all of Kent and Queen Anne's counties and parts of Cecil and Caroline counties. Qualified voters in District 36 cast votes for 3 candidates. The 3 candidates who receive the largest number of votes are elected EXCEPT that each person elected must live in a different county.

The Issues

QUALIFICATIONS: How does your experience prepare you for the duties of this office?

REDISTRICTING: What changes, if any, do you support in the process for drawing congressional and legislative district lines in Maryland?

ENVIRONMENT: What are the most significant environmental challenges and how will you address them?

DISCRIMINATION: What policies will you support to address discrimination based on race, gender, religion, disability, or poverty?

EDUCATION: What education policies would you support and how would you fund them?

HEALTH CARE: What are the most significant health challenges facing Maryland and how will you address them?

TRANSPORTATION: What are your transportation priorities and how should they be funded?

Candidates

Vote for up to 3
No more than 1 per county

Steven James Arentz
(Queen Anne's County)
Republican Party
Campaign Facebook:
facebook.com/steve.arentz.1

QUALIFICATIONS: I served as Queen Anne's County Commission President for three years. I handled all aspects of our local Government. I am a businessman, a father and a dedicated public servant. My experience and desire to thoroughly understand the process and subject matter are key in my job. I feel that I look at all sides of an issue before making a decision. I am dedicated and concerned about our future.

REDISTRICTING: I am in favor of Redistricting. All indications are that they were drawn for Political purposes. I would support a vetted process for a fair and representative accounting of the Districts in Maryland. I am hoping the decision is to move forward. Changes would occur, we need to have fairness to get proper representation across Maryland.

ENVIRONMENT: We need to make improvements on renewable energy, it needs to be more cost effective for the end user. We need to be aware of the consequences of our actions, protecting our resources of land & the Chesapeake Bay. I would focus on the Conowingo Dam, Baltimore Harbor and other pollutants to the bay. I feel we need to acknowledge clean energy along with renewable.

DISCRIMINATION: I would support all sincere attempts to eliminate discrimination. Education and understanding are the keys. Any policy should be straight forward and clear to all involved. We need personal accountability, understanding and the knowledge to deal with all forms of discrimination.

EDUCATION: I think our system needs to look at its policies. Maintenance of effort is no longer working, it needs to be looked at and replaced with a system that makes sense for all. More dollars need to be channeled into the early years of development. College appears to be overpriced based on the amount of debt compared to what a graduate can earn. We need the family unit to work on development.

HEALTH CARE: "We will know what is in the bill after we pass it" should have been a clue. The cost of care, has to be addressed. Reform is needed. We are in a crisis with an opioid epidemic. We need all stakeholders to pull together and have hard discussions on the issues and how we can go forward with a system that is affordable and functional. Obamacare has failed, we need to understand that.

TRANSPORTATION: Locally, it is the Bridge Traffic in QAC and in Cecil it is the toll bridges. The Bay Bridge should be funded by toll dollars along with federal dollars. For years we robbed the Highway user fees to fund the States General Fund. We need to put a lock box on Highway funds. In Cecil we need to address the access for residents by eliminating the tolls locally.

Jeff Ghrist
(Caroline County)
Republican Party
Campaign Website:
<http://www.jeffghrist.com>

QUALIFICATIONS: I've lived on the Mid-Shore for most of my life. I attended all levels of public school on the shore, attended Chesapeake College and graduated from Salisbury University with a BA in Economics. I started my career in retail management and real estate sales before serving eight years as Caroline County Commissioner and four years as a State Delegate. I now serve on the Appropriations Committee.

REDISTRICTING: It is shameful that Maryland is drawing national attention and the Supreme Court will be weighing in on the abuse of power by our former governor and leadership in the general assembly. It's also shameful the leadership in the general assembly doesn't want to "unilaterally disarm" by supporting Governor Hogan's efforts to create a bipartisan redistricting commission to draw new lines.

ENVIRONMENT: Affordable, safe and reliable energy is a significant challenge not just for the Eastern Shore but for our entire state. It's important to use cleaner energy sources like solar along with innovative and efficient technologies using natural gas. Our bay is our most precious resource and we have to stay focused on it's improvement without creating unnecessary adverse economic and social impacts.

DISCRIMINATION: I wholeheartedly support the Civil Rights Act of 1964. I strongly

believe that any law or policy created by government should always treat people WITHOUT regard to race, color, religion, sex or national origin. Policies should never discriminate or show favoritism to any particular class. I have worked hard to reduce poverty by growing the economy and supporting an effective education for all.

EDUCATION: Serving on the Appropriations committee I have always supported education funding but we need more accountability in our schools. It's not how much we spend that matters, it's how we spend it. In some counties we need to spend smarter so that the dollars go to the classrooms to give every student the tools to succeed in life. Schools should be effective, motivating and challenging to all students

HEALTH CARE: Health outcomes on the Eastern Shore are among the worst in the state. Access to physical and mental healthcare along with addictions treatment are among the worst in the state. A rural healthcare workgroup was formed two years ago and led by your Dist 36 team to address these issues. My role on the Appropriations Committee will be to ensure that we support our stakeholders and local providers.

TRANSPORTATION: My transportation priorities are exclusive to what people in District 36 have expressed to me. The needs in the four counties I represent are unique to each community. We are very fortunate that Governor Hogan's transportation teams are very responsive and accountable to the needs of the upper shore. I'll continue to fight for restored

highway funding for our towns and counties.

**Jay A. Jacobs
(Kent County)
Republican Party
Campaign Website:**

<http://jacobsfordelegate.com>

QUALIFICATIONS: I am a lifelong resident of the Eastern Shore and from a family of watermen and farmers. I am the former Mayor of Rock Hall and am currently a Delegate. I also own a small business. I have found that my professional and political experiences, and my reputation of advocating for common sense solutions have been well received. It is a privilege for me to represent the Eastern Shore in Annapolis.

REDISTRICTING: Gerrymandering has never been based on party registration - that is until the Democrats in Maryland drew the maps. The current maps marginalize Republicans, Independents and Hispanics. This robs the citizens of Maryland of a true democratic system. I think it is racist and morally wrong. Since the Democrat controlled legislature cannot be trusted with this process, I support a judicial commission.

ENVIRONMENT: 90% of the pollution in the Chesapeake Bay comes from Pennsylvania via the Susquehanna River. The Conowingo Dam needs to be dredged in order for that pollution to be reduced. I am and will continue to be an environmental steward of our lands and waterways. I support environmental legislation that is cost efficient, quantifiable and measurable.

DISCRIMINATION: I have no tolerance for discrimination of any kind. All citizens have the right to be treated fairly both in opportunity and in outcome. We as legislators should act to make sure that happens.

EDUCATION: I oppose Federal and State overreach into our local school systems. Instead, I am a strong supporter for allowing local communities to set the standards for their school system. I am also opposed to the Eastern Shore being a net exporter of cash to other school districts. Our money should stay on the Eastern Shore where it benefits our students.

HEALTH CARE: No parent should have to choose between paying for health care and paying the mortgage. Middle class families and small business owners are being hit the hardest. We must bring competition to the market place to drive prices down. I support a state system that creates competition in the market place as a way to bring down the price of health care.

TRANSPORTATION: I do not support a second set of bridges over the Chesapeake Bay. I also support lowering or eliminating the tolls on the Chesapeake Bay Bridge for the citizens of Maryland. This is a commuter bridge and people should not have to pay to go to work. I support the Route 301 upgrade.

**Keirien Taylor
(Caroline County)
Democratic Party
Campaign Website:**

<http://keirientaylor.com>

QUALIFICATIONS: I am a current graduate student at Salisbury

University studying Conflict Analysis & Dispute Resolution, I received my Bachelor degree from Salisbury University in political science, and my associates degree from Chesapeake College in Liberal Arts. As an activist and an advocate my experience prepares to fight and voice the concerns of the people.

REDISTRICTING: I will call for legislation that would create a non-partisan commission to draw district maps. Regardless of the effect on the Democratic party as a TRUE believer in democracy our district lines should be drawn in the best way to represent the people.

ENVIRONMENT: As a life-long environmentalist, I know that protecting our planet is not just a moral imperative, it is an economic opportunity that Maryland can take to propel our state forward. We to expand the use of renewable power and create good-paying jobs in the process, and we need to protect our Bay!

DISCRIMINATION: We must pursue policies to transform this state into a place that affirms the value of its people of color, LGBT, and women. That starts with addressing the five central types of violence waged against marginalized communities: physical, political, legal, economic and environmental. As a believer in TRUE and UNIVERSAL equality I support all legislation that supports equality. EX: Bail Reform

EDUCATION: I believe that all students deserve the opportunity to receive an affordable, quality education from the earliest stages of schooling to high-level degrees.

HEALTH CARE: Health care must be recognized as a right, not a privilege. Every man, woman and

child in our state should be able to access the health care they need regardless of their income. I want to establish single-payer healthcare in Maryland, a plan that would make government pay residents' medical care and get rid of the out-of-pocket expenses that residents pay.

TRANSPORTATION: Both our transportation and electricity infrastructures must be updated. Modernizing the electrical grid helps balance higher amounts of clean energy, decreases outages and improves efficiency.

Michael Ian Welker
(Cecil County)
Democratic Party
Campaign Website:

<http://www.welkerformaryland.com>

QUALIFICATIONS: Working on congressional campaigns in the past has given me a unique insight into the day to day operations of being an elected official. But leading the local Democrat Club and serving on the Cecil County Democratic Central Committee has given me knowledge on what it takes to be an effective leader.

REDISTRICTING: I think redistricting should be handled by a non-partisan third party agency. Take it away from the hands of the legislative body who could potentially use it for their own gain, as we've seen in the past. Partisan gerrymandering is an affront to our democracy, and we should do everything we can to prevent it from happening again.

ENVIRONMENT: All of Maryland is home to beautiful waterways, with the Eastern Shore being home for most of them. Balancing the needs

of our agricultural community and the requirements for a clean and healthy environment will be a major challenge. However, no one understands the importance of having a clean environment more than our farmers. We need to work directly with them to come up with viable solutions.

DISCRIMINATION: We need to be sure our current equal opportunity and anti-harassment laws are being upheld. We need to be sure there are social programs available to help lift the poor out of poverty, and that everyone has a voice in our legal system. The Maryland Commission on Civil Rights does a great job protecting people from discrimination, and we need to be sure we support them.

EDUCATION: This past legislative session the "Fix the Fund" bill passed, which gave the money that had been taken back to the education fund. This is a great first step. But many districts still only make the bare minimum requirement for funding. We need to have properly funded schools to provide after school programs and education in art, science, and technology. The Fix the Fund bill will help do this.

HEALTH CARE: Access to affordable, quality healthcare is currently the biggest issue facing Maryland overall. We need to make sure that our neighbors don't have to fall behind on their bills just to be able to go to the doctors office or pay for basic necessary medicine like insulin. Maryland has the capability to provide a state funded universal healthcare program. It's time we did that.

TRANSPORTATION: We should reinvest in a lightrail maglev system

for the entire state--an affordable, efficient means of transportation that will ease the congestion on our freeways. We can pay for this by fully legalizing marijuana and collecting the tax revenue from that, much like many other states have already done. So far, each state has had a major funding surplus. That money is much needed here in Maryland.

Crystal Woodward
(Queen Anne's County)
Democratic Party
Campaign Website:

<http://crystal4delegate.ruck.us>

QUALIFICATIONS: Being born and raised in a working family on the Eastern Shore, my values deep. My parents, retired small business owners, taught me the value of hard work and to do the right thing even if it's not the easiest solution. My work with the American Diabetes Association has taught me to be an effective advocate through consensus building, leadership, and pursuing legislation as a last resort.

REDISTRICTING: I support non-partisan redistricting in Maryland to ensure that voters are electing politicians rather than politicians choosing voters. A non-partisan process for redrawing state legislative and congressional district lines after each census best serves our democracy. Consideration should be given to a regional compact if other Mid-Atlantic states decide to adopt non-partisan redistricting.

ENVIRONMENT: Maryland has made remarkable progress in decreasing the amount of nitrogen and nutrient pollution. We need to

continue to help farmers manage manure, support the extension and upgrading of septic systems, reduce plastics, promote smart growth and development, and transition to renewable energy sources to protect our environment and to promote economic prosperity and job growth.

DISCRIMINATION: Under the law, all Marylanders are equal. I am dedicated to protecting the rights and freedoms of all Marylanders regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, disability, or national origin through enhanced voter access, advocating for equal pay, supporting marriage equality and anti-hate measures. I will continue to be a champion for civil rights and social justice.

EDUCATION: Our students must come first. I support the Kirwan Commission recommendations and the "Fix the Fund Act" enabling casino revenue to support public school resources including new school construction and repair, enhanced safety measures, updated technology and classroom resources, before and after-school programs, trade school and college preparation, the arts and athletics, and teacher retention.

HEALTH CARE: Every Marylander has the right to access to affordable quality healthcare and medications regardless of their employment or economic status or age. I will fight to lower the cost of quality health care for all Marylanders including seniors and patients with pre-existing conditions and explore state-funded dental insurance options for seniors.

TRANSPORTATION: I am a Kent Island resident who commutes to DC for work so I live and understand

the daily Bay Bridge/Rt. 50 traffic frustrations. Every transportation dollar must be spent wisely to improve safe traffic flow and build and fix infrastructure. District 36 must have a seat at the table to ensure that decisions and plans will maximize economic and job growth in an environmentally responsible manner.

Kent County Offices

Kent County Commissioner

DUTIES: There are 3 Commissioners in Kent County. They are responsible for county-specific legislation and the direction of all public operations for the county.

SALARY: \$20,000

TERM: 4 years; no term limits

HOW ELECTED/

QUALIFICATIONS: Qualified voters in Kent County may vote for 3 candidates. Candidates must be registered voters in Kent County.

The Issues

QUALIFICATIONS: Please write a brief biography including your education, prior work experience, and current position.

NEW BUSINESS: To what commercial enterprises -- other than agriculture and tourism -- would you give your support and what steps would you take to bring these businesses to Kent County?

TAXES: Would you favor increasing taxes to pay for Kent County's

needs? If not, how will you determine how to allocate currently available funds?

Candidates

Vote for up to 3

Bob Jacob
Republican Party

QUALIFICATIONS: My name is Bob Jacob. I was born and raised in Rock Hall, Md. and a resident in Kent County for 52 Years. Together with my wife, of 22 years, we have raised two children. Our son is a sophomore in KCHS and my step daughter is a graduate of KCHS and Chesapeake College. I have worked as a Waterman, Carpenter, Machinist, and Mechanical Designer. I serve on the Economic Advisory Board, 4 yrs.

NEW BUSINESS: The best business's for the county are the ones that bring in outside money. More people commute into the county than out. We don't have the workforce to attract large companies. We should work toward retaining and growing existing businesses, followed by attracting and developing new business. As a start up business 15 years ago, I believe I have gained experience necessary to be a commissioner, **TAXES:** I am a primarily a fiscal conservative, but also believe you have to spend money to make money. I believe raising taxes should always be last resort and is normally the result of lack of planning years before. As a business owner, you always have to do the math and look at payback which isn't always popular in politics.

Tom Mason
Republican Party

QUALIFICATIONS: I grew up in Cecil County and am a 1971 graduate of the University of Maryland. I was selected for membership into Omicron Delta Kappa, a leadership fraternity. I was also chosen as the outstanding senior in the College of Agriculture. Upon graduation I worked as a Cooperative Extension Educator with dairy farmers and 4-Hers in Kent County. I married a local girl, Alice Morris in 1975 and in **NEW BUSINESS:** We must have a fast track to invite more business to Kent County. We need clean, environmentally friendly, light industrial, manufacturing and technology firms that will fit in with our rural agricultural historic lifestyle. The new fiber optic network in Kent County needs to be promoted to businesses as a reason to locate here. The Middletown bypass and the 301 corridor, especially around Mill

TAXES: We do not need to raise taxes if we can attract new business to the county. Funds will be allocated first to meet the educational needs of our citizens. I believe we need to work together with our school board, school personnel, and other stakeholders involved in our school system. Second, we must be sure our police and first responders (EMTs, 911, Fire companies) are adequately funded for the

William Short
Republican Party

QUALIFICATIONS: Being a lifelong Kent County resident William has

served as a Commissioner since May 2012. He also served our Country in the U.S. Army from 1988-1992. He currently owns and operates Eastern Interiors & Eastern Engraving in Chestertown. William's past and present volunteer endeavors include Local Management Board, Character Counts, Babe Ruth Baseball, Shrewsbury Church, Lions Club, and Easter Seals

NEW BUSINESS: Tech & Data Centers, I have approved a Comprehensive Plan that creates a flex zone for growth from the 301 corridor. The 1G fiber build out opens doors for these businesses to join the County . Through the industrial district and commerce zone, distribution centers and other including the Chestertown Business Park are incentivized to expand in the County which brings additional revenue streams.

TAXES: No, not unless needs were not meet due to another recession. The communities needs determine the allocation of current funds. The County currently meets its education need with funding above MOE. County public safety and public works needs are met. Debt has been paid down by 20% over 6 years. The County owns Countywide 1G fiber that will increase real estate values for citizens & attract business.

Ron Fithian
Democratic Party

QUALIFICATIONS: My name is Ronnie Fithian. Graduated from Rock Hall High School in 1969. Spent 30 years working as a Waterman on the Chesapeake. Elected County Commissioner of Kent County from 1994 to 2002 and

2006 thru today. I have also been the Manager of Rock Hall from 1997 until present.

NEW BUSINESS: Kent County's economy is very diverse. Kent County supports high paying jobs with low environmental impact. Commercial Enterprises that require high capacity broadband are desirable targets. The County has developed and promoted tax incentives and programs to reduce current and future businesses' operating costs.

TAXES: I have raised taxes twice in 19 years, but only when absolutely necessary. Each year we go through an intense budget process where we evaluate the needs of the twenty county-funded departments and twenty-five outside agencies. The three Commissioners then prioritize the needs and act accordingly.

William Pickrum
Democratic Party

QUALIFICATIONS: County Commissioner; 1st VP of MD Assn of Counties (future Pres.); Certified Public Procurement Official; Commander, US Coast Guard; Small business owner; Upper Shore Regional Council; Sen Van Hollen's Academy Selection Committee; Gov Hogan's Outdoor Recreational Economic Commission; MA, BS degrees; US Coast Guard Academy; Adjunct Professor; KCPS Distinguish Grad; Commander, Amer. Legion Post 143.

NEW BUSINESS: Kent is open for business. I support internet based companies that enrich the lives of our youth, young adults & seniors. Encourage more senior service

providers to locate in Kent. Develop culture of entrepreneurship among our youth & adults. Develop a viable workforce through Kent County Public Schools, Chesapeake & Washington Colleges with expanded job training. Increase resources for Econ Dev.

TAXES: I would favor reducing property & income taxes, when possible. We must continually look for efficiencies throughout county government. Funding education and our security (law enforcement & communications) needs are priority. Allocations should be based on needs of the community, public hearings & our comprehensive plan. We aggressively pursue federal, state & private grants for specific projects.

Thomas F. Timberman
Democratic Party

QUALIFICATIONS: Education- Georgetown U.: BS, JD, MPA Qualifications: 1.22 year resident Kent County (KC), former officer Democratic Central Comm. 2. KC rep MD Workforce Invest. Bd. 2018 - Pres. DC Consulting firm, mng. editor, on-line newspaper. 3.. Lawyer 4.. Army Vet 5. Econ.Dev. Tm Ldr, 3rd World war zones 6. Federal Government executive 7. Strategic Planning trainer

NEW BUSINESS: 1st - Draft KC-wide, strategic plan: Shared vision for KC future, long term goals and benchmarks to fulfill it. Future must be joint venture. 2nd.- Use StratPlan's ID'd priority people-needs and proactively recruit firms meeting them with new jobs:e.g. health related svcs (25% pop over

65) & modern skills trng centr (young leave KC to find work & firms don't relocate, bec no trained workforce.)

TAXES: Kent County's major problem is declining pop.(smallest in MD) not money. KC Gov in sound financial condition. Commission must create local conditions (stratplan) to attract employers and young families, i.e. jobs, health care, good schools, variety of recreational options, secure and healthy living environment. Prop tax major KC revenue source & raising it, is a last resort, but may come to that

Judge of the Circuit Court District 2

DUTIES: Judges preside in the Circuit Court, which is a trial court that hears major civil cases and more serious criminal cases, such as those requiring a jury trial. Circuit Courts also may decide appeals from the District Court and certain administrative agencies.

SALARY: \$154,433.

TERM: Fifteen years, no term limit. Mandatory retirement age of 70 years.

HOW ELECTED: The state is divided into 8 Judicial Circuits. The General Assembly determines the number of judges in each circuit and county. When there is a vacancy, the Governor appoints a qualified person to fill the office. Each newly appointed Circuit Court judge then must stand for office at the first election that occurs at least one

year after the vacancy happened. One or more other qualified members of the bar may also run to fill the vacancy. All candidates run on both the Democratic and Republican primary ballots.

The Issues

QUALIFICATIONS: How does your experience prepare you for the duties of this office?

DISCRIMINATION: How can the courts address discrimination based on race, gender, religion, disability, or poverty?

COURT NEEDS: What are the greatest needs of Maryland's court system and how can these be addressed?

Candidates

Vote for 1

Harris Murphy

QUALIFICATIONS: Prior to my appointment by the governor, my career provided significant experience in most of the areas of the law that come before a circuit court judge. In the criminal arena, I was the State's Attorney for Kent County, and an assistant public defender. For 8 years in private practice, I handled civil matters: insurance defense/personal injury, divorce and custody, contracts, land use, etc.

DISCRIMINATION: The courts do not make law. That is the job of the legislative branch. The courts' role is confined to interpreting and applying the law. That should always be done in a completely non-discriminatory manner. The race, gender, religion, disability, social standing, or any other characteristic of the litigants should not be a

factor in deciding any case or controversy that comes before the court.

COURT NEEDS: The courts are undergoing a rather radical (for the courts) transformation into the digital age. Kent County was among the second group of jurisdictions to implement MDEC (Maryland Electronic Courts). All files and filings are now electronic/digital. This is an overall positive development for the administration of justice, but will take time -- and training -- to be most effectively utilized.

Judge, Court of Special Appeals At-Large

DUTIES: Judges preside in the Court of Special Appeals, the intermediate appellate court in Maryland. The Court reviews the actions and decisions of the Circuit Court and of the Orphans' Court in cases brought before it. The Court, usually sitting in panels of three judges, decides if the trial judge followed the law and legal precedent. The Court is composed of 15 judges: eight at large and one each from seven appellate judicial districts.

SALARY: 168,633 annual base.
TERM: Ten years, no term limit. Mandatory retirement age of 70 years.

HOW ELECTED: When there is a vacancy on the Court of Special Appeals, the governor appoints a qualified person to fill the office, with the consent of the State Senate. Once appointed, the

appellate judge holds the office until the first election that occurs at least one year after the vacancy happened. At that time, the judge runs for an uncontested election for a ten-year term on their record (yes or no for continuance in office). No one is permitted to file against them. If the incumbent judge is approved, the judge faces another "retention election" every ten years to continue in office. If the incumbent judge is rejected by the voters, the post becomes vacant, and the governor makes a new appointment.

The Issues

QUALIFICATIONS: How does your experience prepare you for the duties of this office?

DISCRIMINATION: How can the courts address discrimination based on race, gender, religion, disability, or poverty?

COURT NEEDS: What are the greatest needs of Maryland's court system and how can these be addressed?

Appointee

Vote Yes or No
For Continuance in Office

Donald E. Beachley

No response received by deadline.

Appointee

Vote Yes or No
For Continuance in Office

Matthew J. Fader

No response received by deadline

Kent County State's Attorney

DUTIES: Serves as chief prosecutor of anyone charged with committing a crime in Kent County. The State's Attorney's office also investigates charges of police and public official misconduct and misuse of funds.

SALARY: \$109,200

TERM: 4 years; no term limits

HOW/QUALIFICATIONS: All qualified voters in Kent County vote for one State's Attorney. The State's Attorney must be a member of the Maryland bar, a resident of Kent County for 2 years, and a registered voter.

The Issues

BIOGRAPHY: Please write a brief biography including your education, prior work experience, and current position.

PROSECUTORIAL PHILOSOPHY: Please describe your general prosecutorial philosophy.

JUSTICE REINVESTMENT ACT: The Justice Reinvestment Act develops a framework for sentencing and corrections policies aimed at reducing prison populations and prison spending. How do you think it has affected crime and the prosecution of crime in Maryland? :

Candidates

Vote for 1

Robert H. Strong
Republican Party

BIOGRAPHY: I graduated from Rock Hall High with a High-School diploma; I attended Chesapeake College where I graduated with a AA degree; I graduated from Washington College in 1981 Summa Cum laude; Finally, in 1984 I graduated from the University of Maryland School of Law. I was State's Attorney in Kent County from '99 to 2015.

PROSECUTORIAL PHILOSOPHY: To treat each Defendant based on the facts of the case, the Defendant's record, considering the victim's position and the overall merits. The police have a major influence on my actions but they do not dictate any position to the prosecutors in the office.

JUSTICE REINVESTMENT ACT: The act has been in effect for less than one year, (effective 10/17) statistics are not available to judge its impact. However I have reservations about the elimination of mandatory minimum sentences for repeat felony CDS cases. This combined with the defendants who only have to serve 25% of their sentence creates such a lenient tolerance for drug cases that any deterrent effect is diminished.

Bryan DiGregory
Democratic Party

BIOGRAPHY: In 1999, I graduated Widener University Law School. After graduation, I worked as a public Defender in Philadelphia. In 2004, I started my own criminal

defense law office. In 2015, I joined the Public Defender's Office in Queen Anne's County. In 2017, I became Kent County Deputy State's Attorney. My family and I have lived in Kent County since 2007. Learn more about me at votedigregory.com

PROSECUTORIAL PHILOSOPHY:

My prosecutorial philosophy is to seek justice in the interest of the citizens of Kent County while ensuring fairness and equality under the law.

JUSTICE REINVESTMENT ACT:

The Justice Reinvestment Act (JRA) went into effect just 6 months ago on October 1, 2017. Put simply, I think it is too soon to assess the Acts' overall impact on crime and rehabilitation. Central Concerns: Light max sentences may de-incentivize some from treatment. Success of JRA depends on treatment resources that are not yet available. Visit votedigregory.com for a more detailed response.

Kent County Clerk of the Circuit Court

DUTIES: The Clerk of the Circuit Court oversees the office that performs administrative duties for the Circuit Court. Duties include maintenance of court records, recording of deeds, collecting taxes and fees based on property transactions, and issuing licenses for sales of liquor and marriage. The Clerk also performs civil wedding ceremonies..

SALARY: \$109,000

TERM: 4 years; no term limits

HOW ELECTED/

QUALIFICATIONS: All qualified voters in Kent County may vote for one Clerk of Court. The Clerk must be a registered voter.

The Issues

QUALIFICATIONS: Please write a brief biography including your education, prior work experience, and current position.

SERIOUS PROBLEM: What do you consider the most serious problem facing the Clerk of Court's office and what would you do to address it?

Candidates

Vote for 1

Mark L. Mumford
Democratic Party

QUALIFICATIONS: Kent County Clerk of Court-28 years, Banking Industry Officer-14 years, Institute of Financial Ed, Leadership Diploma Chesapeake and Delaware Tech Comm. Colleges, (Accounting&Business) Md. Conference of Clerks, 2nd Circuit Rep. Md. Court Clerks Assoc.Treasurer 2004-2016 Md. Judicial Ethics Comm.,2006-2015
SERIOUS PROBLEM: The advances of Information Technology that have been instituted over the past 25 years within the Md. Judiciary are vast. The education and training to maintain the programs, that continually upgrade with enhancements, challenges us to retain and attract knowledgeable competent staff within our local Clerks office. We must provide the training and support to expand and retain them.

Kent County Register of Wills

DUTIES: Assists and advises the general public with administrative processes and preparation of forms concerning estates of deceased persons. The Register collects Maryland inheritance tax on estates and probate fees, maintains all records of wills and estates of deceased persons, acts as clerk to the Orphans' Court, safeguards wills of living persons, and guards the property of minors.

SALARY: \$100,000

TERM: 4 years; no term limits

HOW ELECTED/

QUALIFICATIONS: All qualified voters in Kent County may vote for one Registrar of Wills. The Register must be a registered voter.

The Issues

BIOGRAPHY: Please write a brief biography including education, prior work experience, and current position.

SERIOUS PROBLEM: What do you consider the most serious problem facing the Register's Office and how would you address it?

Candidates

Vote for 1

Kristi Osborn
Democratic Party

BIOGRAPHY: I am a lifetime resident of Kent County, graduating in 1983 from KCHS. Employed by Peoples Bank from 1984 – 2000, Kent County States Attorney's office

2000 – 2001, Q.A. Dept. Social Services 2001 -2003. In July 2003 I began working at the Register of Wills for Kent County. Upon the retirement of Nancy Lee Jewell in March 2017, I was honored to be appointed to finish out her term as Register

SERIOUS PROBLEM: One of the most difficult issues we encounter would be the emotions and frustrations of the heirs, which is expected and understandable. It's devastating when losing a loved one and adding the responsibility of administering an estate it can be very overwhelming. We will continue to be understanding and try to make the process as simple and uncomplicated as possible

Kent County Judge of the Orphans' Court

DUTIES: The Maryland Orphans' Court is the probate court. It also has jurisdiction over guardianship of minors. The Orphans' Court supervises the handling of estates of people who have died – with or without a will – while owning property in their sole name.

SALARY: \$4,000

TERM: 4 years; no term limits

HOW ELECTED/

QUALIFICATIONS: In 2018, qualified voters in Kent County may vote for 3 candidates. Candidates must be registered voters in Kent County.

The Issues

QUALIFICATIONS: How does your experience prepare you for the duties of this office?

DISCRIMINATION: How can the courts address discrimination based on race, gender, religion, disability, or poverty?

COURT NEEDS: What are the greatest needs of the Orphans' Court and how can these be addressed?

Candidates

Vote for up to 3

Elizabeth "Betty" Carroll Republican Party

QUALIFICATIONS: Over the past four-year term as a Judge of the Orphans Court of Kent County, I have gained considerable knowledge by attending a 3-day Orientation and annual seminars in Annapolis. The MD Orphans Court Benchbook & Resource Guide, along with other reference material is readily available to us. Each weekly session, reviewing documents is a learning process.

DISCRIMINATION: Speaking as a Judge of Orphans' Court, I do not feel this Court has experienced any discrimination by the Register of Wills staff, judges, attorneys, personal representatives, or those appealing an estate.

COURT NEEDS: I feel the Register of Wills staff works well with the Judges keeping us informed of pending estates and review of documentation on each case.

Amy L. Nickerson Republican Party

QUALIFICATIONS: I am finishing my first term as a Judge of the Orphans Court for Kent County and am seeking a second term. I worked in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Kent County from 1989-2013. During the last 4 years I have attended continuing education courses offered by the Maryland Judicial College specific to the Orphans Court Judges' duties and responsibilities.

DISCRIMINATION: I do not have any opinion on this issue as it relates to the Orphans Court. We do not have many hearings with persons appearing before the Court. The majority of our job duties are reviewing a estate's financial accounting or reviewing and ruling on motions; both of which are submitted in paper format.

COURT NEEDS: At this time, I do not see any needs of the Orphans' Court that aren't being met. The biggest challenge for all stakeholders in the Judiciary is having a thorough understanding of any changes to laws or procedural rules and applying those changes properly. The Maryland Association of Judges of Orphans Court and the Judicial College of Maryland do a excellent job in keeping us informed.

Elroy G. Boyer, Jr. Democratic Party

QUALIFICATIONS: Kent Co. Orphans' Court Judge for 28 years. Chief Judge for 24 years. Owner of Boyer's Jewelers (34 yrs.) with wife Crystal. .

DISCRIMINATION: The Orphans' Ct. insures that all estates are administered properly.

COURT NEEDS: My 28 yrs. experience includes serving on a statewide board, knowledge of cases and the system, and not missing a day serving the people of Kent Co.

Allan Schaubert Democratic Party

QUALIFICATIONS: I have lived in Kent Co. all my life, Rescue Squad member for 35 yrs., Aberdeen Proving Ground Fire Dept 26 yrs., worked with Attorney R. Stewart Barroll for 12 yrs., Fellows Funeral home for 5 yrs., have been in public service my entire adult life. I feel I have good judgement, good character, local family recognition and so I ask for your vote because I care about your families estate.

DISCRIMINATION: Orphans Court Probates Wills and Estates according to legal law. The Judicial Courts make legal rulings to the law. The Orphans Court can only rule on specific legal documents and find its rulings in accordance to those documents. In order to change laws we must write our legislators in Annapolis and legislate changes to meet todays society needs.

COURT NEEDS: The Orphans Court needs clear and up to date legal documents to make its rulings in your behalf as it pertains to your estate. We need the public to seek legal counsel often as peoples lives change and so do their wishes. If you do not have your wishes written out your heirs may not receive what you wanted them to have. We must better educate the public in these matters now and not later.

Kent County Sheriff

DUTIES: The sheriff is responsible for maintaining public order according to law in Kent County, carries out court orders, delivers summons, deals with protective orders and other injunctions, and executes bench warrants.

SALARY: \$85,000

TERM: 4 years; no term limits

HOW ELECTED/

QUALIFICATIONS: All qualified voters in Kent County may vote for the Sheriff. Candidates must be 25 years old, be a resident of Maryland for 5 years, live in Kent County, and be a registered voter.

The Issues

BIOGRAPHY: Please write a brief biography including your education, prior work experience, and current position.

IMMIGRATION: What is policy and practice of the Kent County Sheriff's office regarding the advisement of and/or release to the federal immigration authorities of undocumented individuals you have detained on local or state charges?

SENSITIVITY TRAINING: Please describe any program and frequency thereof of cultural sensitivity training required of your officers.

OPIOID CRISIS: What efforts are being made by your department to combat the rise in opioid sale and usage in Kent County?

Candidates

Vote for 1

John F. Price
Republican Party

BIOGRAPHY: I am 59 and a lifelong resident of Kent County. I have been married to my wife Sharon for 35 years and have two daughters. My career in law enforcement has spanned 39 years with six terms as the elected Sheriff of Kent County. I am a graduate of the Eastern Shore Criminal Justice Academy and National Sheriff's Institute, and am a past President of the Maryland Sheriff's Association.

IMMIGRATION: The Sheriff's Office has no authority to detain undocumented individuals. This function is handled by the Detention Center, which is not the responsibility of the Sheriff in Kent County. The Sheriff's Office will enforce or comply with both Maryland and federal law as it relates to undocumented persons.

SENSITIVITY TRAINING: All Kent County deputies receive four hours of diversity/sensitivity training annually as part of their in-service training. This training is not yet mandated by law. I, however, support such training and believe it is necessary for all law enforcement officers.

OPIOID CRISIS: Targeted enforcement against the distribution of all illegal drugs is a priority. Awareness is promoted by participation in community forums and by our sponsorship of the Hope Trailier and Kent Goes Purple to educate families about addiction. Deputies are equipped with Narcan and resource pamphlets to help

identify intervention programs. We will also continue the Sheriff's RX Drug Roundup.

Kent County Board of Education

DUTIES: The 5 members of the board establish and oversee the educational policies for the public school system of the county, decide when and where schools should be built or consolidated, establish annual budgets for the school system, and hire the Chief Executive Officer (superintendent) to implement public school policies and programs.

SALARY: \$2,000

TERM: 4 years; no term limits

HOW

ELECTED/QUALIFICATIONS: In 2018, qualified voters in Kent County may vote for 2 candidates. Candidates must be registered voters in Kent County.

The Issues

QUALIFICATIONS: Please write a brief biography, emphasizing educational level, prior work experience and current position.

MINORITY TEACHERS: What in your opinion should the Board do to attract highly qualified minority teachers and administrators to work in the Kent County School system?

SCHOOL POLICY: Name the top three (3) policy issues which should be addressed by the School Board in the next four years.

Candidates

Vote for up to 3

Wendy Costa
Nonpartisan

QUALIFICATIONS: B.A. with Honors, Vassar College; M.A. in History, Columbia University; Ed.D in Educational Leadership, University of California, Davis. Elected twice to school board in Bryan, TX. National Coordinator of Project 30. Planning Director, University High School, a charter school in Fresno. Boat captain, Echo Hill Outdoor School. Currently Education Coordinator, Mount Harmon Plantation.

MINORITY TEACHERS: Ideally, we will grow our own by identifying talented minority students in middle school and providing mentors who can guide them to four year colleges. Our new Next Generation Scholars Program can help put potential teachers on the path to success. We can take highly qualified school and community members on recruitment trips. We must create a climate of inclusion, and welcome new ideas.

SCHOOL POLICY: 1) Academic excellence. Proficiency in academic subjects. It may take creative after school programs and more volunteers to achieve this goal. 2) Facilities. Make several decisions about building renovations and, possibly, some new construction. Schools should be "green." Use school buildings beyond school hours for creative pursuits. 3) Raise non-tax money for enrichment activities.

Nivek M. Johnson
Nonpartisan

QUALIFICATIONS: My K-12 education started right here in KCPS. However, I graduated from Queen Anne's County High School in 2011. I went on to receive an A.A from Chesapeake College. In May of 2017 I graduated from Salisbury University with a BA Degree. I currently work at Saints Peter & Paul Elem & Middle School as a Lead Teacher serving over 400 kids. This will be my third bid for the Kent County School Board.

MINORITY TEACHERS: I've been a huge advocate for the recruitment of minority teachers. At one time our local school system had a fair amount of minority teachers and administrators. We need to create a team composed of local minorities and retired teachers. The team would go to HBCUs and other higher ed institutions; recruiting and showcasing the benefits of working for KCPS. There is a push for more male teachers.

SCHOOL POLICY: Teacher Retention- When first year teachers are employed by KCPS, they leave within one to two years. What can the Board do to make sure they stay here? School Enrollment- KCPS has experienced a decline of enrollment over the last ten years. How can the board work to stabilize enrollment? Parent Engagement- Over 60% of teaching occurs at the dinner table; how can we as a system support our parents

Trish McGee
Nonpartisan

QUALIFICATIONS: I have lived in Kent County for 50 years. I attended public and private schools here, and graduated with honors from Washington College. I have worked at the Kent County News for 33 years. I am finishing my first term as a member of the Kent County Board of Education, and am in my second year as the board president. I have coached high school field hockey for 29 years, including 22 years in Kent.

MINORITY EACHERS: Recruitment efforts should be beyond Maryland and should be done at historically black colleges. Have a pool of retired teachers of color and other minority professionals who would volunteer to ease the transition to rural, aging and predominantly white Kent County. Take students of color on recruiting trips to talk to teaching candidates to underscore how important diversity is for our students.

SCHOOL POLICY: 1. Closing the achievement gap between white and non-white students. 2. Greater diversity among the teaching staff and administrators. 3. Improving the relationship with the county government, which is the primary source of funding for the school district.

Francoise Sullivan
Nonpartisan

QUALIFICATIONS: After graduating from Crossland High School in Prince George's County, MD I attended Duquesne University in Pittsburgh as an

Education/Special Education major. I worked primarily in a corporate environment before starting my own company in 2004 doing web design work. I am an active PTA member and have served on a number of local boards.

MINORITY TEACHERS: I think that along with reaching out to historically African-American colleges we need to also look into tapping resources within our own community. I would like to explore the possibility of converting Kent County residents who may be commuting, are seeking employment, or have not completed getting their degree into considering a career in Education.

SCHOOL POLICY: As a small, rural school district we face many struggles. 1) School Safety - we are just beginning to understand what we need to do to make our schools safer. 2) Teacher Salaries - we need to better compensate the teachers and staff that work with our children every day. 3) After School Programming - I would like our schools to develop more after school programming opportunities for students.

State Constitutional Amendments

Vote For the Constitutional
Amendment or
Vote Against the Constitutional
Amendment

Question 1 - Education Funding

Constitutional Amendment (Ch. 357 of the 2018 Legislative Session) Requiring Commercial Gaming Revenues that are for Public Education to Supplement Spending for Education in Public Schools

BALLOT LANGUAGE: The amendment requires the Governor to include in the annual State Budget, as supplemental funding for prekindergarten through grade 12 in public schools, the revenues from video lottery operation licenses and any other commercial gaming dedicated to public education in an amount above the level of State funding for education in public schools provided by the Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act of 2002 (otherwise known as the Thornton legislation) in not less than the following amounts: \$125 million in fiscal year 2020; \$250 million in fiscal year 2021; \$375 million in fiscal year 2022; and 100% of commercial gaming revenues dedicated to public education in fiscal year 2023 and each fiscal year thereafter. The amendment also requires the Governor to show in the annual budget how the revenues from video lottery operation licenses and other commercial gaming are being used in a manner that is in addition to the level of State funding for public education provided by the funding formulas established by the Bridge to Excellence in Public

Schools Act. The State Constitution currently authorizes video lottery operation licenses for the primary purpose of raising money for public education. (Amending Article XIX, Section 1(c)(1) and (g), and adding Section 1(f) to the Maryland Constitution)

CURRENT LAW: Maryland voters approved a constitutional amendment (Article XIX) in 2008 authorizing video lottery operations for the "primary purpose" of raising money for public education. The funds must be used to support programs in public schools, such as early childhood education, career and technical education, high school courses for college credits, training for public school teachers, improvement of school buildings, and capital projects at community colleges and state-supported colleges and universities.

PROPOSED CHANGE: This amendment would require that beginning in 2020, the Governor must include specified amounts from gambling revenues in the state budget for public education. These amounts must be in addition to any other state funding for public education and cannot be a substitute for other state revenues designated for public education. The amendment would also repeal the provision that allows gambling revenues to be used for capital projects at community colleges and state-supported colleges and universities.

ORIGIN OF THE BALLOT QUESTION: The 2018 session of the Maryland General Assembly passed legislation (SB 1122) proposing an amendment to the

Maryland constitution to add more specific requirements for how gambling revenue is used in the state budget to fund public education. A bill to amend the Maryland constitution does not take effect unless it is approved by the voters at the next general election.

ARGUMENTS FOR THE AMENDMENT:

- It ensures that gambling revenues are directed to public education as intended and approved by voters.
- It addresses concerns that the state was using gaming revenues to substitute for education funding that was already required by law, rather than increasing the total amount of education funding.
- It ensures that gaming revenues paid into the Education Trust Fund (also called a "lockbox") may be spent only in addition to other public education funding and cannot be used as a substitute for other funding that is already required by the Bridge to Excellence law.

ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE AMENDMENT:

- The amendment would reduce the state's flexibility to use gambling revenues for other state programs.
- The amendment would eliminate the use of gaming revenues to fund capital projects at community and public colleges.

A VOTE FOR THE AMENDMENT MEANS the state constitution would be amended to specify that revenue from gambling be used to supplement other state funding for public education and cannot be used

as a substitute for other required education funding.

A VOTE AGAINST THE AMENDMENT MEANS the current provision in the constitution would remain in effect, under which gambling revenue is used for public education but those funds may be in place of other state funding for schools.

Question 2 - Election Day Voter Registration

Constitutional Amendment (Ch. 855 of the 2018 Legislative Session) Same-Day Registration and Voting at the Precinct Polling Place on Election Day

BALLOT LANGUAGE: Authorizes the General Assembly to enact legislation to allow a qualified individual to register and vote at a precinct polling place on Election Day. The current law requires voter registration to close before Election Day. (Amending Article 1, sections 1 and 2, and adding Section 2A to the Maryland constitution.)

CURRENT LAW: Maryland law requires that voter registration close 21 days before an election. An exception allows people to register and vote in person during early voting at an Early Voting Center. They must provide proof of residence such as a driver's license

or other specified identification. Under current law a person may not register to vote at a precinct polling place on Election Day and vote on the same day.

PROPOSED CHANGE: The Maryland constitution would be amended to authorize the legislature to pass a law permitting people to register to vote at a precinct polling place on Election Day and to vote on the same day.

ORIGIN OF THE BALLOT

QUESTION: The 2018 session of the Maryland General Assembly passed legislation (HB 532) proposing an amendment to the Maryland constitution to allow people to register to vote on Election Day and to vote the same day. A bill to amend the Maryland constitution does not take effect unless it is approved by the voters at the next general election.

ARGUMENTS FOR THE AMENDMENT:

- Voting is a fundamental right that should not be lost due to failure to comply with a registration requirement.
- Same day registration and voting already takes place during early voting. On-the-spot validation of a voter's documentation is conducted before the voter is allowed to vote. These procedures could also be used for same day registration and voting on Election Day.
- Fourteen other states allow same day voter registration and voting on Election Day and have not reported problems.

ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE AMENDMENT:

- Permitting people to register and vote on Election Day could lead to voter fraud.
- Requiring people to register in advance is not burdensome, as the registration forms are readily available.

A VOTE FOR THE AMENDMENT MEANS that the constitution would be amended to allow the legislature to enact a law permitting people to register to vote at a precinct polling place on Election Day.

A VOTE AGAINST THE AMENDMENT MEANS that the constitution would not be amended and people would need to register to vote before Election Day.



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