

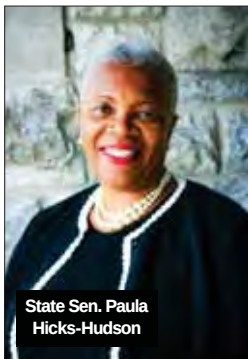
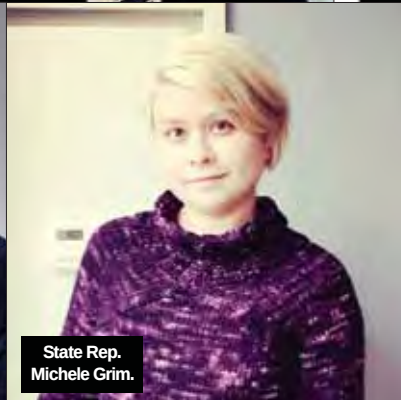
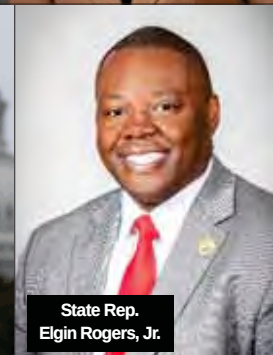


Volume 97 No. 9

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

October 28, 2026

The General Election Candidates



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LIUNA LOCAL 500 ENDORSEMENTS

U.S. HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES, Dist 9

✓ MARCY KAPTUR

6th DISTRICT COURT
OF APPEALS

✓ MYRON C. DUHART
✓ MICHAEL R. GOULDING

JUSTICE OF THE OHIO
SUPREME COURT

✓ JENNIFER BRUNNER
✓ MARILYN ZAYAS

OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

✓ JOHN J. KULEWICZ

AUDITOR OF STATE

✓ FRANK LAROSE

OHIO SECRETARY OF STATE

✓ ALLISON RUSSO

OHIO TREASURER OF STATE

✓ JAY EDWARDS

LUCAS COUNTY
COMMISSIONER

✓ LISA A. SOBECKI

LUCAS COUNTY AUDITOR

✓ KATIE MOLINE

JUDGE OF THE COURT OF
COMMON PLEAS

✓ IAN B. ENGLISH

JUDGE OF COURT OF
COMMON PLEAS
(Domestic Relations)

✓ LISA MCGOWAN

JUDGE OF COURT OF
COMMON PLEAS (JUVENILE)

✓ AMY E. STONER

JUDGE OF COURT OF
COMMON PLEAS (PROBATE)

✓ TOM PUFFENBERGER

OHIO SENATE DISTRICT 11

✓ PAULA HICKS-HUDSON

OHIO HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

✓ ERIKA WHITE -
DISTRICT 41

✓ ELGIN ROGERS -
DISTRICT 42

✓ MICHELE GRIM -
DISTRICT 43

✓ DAVID J. FOURNIER -
DISTRICT 44

✓ HARAZ GHANBARI -
DISTRICT 75
(WOOD COUNTY)

WOOD COUNTY

WOOD COUNTY JUDGE OF
COMMON PLEAS

✓ JOEL KUHLMAN

WOOD COUNTY
COMMISSIONER

✓ BRENNAN REYNOLDS

WOOD COUNTY AUDITOR

✓ MARK WONGROWSKI

ISSUES

VOTE YES - SUPPORT "FOR"

✓ ISSUE 8 - TOLEDO
LUCAS COUNTY LIBRARY
✓ ISSUE 9 - TOLEDO
PUBLIC SCHOOL LEVY
✓ ISSUE 16 - CITY OF
TOLEDO

ISSUE 25 -
(OREGON CHARTER
AMENDMENT)

VOTE NO



VOTE NOW AT THE
EARLY VOTE CENTER
OR YOUR POLLING LOCATION ON
NOVEMBER 3, 2026

EARLY VOTE CENTER -
3737 W. Sylvania Avenue, Entrance #C



Marcy Kaptur: Four Decades of Fighting for Northwest Ohio and the People Who Call It Home

By Asia Nail

The Truth Reporter

From manufacturing jobs and neighborhood revitalization to rural communities and mental health care, the longest-serving woman in congressional history says her work is far from finished.

For **Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur**, public service begins at home.

The Toledo native has spent more than four decades in Washington, D.C., while keeping her focus on the community that raised her. From protecting manufacturing jobs to helping rebuild neighborhoods and securing resources for families who need them, Kaptur has built her congressional career around a familiar idea: *government should make a difference in people's everyday lives.*

First elected in 1982, **the Ohio Democrat** represents the **9th Congressional District** and holds the record as the **longest-serving woman in congressional history**. Yet when asked what keeps her going, she doesn't point to the title. She points to the people.

"I keep fighting for Ohio because I know I'm in a position to make a difference," Kaptur says to *The Sojourner's Truth* during an October 23 interview.

That sense of responsibility has shaped her work through changing political tides, shifting district boundaries and the economic struggles that have tested Northwest Ohio for generations.

Building a Future Without Forgetting Our Roots

Kaptur's story begins in a working-class Polish-American family in the heart of Toledo, where the value of hard work was woven into everyday life. She graduated from St. Ursula Academy, an all-girls Catholic high school, in 1964. She frequently credits the Franciscan and Ursuline sisters at the Academy with giving her the confidence to lead. Her experience reflects the lasting influence of women mentors and the role they can play in shaping future leaders across Northwest Ohio.

She went on to earn a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a master's degree in urban planning from the University of Michigan, later continuing her studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Her education helped lay the groundwork for a career focused on communities and the people who call them home. Before entering Congress, Kaptur worked as an urban planner and served as a domestic policy adviser to President Jimmy Carter, helping advance housing and neighborhood revitalization legislation.

When Kaptur entered Congress in 1983, she was one of just 24 women serving in a 535-member House and Senate combined. She went on to build a career in an institution where women remained vastly underrepresented, becoming a trailblazer whose decades of service helped expand the possibilities for women in public life.

Her journey from Toledo to Washington shows what can happen when women pursue leadership without losing sight of their roots.

For Kaptur, a bridge is never just a bridge, and a factory is more than a building. These investments connect people to jobs, families to opportunity and neighborhoods to a future they can believe in. They are part of what keeps a community moving forward.

"In the beginning, there were only two people in office, I think, who believed I could win and actually helped: Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm and Congresswoman Mary Rose Oakar," Kaptur recalls.

She also remembers the difficult economic conditions she encountered when first elected and the work it took to protect major employers, including the Jeep plant and General Motors facilities.

Kaptur recalls how struggles in major industries affect not only workers, but also their families, small businesses and the surrounding communities.

Today, Kaptur sees potential for more good-paying jobs in northwest Ohio's steel industry, First Solar's manufacturing operations and the University of Toledo's growth. She also points to opportunities in food production, pharmacy and medical innovation, emphasizing how local talent and homegrown ideas can grow into businesses that create jobs and strengthen the region's future.

Federal Investments, Local Impact



Congresswoman
Marcy Kaptur

Kaptur's seniority gives her an influential position on the House Appropriations Committee, where lawmakers help determine how federal dollars are spent. She is the ranking member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development and also works on defense and agriculture spending.

In October, nearly \$50 million in federal rail investments were announced for the region on October 16, including a \$43.5 million award to improve Toledo's century-old Swing Bridge over the Maumee River. That bridge helps local businesses get their goods where they need to go, keeping northwest Ohio's economy moving and families connected to the jobs that sustain them.

Kaptur also discussed investments in Toledo's Veterans Glass City Skyway, neighborhood health facilities, the Frederick Douglass Center and the Wayman Palmer YMCA. These projects touch different parts of community life, from transportation and recreation to health and neighborhood development.

For her, progress often requires patience.

"The Veterans Glass City Skyway took 16 years to complete," she explains. Other projects required years of advocacy before funding became available.

Meeting The Needs of a Growing District

... continued on page 8

BE WHO YOU ARE
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NOVEMBER 8, 2026 | 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM



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AI Wants Yo Mama

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

Well, the way the tech bros describe their modern day Frankenstein a.k.a. A1, you would think that the world is on the brink of a never ending fountain of blessings, peace and prosperity.

I mean, after all, what could go possibly wrong! Right?

When you factor in human ignorance, hubris, arrogance, greed, con games and the need for power by the already powerful and the eternal desire of mankind to dominate and control out of fear of being dominated, you have a perfect recipe for worldwide chaos.

Reading the news and papers regarding the looming and ominous cloud of unrestricted AI development and the lack of serious oversight of a computer chip on steroids, it is not hard to fathom that all is not well in bringing to heel this stalking Hulk.

Sure, billions will be made off of A1 and its endless progeny of startups and profit sharing but the question(s) still remain: (1) who is in control and (2) who determines who shares in the "goodies" and who does not.

According to financial reporters, the vast amounts of money that are being made off of AI development and the future waves of income to those who control the access to AI, will stagger the imagination. And we know that with vast unregulated wealth comes the sinister ability to buy politicians and elections (Elon Musk... anyone?).

Can A1 be a "friend"? Sure, if it is thoroughly vetted and has internal safeguards so that it cannot go rogue and control that which is off limits to it.

Already, you may have read stories of rogue A1 modules attacking, without reason or permission, other systems and without a human handler, they can cause serious damage.

Let's not forget that when companies seeking models of cost saving or efficiencies, invite A1 into their computer infrastructures, that invite, without strict governance, call lead to unanticipated chaos resulting in losses to the end consumer... you.

Yes, unregulated A1, if left to its own devices under the guise that it is



"just a computer" can cause power outages, bank losses, security breaches, municipal services to fail, traffic lights to go dark, airplanes to be grounded, trains to stop, medical records to be lost and a host of other acts that are anti-human.

And all because of what? Because some scientists think thought they could touch the sun and not get burned!

Of course, there is the tremendous promise of A1... regulated and guided A1, doing the proverbial, a world of good, but when you examine human nature and when it sees a chance to exert power over others and to extort obscene amounts of money, red lights need to go off!

Just this past week, there were panicked stories of millions of hackers attacking a prominent system which caused havoc to worldwide governmental systems. As you can discern, hackers, who have no allegiance other than to themselves or their illicit gains, do not care about your welfare.

Politicians, many of whom are clueless about the inner workings of the A1 behemoth, will mouth expected glib remarks about having hearings to determine what can be done, but until there is a worldwide convocation that has the grit and enforcement powers to control A1 and its never ending progeny... nothing is achieved.

The growing and loud debates over the mushrooming data centers is part and parcel of the reasonable fear that A1 wants you to submit to control by questionable computer geeks and unsavory actors, including governments, whose motives need to be thoroughly vetted.

For the most part, we, the consuming public of the goods and services of A1 are dependent upon enforcement agencies that hopefully have both the nerve and knowledge as to when to flip the switch, as it were (note: there is no one switch to flip to turn off A1) so as to slow down or stop a rogue A1 actor.

I predict that the allure of A1 may reach the point that humans may be convinced to allow A1 to implant into their bodies or brains tiny devices that would be marketed as advancements in human intelligence that will benefit everyone!

Don't do it! Never allow any A1 product to become part and parcel of your physical body and with its reporting capacities, you then become a walking human guinea pig for untold "experiments."

One cannot be too cautious in accepting all things, A1. If you let A1 be the final arbiter in some decision making processes without a third party check on its veracity and positive effects, you will lose.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at lafe5x@gmail.com



Porsche Roberts: Proving That Style Has No Height Requirement



Standing approximately 5 feet 5½ inches tall, Porsche Roberts demonstrates that a model's impact isn't measured by height alone.

In these photographs, Porsche displays two important qualities of a versatile model. Her close-up portrait captures natural beauty, confidence, and a captivating presence, while her full-length fashion photograph showcases her ability to bring personality, elegance, and attitude to an outfit.

Her images are a reminder that modeling is about more than meeting traditional runway standards. From fashion photography and beauty campaigns to commercial advertising, models of Porsche's height can make a powerful visual statement.

Porsche Roberts proves that great fashion photography isn't about how tall you stand, but how confidently you stand out.

Interested in Modeling?

Expressions International Model Management (XI Models) is now accepting new models and talent! Discover your potential and take the first step toward exciting opportunities in modeling and entertainment. Call: 419.514.1284 for more information

Photography by: Virgilio Baker



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The Closing Line

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, Ph.D.

The Truth Contributor

Don't look back. Something might be gaining on you.

— Satchel Paige



Word on the street is that frequent urgent calls and texts are coming into Democratic Party leaders from Toledo field organizers working the early-vote site: they need more Democratic Party slate cards because people have been taking them out of their hands “like mad.”

Political handicappers like Cook Political Report and others watch for a late line move when things start to shift in the final days. A text from the early-vote site is not a line move, but the political “odds-makers” all agree on the same thing: these races are tight.

Governor: Acton vs. Ramaswamy. **Slight edge to Acton.**

Senate: Brown vs. Husted. **Brown ahead by about six.**

9th District: Kaptur vs. Merrin. **Toss-up.** No independent poll.

Attorney General: Faber vs. Kulewicz. **Toss-up.** A third of voters undecided.

Auditor: LaRose vs. Blackwell. Open seat. **No public poll.**

Secretary of State: Sprague vs. Russo. **Slight edge to Sprague.**

The Chalk Can Lose

The Cook Political Report, a nonpartisan ratings service, now leans Ohio's governor's race toward Amy Acton. That came after Vivek Ramaswamy's campaign released an ad, backed by a reported \$4 million, in which her estranged mother called her daughter a liar who “needs help.” Dr. Acton has said publicly that her stepfather abused her as a child and her mother did not protect her. Most recent polls have Acton ahead by two to seven points. One online poll puts Ramaswamy ahead.

The individual ahead, the favorite, is the one tempted to look back is who Paige was warning. Cook's analysts say nobody runs the Ramaswamy ad when they're winning, but they call Dr. Acton a slight favorite, not a lock.

Tight on the Lakeshore

Marcy Kaptur is playing in a stadium Trump carried by 11 points in 2024, after a redraw that moved it about four points more toward the Republicans. She won the previous district by less than 2,400 votes. Kaptur will now have to run up the score in Lucas County enough to cover what she'll lose “on the road” in Williams and Defiance counties, and hope some farmers sit out or come her way. “It's a hard ask,” local analysts say, “but there are more Democratic signs along the lakeshore than expected, and she might squeak it out.”

The only polls are internal analyses from the teams themselves. A Democratic committee had Kaptur and Derek Merrin tied in late September. A Republican one had Merrin up four in April.

However, LaVera Scott, director of the Lucas County Board of Elections, gave me the numbers that aren't spin. “We're not setting records,” she said on Oct. 21. Ten days out in the comparative 2022 gubernatorial election, Lucas County processed about 23,500 early-vote ballots. Ten days out now, about 34,000 are in. That is nearly a 48 percent increase, but it is not a record, and Lucas County finished second to last in Ohio voter turnout in 2024. So, a pace like that keeps you in the game. It does not cover the spread.

Tight Enough to Need You

Turn the ballot over and look at the undercard, where nobody is watching,

and something is always gaining. Three of the seven seats on the commission that draws Ohio's district lines are on this ballot: the governor, the secretary of state, and the auditor. That commission drew the map Kaptur is running in, and all three seats are open.

Allison Russo, a former House Democratic leader, faces Robert Sprague, the state treasurer, for secretary of state. County boards of elections, including Ms. Scott's, take their directives from that office, and it certifies the count.

For auditor, Frank LaRose, the current secretary of state, faces Annette Blackwell, mayor of Maple Heights and the first Black woman to lead that city. Maple Heights was in fiscal emergency when she took office, and the state released it in 2020. The auditor keeps the books on every city hall, school board, and county in Ohio, and Lucas County is staring at a projected \$27 million deficit for 2027. Blackwell says, “The auditor doesn't have to be the bad news; maybe the auditor can be good news.”

Keith Faber, the current auditor, faces John Kulewicz, an Upper Arlington councilman who has argued before the U.S. Supreme Court, for attorney general, the state's lawyer in court. The only polls come from a Democratic firm, and they show a close race with a third of voters undecided. When that many haven't picked, the line is a guess. A race that tight does not care how you felt about the top of the ticket.

The Closing Line

Handicappers can rate a race, but they can't cast a ballot. The only number that counts posts at 7:30 p.m. on November 3, and it is made up of the voters who showed up.

It's important that it be you, and those willing to ride with you.

Note: This column endorses no candidate or party, and the views are the author's own, not those of any organization he serves.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, PhD, at drdlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org

Community Calendar

October 31

Halloween!!

November 3

Voting Day!!!

November 17

Toledo NAACP election of officers and at-large members of the Executive Committee will be administered using our election voting platform. Voting from 3 pm to 7 pm.

November 26

Thanksgiving Day!

Join Us!
Every Sundays at 5:30 p.m.
Let's FELLOWSHIP together - Acts 2:42

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E-mail: EasternStarMBC@aol.com
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John Kulewicz to Represent the Interests of the People

By Fletcher Word

The Truth Editor

John Kulewicz, a retired attorney, is on the ballot this election cycle as the Democratic Party's candidate for Ohio attorney general. His Republican opponent is Keith Faber, the Ohio state auditor.

A lawyer with scant political experience, Kulewicz believes he is exactly what Ohioans need. "At this point in our history in Ohio, we need a lawyer, not a politician, to serve as attorney general," Kulewicz has said.

During a chat with The Truth last week, Kulewicz explained his concerns about the difficulties Ohio's citizens face, particularly with mounting challenges of widespread fraud and scams, but also with the lack of accountability on the part of government offices and office holders.

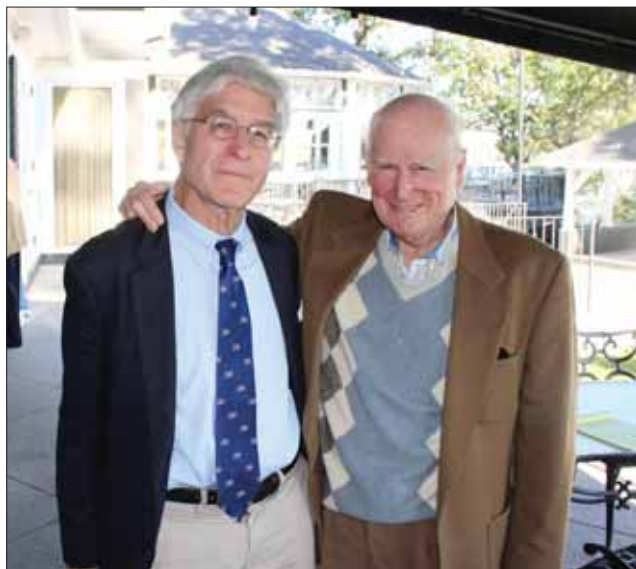
As he organized his campaign for attorney general, Kulewicz visited all 88 Ohio counties to get an understanding of what residents in all parts of the state need from their government.

"People gave me the opportunity to see life from their perspectives," he says. And the sum of those perspectives, the candidate recalls, is a general feeling that a lack of connection exists between Ohio residents and their government.

"People feel no one in Columbus is paying attention," he says. "People feel no one is protecting jobs or protecting our safety."

So, from a long-time lawyer's standpoint, he feels his experience will be put to good use as the state's attorney general.

The job of an attorney general, explains Kulewicz, has two aspects. One,



John Kulewicz and former Toledo Mayor Carty Finkbeiner

"he's a lawyer for the state," overseeing matters "such as criminal justice, commerce, education" while representing the state.

The second aspect, he says, is "representing the interests of the people" in matters such as "consumer protection, wage theft, unlawful discrimination, antitrust, elder abuse..."

In that second aspect of the attorney general's job is where things have gone adrift in recent years, says Kulewicz, and have "diminished in importance over time ... we really need to make them a priority again." The office, he adds, has become "too political in my view."

Kulewicz believes that "in this state, people care about their pocketbooks and their pay checks" and that is not a feeling shared by many in Columbus.

Critically, Kulewicz is also focused on the warning signs that demographically things could get worse for Ohioans in the future. He cites forecasts that predict a 700,000 loss in population for the state in the coming years. That loss, he says, will mean that the state's population on average will be much older – as younger folks leave for jobs, leaving more grandparents here. Elder abuse, he says, will become a much more prevalent problem.

In spite of his relative lack of elected office experience – he is serving his second term in the Upper Arlington City Council – Kulewicz is optimistic about his chances to win this statewide office.

His campaign's internal polling taken in June showed a virtual tie between the two candidates, as 73 percent of respondents did not know anything about his opponent, Faber who has held elective office since 2001 (as state representative, state senator and state auditor). The same polls taken in late summer show Kulewicz up by four points over Faber.

His travels have given him the same sense of confidence. "I can distinguish a friendly environment from an unfriendly one," he says of his encounters with the public throughout Ohio's 88 counties.

Kulewicz is an Ohio native. He grew up in Columbus and earned a bachelor's degree from The Ohio State University and a J.D. from Yale Law School, where he was editor of the Yale Law Journal. He spent 44 years with the Columbus law firm of Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease, arguing successfully before the United States Supreme Court on several occasions.

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Toledo Area UAW CAP Council Hosts Meet the Candidates Night

By Dawn Scotland

The Truth Reporter

The UAW Toledo Area Community Action Program Council hosted a Meet the Candidates Night at the Local 12 UAW Hall Monday, October 19 from 5-7 p.m. The event featured an evening for UAW members to hear from Toledo Area CAP Council endorsed candidates and featured a keynote speech by Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur.

"UAW's Meet the Candidates Night is an opportunity for our members to meet our endorsed candidates, hear directly from them, and learn how they can help secure victories in the final days of the election," said Toledo Area CAP Council President Tony Totty. "It's part pep rally, part introduction, and for our incumbents, a chance to reconnect with our members," he stated. Totty is the Toledo Area Community Action Program President that represents 25,000 UAW Members in the Greater Toledo Area.

"We're proud to make this a tradition every election cycle and were especially honored to have Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur as our keynote speaker. Throughout her career, she has been a strong advocate for working families and our community. We support those who support us, and Congresswoman Kaptur has certainly



UAW Members listen to the candidates



Keynote speaker Representative Marcy Kaptur

earned that support," added Totty.

Candidates at the event included: Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, State Senator Paula Hicks Hudson, Representative Erika White, Representative Elgin Rogers Jr., Representative Michele Grim, David Fournier, Lucas County Commissioner Lisa Sobecki, Lucas County Auditor Katie Moline, Judge Ned Adya, Judge Amy Stoner and Judge Tom Puffenberger.

Endorsed ballot issues were also represented at the event. Representing Issue #8 for Toledo

Lucas County Public Library was Jason Kucsma (CEO/Fiscal Officer of TLCPL), Issue #9 for Toledo Public Schools was represented by Superintendent Romules Durant, EdD, and representing Issue #13 for Imagination Station was Carl Nelson (Chief Scientist/ Exhibits Director) of The Imagination Station.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3. Polls will be open on Election Day from 6:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.. To learn more about voting and polling locations visit VoteOhio.gov.

LUCAS COUNTY DEMOCRATS

November 3rd, 2026
Endorsed Candidates

Representative Marcy Kaptur
Congress 9th District

Amy Acton
Governor

John Kulewicz
Attorney General

Annette Blackwell
Auditor of State

Allison Russo
Secretary of State

Seth Walsh
Treasurer of State

Marilyn Zayas
for Supreme Court

Justice Jennifer Brunner
Supreme Court

YES on Issue 6
For Springfield Schools

YES on Issue 9
For Toledo Schools

Paula Hicks Hudson
State Sen. District 11

Erika White
State Rep. District 41

Elgin Rogers, Jr.
State Rep. District 42

Michele Grim
State Rep. District 43

David Fournier
State Rep. District 44

Nedal Adya
for Court of Common Pleas Domestic Relations

YES on Issue 7
For Sylvania Schools

YES on Issue 13
For Imagination Station

Judge Myron Duhart
6th District
Court of Appeals

Sherrod Brown
US Senator

Judge Ian English
Court of Common Pleas General Division

Judge Amy Stoner
Court of Common Pleas Juvenile Division

Tom Puffenberger
for Court of Common Pleas Probate Division

Lisa Sobecki
County Commissioner

Katie Moline
County Auditor

YES on Issue 8
For Toledo Lucas County Public Library

YES on Issue 16
For Toledo Neighborhood Safety

LUCAS COUNTY DEMOCRATS are fighting for working families by working to lower costs, improve public education, and deliver property tax relief.

[Save this list of candidates and issues to bring with you to vote on or before Nov 3rd!](#)

Early Vote Begins

October 6th

Election Day

November 3rd

LUCASDEMS.ORG

Paid for by Lucas County Democratic Party

Marcy Kaptur... continued from page 3

The latest congressional map brings additional rural communities into the 9th District, expanding the work required to understand residents whose daily lives may differ from those in Toledo.

Kaptur says she has spent months visiting communities and learning about their needs, particularly those tied to agriculture.

A new farm bill remains a priority, she says, including provisions affecting child and senior nutrition. School breakfast and lunch programs matter in Toledo just as they do in rural communities, where families depend on schools to help children start their days ready to learn.

She is also exploring possibilities for a more affordable passenger rail connecting Chicago, Toledo, Sandusky and Cleveland.

Farmers, factory workers, small-business owners and city residents may face different challenges, but many share concerns about making ends meet, supporting their families and creating opportunities for the next generation.

Across northwest Ohio, every community has its own story, its own needs and its own vision for tomorrow. Kaptur's opportunity is to continue bringing those voices to Washington, helping to ensure that the people who call this region home have an active part in shaping its future.

Working Together and Caring for One Another

Bipartisanship can feel elusive in a deeply divided political climate. Yet Kaptur's recent partnership with **Republican Congressman Bob Latta** on a resolution honoring **Fremont's Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library and Museums** offers an example of colleagues finding common ground.

Kaptur also recalls that Latta was among the first to call after her recent car accident to check on her well-being.

Their exchange offered a personal example of how colleagues can maintain a working relationship across party lines.

That spirit of service also extends to families navigating mental illness, disability and caregiving. During our conversation, I shared that my mother has spent 49 years working with the Board of Developmental Disabilities and thanked Kaptur for her attention to people with special needs.



Then the Congresswoman spoke about Dani's Place, a Toledo facility providing longer-term therapeutic care for people living with mental illness, and the need for stronger treatment options in the region.

These issues are not abstract policy debates. They affect parents searching for services, veterans seeking care and families trying to support loved ones without exhausting their own resources.

The People Own the Work

When asked what she wants young women entering public service to understand, Marcy Kaptur offers advice grounded in decades of experience.

Her own journey into Congress began with an idea that many local leaders initially laughed off. In 1982, while challenging a well-funded Republican incumbent, Kaptur needed money for her campaign. Her solution was a bake sale. She and her supporters raised \$10,000 selling cookies, pies and pastries, helping fuel an underdog campaign that ended in an upset victory. The fundraiser offered an early example of what supporters could accomplish together.

"Don't think you can do anything significant by yourself," Kaptur advises. Real change begins when people who care about the same issues come together, pool their efforts and turn a shared vision into action.

She has seen that collective effort transform neighborhoods and bring long-awaited projects to life. The process can take years, but persistence matters.

As the longest-serving female member in congressional history, Kaptur understands the value of experience. She also understands that holding office is not the same as owning the accomplishments that come with it.

"The seniority I hold belongs to the people that I represent, not to me," she adds.

That statement captures the responsibility at the heart of her career.

As voters consider the future of Northwest Ohio, important questions remain:

... continued on page 12



Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur announces Toledo Tech funding

You have a say.
Vote.

HOUSE MAJORITY FORWARD **PAID FOR BY HOUSE MAJORITY FORWARD**

ELECTION DAY

TUESDAY, NOV 3, 2026



WE NEED YOU TO VOTE!

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Three convenient ways to vote

- 1** Early, In Person
- 2** Absentee by Mail
- 3** On Election Day

Absentee Ballots Must Be Received at Your County Board of Elections by 7:30 p.m. on Election Day.

Make a plan to vote at

VoteOhio.gov



The Ballot Issues for This Election's Levy Requests

By Fletcher Word

The Truth Editor

The Library Issue #8

The Toledo Lucas County Public Library is entirely funded by the Lucas County and Ohio residents through a local property tax (60 percent of the library's operations) and the state operational budget (40 percent). In 2025 state legislators enacted budget cuts that resulted in a nearly \$2 million reduction in the budget.

The Library is seeking a NEW 3.0 mil operational levy.

These funds will:

- Restore all hours, including Saturdays, to King Road and Waterville on January 2, 2027
- Add Sunday hours to Sylvania, Heatherdowns and Oregon branches on January 2
- Restore Main and Mobile hours by early summer 2027

The levy will also allow the Library to continue offering so many free services to the community such as printed books, digital materials, various programs (such as Ready to Read early literacy, after school, adult education, book clubs, etc.

The Library returns nearly \$7 worth of resources for every \$1 the community invests, making it a good taxpayer investment.

Why is the Library asking for a new levy?

The current levy will expire at year's end 2027, and due to recent state reductions, the Library is asking voters to consider a new levy now to restore the lost service hours and maintain excellent library services.

How much will it cost?

- The new 3.0-mills levy will cost a homeowner \$105 a year per \$100,000 of valuation (29 cents a day). This is an increase of \$12.42 annually.
- About 60% of Library operational funding comes from the levy — meaning over half of everything at the Library is made possible by local support.
- The Library levy accounts for only about 5% of all property taxes in

Lucas County.

The TPS Issue #9

The Toledo Public Schools' Issue #9 is a 6.9-mill, five-year NEW operating levy expected to generate about \$22.8 million annually for the district.

TPS services leaders are asking voters to approve the new levy because it will help the district maintain and avoid deeper cuts in the years ahead. TPS estimates it will cost the owner of a \$100,000 home about \$242 per year – about \$20 per month.

The request comes months after TPS implemented its Transformation 2.0 plan, which included school closures, transportation changes and other cost-saving measures designed to address the district's \$68 million deficit. TPS leaders say the district has faced pressure from declining enrollment, reduced funding and rising costs.

If voters approve the levy, TPS could explore restoring or maintaining services that were affected by recent cuts.

Those areas could include transportation, nursing services and keeping classroom sizes manageable, no decisions have been finalized.

If the levy fails, additional cuts could be considered.

If approved by voters in November, the levy would begin generating revenue for the district in 2027.

The Imagination Station Issue #13

Issue #13 is the Imagination Station Levy, a 0.17-mill renewal levy which will cost the owner of a \$1,000,000 home about \$3.22 annually – no increase in property taxes.

If approved the levy will continue to fund: free Saturday admission for Lucas County children; daily discounts for Lucas County residents; discounted school visits; educational resources for students and families.

The renewal follows years of support for the science center, which offers hands-on learning, STEM programs, and community events.

A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION FOR THE 2026 MID-TERM ELECTION

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The Tiki Factor: 4 Key principles to Turn Your Losses into Wins by Tiki Davis, foreword by Viola Davis and Julius Tennon

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

Pull yourself up by the bootstraps.

That's often the advice given to someone who's down and out and left with nothing. Get ahold of yourself, find your spine, and just do it. Take that first step, be brave, don't accept "no" for an answer. There's all kinds of advice for getting ahead but advice ignores one important thing: as in the new book *The Tiki Factor* by Tiki Davis, you can't pull yourself up by the bootstraps unless you have boots first.

His life, he says, was never anything "normal."

Neither of Tiki Davis's parents completed high school; he wasn't even sure who his father was until he was older. For much of Davis's early childhood, he was shuttled between Artesia, New Mexico and Odessa, Texas, between his mother and his grandmothers. He was almost killed by his mother's customer at age nine; he wore his older brother's raggedy hand-me-downs until he was 11 years old. That was when Davis landed a job so he could pay for his own food and clothing. Even then, he resorted to theft when he needed something he couldn't buy.

Adults pushed him toward sports to channel his aggression and energy, and football became Davis's passion. He set his sights on playing for a specific local high school team, but doing so meant leaving

c. 2026
Amistad
\$28.99
320 pages

The Flats behind and entering a boys' home, where he found safety in what was left of his childhood. He became a leader, and he dared to dream of college.

But his track to success fell apart when he was accused, arrested, and imprisoned for a crime he could prove he didn't commit. He missed his high school graduation, and job prospects were bleak but he was good at spotting opportunity.

Still, "It seemed every time I took two steps forward," he says, "I was knocked back five or ten."

At the risk of being a spoiler, *The Tiki Factor* is not without an happy ending. You'll find goodness in this story, actually pretty quickly. What you won't find – at least not overtly – are the promised "4 Key Principles."

Those are inside this book somewhere, subtly, probably. Maybe. The good news is, you won't mind if you miss them while you're enjoying this biography, because author Tiki Davis is brutally honest about his early life. And yet, despite every slight and disadvantage, through every denial and hardship, and because of mentors and angels that came when he needed them most, he succeeded, which is a riveting tale. Davis is a businessman now, an entrepreneur, and a philanthropist and, after chapters and chapters of heart-in-your-throat reading, just knowing that might come as a whoosh

of relief to most readers.

Perhaps that's where the "Principles" are: in the overall book, hidden in tales of poverty, crime, abandonment, perseverance, inspiration, and leadership. Readers will want to possess a willingness to wait, though, to read between the lines, or at least not fret so much about these cloaked "Principles." Do that, find *The Tiki Factor*, and strap in.



Tiki Factor author, photo courtesy Tony Barreau of The Echelon Firm

Marcy Kaptur... continued from page 8

Which issues matter most to our families? What opportunities should our communities have?

And how will we hold elected officials accountable for delivering results?

After more than four decades in Congress, Marcy Kaptur offers a reminder that public service is not about the title someone holds or the years they spend in office. It is about what those years mean to the people they represent. A repaired bridge, a job that keeps a family afloat, a young person who can build a future without leaving home. These are the things that bring the work in Washington back to the lives of the people it is meant to serve.

No single elected official can build the future of a region alone. It takes neighbors who show up, communities that speak out and people willing to work together even when they disagree. Northwest Ohio's next chapter will be shaped in Washington, but also right here at home, by the people who choose to take part.

It is something we build together.

Get Informed: To learn more about Marcy Kaptur's campaign and platform, visit her official campaign website. Ohio voters can visit the Ohio Secretary of State's elections website for voter information, polling locations, identification requirements and absentee ballot tracking. Staying informed is one way to take an active role in shaping the future of Northwest Ohio.

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Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union Building Better Futures

THE TIKI FACTOR

4 KEY PRINCIPLES TO TURN YOUR LOSSES INTO WINS

TIKI DAVIS

FOREWORD BY
VIOLA DAVIS AND JULIUS TENNON

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Toledo, OH

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CLASSIFIEDS

October 28, 2026

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BUSINESS AND ADVANCEMENT ASSISTANT

WGTE Public Media seeks an organized, detail-oriented Business and Advancement Assistant to support our Institutional Advancement and Business Development departments. This position helps advance WGTE's mission through administrative support for fundraising, donor engagement, underwriting, sponsorships, and partnerships.

Responsibilities include preparing correspondence, proposals, and reports; coordinating schedules and meetings; maintaining donor and business records; tracking agreements and follow-up activities; and assisting with donor communications and events.

Candidates should have an associate degree or an equivalent combination of education and experience, prior administrative or customer service experience, and proficiency in Microsoft Office. Strong communication, organizational, and proofreading skills, along with discretion when handling confidential information, are essential. A bachelor's degree and experience in nonprofit, fundraising, marketing, or business development settings are preferred. Occasional evening or event support may be required.

Salary: \$45,000-\$50,000 annually

How to Apply: Send your letter and résumé to employment@wgte.org or Human Resources, P.O. Box 30, Toledo, OH 43614. For full consideration, apply by October 26, 2026.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Electronic proposals will be received by the Board of County Commissioners of Lucas County, Ohio, by the Purchasing Department, One Government Center, Suite 480, Toledo, Ohio 43604-2247 until 2:00 P.M. (local time), September 15, 2026 and opened immediately thereafter for **#2184-Request for Proposals for Centralized Record Storage** for the Lucas County Clerk of Courts Records Center, according to specifications available for examination, or download the proposal by going to the site, <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.asp>. Suppliers interested in doing business with Lucas County must register in the Supplier Portal. To access the Lucas County Oracle Supplier Portal, please visit: https://eiebf.a.us6.oraclecloud.com/fscmUI/faces/NegotiationAbstracts?prcBuid=300000007278812&_adf.ctrlstate=l5ps8sau3_1&_afLoop=7126760101772357&_afWindow-Mode=0&_afWindowId=avudlxmca&_afFS=16&_afMT=screen&_afMFW=1920&_afMFH=932&_afMFDW=1920&_afMFDH=1080&_afMFC=8&_afMFCI=0&_afMFM=0&_afMFR=96&_afMFG=0&_afMFS=0&_afMFO=0

Prior to 2:00 P.M. (local time), September 15, 2026 each proposal shall contain the full name of each person submitting the proposal and the name of every person or company interested in same. The right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

By order of the Board of County Commissioners, Lucas County, Ohio.

Lisa A. Sobecki – President
Pete Gerken – Commissioner
Anita Lopez – Commissioner

AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING DIRECTOR

The Padua Center is seeking an After School Tutoring Director, the Nia Program. The successful applicant will have experience in an educational field as either a teacher or classroom aide. The main responsibilities of the Director are to provide tutoring and educational enrichment to about 15 elementary school children from 2:30-5:30 Monday through Thursday, beginning September 8, 2026 and will continue until the end of the school year. Volunteer helpers are available. Transportation and meals are managed by other employees. Pay range is \$17-\$20 an hour. Approximately 12 hours a week.

Please submit resume to thepaduacenter@gmail.com

For more information call: The Padua Center, 419 241 6465

OFFICE SPACES FOR RENT

Several to choose from in the heart of the Warren Sherman area – corner of Franklin and Bancroft and close to the Wayman Palmer YMCA. Contact 419-509-0492 for more information

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FULL UNIT TURN, TURNKEY MAKE-READY, AND COMPREHENSIVE UNIT READINESS SERVICES RFP26-R004

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive proposals for **Full Unit Turn, Turnkey Make-Ready, and Comprehensive Unit Readiness Services in accordance with RFP26-R004**. Received in accordance with law until **October 19, 2026, at 3:00 PM EST**. For documents: www.lucasmha.org; 424 Jackson Street., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9438 (TRS: Dial 711). Bidders are required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract, and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RESIDENTIAL UNIT TRADE, MAKE-READY, AND BUNDLED CORRECTIVE SERVICES RFP26-R005

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive proposals for **Residential Unit Trade, Make-Ready, and Bundled Corrective Services in accordance with RFP26-R005**. Received in accordance with law until **October 19, 2026, at 3:00 PM EST**. For documents: www.lucasmha.org; 424 Jackson Street., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9438 (TRS: Dial 711). Bidders are required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract, and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS SNOW REMOVAL SERVICES – ALL AMPS COMMUNITIES AND SCATTERED SITES RFP26-R007

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive proposals for **Snow Removal Services – All AMPS Communities and Scattered Sites in accordance with RFP26-R007**. Received in accordance with law until **October 16, 2026, at 3:00 PM EST**. For documents: www.lucasmha.org; 424 Jackson Street., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9452 (TRS: Dial 711). Bidders are required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract, and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



Call to place your ad:

419-243-0007

www.TheTruthToledo.com

Urban Wholistics' Golden Hour Gala: An Evening of Inspiration

The Truth Staff

"An evening of impact, inspiration and investment" was the theme of the sixth annual Golden Hour Gala presented by Urban Wholistics on Sunday, October 17, at the Olivet Lutheran Church Life Center.

The evening was indeed inspirational as Urban Wholistics brought together community leaders and honored contributors to their efforts and fed and entertained an audience of supporters.

The organization is an urban farming non-profit that not only grows healthy produce but also enables community members to acquire the nutrients needed from food for healthy digestion and to combat health disparities faced in urban communities,

Urban Wholistics Founder and Executive Director Sonia Flunder McNair has an urban farm located in the center city at 619 Woodland in the Art Tatum district. For 10 years she has championed urban farming within the community, cultivating local produce, educating youth and adults on farming and employing community members to work.

The evening's highlights included music provided by John Cunningham & Friends, a dinner by Chef Moussa Salloukh (of Souk and Sabira),

... continued on page 15



The Golden Gala honorees



Sonia Flunder-McNair



Examining the auction items



VOTE FOR ISSUE 9: Better Schools. Stronger Futures.

Issue 9 is critical for Toledo Public Schools. Issue 9 ensures highly qualified teachers, appropriate classes sizes, and innovative programming and curriculum that prepares students for the future.

ELECTION DAY NOV. 3

VOTE #9
FOR TOLEDO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PAID FOR BY COMMITTEE FOR SCHOOLS

Urban Wholistics... continued from page 14

an auction of a variety of donated products, a ceremony honoring supporters and a keynote address by farmer Bob Jones.

This year's Growing Community Award Recipients were: The Chef's Garden; Manhattan Cook; Melinda Aldridge; Alexicia Sims; Harold Mosley, Jr.; The Lathrop Company; Lucas County Commissioners; Greater Toledo Community Foundation; Toledo City Paper; Kristen Moncrief; The Sojourner's Truth.

The Chef's Garden was recognized for its commitment to sustainable agriculture, agricultural education and supporting the growth of local food systems and farming communities.

Manhattan Cook, a young graduate of Urban Wholistics Youth Farmers Program, was honored for her dedication and growth. She also received a scholarship in recognition of her accomplishments.

Aldridge was honored for her community leadership and advocacy. Mosley was honored for his community engagement and commitment to advancing positive change in underserved communities.

The Lathrop Company was recognized for its partnership in advancing accessibility at Urban Wholistics urban farm and farmhouse. The Lucas County Commissioners were thanked for investment in community development and support of local initiatives.

The Greater Toledo Community Foundation was noted for its philanthropic leadership and investment in grassroots organizations.

Kristen Moncrief was honored for her generosity, volunteer service and commitment to supporting community-based initiatives.

The Toledo City Paper and The Sojourner's Truth were honored for their commitment to community journalism.

Perhaps the highlight of the evening was the keynote address by Bob Jones, Jr., CEO of the Chef's Garden, a 40-year-old farm in Erie County that focuses on specialty vegetables, microgreens, herbs, lettuces and edible flowers for chefs around the country. The Chef's Garden uses traditional, regenerative farming methods combined with innovative technology to grow exceptional vegetables and to care for the land, as Jones was to explain in detail to the delight of the receptive audience.

Regenerative agriculture, said Jones, is a holistic, outcome-based approach to farming that focuses on restoring and improving soil health, biodiversity, water cycles, and overall ecosystem function rather than merely sustaining current conditions.

Urban Wholistics has been able to engage the

community through land development and the education on fresh food cultivation as well as consumption. The Urban Wholistics initiative started with the Urban South Youth Farmers (USFY) program that has now cultivated a Youth Farmer's Market. The USFY program teaches children how to grow their own food and introduces modern technology for current relevancy.

Urban Wholistics originated the passion through discovering the necessity for fresh food access after acquiring education on food nutrition. Flunder-McNair led the purpose-driven initiative to empower others to acquire the nutrients needed from food for healthy digestion and to combat health disparities faced in urban communities.



Bob Jones



Lucas County Commissioner Lisa Sobecki, Sonia Flunder McNair, State Rep. Erika White

GOOD LEADERS SPEAK... GREAT LEADERS LISTEN.



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ELGIN
ROGERS, JR.**

OUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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INVESTING IN PEOPLE



DELIVERING FOR DISTRICT 42



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Ohio House of Representatives - District 42

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MAKE OHIO AFFORDABLE AGAIN

**VOTE EARLY: OCTOBER 6 - NOVEMBER 1
ELECTION DAY: NOVEMBER 3**

Paid for by Citizens for Rogers



The Ohio Legislative Black Caucus Hosts Knock for Justice Rally and Canvas Launch

By Dawn Scotland

The Truth Reporter

The Ohio Legislative Black Caucus hosted a canvass launch at Winterfield Park on Wednesday, October 21, focusing on this year's judicial race. Community members, fraternity brothers, elected officials and members of The Movement attended the rally and canvas launch to talk directly to Ohio voters about the importance of Ohio's courts and the judicial candidates.

The event featured speakers Sixth District Court of Appeals Judge Myron C. Duhart and Supreme Court Justice Jennifer Brunner who are both up for reelection. Speeches in support of the cause were also given by OLBC members state Senator Paula Hicks-Hudson, state Representative Erika White, state Representative Munira Abdullahi and director of OLBC Lauren Morgan.

"We want to draw attention to our judicial races," stated Morgan. "This is an intentional effort from the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus to elevate the judicial races because, as people of color, we understand that we go through different phases and in some of those phases, for some of us, it is the judicial system. And when we do interact with the system, we want to make sure that it's fair and impartial, and justice is served. This is a nonpartisan judicial canvas for our candidates. We want to make sure that we stand up and we show up in every facet for them."

The Ohio Legislative Black Caucus is the oldest legislative Black caucus in the nation, leading the fight for justice, equity, and opportunity by championing policies that uplift Black Ohioans and strengthen communities across the state. (Source: OLBC Facebook)

To learn more about the OLBC visit their website ohiolegislative-blackcaucus.org or social media pages.



Judge Myron Duhart



Rep. Erika White



Justice Jennifer Brunner



Sen. Paula Hicks-Hudson

★★★★★
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OHIO!**

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-  SAFE, THRIVING NEIGHBORHOODS
-  GOOD-PAYING JOBS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
-  PROTECTING LAKE ERIE & OUR ENVIRONMENT
-  COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**1 FIND YOUR
POLLING PLACE**
SCAN THE QR CODE TO PLAN YOUR VOTE.



2 VOTE.

EARLY VOTING:
OCT. 6 - NOV. 1, 2026
ELECTION DAY:
NOVEMBER 3, 2026
POLLS OPEN 6:30 AM - 7:30 PM

VOTE PAULA HICKS-HUDSON

OHIO STATE SENATE, DISTRICT 11

PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF HICKS-HUDSON