



Portage County Democratic Party News and Notes - September 2020

EDITOR'S NOTE: As we now sit less than 50 days from Election Day, there is a LOT to cover this month. In the interest of getting right into it, we're dispensing with the letter from the Chair. It'll return in October. Until then, take a look below, then get out there and #BeTheChange in Portage County!

* * *

Call to Action - Volunteering

The heart of campaign season is upon us! Help us ensure Democrats win up and down the ballot this year by volunteering.

Here's how you can help:

- 1) **Make phone calls.** In a pandemic, the best and safest way to reach your neighbors is on the phone. Making calls is quick and easy...and it makes a difference! Look for opportunities on our [website](#) or at [Mobilize.us](#).
- 2) **Send text messages.** By far, the most persuasive contacts you can make are with your own friends and family. Download the [Vote Joe](#) app from your app store and start reaching out to your circle today!
- 3) **Drop literature.** While we aren't knocking on doors this year, we are doing person-to-person contact in a safe way by dropping candidate information on doors all over Portage County. [Sign up](#) to join us in this activity as early as 9/26!
- 4) **Pass out slate cards.** Making sure voters who are headed into the polls know who the Democrats are - up and down the ballot - will ensure that ALL of our

candidates have the best possible shot at success. [Sign up](#) to help us, starting with early voting on 10/6 and all the way through Election Day!

5) **Be a poll worker.** Poll workers are the heart of our democracy...and we need more folks than ever. If you're relatively young and healthy, consider signing up to [work the polls on Election Day](#).

Don't see your ideal opportunity above? You can get creative, too! We ask that you [let us know](#) what you're up to so we can help spread the word...but by all means, if something strikes you as worth doing, do it!

* * *

Elections Updates

Register to vote by 10/5! Time is running short to make sure you're eligible for this year's election. [Register to vote online](#) ASAP!

Request your General Election vote-by-mail ballot today...but only once! It's not too early to request an absentee ballot for the November General Election. The Board will start mailing ballots to voters who've asked for them on 10/6. That said, lots of folks are helping people request ballots this year (good!), and the board is getting a lot of duplicate applications (not good!). Request your ballot only once, then visit the Board's [website](#) to make sure they got it and track when it will arrive.

Poll workers still needed! As we mentioned above, the coronavirus outbreak may severely limit the number of poll workers available this fall...which could lead to other unintended consequences. Don't let it happen! If you or someone you know might be a good poll worker, have them complete an application [online](#) ASAP.

For more information, please call the Board of Elections at 330-297-3511.

* * *

Upcoming Events

NOTE: The list below does not include all the events going on - only the ones we have room for here! For a full list, visit our website's [Events](#) page, and check our [Facebook Page](#) regularly.

[Judge Cynthia Rice Fundraiser - September 17th - 5pm - 7pm - Chardon](#)

Judge Cynthia Rice is running to keep her seat on the 11th District Court of Appeals. This court is critical to ensuring justice in our region...and you can help keep this highly respected jurist at work! Details at the link above.

[Drive The Vote Kent - September 19th - 1pm - 3pm - Fred Fuller Park Kent](#)

Drive the Vote Event is hosted by the Portage Citizens for Decency. Please join Portage County Democrats for a safe, socially distanced Drive-Thru to meet all your Portage County candidates!

[Biden for President Weekend of Action Phone/Text Banks - 9/19 and 9/20 - 1pm - 4pm; 4pm - 7pm - Virtual](#)

Kick off the weekend by reaching out to friends and family for Joe Biden! Lots of opportunities all weekend long to help folks make their voices heard and their plans to vote. Follow the link above for more information.

[WAKE Phone Bank with Betsy Rader - September 21st - 6pm - 8pm - Virtual](#)

Join WAKE in Aurora for a phone bank on behalf of State Senate candidate Betsy Rader! Training via Zoom, followed by pure neighbor-to-neighbor conversation.

[Portage/Geauga Phone Banks - 9/22 and 9/29 - 6pm - 8pm - Virtual](#)

Join Democrats in Portage and Geauga counties in reaching out to friends and neighbors for Joe Biden!

[Think Fink Meet & Greet - September 24th - 4pm - 7pm - Ravenna Elks Clubs](#)

Join our candidate for Recorder Leighann Fink for a meet and greet event at the Ravenna Elks Club, with food truck fun and more! Details at Leighann's Facebook Page and above.

[Portage CARES Pop-Up Pantry - September 26th - 9am - 11am - Chuggers Streetsboro](#)

#PortageCARES will continue our on-going pop-up pantry, this time in Streetsboro. Distribution begins at 9am and will go until we run out of food or 11am, whichever comes first.

[*Portage Dems Lit Drop - September 26th - 10am - 1:30pm - Kent*](#)

Join us as we do a socially distant lit drop of Portage County! We'll be meeting for a quick training, then you'll get your doors and your lit and you'll be on your way!

[*Betsy Rader's Amazing Race! - September 27th - 2pm - 6pm - Newbury Twp.*](#)

Pick up your first clues at the starting line, then use your car and smartphone to solve puzzles that lead you to locations throughout Senate District 18! Meet and begin at the Geauga Democratic Headquarters (2420 Kinsman Rd, Newbury Township, Ohio) then use your car to follow clues to locations around State Senate District 18! RSVP above.

[*Drive The Vote Aurora - October 3rd - 11am - 2pm - Kiwanis-Moore Park Aurora*](#)

Drive the Vote Event is hosted by the Portage Citizens for Decency. Please join Portage County Democrats for a safe, socially distanced Drive-Thru to meet all your Portage County candidates!

[*Federated Democratic Women Meeting - October 10th - 11am - 12pm - Zoom*](#)

Join the Federated Democratic Women for their regular monthly meeting.

[*Sunday Funday Phone Banks - Sundays - 6pm - 8pm - Virtual*](#)

Help us save the soul of this nation and turn Portage Co. blue by phone banking for Joe Biden! All are welcome, and training is provided before calling begins.

[*Tim Ryan Phone/Text Banks - Tuesdays and Thursdays - 6:30p - 8:15p - Virtual*](#)

The Tim Ryan for Congress campaign is making phone calls and texts to our neighbors in Portage County...and you're invited to help! Each session starts with a training before we dive into making calls.

[*Ohio for Biden Text Banks - Various - Virtual*](#)

Team Joe is texting folks all over Ohio...and we're saving a spot for you! Dates/times available to fit almost any schedule. Take a look at the link above for more.

* * *

ICYMI - News and Notes

[Advance Ohio - LaRose says no extra ballot drop boxes for November - 8/12/20](#)

"(Republican) Secretary of State Frank LaRose said Wednesday he is banning county boards of elections from offering more than one drop box for completed absentee ballots this November, saying it's grown too late to make changes to how Ohio will administer this year's presidential election."

[Advance Ohio - Sykes announces PAC to galvanize Black women voters, candidates - 8/14/20](#)

"State Rep. Emilia Sykes, the leader of the Ohio House Democrats, has started a political action committee dedicated to galvanizing Black women voters and empowering Black women in office."

The Portager (Newsletter Only) - An InfoWars personality was arrested in Palmyra - 8/17/20

"Far-right social media celebrity Millie Weaver (aka Millennial Millie) was arrested at a house in Diamond on Friday, along with her boyfriend Gavin Wince, both on charges of robbery, tampering with evidence, obstructing justice and domestic violence. Weaver is a contributor to InfoWars and has recently posted a trailer for a video segment she was going to release in which two alleged sources reveal to her the details of a sprawling conspiracy."

[WTVG - Local Dems say Ohio path to victory must include rural areas - 8/18/20](#)

"'They focused on our large urban areas and of course you want to focus there but you can't, in a state like Ohio, ignore big parts of the state and expect to win. And that's exactly why it happened,' said Ohio Democratic Party Chair David Pepper."

[Record-Courier - Clyde 'Just honored to represent Ohio' at DNC - 8/19/20](#)

"Portage County Commissioner Kathleen Clyde addressed the nation from a 'national stage' in prime time Tuesday, all from her home in Kent. Clyde was one of 17 young Democrats from across the nation who provided prerecorded clips endorsing Joe Biden's run for president."

[WKYC - Group rallies in Akron to support Goodyear after Trump calls for boycott - 8/20/20](#)

"Akron Mayor Daniel Horrigan said to tell someone not to buy Goodyear tires is 'reprehensible language'. Local Congressman Tim Ryan was among the participants in Thursday's rally. 'Donald Trump doesn't know us. He doesn't understand us,' he said."

[*Toledo Blade - As Dem nominee, Biden in for a tough race in Ohio - 8/21/20*](#)

"Ohio is the swingy-est of swing states,' New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker, who ran against Mr. Biden in the primary, told Ohio Democrats at their last virtual luncheon of the convention. 'You all are on the hinge of history and could turn it either way.'"

[*The Portager - Garrettsville racism spills into the open - 8/24/20*](#)

"After nearly three months of Black Lives Matter protests in downtown Garrettsville, sometimes attended by a solitary person holding a sign, the village is in the midst of a reckoning over whether racism exists in the areas of northeastern Portage County."

[*Cincinnati Enquirer - Ohio Dems sue LaRose over drop box limitations - 8/25/20*](#)

"The Ohio Democratic Party is suing (Republican) Secretary of State Frank LaRose over LaRose's decision to allow only one drop box per county for absentee ballots this November. The lawsuit was filed in the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas. It states there is no legal justification for LaRose's order and asks a judge to rescind it."

[*Ohio Public Radio - Indicted former Ohio Speaker returns to work, defending bailout law - 9/1/20*](#)

"'I'm not going to cause any problems here. I mean, I'm just coming here to participate and vote for the people of my district,' said Rep. Larry Householder (R-Glenford)...Householder said he's innocent of the racketeering charges related to the nuclear bailout law..."

[*The Portager - Someone keeps painting "White Lives Matter" on KSU rock - 9/2/20*](#)

"Someone painted the Rock on campus last week with 'White Lives Matter,' and it caused a powerful response from the local anti-racism movement. Kent State's president formed a task force on racism, and Black United Students put out a statement saying they refused to let this be 'swept under the rug.'"

[*WKSU- Brown welcomes eviction moratorium, but keeps pushing for greater assistance - 9/4/20*](#)

"This week of the Centers for Disease Control announced a moratorium on evictions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Sen. Sherrod Brown says he is concerned about some provisions of the order. He says under the rule, tenants

won't be evicted this year, but they will need to come up with eight months of rent in January."

[*Record-Courier - Garrettsville divided amid race protests - 9/8/20*](#)

"The BLM demonstrators were visited by Portage County Commissioner Kathleen Clyde and Portage County Treasurer Brad Cromes, who said they wanted to show their support. 'I just want folks to know that peaceful protest is part of our American system' Clyde said...Cromes said he was there to express personal support for the demonstrators. 'I'm out here as someone who cares deeply about all parts of our community,' he said."

[*Columbus Dispatch - Presidential campaigns reset in Ohio after Labor Day - 9/8/20*](#)

"Democrat Joe Biden's campaign began airing a 60-second ad in Ohio and eight other battleground states. The spot, dubbed 'Fresh Start,' 'shows how Joe Biden can put the darkness of the past four years behind us and start fresh with real leadership,' his campaign said."

[*Record-Courier - Kennedy running for hunger - 9/8/20*](#)

"While campaigning for a seat on the Portage County Board of Commissioners, John Kennedy met a lot of hungry people. Now, he's lacing up his running shoes to do something about it. Kennedy plans to run 100 miles through every township, village and city in Portage County over three consecutive weekends to raise money for Change Hunger of Portage County."

[*Washington Post \(Opinion\) - Biden's campaign full throttle: Trump lied, people died - 9/10/20*](#)

"Is there any sign Republicans are ready to break with the president? Sen. Sherrod Brown...confessed 'I can't explain this spinelessness.' History, he said dryly, will not treat them well. Speaking for many Americans, Brown explained: 'I am flummoxed...It must bother their consciences.' As the lawyers would say, the last part assumes facts not in evidence."

[*The Portager - Commissioners declare racism a public health crisis - 9/11/20*](#)

"The commissioners voted 2-0 in favor of their resolution, with one abstention: (Republican) Sabrina Christian-Bennett...'It's virtually worthless,' she told me by phone. 'You can pass resolutions all you want, but it has no power.' Then she said she had to go."

[Advance Ohio - Judge orders Ohio to allow online absentee ballot applications - 9/11/20](#)

"Ohio officials must allow voters to apply for absentee ballots online, a Franklin County judge ruled on Friday. Common Pleas Judge Stephen L. McIntosh, a Democrat, sided with Ohio Democratic Party attorneys who argued nothing in current state law prohibits state officials from offering an online option. (EDITOR'S NOTE: Sec. of State Frank LaRose appealed, and the ruling is stayed pending the outcome of that appeal.)"

[WSYX - Ohio controlling board will not allow paid postage for absentee ballots - 9/14/20](#)

"'Republicans have repeatedly made it clear that they are not interested in making this general election as accessible as possible during a pandemic,' said House Minority Leader Emilia Strong Sykes. 'But as Democrats have continued to point out, the Secretary of State does not need additional legislative approval to make this happen.'"

* * *

For more news and notes on the activities of Democrats from around Ohio, sign up for the Ohio Democratic Party Daily Update [here](#).

[Check us out on Facebook!](#)

[Please share this email with your friends and family](#)

Paid For by Portage County Democratic Party

If you would prefer to not receive future emails, you can [unsubscribe here](#). If you received this message from a friend and would like to join our email list, you can [sign up here](#). We will not sell your personal information. You can check out our [Privacy Policy here](#).

Powered by
blueutopia