



Portage County Democratic Party

News and Notes - March 2019

Dear %firstname%,

PRESS ON

Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men and women with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent.

-Unknown

Spring has arrived, and with it crocuses, daffodils, tulips and...elections signs. Soon we will be full swing into the election and campaign cycle for the upcoming May 7th election. Although the ballot is short (there is but one countywide race, for municipal judge, three city races for council in Ravenna, Streetsboro and Kent, and one mayoral race in Streetsboro) it is still an important election, for free and open elections are what define us as Americans.

I realize many of us have lost faith in the system's ability to elect leaders who are intelligent, informed and caring. Considering the calamity unfolding in Washington, who could blame them? But we must not lose the faith, for that is exactly what the opposition wants - for us to become apathetic, to give up...to stop voting. We must do everything we can to reinvigorate our base, encourage engagement in the political process, register new voters and keep current voters going to the polls if we are to turn back the assault on our constitution and democracy.

We must not abandon our beliefs and priorities and succumb to the rhetoric and confusion that is being used to wear us and the citizens of this country down. I encourage you all to continue the important work we have ahead of us unabated and undistracted. We must Press On.

Forward,



Dean DePerro, Chariman

* * *

Upcoming Events

[McElrath Candidate Breakfast - 4/6/19, 10a - 12p - Winfield Church of God, Ravenna](#)

This free, open breakfast event will feature candidates who will appear on the ballot at the May 7, 2019 Primary Election.

[Ohio Dems Main Street Initiative Training - 4/6/19, 11a - 1:30p - Cuyahoga Dems HQ](#)

The Ohio Democratic Party is hosting a training for first-time candidates (or anyone running in 2019 who would like a refresher on how to run an effective operation). Training will include how to make a campaign plan, messaging training, fundraising tips and more.

[Central Committee Meeting w/ ODP's Liz Shirey - 4/11/19, 6p - 7:30p - Maplewood Career Center](#)

Join the Central Committee for its quarterly meeting at Maplewood Career Center in Ravenna. In addition to regular business, the Committee will welcome Liz Shirey, Director of Party Affairs for the Ohio Democratic Party, who will present the Party's breakdown of the results of the 2018 election and plan for winning in 2020. All are welcome to attend.

[Federated Women Meeting - 4/13/19, 9a - 11a - English Pub & Bistro, Ravenna](#)

The Federated Democratic Women of Portage County will gather for their regular

monthly meeting. Please RSVP no later than 4/10/19 to Terrie Nielsen at 330-442-5095 or via [email](#).

[Ohio Young Dems State Convention - 4/27/19, 10a - 3:30p, Ohio Dems HQ](#)
Democrats under 40 years of age are invited to participate in the Ohio Young Democrats' State Convention! In addition to speakers, trainings and updates, the Ohio Young Democrats will be electing leadership for 2019-2020. Please RSVP [here](#).

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Elections Updates

Voter Registration Deadline Approaching. The deadline to register to vote in the May 7, 2019 Primary Election is next week, Monday, April 8, 2019. To check your registration - and register online - visit www.myohiovote.com.

Poll Workers Needed. There is a critical need for Precinct Election Officials to work the May 7, 2019 Primary Election in Portage County. Trainings have already begun, and are available on a rolling basis. Please contact the Board of Elections at your earliest convenience to sign up at 330-297-3518, or visit their [website](#).

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ICYMI - News and Notes

[Cincinnati.com - What's the state of the state? - 3/4/19](#)

If Ohio were a patient, would it be sickly or healthy? Newly elected Gov. Mike DeWine has inherited a state that's older, less wealthy, and more likely to be unemployed than the nation at large. The rate of overdose deaths is still high and infants are dying before their first birthdays.

[Record-Courier - Kent teen asks Ryan for answers on Lordstown - 3/5/19](#)

"I would like to know your position on our Lordstown General Motors plant being closed. I'm personally affected because I'm being forced to move. It's kind of hard. What's our progress on that?" Stephen asked in front of 100 of his peers..."That's tough, man. That's brutal, and I'm sorry that happened," Ryan said. "This has been happening for a long time where people are getting

displaced in our economy and forced to take jobs that pay less."

[WOSU - Sherrod Brown out of 2020 Presidential race - 3/8/19](#)

Sherrod Brown announced yesterday that he won't run for President in 2020.

[Beacon-Journal - Rep. Tim Ryan still considering presidential run - 3/11/19](#)

Rep. Tim Ryan says he's still deciding whether he will join the crowded Democratic presidential candidate field, especially after Ohio Sen. Sherrod Brown decided against running.

[Columbus Dispatch - 'Heartbeat bill' passes Ohio Senate, ready for expected House OK - 3/13/19](#)

By a six-vote margin, the controversial "Heartbeat Bill" passed the Ohio Senate on Wednesday, moving another step closer to becoming law after several attempts in recent years fell short.

[Record-Courier - County weighs continuity plan - 3/17/19](#)

How would Portage County provide services if its administration building would have to close? That's a question that will be weighted by county officials in the coming weeks, as the Portage County Emergency Management office guides the county through a continuity plan.

[Washington Post - Trump blames union leader for GM job cuts in Ohio - jobs the president once vowed he'd save - 3/18/19](#)

"Democrat UAW Local 1112 President David Green ought to get his act together and produce. G.M. let our Country down, but other much better car companies are coming into the U.S. in droves," Trump tweeted Sunday.

[Record-Courier - Portage judge asked to do jail time instead of driver program - 3/21/19](#)

It's unclear why Doherty, 56, of Edinburg, initially chose to spend 72 hours in the Portage County jail, which has been overcrowded for years, instead of completing the DIP program to which she was originally sentenced. The document requesting that her motion to be allowed to complete jail time be revoked says that Doherty was able to schedule DIP beginning on Thursday at 6p.m.

[Columbus Dispatch \(Editorial\) - Ohio legislature's watered down gas tax](#)

[inadequate - 3/25/19](#)

Ohio legislators who believe that shortchanging Ohio's roads and bridges is a pathway to re-election are serving neither their constituents nor the state's best interests.

[Massillon Independent - Tale of two DUIs: Kent State professor, the judge in her case - 3/25/19](#)

Monday's hearing was Doherty's first day on the bench after she was scheduled to complete the intervention program. Her driver's license has been suspended with some privileges, such as driving to work and to doctor's appointments, until next February.

[Record-Courier - 3 Portage school districts would see no new funds under House plan - 3/29/19](#)

A funding plan proposed for Ohio schools would offer no additional dollars for three of Portage County's rural districts, while Aurora schools could see just under \$1 million added to its revenue.

[Record-Courier - Land Bank flips first home - 3/31/19](#)

Last year, the Portage County Land Bank decided to do something that it hadn't done before. The organization completed its first "Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resale" project, flipping a house in Shalersville and selling it quickly to a family. "It's an exciting thing," said Brad Cromes, vice chairman of the Land Bank's Board of Directors. "It's not just demo work anymore."

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

The Portage County Democratic Party

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