



Portage County Democratic Party
News and Notes - May 2019

Dear %firstname%,

First and foremost, I want to extend a sincere congratulations to Melissa Roubic on her victory in last month's Primary Election for Municipal Court Judge. No one filed to challenge her by the deadline, which means she will be unopposed this November and will take her seat on the bench in January. I am proud of the races Melissa and Stephen Smith ran for this seat, and I know she will represent us well in this new capacity.

Congratulations too to all who won their races for municipal seats and now move on to the General Election. Portage County residents will have a number of great options this fall when they go to the ballot to choose their local leaders, and I look forward to working to elect these fine Democrats in the months ahead.

Below, you will find several opportunities for engagement happening in the weeks ahead. I hop you'll take advantage of them and keep up the good work we're doing to lead Portage County forward. If there are items you'd like us to share in future newsletters, please don't hesitate to let us know by responding to this email.

Thank you for all you do to keep our Party - and Portage County - strong.

Forward,

Dean DePerro, Chairman

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Upcoming Events

[Clyde Birthday Fundraiser feat. Sen. Sherrod Brown - 5/31/19 - 4:30p - 6p - Venice Cafe](#)

Commissioner Kathleen Clyde is turning 40! Come help us celebrate Kathleen's milestone birthday and the great work she does on our behalf with special guest, Sen. Sherrod Brown. Tickets start at \$50. RSVP at <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/kclydemay31>.

[Federated Women Wine Tasting Fundraiser - 6/13/19 - 5p - 8p - Ravenna Elks Club](#)

The Federated Democratic Women are hosting their annual wine tasting fundraiser, with proceeds to benefit their work on behalf of our candidates. Tickets are \$35/each, and include tastings. A silent auction will also take place. Make checks payable to "Federated Democratic Women" and mail to Leota Reale, 7387 W. Lake Blvd., Kent, OH 44240.

[Summit Dems Roosevelt Dinner feat. Rep. Tim Ryan - 6/23/19 - 4p - 7p - Tangier Event Center](#)

The 19th annual Summit Co. Dems FDR Dinner will feature special guest, Congressman and candidate for President Tim Ryan. Individual tickets start at \$150 each, and include dinner, beer and wine. For questions or to RSVP, contact Felita at 330-434-1311 or felita@summitdems.org. Please make checks payable to "Summit County Democratic Party."

[Brad's BBQ Birthday Bash - 6/27/19 - 5p - 7p - MadCap Brew Co.](#)

It's Portage Co. Treasurer Brad Cromes' 35th birthday, and we want to celebrate! You're invited to a BBQ Birthday Bash in his honor. Individual reservations are \$35 per person, and sponsorships are available. Donate online at www.bradcromes.com, or make checks payable to "Citizens for Cromes" and mail to 550 E. Riddle Ave. Ravenna, OH 44266. Come on out, enjoy some brews and 'cue, and help us keep Brad on the job for Portage County!

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Elections Updates

Poll Workers Needed! Though the May Primary is behind us, we still need folks

to work the polls the rest of this year and into 2020. It's a great way to serve the community - and you get paid to do it! To learn more, visit the Board of Elections [website](#).

Save the Date - August Special Election. The August Special Election (issues only) will take place Tuesday, August 6, 2019. The voter registration deadline for this election is July 8, 2019. Keep your eyes on co.portage.oh.us/board-elections for details.

Filing Deadline - Nonpartisan Offices. The filing deadline for nonpartisan offices, including Township Trustee and Fiscal Officer and local School Board, is August 7, 2019 at 4pm. Know someone who would be a good candidate for one of these races? [Let us know!](#) The Ohio Democratic Party has lots of great resources available to help.

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ICYMI - News and Notes

[Advance Ohio - LaTourette resigns to take childrens' services job - 4/25/19](#)

For the second time in as many days, a Republican state lawmaker who opposed the election of Larry Householder as House speaker is resigning. State Rep. Sarah LaTourette, a Geauga County lawmaker serving her third term in House District 76 (northern Portage), announced that she will leave the legislature May 5, as Gov. Mike DeWine has appointed her executive director of Ohio Family and Children First...

[Advance Ohio - Harris tells Dems to 'speak truth' in the 2020 election - 4/28/19](#)

Sen. Kamala Harris, a California Democrat running for president, urged a friendly crowd at the Cuyahoga Democrats' annual dinner to "speak truth" in the 2020 presidential election... "This is a moment in time that requires us each as individuals to look in the mirror and ask a question. That question being, who are we?" Harris said. "And I think what we all know is part of the answer to that question is we are better than this."

[Cincinnati.com - Judges to Ohio: Congressional map is gerrymandered. Draw a new one. - 5/3/19](#)

The decision could be a game-changer for Democrats in the state, especially in Hamilton County. Democrats have long decried how the legislature drew the

current map to help Steve Chabot, R-Westwood... "If this stands, Chabot is out of office," Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper said.

[*Record-Courier - Delayed hire for county position angers Republicans - 5/5/19*](#)

Commissioner Kathleen Clyde confirmed that she asked that the hiring be put on hold because she wanted to make sure the best candidate was hired, and accused Christian-Bennett of "grandstanding."...she said. "I'm not sure why a Republican commissioner is so intent on getting a Republican trustee in this position when other processes weren't followed. Every candidate deserves a fair change and a fair shake."

[*Athens Messenger - Officials stress 'critical need' for more local gov funds - 5/7/19*](#)

The state of Ohio needs to better invest in its communities and should not pass the financial burden to the local level, four officials argued at the Athens County Courthouse last week. The four spoke as state legislators have begun negotiating the state budget, a process held in Columbus every two years that wraps up in June.

[*Record-Courier - Melissa Roubic headed to November in judge's race; good night for school levies - 5/8/19*](#)

Full unofficial results from the May Primary Election in Portage County.

[*Toledo Blade - Pelosi to Democrats: "To ignore Ohio would be to our peril" - 5/17/19*](#)

U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Ohio Democrats are not giving up the dream of a blue Ohio just yet, arguing the nation's perennial bellwether isn't as red as the pundits claim. "We have to make the decision to win in Ohio in 2020," the California Democratic leader told Buckeye Democrats on Friday. "No Democrat would ever say, 'We're not going to fight it out in Ohio.' To do that would be to our peril."

[*Record-Courier - Portage County offices working to accept credit card payments - 5/17/19*](#)

Portage County's government offices are preparing to have a unified system to accept credit cards for payments. Portage County Treasurer Brad Cromes said legislation by commissioners is the first step in the process, and the county should have the program in place by the end of the year.

[*Advance Ohio - Ohio House's latest bipartisan bills address sentencing reform, college credit transfers - 5/21/19*](#)

The Ohio House's bipartisan bill blowout continued Tuesday, as Republican and Democratic members jointly unveiled another four "priority" bills on issues from sentencing reform to transferring college class credits. The legislation, unveiled during a Statehouse news conference, is the latest effort by state lawmakers to show that in an era rife with partisanship and discord, they can collaborate on issues that both parties care about.

[*Record-Courier - Commissioners crunching numbers for jail, drug prevention - 5/21/19*](#)

An additional \$1.2 million will be needed to pay 17 staff members. For now, commissioners agreed to allocate \$500,000 to fund those additional staffers for the last half of 2019...That leaves \$800,000 in the fund for drug prevention programs. "On the other hand, we're being told that if we implement these programs, it will keep people from using the jail," Commissioner Vicki Kline said.

[*Plunderbund - National Figures Visiting Ohio: Still the Road to the White House - 5/22/19*](#)

And on the Democratic side, Bernie Sanders, Kamala Harris, Beto O'Rourke, and Elizabeth Warren have all visited voters in the Buckeye State, and we're still 10 months away from our primary. Ohio's own U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan is running for President, and the Ohio Democratic Party hosted U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi for its annual Legacy Dinner...if Ohio is no longer in play, someone needs to tell Washington.

[*Bloomberg - Ohio Energy Fight has Koch and Environmentalists on the Same Side - 5/23/19*](#)

The Sierra Club and billionaire Charles Koch have found at least one thing to agree on: they hate Ohio's plan to take away renewable power subsidies and give them to coal and nuclear plants.

[*New York Times - Hate comes to Dayton, and Dayton unites against it - 5/25/19*](#)

Mayor Nan Whaley of Dayton vowed to use the protest as a jumping point for further racial reform in the city. "We are a community that can come together," she said. "Dayton is still too segregated and unequal and that has to change, but this chapter is over."

[*WNWO - Sen. Brown pushes bill to improve child welfare during opioid epidemic*](#)

[- 5/28/19](#)

Senator Sherrod Brown is pushing legislation to help families who are raising children due to the addiction crisis...he stopped by Lucas County Children's Services on Tuesday to talk about the Family First Transition and Support Act.

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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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