

ELECTION

2024

PRIMARY

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from around the region.*

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Mike Folk stopped the unlawful tripling of the Fire Fee in 2018 Saving Berkeley County Taxpayers millions!

Judge declares Berkeley County fire-fee increase to be void

Matthew Umstead Oct 4, 2018 Updated Oct 5, 2018

Led the push to Pass a budget during Regular Session!

The Budget Paradigm



"I will represent the citizens of Berkeley County and Senate District 15, not the corporate special interest!"

BUDGET

- ✓ Reduce or eliminate "unclassified" spending in the state budget.
- ✓ Limit the size of the budget to the rate of inflation & population growth.
- ✓ Eliminate Equipment & Inventory Tax to attract new businesses and also allow current businesses to grow.



ECONOMY

- ✓ Support free enterprise, job creation & tax reform

First sitting legislator to introduce their own budget bill in 2017 to counter Jim Justice's \$450 million tax increase!

VOTING RECORD

- ✓ 100% Pro-Life Sponsored "Life at Conception" Bill
- ✓ 100% Pro-Second Amendment Presented & defended Constitutional Carry on the House Floor.

EDUCATION

- ✓ Repeal Common Core
- ✓ Create WV teacher-developed testing
- ✓ More dollars to the classroom not, bureaucrats.



EXPERIENCE

Airline Pilot/Flight Instructor, Farmer, 3 Term Delegate, Former Teacher (Berkeley Co & Shepherd)

Phone: 304-279-6797 E-mail: mike@wv.folk4wv.com Website: folk4wv.com Twitter: @MichaelFolk34
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Why The Journal can help you reach voters.

GET YOUR MESSAGE OUT TODAY!

Newspapers can help political candidates understand who the most loyal voters are.

- **7 in 10** people who always vote in local elections read newspaper media in print, online/on media devices in an average week.
- **8 in 10** of these voters contribute to political organizations.
- **6 in 10** (62%) of people who always vote in local elections are 50 or older.
- **67%** of those voters read a print newspaper and more than 7 in 10 (73%) read a print or digital newspaper in an average week.

THE MAJORITY OF LOYAL VOTERS

from all political party affiliations read newspaper media.



71%

DEMOCRATS



68%

REPUBLICANS



71%

INDEPENDENTS

NEWSPAPERS REACH CRUCIAL, UNDECIDED VOTERS.

The conventional wisdom among consultants says that only 10-15% of that electorate is typically up for grabs at the end of any campaign. But in reality, that number is much higher. That's because while only 10-15% of voters may be truly "undecided," many more are far from certain about their vote.

- Newspapers play a major role in keeping voters up to date on news and current affairs, including local politics.
- These voters know that with a newspaper, they'll get real, in-depth coverage of the local issues most important to them. The same often determine how they'll vote on election day.

The Journal CONTACT US TODAY AT 304-263-8931

Officials release information on primary election

BY ANGELA F. DURKIN

adurkin@journal-news.net

MARTINSBURG — With the deadline for voter registration approaching, Berkeley County Clerk Tony Petrucci issued a release to remind voters of key dates and registration deadlines for the May 14 primary election.

These dates reflect the West Virginia Secretary of State (SOS) 2024 Elections Calendar, which will affect all counties.

According to the elections calendar, the voter registration deadline is April 23. This date also serves as the deadline for voters to change their political party affiliation.

“There are multiple ways to register to vote in West Virginia, and our staff at the Berkeley County Voter Registration Office is happy to provide assistance to any resident who may have questions about registering to vote,” Petrucci said in the statement.

In the release, Petrucci reminded residents to check to see if their registration is still active if they have not voted in several prior elections.

The SOS website, <https://ovr.sos.wv.gov/Register/Landing>, can be used to check registration, as well as register to vote online or change party affiliation. To submit a registration form online, residents must enter their driver’s license number or an approved identification (ID) card number, along with the last four digits of their Social Security card.

Residents can also register to vote by mail or in person. Downloadable registrations forms are available at the SOS website. Registration forms are also available at the county clerk’s office, public libraries, colleges, universities and senior community centers. Those unable to download or pick up a form in person can call the Secretary of State’s Office at 304-558-6000, or toll-free at 866-767-8683, to request a mailed registration form.

Once complete, the forms can be delivered to the county clerk’s office by mail or in person.

From May 1-11, excluding Sunday, registered voters may participate in early voting in Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan counties.

In-person votes can be cast at one of three locations in Berkeley County: 400 W. Stephen St., Martinsburg; Bedington Ruritan, 3947 Williamsport Pike, north of Martinsburg; and the South Berkeley Vol-



Journal file photo by Angela F. Durkin

The South Berkeley Volunteer Fire Company substation in Pikeside has been secured by the Berkeley County Office of Voter Registration as one of three early voting location for 2024 elections.

unteer Fire Company substation, at 4127 Winchester Ave., south of Martinsburg. Voting hours for this 10-day period at each location will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Early voting in Jefferson County will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Charles Washington Hall, 100 W. Washington St., second floor, in Charles Town. Voters can access the second floor by using the entrance marked “Suite 201” on North George Street.

In Morgan County, early voting will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Morgan County Clerk’s Office, 77 Fairfax St., Room 102, in Berkeley Springs, excluding Sundays.

Voters who are unable to participate in early voting may vote through absentee ballot. The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot is May 8. This applies to registered voters who are ill, disabled, traveling or studying outside of their home countries or who meet other criteria. Visit the SOS website for more information.

Hand-delivered absentee ballots must be returned to county clerk office by Monday, May 13, for the primary election. If returning them by mail, they must be postmarked and mailed to the county clerk’s office by Tuesday, May 14, and received by Monday, May 20, in order to be counted.

Voting at the polls will be held from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 14. Votes will be cast using a touch screen to mark each ballot choice, and the voting machine will print a completed ballot for voters to place in a scanner or ballot box. Headphones and a tactile keypad will be available for voters who require an audio ballot.

Voters registered with one of the state’s four recognized political parties (Democratic, Libertarian, Mountain or Republican) can either vote that party’s ballot or the nonpartisan ballot. Voters registered with another party or with no party can choose which recognized party’s ballot

they’d like or vote a nonpartisan ballot.

Voters must present an acceptable form of ID, such as a driver’s license, U.S. Passport, birth certificate, W.Va. hunting or fishing license or a voter registration card. First-time voters who haven’t provided ID when registering to vote must provide a valid ID either at the polls or include a copy with their absentee ballots.

Exemptions are available to residents of state-run long-term care facilities, voters accompanied by an adult who has known them for at least six months and voters who are known by a poll worker for at least six months. Registered voters who cannot get an approved ID can apply for a free voter card at the county clerk’s office. Voters with disabilities are allowed to receive certain types of assistance or accommodations when voting either in person or via absentee ballot.

Visit <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/VoteDisability.aspx> for full details.

A NOTE TO VOTERS

The Journal is pleased to once again provide an Election Guide to help educate voters on which candidates are running for which office and to provide some insight into their platforms whenever possible. To prepare for this publication, our editorial staff reached

out by all known contact methods to invite all candidates to participate. While not all chose to provide information, we encourage voters to continue to research every candidate to make the most informed decision possible when casting your ballot on May 14.

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WITH OVER 18 YEARS OF POLITICAL EXPERIENCE, CHRIS IS THE ONLY CHOICE FOR THE 97TH DISTRICT.

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JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

DONNA JOY

Name: Donna Joy
Hometown: Shepherdstown
Office sought: Jefferson County Board of Education



How long have you lived in the area?

I moved with my family from Charles Town to Middleway in 2005. In 2011, we relocated to Shepherdstown.

Relevant experience serving the community:

I bring a wealth of community service experience to the table. Currently concluding my first term as a member of the Jefferson County Board of Education, I possess a deep understanding of our educational landscape. Additionally, I've volunteered as a teacher, empowering adults in our community learn English and personal finance. My role as a volunteer recovery coach highlights my commitment to supporting individuals facing challenges. Serving on the board of the Jefferson Berkeley Alliance further demonstrates my dedication to collaborative community initiatives. Moreover, as the Director of The Joy Group, I lead philanthropic endeavors such as food and clothing drives, aiding the homeless, and supporting single parents. My advocacy for education extends beyond our district — I serve as a volunteer ambassador for WVU's economic master's degree program for teachers, actively recruiting educators for this invaluable opportunity. My experiences have afforded me a holistic understanding of the needs and aspirations of our community members.

What are the top two pressing issues relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

Employee Recruitment and Retention: Securing and retaining qualified employees is fundamental to our district's success. I am committed to cultivating an environment of respect and accountability within our educational institutions. This includes empowering employees with a stronger voice in board meetings and advocating for locality pay to ensure competitive compensation. Moreover, I will actively pursue substantial incentives to make a career in education financially viable. Transparency and inclusivity in the hiring process are critical to attracting talented staff. Ultimately, prioritizing the respect and involvement of staff in decisions directly impacting them and the students they serve is paramount.

Enhancing Student Achievement via Operational Efficiency: Our district is undergoing significant transformations to enhance operational efficiency. This began with the appointment

ment of an experienced and highly qualified superintendent. To advance this effort, I will persist in requesting audits to identify areas for effective streamlining of the board office. It is crucial to rigorously scrutinize district decisions, ensuring alignment with data-driven policies and maintenance of elevated standards for both students and staff. By establishing high standards and expectations across all levels, we can foster continuous growth and success for our students.

What sets you apart from other candidates?

A combination of unique qualifications and experiences that uniquely position me to serve our community. Firstly, as the sole candidate without children still in the system, my decisions are driven solely by the best interests of our community's students. Drawing from my extensive teaching experience within Jefferson County Schools, I offer invaluable firsthand insights into our educational system. Moreover, my certifications in all major subjects, including math and special education, provide me with a comprehensive understanding of diverse educational needs. Furthermore, my academic background, boasting multiple degrees and publications, underscores my unwavering commitment to educational excellence. Additionally, my experience in supervising student teachers and doctoral dissertations, alongside navigating various forms of education, from online to hybrid models, uniquely equips me to tackle complex challenges effectively. Moreover, my doctoral degree in research and statistics enables me to meticulously review and interpret data, providing crucial insights for the board's decision-making process. This proficiency in data analysis is pivotal in formulating appropriate policies and setting high expectations for our students and staff alike. Overall, my blend of experience, qualifications, and dedication to educational advancement positions me as an exemplary candidate capable of leading our district toward continued success.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

I approach collaboration with an open mind and a commitment to dialogue. By asking pertinent questions, holding all stakeholders accountable, and advocating for transparency, I foster an environment conducive to constructive discourse. I have observed a positive shift in the board's dynamics toward a more progressive approach, and I will continue to lead by example in promoting inclusivity and innovation in our educational endeavors. As a candidate, I welcome diverse perspectives and recognize the value they bring to our decision-making processes.

Name: James Southern
Age: 42
Hometown: Harpers Ferry/Halltown
Office sought: Jefferson County Board of Education



How long have you lived in the area?

Over 30 years

Relevant experience serving the community:

Public school teacher for 13 years. I've done volunteer work with Hospice and local schools I've been on Band Staff for local schools. I offered free cybersecurity support and guidance to the Jefferson County Technology Director for the last two years.

What are the top two pressing issues relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

My foremost concern revolves around staff recruitment and retention. I intend to collaborate closely with stakeholders, actively listening to their insights to develop effective strategies for tackling this escalating challenge.

Name: Rikki Twyford
Hometown: Charles Town

Office sought: Jefferson County Board of Education

How long have you lived in the area?

19 years

Relevant experience serving the community:

In addition to working for Costco Wholesale, I am serving my second term as a Charles Town City Councilwoman where I am the chair of the Ordinance Committee. I am currently or have served on three of our Local School Improvement Councils so I am very familiar with the Jefferson County School Board. I am also on the Board of Directors for the Old Opera House and a vice president in the American Legion Auxiliary. My family and I are active in our church and I am a proud graduate of both Leadership Jefferson and Leadership West Virginia. I also voluntarily run a multi-million dollar charity campaign for Children's National Hospital each year.

What are the top two pressing issues relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

I am passionate about focusing on four

JAMES SOUTHERN

Additionally, safeguarding our school system against cyber threats while equipping students with essential digital literacy skills is imperative. I aim to integrate technology strategically, leveraging existing resources to automate processes where feasible and foster educational opportunities for our students.

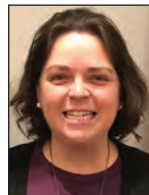
What separates you from the other candidates?

I believe my distinctive blend of successful classroom experience combined with technology and cybersecurity expertise sets me apart from other candidates. Furthermore, I am an active listener who makes well-informed, data-driven decisions.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

Being a supportive colleague is one of my top priorities, and collaborating effectively with individuals holding diverse perspectives is fundamental to my approach. I prioritize active listening and thorough consideration of various viewpoints, ensuring that decisions are informed by comprehensive data analysis and thoughtful deliberation.

RIKKI TWYFORD



key areas: 1) safety, 2) maintaining a solid workforce, 3) clear and transparent communication between the community and the school system and 4) intelligent, strategic use of our resources. I have already made inroads with a company utilizing federal grant funds to add safety cameras to our schools. It's important to me to meet with parents and teachers and collaborate with other school districts that are doing well in areas where we can improve. I want to build greater success by staying nimble and avoiding pitfalls due to lack of planning or a clear path forward. We have to find a way to set our standards high and rise to meet them. I am a firm believer in hiring good people, paying them a good wage and expecting good performance.

I want Jefferson County citizens to feel heard and understood. I will absolutely dive in and truly understand the data to determine what an even better school district will look like and how we can get there. This includes independently touring schools and holding "town hall" meetings. I have extensive experience in budgeting, contract negotiations, legalities, employee development, logistics and large scale collaboration: all of which can be greatly exercised on the school board to make solid, educated decisions.

See **TWYFORD**, Page 31



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Rob Blair

Republican

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- INTEGRITY**
- PROFESSIONALISM**
- PROVEN LEADERSHIP**

On January 18, 2024, Rob Blair was unanimously appointed by the Berkeley County Commission to serve the unexpired term of Sheriff ending Dec. 31, 2024. Rob would be honored to be elected to serve for another 4 years as Sheriff of Berkeley County.



35 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE & TRAINING

West Virginia State Police | 25 years

Retired as Captain and Troop Commander of the Eastern Panhandle|Potomac Highlands 7 county region. Served as a Trooper, BCI/Task Force, Sergeant, First Sergeant, Lieutenant, & Captain... 18 of those years was spent in supervision, administration, and management.

WV Insurance Commission Special Agent | 10 years

Continued working with Law Enforcement regarding insurance related crimes.

"It is my desire to move our county forward through unity, excellence, accountability and by doing the next right thing."

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West Virginia Sheriff's Association
West Virginia Deputy Sheriff's Association

Learn more about Rob at:
RobBlairforSheriff.com

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- Over 25 years protecting the rights of children
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with neighboring states
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West Virginia's Coal & Gas Industry

WV Hospitality & Travel Association

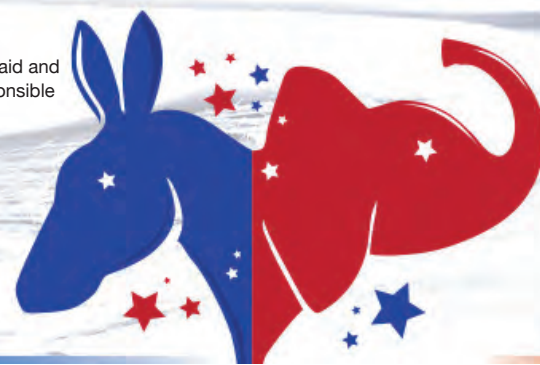
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DOTTIE YOST for Berkeley County MAGISTRATE

- I am Dottie Yost and I am running for Magistrate of Berkeley County, Division 7.
- I am born and raised in Berkeley County.
- I have worked in the legal field as a legal assistant for 18 years. I have a diverse resume, from working in the private sector, mainly assisting in family law, furthering my career by working for the Public Defender's Office, assisting with misdemeanor and felony cases, I then had the honor to work for the U.S. Attorneys Office, which is the federal prosecutor's office and now I am currently a patient advocate for Berkeley and Jefferson Medical Center and all your surrounding WVU Offices.
- I continue to volunteer in my community and have done so for over 30 years.
- I promise to interpret and apply the law based on codes and guidelines set forth by the legislation and Supreme Court.
- I promise to have a clear mindset and to be fair and impartial.

Please vote for Dottie Yost for Magistrate on May 14th, 2024.

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Vote Ken Reed as your Republican Party candidate for WV Secretary of State

- Former Morgan County Commissioner
- Former WV State Delegate (Berkeley/Morgan)
- multi-business owner and pharmacist
- Commissioner Reed, R-Morgan was elected to the Morgan County Commission in November of 2016, and then in 2020 was elected to the Berkeley/Morgan 59th Delegate district.

It has been a great honor and privilege to serve as a County Commissioner and State Delegate. I am very optimistic about the future of West Virginia and would like to focus on continuing the efforts of our current Secretary of State Mac Warner in making our government run as efficiently and smoothly as possible.

I look forward to using my experience as a business builder, county commissioner, and WV State Delegate to keep West Virginia moving in the right direction.



Paid for by candidate

BERKELEY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

JAMES HUMEN

Name: James Robert Humen
Age: 55
Hometown: I was born in Dayton Ohio on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and raised in White Sulphur Springs



Office sought: Berkeley County Board of Education

How long have you lived in the area: I have made Ganotown my home for the last 22 years and I have lived in Berkeley County for the last 33 years.

Relevant experience serving the community:

I have been a Scouts BSA leader for the last 17 years with Pack 37 and Troop 37 from Hedgesville. The last six years, I was the Cub Master of Pack 37. Though I have led and worked on many community service projects, "Scouting for Food" is a big one we do every year in November. Last year, we distributed flyers the first weekend of November and the next weekend we picked up the food and set a new record for our Pack/Troop; over 2,100lbs of food which we delivered to Loaves and Fishes Food Bank. Our Pack also partners with Hedgesville Elementary School where we clean up the school grounds a couple of times a year and the last 2 years, we have worked on repairing and painting their foot bridge that crosses the wet land area of the school grounds.

What are the top 2 pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

Teacher and staff moral is one of my top issues. Educators are underpaid and

overworked. If elected, I plan to work with the union, the Legislature, and the county to get locality pay in West Virginia. Though this process will take time, I feel that deliberate and persistent action is the only thing that will get us there. The current School Board members sent a very nice report to the legislature last fall but it seems it was ignored by the Legislature.

I think looking at the budget transparently would help our school district compete with other counties around us, even before locality pay. For instance, I believe that administration should not make any more than 4 times the lowest paid staff. I would like to explore if Berkeley County could offer to pay a portion of the payments on teacher's student loans as long as they work for the County, or a percentage after a certain number of years of service. Most large businesses offer tuition reimbursement for employees.

Another issue is student behavior, there have been grade school teachers taken to the hospital from being assaulted by first graders and then the same student is back in the classroom the next day. The other extreme is kids being suspended for minor infractions. A lot of this goes back to the Safe Schools act and I believe it needs modified. Administrators need the leeway to administer the correct punishment for the infraction and violent students need to be removed from the school immediately.

What separates you from the other candidates?

While I myself have never been a teacher, I come from a family of teachers, my mother is a retired teacher and my fa-

MICHAEL MARTIN

Name: Michael Martin
Age: 27
Hometown: Martinsburg
Office sought: Berkeley County Board of Education



How long have you lived in the area?

Since 2004- I started kingergarten at Gerrardstown Elementary the same year.

Relevant experience serving the community:

I served three and a half years on the Berkeley County Board of Education and hope for four more years. Other experience includes serving on the Berkeley WVU-4H Extension Service and promoting West Virginia tourism and the Eastern Panhandle with my career.

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

Continuing to keep and retain our current educators and staff. We need to continue to address issues in the classroom including discipline and accountability of students. As a Board, we need to continue to provide professional development opportunities for certified and uncertified teachers. We need to pass the School Excess Levy on May 14 for salary/benefit supplements for teachers and service personnel.

Classroom sizes and population growth. Continue to work with the Berkeley County Commission on implementing impact fees to development

builders. Continue to work with our local legislators to pass locality pay for The Eastern Panhandle and other growing counties. Continue to add building additions and maintain our existing schools in Berkeley County, the average age of our schools is 57 years old. Keep trudging forward with projects of new school construction with the 2022 bond passage and land acquisition for future growth.

What separates you from the other candidates?

If re-elected, I would be hitting the ground running and continue my job I am passionate about. Berkeley County voters passed the largest bond in WV history and the construction of new schools would slow down the Board as there would be a big learning curve for new members. I graduated from Berkeley County Schools in 2015, I know the staff that is still teaching and what struggles new teachers have to go through to live and start a family in Berkeley County.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

On the Board of Education, you are only one vote- there are four other votes that might not agree with you. Our current Board of Education is very diverse and we all come from different backgrounds which comes with very healthy dialogues. I work with anyone and am always an open ear to others to see their point of view. Every decision is made to put all students first.

Berkeley County Schools submits levy election order

BY AINSLEY HALL

ahall@journal-news.net

MARTINSBURG — Berkeley County Schools recently submitted a levy election order for the May 14 primary election for the continuation of an additional school levy for general expenses for the public schools.

The main purpose of the levy is to provide additional funds needed for the schools. Like in 2019, the school levy will include a five-year plan, with an increase to \$46 million annually for \$230 million.

The school levy for 2024 proposes additional funds, including \$31,612,000 for local salary supplements and benefits

for all personnel; \$3,500,000 to provide instructional materials, textbooks and other instructional equipment; \$408,000 to provide financial support to several community organizations; \$6,500,000 to provide additional staff and equipment where necessary to address increased enrollment; and \$3,980,000 to provide upkeep and maintenance of facilities.

"Continuing the BCS School Excess Levy allows us to continue to provide support to all of our staff, students and the community through salary supplements, benefits, textbooks, technology, safety and security measures, facility maintenance and more," BCS Executive Director of Communications Karla Troppman said.

"Additionally, the School Excess Levy allows us to continue support for community partners."

The last levy was adopted during the election on Nov. 16, 2019. The proposed funds included \$18,678,500 to provide local salary supplement and benefits to all personnel; \$3,500,000 to provide instructional materials, textbooks and other instructional equipment; \$321,500 to provide financial support to several community organizations; \$5,900,000 to provide additional staff and equipment where necessary to address increased enrollment; and \$3,200,000 to provide for the upkeep and maintenance of facilities.

For the 2024 levy, there is a jump of \$12,933,500 in funding for salary sup-

plements and benefits for all personnel. There are smaller increases in other areas, as well, including more funds to support the Berkeley County Health Department (\$30,000), Martinsburg-Berkeley County Parks and Recreation board (\$132,500), the West Virginia University Berkeley County 4-H Extension Office (\$93,000) and the Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Library (\$152,500).

During previous meetings, members of the board of education shared their wish to do more for these organizations, as they do a lot to support students and the community.

Berkeley County residents will vote on the school levy during the primary election on May 14.

MELISSA POWER

Name: Melissa Power

Age: 42

Hometown:

Hedgesville

Office sought:

Berkeley County Board of Education

How long have you lived in the area?

I have lived in Berkeley County for over three years. Prior to that I lived just across the river in Maryland. However, since I have family in West Virginia prior to moving here, I have always loved vacationing and visiting prior to making it my permanent home.



Relevant experience serving the community:

Previously, I have worked with a public school system, put my children through most of their schooling in public schools and volunteered within the public schools. This, along with my experience in the public sector, has provided a strong foundation to understand what staff, parents and students experience day-to-day.

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

There are so many issues that seem to be vying for the top spots when it comes to pressing concerns. Depending

upon the topic or the time of year, different issues can be at the top. At this particular time, the legislative session has just ended in Charleston and several things that I, and others, have advocated for were not successful in passing. This includes a significant increase in pay for our staff as well as increased funding for our schools. While I will continue to advocate for these items, I believe the current top issue as a current Board of Education member has shifted. Two major issues that I would like to address would be continued improvement on communication/transparency and also increased community in-

volvement within our schools. We have the ability to support our schools in a variety of ways that would help serve the next generation well. Such as the Talk to Me program or the Read to Me program. While we have a lot of great volunteers, I would like to continue exploring and advocating to increase the involvement of additional community leaders, churches, parents and businesses. We are raising the next generation and I would love to say that we did it well and we did it together. In addition, we have been doing Community Events throughout this school year.

See **POWER**, Page 31

MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

DYLAN BEDDOW

Name: Dylan Beddow

Age: 30

Hometown: Berkeley

Springs

Office Sought: Morgan County School Board

How long have you lived in the area?

I have been a life-long resident of Morgan County. I graduated from Berkeley Springs High School in 2011. I then chose to commute to Shepherd University to obtain my bachelors degree in Elementary Education with a Mathematics focus.

Relevant experience serving the community:

I was a long-term substitute for 5th grade at Warm Springs Intermediate at the end 2014-2015 school year, and the following school year I was hired as a Algebra teacher for Berkeley Springs High School until December of 2021 when I took a job with a local financial investment firm. During my time at Berkeley Springs High School, I also coached the Boy's Freshman Basketball team and was an after-school tutor.

What are the top two pressing issues relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

The first reason I am running for school board is that I feel my experience in both education and finance will help me to understand issues on curriculum, policy and technology that are brought before the board for passage. My experience will allow me to ask relevant questions to bring a better understanding for all members and a clearer picture of the issue at hand. Board members are voted in by the public to be the check and balance to ensure that the school system is following WVDE policies and being good stewards of the taxpayers



funding.

The second reason is that I want to try to help recruit and retain quality staff. We need to ensure that exit interviews are implemented to identify issues that can be corrected. Anonymous climate surveys to gauge staff morale and issues that they are having. This reporting not only helps the county as a whole but gives employees the voice to air concerns without the threat of retaliation.

What separates you from the candidates?

I have actually worked in education and understand the struggles of all parties involved, staff, students and parents. I hold a permanent WV teaching certificate with a K-9 math endorsement. Based on our current Balanced Scorecard results from the WVDE my background could help with reading test results and data mining. I have also tutored students so I have a background in finding ways to reach students who are struggling with mathematical concepts. I have a financial background allowing me to understand budgets, balance sheets and various financial reports.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

I have always been a very calm, and open-minded person. I have the ability to speak with parents and students in a calming manner and often diffusing tense situations. I have learned over the years that when people are angry, they are not upset with you, they are upset with the situation they are in. Learning to separate yourself from the situation and being a good listener to their issues is always a good start to repairing relationships and effecting change.

JOHN ROWLAND

Name: John

Rowland

Hometown: Berkeley

Springs

Office sought: Morgan County School Board

How long have you lived in the area?

With the exception of when I was in college, I am a life-long resident of Morgan County.

Relevant experience serving the community:

Thirty -four years as an educator. Over 30 years as a high school coach. Former member of the War Memorial Hospital Board of Directors. Former member of Morgan County Parks and Recreation Board. Founding and present member of the Greenwood School Community Center. Chairman: Berkeley Springs High School Athletic Hall of Fame. Founder of Greenwood Trailblazers 4H club. Presently, a member of nine boards and county committees. Twelve years as a member of the Morgan County School Board.



What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

1. Morgan County Schools must correct four State findings, which presently, put us on the lower tier of state school systems. We must fix these problems as soon as possible. 2. We need to continue to examine every aspect of our system, correct deficiencies, and plan for the future. As part of that audit, we also need to continue to improve our recruitment of fully-certified educators.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

As far as working with people who have opposing views, I welcome their input. Good systems improve as they consider new points of view. The most confident and successful leaders I know, want the perspectives of people who disagree with them. Those dissenters offer perspectives I may not have considered. When leaders of different opinions, meet and develop mutually- agreed upon solutions, only then, will a school system reach its true potential.

No response: Chuck Bergron

JUDICIAL COURT

No response: 27th: Catie Delgatti (Div 1), Laura Faircloth (Div 2) Debra McLaughlin (Div. 3; Steve Redding (Div 4) Mike Lorensen (Div. 2)
29th: David Hammer (Div 1) Bridget Cohee (Div. 2)

JEFFERSON COUNTY MAGISTRATE

RAY CAMPBELL



Name: Ray Campbell
Age: 56
Hometown: Charles Town
Office sought: Magistrate, Division 1, Jefferson County

How long have you lived in the area?

20 years

Relevant experience serving the community:

United States Marine Corps - 6 years
- Light armored infantry - Desert Storm combat veteran;

Law Enforcement - 30 years - Patrol Officer to Commander - Retired;

Boy Scouts of America - 11 years - Various adult leadership and advisory roles; Board of Zoning Appeals (Charles Town) - 4 years/2 terms;

Youth/Teen/Young Adult Ministry - approx. 6 years - Various past churches;

Pastoral Intern - 1 year - Mid-Maryland Baptist Association.

More detailed information has been published on my campaign webpage and LinkedIn profile: www.linkedin.com/in/raycampbell4wv and raycampbell4wv.com

What are the top two pressing issues relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

The subject of setting bail has had some attention brought to it recently, by events both here in Jefferson County, as well as elsewhere in the State. I have stated my position on setting bail, in general terms, in a post on my Facebook campaign page from February 22, 2024. A link to this post can also be found on my campaign webpage. I refer readers to this source because my statement is a bit lengthy to present here.

Google Reviews for the Magistrate Court and Clerk's office in Jefferson County is a whopping 1.8 stars. That's not what serving the people of this community should look like. I understand that most folks coming to the magistrates' office are often dealing with difficult life situations, which can set the tone for their impressions. However, I have read a number of these reviews and we can do better. The services of the Magistrates and Magistrate Clerk's Office must be competent, courteous, and accessible. An office that is only open Monday through Friday, from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm, shouldn't be closed during lunchtime. When are the working people of Jefferson County supposed to be able to handle their business? I think this says something about the present mindset on public service. Do

we want to elect more of the same?

What separates you from the other candidates?

Over the course of my career, I've seen many people assume they know how to do a job that isn't theirs. Watching decisions being made by others is not the same as making those decisions yourself. When the reality sets in that you are now the one responsible for these decisions, impacting other people's futures and families, people you probably don't even know... When that kind of responsibility settles squarely on your shoulders for the first time... it is a sobering moment. At least it should be. It just hits different. Decision makers and leaders know what I'm talking about. You are now responsible for these decisions. The weight of that authority rests in your hands. Things look much differently from that perspective.

I have spent most of my lifetime in public service; three decades of that in metropolitan-area law enforcement. From patrol officer to commander, I held many different ranks, roles, and responsibilities. Split-second, life-changing decisions were commonplace for me. Ranging anywhere from tactical decisions on an incident scene, through strategic planning for an agency's staffing, budget, and leadership direction - it is fair to say that making sound, reasonable, legally-defensible decisions is well within my capability and experience.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

Different does not always mean opposing. We forget that sometimes. I would like to think that most people pretty much want the same kinds of things out of life. At least I want to believe that; behaving in such a manner tends to garner cooperation, or at least some level of mutual understanding. That has been my experience for a good deal of my professional life. Our culture has largely forgotten the philosophy and practice of servant leadership. Ego, far too often, gets in the way of what is best for an organization or a community. This isn't about personal victories; it is about providing honest, competent service toward the betterment of Jefferson County, for all the people of our community. We need men and women of integrity and competence, in all levels and branches of government. We need men and women who can model how to disagree without being disagreeable. That is the attitude of progress, and it is what we owe the people of Jefferson County.

LISA SHIRLEY FARLEY



Name: Lisa Shirley Fraley
Age: 48
Hometown: Middleway

Position sought: Jefferson County Magistrate in Division 1

How long have you lived in the area?

I have lived in Jefferson County my entire life of 48 years. It's home.

Relevant experience serving the community:

I have a long history of community service beginning with the 4H Program where I have picked up trash along the road, fed the homeless, written letters to those who serve in the military, visited nursing homes and volunteered at the Jefferson County Humane Society. As a long-time member of Bethel Church, I have participated and organized numerous community outreach events from making blankets for new mothers, meals for low income and the homeless, pamper me day for the residents of Bethany House, and much more. I can pull people together and organize any event to be a blessing or meet a need in our community. An event I enjoy organizing every year held on the 4th of July where I and other volunteers give out food, drinks, and glow sticks to the community as they watch fireworks on our church campus. I also volunteer yearly at the Jefferson County Fair in the Youth Dept.

What are the top 2 pressing issues relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

Magistrate Court has a 30-year legacy of stability and integrity largely due to ex-

perienced magistrates gaining re-election and assistants/deputies who have worked faithfully for over twenty years within the offices. In the upcoming election three of the four divisions could be filled by new magistrates and new assistants that have no experience or prior training in magistrate court. This creates two pressing issues: the integrity and stability of these offices. The court rules that must be adhered to and the time requirements for cases do not change because someone is learning how to do the job. The training a magistrate receives is unable to address the depth and breadth of the extensive responsibility that will be before them. Not only will I be able to hit the ground running as a magistrate, but I will also help maintain the stability of the office. With the possibility of a large employee turn-over, the demands of this office will not be met. I'm addressing these issues by asking the citizens of Jefferson County to vote for experience on May 14.

What separates you from the candidates?

As a candidate with a solid foundation and experience working within Magistrate Court, our citizens do not have to be concerned whether I am going to figure it out or learn as I go. I have six years of on-the-job training.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

I will work with people who have different views than my own as I have always done, with kindness and respect. A magistrate's key responsibility is to uphold and apply the law fairly and impartially. This has nothing to do with mine or anyone's personal, religious or political views.

No response: Wendy Torelli (Div. 2), Arthena Roper (Div 3) and Mark Renner (Div 4)

W.VA. GOVERNOR

On the Ballot

Libertarian: Erika Kolenich

Democrats: Steve Williams

Republicans: Moore Capito, Kevin Christian, Chris Miller, Patrick Morrissey, Mitch Roberts, Mac Warner

Mountain Party: Chase Linko-Looper

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NATE CAIN FOR U.S. CONGRESS IN WEST VIRGINIA'S 2ND DISTRICT

- REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE
- U.S. ARMY VETERAN
- PRO-LIFE
- PRO-2ND AMENDMENT
- PRO-BORDER SECURITY
- PRO-ENERGY DOMINANCE

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ENDORSEMENTS

- ▶ **GENERAL FLYNN**, NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR TO PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP
- ▶ **THE TRUCKERS ACROSS AMERICA - TNOOA** ▶ **DIMITRY VASSILAROS**, HOST OF LIVE AND DANGEROUS WITH DIMITRY ▶ **RESTORE LIBERTY** ▶ **MAGA MISSION** ▶ **AMERICA MISSION**

- FIGHTING FOR CLEAN WATER IN PADEN CITY & FOR WEST VIRGINIANS
- HELPED AUTHOR PARENTAL RIGHTS BILL, HB 5036
- PROTECTING THE RIGHTS & INTERESTS OF MINERAL OWNERS, FIGHTING FOR FAIRNESS & TRANSPARENCY

NateCain4WV.com

MATT MCKINNEY

FOR COUNTY COMMISSION

CARING FOR OUR COUNTY

CARING FOR OUR COUNTY MEANS BEING A STAUNCH ADVOCATE FOR THE RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS OF OUR COMMUNITY.

AS A JEFFERSON COUNTY NATIVE, HUSBAND, DAD, AND FAMILY BUSINESS OPERATOR, WORKING TO MAKE OUR COUNTY THE BEST IT CAN BE TO SECURE A BRIGHT FUTURE IS PARAMOUNT.

COMMISSIONERS ARE ELECTED TO REPRESENT YOU AND ARE EXPECTED TO LEAD. WITH YOUR SUPPORT, I WILL DO JUST THAT. I CARE FOR OUR COUNTY.

A CONSERVATIVE REPUBLICAN FOR JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSION

PAID FOR BY THE CANDIDATE.

Re-elect Magistrate WILLIAM "BILL" NORRIS

William "Bill" Norris is serving his second term as a Berkeley County Magistrate and his second year as Chief Magistrate. Mr. Norris is a past Vice President of the Berkeley County School Board on which he had served for over 13 years. Mr. Norris was a past committee and board member of the Berkeley County Business Partnership, Berkeley County Senior Services, the NAACP, Hospice of the Eastern Panhandle and West Virginia Extension Services. Mr. Norris is also a lifetime member of the West Virginia Parent Teacher Association and ex-officio member of the Dr. Martin Luther King Scholarship Committee. Mr. Norris served for over twenty-five years as a mentor to students in Berkeley County Schools. Mr. Norris was inducted into the Musselman High School Hall of Fame and named a South Berkeley County Outstanding Citizen. Mr. Norris graduated from Career Academy, Georgetown School of Fine Arts, in Washington, D.C. in Radio & TV Broadcasting. Mr. Norris is the owner of Mr. Extravaganza Enterprises LLC, a marketing, motivational speaking, and promotions company. Mr. Norris is a member and deacon at Destiny Baptist Church and is married to Charlotte. They have two daughters, Tara and Onita and two grandchildren, Amani and Amari.

Paid for by the candidate.

A tried, true and proven conservative who has always put her community first.

- ✓ PROTECTING THE INTEGRITY OF OUR ELECTIONS
- ✓ PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF THE UNBORN
- ✓ WINNING GRASSROOTS TAX REFORM CAMPAIGNS

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RALPH LORENZETTI



Name: Ralph Lorenzetti

Hometown: Born in Arlington, Virginia

Office sought: Jefferson County Magistrate Div. 4

How long have you lived in the area?

I moved to West Virginia for employment after Graduate School and the U.S. Army Engineer Officers School. I graduated WVU Law. Rosie, Jason, Adam and I moved to Jefferson County in 1982.

Relevant experience serving the community:

In 1982 I opened a solo law practice in Charles Town. During my early law career, I practiced Civil, Criminal, Domestic, Juvenile, and Property law. After a short time, I became an assistant prosecutor, which required many appearances in Magistrate Court. Eventually, I was elected the Prosecuting Attorney for Jefferson County. Currently, I function as a part time Fiduciary Commissioner for both Jefferson and Morgan County, which occasionally requires contested hearings.

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

One issue is the accessibility of the Magistrate Courts while maintaining

building security. The Magistrate Court should be open for citizens to see that justice is being served. Yes! there must be reasonable security, but Security needs should not neglect the right to observe the function of justice. Most Juvenile hearings are closed but this should be the exception, not the rule. A second issue concerns victims of crimes. They must not be ignored and their voices reasonably heard. As an assistant prosecutor and elected prosecutor, I made sure to have input from the victim and the victim advocate.

What separates you from the other candidates?

My career has involved my working closely with the Magistrate Court. As an attorney and prosecutor, my tasks included participation in Jury and non-jury trials, preliminary hearings, and initial juvenile matters both as a defense Counsel and prosecutor. I am no stranger to Magistrate Court. Also, during my time as a prosecutor I often advised officers on search and arrest warrants when requested.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

As a magistrate, it must be my task to conduct the court's business unbiased as possible, while enforcing the laws of this state with reasonable firmness.

der; ruling on a contractual civil suit or wrongful occupation, etc. The WV Code and the court rules are there for a reason and must be adhered to for the integrity of the Court.

What separates you from the candidates?

I bring over 30 years of experience and knowledge to this office, six of those as a sitting magistrate. I know the workings of the court inside and out. I know how to research and apply the WV Code and the Court Rules to all cases. My record has proven me to be a fair and impartial magistrate and I will strive to continue in the same pattern. I also believe my faith helps me to maintain a calm and compassionate demeanor.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

The only different views I can foresee for a magistrate, would be if someone interprets the law in a different light than I do. I always come into a court hearing with an open mind to hearing arguments and listening courteously to how someone else interprets the law. I might also add that my personal views are not relevant to any case that comes before me and are not, and should not, be considered in any ruling.

No response: James Walch (Democrat-Charles Town District)

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BERKELEY COUNTY MAGISTRATE

DOTTIE YOST



Name: Dottie Yost

Age: 47

Hometown:

Martinsburg

Office sought:

Berkeley County

Magistrate, Division 7

How long have you lived in the area?

I have been a life long resident of Berkeley County.

Relevant experience serving the community:

I have been serving my community for well over 30 years, serving through my church, feeding the needy, coaching little league soccer and basketball, volunteering at the VA, Berkeley County Youth Fair and the Special Olympics, these are just a few of many that I have done throughout my life time. I will always believe in giving back to my community and to our youth.

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how

would you address them?

The two pressing issues relevant to the Magistrate position is to be impartial and to know the laws and guidelines.

What separates you from the candidates?

I have a very diverse resume as a legal assistant which includes working in Federal Court, the Public Defenders Office, doing misdemeanors and felony cases, and I also have worked in the private sector where I assisted in family law. Presently, I am an advocate for patients rights at Berkeley and Jefferson Medical Center.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

As I am faced with various viewpoints on a daily basis in my current position as patient advocate; as your Magistrate, I promise to interpret and apply the laws based on the codes and guidelines set forth by the legislation and Supreme Court and not by my own personal views. I will be fair and impartial.

No response: Vanessa Ferree (Div. 7), Mary Laing (Div 4), David DeHaven (Div 2), Larry Thompson (Div 5), Jennifer Lemon (Div 2), Bill Norris (Div. 3), Michelle Barnes, Darrell Shull (Div 1)

MORGAN COUNTY MAGISTRATE

No response: Keith Knotts (Div 1), Greg Miller (Div 1), Angie Schmidt (Div 1), KC Bohrer (Div 2), Debbie Ditto (Div. 2), Michael Sullivan (Div 2).

INTERMEDIATE COURT OF APPEALS

No response: Elgine McArdle, Mychal Shulz, Ryan White

W.VA. SUPREME COURT

No response: Haley Bunn Div. 1; Charles Trump Div. 2

President Trump needs
Support in the West
Virginia Senate!

Which 15th District
Candidate Support Trump's
Agenda?



Which Candidate Opposes Green
New Deal Cronyism?



Tom Willis



Opposes the
Green New
Deal.



Craig Blair



Voted multiple times
to expand wasteful
State spending on
Joe Biden's
destruction of
traditional energy
sources.*

Which State Senate Candidate Supports
Our Traditional Values?



Tom Willis



Supports
traditional
values



Craig Blair



Voted to allow
chemical
castration drugs
for gender
confused
minors!*

*House Bill 2007

Which Candidate Supports West Virginia
and West Virginia Companies?



Tom Willis



Supports the West
Virginia First Act*-
Stops giving your tax
dollars
to Out-of-State Mega
Corporation
and instead supports WV
companies



Craig Blair



Sends your tax -
dollars to Left-wing
Bill Gates and other
Green New Deal
Radicals! H62852
Refuses to even allow
a vote on the West Virginia
First Act!*

*Senate Bill 594

Learn More at <https://tomwillis.com>



Tom Willis



Supports your right
to choose your
healthcare and your
children's.



Craig Blair



Under Blair's control, the
State Senate refused to allow
parental choice for medical
care for school children and
religious exceptions*

*House Bill 5105

Learn More at <https://tomwillis.com>

The Choice is clear. Only Tom Willis
supports President Trump's Agenda.

Vote Willis on May 14th!

TOM WILLIS

WV SENATE
www.tomwillis.com

Paid for Friends of Tom Willis

JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSION

MATT MCKINNEY



Name: Matt McKinney
Age: 37
Hometown: Charles Town

Political Party: Republican

Office Sought: Jefferson County Commission (Middleway District)

How long have you lived in the area?

Jefferson County has been my home since birth.

Relevant experience serving the community:

As the second-generation operator of a family owned business which has served Jefferson County for two decades, I have a natural affinity for my birthplace. I have tried to repay the benefits of being a native of Jefferson by participating in the county's political process, initially by appointment to the Jefferson County Republican Executive Committee in 2019 and by election in 2022. I am currently the Middleway representative of the JCREC and contemporaneously serve as the vice chairman of the Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals.

What are the top 2 pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

There are two problems in Jefferson which must be addressed before all others: 1.) A demonstrable lack of continuity in Jefferson County governance; and 2.) No consideration toward a more holistic approach to long-term planning in Jefferson. Regarding continuity, high turnover in staff as well as an inability to operate effectively has caused Jefferson County in recent days, to be faced with a possible lapse in 911 services, delayed transition of Emergency Services, a budget shortfall, inability to act on grant opportunities in a timely manner, and with that, the loss of mul-

tiple opportunities for efficient management of Jefferson County. In reference to holistic planning or the lack thereof, a better and broader strategic vision is crucial. Decisions made today will impact our county from the present through the next generation: How will our children learn, where will they live and work, what services and infrastructure will be available, how will we preserve the character and heritage of the community, and how will we pay for it? Not limited to these considerations, if elected, my objective is to drive toward efficient governance for our Jefferson County families.

What separates you from the other candidates?

Jefferson County is my home, born at Jefferson Memorial Hospital in 1986, I have resided here all my life. I know what Jefferson County is, how it was, and what it can be. I understand the purview and duties of the county commission. My political experience and local knowledge, enables me to operate with greater immediacy than other candidates. Business management is my occupation, but I feel public service is my calling. Working together, even on the opposite side of a question, is paramount. I am a community member, just like you, raising my family in the county I love. I care for our county.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

Competing perspectives will always exist in the public forum. Sound policy depends on the exchange of ideas and robust debate. I have learned through experience that listening carefully is a most important trait of a good public servant. I have respect for the perspectives of all the citizens of Jefferson and will always work together to achieve common goals. If nothing else just meet me for a cup of coffee at to talk and figure out the problem.

JACOB HARRIS



Name: Jacob Harris
Age: 32
Hometown: Born in Fort Payne Alabama, raised in Cullman, Alabama

Political affiliation: Republican

Office sought: Jefferson County Commission Charles Town District
How long have you lived in the area?

I have lived in Ranson for the past six years. I am a Son of Appalachia having been born on Sand Mountain and raised in Alabama until I was 18. After enlisting in the Army, I traveled the globe and when I got out the job market brought me to the NOVA/DC area.

Relevant experience serving the community:

I served two years on the Jefferson County Emergency Services Agency Board as a Citizens Representative overseeing the finances and overall functions of JCESA.

I am now serving on the Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals and have been in that position for a little over a year now. In addition, I served seven years of active duty enlisted in the military. I am no stranger to serving our citizens and doing my part for the community.

What are the top two pressing issues relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

My top two issues are Transparency/Accountability and Responsible Growth. To that end, I have pledged that if elected I will introduce an ordinance to ensure every tax dollar in the county is tracked to the last penny. I would work with the various municipalities to get them into our state tax tracking system as well. Next,

I would also enact an ordinance that tracks every single vote made on our county's various boards and commissions into one single easy-to-use database. Every citizen in our great county should be able to track every vote and every center of tax dollars.

For responsible growth, I would also introduce an ordinance that restores our impact fees for builders in the community with mandatory reevaluation of said fees on an annual basis. Impact fees our one of our county's greatest assets in offsetting the cost of builders and allowing our infrastructure to keep up. Our schools, EMS/FIRE and wa-

ter/sewer all need to be able to keep up with our explosive growth.

What separates you from the other candidates?

I am 100% self-funded, accepting zero donations from corporations, organizations, individuals or any entity. This can all be verified via required and publicly available campaign finance reports, which at the time of this publication should now be posted for the public to see. I have made this choice because I want the voters to be sure that what I stand for is what I authentically stand for and my beliefs are not bought and sold by the highest bidder. My values and beliefs are my own and they will not be compromised by corporate greed or special agendas. The citizens of Jefferson County deserve a representative who is not soiled by corporate interests and greed. I have also provided my platform and deliverables that the citizens can hold me accountable for. I have given specific action items that I will accomplish if elected in the furtherance of my ideals and to make Jefferson County the most prosperous place in the area.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

I am very much aligned with the WV GOP Platform and conservative in my values. That said, I can usually work with any moderate, democrat, Republican, or any other party for that matter. I will not compromise my ideals for the sake of forcing something to pass, however, I will always respect that differing opinions are a crucial and very necessary part of our Republic.

I do not have to agree with others, be it future colleagues or even some constituents who don't agree with me. There must, however, always remain a respect for others regardless of ideals. Without giving the basic respect afforded by nature of one's humanity each side runs the risk of becoming tyrants themselves.

So, I will fight for my ideals on the Commission, and I will sometimes disagree with the others. This isn't, nor should it ever be personal.

We will vote and the majority will win. I will fight tooth and nail for my side but at the end of the day so long as there is mutual respect for one another as well as the process then will drive Jefferson County to overwhelming success and prosperity.

JEFFERSON PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

No response: Matt Harvey

MIKE MOOD

Name: Michael Mood
Age: 55
Hometown: Leetown
Political affiliation: Republican
Office sought: Jefferson County Commission Middleway District.



How long have you lived in the area?

I moved to Jefferson County full time in 1995 first living on the mountain in Harpers Ferry and moved to the Middleway area in 2006.

Relevant experience serving the community:

I have been involved with the community since moving here in 1995 serving multiple offices with the Westridge Hills Owners Association, an officer with the DC Police dept, Blue Ridge Mountain Volunteer Fire and Rescue, Jefferson County Sheriff's Reserve, a Founding member of the Middleway Volunteer Fire Company, Multiple positions on the Jefferson County Emergency Services agency and have serviced multiple board positions on the Jefferson County Little league. In 2003 I opened a heating and air conditioning business in Jefferson County and in 2015 bought a failing towing business in Jefferson county. In these positions I have had to make decisions in day to day operations as well as plan for future sustainability and growth in each organization and have done so successfully and have had the opportunity to watch each organization grow with the work that myself and others have done together.

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

I want to work to increase local business

growth to help ensure as many residents as possible have a place in Jefferson County to work with wages high enough to keep them here working instead of needing to commute to the DC Metro Area. This growth will help build a tax base that will support the growing public service needs of Police/ Fire/ EMS and Education, improving their numbers as well as salaries so they stay here instead of using Jefferson County as a stepping stone to get trained on our dime and move on. I have communicated with several wineries in other areas that have interest in expanding into Jefferson County which can help grow agrotourism as well as give local farmers looking to lease out their land to help them survive something else besides solar compound to least to.

What separates you from the other candidates?

I believe my experience with working my way up from entry level to ownership in private business as well as executive offices in local public service and county component agencies gives me the right understanding of budgeting as well as operational needs to be the right choice for County Commissioner.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

One of the best things I learned from my time as a DC police officer is how to communicate with people from every walk of life and believing that each one of us wants what is best for us and if you open mindedly listen as well as discuss we can find some common ground. That does not mean that we will always agree but you will always have the ability to reach out to me and discuss what is important to you because if elected I am here to represent the people of Jefferson County as a whole.

JACK HEFESTAY

Name: Jack Hefestay
Age: Over 65
Hometown: Charles Town
Political affiliation: Republican
Office sought: Jefferson County Commission Charles Town District



How long have you lived in the area?

Over 18 years, plus another dozen close by. I prefer Almost Heaven and I wish to help keep it that way.

Relevant experience serving the community:

I served two terms on the Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission as treasurer. I successfully represented the Commission in numerous years' audits. Now serving third three year term on the Jefferson County Planning Commission. Active in Church and other community initiatives such as Homeowner's Associations, community clean-ups, county and town festivals and parades. Long mem-

berships in various organizations such as: West Virginia Citizens Defense League (WVCDL), We the People of West Virginia (WTPWV), St. James the Greater Parish and Knights of Columbus (Fourth Degree). Former member of Jefferson County Republican Executive Committee (JCREC) (former chairman). Used as a poll worker in five cycles supporting Jefferson County elections. Numerous other county activities; too extensive to list.

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

Ongoing funding of various Jefferson County government organizations as well as the balanced funding of other worthy county activities — all on a somewhat limited budget. I shall approach this challenge using my decades of business management expertise and endeavor to influence allocations based on "need" and "value" to the Jefferson County community.

See HEFESTAY, Page 31

DAVID TABB

Name: David C. Tabb
Age: 69
Hometown: Leetown
Political affiliation: Mountain Party
Office sought: Jefferson County Commission - Charles Town District



How long have you lived in the area?

Life-long resident of Jefferson County

Relevant experience serving the community:

I have been a part of 4-H, FFA and the Jefferson County Farm Bureau. I have volunteered for the county's emergency services, and the county's fair. I have provided emergency service for the City of Charles Town, Ranson and the town of Harpers Ferry. I was a part of the Route 340 corridor study. I have attended and made public comments in the county commission meeting since 2008. I am currently an Associate Supervisor for the Eastern Panhandle Conservation District and a part the Local Emergency Planning Commission (LEPC).

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

Emergency services, to include Ambulance, Fire and Rescue and Law Enforcement. I believe that the Ambulance Services and the Volunteer Fire Companies should have been kept as one department. Now the Volunteer Fire Companies have no revenue stream and the Fire Companies will not be able to continue providing services under the current county commission. The Sher-

iff's Department also has a funding issue which has resulted in difficulty attracting new recruits and or retain their current personal due to the lack of funding.

Solar Farms. The county commission approved the solar farm project without the resident/taxpayer having any impact. I believe that both of these issues should have been voted on by the Jefferson County resident/taxpayer. Anytime there is a major change, within the County's policies, the resident/taxpayer should be required to vote on any policy change.

What separates you from the other candidates?

If elected I will make sure the county's residents/taxpayer has a voice on any major changes that affect the County's business and or way of life to include the view vista. Since 1982, I have owned a business and have the experience and skill to manage within all the different areas required as a county commissioner.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

The question that has been present is how would I work with others with different views. In the case of policy change, you bring the issue before the resident/taxpayer by a vote. All the facts need to be made public instead of the hidden agenda of the one or two current county commissioners. The county commission should not have the power to have made such drastic changes to emergency services and solar farms.

I, David C. Tabb, if elected will make sure that the resident/taxpayer will have a voice.

NATALIE GRANTHAM FRIEND

Name: Natalie Grantham Friend
Age: 45
Hometown: Middleway
Political affiliation: Democrat
Office sought: Jefferson County Commission Middleway District



How long have you lived in the area?

My entire life

Relevant experience serving the community:

Manager of my family's farm, Tudor Hall Farm. Vendor at both the Charles Town and Shepherdstown Farmers Markets, President of the Shepherdstown Farmers Market. I am a lifelong 4-Her and the Organizational Leader of the Middleway Climbers 4-H Club. Licensed Journeyman, Solar Consultant with Mountain View Solar

What are the top two pressing issues relevant to the office you seek

and how would you address them?

Responsible growth and increasing our tax base. Our population has grown without the infrastructure needed to care for them or pay for it. I have an understanding of the nuances of Jefferson County. The issues faced are complex and intertwined. I will bring common sense and a level head to these issues.

What separates you from the other candidates?

I have a historical knowledge of the county and a desire to serve the people. I know our community and how we are not being represented. I want to be the voice of the hard working people of Jefferson County.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

Treat them with respect and listen to understand their point of view. We have far more in common than we have different. I frequently engage in civil conversation with people of all walks of life regularly.

BERKELEY COUNTY COMMISSION

DIRK STANSBURY

Name: Dirk Stansbury, P.E.
Age: 69
Hometown: New Philadelphia, Ohio
Political affiliation: Democrat



Office sought: Berkeley County Commission

How long have you lived in the area?

We moved to the valley in 1987 working on 37 years.

Relevant experience serving the community:

Working as a consulting engineer and County Engineer I literally know the area from under-ground up. This experience included interactions with County, State and Federal agencies to find solutions to issues and approval of development projects. My understanding of the interaction of infrastructure, like transportation and utilities are necessary to the livelihood of the community and for the growth that is coming to the panhandle. I taught school for eight years in Roane County, Harrison County, and Berkeley County (Hedgesville High School). I taught science and Phys. Ed. as well as coaching football, track, and soccer. I served on the Jefferson County Solid Waste Authority when the Leetown transfer station was placed in operation. I have served the youth as an AYSO coach and referee for three decades. I have been committed to the Civil Air Patrol, USAF Auxiliary, West Virginia Wing, since 2007. I am currently the AEO (Aerospace Education Officer) working primarily with the Cadet Core.

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

I can address most problems with one word: safe. Safe drinking water, safe schools, safe streets and highways, safe homes, most of all a safe & fun community. The continued growth of the County and region in general makes the safe goals more complex and we must be proactive to keep up with the new demands.

Funding the many functions of the

No response: Steven Grant, HD Boyd, John Hardy

county is critical to what is listed above but we need to retain and recruit good personnel. The various departments have done a good job of finding grants and other funding, but we must leave no stone unturned in pulling money from Washington and Charleston. There may be some more efficiency in our operations that could free up some existing cash to be used elsewhere. I would like to push for rules that would permit more public-private partnerships to make a larger pool of money to solve local problems. These partnerships need not be as grand as the Interwoven Mill project in Martinsburg but could be small as an intersection improvement that helps the community. No-one wants to hear the word tax; me included. However, success in our endeavors may require some taxation if other sources fall short.

What separates you from the other candidates?

My experience on the ground floor of the county's recent growth and development gives me greater vision. It is one thing to develop rules and laws of a legislature or governing agency, but Civil Engineers literally work "where the rubber meets the road" and must make the good intentions a reality. My work and training have taught me to look downstream at my actions and to anticipate the consequences, good or bad. This permits me to see opportunities as I connect what one agency is planning to do and what other groups are doing in the same area.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

I have been married for 40 years. Different views are good as it allows one to reflect on one's position. If it is a strong point, it should be incorporated or used, if not, one now has a better understanding of the opposite's position. I take inspiration from General/President Eisenhower, in that he would work with a subordinate or his superior until the strongest position was what the sub/super wanted to do. Usually, it was Ike's idea all along but now they all know the strengths and weakness of both sides of the issue.

BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF

ROB BLAIR

Name: Robert Alan Blair
Age: 57
Hometown: Huntington
Political affiliation: Republican



Office sought: Sheriff of Berkeley County

How long have you lived in the area? 35 Years

Relevant experience serving the community:

I have over 35 years of experience and training. I retired in 2013 as Captain from the West Virginia State Police after serving 25 years and also was Troop Commander of the Eastern Panhandle/Potomac Highlands 7 county region. During my career with the WVSP, I served as a Trooper, BCI/Task Force, Sergeant, First Sergeant, Lieutenant and Captain, with 18 of those years spent in supervision, administration, and management. After retirement from the WV State Police, I served 10 years as a Special Agent with the West Virginia Insurance Commission working with Law Enforcement and assisting with insurance related fraud cases. On Jan. 18, 2024, I was unanimously appointed by the Berkeley County Commission to serve the unexpired term of Sheriff ending Dec. 31, 2024.

What are the top 2 pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

Manpower Increase for our growing county population in order to provide the professional police services our residents deserve. Berkeley County is the 2nd most populated county in the state of West Vir-

ginia. Within the next several years, it is estimated that Berkeley County will surpass the current most populated county (Kanawha). The officer to citizen ratio in Berkeley County is well below the national suggested ratio. Our manpower shortage prohibits our agency from performing the necessary extra patrols in the remote, less accessed areas of the county, such as Back Creek Valley. The shortage further impairs our department from adding additional deputies to the Eastern Panhandle Drug and Violent Crimes Task Force or staffing a full time presence on Interstate 81. Efforts are currently underway to hire the 2 to 3 deputies remaining in the latest hiring process. I recently sought and gained approval from the Berkeley County Commission to offer certified police officers a \$10,000.00 sign on bonus for the next hiring cycle. I am currently working with our command staff and office manager to update and improve our recruiting efforts in the future with new advertising, creative ways to reach potential candidates, exploring relevant job fair locations, looking into creating an updated recruitment video to use in our social media platforms and/or possible television, and any other innovative approach to attract quality individuals to the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office. Our command staff and county officials continue to work on a new model/restructuring of our department's rank and command staff, in order to better facilitate and manage the necessary and unavoidable manpower increases that will be required to adequately serve our county residents.

See **BLAIR**, Page 19

JEFFERSON COUNTY SHERIFF

No response: Tom Hansen

MORGAN COUNTY COMMISSION

No response: Sean Forney

DAVY JONES

Name: Davy Jones
Political affiliation: Republican

Office sought:
Berkeley County Sheriff
How long have you lived in the area?
22 years

Relevant experience serving the community:

I am a U.S. Army veteran, ex-reserve deputy, a member of the American Legion, the West Virginia Citizens Defense League, Campaign for Liberty, and the Liberty Political Action Committee, where I served as the State Chair from 2014-2015. I also am the founder of Tip Watch, a website that allows citizens to make anonymous tips to law enforcement. I was a reserve deputy and have volunteered hundreds of hours a year to the citizens of Berkeley county.

What are the top two pressing issues relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

I just spoke at the BCDSA forum recently, after talking to the deputies I have



learned that these two are pressing issues: Morale is low (I will have an open door policy, I will treat everyone with respect and like family) It is important to work together as a team.

(2) Deputy salaries and deputy overwork (I will review the budget and apply creative ways to minimize costs so we can have funds in these important areas. Find multiple ways to bring money into the department grants, etc.)

What separates you from the other candidates?

I have worked with the dept for years as a reserve deputy. I have served the community in that capacity providing security to county events and school activities freeing up deputies to do other work. Also providing traffic support and control. Assisting the department in many other roles.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

I understand that there are always different ways to look at an issue and I am open to advice and input. I am not the type of person to ignore advice and opinions.

Blair

FROM PAGE 18

This new structure will take into account the staffing requirements for the most recently planned Spring Mills Emergency Services sub station and also a future planned South Berkeley substation. Planning ahead for the future growth and establishing a sound foundation to adequately manage and administer the Sheriff's Department is key to the future success of the agency. Also, I will always advocate for better pay and benefits for our current dedicated civilian and uniformed members.

School Safety Measures to protect our most precious resource, our children. Currently, the Berkeley County Sheriff's Department has 3 School Resource Officers (SRO) assigned to Hedgesville, Spring Mills, and Musselman High Schools. These SRO's also divide all the remaining county middle schools and elementary schools as their secondary responsibilities. This inevitably leaves our schools inadequately protected and is no where close to being where schools need to be in regards to protecting the students. I will continue to meet, work with, and strategize with our command staff, school personnel, state/federal/county officials and our citizens of Berkeley County to eventually implement a sound plan to fully staff each school with their own SRO and/or a SSO (School Safety Officer). The Berkeley County School Board has recently hired several SSO's to begin to staff some of the unmanned schools. I will draft and submit legislation relevant to this matter in order to clearly cover the needs of such an important safety/education related program. There is no greater responsibility than to ensure the safety and security of our

children.

What separates you from the other candidates?

I have received the endorsements of the WV Sheriff's Association, the WV Deputy Sheriff's Association and I was unanimously appointed as most qualified to serve the remaining term for the unexpired term of Berkeley County Sheriff ending Dec. 31, 2024. I'm the only candidate with a successful 35+ year career working in and with law enforcement, with 18 years spent in supervision, management, and administration with the West Virginia State Police. My wife and I have raised our family in this community and we have deep roots and have been passionately committed to 30+ years of community service (Church Elder and lead our safety/security and offering teams, Little League coach, Rec league basketball coach, Apple Harvest and Main Street Volunteer, organizer of the Eastern Panhandle Law Enforcement Special Olympics Torch Run since 1991).

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

Throughout my career, I have always valued working together cooperatively with different agencies, groups, and leaders to assemble the best plan and the most productive and effective outcome. I will always defend my values I stand for, but also I have a proven track record of working cooperatively for the betterment of our community. Working with people having different views often leads to better outcomes, due to each individual critically thinking through the issues being worked on, in order to come to the best possible solution(s).

BERKELEY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

JOE KINSER

Name: Joe Kinser
Age: 37
Hometown: Wheeling
Political Party:

Republican

Office Sought:
Berkeley County
Prosecuting Attorney

How long have you lived in the area?

I have lived here in Berkeley County for the last thirteen years.

Relevant experience serving the community:

I have been an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney right here in Berkeley County for the last nine years. During that time I have handled every type of criminal case that comes through the office, from shoplifting to cold case murders. I have also established myself as a leader in the office and currently serve as the Senior Assistant Prosecuting Attorney. Every day I fight to help keep Berkeley County safe.

What are the top two pressing issues relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

First is our continued fight against the opioid epidemic and the widespread devastation that it causes. I will continue the two step approach that has proven the most successful in my years of prosecuting crime here in Berkeley County: aggressively investigate and prosecute the peddling of this poison in our community while also supporting the recovery of those struggling with addiction. I will do this through my continued support of the treatment programs Berkeley County has established in recent years. These programs include Adult and Juvenile Drug Court, the Day Report Center, the Recovery Resource Center, Mountaineer Recovery Center, and CATALIST. I will also keep an open mind to new, innovative treatment ideas that are proposed moving forward.

The second pressing issue in the



County is crimes against children, our most vulnerable citizens. The number of children disclosing abuse and neglect in Berkeley County is ever-growing and it is an issue I confront every day. I will continue to work closely with our partners at Victoria's House Child Advocacy Center, our other partners in child abuse prevention within the community, and both local and federal law enforcement to pursue these crimes against children and hold offenders accountable.

What separates you from the candidates?

I am the only candidate with actual experience investigating and prosecuting crime in Berkeley County and I have a proven track record of success. I am a career prosecutor who has devoted my career to the public safety of Berkeley County. I have investigated and prosecuted some of the most difficult, complex and meaningful criminal cases in Berkeley County. My campaign is not based upon opportunistic political ambition, this is my calling. My entire career has prepared me for the responsibility of this position. Accordingly, I have the overwhelming support of the law enforcement community, including endorsements by the West Virginia Troopers Association and the West Virginia Deputy Sheriffs' Association, as well as the elected prosecutors of both Morgan and Jefferson counties. (The current Berkeley County Prosecutor is a judicial candidate and is therefore prohibited from endorsing any political candidate.)

How do you plan to work with people that have different views than your own?

I have served the people of Berkeley County as an Assistant Prosecutor for many years. The folks in our office come from diverse backgrounds, beliefs, and opinions but those differences have never hindered us in our goal, which is a safer Berkeley County.

No response: Jason Stedman

MORGAN PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

No response: Dan James

BERKELEY COUNTY COMMISSION

LARRY HESS

Name: Larry A. Hess

Age: 73

Hometown: Martinsburg

Political affiliation: Republican

Office sought: Berkeley County Assessor

How long have you lived in the area: Life long resident. Hess family has been in Berkeley County since the first County Censuses in 1790.

Relevant experience serving the community:

(1) Licensed Real Estate Broker and Appraiser 1976-1986. (2) Appointed Deputy Assessor in 1986. (3) Positions held in the Assessor's Office: Residential Appraiser 1986-1996, Commercial Appraiser 1996-2006, Market Analyst/Tax Consultant 2006-2012.

Elected Berkeley County Assessor November, 2012

As Assessor: (1) Maintained all State Tax Department Monitoring Standards each year since Elected. (2) Added new web-sites with Assessment Values, County Mapping, and On-Line Filing. (3) Recently added a fulltime employee to monitor vehicles with Out -Of -State Tags. (4) Just finished scanning all Personal Property Files, this will save time with customers and help to eliminate waiting in long lines. (5) Recognized thru training by The International Association of Assessing Officers in Residential and Commercial Appraisals, and

Assessment Administration. (6) Certified by the West Virginia State Tax Department in all forms of Standard Assessment Practices. Thirty- Eight years working in the Assessor's Office.

What are the two most pressing issues relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

The number one responsibility for the Assessor is to maintain a professional office staff that will assure all property Real, and Personal, to be assessed fair and equal for all citizens, and County tax payers. Two pressing issues for the Assessor's Office are the out-of-state tag problem and scanning all paper files for a more efficient operation, both are currently being addressed.

What separates you from the other candidates?

Experience. My qualifications have a proven trac record with 38 years working in the Assessor's Office, the past 12 years as County Assessor. My opponent is a 22-year-old plumber with-out any experience in the Assessor's Office. It would be an honor to continue serving the Citizens of Berkeley County.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

I have learned, working as the Assessor to always respect everyone's opinion. Employees, or customers, be professional and listen to their concerns.

No response: Joseph Trenary

JEFFERSON ASSESSOR

No response: Angela Banks

MORGAN COUNTY SHERIFF

No response: Brock Vanorsdale and Johnnie Walker

W.VA. SENATE - DISTRICT 15

CRAIG BLAIR

Name: Craig Philip Blair

Age: 64

Hometown: Martinsburg, West Virginia

Political affiliation: Republican

Office sought: 15th State Senate

How long have you lived in the area

I was born and raised in Martinsburg, guided by my parents, Freddie and Jeanette Blair. They instilled in me Christian faith and values. My childhood was spent on our family orchard, producing apples and peaches for both domestic and international markets. I continue to live on that orchard today.

Relevant experience serving the community:

I founded Sunset Water Services in 1989, providing water softeners to Eastern Panhandle residents. As a business owner, my frustration with state government prompted me to run for office in 2002. I was elected to the West Virginia House of Delegates, where I served four terms, a total of eight years. In 2012, I was elected to the 15th Senatorial District. In 2020, I became the Eastern Panhandle's first Senate President and Lieutenant Governor.

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

There are numerous pressing issues, but our focus should be on fostering an educated, drug-free workforce to attract jobs to West Virginia.

We must listen to our teachers. Their primary request last year was assistance with disruptive students in the classroom.



We should do everything possible to support our teachers, as well as support the students who are eager to learn.

The opioid epidemic is a nationwide issue, but West Virginia has been hit harder than any other state. We need to enforce stricter penalties on drug traffickers, particularly those distributing fentanyl.

What separates you from the other candidates?

As Senate President, I represent the Eastern Panhandle at the leadership table. I've spent years building meaningful relationships with colleagues in Charleston and throughout the state. Previously, the Eastern Panhandle was often overlooked because elected officials were reluctant to commute five hours to Charleston. However, if re-elected, I'll continue to be a regular presence in Charleston, advocating for the Eastern Panhandle's needs.

I see myself as a problem-solver, and there are many issues in West Virginia that still need fixed. I'm committed to finding solutions to these difficult problems to advance West Virginia forward.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

I'm in the business of good ideas, regardless of if they come from a Republican or a Democrat. If someone has a beneficial idea for West Virginia, I'll do everything in my power to incorporate it. One of my strengths is bringing people with opposing views and perspectives to the table. My goal is to have them talk to each other, instead of past each other. This is how we get government operating at the speed of business, not at the speed of government.

U.S. SENATE

On the Ballot

Independent: Michael Sigmon

Democrats: Don Blankenship, Glenn Elliott, Zachary Shrewsbury

Republicans: Bryan Bird, Jim Justice, Zane Lawhorn, Don Lindsay, Bryan McKinney, Janet McNulty, Alexander Mooney.

WALKER

FOR CONGRESS

"We need a leader winning battles. As your next Congressman, I will strengthen America, back up Trump, and stand up to the left's radical agenda."

- Brig. General Chris "Mookie" Walker (Ret.)



Brigadier General (Ret.) Chris Walker's life is a story of hard work and choosing what's right. Chris grew up middle class, his dad an electronics technician and his mom a nurse. They were proud first-generation Americans who became citizens the proper way. Those values led him to the United States Air Force Academy, forty years in uniform and thousands of flight hours. He saw combat and deployed to nearly every continent on the planet, from Khobar Towers to Mogadishu to Baghdad, later serving at the southern border and as a commander of the WV Air National Guard.

After growing up in a big city and being stationed in the D.C. swamp, Chris put roots down in West Virginia because of its real people, real American values, and common sense. Chris knows that no one is entitled to a seat in Congress. It belongs to the people of West Virginia. As your next Congressman, he will be your conservative voice in Washington.

Paid for by Chris "Mookie" Walker for WV-02.

MICHAEL FOLK

Name: Michael "Mike" Folk
Age: 54
Hometown: I live in the Swan Pond area of Berkeley County
Political affiliation: Republican



Office sought: State Senatorial District 15

How long have you lived in the area?

Born in Berkeley County, almost 55 years.

Relevant experience serving the community:

Served in the House of Delegates for 6 years. Fought against unlawful tripling of the fire fee and won, saving Millions of dollars for the taxpayers of Berkeley County. I was Tri-county 4-H Counciler. In the past, I have donated produce to the Rescue Mission and Berkeley County Senior Services. I have also judged local Science and Social Studies Fairs.

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

We have seen unprecedented money printing and spending at the federal level which has spread to every sector of our economy and resulted in the most egregious tax, the inflation tax, leading to the highest inflation in the last 40+ years. The leadership in the State Legislature have been complicit in this spending. Total WV State spending has increased 41.5% in the last four years. Actual General Revenue spending in WV from FY2022 to FY2023 increased almost 21%. The lion's share of this increase went to

special corporate interest central planning, not to the proper role of government, one of which is Education. This has all been a result of the response to Covid-19 at all levels of government, Federal, State, and Local. The last four years has been the issue of our life time. The massive spending, the lockdowns of small businesses and schools has been an unmitigated disaster. This has resulted in mental health issues and lower levels of educational attainment of the school age population. The working age population was also hit hard. The only ones who benefitted were big corporations, big pharma, and those with well paid lobbyists in the swamps of DC and Charleston. The Covid-19 vaccines have led to the greatest increases in All-Cause Mortality and disability since the statistic tracking started.

What separates you from the other candidates?

I tell the truth, even when it's an inconvenient truth. I always research issues thoroughly and have six years of experience fighting the Charleston Swamp. One of my opponents is beholden to the donor class. The other has no experience fighting for the people of the district in Charleston. In fact, he was an advocate for the disastrous Covid-19 vaccines as an officer in the WV Guard. (I have proof)

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

Research, present the facts, and adhere to the US and WV Constitutions. As Thomas Jefferson once said, "In matters of style, swim with the current; on matters of Principle, stand like a rock".

ANTHONY MURRAY

Name: Anthony Murray
Age: 36
Hometown: Capon Bridge
Political affiliation: Democrat



Office sought: State Senate District 15

How long have you lived in the area?

7 years

Relevant experience serving the community:

Volunteered at a local food pantry in Capon Bridge, as well as volunteered with Hampshire County Recycling Co-op. I also help tutor and educate with the Capon Bridge Library. I also work at a local mushroom farm in Paw Paw and help sell at the local farmers markets in Hampshire and Morgan counties.

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

Education and Environmental Justice. I would address these issues by hiring more teachers and teacher's aides/assistants. We also need to raise the wage for teachers to better compensate them for all the hard work they do. We are in a shortage of teachers right now in WV and the ones we do have will travel to other states for more money. We should fully support the teacher's unions as well.

We need to address the environmental devas-

tation that continues through polluting through coal and fracking. These industries are terrible for the surrounding areas that they contaminate. The toxins and pollutants seep into the water table and infect people who are already in vulnerable areas. Many of these communities already have many health issues and it is made much worse by all the run off from the coal plants and fracking. The coal industry especially is an outdated and very dirty form of energy. We should invest in clean renewable energy that can be produced in our state from solar, wind and hydro.

What separates you from the candidates?

I am a younger candidate than most and have experience as an educator. I do not have a lot of experience as a politician, but the politicians that have been in power for several years in the legislature and are making it worse and worse for people in this state each year. I think we need new and fresh people to take up the mantle. Obviously the policies that have been enacted recently are not working. WV still ranks high in opioid deaths, obesity and poverty levels and also ranks low in education levels and available resources for mental health and addiction issues

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

I want to find issues we can pass together that should not be as politicized such as infrastructure improvements and helping curb the opioid crisis.

TOM WILLIS

Name: Tom Willis
Age: 51
Hometown: Hedgesville



Political affiliation: Republican
Office sought: WV State Senate 15th

How long have you lived in the area?

Nine years. Before that, we were on military deployments representing the West Virginia National Guard all the world for the seven years prior.

Relevant experience serving the community:

I joined the West Virginia National Guard in 2000. I still serve West Virginia and my community in uniform as a Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army Special Forces Green Beret, in the West Virginia National Guard. I also serve on the Board of Advisors for the Shepherd University Hunter Carlos Willis Aviation Program.

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

Education and widespread economic prosperity with good jobs. With effective leadership, WV can and should be a top 10 State nationally in education and business friendliness. Under my opponent's last 20 years in the State legislature, we rank near last in both. 1. Education: West Virginia should be the most school choice friendly state, and we can accomplish this by giving parents the authority and funding to choose the best education option for their child. Personally, we chose public high school for our oldest daughter, but private school for our youngest child. Other parents may choose differently, but only a child's parent knows each child's needs best at any given age. By applying free market principles that give parents and students the choice, not the State, WV can become a top 10 education state. 2. Business: As a local business attorney and law firm partner, I see daily differences in business laws in the tri-state area. West Virginia will become a top 10 state with my leadership by a.) reducing taxes as low as possible, including eliminating the inventory tax that creates a perverse incentive not to invest in West Virginia (and places a huge administrative burden on small business owners), b.) reducing red tape regulations on all government interface with business owners - this red tape drains and diverts a

small business owner's time and energy and is a hidden, deadly stressful state type of tax taking no one talks about, and c). create and maintain transparent, accountable, secure private property rights to protect our entrepreneurs and property owners hard work, including laws that send property squatters straight to jail.

What separates you from the other candidates?

I am a true Constitutional Christian Conservative that is pro-gun, pro-life, and pro-religious, personal and economic freedoms for West Virginia citizens. I am the ONLY MILITARY VETERAN in my race, who knows what it is like to risk oneself to protect our beloved State and Nation. In fact, I still serve in the West Virginia National Guard. I am the only candidate that brings the combination of Special Operations military experience, extensive private business experience as owner and founding partner in a multi-state law firm based in Martinsburg, and extensive government sector experience having worked at the U.S. Federal Communications Commission, the U.S. Department of Commerce, the US Tax Court, U.S. Southern Command, U.S. Central Command, U.S. Special Operations Command and at many other levels with the Department of Defense. I will not hand over West Virginia gender-confused minors to the possibility of chemical castration because of lobbyist dollars, and I will not give away \$290,000,000 of your West Virginia taxpayer dollars to Green New Deal diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) leftist energy companies like Form Energy.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

Some of my favorite conversations are with those who disagree with me. I give others respect and the freedom to disagree with me, and expect the same in return. Good people can disagree civilly and still be friends. In fact, I have many friends I met through school, the military and the business world who disagree with my politics, yet our friendships endure nonetheless because we can love and respect each other regardless. I believe my life experiences in sum, including military training as enlisted and officer, living in all conditions overseas, and the trials of losing both my first wife and later my oldest son to cancers, help me connect with others at a heart level because I have been through significant suffering myself.

W.VA. SENATE – DISTRICT 16

PAUL ESPINOSA

Name: Paul Espinosa
Age: 62
Hometown: Charles Town
Political affiliation: Republican
Office sought: West Virginia State Senate – 16th District



How long have you lived in the area?

I'm a lifelong resident of Charles Town.

Relevant experience serving the community:

I've been honored to represent the Eastern Panhandle in the West Virginia House of Delegates since 2013 serving as House Education Chairman, House Majority Whip, and currently as Speaker Pro Tempore. I am a past president of the Jefferson County Parks and Recreation Commission, the Rotary Club of Charles Town and the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce, and a past board chair of the United Way of the Eastern Panhandle. I attend St. James the Greater Catholic Church where I serve as a Reader and Eucharistic Minister. I also enjoy officiating high school softball and announcing youth sporting events.

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

While I'm proud of my role in expanding student-centered education through my sponsorship of legislation authorizing public charter schools and creating the Hope Scholarship program, I recognize that the overwhelming majority of students will continue in the traditional public school setting. Last year I was happy to work for passage of the Third Grade Success Act that provides our traditional schools the support they need to help ensure students are performing on grade level by the time they enter fourth grade. I will work to support legislation proposed by Senate Education Chair Amy Grady to ensure our educators can teach in an environment conducive to learning by addressing severe student behavior issues.

Last year, I was proud to play a leadership role in forging agreement on a \$750 million tax cut – the largest

in state history – and this year led efforts to eliminate the state income tax on social security benefits for all West Virginians by 2026. I will continue my efforts to control state government spending so hard working West Virginians can keep more of their money.

What separates you from the other candidates?

Since my election in 2012, I've helped lead the fight to enact the most conservative legislative agenda in the country. But frankly, while I'm extremely proud of our legislative accomplishments, I believe this election is about who can be the most effective voice for the 16th District in Charleston going forward. I've demonstrated what can be accomplished when we work together as a team rather than engage in divisive, Washington-style politics. I'll bring that same collaborative, consensus-building approach to the State Senate.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

Whether it's enacting the most student-centered legislation in the country through my sponsorship of House Bills 206, 2012 and 2013 that created and expanded our public charter school and Hope Scholarship programs, playing a leadership role in forging agreement between the House, Senate and Governor on the largest tax cut in state history, protecting our Second Amendment constitutional rights, leading efforts to enact a higher education funding model to ensure equitable funding of our two- and four-year institutions, enacting the most pro-life legislation in the country while maintaining a 100%, 24 of 24 pro-life voting record as compiled by the state's foremost pro-life advocacy organization, or shepherding through the Brunch Bill, craft beer legislation, and other regulatory reform that enables our tourism industry to better meet the expectations of their guests, I've demonstrated time and time again the benefits of collaboration and consensus-building. While I'll always stand up for my constituents, I'll continue to seek common ground with my legislative colleagues to strengthen working relationships in order to advance the priorities of the Eastern Panhandle.

JOHN DOYLE

Name: John Doyle
Age: 81
Hometown: Shepherdstown
Party affiliation: Democratic
Position sought: State Senate, District 16



How long have you lived in the area?

Since 1946'

Relevant experience serving the community:

26 years in the House of Delegates, board member of PanTran (now EPTA), board member of Shenandoah Women's Center (now Eastern Panhandle empowerment Center).

What are the top 2 pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

Clean and affordable drinking water.

I support better funding for the Department of Environmental Protection and an elected Public Service Commission. We need locality pay for teachers, school service workers and other public employees. We now finally have the critical mass of representation in the eastern three counties to accomplish this, if the four state senators and eleven delegates representing the eastern three counties agree to make this the number one priority for our area.

What separates you from the other candidates?

I'm a Democrat.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

The same way I did it in the House of Delegates, with considerable success, sometimes in the majority and sometimes in the minority.

PATRICIA RUCKER

Name: Patricia Rucker
Age: 49
Hometown: Harpers Ferry
Political affiliation: Republican
Office sought: West Virginia State Senate District 16



How long have you lived in the area?

Since 2000

Relevant experience serving the community:

Served as State Senator since 2017, Was President and Founder of We The People of Jefferson County Tea Party, Founding member of WV4 Life Jefferson County chapter, Volunteer and Fundraising director for JCLL, Volunteer for Jefferson County Community Ministries, and am currently a board member for WV Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA).

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

We need to ensure that parents' rights are protected as well as those that are most vulnerable in our society. I have pushed for and will continue to pursue legislation that clarifies parental rights and empowers them to determine what is best for their children and families.

We need to continue to improve the economic climate and education in our state so that West Virginians have good paying jobs to enjoy and a better standard

of living than previous generations. I will continue to push for reform of the education system, both K-12 and higher ed, in addition to locality pay so we can recruit the best possible educators, ensure funding goes to the student level, not growing administration, and that we increase vocational training. Additionally, we must pass keep pushing to remove taxes and regulations that are hampering our businesses.

What separates you from the candidates?

I do not go along to get along. Compromise is sometimes necessary, but I will not compromise my principles and that sometimes means that I have to challenge the status quo. As one of only 4 women in the West Virginia State Senate I sometimes find myself going up against the good old boy network. I make no apologies for this and I will stand up for my constituents and fight for our shared principles.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

I have demonstrated that I am willing to work with all within and outside my party, plus with stakeholders and all who reach out to me. My desire to achieve the best possible solutions to the problems we tackle is the reason I have always been open to working with others because that is how we get the best product. My door is open, I share my personal cell and email with all, and try to respond to all who reach out. My attitude has always been I am a public servant and should be available to the public.

We **VOTERS**

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MAY 14, 2024



VOTE TO KEEP JENNIFER LEMON FOR BERKELEY COUNTY MAGISTRATE

REASONS TO VOTE FOR ME

- Experienced ✓
- Impartial ✓
- Serves with Integrity ✓
- Trustworthy Leadership ✓

**JENNIFER LEMON
FOR MAGISTRATE**
PAID FOR BY THE CANDIDATE

 **BERKELEY COUNTY
MAY 14, 2024**

THE CHOICE IS CLEAR

HOUSE OF DELEGATES DISTRICT 98 REPUBLICAN NOMINATION



**BARBARA FULLER
FOR DELEGATE**

**JOE
FUNKHOUSER**

Pledges to cut taxes and decrease spending.	✓	✗
Pledges to always support the 2nd Amendment.	✓	✗
Pledges to stop Biden's Green New Deal in West Virginia	✓	✗
Pledges to always fight for Life at Conception	✓	✗
Pledges to support Law Enforcement, Ems, and Corrections Officers	✓	✗
Pledges to support West Virginia's Small Businesses and Farmers	✓	✗

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PATRICIA RUCKER FOR STATE SENATE

My Special Interest Is You!

Dear Friend - Together we have accomplished a lot.

- ★ Lead Proponent of School Choice in WV
- ★ Local Control of our Public Schools
- ★ Locality Pay
- ★ Tax, Judicial and Regulatory Reform
- ★ Foster Care Reform
- ★ Improved Economic Climate for Small Business

And so much more...

But there is more yet to do...

We are just getting started!

Up Next...

Clean up State Government

- ★ Continue to streamline and reform agencies
- ★ Make the Division of Highways more responsive
- ★ Protect our Children and Support our Families

I am proud of my voting record. I have sponsored legislation to:

- ◆ Protect the Rights of Farmers
- ◆ Strengthen Property Rights
- ◆ Promote Local Tourism

I AM ASKING FOR YOUR VOTE

Paid for by Rucker For WV, Mike Holz, Treasurer



WV Legislative Photography, Photo by Will Price

W.VA. HOUSE - DISTRICT 90

MIKE RICCIO

Name: Mike Riccio
Age: 47
Hometown: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Political affiliation: Republican
Office sought: State Delegate District 90



How long have you lived in the area? Three years
Relevant experience serving the community:

Previous Vice President, Lieutenant and training officer of Fire Department

What are the top two pressing issues relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

The first issue is accountability to the people. I would make it easier for people to see what bills are up for a vote and pub-

lish them to allow constituent input. The second problem is transparency. I want to hold bureaucrats accountable for our tax dollars and make it easier to see who gets money and what it is being spent on.

What separates you from the other candidates?

I am a true conservative that abides by the Constitution and believes that government should not be self-serving; it should be about the people.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

I have found that most people with differing views can find common ground on at least one part of an issue, if not more. If there is open, respectful conversation, we can build on that common ground to move forward with a solution.

No response: George Miller

W.VA. HOUSE - DISTRICT 91

JOSEPH DE SOTO

Name: Dr. Joseph de Soto
Age: 61
Hometown: Gerrardstown
Political affiliation: Republican
Office sought: Delegate 91st



How long have you lived in the area? 30 years

Relevant experience serving the community:

I helped my college roommate start an orphanage, have treated 300 Berkeley county residents without charging them, am a Benefactor Life Member NRA, Gun Owners of America, West Virginia Farm Bureau, Eastern Panhandle Business Association, Eastern Panhandle Republican Association, National Right to Life, Human Society, American Society for Clinical Oncology and American Chemical Society.

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

Ending sex change operations of children and stopping con artist politicians. I will vote to remove the loop whole of gender dysphoria that allows children to be sexually reassigned that my opponent Don Forsht added to the law, and be the person I have been the past

30 years and not lie to the electorate to get a elected and do the opposite of what they say.

What separates you from the candidates?

Unlike my opponent I do not support transgender surgery for children nor the hundred of millions that was stolen from the taxpayer and given to Bill Gates and Jeff Bezos. I have a 30 -year record of writing in the Journal and other newspapers on conservative issues. Additionally, I have three doctorates and have published over 300 papers allowing me the ability to understand complex issues. Lastly, I grew up poor and working class and was homeless in college after leaving the military as a combat vet. I understand what the average person goes through.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

As a college professor and Professor, I was able to work on the Navajo Reservation, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Department of Defense (USUHS) and in the Appalachia College of Pharmacy which represents a great diversity of ethnicities and religions. At CIA, I negotiated with foreign governments, and unsavory groups successfully. I always built consensus based on common interests, while maintaining my principles, ethics and morality. I can't be bought and won't sell out.

W.VA. HOUSE - DISTRICT 91

DON FORSHT

Name: Don Forsht
Hometown: Washington D.C.
Political affiliation: Republican
Office sought: House of Delegates 91st District
How long have you lived in the area? 23 years



Relevant experience serving the community:

I am self-employed working in Real Estate Development and Management. For the last four years, I have also been the Delegate for South Berkeley. My GOP activities include membership in the Berkeley County Republican Club, Gateway Republican Women, and Berkeley County Republican Executive Committee. I am an active member of the Eastern Panhandle Business Association, VFW, and received the Vietnam Service Award. I am also a current member and past President of the Blue Ridge Patriots, a Tea Party based Political Action Committee dedicated to defending and preserving the freedoms our Forefathers enumerated in the United States Constitution. Various other community activities include highway trash pickup, tree planting in War Memorial Park, and serving on committees in our local HOA.

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

Accessible and affordable Health Services. I have been working toward establishing Neighborhood Hospitals that are not under the "Certificate of Need (CON)" laws that effectively create medical monopolies in our state. Once the CON is re-

moved from Neighborhood Hospitals, this part of the medical market will be freer and allow more competition between service providers. This in turn will lower costs and increase services in our urban areas and better disbursement of services in our rural areas.

Better outcomes from the Public Schools. With the new administrations at both the Federal and State levels, I am confident that we will be successful in curtailing much of the micromanagement by the federal government through their grant requirements and eliminating many of the unneeded administrators in our education system (past studies have found that we have one of the higher ratios of administrators to teacher in the country).

What separates you from the other candidates?

My work experience and analytical skills separate me from many of the other candidates because of my ability to look at problems in their wider context and isolate root causes.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

Overall, I have found that my fellow legislators have a sincere desire to make WV better and help their constituents back home. It is not uncommon to view solutions from different perspectives and relatively easy to find solutions that satisfy most of us. The more difficult problems/solutions arise when a statewide solution doesn't help all counties uniformly. An example of this is the indexing of unemployment benefits. Using the state unemployment rate helped some counties and hurt others. We need to explore regionalizing the unemployment rate for indexing and thereby not hurting some counties.

No response: Tammy Hess

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

On the Ballot
Democrats: Deborah Styles
Republicans: Kent Leonhardt, Joshua Higginbotham, Roy. L. Ramey

W.VA. HOUSE - DISTRICT 94

LARRY KUMP

Name: Larry D. Kump
Age: 76
Hometown: Chambersburg, Pennsylvania

Political affiliation: Republican

Office sought: WV House of Delegates District 94

How long have you lived in the area?
Since 1990 and at the same Falling Waters location since then.

Relevant experience serving the community:

Served as a Delegate since 2010, Farm Bureau, West Virginia Citizens Defense League, National Rifle Association, Falling Waters Battlefield Association, North Berkeley Library Friends, Eastern Panhandle Business Association, Berkeley County Republican Club, Blue Ridge Patriots, and more.



See www.WVLegislature.gov for complete biography.

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

Reduction of government interference in our lives - will always vote to reduce government regulation. Reduction of taxes on families - voted for reduction in government taxes and will continue to do so.

What separates you from the other candidates?

Integrity, Accountability, & Transparency. I am a battle-tested Constitutional and liberty minded Christian conservative.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

I reach out and listen to the concerns of folks of all attitudes and affiliations, and have a reputation for being able to glean support from those of differing political affiliations.

W.VA. HOUSE - DISTRICT 95

CHARLES "CHUCK" HORST

Name: Charles "Chuck" Horst
Age: 65

Hometown: Born in Hagerstown, Maryland

Party affiliation: Republican party

Office sought: House of Delegates 95th District

How long have you lived in the area?

I moved to Berkeley County in 1974 and have lived and raised a family here. I opened up my own auto repair shop in 1998 and worked for myself as a sole proprietor until I retired in 2020 with the intention to run for office.

Relevant experience serving the community:

Prior to being elected in 2020, I had been very active in advocating for 2nd Amendment rights in West Virginia. Advocating for the 2nd often led me to lobbying and working with our elected state officials, including helping some get elected and opposing others. Along the way I learned much about the legislature, and some of the inner workings, which ultimately led me to run for House of Delegates.

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

West Virginia has many important is-



ssues that overlap, which creates very complex issues when it comes to trying to address them; this makes it hard to pick the top two issues.

West Virginia has been losing population for years, to turn that around we need a diverse economy with good paying jobs, which requires a well educated workforce and higher workforce participation. While much has been done with education there is more needed and one issue is how to deal with disruptive students in the classroom so others can learn. We desperately need some form of locality pay or housing allowance for teachers and other state workers, especially here in the eastern panhandle. The problem has been reaching a consensus in order to have the votes to pass locality pay or housing allowance.

I have personally been working on Liberty issues dealing with the 4th amendment.

What separates you from the other candidates?

While I do not have a primary opponent for contrast. I believe my background of being a blue collar worker and owner operator of my own business for over 20 years gives me a unique perspective in understanding the struggles of the people in the 95th District and all West Virginians.

W.VA. HOUSE - DISTRICT 95

DEBI CARROLL

Name: Deborah (Debi) Carroll

Age: 58

Hometown: Falling Waters

Party affiliation: Democrat

Office sought: Delegate - District 95

How long have you lived in the area?
I have lived in Falling Waters for 34 years.

Relevant experience serving the community:

I currently am and have been the president of the Marlowe Ruritan for the last 8 years.

This year I am also the Ruritan's Potomac District Governor. I was treasurer and very involved in the PTA at Marlowe Elementary and also in the PTO at Potomac Intermediate School. I was involved with my daughter in Girl Scouts for a couple years. I am currently involved with her in 4H, as well as with the Berkeley County Youth Fair. I have volunteered with many local non-profit groups in addition to the Ruritan.

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

We are experiencing massive growth with new houses, townhouses and apartment developments popping up all over our county. Nothing has been done to make sure our infrastructure can support this growth. Developers should be held responsible and our county planning department must make sure our schools can handle the additional students these new homes will bring before granting permits. As well as any road widening and additional sidewalks, lights, etc. that will be needed. Emergency, fire, and ambulance services must also be looked at.



and if additional equipment and personnel are deemed necessary to cover all the additional housing, that needs to be addressed as well.

West Virginia is always ranked near the bottom when it comes to education. Our kids deserve better. We must have and keep highly qualified teachers and give them more freedom in the way they teach. Each child is different and they don't all respond or thrive in the same way. We have a serious problem keeping teachers (and bus drivers) here. Teachers can add 20 minutes more to their daily commute and get a job teaching in a border state for \$20,000 more per year. Bus drivers are in a similar situation. We have to find a way to get our teachers (and other state employees) pay raises to be more comparable to Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania. If we want a better future not only for our children, but for all of West Virginia, we have to start with our education.

What separates you from the other candidates?

I try to look at issues from all points of view. I listen to the concerns of others, and I am a good problem solver.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

We can't always agree on everything, and there are usually valid points on both sides, but there is almost always a way to meet in the middle. Everyone that has met me knows that I am very friendly and always willing to step up to do what is needed. I want our community, our friends and our families to be happy living here. I want to make sure our kids have a bright future, our workers have decent wages and safe job conditions, and our seniors and veterans have access to any programs and services they may need.

W.VA. AUDITOR

On the Ballot

Democrats: Mary Ann Claytor

Republicans: Caleb Hanna, Eric Householder, Mark Hunt, Tricia Jackson

W.VA. HOUSE - DISTRICT 96

NIKKI LOWER

Name: Aniqua "Nikki" Lower
Age: 28
Hometown: Mount Storm
Political Party: Democrat
Office Sought: House of Delegate District 96



How long have you lived in the area?
I am a life-long West Virginian who has always lived in the Eastern Panhandle. I first moved to this area of the Panhandle in 2016 while attending college at Shepherd University and have resided in Berkeley County for more than three years.

Relevant experience serving the community:

Lowes Heroes Projects: Elk Garden School Restoration Project and Habitat for Humanity (5 years); Heart of the Highlands Trail System Cleanup; National Park Service Battlefield Cleanup (Shepherdstown Battlefield); OXFAM; Red Cross Blood Drives; Registered Notary and Parliamentarian; SkillsUSA WV (9 years) (Formerly VICA: an organization focused on vocational education in our public schools); Two tours with Americorps: one in elementary schools and one working with at-risk youth.

What are the top two pressing issues relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

Strengthening support for our emergency services and easing tax burdens for West Virginia residents and businesses. It's essential to acknowledge and honor those who serve our communities, the state, and the nation, including firefighters, EMTs, teachers, librarians, and others. These public servants deserve respect, dignity, and the means to lead fulfilling lives. West Virginia faces significant challenges and as a result, it's the duty of our government to prioritize citizens' needs and

prepare them for the future, which forms the core of our campaign's mission. The two issues I wish to highlight during this are our need to support our Firefighter's, EMTs, and Guardsmen and preventing tax increases that hurt West Virginia families and businesses.

What separates you from the candidates?

As a lifelong West Virginian who has lived the "West Virginia Experience," I have witnessed the struggles our families endure firsthand. My mother tirelessly worked two jobs since I was a child. Meanwhile, my father, employed in a sawmill, suffered disability as a result of that being the only gainful employment available in our local area. I have worked multiple jobs in customer service, and as a park ranger, and as a manager on top of organizing and advocating for many of the issues my campaign is focusing on. I have volunteered to work with our at-risk youth and assisted with building homes for families with Habitat for Humanity. These personal experiences exposed me directly to the challenges our fellow West Virginians confront daily. My focus remains steadfastly on improving the lives of West Virginians- I believe I offer the best opportunity for regular West Virginians to have their voices heard on the issues that affect them every day.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

At the end of the day the point of Government is to govern. In order to govern we have to reach actionable answers and compromise. I have always been pro-active about facing issues and going above and beyond in my work. I will put in whatever extra effort is needed to work with the people who have differing views to me that ensures we can actually pass bills that help West Virginians in the State Legislature.

Name: Lucia Valentine
Age: 27
Hometown: Shepherdstown
Political affiliation: Democrat



Office sought: House of Delegates District 97

How long have you lived in the area?
About 25 years

Relevant experience serving the community:

For the past three years I have worked as a

legislative advocate at the West Virginia State Legislature, helping to pass legislation that protects the health of West Virginia's people and resources.

What are the top two pressing issues relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

I will work to address bedrock issues like opportunities for young people, supporting teachers and public employees, addressing the Eastern Panhandle's growing infrastructure needs and more. Our young people continue to leave the state,

W.VA. HOUSE - DISTRICT 97

PAM BRUSH

Name: Pam Brush
Age: 71
Hometown: Martinsburg
Political affiliation: Republican
Office sought: WV House of Delegates District 97



How long have you lived in the area?
I was born in Putnam County, WV and have lived in Berkeley County for over 20 years.

Relevant experience serving the community:

My Husband Joe and I have been active in our church, Independent Bible Church since we were married in 2006. We have served as Children Ministry Workers at our church, AWANA program and Child Evangelism Fellowship as Good News Club Workers and Advisory Committee Members for the Eastern Panhandle Region. In 2016 we helped reorganize Berkeley County Chapter of West Virginians for Life. I have served as President, Vice President and Treasurer and representing the Eastern Panhandle on the West Virginians for Life State Board.

I am a member of the three Republican Organizations that I have served in multiple officer positions and currently serve as Chair of Berkeley County Republican Executive Committee and a member of the WVGOP for the last 6 years.

I am a member of NSDAR William Henshaw Chapter. The objectives of Daughters of the American Revolution are Historic Preservation, Education and Patriotism. It is exciting to recognize Junior ROTC Cadets, American History Essay Winners from Berkeley County Middle Schools and honoring our Veterans.

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how

would you address them?

Taxes: I am proud of the accomplishments of the Republican Majority has achieved over the past decade in our state. It's the grassroots efforts like I've been involved with that have helped support these successes like creating the car tax rebate that has essentially eliminated the state's annual tax on our cars, passing the largest income tax cut in the state's history and finally eliminating the taxes on Social Security benefits. But we have more to do. In order to make West Virginia competitive with other states, we need to continue to lower the taxes on individuals and working families-especially the personal income tax.

Election Integrity: Even before the 2020 Election I have been concerned about Election Integrity. As a member of the Berkeley County Republican Executive Committee since 2011, I have recruited experienced and knowledgeable poll workers to ensure the integrity of our election process. We are constantly under pressure from the Left to weaken our election laws.

I will be a strong and knowledgeable voice to protect and improve Election Integrity laws in Charleston.

What separates you from the other candidates?

Commitment. I've walked the walk as a conservative Republican leader and volunteer over the years. Walking the walk means showing firsthand my commitment to issues. I am born and raised in West Virginia and served as an educator in our state for over 30 years, including Jefferson County Schools. I am a committed West Virginian who has always put her community first with a verifiable history of service to our community.

This is our home and we want the best for our community and state.

LUCIA VALENTINE

and we need to find ways to bring West Virginians back home so that they can work here, live here, and thrive here. We must incentivize opportunities for good paying, sustainable job creation that will promote responsible development here in the Eastern Panhandle.

What separates you from the other candidates?

My desire to push past divisive partisan narratives. At a time when our political climate across the country and the state is so intensely divided, we need leaders who will

be transparent, who are able to listen to the needs of their community with intention, and who can recognize that this is not just about a political party, but about our shared values. Representing the district means learning what's most important to the people who live here, and finding ways to get things done. We as West Virginians have more in common than we may think, and this can only be discovered when we show up for one another, listen to one another, and work together to find solutions to the problems our state faces.

W.VA. HOUSE – DISTRICT 98

BARBARA FULLER



Name: Barbara Fuller
Age: 56
Hometown: Garden City, NY (Kearneysville for the past 18 years)
Political affiliation: Republican
Office sought: Delegate for House of Representatives District 98

How long have you lived in the area?
18 years

Relevant experience serving the community:

I have served on the Jefferson County Republican Executive Committee as well as serving on the board of a homeschool cooperative.

What are the top two pressing issues relevant to the office you seek, and how would you address them?

The first issue is the blatant attack on the coal and gas industry. We need to strengthen both industries so we may become energy-independent. By expanding their production, we can reduce foreign reliance on energy sources,

strengthen West Virginia's economy, and save West Virginian jobs.

As a Constitutional Conservative, I believe in smaller government, individual Liberty, and the Rule of Law. I intend to introduce or support the reduction or elimination of unnecessary taxes or fees. I will also not vote for increased budgets because we can. If the taxpayers have to live within their means, so should the state.

What separates you from the other candidates?

I would like to think what sets me apart from my opponent is the fact that I am not the Establishment: I will not just vote as I am told. My vote cannot be bought, I will always put my constituents and the people of West Virginia first.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

When working with people of different values and opinions it is important to listen first to understand their view. After offering my stance and working from there, people will not always agree, but it is important to treat others as you wish to be treated.

JOE FUNKHOUSER



Name: Joe Funkhouser
Age: 41
Hometown: Charles Town
Political affiliation: Republican
Office sought: Delegate — 98th District

How long have you lived in the area?

I am a lifelong Jefferson County resident.

Relevant experience serving the community:

I served as a Board Member on the Jefferson County Farmland Protection Board through my term limits from 2005-2012. I collected signatures to stop a proposed 100% rate hike on residents using utilities in the City of Ranson while attending Shepherd University, which was successful in reducing the proposed rate hikes before the West Virginia Public Service Commission. I currently serve on the board of directors of the Charles Town Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association and the Charles Town Race-track Chaplaincy.

What are the top two pressing issues relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

Improving economic development policies for all sizes of businesses is vital for West Virginia's prosperity.

Economic development has been a pressing issue for West Virginia throughout my life and continues to be so today.

We have strong competition from neighboring jurisdictions for our residents and investment opportunities and I will prioritize improving economic development policies for all sizes of businesses to expand and/or build in West Virginia, including optimizing government efficiency and cost-effectiveness, comprehensive state and local tax reform that encourages living and investing in West Virginia (especially eliminating business inventory taxation and lowering taxes), and fostering a more stable and predictable business environment.

The other pressing issue I would address is zealously advocating for Jefferson County. We have many issues

that are specific to our region that need to be addressed more thoroughly, including adding tools to responsibly manage our population growth, providing meaningful locality pay for our public employees, and providing more objective funding formulas to keep more of our tax dollars here in Jefferson County.

What separates you from the other candidates?

Growing up and living in Jefferson County with our population doubling during my lifetime provides insight and understanding to the issues and challenges of our community. My background as a business and civil litigation attorney, demonstrated public service conserving Jefferson County as a Board Member of the Jefferson County Farmland Protection Board, being an advocate for West Virginia's thoroughbred industry in Charleston and here at home, and pledging to zealously advocate for Jefferson County's interests and meet with all interested citizens of the 98th District to hear their concerns and ideas for improvements separates me from the other candidates.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

There will always be differences of opinion, so identifying shared goals is imperative to work towards solutions to achieve those goals, so there is common ground even if the approaches differ.

I seek to make West Virginia a more wonderful place to live, work, raise a family, and retire, and I'm sure many others share this goal as well. I try to treat everyone with respect so when we disagree, we can do so without being disagreeable.

Ultimately, not everyone has the same values or goals, and elections have consequences regarding priorities and policy choices.

Politics is a team sport whether you like it or not, so please consider sending your strongest team members to represent your values and interests. Thank you for considering my candidacy. Please contact me to discuss issues important to you and visit JoeForJefferson.com to learn more.

FAMILY COURT JUDGE

CARMELA CESARE



Name: Carmela Cesare
Age: 55
Hometown: Shepherdstown
Office sought: Family Court Judge, 24th Family Court Circuit (Berkeley and Jefferson counties), Division 4

How long have you lived in the area:

I have lived in Shepherdstown, with my husband, S. Andrew Arnold, for 30 years. We met in law school at WVU and moved here to begin our careers and start our family. We have raised our three lovely daughters here and they are all now all proud WVU Mountaineers.

Relevant experience serving the community:

For the past 30 years I have fulfilled the goal that I set in law school to serve the

public by working in every courtroom in the panhandle, state and federal, as a felony prosecutor in Berkeley county, public defender, CJA counsel in federal court, court appointed counsel and Guardian ad Litem protecting the best interests of the children in both circuit and family courts. Currently, I serve as magistrate for Jefferson County having been elected in 2020. Because of this extensive trial court and judicial experience, I know how to effectively run a court room to ensure that the work is done efficiently, the parties are respected and, most importantly, the children are protected. I am also active in my church, St. Agnes Catholic Church in Shepherdstown, including having served on its pastoral council, helping with feeding the homeless and, I currently serve as bread and cup minister.

See **CESARE**, Page 31

No response: David Camilletti (Div 1), Chris Glover (Div 1), Lindsey Matschat (Div 2), Richard Stephens (Div 3), or Laura Sutton (Div. 4)

MAKE SURE YOUR VOICE IS HEARD

Did you know if you've changed your address or last name recently, you need to update your voter registration? Don't get locked out of the next election on a technicality; confirm your voter registration today!

JEFFERSON COUNTY *ROOTS*
JEFFERSON COUNTY *STRONG*

Transparency ★ Accountability ★ Integrity

JOE FUNKHOUSER
 Republican for WV House
 98th District

VOTE: Your Vote Matters!

Early voting: May 1 – 11
 Charles Washington Hall
 Downtown Charles Town

Election Day: May 14

- Keeping more of our tax dollars in Jefferson County and lowering taxes.
- Promoting family values and defending life.
- Protecting our 2nd amendment rights and Bill of Rights to safeguard individual liberties.
- Increasing funding for our traditional and charter public schools and growing the HOPE Scholarship.
- Locality pay cost of living adjustments for all public employees.

Endorsed by

Pro-gun A grade by the NRA

joeforjefferson.com

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RE★ELECT

Larry A. HESS

Berkeley County Assessor

Life-Long Resident of Berkeley County
 Licensed Real Estate Broker and Appraiser/ 1976-1986
 Appointed Deputy Assessor/ 1986

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE POSITIONS HELD:

- Residential Appraiser 1986-1996
- Commercial Appraiser 1996-2006
- Market Analyst/ Tax Consultant 2006-2012

ELECTED:
Berkeley County Assessor Nov. 2012

AS ASSESSOR:

- Maintained All State Tax Dept. Monitoring Standards Each Year since Elected.
- Added New Web-Site with Assessments, Mapping, and On-Line Filing.
- Added New Full Time Employee to monitor Vehicles with Out-Of-State Tags.
- Just finished scanning all personal property files. This will increase customer turnaround and eliminate long lines. Thanks to the employees for completing this project on time.
- Recognized by The International Association of Assessing Officers in Residential and Commercial Appraisals, and Assessment Administration.
- Certified by West Virginia State Tax Department in all forms of Standard Assessment Practices.

EXPERIENCE:
Thirty-Eight Years' Working in the Assessor's Office

*It Would Be an Honor to Continue
 Serving the Residents of Berkeley County.*

Paid for by the Candidate

W.VA. HOUSE - DISTRICT 99

OSMUND ANDERSON



Name: Osmund Anderson

Age: 63

Hometown: Washington, DC

Party affiliation: Democrat

Office sought: House of Delegate District 99

How long have you lived in the area? 9 years

What are the top 2 pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

The two pressing issues are Economic Growth and Environmental Protection. These pressing issues include promoting economic growth by attracting new businesses, supporting small businesses, and protecting the environment by reducing carbon emissions and pollution levels. Utilizing social media and feedback mechanisms is crucial for effective communication and policy implementation.

What separates you from the candidates?

What sets me apart from the other candidates is I am a retired Army veteran pursuing a Ph.D. With a military and higher education background, I emphasize my commitment to service, belief in the value of education, and the importance of effective leadership. I stand out from other candidates with my unique blend of practical experience, dedication to community impact, multigenerational perspective, collaborative leadership style, and focus on education, equity, and effective governance. I can address the district's challenges and contribute to a prosperous and equitable West Virginia with support.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

In working with colleagues who hold different views in the House of Delegates in Jefferson County District 99, I would prioritize respectful communication, seek common ground, build relationships, find practical solutions, remain flexible in my perspectives, and maintain a commitment to serving the constituents of our district.

WAYNE CLARK



Name: Wayne Clark

Age: 52

Hometown: Charles Town

Party affiliation: Republican

Office sought: House of Delegates 99th District

How long have you lived in the area?

I have lived in Charles Town for 21 years.

Relevant experience serving the community:

I have served as the Delegate for the 99th District for the past four years and previously served on the Charles Town City Council. I am a local business owner in Charles Town and employ 50+ people at Locust Hill Golf Course. As a local business owner I have supported various charitable efforts including Jefferson County Community Ministries, the local Toys for Tots and I am the Director of our local First Tee youth golf program.

What are the top two pressing issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

I have a four-year track record on various issues important to our community, including protecting the rights of the unborn, expanding education choice and making West Virginia more business-friendly for all businesses, but especially for small busi-

nesses. I plan to continue my efforts through my leadership roles on the Economic Development and Tourism Committee and on the Education Committee. Improving the quality of education in our state and continuing to foster our charter schools and HOPE Scholarship opportunities is a key part of educating a workforce that makes West Virginia attractive to businesses who wish to locate here and to support local businesses that are born here in our community. We passed the largest income tax cut in West Virginia while also eliminating income tax on those who receive social security benefits. Continuing to make West Virginia an economically attractive state with our tax code and education are both essential to the future of our state and I look forward to continuing my work in these two areas.

What separates you from the other candidates?

Experience. I've lived in our community for over 20 years and have grown a local business that employs 50+ people. Not only do I have the experience of working with colleagues in Charleston, but I also have experience as a local city councilman and the various needs and challenges my district has. I have a record of success, have been the lead or co-sponsor of 58 bills that have become law in my four years in office, including key tourism and charter school bills.

MIKE ALLERS



Name: Mike Allers, Jr.

Age: 31

Hometown: Charles Town

Political affiliation: Republican

Office sought: House of Delegates, District 99

How long have you lived in the area? 2 years

Relevant experience serving the community:

I am an educator, political activist and conservative columnist in my local paper giving voice to people who do not feel heard by the political Establishment.

What are the top two pressing issues relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

Education and Jobs. I will fix our broken education system by pushing to publicly elect our superintendents, make child care accessible for West Virginia moms and families and get our teachers the real actual raise they deserve. With a strong ed-

ucation system, we will be able to handle a robust jobs market, bringing more businesses here and opportunity here than ever before. I will push hard in the House for a complete removal of the income tax, push for incoming higher paying jobs, and make this area fully harness its potential as a powerplayer in the DC Exurb area.

What separates you from the other candidates?

I am an educator, a young father and a completely self-made man that is facing the everyday struggles of everyday West Virginians. I'm a regular guy, I'm a fighter. I don't own a golf course or get cozy with the political kingmakers. I'm in this to fight for real West Virginians.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

I can work and cut a deal with anyone. But unlike our representatives in the Eastern Panhandle, I would know how to leverage our amazing area and not get routed in fighting for what I believe in- I will always stand up for our area.

DAPHNE ANDREWS



Name: Daphne Andrews

Age: 52

Hometown: Sterling, Virginia

Political affiliation: Republican

Office sought: WV Delegate 99th District

How long have you lived in the area?

We moved to West Virginia in 2006.

Relevant experience serving the community:

I was the President of We the People Jefferson County, VP of Gateway Republican Women, Served on the board of West Virginia Federation Republican Women, was a member of the Woman's Club at St. James Catholic Church, volunteered in the Boosters for my husband's boys basketball team at Washington High School for a number of years.

What are the top two pressing issues relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

Green New Energy Deal, especially the solar compounds that are popping up all over the state. My fear about these solar compounds is that we may be too late to stop the current plans. We need to move legislation that protects West Virginia's property. I am totally against any PILOT agreements. I am

working with a few other candidates on solutions and ideas for new legislation.

Protecting the children of West Virginia. Protecting our children has a lot of layers. We must repeal the Hardy Amendment. Adoption needs to be more accessible to West Virginians. Like I said there are a lot of layers.

What separates you from the other candidates?

I work for the geriatric population. A unique passion I possess. I have learned over the years to be patient, kind, gentle and listen. I apply these attributes in everything I do. The people of WV deserve a voice. I want to be the voice for them. I will apply these attributes when I represent them. But make no mistake, my passion comes with fire. I will fight for anyone, even if it means I need to get loud.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

It comes naturally to me. I have been working in the professional arena for 30+ YEARS. I have met so many people over the years with differing opinions. You have to adjust to them and adapt. Find common ground. In this role, it will be similar. In order to get things done you have to accept people's differences. However, I will stay principled and follow the Constitution.

W.VA. HOUSE - DISTRICT 100

No response: Bill Ridenour or Maria Russo

Cesare

FROM PAGE 28

What are the top two pressing issues relevant to the office you seek and how would you address them?

The increasing caseload due to the growth of our community and, the need for people to feel heard and that they have had an opportunity to make their case. My being elected will address the first issue of an increasing caseload. Berkeley and Jefferson counties need a family court judge who can handle a heavy caseload. My trial court and judicial experience has prepared me to conduct the hearings efficiently and keep the cases moving towards resolution. With regards to the second issue, the need for people to feel heard and that they had an opportunity to make their case, this goes to judicial temperament. A judge must be patient, respectful and listen to the parties fully. As a magistrate I have developed my skills not only in accurately applying the law but also in running a respectful courtroom. As family court judge I will endeavor to ensure that every person who comes before me feels satisfied that I have fully listened to their arguments and considered them completely prior to making a decision. I recognize that the issues that come before the family court deal with people's personal lives and the decisions that the court makes can have lasting effects upon the family.

What separates you from the other candidates?

My experience. Qualifications matter. My 30 years of legal experience is 30 years of actual courtroom experience as a trial attorney and as a magistrate. There is no replacement for that. My years of trying cases to juries and running a courtroom provides me with the knowledge of what is required to help keep a hearing on track and running smoothly. My experience making legal arguments and working with the rules of evidence in the courtroom and as magistrate ruling upon these same types of legal arguments is what enables me to do this effectively and efficiently.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views from your own?"

With respect, patience and kindness. The most important thing a judge can do is listen and keep an open mind. I understand that people have reasons for their positions and as a magistrate I try hard to listen to what the parties are saying and understand them. If I don't understand what they are trying to get across I will ask questions until I have it figured out.

Humen

FROM PAGE 8

I think looking at the budget transparently would help our school district compete with other counties around us, even before locality pay. For instance, I believe that administration should not make any more than 4 times the lowest paid staff. I would like to explore if Berkeley County could offer to pay a portion of the payments on teacher's student loans as long as they work for the County, or a percentage after a certain number of years of service. Most large businesses offer tuition reimbursement for employees.

Another issue is student behavior, there have been grade school teachers taken to the hospital from being assaulted by first graders and then the same student is back in the classroom the next day. The other extreme is kids being suspended for minor infractions. A lot of this goes back to the Safe Schools act and I believe it needs modified. Administrators need the leeway to administer the correct punishment for the infraction and violent students need to be removed from the school immediately.

What separates you from the other candidates?

While I myself have never been a teacher, I come from a family of teachers, my mother is a retired teacher and my father was principal and 5/6 grade teacher at my elementary school. My aunts all were teachers, my grandfather was even a teacher at a one room school house before he went to World War II, and lastly my wife is a first grade aide at Hedgesville Elementary. So, I am very familiar with the school system and how it works. I also have a Business Administration degree and have run my own restaurants over the years, so I know how to be fiscally responsible.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

I work well with other from different backgrounds and beliefs. We are all in this together you have to compromise to get anything done in life.

Hefestay

FROM PAGE 17

All Jefferson County Commission activities must be accomplished with full and open transparency.

Pertinent important local Jefferson County issues such as growth issues related to solar compounds land use, protection of our tourism (Agriculture and Historic Landmarks), management of housing density controversy and support of our first responders in the fight against the local illegal drug infestation. Advocate new clean businesses that bring better employment opportunities to Jefferson County residents.

What separates you from the other candidate?

I have many decades of functioning and managing large funding goals while I was a senior officer in the US Navy and while working

Power

FROM PAGE 11

While it was not well advertised in the beginning, I am hoping that we can continue to grow this type of event so that conversations that have been started continue and those that have not been started can begin.

What separates you from the other candidates?

I think what sets me apart is the ability to listen. Over the past two years on the Board of Education, I have learned a great deal. There were things that I was absolutely right on when I ran two years ago but there were also things that I was absolutely wrong. I not only took the time to listen and observe, but also have tough conversations with people that I might not have had in the past. This allowed different perspectives to be viewed and enhanced my ability to advocate for parents, staff, students and the community as a whole. I do not have any political agenda, nor do I have any political party backing my run. We need to work together instead of promoting continued division. Discussions with each other are much more fruitful than the ones that are at each other that leaves everyone frustrated. My last two years are a testament to that.

How do you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

I believe that I have a proven track record over the course of the past two years while serving on the Board of Education. I have differing views on a variety of topics with each board member but we were all elected by the constituents of Berkeley County. Therefore, we need to listen to each other and be open to different opinions. I believe that Berkeley County is the most diverse Board of Education in the state of West Virginia as well as the surrounding area and I believe that has led to increased fruitful conversations, advocacy for all people and the ability to work together for the prosperity of each student that we serve.

Twyford

FROM PAGE 6

What separates you from the other candidates?

I am a problem solver. I think outside the box and look for ways to move forward beneficially. I do my own research and always seek the greater good. I think independently and strategically and my campaign is motivated by a desire to ensure common sense and smart decision making. I volunteer prolifically and have spent years nurturing the relationships between parents, teachers and students. I have a great deal of knowledge to share, from both the public and private sector, that will help facilitate the development of a more well-rounded school board.

How to you plan to work with people who have different views than your own?

My track record on the City Council speaks to my ability to work cohesively and effectively with a variety of opinions. I never disparage and always listen, and I stand up for what is right and take the time to explain my point of view. It is important that we elect who can see the applicability of the decisions they make, remain humble enough to always listen and evaluate proposals from a myriad of viewpoints. And, above all, I know what my job is as a Jefferson County Board of Education member is to ensure that our school district is responsive to the values, beliefs and priorities of our community and I am 100% committed to that.



The Journal

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JACK HEFESTAY



For Jefferson County COMMISSION



"I am a Republican candidate running for County Commissioner because I DO NOT have a special interest."

"I pledge to be an advocate for the benefit of all citizens and not for a privileged few."

"My motive is to improve conditions in Jefferson County and not to enrich myself."

"My entire salary (after taxes of course) will be donated to non-profit organizations (mostly local)."

- Fair and Balanced Budgeting: **Prudent management of our limited resources with care for all our citizens.**
- **Prioritize the needs of county: AMBULANCE, FIRE and POLICE PROTECTION come first!**
- **Full Government Transparency at every level: NO insider deals and NO new fee or levy.**
- **NO MORE SOLAR COMPOUNDS and ABSOLUTELY NO WIND TURBINES.**
- **Responsible Economic Growth / JOBS: without damaging our traditional county character.**

- **Jack Hefestay is a long-term resident** of Jefferson County with a lifetime personal history of volunteerism and involvement in the community and the county.
- **PROFESSIONAL:** Retired **System Integration Engineer** with 33 years in business disciplines.
- **EDUCATION:** **University Graduate** with Engineering, Business and Liberal Arts studies.
- **MILITARY:** Retired **US Navy Captain (O-6)** Intelligence with a distinguished (25 years) service record (Active and Reserve).

See more complete information at: www.hefestay.com

Follow me on facebook: [Jack Hefestay for WV](#)



Paid for by candidate