

New face will grace 100th for first time in decades

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For nearly 20 years, Rep. Bryan Cutler has spoken for the 100th District in the Pennsylvania House, including a stint as House speaker. This year, Cutler announced his retirement from political office.

On Election Day, Republican Dave Nissley and independent Dale Hamby will face off to take control of the district seat.

Local Republican Party members have been divided over the future of the 100th District. In February, county GOP committee members failed to endorse a candidate by a two-thirds majority after eight rounds of voting.

A few months later, Cutler endorsed Kelly Osborne, a retired state trooper and Nissley's primary opponent. Despite not having the incumbent's support, Nissley won the race with 56% of the vote.

Hamby and Nissley both previously ran unsuccessful campaigns against Cutler. Hamby, a sheep farmer and retired Army official, ran as a Democrat in 2016 and 2018 and lost with 26% and 28% of the vote, respectively. Nissley, a business owner, lost the 2024 primary with 46% of the vote.

Covering much of southern and eastern Lancaster County, the 100th is among the county's most reliably red districts.

Hamby and Nissley were asked to respond to a short list of questions ahead of the general election. Below are their responses.

DAVE NISSLEY (R)



Dave Nissley

Age: 53.
Residence: Sadsbury Township.
Education: High school.
Occupation: Small business owner.
Family: Wife Lil, father of four, grandfather of eight.

What is your position on data center development and regulation in Pennsylvania?

New technology is inevitable and it is a tool that can be used for good or for bad. Pennsylvania and Lancaster County need to have rational laws that stop the bad actors and protect the citizens. We are blessed to be in a state that has government structures like township supervisors that have real au-

thority. These supervisors need to have the support and backup at the state level to make decisions that are right for their respective communities.

What do you see as the most important issues to address in the 100th District if elected?

Parents want to know that they have the final say and the best options available for their children's education. This coupled with the excessively high property tax burden on our parents and seniors creates a double problem that needs to be worked on and solved. High property tax and school choice can both be improved, and it would benefit our families and our local economy. Thirdly, our desire in the 100th is to keep the rural culture and the farmland. This can be done by continuing to support the farmers and local businesses by reducing the regulatory environment.

How do you plan to address affordability concerns in the region?

We do have affordability issues! And the solution is not found in the government. The citizens here in Lancaster County are the hardest working creative people on the Earth, and their best wish is that the government would lower taxes and get out of the way, creating opportunities for us to produce more than we already do. Allow us to build and solve the housing issue, allow us to work without more taxation, stop taxing our land, our inheritance and our savings, unleash the energy in the state so we have less expensive fuel and electricity, reduce the mandates on the schools so we can operate them more efficiently. These are the solutions to affordability.

What changes would you advocate for in the state's budget and spending if elected?

We should pass and enact a Taxpayers Protection Act that would limit the growth of state and local government revenue and require voter approval for certain tax and revenue changes. Secondly, we need to pass a law that prohibits regulatory changes by state agencies that increase the cost to the citizens without the oversight of the legislative body. After all, the House and Senate are solely responsible for taxation and budgeting in the state.

DALE HAMBY (I)



Dale Hamby

Age: 71.
Residence: East Drumore Township.
Education: Bachelor's degree in engineering, United States Military Academy; bachelor's degree in computer science, Roosevelt University; MBA, Harvard Business School.
Occupation: Retired, operating a small sheep farm.
Family: Wife Jan, two grown children and three grandchildren.

What is your position on data center development and regulation in Pennsylvania?

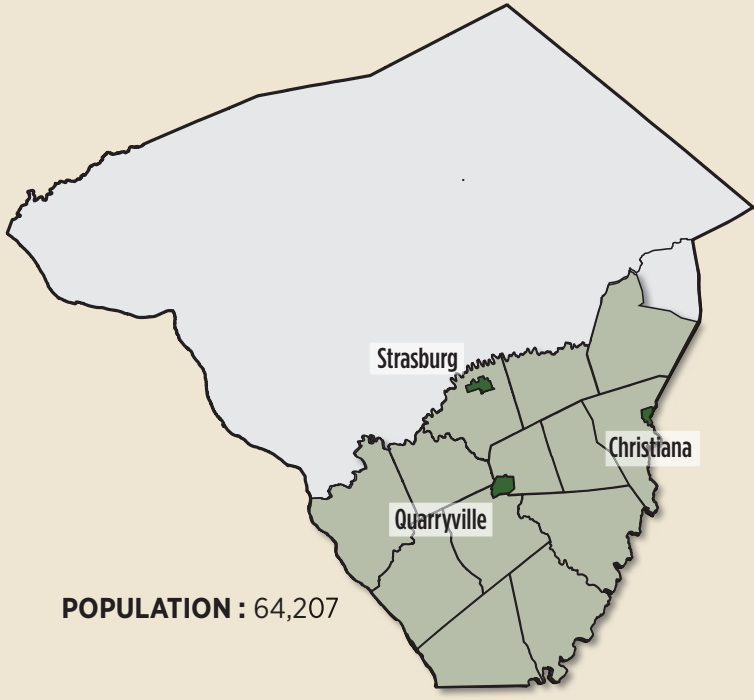
Given that data centers have high potential for noise, heat, pollution of waterways and energy demands, a very deliberate approach is needed and a moratorium on development to allow regulations and ordinances to catch up. Based on those risks, equitable risk mitigation and financial compensation to the citizens of the area must be established. Electric grid capacity, water adequacy, pollution controls (noise and toxins) for any design must be accounted for. Risk mitigation could be in the form of mandated design choices that may be more expensive but provide better environmental protection. Compensation might be in the form of identifying data center capital assets as real property subject to property taxes or direct subsidy to electric or water distributors. Our elected officials should not be allowed to sign nondisclosure agreements with companies involved in center development to maximize transparency for our citizens.

What do you see as the most important issues to address in the 100th District if elected?

The most significant state issues that affect our district are the timeliness of the budget and state laws that limit our ability to establish and maintain a healthy financial footing. Passing an on-time budget is at the core of the state's responsibility to its citizens. Delayed budgets are unacceptable and they impact our schools by causing them to start the school year by borrowing money to execute their programs. The interest on those loans, which is not reimbursed, reduces the power of every tax dollar. Our district is also impacted by state laws that prevent taxing nontraditional real property. Forty-nine

100TH STATE HOUSE DISTRICT

The 100th District for the House of Pennsylvania covers much of southern Lancaster County: Bart, Colerain, Drumore, East Drumore, Eden, Fulton, Little Britain, Martic, Paradise, Providence, Sadsbury and Strasburg townships; part of Salisbury Township including Gap and White Horse; and Christiana, Quarryville and Strasburg boroughs.



POPULATION : 64,207

states allow petroleum product pipelines to be taxed as real property, greatly reducing the tax burden of average citizens and helping keep tax increases in check. Other states also have tax structures that allow for taxing the full value of data centers. Changing these laws would benefit all residents.

How do you plan to address affordability concerns in the region?

Much of the affordability crisis is driven by national level actions. However, things can be done to help our residents cope with inflationary trends. Prioritizing funds for food banks and other last-chance programs can help provide the safety net some of our citizens need. Investment in programs to help local farmers get their products to a market, attract business that fits into our standard of living, and to help individuals to help themselves all are needed. Regulatory changes are needed. For example, approval of plug-in (or porch) solar installations would allow residents to reduce their electric bills; providing a tax carve-out for retail sales under a given dollar amount direct to the consumer could make a difference to a struggling family; allowing small producers to sell cuts

of meat processed by an inspected custom butcher (versus) a USDA butcher would make meat sales for the small farmer more viable.

What changes would you advocate for in the state's budget and spending if elected?

The most important change is the process and timeline for developing and approving our budgets. Late budgets hurt everyone. Clarity on what we as a commonwealth value most must be reflected in our budget. When we leave state support of libraries at the same level that it was 25 years ago, we are saying we don't value libraries. When we fund a coffee maker hospitality center, but do not adequately fund the state's Child Death Review program, we are saying that underwriting the business of a corporation is more important than the safety and well-being of our children. Our budget is providing a very distorted view of what I believe to be most Pennsylvanians' values. Part of the reason this happens is because the process is both rushed and broken and because we have lost the art of collaboration and compromise for common good.

● To read the candidates' complete responses, visit lancasteronline.com/election.

Police sgt. challenges longtime rep. Fee in 37th

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Republican state Rep. Mindy Fee has represented the bright-red 37th District for 13 years. This year, Chad Gleissl, a Warwick Township Democrat and York College campus police sergeant, is fighting for the seat.

The race will be an uphill battle for Gleissl. In 2024, Fee defeated Democratic challenger John George with 66% of the vote. In prior years, she received over 70% of the vote. If reelected, Fee will serve an eighth two-year term.

Fee and Gleissl ran uncontested in their party primaries in May.

The two candidates were asked to respond to a short list of questions before the election. Below are their responses.

MINDY FEE (R)



Mindy Fee

Age: 61.
Residence: Manheim Borough.
Education: Manheim Central High School; bachelor's degree in economics, Millersville University.
Occupation: State representative.
Family: Three children and seven grandchildren.

What is your position on data center development and regulation in Pennsylvania?

Local control is essential. Municipalities need clear, transparent information about proposals and the authority to make decisions that reflect the priorities of the communities they serve.

What do you see as the most important issues to address in the 37th District if elected?

Doing anything that can be done on the state level to help with af-

fordability. And the most practical thing that can be done is to reduce taxes and fees of whatever kind possible so people can keep more of what they earn. To deliver that relief, Harrisburg has to rein in its spending and truly target waste and fraud.

How do you plan to address affordability concerns in the region?

Fee referred to her previous answer on the most important issues.

What uniquely qualifies you to represent your district?

I deeply care about the people and the communities in our district and am humbled that they trust me to serve as their voice in the state House.

CHAD GLEISSL (D)



Chad Gleissl

Age: 31.
Residence: Warwick Township.
Education: Salisbury Township High School; bachelor's degree, Strayer University.
Occupation: Police sergeant.

Family: I am the proud grandson of two Lititz residents. My grandfather worked at the Wilbur Chocolate factory after returning home from World War II. My father, a German immigrant, met my mother while she was serving in the U.S. Army. My mother, Audrey, is a Warwick High School graduate and a successful businesswoman. My first home as a child was on South Charlotte Street in Manheim, and my cousin helped start the Christmas light tradition in Manheim Square. My family's roots in this area go back to the Civil War, and I am proud to carry that history and connection to our community forward. I spend as much time as I can with my better half, Anne, and our two year old son, Christian. They are my

greatest joy and remind me every day of why serving and strengthening our community matters so much.

What is your position on data center development and regulation in Pennsylvania?

I believe in regulating data centers in the Commonwealth to protect our communities, natural resources and ratepayers. Local communities should have a say in whether data centers are built in their communities. We must ensure that developers generate their own power, cover the infrastructure costs associated with their electricity demand and do not drive up utility bills for local families. Data centers should also comply with strong water conservation, transparency and clean energy standards and commit to local hiring.

What do you see as the most important issues to address in the 37th District if elected?

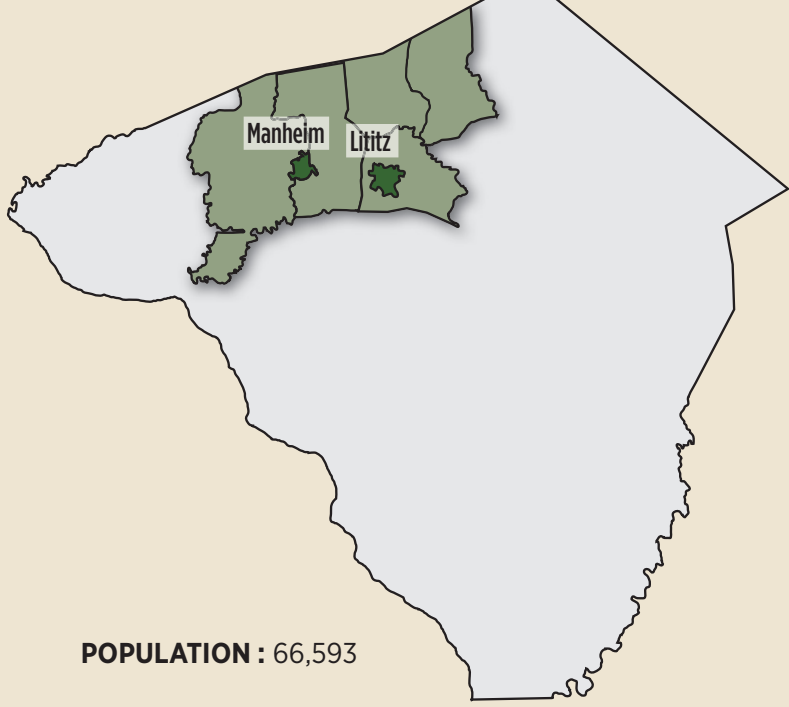
The most important issue facing the families I have spoken with is the rising cost of living. From utility bills and groceries to insurance, families are feeling the pressure in many areas of their daily lives. We need to make sure we are helping Pennsylvania families keep life affordable and ensuring that families and seniors in our district and across the commonwealth have the support they need.

How do you plan to address affordability concerns in the region?

I believe it starts with ensuring we have good-paying jobs here in the commonwealth so families can earn a living and build a secure future. We need to pass legislation in Harrisburg that helps lower utility bills and provides meaningful tax relief for working seniors and parents. We also need to help

37TH STATE HOUSE DISTRICT

The 37th District of the Pennsylvania House includes Manheim and Lititz boroughs and Rapho, Penn, Elizabeth, Warwick and Clay townships.



POPULATION : 66,593

residents keep more of their hard-earned money by stopping junk fees and addressing predatory banking practices. And we must protect residents from utility rate increases associated with data center development by requiring data centers to be responsible for the infrastructure costs created by their operations.

What uniquely qualifies you to represent your district?

I was proudly born in Lancaster County, and Manheim is where my father chose to start his business. My family and I have been part of this community for a long time, and I have always taken great pride in serving and supporting

the people who call it home. As a police sergeant, I have dedicated my career to protecting and serving my community. I was honored to receive a Medal of Valor for risking my life to protect the life of another. I don't shy away from difficult or troubling situations, and I believe my background and experience can bring a new perspective to Harrisburg. I hope to have the opportunity to bring our community's voice to Harrisburg, stand up for our families, and fight for the resources, opportunities and support our community needs.

● To read the candidates' complete responses, visit lancasteronline.com/election.