

Keys to the Candidates – Monroe County IN - Fall 2014

County Assessor

William Ellis (R)

Judith A. Sharp (D)

(1) What are your qualifications for the office you are seeking?

ELLIS: I am the only qualified Level 3 Assessor/Appraiser running. Small business ownership and over 20 years management experience make me fully qualified for this office.

SHARP: Experience is the primary qualification I bring. Assessing is my main task, but managing a staff and the local budget process is equally challenging.

(2) What changes would improve the day-to-day running of the Assessor's office?

ELLIS: I will be an advocate assessor. Any proposed law or policy changes, like the possible rural zoning plan, that could have an impact on assessed property value should be scored by the assessor. Those proposing such plans, and the public, should know the projected financial impact.

We will partner with the community. When assessment disagreement occurs, the burden of proof will be on us to demonstrate the correct value to the taxpayer. Should property values experience extreme fluctuations, I will let affected areas know ahead of time, and we'll work together to ensure accuracy and fairness of assessments. No surprises!

SHARP: The one change that would improve the day-to-day functions of the Assessor's office is to expand training opportunities. In order to keep up with the ever changing legal landscape of assessing and local budgeting, assessors and their staff need more training. Of course, additional training comes at a cost. Currently there are limited opportunities, especially in Monroe County. Often times, we must travel out of county and even the state to acquire the necessary training. More funding for our education needs would fill this gap and make our jobs much easier.

(3) How would you work to retain valued employees?

ELLIS: From all reports, the Monroe County Assessor's office has competent staff, but is without a State Certified Level 3 Assessor/Appraiser. Utilizing existing staff, provided with the latest up-to-date training (paid for mostly by the State) will be my priority. My Level 3 Certification will enable this Office to work as a whole Team.

As an elected official, I will bind myself to the same policies as my staff. There will be no arbitrary dismissals for personal/political reasons. Assessor office employment will be based on competence and team effort to provide the desired service to the citizens of Monroe County.

SHARP: I have always said that Monroe County has the brightest, most helpful assessment staff in the state. On average, the assessment staff in Monroe County has nearly 15 years of assessing experience. This is largely unheard of in assessor offices in Indiana. Retaining valuable staff results from treating your employees with respect and showing appreciation for their work. Since the public sector cannot compete with the private sector in terms of pay, we offer a work environment where public service translates into job satisfaction. My job is to help people and that is very satisfying.

County Clerk

Jacob Franklin (R)

Linda K. Robbins (D)

(1) What are your qualifications for the office you are seeking?

FRANKLIN: Nine years of experience as a Deputy Clerk, five years as an election official, awarded a certificate of appreciation from the United States government.

ROBBINS: Qualifications include 27 years of management experience in finance and operations, manufacturing, the medical field, and four years as your incumbent County Clerk.

(2) What steps would you take to ensure that the election process runs as smoothly and efficiently as possible?

FRANKLIN: I propose on expanding current voter education programs for election officials while implementing new web based training tutorials to ensure successful certification of all documents, inspectors, judges, and poll workers. Having experience as an inspector and judge during five Primary and General Election cycles, which also included a recount, gives me the unique institutional knowledge of election law, rules and procedures. By being involved with the Indiana Clerks Association and Election Commission, will serve as valuable resources to bring synergy to future elections.

ROBBINS: Our election process is now successful, thanks to education for voters and poll workers. We now have in place the means to conduct the various phases of elections, including equipment, ballots, site surveys, training, early voting, Election Day planning, and excellent personnel. Elections are now seamless. Balanced teamwork by Election Board members leads to better decisions in a timely manner.

Vote Centers are a viable consideration for the future in Monroe County. When we are faced with replacement of our equipment, we can make informed purchases of the technology and equipment required to use Vote Center modules.

(3) What changes would improve the day-to-day running of the Clerk's office?

FRANKLIN: I will dedicate staff members to delivering time sensitive documents to the proper departments daily to ensure accurate and updated records. With absolute confidence, I believe that cross training will allow continuing educational opportunities for staff without negatively impacting customer service, or office functions.

I would like to offer support to other case types in the office such as uncontested Adoptions, Guardianships and Paternities and not be limited to just protective orders. I am eager to collaborate with organizations to have an information center within the office in an effort to increase awareness of all types of services.

ROBBINS: Improvements in the Clerk's office over the last four years include much improved service for the public, more professional service to the Court system, more accountable fiscal management, better trained employees, initial development of the records retention and archives program and the resulting reduction of paper-based operations, and introduction of our Protective Order Assistance Program (POAP).

In the next term, we will continue employee development and participation with qualified agencies such as State Courts, BMV, Secretary of State, and ICADV. We plan to expand the POAP partnership, ensuring the well-being of individuals who are at risk of interpersonal violence.

(4) How would you work to retain valued employees?

FRANKLIN: Invest in employees by advocating for full time positions and minimizing the reliance on part time positions. It is my hope that by offering full time positions to employees will ensure the level of customer service that should be expected within the Clerk's Office. Understand that institutional knowledge takes time to build and I am committed to develop and implementing staff incentives and a great working atmosphere to retain valued employees. Also, I plan on regularly communicating and collaborating with councilmembers to build an adequate budget that is beneficial to the public we serve and employees.

ROBBINS: Our employees met the challenge of additional training and assuming a leadership role when able. We make certain that employees have the tools required to do their jobs, and that they are aware of the ever-changing legislation that affects the Court system and our jobs. We hold regular meetings to discuss items of concern and share accomplishments. As an active Clerk, my philosophy is to listen to staff, not seeking blame, but analyzing a problem and then how we can fix it. It is the employees who make this office a satisfying place to work and to conduct business efficiently.

County Commissioner, District 1

Bob LaGarde (R)
 Dave Nakarado (L)
 Patrick Stoffer (D)

(1) What are your qualifications for the office you are seeking?

LaGARDE: Van Buren Township Fire Department for 5 years, Van Buren Township eight years as the caseworker/Investigator for township assistance, stayed within budget.

NAKARADO: I meet all requirements to serve as Monroe County Commissioner. I am the only candidate for commissioner who does not receive a paycheck from government.

STOFFERS: Monroe County Commissioner: (2007-present), President, (2008-2012; 2014); Ellettsville Town Council: (1996-2000, 2004-2006); President, (2004-2006) MS, Management (OCU); BS, Public Affairs (IU)

(2) What changes would you like to see, or not see, in the Monroe County Comprehensive Plan?

LaGARDE: “Next to the right of liberty, the right of property is the most important individual right guaranteed by the Constitution and the one which, united with that of personal liberty, has contributed more to the growth of civilization than any other institution established by the human race.” [William Howard Taft](#)

I have found little if anything in this plan to be fair or beneficial to the landowners of Monroe County. It is terrible how Monroe County is trying to force landowners into unfair division, sales and use of their property.

NAKARADO: The Comprehensive Plan has been adopted. The plan is not ordinances or laws, now is the time to stop the momentum to write those ordinances and laws that strip property rights from land owners of the county. It is also time to remove specific members from the Monroe County Planning Commission. If the planning commission continues their present direction, over 14,000 homeowners and business will be non-compliant, this isn't responsible leadership. The commissioners have given this board their power and they have abused their power. A vote for Nakarado is a message to support realistic zoning and planning.

STOFFERS: I voted against adoption of the plan for two reasons. First, the density-based approach to subdividing land can lead to an uneven playing field. Enhanced ability to access capital could allow property to be subdivided 'first' in its district and get more lots, where adjacent, similarly situated land would not be permitted as many lots because they weren't 'first', denying in my view the equal protection of the law. Second, the 15% slope development restriction is unreasonable. It disregards innovation and construction technologies to limit runoff and is a barrier to owners getting the full use of their land investment.

(3) What policies or guidelines do you think there should be to assure proper fiscal controls in county government?

LaGARDE: I assume that the question has something to do in part to the misuse of the County credit cards. I feel that credit card use should be more closely monitored. All credit card purchases should be signed off on within 1 week by at least one other co-worker who knows the proper use of such card for accountability. That way if items are brought into question, they can be caught/corrected before the things get too far out of hand. All credit card invoices should be examined by the County Auditor or their staff as they come in each month.

NAKARADO: Overall, Monroe County department heads have individually worked hard to keep the overall cost of government in control. However I believe the expansion of county government and expenses related to Federal grants, needs to be reviewed and addressed. Local leaders in elected offices and across this nation must face the fact these grants are not free money and the Federal government does not have the money saved to spend. Spending money on credit does not work at home or in government, a vote for Nakarado again sends a message it is time to change how we spend tax payers money.

STOFFERS: We've undertaken a number of actions to put additional checks and balances in place to assure proper fiscal controls in county government beyond those required by the State Board of Accounts and those written into statute by the Indiana General Assembly. Limiting, and in some cases denying access to county credit cards, placing spending caps on credit cards, and retooling county travel policy are some examples of action we've taken. Additional fiscal controls would appear to require some substantive action by the Indiana General Assembly and perhaps amending the Indiana Constitution, as well.

(4) In what ways can county government collaborate with city government to provide better services?

LaGARDE: We are blessed with great cooperation between the City and County for the most part but there is always room for improvement. Any areas where there seems to be a duplication of services should be examined to avoid the double tax expense of covering those services. I believe that there is still work to be done with cooperation with the State of Indiana/Federal Government also. I understand that thousands of tax dollars were spent arguing with the State and Feds during the planning of the I-69 Interstate. Whether you are for or against the plan, it was money wasted.

NAKARADO: We need leaders who have been elected in Monroe County government who will represent Monroe County who are capable of working with city and state agencies. Leadership starts from the top and we have county commissioners who either ignore or choose to spar with state agencies such as INDOT, these leaders should be promoting and coordinating positive communication with all parties involved and in this example: county, city and state. I will bring this type of needed leadership back to the office of the commissioners.

STOFFERS: Mayer Mark Kruzan and the Monroe County Board of Commissioners have never had a more cooperative and supportive working relationship than we do today. We along ago established a series of successful partnerships in the provision of services -- a unified central dispatch, animal management and control, fueling fleet vehicles, and building permits and inspections are a few examples. That cooperative sprit has lent itself recently to our initiating with our city partners a reassessment and analysis of the convention center, convention and visitors bureau, their associated properties, and their long-term funding and operations.

County Council, District 1

Nelson Shaffer (R)
Shelli Yoder (D)

(1) What are your qualifications for the office you are seeking?

SHAFFER: Scientist (geologist)
40 year resident of county/city
Director Indiana Academy of Science and other organizations
Citizens Academy
IU Staff Council
Small business owner/farmer

YODER: Two years on the County Council. Over twenty years experience as a non-profit executive and retail sales manager. Two master's degrees. Commitment to this community.

(2) What would be your budget priorities for the coming year?

SHAFFER:

I would try to exercise better oversight of department budgets
Encourage grants from outside agencies
Try to keep property tax rates as low as possible
Generate more income from assets such as airport, fairgrounds, Tech Park, etc.

YODER: I am running to continue serving District 1 on the Monroe County Council because I value efficient, transparent, and effective government and responsible fiscal management of our county's resources. I am committed to the following priorities: maintaining and improving the safety of our county; protecting our 911 dispatch; funding our roads and bridges; and, creating and making accessible sidewalks and trails throughout District 1. Additionally, I will continue efforts to bring high quality, fair-wage jobs to our county, and I will continue to seek solutions to address those in our county facing poverty and homelessness.

(3) What policies or guidelines do you think there should be to assure proper fiscal controls in county government?

SHAFFER: Department budgets should be submitted with sufficient time to examine properly.

Use county attorney to vet contracts and inform of long-term implications (eg. recycling changes).

Allow incentives to departments to gain appropriate grants.

Investigate cooperative agreements with other groups, especially for purchasing.

Examine intergovernmental agreements and economic implications.

YODER: Vigilant fiscal oversight is critical, as it helps to ensure that our county government is using the public's resources efficiently and responsibly, and thus protecting taxpayers against loss, waste, and abuse. One policy I support is increasing the frequency and intensity of scrutiny whenever public employees spend county resources. For example, if a county employee uses a county credit card or seeks reimbursement for expenses or materials, there should be several layers of review to monitor the spending decisions. I would support a zero tolerance policy in matters of poor judgment resulting in lost county resources.

(4) How would you encourage more public participation in the crafting of fiscal policy for Monroe County government?

SHAFFER: I would attempt to get more diverse participants for advisory committees.

With CATS there is good public access to deliberations, but perhaps social media should be used also.

Simplifying budgets or a prose narrative would be useful.

I would like to have a list of pro and con positions from departments about budget lines and encourage public input on those.

YODER: I would encourage citizens of Monroe County to take one of several existing opportunities to participate more fully in the crafting of fiscal policy. First, all citizens are invited to attend (or view via CATS) our bimonthly Council Meetings and comment publicly on any matter relevant to Monroe County. Furthermore, I frequently meet with citizens and citizen groups to discuss matters that impact our community. As an elected representative, I feel a responsibility to help folks stay better informed and engaged in the process of self-government, and would therefore urge people to continue reaching out directly to me at syoder@co.monroe.in.us.

County Council, District 2

Ryan Cobine (D)

Brian Ellison (R)

(1) What are your qualifications for the office you are seeking?

COBINE: On City of Bloomington Traffic Commission, 2013 Citizens' Academy, in IT at IU for 18 years, life-long Monroe County resident, long-time follower of local government.

ELLISON: I am a global project manager for Hewlett-Packard; my responsibility includes the support of General Electric computers in Europe, Asia and the Americas.

(2) What would be your budget priorities for the coming year?

COBINE: Ensuring cost of living increases for county employees, properly staffing county HR, reviewing job classification pay ranges to ensure they accurately reflect current, competitive regional compensation rates—all to at least maintain, hopefully improve, a quality county workforce, the front line providing services to citizens. Establish ongoing maintenance support for important quality of life improvements such as the Karst trail system. Continue support for early intervention/prevention efforts in criminal justice system, and hold off efforts to diminish or stall the Sophia Travis Community Services grant and the energy conservation fund.

ELLISON: My first priority is efficiency. In general, I intend to use my computer background to find ways of doing things more efficiently in every department just as I do for at Hewlett-Packard. Specifically I want to look at the Sheriff's department and make sure it is funded properly and uses those funds properly. Security and Safety is, to me, the most important function of county government.

(3) What policies or guidelines do you think there should be to assure proper fiscal controls in county government?

COBINE: Switching county payments to an EFT system to eliminate the need for credit cards will be a great first step. Reviewing the travel request policy is in order; there are some steps in that process that increase ambiguity and are clearly out of step with best practices. The city just created a new financial policies manual, we should review that to see if Monroe County will benefit from any of the city's work. Increasing quality communication between county government units to make sure any issues are well and widely understood is also needed.

ELLISON: I believe there should be a review on how the TIF funds are used in Monroe County. Yes, we need to have economic development but we need to be sure we have the funding for public service and safety that comes with this growth. I would like to review the processes of other similar Indiana counties and compare best practices and how we can work with the state to improve county government. There should also be a review of the travel and training policy's in order to make sure county money is used correctly.

(4) How would you encourage more public participation in the crafting of fiscal policy for Monroe County government?

COBINE: A 19th century system devised to prevent corruption, because of its complexity, increases misunderstanding in the 21st. We all need to lobby the legislature to fix this. But we can use current technology to increase understanding of what is going on and therefore how to participate. I love Geoff McKim’s blog, the availability of information on the county website, and CATSTV.net—but there is a lot more that can be done to systematically make county government information accessible in a meaningful way to everybody. One idea: a comprehensive flow chart showing how funds flow into and out of county government.

ELLISON: The past 2 years I have served on the Monroe County Emergency Management Advisory Council. During this time I have learned how computers are the key to help improve access to the County. If there is a properly designed, user friendly, web site, the public can learn everything we do at a glance. For example, I would like to have an online process to document the trips that are taken by county employees and the specific expenses incurred on each trip on a current on-going basis. That step alone should eliminate the personal use of public funds by county employees.

County Council, District 3

Jeff Carson (D)

Martha “Marty” Hawk (R)

(1) What are your qualifications for the office you are seeking?

CARSON: No response

HAWK: No response.

(2) What would be your budget priorities for the coming year?

CARSON: No response,

HAWK: No response.

(3) What policies or guidelines do you think there should be to assure proper fiscal controls in county government?

CARSON: No response.

HAWK: No response.

(4) How would you encourage more public participation in the crafting of fiscal policy for Monroe County government?

CARSON: No response.

HAWK: No response.

County Council, District 4

Rick Birch Dietz (D)

Greg Knott (R)

(1) What are your qualifications for the office you are seeking?

DIETZ: Extensive history of community involvement including volunteering, entrepreneurship, and public service with 10 years local government budgeting experience. Currently serving as County Council Vice-president.

KNOTT: B.S. Public Affairs, Environmental Science concentration from IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs; lifelong Monroe County resident; IT Network Administrator; rental property owner.

(2) What would be your budget priorities for the coming year?

DIETZ: Our budget should reflect the community of compassion that we seek to build. Our budget is not an abstract mathematical formula; it's an articulation of values and a document with real human impact. It is how County government commits to sustain and improve our community's quality of life and one way we turn our collective public aspirations into action. My budget priorities center on helping those in need of critical services, building capacity where it is needed (particularly in HR), addressing stressed funds, providing a cost of living increase to county staff, and maintaining the County's sound financial footing.

KNOTT: Efficient, high quality basic services; Attract talented professionals and quality employers with Public Safety, and Parks & Recreation; Medically treat rather than incarcerate non-violent drug offenders; Defund county travel budget until appropriate safeguards are in place to prevent abuse; Defund the militarization of law enforcement; Invest in alternative fuel technology for fleet vehicles in situations where it will yield long term savings; Offer cash incentives to county employees who voluntarily agree to transfer into ACA Marketplace health insurance plans in cases where it will produce savings.

(3) What policies or guidelines do you think there should be to assure proper fiscal controls in county government?

DIETZ: I am dedicated to sustainable economic development and building a resilient, diversified and increasingly self-sustaining local economy that incorporates technology, the arts, agriculture, entrepreneurship, industry, and academia. Our great challenge is to maintain our community's character and quality of life in the face of economic and social change, while expanding the circle of prosperity to more of our residents. To achieve this our finances must be beyond reproach. County Government – just like any organization – should employ the best of modern accounting and fiscal management practices. Effective policies need to be sound, communicated well throughout the organization, and enforced fairly.

KNOTT: Zero Tolerance – terminate employment for unethical behavior and prosecute criminal behavior.

(4) How would you encourage more public participation in the crafting of fiscal policy for Monroe County government?

DIETZ: County Council's most important role is to be a sound steward of Monroe County resources and balance the many compelling and often conflicting obligations of county government. Effective engagement with constituents is necessary to make informed decisions and build consensus around community goals including fiscal policies. The County Council already does much to encourage involvement but more can be done. For instance I am working to bring Open311 citizen issue reporting tools online for reporting potholes, graffiti, etc. I also support the important oversight and policy-making role of public boards and commissions and of CATS TV in cablecasting public meetings.

KNOTT: People should have a variety of input methods – Phone, Email, Facebook, and Twitter. Public comment at Council meetings is always welcome, but most people are far too busy to attend. I'd encourage people to read Councilman McKim's blog at in53.wordpress.com if they would like to learn more about local government finance.

County Prosecutor

Chris Gaal (D)

Jacob Moore (R)

(1) What are your qualifications for the office you are seeking?

GAAL: I have the legal experience and community leadership skills to ensure the office will meet the challenge of handling serious cases and protecting public safety.

MOORE: Extensive criminal litigation experience across Indiana. We'll prioritize dangerous crimes and implement proven policies: putting victims first, encouraging rehabilitation, and incarcerating the violent and dangerous.

(2) How do you see the job of Prosecutor being affected by the recent overhaul of the State's Criminal Code?

GAAL: I served as board chair for the Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council while the legislature updated the criminal laws. I understand the new tools available, and will work at both the local and state level to ensure that Monroe County proactively implements effective evidence-based programs to provide appropriate supervision and accountability for offenders. The new code requires longer sentences for serious violent felony offenders, while encouraging greater use of treatment/rehabilitation services through local community corrections programming for other offenders. The challenge will be to further develop and coordinate effective local resources to meet the increased demand for such services. www.chrisgaal.org

MOORE: Overall it's positive, but there are also serious challenges. An immediate effect will be added stress on the already overcrowded jail.

The revision shifts responsibility for many felony offenders from the Department of Corrections to counties. Before this influx, our jail was already near capacity.

So when the Prosecutor asks for bond or offers plea terms, who should we fight to keep in jail (instead of alternatives like home detention or treatment)? Justice and safety must guide these decisions. For example, domestic battery is far more dangerous than possession of marijuana. Pretrial placement and plea offers must reflect such realities.

(3) How do you think the Prosecutor could work more collaboratively with the other parts of the judicial system?

GAAL: I am working effectively with judges, probation, community corrections and local social service providers like Centerstone and Amethyst House to further develop problem-solving resources to better address mental health treatment, drug/alcohol rehabilitation, and accountable re-entry services necessary to reduce recidivism. Successfully breaking the cycle of repeat-offenders from committing new criminal offenses is key to improving public safety while ensuring the most cost-effective use of limited criminal justice resources. I will continue to engage in community leadership to develop valuable crime prevention initiatives and further resources to improve public safety such as the Sexual Assault Response Team and Child Advocacy Center.

MOORE: Collaboration is critical. For example, the Prosecutor's office must communicate with the county's various law enforcement agencies regarding enforcement priorities. Officers have expressed frustration to me that many offenders, if arrested, will immediately be released without charges (see the Herald Times' September 3 story on Charles Perine).

The Prosecutor must also work with the courts. I will seek to speed the docket and make judicious use of problem solving courts. Our Drug Court has been a great success and after several years of effort by various parties, we will soon launch a new Mental Health Court.

County Recorder

Jeff Ellington (R)

Eric Schmitz (D)

(1) What are your qualifications for the office you are seeking?

ELLINGTON: Present Recorder, Recorder office Budget/document preservation experience 1997-2004

Indiana Recorders Association, GIS, microfilming, records, deeds, mortgages, title search, balanced budget with no County credit card.

SCHMITZ: I have fifteen years experience in information technology, a master's degree in Library Science, and have been a long-time patron of the Recorder's office.

(2) What changes would improve the day-to-day running of the Recorder's office?

ELLINGTON: I have taken input from taxpayers, mortgage, title, preservationists, Attorneys, and research users of our documents. We placed into service a second scanner/viewer. I am in the process of updating our equipment with a newer plat printer/scanner. All computers will have a software connection to make data transfers quicker and more efficient between equipment. Records with on-line viewing and fraud alert will be up and live by Oct. 1st for the first time with no cost to the county. I will put this office back on track of recording and preserving our historical documents and my budget reflects those commitments.

SCHMITZ: I would like to work toward implementing a system for controlled remote access of some records, such as plats and surveys, deeds and easements. (Mortgages and other more sensitive documents would not be included.) Products exist which can provide such an online service in a secure manner.

We also need to establish service contracts for our specialized equipment. For example, a large-format scanner/printer has been out of order for the past few weeks, disrupting important activities and services for both staff and patrons. In the absence of a contract, the repair or replacement is likely to be expensive.

(3) How would you work to retain valued employees?

ELLINGTON: A priority for becoming your recorder was maintaining experienced, qualified, and honest employees. I read the articles in the news the past 7 years of problems with balancing funds, hiring unqualified spouses, stealing money thru county credit cards, etc.... A large part of those problems stem from hiring unqualified political friends and pushing out qualified employees. Employee moral would be better served thru raises for those that stand out as valued

employees and not political workers. I have three employees that deserve a raise equal to their value. I will continue to pursue an office environment that every employee deserves.

SCHMITZ: Let the staff do what they already know how to do. Don't micromanage people. They know their system and procedures, and I will go in needing to learn from them, not the other way around.

Salaries are set by the Council, but as department head, I can and will "go to bat" for my staff to see that their compensation and benefits are fair and never lacking.

Beyond that, employees want to feel appreciated and respected. Even as a patron of the office, I always make a point to greet the staff and thank them for their service.

County Sheriff

Stephen Hale (R)

Brad Swain (D)

(1) What are your qualifications for the office you are seeking?

HALE: I have 15 years of highly diverse law enforcement experience, exceptional communication skills, strong work ethic, and integrity to lead our department into the future.

SWAIN: Qualifications include 28 years as supervisor in jail and law-enforcement divisions, a degree in Law Enforcement, and graduate of FBI National Academy (Administrative Command School).

(2) How do you see the job of Sheriff being affected by the recent overhaul of the State's Criminal Code?

HALE: The recent changes to our States Criminal Code will create unforeseen issues and the MCSO will need a strong leader with the ability to multitask as well as keep an open mind and maintain open channels of communication between the various departments involved. I have 7 years of relevant experience working at our Correctional Center, with the last 3 at the level of Captain. I've been in charge of the entire facility in the past and look forward to pulling from my past experiences to deal with all situations that may arise with an increase of the inmate population.

SWAIN: This is an issue I addressed at the beginning of my campaign. The new Code is designed to prevent hundreds of convicted felons from being sent to the State prison system by making local governments address their lack of community-based corrections and treatment. While Monroe County has been proactive with this issue, we still face potential jail overcrowding.

As Sheriff, it will be critical to have a good working relationship with the criminal justice, treatment, and rehabilitation communities, to ensure our jail maintains a legal and manageable population.

(3) What steps would you take to maintain and improve good relationships between the Sheriff's department and the public?

HALE: I believe it is very important to focus on establishing positive relationships with today's youth early on. I intend to implement a program that will allow our Deputies to work with students and faculty at all area schools to promote increased safety and security and develop lasting relationships. I will foster a level of fairness and accountability throughout the MCSO and hold officers to an utmost standard. The MCSO will be transparent and communication will be open and free. I will be a Sheriff that leads by example to provide our citizens outstanding service from the MCSO.

SWAIN: The culture of a law-enforcement organization is set by the administrative leader. Having a positive workplace with high professional standards in practice will ensure our mission of public service. As Sheriff, I will be accessible to the public and media on issues involving the Sheriff's Office and public safety.

My emphasis to provide more deputies on patrol and to eliminate unmarked supervisor cars will increase visibility and response time to calls for service as well as a citizen's sense of safety.

Judge 10th District, Seat 5

Alphonso Manns (D)

Kenneth Todd (R)

(1) What are your qualifications for the office you are seeking?

MANNs: I hold college degrees in science, law, and public affairs. I have practiced law for over 33 years in state and federal courts with distinction.

TODD: Judge since 1979; Presiding Judge, Board of Judges, 12 years; leadership in numerous community service organizations and judicial committees; Drug Treatment Court and other innovations.

(2) How does the recent overhaul of the state's Criminal Code affect the role of judges?

MANNs: The overhaul of the state's Criminal code requires a close study of the Code by all judges. To this extent, the role of judges has not changed. The duties of the judge involve

engagement in judicial and administrative tasks, including presiding over trial proceedings within a framework of applying rules of substantive and procedural due process. Judges are required to give a fair interpretation of the Code and apply the law to matters that fall within jurisdictional authority. Evidenced-based approach appears to be emphasized in the Code which requires close scrutiny in terms of application to matching law and facts.

TODD: This revision continues a 30-year trend of shifting responsibility for individuals convicted of lower level crimes (the greatest number of offenders) from the state to counties. Approximately 150 additional felony offenders annually will become exclusively local responsibility. I and my colleagues have long prioritized alternatives to incarceration for nonviolent offenders and implementation of evidence-based, cost-effective, problem-solving approaches (like drug court) to reduce recidivism. We must continue collaborative efforts to develop additional alternatives and programs. However, our primary responsibility is public safety. The new code presents challenges in maintaining the proper balance with limited available resources.

(3) How could county or state government provide more support for judges, fiscal or otherwise, to assist them in performing their duties?

MANN: From what I have observed the judges in Monroe County are busy with their responsibilities to be effective and efficient. If it is determined that our Judges are overburdened, it would be a responsible act to establish another division complete with a Judge and staff. It appears that given the population growth of the county it would suggest that the caseload of the court will continue to increase substantially over the next few years. Substantial relief is provided by informal mediation in civil proceedings, but it appears that our criminal justice system is likely to become more burdensome to administer.

TODD: Our ability to respond effectively to anti-social conduct, maintain public safety, rehabilitate offenders, and reduce recidivism is constrained by the lack of a local minimum security community corrections center and ever-diminishing funding to provide for the mentally ill. County funding alone has been inadequate to address those needs. A combination of additional state funds (from savings realized by the transfer of responsibility to counties) and creative collaboration by local stakeholders to maximize utilization of limited resources is required to fill those gaps.

Judge 10th District, Seat 6

Valeri Haughton (D)

Karen Wyle (R)

(1) What are your qualifications for the office you are seeking?

HAUGHTON: Currently presiding judge of Monroe Circuit Court VIII

Served as:

Deputy Prosecuting Attorney – Twelve years

Public Defender Attorney – Eighteen months

Mental Health Counselor – Seventeen years

WYLE: Harvard Law 1980, cum laude; decades of appellate practice, evaluating the correctness of trial court actions and working with parties post-trial; known for meeting deadlines

(2) How does the recent overhaul of the state's Criminal Code affect the role of judges?

HAUGHTON: The criminal code overhaul increased the number of felony classifications from four to six, with narrower transitions in the range an offender can be sentenced in each class. Serious offenders will serve increased prison time. The circumstances when a judge is required to impose minimum executed sentences has been greatly reduced.

Judges will now have more discretion to place people convicted of low-level crimes on extended probation, and sentence them to serve executed time in the county jail or through community corrections. This would allow offenders to receive drug abuse treatment or work force training when such programs are available.

WYLE: Those judges who handle criminal cases will find it necessary to learn a new sentencing scheme at least as complex as the previous system.

The judge in Monroe Circuit Court, Division Eight (designated on the November ballot as Tenth Circuit, Seat Six) does not generally handle criminal cases. If, however, any reorganization allocates criminal cases to that court, the judge will need to become familiar with the details of the Criminal Code as revised.

(3) How could county or state government provide more support for judges, fiscal or otherwise, to assist them in performing their duties?

HAUGHTON: The criminal code revamp was intended, in part, to decrease the state's prison population. This will result in drastic increases in numbers of those in county jails, on probation and in community corrections programs. Counties will have to cover a large part of the resultant expense. State allocation of funds (diverted to counties) to alleviate local costs of the code reform will enable judges to sentence people to appropriate programs – if those programs are available.

Second, with fewer unfunded mandates, the county will have more resources available for judges to create and implement specialized courts/programs (e.g., veterans' courts, work-release centers).

WYLE: Judges need all the help they can get in two endeavors:

--Finding mediators qualified and willing to serve; and

--Finding pro bono legal representation for those who cannot afford an attorney.

County and state government could publicize these needs, fund training programs, and maintain registries for judges and parties to consult.

Counties must also resist any calls to cut the number of court reporters assigned to trial courts. Indeed, given a proposed change in the appellate rules, court reporters may soon be busier than ever: they would have only 30 rather than 90 days to prepare appellate transcripts.

MCCSC School Board, District 1

Larry Barber
 Chuck Holloway
 Ray McConn
 Joshua Paul
 Kelly Smith

(1) What are your qualifications for the office you are seeking?

BARBER:

Director of Research & Evaluation; Phi Delta Kappa	1982-1999
Assistant Superintendent Eugene Or. Pub Sch.	1974-1982
Assist. Superintendent Louisville, Ky.	1969-1974
Vice President, AERA	1975-1977

HOLLOWAY: Retired from the MCCSC in 2013; over thirty years total as a teacher and principal. Familiar with current MCCSC. Multiple local advisory board experiences.

McCONN:

BS Education Indiana University 1970
 30 years as Board Chairman of Bloomington Transit
 42 years of successful business ownership
 My grandson started University Elementary

PAUL:

With advanced education in counseling and business, I served as Executive Director of a disability agency and currently serve as a Director at Bloomington Meadows.

SMITH: I attended K-12, taught, and raised 3 children in the MCCSC. I have provided national educational services, and served 4 years with the MCCSC board.

(2) What is the most important challenge to keeping the public schools relevant and competitive with other options available?

BARBER: It appears that the most important challenge is to understand both the reality of the problem and the public's perception of the reality. Then to initiate meaningful dialog with all parties involved to get them to understand their effect on the children of the community. Then to seek creative substantial solutions where the "other options" can be incorporated into the core of the school district. Then continue to foster shared real involvement with all parties within the greater community. In other words a plan.

HOLLOWAY: I believe this answer is tied closely to the answer to question two. The MCCSC has many wonderful opportunities for students. However, families who are leaving the schools do so, among many reasons, to seek other programming or because they feel disconnected from their child's school. We need to find ways to reconnect with parents in positive ways, and rebuild trusting connections. We also need to try to provide options within the existing school system that parents feel are missing. I spent my career providing educational options within the public school framework, while maintaining positive relationships with students and families.

McCONN: Increase public trust in the MCCSC school board so that people feel that they're being heard.

PAUL: Obviously it is vital to provide the highest quality educational product but smaller educational options have intrinsically gained parent buy-in during the transition. MCCSC must reestablish the parent and family in the decision making process—ensuring a sense of efficacy. As parents, teachers, administrators, and community members have a sense of ownership, so too occurs a sense of participation in the development of a top notch system of education. Finally, we need to fully acknowledge the financial impact of non-public education because overhead costs do not decrease, even though funding support does so directly.

SMITH: We must meet the diverse academic needs of each individual student and guarantee learning for all as well as provide ample, diverse, extra-curricular activities that promote social development, leadership opportunities, and physical growth. This challenge must be met without hand-picking students or denying opportunity to anyone as may be the case with other options. If we can continue offer a superior, successful educational experience for all with enriching activities, sports, arts, clubs, and other non-academic opportunities, we will not only stay relevant and competitive, but we will entrench ourselves as the gold-standard for education.

(3) How would you work to ensure transparency in school board operations?

BARBER: As an educator have actively participated in over 1000 school board meetings since 1958. It seems clear that failing to share information that the public has a right to know almost inevitably causes worse problems than the ones that the board was trying to hide. "Full disclosure doesn't produce good government by itself, but makes it more likely...representative government--with its system of checks and balances--cannot function properly without openness." (Lee Hamilton, *Hoosier Times*, Aug. 24, 2014) As a School Board member

transparency is an operational imperative, governed by the ethical and moral responsibilities of the position.

HOLLOWAY: I would make sure all existing processes for communicating with the public are effectively made known to all, and work to make improvements as needed.

I would focus on improving efforts to get out in front of transparency/communications issues before they become cause for concern. Better communication to stakeholders up front can prevent problems from occurring.

The biggest area of need today is to restore community confidence and trust in the school board. I would work diligently to restore this confidence and trust by being accessible and listening to stakeholders. I believe I am the right person for this task.

McCONN: Overcome the “circle the wagons” mentality that seems to be so prevalent with the current school board. Questions and issues need to be discussed openly with both pro and con views being publically considered. Knowing that not everyone will agree with decisions is part of the job but the benefit of this openness is enormous.

PAUL: It is one thing to commit to transparency, it is quite another to advocate for increasing the distribution of information. We cannot be satisfied with the fact that families and students have access to information and should focus on increasing interest and efficacy in participating in the school board process. This includes significant notice for issues warranting public comment, as well as substantial time given for public comment that accounts for difficulty in accessing school board meetings. A school board dedicated to transparency will openly explore alternatives to standard methodologies and ask “why do we do it this way?”

SMITH: School board operations are fairly transparent. All meetings and work sessions are public, as well as Community Conversations. Most items before the board for vote have endured committee work, often with the input of parents, students, teachers, etc., and/or were initiated, pored over, and proposed by administration, faculty, and staff, and supported by the Superintendent. Working for greater opportunity for input at the building level is needed for transparency. Diverse involvement on PTO and school-wide committees are essential. Working to establish a diverse, district-wide, community advisory board could help to provide transparency prior to issues reaching the board.

(4) Since Indiana schools are now primarily financed through sales tax revenues which are not as stable a source of income as property taxes were, would you support referendum proposals to meet shortfalls in state funding should they occur in this corporation? (100-word limit)

BARBER: It has been my position for 50 years that Indiana has not adequately funded public education. I have never understood why Indiana continually fails to adequately fund its own children, unless of course there is some hidden political agenda. I would seriously consider any proposal to increase funding for public education and would insure that the funding was spent for that which it was intended.

HOLLOWAY: I believe the most significant benefit the current referendum provided was, in general, to make sure that most services for students, such as saving 70 plus teachers' jobs, maintaining librarian and media specialist positions, continuing curriculum options in the areas of fine arts and world languages, were able to be maintained.

I definitely see the need for a future referendum, particularly if people do not want to lose programming or jobs that serve students now. Taxes do not necessarily need to be raised, merely maintained. Funding allocations should be made based on a thorough and open evaluation of existing programs.

McCONN: I would give serious consideration to a new referendum only after I thoroughly analyzed the fulfillment of the promises made regarding the current one. There is no room for whimsy when dealing with the public's tax money.

PAUL: Yes. Even though the previous referendum funding has drained confidence from parents and community, this does not change the fact that our public schools are facing a funding crisis. We need to put more resources into our schools and ensure that our classrooms stay competitive in terms of size, resources, technology, and support. That being said, a referendum represents a tax payer investment in their public schools and requires commitment by administration to use that investment with fidelity to the original mission communicated to stakeholders; if changes occur, this will be done with full disclosure and open commentary about priorities.

SMITH: Our referendum has been vital: funding 70+ full-time salaries across every grade level and discipline, special ed., counseling, Honey Creek, Bradford Woods, Literacy Coaches, Preventionalists, Interventionalists, and all of our athletic and extra-curricular coaches, sponsors, etc. The MCCSC remains an under-funded district for our size, and continuation of referendum funding will be necessary to sustain our objectives of high-quality learning and academic success for all of students. The funding should continue to cover the current referendum budget items, but spending flexibility is critical to respond to inherent, and often unforeseen, changes, challenges, and improvements in today's demanding educational environment.

MCCSC School Board, District 7

Jeannine Butler
Brandon Shurr

(1) What are your qualifications for the office you are seeking?

BUTLER: 37 years as teacher and administrator in public schools.
8 years –MCCSC Board—two years as President.
17 years-- Supervisor of Student Teachers at IU.

SHURR: I have children who attend Fairview Elementary, am a social worker, community leader and advocate for equal access to high quality public education for all.

(2) What is the most important challenge to keeping the public schools relevant and competitive with other options available?

BUTLER:

1. Ensuring that the MCCSC is continually improving the educational experiences for all students while keeping our community knowledgeable about the excellence of our school system.
2. Public schools, and MCCSC in particular, must work at publicizing our schools and our unique offerings and successes to students and families. The allure of charter and private schools must be outweighed by the outstanding and various services that the MCCSC offers to all students.
3. We must maintain a stable financial base in order to continue to provide excellent services for all students.

SHURR: Our greatest challenge is to communicate all of the creative programs that are currently a part of the public school system. MCCSC has many innovative initiatives in place including music programs, gardens, multi-aged classrooms, and more. MCCSC should put more effort towards promoting these diverse programs to the community. Parents will be excited to send their children to our schools if they know that we emphasize a well rounded education. Standardized testing may be important (and required), but our schools, and our children, are much more than test scores.

(3) How would you work to ensure transparency in school board operations?

BUTLER: I will continue to make myself available to talk with parents and community members. During my time as a board member, I have attended many community meetings and school functions to listen to concerns and ideas from families and staff. I will continue to do so. The school board holds work sessions that are open to the public and we have a segment of the regular meetings' agenda where the public can give us input. Additionally, I will encourage the board to continue to have public forums to give our community another venue for communication with the school board.

SHURR: My commitment would be to make sure that the voice of the community is heard by the School Board and the decisions made reflect that voice. Students, parents, teachers, administrators and all concerned citizens will have a chance to communicate with me openly so that I can make sure their voices are heard. The Monroe County Community School Corporation has been functioning without much attention to the *Community* in their title. I will bring the voice of the Community back into the MCCSC.

(4) Since Indiana schools are now primarily financed through sales tax revenues which are not as stable a source of income as property taxes were, would you support referendum proposals to meet shortfalls in state funding should they occur in this corporation?

BUTLER: As a board member during the last referendum, I believe that passing a referendum is critical to the continued success of MCCSC. With the limited support from the State, a referendum is the primary way to alleviate the shortfalls. The past referendum has allowed the school system to maintain and improve services to our students. I will work hard to support a second operating levy to ensure that we can maintain the staff and services so important to student success. I am confident that the community will once again pass a referendum for the benefit of the students of MCCSC.

SHURR: I will support a referendum if it reflects the needs of our schools and if the revenue allocated is accounted for. I will not support a blank check with no accountability. The voters clearly care about our schools, and have been very generous. However, voters will not support increased revenue without knowing how their money is spent. We need to regain the trust of the community by ensuring that the money raised by a referendum is spent according to the community's wishes.

Ellettsville Town Council, Ward 5

Dianna Bastin (R)

Todd Lare (D)

(1) What are your qualifications for the office you are seeking?

BASTIN: No response.

LARE: As a government teacher, I understand the functions of local government and as an administrator have been accountable for managing millions of taxpayer dollars annually.

(2) What would be your budget priorities for the coming year?

BASTIN: No response.

LARE: After the long term liabilities of the town are paid, emphasis needs to be given to infrastructure improvement aimed at building the capacity of the town to attract business in order to expand the local tax base. Funds must also be identified to mitigate any further incidence of flooding in order to protect the life and property of Ellettsville residents. This would include developing a vision and long-term plan for the location of Town Hall. I would also prioritize identifying funds for the completion of the Heritage Trail. Short and long-range budget planning is essential and has been severely lacking.

(3) How would you encourage more public participation in Ellettsville town government and the crafting of policy?

BASTIN: No response.

LARE: Regular meetings are covered by CATS. But, the Council often meets for work sessions that are not covered, which blocks the public from access to public discussion of many agenda items. I would propose either arranging for those work sessions to be covered, or discontinuing the work sessions and having full discussions at board meetings. I would also insist public notices be given as early as possible to allow adequate public input. If elected, I would also keep a social media presence to keep constituents informed. Open dialogue and transparency for a responsive, responsible government is our most basic responsibility.

State Representative, District 46

Bob Heaton (R)

James Mann II (D)

(1) What are your qualifications for the office you are seeking?

HEATON: No response.

MANN: As a parent and a government teacher, I understand both sides of education. My building representative and baseball umpiring experience will serve me well.

(2) What are your top legislative priorities for the coming year?

HEATON: No response

MANN: Top legislative priorities include fighting for our public schools, advocating for working men & women, and working to improve our local infrastructure. Far too many of our young people in District 46 leave for job opportunities elsewhere. By working with existing businesses while attracting new ones, I will work to improve the employment picture in our district. We have to improve our local infrastructure as many of our local roads and bridges are in need of repair.

(3) How would you work to ensure that you were a strong voice for all your constituents across the political spectrum?

HEATON: No response.

MANN: I strongly believe in representative government and will be a voice for the citizens of House District 46. I have knocked on doors, phoned residents, and participated in many events in District 46. I enjoy being in the communities of this district. When it comes to attracting jobs to House District 46, I do not care if it is a Republican or Democratic Party idea. I will work with anyone who improves the employment picture for our district.

State Representative, District 60

Daymon Brodhacker (D)

Peggy Mayfield (R)

(1) What are your qualifications for the office you are seeking?

BRODHACKER: My experiences and public service as a veteran, medical technician, teacher, principal and state, community and profession leader fuels and propels my candidacy for office.

MAYFIELD: No response.

(2) What are your top legislative priorities for the coming year?

BRODHACKER: My top legislative priority for the coming year centers upon helping to develop a state budget that will serve the essential needs of Hoosiers. In particular, I want to ensure there are essential allocations to public safety needs and public education.

I want to author and sponsor bills that lead to the complete educational development of our children. I shall work to repeal or refine current laws that have made their complete learning impossible.

If but one person in Indiana does not enjoy the right of equality then no one has equality. I want to ensure equality for all.

MAYFIELD: No response.

(3) How would you work to ensure that you were a strong voice for all your constituents across the political spectrum?

BRODHACKER: I seek only to serve the interests and needs of Hoosiers in a statesmanship fashion. Because of my life-long public service and many positions of leadership, I am well prepared to listen and learn from all contributors--individual interests as well as organized groups--and then come to consensus and a pragmatic and workable resolution of problems.

I shall be a statesman and use my voice in the State House to ensure my constituents understand what proposed legislation means to them. I shall listen to their voices to guide my vote on their behalf.

MAYFIELD: No response.

State Representative, District 62

Ashley A. Keith-Qualkenbush (L)

Jeff Sparks (D)

Matt Ubelhor (R)

(1) What are your qualifications for the office you are seeking?

QUALKENBUSH: Involvement with the Army Reserves, Red Cross, and Ivy Tech, have bolstered my open-mindedness and strengthened my beliefs in the innate freedoms each should experience.

SPARKS: As an educator and administrator in public education for 35 years, I make sound decisions daily. I am committed to community service and public welfare.

UBELHOR: No response.

(2) What are your top legislative priorities for the coming year?

QUALKENBUSH: My primary focus revolves around Gun control, Civil Rights, and MST (Military Sexual Trauma), as they are points that are near to my heart. I feel that the Libertarian Party has been underestimated as a viable solution to the chaos currently swirling through the political atmosphere. My stances on these three topics can be found on my Facebook page “Ashley Keith-Qualkenbush for District 62 House Representative.” Though but a few of the topics that may confront my district over the next year, I feel it is my responsibility to take action for those in my community who are unable.

SPARKS: Properly funding public education and moving funding decisions back to local control is my top priority. Stopping the legislative attacks on public education, our students, teachers and schools is also a priority. Restoring the middle class through fair wages and benefits is a necessity for Indiana. Our economy and social stability are dependent on a strong middle class with disposable consumer income. And finally, stopping all legislative efforts to discriminate against individuals or groups of Hoosier citizens. Ranking 46th out of 50 states in women’s equality is not a proud statistic for Indiana.

UBELHOR: No response.

(3) How would you work to ensure that you were a strong voice for all your constituents across the political spectrum?

QUALKENBUSH: Enabling ones voice is as simple as ensuring your words are followed by strong decisive action and your actions by equally powerful words. Too often the American

people are left in the dark with empty promises surrounding the resolutions made on their behalf. I make no such promises; I merely ensure them that it is with their best intentions at heart I make any and all decisions. By placing both feet firmly into the political arena this year, I will reach out to each and every source of aide to guide myself and our district towards a better tomorrow.

SPARKS: I will support and promote any legislation that addresses our priorities and benefits District 62. I will not support legislation that fails to directly or traceably benefit the district. I will make myself available through phone conferences and regular town meetings to discuss new or proposed legislation and gather feedback and concerns from our communities. Additionally, I will not accept gifts, free meals or any financial incentives for my duties as a State Representative. I want no confusion or misunderstanding about my obligation and responsibilities to the voters of District 62 and anyone else.

UBELHOR: No response.

U.S. House of Representatives, 9th District

Bill Bailey (D)

Mike Frey (L)

Todd Young (R)

1) What are your qualifications for the office you are seeking?

BAILEY: Past: Teacher, Seymour Mayor, Indiana House of Representatives, President Chamber of Commerce, owner of two businesses. Proven record of job creation. Member AARP. Common sense.

FREY: - Successful career in the private sector

- Managed an organization of 168 employees responsible for \$350 million in revenue
- Hoosier common sense

YOUNG: No response.

2) What should the appropriate relationship be between corporate and individual constituent interests in influencing the legislative process, and how might that be achieved?

BAILEY: Corporations have been the beneficiary of 90% of all legislation for the last dozen years. This has created a tax shift to the middle class that causes them to struggle disproportionately. Creating middle class growth opportunities such as raising the minimum wage, guaranteeing gender wage equity, and fiscal resources for college students, workers and single-parents trying to work out of poverty are critical to the future of narrowing the growing wealth gap. Legislation to limit, amend or reverse Citizens United would clarify the role of government as being of, by and for people, not corporations.

FREY: Government has failed to successfully stop the flow of money into the system in this district we had an incumbent spend over \$500,000 to win a primary to believe that big donors won't have influence is being naïve.

I believe it is the elected official duty to earn the trust of their constituents by;

- Having more access to the lists of large contributors on campaign information, various media
- When voting on legislation a list of large contributors who have a position on the legislation

Terms limits might help so politics does not become a career.

YOUNG: No response.

3) When in conflict, how would you balance allegiance to your party's interests with the expressed interests of your constituents?

BAILEY: My age, 66, frames my ability to do what is always in the best interests of my constituency. I am not in my forties and have no long-term, political ladder, Washington career goals. I am completely free to vote for/against any legislation that will benefit/harm the citizens of the 9th district and their futures. I can, and will, work with anyone to grow the economic futures and quality of life of the 9th district. My focus and responsibility will always be to all the citizens of the 9th district.

FREY: Being a liberator one who believes in personal and economic freedom does not mean that my party and I agree on every issue. As a result I would be willing to voice my opinion and vote accordingly on legislation. As I have travelled the district and visited with folks I am finding I am closely aligned with the majority on most issues.

Unlike the two major party candidates I will not have a "leader" in the Congress that will have influence on me to vote a certain way. I will truly be the representative from Indiana's 9th District.

YOUNG: No response.

4) What are your legislative priorities for the coming two years?

BAILEY: Maintenance and improvement of the Affordable Care Act. Increasing the minimum wage. Gender wage equity. Reducing the federal deficit. The environment/global warming. Good paying jobs and economic development. Small business development. Tax reform to reduce the tax strain on the middle class. Expanding the middle class. American security and dependable international participation. Protecting the promise of social security. Reducing the cost of college educations. Firm, fair and reasonable immigration reform leading to citizenship. Past due increased support of veterans and their families. Campaign finance reform and reversal of Citizens United. Expansion of broadband access to rural areas.

FREY: - To reduce the power of the federal government and its effect on our financial and personal freedom

- Work toward a balanced budget by controlling government spending
- Reform the current tax code
- To insure all laws passed by Congress are the same for all citizens including members of Congress
- A complete review of our military bases and weapon systems

Lastly to insure that the voters in the 9th District have a voice in Congress that represents their positions.

YOUNG: No response.