

VOTER'S GUIDE

**GENERAL
ELECTION**
NOVEMBER 3, 2020

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF MISSOURI**

LWV Voter Guide 2020

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**For Missouri statewide offices and U.S. Congress District 4 candidates,
go to <https://www.vote411.org/>**

Local Candidates – Boone County Contested Races MO State Senate 19th District – REPUBLICAN

Name: Caleb Rowden

Age: 37

Highest post-secondary education: Attended University of Missouri

Website for candidate: www.calebrowden.com

Issues of Interest to Voters – Legislative Plans, Voting Records, or Positions

Education K-12 Funding, Charter Schools?: My priorities are continuing to do what I have been able to do in my time in the legislature — work to fully fund K12 schools, MIZZOU and Higher Education, find solutions to transportation infrastructure issues, implement criminal justice reforms, and create an environment where small businesses can thrive.

Funding for the MO Dep. Of Transportation: We have passed several solutions to the voters, including a 2014 sales tax and the 2018 gas tax, both of which failed at the ballot. Until we send something else to the voters, we must continue to find small victories where we can — like the bonding package that we passed last session to fund repairs/replacements for 350 bridges, including the full replacement of the Rocheport Bridge between Boone and Cooper Counties.

Medicaid Expansion: I am in favor of every Missourian having access to quality, affordable health care. My concern with Medicaid Expansion has always been the costs associated with it and the impact on potential funding for MIZZOU and K12 education. I will continue to work toward solutions that bring down the cost of health care for people in our state.

Environmental Protection and Renewable Energy: I believe in an “all of the above” approach to energy generation. It is a great thing that renewable sources are becoming more notable and effective. I don’t believe we can suffocate traditional generation sources as renewables are still not widespread in their generation capacities, nor in the efficiency and costs of their product.

Police Reform and Protecting Minority Communities: No reply.

1. What area of public policy are you personally most passionate about and why?

I have worked hard to implement new criminal justice reforms, including sponsoring the Justice Reinvestment Act in 2017 which provides new opportunities for non-violent offenders, including mental health and community-based options as opposed to prison. We have made key reforms in the area of mandatory minimums and re-thinking the way we view violent versus non-violent offenses and offenders.

2. What is your interpretation of “local control” and for what issues do you believe the state should override local decisions? I think local control should stay intact as often as possible. There are times where the state and its administrative perspective should play a role in local and regional policy making, but I am not an advocate of taking that position any more than necessary.

3. How will Missouri overcome the effects of Covid-19, including the economic impact? We must work together to find the right balance between being diligent in our efforts to beat the virus and its health impact in our communities with ensuring we continue to have a local economy that can support job creation. It is admittedly a difficult balance to find, but we have to throw the politics away, put our heads down and do it! I also think that, given the impact on various industries and businesses on how they do business, there will be some unique opportunities to get ahead of other states on the tail end of this COVID window. That could include new incentives or focus on education/training in certain industries who are trending in a positive direction to help provide as many job opportunities to as many Missourians as possible.

Local Candidates – Boone County Contested Races MO State Senate 19th District – DEMOCRAT

Name: Judy Baker

Highest post-secondary education:

Two Master's Degrees. Divinity from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and Health Science Administration from Mizzou.

Website for candidate: www.baker4mo.com

Education K-12 Funding, Charter Schools: I support fully funding it, and early childhood education programs for all children who want to attend. Additionally, I'd like to keep our teachers' salaries competitive.

Funding for the MO Dep. Of Transportation: Missouri roads are in serious need of repair. Voters have rejected several tax proposals in the last 20 years. It is obvious that the legislature is going to have to come forward with some funding for a long-range plan for our roads.

Medicaid Expansion: I have been in this fight for nearly 20 years. Now, I pledge to defend the will of the people and protect Medicaid expansion if the Republican senate tries to undercut or underfund it.

Environmental Protection and Renewable Energy: While a State Representative, I proposed the first legislation in the MO House to provide low income loans for renewable energy which later became law and required government buildings to become more energy efficient. As Senator, I will prioritize removing barriers to sustainable environmental solutions. We need new and affordable ways to provide power in this era of dramatic climate change, and we must acknowledge the very high cost of doing nothing. New energy sources such as wind, water, biofuels, solar, and more will help protect us from the worst outcomes of our climate trends and will also bolster our economy.

Police Reform and Protecting Minority Communities: I believe these are overdue. I would start with a focus on restorative justice; building better support for re-entering citizens; repealing SB600, which took away judges' ability to use their discernment in sentencing and will result in Missouri building and filling more prisons; passing sensible police reforms like banning knee holds, chokeholds, and no-knock warrants; passing other necessary reforms including independent oversight boards; adding Duty to Intervene requirements; and mandatory police body cameras.

1. What area of public policy are you personally most passionate about and why?

I am most passionate about the opportunities we have in health care policy. I have had a career in both public and private health care institutions, and my background uniquely positions me to be able to make a real difference as thought leadership in this area.

2. What is your interpretation of "local control" and for what issues do you believe the state should override local decisions?

I believe that local control is good public policy in general, and should be protected when it comes to health and education in particular. The state has a special role to set policy when constitutional rights would be infringed or in matters of the state budget.

3. How will Missouri overcome the effects of Covid-19, including the economic impact?

I have a plan for working towards a healthy citizenry and economy, and I also know how we can pay for it. Read it here: <http://baker4mo.com/covid-19-agenda>.

Local Candidates – Boone County Contested Races MO State Representative 44 District - REPUBLICAN

Name: Cheri Toalson Reisch

Age: 58

Highest post-secondary education: Certified Municipal Clerk – MU, Certified Administrator – MO State University

Website for candidate: cheri44.com

NOTE: Candidate Toalson Reisch responded to the LWV questionnaire and asked us to only say she is a Republican. The LWV volunteers did research on her voting record related to the listed issues or questions to provide additional information to the voters.

Issues of Interest to Voters – Legislative Plans, Voting Records, or Positions

Education K-12 Funding, Charter Schools?: Toalson Reisch in 2019 voted yes on HB267 to authorize schools to offer Bible courses.

Funding for the MO Dep. Of Transportation:

Medicaid Expansion:

Environmental Protection and Renewable Energy:

Police Reform and Protecting Minority Communities:

1. What area of public policy are you personally most passionate about and why?

2. What is your interpretation of “local control” and for what issues do you believe the state should override local decisions? Toalson Reisch voted in 2019 yes on SB391 to prohibit local officials from regulating industrial farms (CAFOs).

3. How will Missouri overcome the effects of Covid-19, including the economic impact? Toalson Reisch in 2020 voted yes to provide free covid-19 testing.

Local Candidates – Boone County Contested Races

MO State Representative 44th District – DEMOCRAT

Name: Dr. Jacque Sample

Age: 45

Highest post-secondary education: Doctorate of Occupational Therapy

Website for candidate: <https://jacquesampleformo.com/>

Issues of Interest to Voters – Legislative Plans, Voting Records, or Positions

Education K-12 Funding, Charter Schools?: My primary legislative areas of interest will be healthcare and education. Now that Medicaid expansion is approved, we need to drill down to specific policies to make sure services are being provided as intended or needed. We need to ACTUALLY fully fund our schools, give our teachers raises, and provide additional professional staff at all schools (therapists; social workers) so that teachers can focus on teaching. We need state wide free quality preschool programs to close the learning gap between socioeconomic classes. We need to block the move to charter schools so that funding is not diverted from public education. We need to continue to support funding for public post-secondary institutions so that our students are not graduating with mountains of debt. We need to push for increased broadband and internet access across the state, including in the most rural of areas.

Funding for the MO Dep. Of Transportation: Funding for Missouri's crumbling infrastructure is an ongoing problem that needs a solution. Solutions require funding. We need to stop discussing and put solutions into action to repair our roads and bridges.

Medicaid Expansion: I am thrilled Medicaid expansion passed and am looking forward to additional work to improve the system.

Environmental Protection and Renewable Energy: Climate change is occurring, and humans are negatively impacting our natural resources. We have to increase investigation into and study of renewable forms of clean energy to support the needs of our state and protect our environment.

Police Reform and Protecting Minority Communities: Police officers who behave unethically should no longer be in that position. All members of our communities need to work together and pledge to protect the civil rights of each group, and speak up when wrongs occur.

1. What area of public policy are you personally most passionate about and why? While healthcare is an area of great passion, policy that impacts public education brings out the most passion in me. Changes to Missouri's educational policies may be more quickly entertained as we work to engage with educators and school districts directly.

2. What is your interpretation of "local control" and for what issues do you believe the state should override local decisions? As confirmed by the constituents of HD 44, local control is important specifically related to farmland ownership (CAFOs) and school district decisions (i.e., start dates). State leadership should intervene when issues are impacting the entire state, as has been vividly demonstrated throughout the pandemic. Leadership failed to intervene, leading to no support of scientific interventions to prevent the spread of the COVID.

3. How will Missouri overcome the effects of Covid-19, including the economic impact? Missouri leadership needs to take a more aggressive stance on preventative efforts for containing the spread of the virus, including consideration of mandatory masking, releasing funds for public health departments to effectively complete contact tracing, and invest in broadband services to make sure all Missourians have access to education and healthcare via internet. In a nutshell, leadership needs to make decisions guided by science and experts in the field when addressing COVID. Leadership needs to consider providing a model for businesses that allow employees to more effectively balance their work lives and the needs of their children and their children's education. Leadership also needs to consider how to support landlords so they are not forced to evict persons who are unemployed as a direct result of COVID and release funding to support small and locally owned businesses to keep them open.

Local Candidates – Boone County Contested Races MO State Representative 47 District – REPUBLICAN

Name: Chuck Basye

Age: 62

Highest post-secondary education: BS in Agriculture from Univ. of MO

Website for candidate: www.chuckbasye47.com

**Issues of Interest to Voters – Legislative Plans, Voting Records, or Positions
Education K-12 Funding, Charter Schools?:**

Funding for the MO Dep. Of Transportation:

Medicaid Expansion:

Environmental Protection and Renewable Energy:

Police Reform and Protecting Minority Communities:

1. What area of public policy are you personally most passionate about and why?

2. What is your interpretation of “local control” and for what issues do you believe the state should override local decisions?

3. How will Missouri overcome the effects of Covid-19, including the economic impact?

Local Candidates – Boone County Contested Races MO State Representative 47 District - DEMOCRAT

Name: Adrian Plank

Age: 47

Highest post-secondary education:

Website for candidate: www.adrianplank47.com

Issues of Interest to Voters – Legislative Plans, Voting Records, or Positions

Education K-12 Funding, Charter Schools?: We need to concentrate on properly funding our public education system. Public funds should not be used for the for profit education system. I will also concentrate on pushing Super PACs out of our state. Our state has been stagnant in economic development for the past decade. I would like to give our rural communities the farming markets they deserve. Giving local control back to our rural communities and elected officials. I would like to expand Hemp farming, processing and manufacturing of Hemp products.

Funding for the MO Dep. Of Transportation: Representing the core of Missouri, funding for MODOT should be a top priority for infrastructure and maintenance of our roads and bridges.

Medicaid Expansion: We worked hard to pass Medicaid expansion for the quality of health our communities deserve. We must now elect good people to make sure we properly allocate funds to have a smooth and prompt launch of the expansion.

Environmental Protection and Renewable Energy: I will be a strong advocate for the protection of our land, water and air quality. Lowering our carbon output as individuals and businesses should be goals for all of us. I will push to incentivize clean energy in our state.

Police Reform and Protecting Minority Communities: We should support policy that enhances community policing in our communities. This can be done with support from the state and how funds are spent and allocated.

1. What area of public policy are you personally most passionate about and why? I find that purchased policy from out of state donors has made it difficult to move forward with policy that enhances real peoples lives. If we really want to move forward with representative policy, we must get rid of the purchased policy our current Representatives champion.

2. What is your interpretation of “local control” and for what issues do you believe the state should override local decisions? Local control means that the locally elected republic gets a say in what better serves its community. The community shouldn't be overruled by big money and foreign owned corporations.

3. How will Missouri overcome the effects of Covid-19, including the economic impact? It is too late to expect current leadership to do what is necessary to flatten the curve. if we are being honest about Covid-19 we would do a hard shut down to truly flatten and overcome this virus. We should encourage business to start making critically needed PPE and ventilators in Missouri. Missouri should have its own stock of critical supplies. We cannot depend on the federal government to protect Americans or Missourians lives anymore and that saddens me.

**Local Candidates – Boone County Contested Races
MO State Representative 50 District - REPUBLICAN**

Name: Sara Walsh

Age: 41

Highest post-secondary education:

Masters of Public Affairs, Public Management and Non-Profit Management—Truman School of Public Affairs, University of Missouri, Columbia

Website for candidate: SaraForMissouri.com; Twitter: @saraformissouri, Facebook: SaraForMissouri

Issues of Interest to Voters – Legislative Plans, Voting Records, or Positions

Education K-12 Funding, Charter Schools?:

As a member of the House Budget Committee I have voted in favor of fully funding the Foundation Formula. I will continue to work to ensure our public schools have the resources they need to provide a quality education and support parents' right to choose how to educate their child.

Funding for the MO Dep. Of Transportation:

As Chair of the Subcommittee on Appropriations on Transportation, and a member of the House Budget Committee, I have worked closely with the Director of the Missouri Department of Transportation on various transportation projects and in ensuring our roads and bridges are prioritized in our state budget.

Medicaid Expansion:

I was a vocal opponent to the language of Amendment 2 as drafted in the initiative petition as: 1) no funding source was identified (meaning \$200m-\$350m likely will need to be cut from other existing priorities in our state budget... or Missourians' taxes will need to be increased to pay for the expansion), 2) there is already a waiting list of vulnerable individuals who will be passed over as a new group of able-bodied individuals will be added to the state's Medicaid rolls, 3) Federal funding for the match rate will eventually drop off leaving Missouri on the hook to further increase taxes or make additional cuts to important services (such as education, public safety, etc.).

Environmental Protection and Renewable Energy:

I support common sense conservation efforts and diverse sources of energy to ensure reliable, affordable energy for Missourians.

Police Reform and Protecting Minority Communities: No reply.

1. What area of public policy are you personally most passionate about and why?

I am most passionate about public safety because in order to have a well-functioning civil society, peace (law and order) must be maintained. Life and property rights must be upheld. People want to live, work, and play in safe neighborhoods. No one wants to live, work or play near a dumpster fire in fear of their safety. I am a passionate supporter of all of our Constitutional rights, including the 2nd Amendment. However, not everyone wants to carry a firearm with them at all times to defend themselves, their family and their property. Therefore, as a society we empower law enforcement to stand in the gap and put their lives on the line to maintain that "thin blue line" between anarchy and chaos and law and order. Well-funded, trained, members of law enforcement help maintain law and order and in keeping the peace, uphold the incentive to live, work, or shop in a community.

2. What is your interpretation of "local control" and for what issues do you believe the state should override local decisions?

Our government is of, by and for the people. Local elections are vitally important as citizens can most easily engage in those matters. However many local decisions are made by local officials under the authority of state statute, rule or regulation (put into place by people citizens have elected to represent them). Whenever government oversteps citizens' Constitutional rights, and citizens demand us to intervene, I believe it is imperative that as the people's State Representative, I study the matter to determine if it is appropriate to amend current state statute, rule or regulation. Other times it isn't a Constitutional matter, but statute is outdated and needs amended.

3. How will Missouri overcome the effects of Covid-19, including the economic impact?

By getting Missourians safely back to work; by getting businesses safely reopened; by getting children safely back to school (unless parents choose to home educate, or utilize virtual education); and by ensuring the Federal CARES Act funds are distributed by the counties to local businesses as the funds were appropriated and distributed by the state to the counties months ago.

Local Candidates – Boone County Contested Races

MO State Representative 50 District – DEMOCRAT

Name: Kari Chesney

Age: 31

Highest post-secondary education: Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM)

Website for candidate: www.karichesney.com

Issues of Interest to Voters – Legislative Plans, Voting Records, or Positions

Education K-12 Funding, Charter Schools?: Legislative priorities include expanding and prioritizing public education funding, fighting alongside family farmers, protecting healthcare access and affordability, and supporting worker's rights and unionization.

Funding for the MO Dep. Of Transportation: No reply.

Medicaid Expansion: I am proud to have aided in collecting petition signatures for expansion and voting for it on the primary ballot. I will protect the expansion if elected.

Environmental Protection and Renewable Energy: We need to prioritize training for green jobs and retraining programs. All new green tech jobs need to be union eligible. All public lands must remain public and protected.

Police Reform and Protecting Minority Communities: Our idea of first responders need to expand to include social workers that address mental health, addiction, homelessness, and more. Policies such as choke holds and qualified immunity must be revoked. We need to eliminate minimum sentencing and cash bail.

1. What area of public policy are you personally most passionate about and why?: As a student, educator, and doctor, I am passionate about public education and public health. These two areas impact the two most important areas of life for every Missourian – health and well-being, without which we cannot have a thriving economy or community.

2. What is your interpretation of “local control” and for what issues do you believe the state should override local decisions? Local control means the ability for counties and local municipalities to form their own bills which expand upon state and federal law. There are very few instances where the state should override local decisions, because these decisions should be going above and beyond state law to benefit their communities.

3. How will Missouri overcome the effects of Covid-19, including the economic impact?: The state and federal government have failed our working people. I would prioritize relief for our working class and small businesses, increase funding for public health to expand COVID swabs and antibody testing, and ensure all our first responders and healthcare workers have sufficient PPE and supplies to help their communities.

Local Candidates – Boone County Contested Races

Boone County Commissioner, District I – REPUBLICAN

Name: Fred J. Parry

Age: 56

Highest post-secondary education: Bachelor's Degree, University of Missouri 1986

Website for candidate: www.BooneCountyForFredParry.com

Issues of Interest to Voters –

Plans, Positions or Voting Record Roads and Bridges Funding: I led the fundraising efforts for the promotion of Proposition One in 2017 asking Boone County voters to extend the County's Road and Bridge Tax which generates \$14 million annually for the maintenance of Boone County's network of 771 miles of roadway. On a monthly basis, I inspect roadways throughout the southern district with our Road and Bridge supervisors. I have also been active with a number of neighborhood associations that are pursuing road improvements through the use of Neighborhood Improvement Districts (NID). I orchestrated a public/private partnership that led to the first major roadway improvement in Boone County in over 10 years.

Local Control: Home Rule needs to be an initiative that is advanced by the citizens of Boone County through petition. While I support home rule, there is a clear conflict of interest for elected officials on this issue. Until that happens, we will need to work with our local delegation to get measures passed through the legislature. This year, I led the County's efforts to draft, give testimony and advance legislation that would establish rental housing standards for the first time in Boone County's history. Even though Boone County has attempted to pass this legislation for more than 15 years, we were finally successful in getting the measure through the House and Senate during the 2020 legislative session. Citing concerns over our bill's inclusion in omnibus legislation, Governor Parson vetoed the bill, but Senate and House leaders have promised to take it back to the Governor's desk in 2021.

Boone Hospital Transition: During my 14 years volunteering as a Trustee for Boone Hospital Center, I learned so much about the challenges and burdens that local healthcare institutions encounter in the delivery of healthcare. As reimbursement rates have fallen in recent years, hospitals like Boone have made the difficult decision to eliminate less profitable service lines like mental health, rehabilitation and specialties like pediatric intensive care. By bringing control of the hospital back to the citizens of Boone County and stopping the flow of more than \$30 million each year to BJC Healthcare, hospital officials can now return their focus to providing affordable and quality healthcare to ALL the citizens of Boone County.

Questions and Answers:

1. What are your qualifications for this office?

- small business owner for 25 years
- served 14 years on Boone Hospital Board of Trustees
- served 8 years as a Commission for Columbia Housing Authority

2. What county issues are your highest priorities?

- establishing rental housing standards for Boone County residents
- facilitating successful transition into Boone Hospital's new business model
- removing the Hinkson Creek and Bonne Femme watershed from EPA's 303d list

3. How will you address effects of Covid-19, including the economic impact?

The County Commission must continue to give its full support to the Boone County Health Department in its mitigation efforts. As a Commissioner, I am taking a lead role in bringing stakeholders together to develop a strategy for economic recovery here in Boone County. This strategy will include job training, business retention efforts and creating economic opportunity that will bring the right kind of jobs to our central city. Long standing issues including affordable housing, accessible childcare and reliable public transportation must all be addressed in these efforts.

Local Candidates – Boone County Contested Races Boone County Commissioner, District I - DEMOCRAT

Name: Justin Aldred **Age:** 26 **Highest post-secondary education:** BS in Political Science from MIZZOU

Website for candidate: www.justinaldred.com

Issues of Interest to Voters – Plans, Positions or Voting Record

Roads and Bridges Funding: We have an obligation to provide well-maintained roads and bridges across all of Boone County. Modern infrastructure, environmentally sustainable, union-built, and fit for the future, should be a major priority of the Boone County Commission. Public Service that benefits people should be the basic foundation of Boone County's infrastructure. For me this represents government in its most basic form.

Local Control: The people of Boone County have seen the state legislature repeatedly erode rights that they voted for, including local control over the expansion of confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs). As a county commissioner I will be a strong advocate for local control here in Boone County, as well as in Jeff City.

Boone Hospital Transition: I am not concerned by the decisions of the Board of Trustees or BJC, I am however concerned with moving forward and the potential for a \$1.9 million dollar loss to county revenue if an extension on the previous agreement is not reached. The hospital is a key player in the local economy and a major employer for Boone County residents. I will work to make sure Boone Hospital thrives as it becomes a locally controlled independent community hospital.

What are your qualifications for this office? My experience at the Missouri State Auditor's office under Nicole Galloway gave me my first real look at how local government organizations operate. For instance, I saw hospital billing schemes across the state of Missouri that funneled millions of dollars. I also saw a road commissioner from our state take thousands of taxpayer dollars and spend them on things like Kansas City Royals tickets, and on a smaller but equally important scale I saw how a county clerk was convicted of spending taxpayer dollars to buy himself a pickup truck. My time at the Missouri State Auditor's Office gave me a view of how local government should function with a focus on rooting out waste, fraud, and abuse. My time with the Missouri National Guard showed me how to be a front line leader, how to manage millions of dollars of equipment and personnel and most importantly, how to coordinate and work alongside other organizations and departments as a team in order to complete a higher mission, and that is the work ethic I intend to bring to Boone County government.

What county issues are your highest priorities? I believe that every candidate for County Commission has priorities they feel strongly about, however, I think it is important to ensure that the county is meeting basic statutory requirements and also funding for citizens' basic needs before money is utilized for new or special projects. The County Commission has an obligation to support county employees and departments in completing their missions, and should ensure that at the end of the day Boone County roads are graded, courts are funded, records are kept properly, and elections are conducted seamlessly and efficiently. After ensuring that the basic functions of county government are met, I would like to prioritize government accountability and ensuring responsible use of taxpayer dollars. I would work with municipalities to support local police and fire departments. I would like to ensure funding for services that provide physical and mental health treatments as well as safety for victims of violence and alleviate hunger. Finally, I would work to make Boone County a state and national leader in addressing the ravages of climate change.

How will you address effects of Covid-19, including the economic impact? COVID-19 has magnified challenges that were present before the pandemic, in a few short months we've seen unemployment fluctuate, customer spending go down, and schools shut their doors. During this public health crisis, I think it is important that Commissioners fully support our Health Director, empower them to make decisions without fear of backlash or outside political scrutiny, and follow their scientific recommendations. Access to COVID-19 tests and contact tracing efforts also highlight a need for cooperation between the county government, the University Hospital System, the VA Hospital, and Boone Hospital, in order to serve all the citizens of Boone County. The pandemic has also highlighted a very real need for reliable internet service for all Boone County residents. I would like to see the county work with state and municipal leaders to ensure all citizens have access to internet services that would allow them to work and study from home and bring Boone County into the 21st century. From an economic perspective I believe Boone County needs to strike a balance between controlling the virus and maintaining an economic infrastructure that allows businesses to operate both safely and profitably. The best way to support our local economy is to reduce and control the number of positive COVID-19 cases. Social distancing measures like maintaining six feet of distance and wearing a mask are what ensures our businesses can keep their doors open and wearing a face mask protects our local economy by keeping both frontline workers and customers safe.

Local Candidates – Boone County Contested Races Boone County Commissioner, District II – REPUBLICAN

Name: Tristan Asbury

Age: 32

Highest Post-Secondary Education: Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Business: Marketing/Advertising

Website for Candidate: www.tristanasbury.com

What are your qualifications for this office? I currently own and operate a mid-Missouri company focused on promoting Missouri agriculture, have gained governmental experience at the Missouri Department of Agriculture, and serve as the director of strategic communications for the Missouri Association of REALTORS®; Missouri's largest trade association serving over 22,000 members.

Having worked in both the public and private sectors, I understand when these two entities need to work in tandem and when they need to function separately. My communication and marketing skills will assist me to market Boone County assets and policies while maintaining transparent dialog with the community.

What county issues are your highest priorities?

Economic Development – We must remain diligent in our efforts to keep Boone County moving forward. We must work to not only direct county resources toward economic development and critical infrastructure, but also streamline regulations to raise community living standards and ensure Boone county remains attractive for job creation and retention.

Government Transparency – Accountability requires unwavering transparency. I will work to end all efforts to shut out public opinion and public officials while demanding an open line of communication in all aspects of county government.

Fiscal Responsibility – To maintain fiscal stability, families must live within their means. This principle should apply to governmental entities as well. We are often asked to pay more in taxes to support a special project while our roads and bridges and public safety deteriorate before our eyes. I'll bring a new vision of fiscal responsibility to county government that emphasizes the taxpayer's priorities, not a politician's.

Public Safety – Violent crime is on the rise in our community and we must turn the tide. I will work with local leaders and county officials to ensure our law enforcement officers have the resources they need. I will also work to ensure county efforts provide individuals with greater economic opportunities which in turn make it less likely for someone to turn to crime.

Infrastructure – We need safe roads and bridges to ensure farmers can sell their goods, our workers and small businesses can grow our economy, and our families can safely travel. I will prioritize rebuilding Boone County's infrastructure.

How will you address effects of Covid-19, including the economic impact? Community health should always be a priority; yet, we should not have to choose between community health and the economy. We can address the health crisis while helping our economy recover. Boone County has the responsibility to provide reliable and accurate COVID-19 information to our citizens and use the CARES Act funding to rapidly respond to COVID-19-related impacts. To better address the effects of COVID-19, I would propose a task force made up of healthcare, education, and business leaders who best understand the impacts of each potential decision to healthcare and the economy. I would also recommend an advisory council be used to score CARES Act applicants and disseminate the funding. We must ensure we are taking a balanced approach when determining how best to respond to this crisis and future crises.

Local Candidates – Boone County Contested Races

Boone County Commissioner, District II – DEMOCRAT

Name: Janet M Thompson

Age: 62

Highest post-secondary education: Law degree (JD) and Masters in Alternative Dispute Resolution (LLM), both from the University of Missouri.

Website for candidate: thompsonforboone.com

Issues of Interest to Voters – Plans, Positions or Voting Record

Road & Bridge Funding: Our transportation infrastructure is the lifeblood of our community and must be supported with adequate funding. Unfortunately, the sales tax revenue that was intended to not only maintain but improve that infrastructure has declined, while the costs of materials and equipment continue to climb, putting our ability to meet this core responsibility at risk.

Local Control: Boone County is a first-class non-charter county with a vibrant, knowledgeable population. Boone Countians deserve to be heard and their will should not be ignored by state legislators who are more concerned with the will of constituents in other counties. Questions of land use and rental housing standards, for example, are most appropriately addressed locally on behalf of those most immediately impacted.

Boone Hospital Transition: For the people of Boone County to continue to enjoy choice in quality medical care, we must actively support the hard work of the Trustees as they transition from the lease with BJC to a stand-alone hospital. At the same time, the Trustees must engage with the physician community to ensure their commitment to the ongoing health and viability of Boone Hospital and must work with MU Hospital administration to coordinate the best care for all who live within or come to our community.

Questions and Answers:

1.What are your qualifications for this office? I have served Boone County in this role for eight years and prior to that served as a State Public Defender for almost 25 years. My service and my educational background, which focus on creating collaborative approaches, finding solutions, developing resources, and navigating complex legal and factual frameworks, have helped me to serve Boone County well.

2.What county issues are your highest priorities? Economic stability is a core priority. Because of our inability to assess taxes on remote sales, our revenue streams, designed to maintain fundamental county services like Road & Bridge, Emergency Management, Law Enforcement and more, have experienced a significant decline. Not only does the over-representation of individuals with mental health challenges in the criminal justice system impact the county financially, it significantly over-burdens law enforcement, the courts and our health care system. My work with the Stepping Up Initiative will continue to alleviate these burdens.

3.How will you address effects of Covid-19, including the economic impact? Economic vibrancy depends on a healthy community. I will continue to support measures to protect the health of our community and work with local, state and federal partners—both public and private—to utilize best practices to support and rebuild our economy. I will help to bring more resources to Boone County through those partnerships, including my connections to the National Association of Counties (NACo).

Local Candidates – Boone County Contested Races Boone County Sheriff – REPUBLICAN

Name: Charles Blair

Age:

Highest post-secondary education:

Website for candidate: Facebook page: Citizens to Elect Charles Blair for Sheriff

NOTE: Candidate Blair did not respond to this LWV questionnaire. Information included in a post on Mr. Blair's Facebook page is used to fill in some details on the questions. Please see his Facebook post for more information.

Questions and Answers:

- 1. What are your qualifications for this office?** Mr. Blair states that he has more than 35 years of experience in law enforcement. He worked in Los Angeles County, CA beginning in 1983. He became a CA Highway Patrol officer in 1995 and retired in 2015. He joined the Boone County Sheriff's department in 2016 and continues as a uniformed patrol officer.
- 2. Police brutality has received repeated attention in the last few months. What is your perspective on this issue and how will you communicate it to the deputies and the public? How will you hold deputies accountable for their actions?**
- 3. Jails are now the default treatment center for many people with mental health issues. What can be done to assure they receive appropriate treatment?**
- 4. Is the Sheriff's Department adequately staffed and funded?** Mr. Blair states in his Facebook post that department's force has predominantly deputies with five years of experience or less.

Local Candidates – Boone County Contested Races Boone County Sheriff – DEMOCRAT

Name: Dwayne Carey

Age: 53

Highest post-secondary education: Master's Degree in Criminal Justice Law Enforcement Administration from Columbia College

Website for candidate: www.reelectsheriffcarey.com

Questions and Answers:

- 1. What are your qualifications for this office?** I have held the position for over 15 ½ years and have spent my entire professional career of 31 years at the Sheriff's Department. I have held supervisory and administrative positions for 26 of those years. I have extensive experience with county government, building and managing the annual \$13 million budget, leading approximately 145 employees, and managing the 245 bed jail. Lastly, I have led the department to two national accreditations, making our department the only sheriff's department in the state to achieve this level of excellence in both enforcement and corrections.
- 2. Police brutality has received repeated attention in the last few months. What is your perspective on this issue and how will you communicate it to the deputies and the public? How will you hold deputies accountable for their actions?** The Minneapolis incident showed us there are issues, but it is not something I'm worried about with our department. We have a simple motto of "treat everyone like you would like your mother to be treated", which has worked very well for us since I was elected in 2004. Our deputies are professional, they treat everyone fairly and with respect. I tell them to just keep doing what they are doing, as they understand what my expectations are. Our policies, procedures and practices hold our deputies accountable, along with supervisors, command staff and me. Simply stated, I will not tolerate "bad apples" in our department!
- 3. Jails are now the default treatment center for many people with mental health issues. What can be done to assure they receive appropriate treatment?** Very true! Our detainees do receive appropriate treatment while in-custody. We have a full-time mental health professional working in the jail, and we work collaboratively with the court to identify detainees with mental health issues (to divert towards treatment). Additional mental health staff in the jail, along with sufficient outside services, would only strengthen the effort, but of course that is dependent on funding.
- 4. Is the Sheriff's Department adequately staffed and funded?** We do a lot with less! The simple answer is we are well equipped, but we need more staff in the enforcement branch. I have publicly provided the number of 20 more deputies, which would allow us to be more proactive and it would improve response times. My goal has always been to try to prevent crime with presence and be proactive with our efforts to apprehend those responsible for committing crimes.

Local Candidates – Boone County Contested Races Circuit Judge, District 13, Division 4 – REPUBLICAN

Name: Josh Devine

Age: 39

Highest post-secondary education: Juris Doctor, University of Missouri School of Law

Website: www.JoshDevineForJudge.com

Questions and Answers:

1. Why do you want to be a judge?

I currently serve as the Circuit Judge for Division 4 in Boone and Callaway counties. I am running to continue my service as a judge because I am passionate about helping people and serving our community. I am also passionate about the administration of justice – ensuring that every person who appears in Division 4 has a full and fair opportunity to be heard, and that justice is delivered equally regardless of a person's background or circumstance.

2. What are your life experiences that will prepare you to understand the people who come before your court?

Prior to becoming a judge, I worked for many years as an attorney, representing clients from every walk of life. In 2018, I served as an Associate Circuit Judge in Boone County, presiding over cases involving people with a wide variety of backgrounds. Outside of the courtroom, I serve on the Board of Directors for Ronald McDonald House Charities of Mid-Missouri, and as the President of the IMPACT Rotary Club of Columbia. Through my work as a judge, attorney, and volunteer, I have learned that everyone has a unique life experience that must be considered without presumption or bias. I am mindful of this every day in court.

3. What experience have you had as an attorney representing people in civil and criminal cases before a court?

I have presided over thousands of cases as a judge, handling criminal arraignments, misdemeanor and felony dispositions, rent and possession cases, and complex civil lawsuits. As an attorney, I handled civil cases at every stage of the litigation process, and was selected to the Missouri/Kansas Rising Stars list by *Super Lawyers Magazine* for six years in a row.

4. What are the greatest challenges, beyond case load, for a judge in the 13th Circuit?

There are two great challenges facing the 13th Judicial Circuit right now. The first is that the COVID-19 pandemic has made it difficult to promptly set cases for trial. The delays caused by the pandemic have negatively impacted the rights of parties, alleged victims, in-custody defendants, and our community as a whole. The second great challenge is the Public Defender Wait List. The Public Defender system has been overburdened and underfunded for years, which is negatively affecting the rights of many citizens involved in the criminal justice system.

Local Candidates – Boone County Contested Races Circuit Judge, District 13, Division 4 – DEMOCRAT

Name: Andy Hirth

Age: 47

Highest post-secondary education: MA (English) and JD, University of Missouri-Columbia

Website for candidate: www.hirthforjudge.com

Why do you want to be a judge? As constitutional lawyer, I've dedicated my career to leveling the playing field in Missouri's courtrooms, holding government officials accountable for overstepping their bounds, and preserving the rights guaranteed in our state and federal constitutions. I want to continue that work on the bench to ensure that all Missourians receive equitable justice under the law.

What are your life experiences that will prepare you to understand the people who will come before you in court? I don't come from a family of lawyers. My dad was a high school English teacher and a single parent who taught summer school every year to make ends meet. He taught me the importance of stories in a community and the need to listen carefully when others shared their own stories with me. I studied literature and psychology at Mizzou, and I taught English myself for several years before embarking on my second career as a lawyer. In many ways, my legal education was an extension of my literary studies. Reading cases in law school is like reading collections of short stories from which the reader must extract legal principles. Jury trials and appellate arguments are elaborate forms of storytelling. The best legal practitioners are those who read closely, listen carefully, delve into the details, ask follow-up questions, and try to understand the motives behind people's actions. My experience reading and interpreting literature and my curiosity for the stories of others has prepared me well to listen to the people who come before the court, understand their needs and drives, and apply the law fairly and predictably to their individual circumstances.

What experience have you had as an attorney representing people in civil and criminal cases before a court? My litigation experience is primarily civil. I have represented both plaintiffs and defendants, public officials and private citizens, national corporations and small non-profits, employers and employees, teachers and students, police chiefs and death row inmates. Recently, I have represented an autistic student who had been held in an "isolation room" at school as a form of punishment, a small town police chief removed from office by the city council without due process, and a Missouri voter whose state representative blocked him on Twitter in violation of the First Amendment. When I worked at the Attorney General's Office, I represented Secretary of State Jason Kander, Governor Jay Nixon, and state Auditor Nicole Galloway in some of Missouri's most important civil cases. I defended the constitutionality of state laws reining in municipal court abuses in St. Louis County and allowing students in Kansas City to transfer to neighboring districts when the City's schools lost accreditation. One of my appeals to the Missouri Supreme Court returned more than \$50 million in tobacco settlement funds to Missourians. All my criminal law experience has been at the appellate level, representing an inmate under a capital sentence while in private practice and defending felony convictions when I worked for the AGO.

What are the greatest challenges, beyond case load, for a judge in the 13th Circuit?

The greatest challenge for any judge is humility. Judicial rulings have a profound and lasting impact on the lives of real people. From custody determinations to criminal sentences, a judge's decision will change someone's life for years to come. Every ruling must be informed, deliberate, and made with the full understanding of its repercussions. Judges wield a tremendous amount of state power. They must do so wisely, with empathy, and without fear or favor.

2020 November 3 General Election Ballot Issues

Amendment 1

Simple majority required.

Ballot wording: Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to extend the two term restriction that currently applies to the Governor and Treasurer to the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor and the Attorney General?

State and local governmental entities estimate no costs or savings from this proposal.

Summary: If passed, Amendment 1 would limit the lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state auditor and attorney general to two terms. The state constitution now limits only the governor and treasurer to two terms. Supporters say Missouri voters support term limits. Amendment 1 will make term limits for all state officials. It prevents them from becoming career politicians. Opponents say that these offices are different from the governor and treasurer and require experience. Those positions should be limited by voters, not the constitution.

Amendment 3:

Simple majority required.

Ballot wording: Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to: Ban gifts from paid lobbyists to legislators and their employees; Reduce legislative campaign contribution limits; Change the redistricting process voters approved in 2018 by: (i) transferring responsibility for drawing state legislative districts from the Nonpartisan State Demographer to Governor-appointed bipartisan commissions; (ii) modifying and reordering the redistricting criteria.”

An analysis of the “modifying and reordering the redistricting criteria” has been made by the Brennan Center. From that analysis here are the criteria changes and the results if Amendment 3 passes:

Who Draws the Maps:

- Amendment 3 would return to the system used in Missouri before the 2018 reforms.
- It eliminates the nonpartisan demographer and places map drawing back into the hands of the redistricting commissions. The commissions’ members are nominated by political party officials and appointed by the governor.
- If a commission deadlocks over a map (which has often happened in the past), redistricting is passed on to a panel of six appellate judges who will draw maps. Historically, this system has often produced gerrymandered maps.

Population Metric (which people are counted in a legislative district):

- Amendment 3 would replace the obligation to draw maps on the basis of “total population” with vague language stating that maps must be drawn on the basis of “one-person, one-vote.”
- Some Missouri lawmakers have suggested that this language would allow map drawers to disregard children and non-citizens when drawing maps. This would be a radical change that departs from the practice of every other state.
- If Missouri were to draw maps on this alternative basis, communities with a larger number of children would lose representation in favor of communities with fewer children. Black communities would be among the hardest hit.

Protections for Communities of Color

- Amendment 3 would replace these protections for communities of color with weaker language that goes no farther than existing federal law.
- In particular, the proposed amendment would remove protections for districts where minorities can elect candidates in coalition with other voters.

Partisan Fairness

- Amendment 3 would substantially reorder the map-drawing rules applied to legislative maps.
- It would make partisan fairness the lowest-ranked consideration when drawing maps and prioritize other criteria such as compactness and reducing county splits. For example, the amendment would limit the state's ability to draw maps with slightly less compact districts in order to ensure that the maps are fair to each party.
- The amendment would also change the efficiency gap requirement for legislative maps, allowing this measurement to be as high as 15 percent. This is substantially higher than the efficiency gap of maps that were found to be unconstitutional in North Carolina and other states.

Challenges to Maps

- Amendment 3 substantially narrows the ways that citizens will be able to bring lawsuits against bad maps.
- Notably, plaintiffs will only be allowed to challenge the map for the district where they reside, rather than the map as a whole, and only if they can show a differently drawn district would solve the problem. And even if a court agrees with challengers, the amendment seeks to limit how much a court would be able to adjust a map to bring it into compliance with the law.
- The amendment also requires that citizens bring suit in Cole County.

Missouri Bar Association Recommendations for Judges on the Boone County Ballot

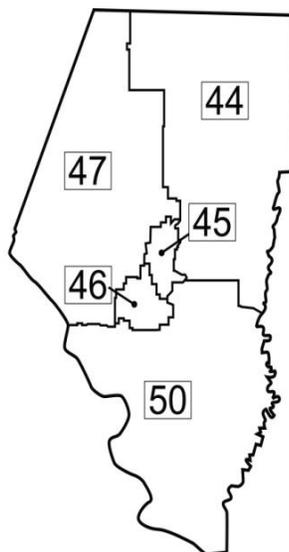
Missouri Supreme Court Judge – Patricia Breckenridge

The Committee voted that Judge Breckenridge substantially MEETS overall judicial performance standards.

Missouri Court of Appeals Judge, Western District – Tom Chapman

The Committee voted that Judge Chapman substantially MEETS overall judicial performance standards.

House District Map for Boone County



For Boone County Commissioner Map, go to:

http://maps.showmeboone.com/viewers/CM_DistrictMapping_v1/CommissionDistricts.htm

Acceptable Forms of ID for Voting

- Voter ID card from Boone County Clerk
- Driver's License – Missouri or other states
- Identification card issued by a state agency (e.g., University employee ID, WIC card)
- Identification card issued by an institution of higher education, including a university, college, vocational and technical school, located within the state of Missouri
- Passport, Social Security Card, Medicaid or Medicare card or Identification issued by the federal government
- A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document that contains your name and address

Polling Hours on November 3rd: 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Polling Info: <https://www.showmeboone.com/clerk/elections/>

Phone: 573-886-4375; email: clerk@boonecountymo.org

This 2020 LWV Voter Guide is a production of the League of Women Voters of Columbia-Boone County