

NEWS AND NOTES - July 2018

{{ recipient.first_name_or_friend }} -

The weather is heating up, and with it our activities in support of Democrats in Portage County and beyond! This month alone, we'll have had two major events in Streetsboro's Family Days and our Chair's Circle Fundraiser, hosted Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper for a press conference on healthcare, and supported our candidates for office with several fundraisers. As we move into the heart of summer next month, those activities will only accelerate, with several more events including one of the year's biggest, the Randolph Fair.

Through it all, our candidates and activists have been spreading the word that Democrats are a party putting people first - with access to healthcare, fair wages, support for women, and candidates you can trust to get the job done. We're excited about the slate of candidates we have and our plan for supporting them, and there are many opportunities for you to get engaged in that important work. Some of them are below.

In the days ahead, we'll be opening our office for regular hours, welcoming staff from the Ohio Democratic Party, and assisting our candidates in the day-to-day voter contact efforts that will be so key to their success. Please be on the lookout for those opportunities, and make the time to be a part of moving our community forward this year. Big or small, all our efforts will matter this year.

As always, if there is anything else you think we should include in this space in the future, please don't hesitate to let us know by contacting 2nd Vice Chair [Brad Cromes](#).

Thank you for your continued commitment to the Democratic Party, and for doing your part to put people first in our community.

Forward,



Dean DePerro, Chairman
Portage Co. Democratic Party

* * *

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGAGEMENT

RANDOLPH FAIR, BALLOON-A-FAIR VOLUNTEERS: The Party is currently looking for additional volunteers to help staff our booths at the Randolph Fair in August and the Ravenna Balloon-A-Fair in September. It's a great way to meet your neighbors and make a difference by getting the word out for our candidates! If you're interested, contact 1st Vice Chair Denise Smith [here](#).

VOLUNTEERS: The Randi Clites and John Kennedy campaigns for state representative both have a number of opportunities to talk with voters one-on-one, on the doors or on the phone. Contact Randi's campaign [here](#) or John's [here](#) for more information.

STAFFER NEEDED: We're still on the lookout for a dedicated person to serve as the Campaign for Ohio Field Organizer in Portage County. Pay and benefits are competitive, and there's no better way to get a sense of what working in politics looks like than actually doing it! Those interested should contact Regional Field Director [Danny Thomas](#) ASAP.

SUMMER/FALL FESTIVAL SUPPORT: Is there a festival in your neighborhood this summer/fall you think we should have a presence at? Let us know! We'll gladly let our candidates know about your

events, provide a tent/materials, and even pay for booth space when that's required. The only catch is that you commit to helping us staff it. For more, contact 1st Vice Chair Denise Smith [here](#).

* * *

UPCOMING EVENTS

Streetsboro Family Days - July 26-29, 2018 - Streetsboro City Park, 8970 Kirby Lane, Streetsboro The Portage Co. Democratic Party will be hosting a booth at Streetsboro's largest annual event, and we need your help! We are looking for supporters to staff the booth during the event, and share the good news about the great candidates we have on the ballot this year leading the fight for working people. Please contact 1st Vice Chair [Denise Smith](#) and let her know when you can pitch in!

[Chair's Circle Benefit Cocktail Party](#) - July 27, 2018 - 5p - 6:30p - KSU Hotel & Conference Center, 215 S. Depeyster St., Kent

Please join Portage County Democratic Party Chair Dean DePerro and our special guests Congressman Tim Ryan and State Representative Kathleen Clyde (candidate for Secretary of State) for our annual Chair's Circle Benefit Cocktail Party. This event is our largest fundraiser of the year, and underwrites all that we do on behalf of Democratic candidates and causes in Portage County. Attendees are asked to contribute at the \$300 Patron (individual) or \$500 Sponsor (admits two) level, but donations of all varieties (including business checks) are gladly accepted. Please RSVP by Friday, July 20, 2018 by contacting Dean DePerro at 330-346-0700 or djdeperro@gmail.com. Checks can be mailed to "PCDP, P.O. Box 729, Ravenna, Oh 44266." Donations can also be made online at <https://www.portagedemocrats.org/donate>.

Sherrod Brown Fundraiser featuring Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto - July 29, 2018 - 12:30p - 2p - 1589 Woodway Rd., Kent

Hosts Cathy and David DuBois, Tiffany Holler and Kathy Wilson invite you to join them at the Holler/Wilson home for a fundraiser in support of our great U.S. Senator, Sherrod Brown! Sen. Cortez Masto was elected in to represent Nevada in 2016, and has a unique perspective on why it's so important we keep Sherrod working for us in Washington. Suggested contributions range from \$50-500, and checks should be made payable to "Friends of Sherrod Brown." Please RSVP to Serena Finley at serena@sherrodbrown.com or by calling 626-320-9833 by July 25, 2018. *Senator Brown will not be in attendance*

[Friends of Randi Clites Summer Fundraiser](#) - July 30, 2018 - 4p - 6:30p - Big Dog Saloon, 432 W. Highland Ave., Ravenna

Join Friends of Randi Clites for the summer fundraiser to support Randi's general election campaign for State Representative in the 75th House District. More information available at the link.

* * *

ELECTIONS UPDATES

POLL WORKERS NEEDED: There is presently a SEVERE shortage of Democratic poll workers in Portage County - so much so that we had no alternates available on Election Day this May. Don't let this happen again! Being a poll worker is an easy, fun way to give back to your community...plus, you get paid to do it! Learn more about the job and sign up [here](#).

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: It's never too soon to make your plan for voting this fall. The registration deadline is October 9, 2018. [Get registered](#), and make sure your friends and family do the same! Not sure if you're currently registered? [Check!](#)

* * *

GET TO KNOW YOUR CANDIDATES - Steve Dettelbach for Attorney General and Zack Space for Auditor of State



Traditionally in this section, we focus on profiles of our local elected office holders and candidates. Given the importance of this year's statewide races - which will determine control of drawing district lines in 2021 and so much more - we think it's worth spending some time re-acquainting ourselves with our candidates for those statewide races. This month, we're profiling our candidates for Ohio Attorney General and Auditor, Steve Dettelbach and Zack Space.

Meet Steve. Born and raised in Ohio, Steve Dettelbach has stood before judges and juries to protect our communities from dangerous criminals and to stop corrupt politicians from both parties. As a federal prosecutor for more than 20-years, Steve put child abusers, drug dealers, and human traffickers in jail, and he secured convictions against both Democrats and Republicans who broke the law. As Attorney General, Steve will enforce the law to protect Ohio's children and families, and take on the politicians and political insiders to crack down on corruption, influence peddling, and backroom deals.

In 2009, Steve was appointed U.S. Attorney for Ohio's Northern District where he was responsible for protecting 6 million Ohioans across 40 counties.

Under Steve's leadership, prosecutors in the Northern District worked side-by-side with law enforcement to take down drug rings that smuggled heroin into Ohio from Mexico and other places, and to take some of the state's most dangerous criminals off the streets, including child pornographers, terrorist recruits, and a child murderer. Steve and his team cracked down on government corruption, locking up officials who took bribes, and won human trafficking convictions against more than 40 defendants who preyed on young girls and other vulnerable people in Ohio.

Steve launched his campaign for Ohio Attorney General in the summer of 2017 after traveling Ohio for months and visiting places as diverse as Cleveland's African American churches and Appalachia's union halls. Across very these different communities, hundreds of miles apart, Steve heard a very similar theme from the people he spoke with — a belief that politicians have rigged the system to benefit themselves and powerful special interests, while real problems facing Ohio like the opioid crisis have gone largely unaddressed and hard-working people have struggled to get ahead. It is this broken system that Steve will work to fix as Ohio Attorney General by standing up to politicians in both parties and using his experience to protect Ohio from violent crime, public corruption and other threats.

Steve lives in the Cleveland area with his wife and two children.

Meet Zack. Zack Space was born and raised in the small eastern Ohio town of Dover. After graduating from Kenyon College, then earning a law degree at The Ohio State University, he returned to Dover and practiced law for nearly 20 years, during which time he served as a Public Defender and as Dover's City Law Director. In 2006, he was elected to serve as the Congressman from Ohio's 18th District, comprising 16 counties in rural southeastern Ohio.

During his tenure in Congress, Zack championed working class Ohioans, and was instrumental in bringing broadband technology, employment opportunities, and infrastructure improvements to his district. Upon leaving Congress in 2011, Zack joined the prestigious Columbus law firm of Vorys,

Sater, Seymour, and Pease where he worked with local governments, charitable organizations, and the private sector to promote economic development across Ohio.

Zack is running to serve as Ohio's next Auditor of State, where he will use the broad power of the office to deliver much needed reform to state government. Zack is committed to shining a light on the corruptive influence of money in politics, ending extreme partisan gerrymandering, and serving as a watchdog for hardworking Ohio families.

For more on the Dettelbach and Space campaigns, visit our "[Election 2018](#)" page and click on the links for their websites and social media streams.

For past profiles, please see our Newsletter [Archive](#).

* * *

ICYMI - NEWS AND NOTES

Columbus Dispatch - [Supreme Court rules against public labor unions](#) - June 28, 2018

"Ohio Democrats reacted with anger to the ruling. Sen. Sherrod Brown said the 'decision by this anti-worker Supreme Court is an attack on workers' freedom to advocate for themselves.' Democratic gubernatorial candidate Richard Cordray said he was 'disappointed but not surprised by today's decision. Unions bring a collective voice for fairness in the workplace, which has helped create Ohio's middle class.' U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan, D-Niles, said 'this decision will gut public-sector unions, and is yet another blow to labor generally in the Trump age.'"

CNN - ["Country over Party:" Democrats turn to veterans to take back House](#) - June 30, 2018

"The veterans running this year are running together,' added Ken Harbaugh, a former Navy pilot and the Democratic nominee in Ohio's Seventh Congressional District. 'They are running as a team. They are running because they really do mean it when they say country over party.'"

Toledo Blade - [Attorney General candidate wants tougher sex trafficking penalties](#) - July 3, 2018

"While Ohio has made progress, Democratic attorney general candidate Steve Dettelbach said Tuesday the state hasn't done enough to combat the growing scourge of modern-day slavery. 'The proposals I'm putting forward show that we just haven't done everything that we can do,' he said. 'We still do have a lot of this crime going undetected. We still do have many children who are being forced into commercial sex.'"

WKSU - [Cordray lays out policies to help children](#) - July 5, 2018

"Richard Cordray is laying out how he plans to help children and parents if elected governor. The Democratic gubernatorial nominee says there's at least one distinct difference between his plan and that of his Republican opponent Mike DeWine, which he laid out last week. Cordray wants to increase access to state intervention services, helping parents with young children. Among Cordray's ideas: guiding expectant mothers towards healthy births, raising awareness about safe sleeping, expanding access to daycare for working parents and universal pre-kindergarten."

Record-Courier - [Clyde offers plan for Secretary of State's office](#) - July 11, 2018

"State Rep. Kathleen Clyde, Democratic nominee for Ohio Secretary of State, has released a plan to encourage economic development, job creation and innovation in the Ohio Secretary of State's Office. Clyde's plan includes making the secretary of state's website easier and faster to navigate, extending office hours, protecting against fraud, supporting businesses owned by women and minorities and eliminating filing fees for veterans who want to start businesses."

WSYX Columbus - [Thousands rally at Statehouse for solution to pension crisis](#) - July 12, 2018

"Senators Sherrod Brown and Rob Portman have planned meetings at the Ohio Statehouse for a hearing on this pension crisis. This is part of a series of hearings across the country where these workers will get to pressure lawmakers directly to get something done."

Record-Courier - [Edible Kent: Gardens help community feel at home](#) - July 12, 2018

"Five years ago, (Portage Co. Auditor candidate) Lis Regula was helping with a small garden at a Kent

City School. While he was working one day, he met Katie Young, who wanted to turn a plot in the city into a community garden like the ones she had heard about in Seattle. 'In Kent, the people who need it the most are typically the student population and on the south side of Kent,' Regula said. 'We have a population of non-driver students, especially our international students. On the south side, there's a sizable population in poverty. Many rely on the public transit.'"

Washington Post - [The Midwest eases its Trump swoon and flirts again with Democratic candidates](#) - July 15, 2018

"Ohio overall swung dramatically toward Trump in 2016, part of a near sweep of the Midwest that gave him the presidency and his party complete control in Washington. But doubts about the ongoing tariff battle and about the administration's agenda on health care, spending and immigration have changed the terrain. Rather than back the president and Republicans, the Midwest has begun to flirt with candidates who would keep them in check."

Ohio Public Radio - [Dems push for investments using rainy day fund](#) - July 17, 2018

"Democratic Senator Joe Schiavoni is once again saying it's time to use some savings to show communities the state cares about them by spending it on things like broadband, universal preschool, and infrastructure. 'If you don't invest in your people then you have people moving out of Ohio in order to build a life with their family,' says Schiavoni."

Record-Courier - [Sheriff issues layoff notices for courthouse staff](#) - July 19, 2018

"Part-time officers on duty at the Portage County courthouses are expected to be notified in the coming days of their pending layoffs. Portage County Sheriff David Doak said Thursday that letters were being sent to seven or eight non-fiduciary part-time officers notifying them they have 14 days left to serve the county. 'I don't have much of choice. I've got to lay those folks off,' Doak said. 'Even then we're not sure how much that will help.'"

ABC News - [2020 buzz builds around Rep. Tim Ryan](#) - July 23, 2018

"Rep. Tim Ryan, D-Ohio, has hired Pete D'Alessandro – a veteran Democratic operative who served as Bernie Sanders' campaign coordinator in Iowa during his 2016 presidential campaign – to be his advisor on the ground in Iowa this year ahead of a possible presidential run in 2020, according to a Democratic source who requested anonymity to discuss the personnel move."

Record-Courier - [Portage County, 3 cities file opioid lawsuits](#) - July 24, 2018

"Portage County has joined a growing list of counties and municipalities suing a group of pharmaceutical opioid manufacturers and distributors. In a statement released Tuesday, the county is listed along with the cities of Ravenna, Kent and Aurora on two lawsuits filed with the Portage County Court of Common Pleas."

Advance Ohio - [Richard Cordray wants to build off Medicaid expansion with his health plan for Ohio](#) - July 24, 2018

"Cordray's proposals included: Preserving the Medicaid expansion; refocusing Medicaid resources on preventive care; investing in prenatal services; increasing vaccinations and immunizations for children; blood pressure screenings and regular checkups for all adults; smoking cessation efforts; and expanding the health care workforce and telehealth options."

Record-Courier - [Portage Sheriff layoffs may not help budget matters](#) - July 26, 2018

"Layoffs at the Portage County Sheriff's office will likely not make a financial dent to the department's projected budget deficit. That's the preliminary assessment of Todd Bragg, the Portage County Budget and Finance director."

* * *

For more news and notes on the activities of Democrats from around Ohio, subscribe to the Ohio Democratic Party Daily Update [here](#).

* * *

{{ broadcaster.name }}
[.{{ settings.site.full_url }}](http://{{ settings.site.full_url }}).