

PORTAGE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY
NEWS AND NOTES - MARCH 2017

Welcome to our first official newsletter! Now more than ever, it is critical that each of us remind our friends and neighbors that it's Democrats that stand with them - for civil rights, for decent wages and fair working conditions, for a clean environment, and for so much more. It's up to each of us to create a community, state, and nation that fulfills its promise of liberty and justice for all.

The Portage County Democratic Party has an important role to play in helping to organize that effort. With that in mind, we're trying something new: communicating with our members on a monthly basis about opportunities to engage in whatever ways they feel comfortable. Whether that's sharing information on running for office, events we sponsor, or activities from like-minded entities in our area, we believe by informing and activating our members we can move create a movement that pushes our community forward.

This newsletter is our first attempt at that effort. Below, you'll find information on upcoming events, newsupdates, and suggestions on ways you can get involved. If you have suggestions on how we might improve this newsletter, or events and activities you'd like us to share, please forward them via email to Brad Cromes at cromesbl@gmail.com.

Thank you for your interest, and we look forward to working with you to pursue progress in PortageCounty.

Onward,
Craig

CRAIG STEPHENS, CHAIRMAN
PORTAGE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

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CALL TO ACTION

President Trump unveiled his first [budget proposal](#) earlier this month. This document makes deep, draconian cuts to programs many in our community rely on, like Meals on Wheels, housing aid, andcommunity block grants. Perhaps most devastating for our region, however, is the near-zeroing out of the EPA fund that supports Great Lakes cleanup. Call your member of Congress today at [202-224-3121](tel:202-224-3121) andtell them to oppose Trump's devastating attack on our environment and local economy.

Thanks to Republican gerrymandering, our County is represented by three members of Congress.

Not sure who your member of Congress is? Use this [tool](#) to find out.

Looking for a way to stay up to date on the latest calls to action from the Ohio Democratic Party? Join the [ODP Truth Team](#) today!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

[Tim Ryan Town Hall Meeting](#)

March 25, 2017 - University of Akron Student Union Theatre, Akron

Join [U.S. Representative Tim Ryan](#) for a Town Hall meeting, moderated by University of Akron professor Dr. David Cohen. Doors open at 1pm, admission is free.

[Progressive Democrats Meeting](#)

March 27, 2017 - MadCap Brew Co., Kent

[State Rep. Kathleen Clyde](#) will offer a Statehouse update on voting rights and redistricting reform, and local progressive organizations will share an update on their activities and structure to provide multiple pathways to get involved. Event runs 5:30pm - 8pm.

[Women in Public Service Workshop](#)

April 8, 2017 - United Church of Christ, Kent

The [League of Women Voters of Kent](#) is hosting its annual Women in Public Service Workshop, 2-4pm. For additional details, contact President Iris Meltzer at [330-329-2176](tel:330-329-2176).

[Cleveland Tax March](#)

April 15, 2017 - Willard Park, Cleveland

Join protestors nationwide in a march to resist Trump's immoral budget. March kicks off at 11am from the corner of E. 9th St. and Lakeside Ave., and will circle the Federal Building before ending with a rally at Cleveland State University.

[Cleveland March for Science](#)

April 22, 2017 - 101 W. Superior Ave., Cleveland

The March for Science is a nationwide event to highlight the importance of research and evidence in our public discourse. Events begin at 9am, with the march scheduled to start at 11am.

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ELECTIONS UPDATE

The deadline to register to vote for the May 2, 2017 Primary Election is April 3, 2017. To register, check your status, and see what's on your ballot, visit the Portage County Board of Elections website [here](#).

The filing deadline for local school board and township trustee is 4pm on August 9, 2017. Are you interested in running? Contact us on our [website](#). To learn more about how the Ohio Democratic Party can support your candidacy, check out the Main Street Initiative [here](#).

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ICYMI - NEWS AND NOTES

Record-Courier (Ravenna) - [UH Portage Outlines Plan to Fight Drugs](#) - March 16, 2017

UH Portage recently unveiled its plans to fight the heroin and opioid epidemic in our area, and utilize some portion of the sales and use tax recently approved by our County Commissioners.

WCPO (Cincinnati) - [Could Ohio's Next Governor Be a Democrat?](#) - March 16, 2017

Three Democrats have announced bids for Governor - former State Rep. Connie Pillich of Cincinnati, Senate Minority Leader Joe Schiavoni of Youngstown, and former Congresswoman Betty Sutton of Akron. Do any of these leaders, or unannounced candidates, have what it takes to win back the Governor's Mansion?

Record-Courier (Ravenna) - [Portage Makes "Lean" Changes](#) - March 15, 2017

Portage County Commissioners have recently put in place changes designed to make local government more streamlined and cost-effective. These changes include altering the internal reporting structure, which the Commissioners believe will lead to more time at meetings for discussing pressing issues.

Canton Repository (Canton) - [For Democrats, Sherrod Brown is Key Voice in Trump Era](#) - March 10, 2017

Ohio's senior Senator has emerged as one of the best-known Senate progressives willing to confront Trump.

News-Leader (Nardon Hills) - [Bill Would Mean Automatic Voter Registration for Ohioans](#) - February 15, 2017

State Rep. Kathleen Clyde (D-Kent) has introduced legislation to automatically register Ohioans to vote unless they opt out of the process. The bill would add approximately 1 million voters to the rolls, while simultaneously helping eliminate duplicate registrations and the registration of ineligible voters. Learn more about the legislation, House Bill 14, [here](#).

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The Portage County Democratic Party

<http://www.portagedemocrats.org/>

The Portage County Democratic Party · 210 S Meridian St, Ravenna, OH 44266, United States

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