



Queen Anne's County
Voters' Guide
2026 Primary Election
League of Women Voters of Maryland

This *Voters' Guide* is published by the League of Women Voters of Maryland. The League has a long tradition of publishing the verbatim responses of candidates to questions important to voters. The League offers this *Voters' Guide* to assist citizens as they prepare for the primary election. The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any candidate or political party.

All candidates were asked to respond to a nonpartisan questionnaire. Candidates running for a particular office were asked identical questions. Responses from candidates are printed exactly as submitted. We did not edit for content, spelling, or grammar. All responses were limited to 500 characters, and any additional material was cut off at that point. If a candidate did not respond by our deadline, "No response received by deadline" is printed.

Only voters registered with the Republican or Democratic parties may vote for candidates for most offices, though all voters may vote for Board of Education and some municipal offices. The deadline to update your registration to select a party affiliation is Tuesday, **June 2, 2026**.

Additional information on the candidates is available at VOTE411.org, which has any updates received after our deadline. Candidate websites provide additional biographical and policy information. If the candidate submitted a campaign website, it is listed under her/his name.

The League assumes no responsibility for errors and/or omissions.

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Voting Information Three Ways to Vote

Early Voting:

Thursday, June 11 – Thursday, June 18
7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Daily

Early Voting Locations (2)

Kent Island Vol. Fire Dept., 1610 Main St., Chester, MD
Queen Anne's County Office Building, 110 Vincit St., Centreville, MD

If you vote during Early Voting, you cannot vote by mail-in ballot or on Election Day

Election Day:

Tuesday, June 23
7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Voting Locations: Vote at your assigned polling place. Check your sample ballot for your polling plate or visit: <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/PollingPlaceSearch>

For more information, contact:

Queen Anne's County Board of Elections
110 Vincit Street
Suite 102
Centreville, MD 21617
410-758-0832, Fax: 410-758-1119
<https://qac.org/562/Board-of-Elections>

By Mail:

You may request that a mail-in ballot (formerly called an absentee ballot) be mailed to you or sent via an email link. Apply online or by printing out an application from the State Board of Elections website:

www.elections.maryland.gov

An application for a mail-in ballot must be received by your local Board of Elections Tuesday, June 16, 2026, if you want to receive your ballot by mail or fax; or Friday, June 19, 2026, if you want to download your ballot from the State's website (you must still print and mail the ballot - you cannot return it by email).

If you hand deliver your ballot, you must deliver it to a ballot drop box, to your precinct polling place, or to your local board of elections by 8 pm on election day.

NEW FOR 2026: If you choose to return your ballot by mail, it must be postmarked no later than election day in order to be counted. The US Postal Service has changed its procedures for postmarking mail, so it is possible that a ballot put in the mail on election day might not be postmarked until a day or two later. On or before election day, it is best to return your ballot through a ballot drop box or at your precinct polling place.

Queen Anne's County Drop Box Sites:

GO MART - 741 Main Street, Church Hill, MD

Kent Island Fire Dept. - 1610 Main Street, Chester, MD

Queen Anne's County Office Building, 110 Vincit Street, Centreville, MD

If you mail your ballot, the envelope must be postmarked on or before primary election day June 23, 2026 and received by your local board of elections by 10 am on June 24, 2026.

NOTE: If you request a mail-in ballot, you will not be permitted to cast an ordinary ballot during Early Voting or on Election Day - you will be provided a provisional ballot that will be counted only if your mail-in ballot is not received.

ELECTION DAY VOTING

7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23, 2026

ELECTION INFORMATION

Don't know your polling place? Not sure if you are registered?

Visit – <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/VoterSearch>

Maryland State Board of Elections – P.O. Box 6486, Annapolis, MD 21401-0486

Phone: 1-800-222-VOTE (8683); Toll Free: 800-222-8683

Maryland Relay Service: 800-735-2258

Hours: 8 - 5 Monday - Friday.

Rumors about the election?

Visit – <http://www.elections.maryland.gov> – click on the link for “Press Room” and you will see a link labeled “Rumor Control.”

Governor / Lt. Governor

DUTIES: The Governor is chief executive officer of the state and commander-in-chief of the Maryland National Guard. The Governor appoints state judges and heads of statewide departments, proposes the annual state budget to the Maryland General Assembly and may veto legislation passed by it.

The Lieutenant Governor assists the Governor, carries out specific duties assigned, and fills the office of Governor if the incumbent dies, resigns, or is incapacitated.

TERM: Four years. Limit of two consecutive terms.

SALARIES: Governor \$195,000, Lieutenant Governor \$175,000

HOW ELECTED: Elected statewide as a team.

WEBSITE: governor.maryland.gov

Questions

AFFORDABILITY: Many Marylanders are struggling to afford basic expenses such as housing, groceries, childcare, and healthcare. What will you do to make living in Maryland more affordable?

VOTING: What strategies will you use to encourage all eligible voters to vote in every election?

HEALTHCARE: What will you do to make sure people in Maryland have prompt and timely access to needed healthcare across Maryland, including rural and inner-city communities?

ECONOMY: In light of economic uncertainties, declining federal dollars, and loss of federal jobs, what will you do to promote economic and job growth?

IMMIGRATION: Federal agents have been stopping and detaining residents in Maryland and across the nation, often using aggressive tactics. What is your position on this?

BACKGROUND: What else do you want voters to know about you?

Democratic Candidates

Democrats may vote for no more than 1.

Eric S. Felber/LaTrece Hawkins Lytes

Campaign Website: www.felberforgovernor.org

AFFORDABILITY: Maryland has one of the highest cost of living and utility expenses in the US. Our campaign's priority is to fix that by capping utility fees, increase safe and affordable housing, provide affordable childcare and fix a broken medical system which allows insurance companies and private equity to charge exorbitant prices for care. We want to increase minimum wage to \$30/hr by 2030 to make a living wage compatible with living expenses.

VOTING: We strongly encourage everyone to vote in this upcoming election. We need to vote to keep ICE and its facilities out of Maryland, recover lost jobs and businesses, and to decrease crime in the streets of our cities and suburbs. It is crucial to vote on

these matters to fix them. We will campaign throughout the state posting signs and banners and educating anyone on the crucial process of voting.

HEALTHCARE: I am a physician and my lieutenant is a diabetes educator and organ transplant advocate. Our backgrounds are decades of experience in community medicine. We understand the hardships of medical care and its finances intricately. Timely access is crucial to obtain healthcare across Maryland, including rural and inner-city communities. We will put Maryland first, and do everything we can do to help people feel better and get the medical care they need.

ECONOMY: Thousands have lost their jobs and businesses. This is a top priority of our campaign. Economic and job growth is critical to a Maryland economy which has stalled for the past 10 years. We must act now to turn the economy around and restore lost jobs. Federal workers, researchers, farmers, and many others have experienced a decline in jobs. We must work together and help each other regain jobs and businesses in light of declining federal dollars and economic uncertainties.

IMMIGRATION: Our position is clear to remove ICE from Maryland. Our top priority is to stand behind every single person in Maryland, every immigrant, and every citizen to prevent ICE from acting on our residents. Our diversity in Maryland is what makes us great and we will not allow in any circumstances for ICE to change that. Stopping and detaining residents using aggressive tactics will not be allowed. Due process is a critical part of our Constitution and must be followed.

BACKGROUND: We will fight for abortion rights and reproductive freedom, LGBTQ+ rights, environmental safeguards, justice reform, decrease in crime, affordable housing, increase the minimum wage, lower utility costs, free public transportation and education, and fight to remove ICE.

Wes Moore/Aruna Miller

Campaign Website: www.WesMoore.com

AFFORDABILITY: We must protect our people, drive down costs, and strengthen our state's economic competitiveness. It is our responsibility to build an economy that makes sure more Marylanders can afford to live here, buy a home, create wealth, and live a secure middle-class life. That's why we're creating jobs, building more affordable housing, and introducing legislation to combat price gouging.

VOTING: Democracy works best when everyone is involved—it doesn't matter what political party you belong to, where you live, or how you worship, we have a duty to make our voices heard. That's why we've passed legislation to protect election workers and keep ensuring Maryland's elections remain free and fair.

HEALTHCARE: Affordable, accessible, and equitable health care is the foundation on which we build everything else—from safer neighborhoods to more vibrant communities. Your zip code shouldn't determine your level of care, or if you can access it. That's why we've fought to fund rural hospitals and create quality and accessible healthcare across the state.

ECONOMY: After years of economic stagnation, we are jumpstarting Maryland's economy. In just three years, Maryland has added nearly 100,000 jobs and created over 35,000 new places of business. We will continue to pass legislation and take actions that have created jobs and helped Maryland create about 45% more new establishments each month than in 2019.

IMMIGRATION: In Maryland, we defend Constitutional rights and Constitutional policing—we will not allow untrained, unqualified, and unaccountable ICE agents to deputize our law enforcement officers. We will continue to work with federal partners to hold violent offenders accountable—while refusing to blur the lines between state and federal authority in ways that undermine the trust between law enforcement and our communities.

BACKGROUND: It is the honor of my life to serve Maryland. From creating 100,000 jobs to bringing down violent crime to record lows, we've made great progress, but the job isn't finished. I'm asking for your support to continue our mission to ensure more Marylanders can afford to live here, buy a home, create wealth, and live a secure middle-class life.

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

Carl A. Brunner, Jr./Kevin L. Rhodes, Sr.

AFFORDABILITY: No response received by deadline.

VOTING: No response received by deadline.

HEALTHCARE: No response received by deadline.

ECONOMY: No response received by deadline.

IMMIGRATION: No response received by deadline.

BACKGROUND: No response received by deadline.

L. D. Burkindine/Jeremy M. Shifflett

Campaign Website: www.ldburkindineforgovernor.com

AFFORDABILITY: As Governor I will Establish a grant program for housing where the grant is for purchasing of housing the grant will give a person the down payment and settlement fees. Establish A CO/OP program for Farmers markets . Farmers to sell directly to the public-consumers. Childcare Facilities will be added to all Schools , parents will have freedom of choice . Establish new programs . Healthcare connection to be advanced to allow all Marylanders choice. Details provided upon written request.

VOTING: Bring truth to election process. Assuring Voters that their votes count. Voter ID is a must to insure against voter fraud.

HEALTHCARE: As Governor oversight and transparency will be on the top of the list. Healthcare connection will become the go to provider. State departments will be held accountable for non-compliance to execute claims in an... urgent manner. Day one of my administration I will declare poor healthcare a state of emergency. Providing Executive order fixing the problem. First

ECONOMY: First of all, the federal government is not our enemy. As Governor I will establish a working relationship with all federal agencies. Bring back manufacturing cut regulations to allow companies to grow. Manufacturing provides living wages. Power plants are a must. Building - Manufacturing, Power plants lead to work better paying jobs (living wages) Details upon written. request

IMMIGRATION: I support all law enforcement. Maryland is one state part of The United

States of America. As Governor I will reverse the newly enacted law - Bill 245/House Bill 444. Giving People drivers License's does not make them a legal citizen. Maryland cannot be a safe haven for criminals or illegal aliens. My administration will be tough on crime. Protecting and serving the people of our great state is the most important job and I am looking forward to doing just that.

BACKGROUND: I have been Businessman for over 40 years. Working harder than anyone around me, providing solutions, fixing repairing bringing people together is in my DNA. Hands on approach, Finish the job. As governor I will Be working for the people, and I will have an open-door policy.

Dan Cox/Rob Krop

AFFORDABILITY: No response received by deadline.

VOTING: No response received by deadline.

HEALTHCARE: No response received by deadline.

ECONOMY: No response received by deadline.

IMMIGRATION: No response received by deadline.

BACKGROUND: No response received by deadline.

Ed Hale/Tyrone Keys, Jr.

Campaign Website: www.haleforgov.com

AFFORDABILITY: Maryland families are being squeezed by rising costs. I will focus on lowering energy prices by expanding reliable in state power generation, reducing regulations that drive up housing and food costs, and bringing discipline to government and public spending. Maryland should once again be a state where working families, young people, and retirees can afford to live and build a future.

VOTING: Voting should be convenient, secure, and trusted. I support early voting, clear voter information, accurate voter rolls, and strong civic education so every eligible voter knows how and when to participate. Confidence in elections and broad participation are both essential to a healthy democracy.

HEALTHCARE: Every Marylander should be able to access care when they need it. I will expand the healthcare workforce, support rural and community health centers, reduce unnecessary regulations that limit providers, and expand telemedicine. Our goal should be practical solutions that shorten wait times and bring quality healthcare closer to every community.

ECONOMY: Maryland must compete again for jobs and investment. I will reduce unnecessary regulations, support small businesses and entrepreneurs, invest in infrastructure and reliable energy, and promote industries such as technology, manufacturing, agriculture, and maritime trades. A strong economy begins with making Maryland a predictable and welcoming place to invest and work.

IMMIGRATION: Public safety must come first. Maryland should cooperate with federal authorities when dealing with individuals who are committing crimes and jeopardizing public safety. At the same time, enforcement must respect constitutional rights and due process. Cooperation focused on removing dangerous offenders helps keep communities safe while maintaining respect for the rule of law.

BACKGROUND: I am not, nor do I ever want to be a career politician. I am a longtime business leader who believes in the strength of the Maryland family and the resources

and people in our state that make Maryland great. My background is rooted in the belief that our government should be small, efficient, and accountable to the taxpayers who pay for it. I am running for governor to restore opportunity, strengthen our economy, and keep Maryland a place where hard work leads to success. Help is on the Way

Douglas Larcomb/Martina D. Duncan

AFFORDABILITY: My administration's policy will support the current safety net policy with funding for Child Care Scholarship program, Housing Choice Voucher program. Maryland's Renters Tax Credit will continue. My administration brings forth a plan for State Owned Non Profit Energy for an electrical grid that will significantly reduce cost of electricity in the State through deregulation of grid operators and eminent domain.

Maryland will fund a gentrification program to increase inventory in available housing

VOTING: My administration will bring about excitement through engagement including awareness advertising with regard to how important each voice is. The issues at Stake now have arrived at critical mass. I encourage all eligible voters to register daily while I engage with the Public wherever I go. Judicial Reform will bring Unity within the Inner City initiatives of Baltimore and beyond. We all have a voice with regard to key issues such as Affordability, Public Safety & now more then ever Self Defense

HEALTHCARE: The Maryland Children's Health Program which supports children and pregnant mothers will continue to be funded. The State Health Insurance Assistance Program for Seniors will continue to be funded. Medicaid for low income residents shall continue to be funded. Fund Adults and Children with Disabilities which is cut. Budget will be revisited. Money from all of the Ambitious Unsustainable spending leading to insolvency on Green Energy initiatives will be Suspended with my first Executive Order.

ECONOMY: Maryland ranks 46 in the Nation in competition with all other States for the purpose of attracting New Corporate Business. Can you believe the idiocy? There is no business acumen in this State! The State boasts a whopping 8.25% Corporate Tax Rate because of your greed via leadership who push a false narrative on a Green Energy plan. Incentivized policy of Tax Abatement on Corporate Tax for 10 years with a 2.5% Corporate Tax rate promise after will bring New Industrial and AdvancedTechnology.

IMMIGRATION: There are approx 230,000 undoc immigrants in Maryland or 2.6% of the popul. It is mathematically impossible to deport 11 Mil. people so it was always a lie. Deporting 7,000/wk in the US equals approx 375,000 a year. The birth rate of 11 Mil. is higher than that therefore a zero sum task. My admin will create our own State registry to doc the undoc Immig. through the Gov. Office of Immig. Affairs. The St. will complete its own background checks while allowing temp in state wk permits. Not Citizen

BACKGROUND: Judicial Reform: There are NO self defense laws leaving unnecessary unprecedented power in the hands of prosecutors and judges. Reasonable Legalese Reform relieves injustice in the court. Self Defense Laws such as Reasonable Restraint, Castle Doctrine and Stand Your Ground will be enacted while placed into Maryland Code. Judicial reform will bring Unity in what is supposed to be a free state. 1.12% of Marylanders are incarcerated or on some kind of supervision. That is an oddly high number.

John A. Myrick/Brenda J. Thiam

Campaign Website: www.johnmyrickformdgovernor.org

AFFORDABILITY: By reducing State spending, and making government more efficient, we will reduce taxes and fees for Marylanders. We will cut energy costs by 50% within 4 years by re-opening plants and moving toward new nuclear technologies. This will drive down prices across the board. We will lower insurance costs, including medical malpractice insurance, which will reduce healthcare costs. We will look at ways to increase access to childcare. We will reduce regulations that drive up the cost of housing.

VOTING: Voting is the most important thing we do. We support efforts to ensure that voter rolls are current, and that all eligible voters have the chance to cast their ballots. We will work to increase the number of polling places across the State.

HEALTHCARE: By reducing malpractice insurance costs, we will drive down healthcare costs. We will seek to eliminate Plan Benefit Managers (PMBs) that inflate costs for healthcare. We will increase access to healthcare in our rural and urban communities through Public-Private Partnerships, and through working with our federal partners. We will restore the prescription drug coverage plan for State Retirees. We will negotiate with drug companies to reduce costs that the State (Medicaid) pays for medications.

ECONOMY: We will lower the Corporate Tax Rate from 8.5% to 5.0% to attract businesses to Maryland and to help those already here. We will work with the federal government to stop the hemorrhaging of federal jobs from Maryland. We will repeal the 3% Tech Tax. We will reduce burdensome regulations that stifle business development. We will attract new, good paying jobs to Maryland and provide economic opportunities for Marylanders. We will restore vocational & computer certification training to our schools

IMMIGRATION: I support cooperation with ICE. Participation in the DHS 287(g) program is vital to protecting Marylanders from criminal Unlawful Aliens and I will seek legislation making this the standard. If Maryland participates with our federal partners, not only do we enhance safety for our residents, but we eliminate the need for mass ICE deployments to find these criminal Unlawful Aliens. I also support "Plan Dignity," the most comprehensive federal immigration bill in the past 40 years.

BACKGROUND: We are Public Servants, seeking to improve the lives of EVERY Marylander. Using a common-sense approach to governing, fiscal restraint, and logic, we will restore prosperity to Maryland. We will bring accountability to Annapolis. We will reduce taxes and fees, cut energy costs, provide economic opportunity, improve our failed schools, and restore public safety for ALL Marylanders. We will never forget that we work for YOU!

Michael Oakes/Ronald W. Abend

AFFORDABILITY: Change 99% of the policies instituted in the last 4 yrs

VOTING: Already have instituted the coalition of RID. Stands for republican independent democrat. All are welcome to vote for me to change Md for the better

HEALTHCARE: There are many plans and programs already in place. No one should be denied. If they are then they're not taking advantage of the complex systems the current government has in place.

ECONOMY: Get rid of all the ridiculous paperwork and regulations that hinder small

business creation.

IMMIGRATION: The previous US administration allowed millions to enter our country illegally. If they're here illegally they need to be arrested and sent back to their home country by what ever means necessary. If they are US citizen with proper id there should not be a problem

BACKGROUND: I want to have equal representation for all. Unlike the current system where one party outnumbers all others, knows nothing about candidates, votes because there's an R I or D after the name and really doesn't care about Md. I don't accept campaign contributions because it leads to corruption. I also will not be accepting a salary. My primary goal will be electric rates reduction and a change in the property tax system

Nancy Jane Taylor/Rachel Hannah "Mohawk" Swift

AFFORDABILITY: WELL I HAVE AN AMAZING RESPONSES BUT I apolo.\nGize, SAMSUNG I SAID APOLOGIZE. I don't know if it's my horrible cheap Samsung or this website, but it does not copy and paste what so ever. I'm sorry. I cannot be more thorough with my responses. AS I INTENDED ORIGINALLY NOTHING Whatsoever, because it will not remain on the screen. WE'RE TURNING BACK TO EMPTY FIELDS IT deletes ALL TEX as I click off this page EACH TIME you'll have to catch me on the flip side TRUST ME! U WILL HEAR OUR VOICES

VOTING: I am the best campaign strategist ever!! IT IS NOT MY FAULT THAT TECHNOLOGY DOES NOT WORK PROPERLY y DO YOU THINK I'M RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT AGAIN 2024 2026* 2028 2032AD *STATEWIDE. i received 1% of the vote in West Virginia 2326 votes! Looking at 2020 results IF CAN BE BEAT, yes SO CAN i Google REPUBLICAN PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS WV 2024 NOW MY MOTHER'S GOVERNOR TAYLOR AT THE TOP OF THE TICKET AS THE CANDIDATE. I'M JUST LIEU. SWIFT it's all about beating 2028

HEALTHCARE: Promote healthier lifestyles more socialization promote blood & living kidney donations i'm doing everything in my power 2 keep my mom out of hospital hospitalizations is not acceptable. You are NOT coming out that hospital any better than you went in this corrupt pharma health care system you are better off praying to any deity you can think of for a cure Don't give me started on how it cost if they transp u wrong! AN EXTRA \$10,000 MORE IF U HAPPENED TO GO to Carroll co hospital<NW HOSP=POISION

ECONOMY: WOW AS A RINO, the description of question indicates policy is shady at best. Wow! I do believe some people (R) missing the 2020 ECONOMY RIGHT ABOUT NOW! correct DOES NOT HAVE GOOD IDEA agree BUT BANKRUPTCY !! We WOULD NEVER HAVE never GONE INTO t CURRENT SEVERE GREAT DEPRESSION W IN THE OVAL OFFICE SO I CANNOT RETYPE UP MY GOOD RESPONSES look is MESSING UP! NO JUSTIFICATIONS, OK FOR A CHANGE, LET'S HAVE NO EGOW ♡PERSONAL GREED

IMMIGRATION: UNDER AGE CHILDREN MINORS 4-YEAR-OLDS, 8-YEAR-OLDS, 15-YEAR-OLDS BUT NOT LIMITED TO, KIDDO (R) IN CAGES LET'S SEE YOUR CHILD IN ONE THOSE U WOULD BE SCREAMING! THE KIDS COMMITTED NO CRIMES. THEY ARE UNDER EIGHTEEN. THAT IS NOT A GREEN LIGHT! For you to drop your pants again & again Sorry I do not have enough space to write again +1,200X

PLEASE CALM DOWN YOUR SINFUL LUST UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES WITH JUVENILES FOR THOSE LITTLE KITTYS

BACKGROUND: Taylor gone to church all of her life SHE READS HER BIBLE EVEN AT 3AM! SHE UNDERSTANDS THE CAMEL CANNOT GO THROUGH THE EYE OF A NEEDLE. U DON'T NEED A SIXTY DOLLAR \$60 "CHINA BIBLE" TO TELL U THAT. FYI CORRECT She has not had any sexual activities with anyone under 18yo She ONLY HAD SEXUAL ACTIVITY w ONLY 2 MEN [NOT +1200little teen kitty] gave live births indicating birthdays included to13children SHE WILL WIN THIS ELECTION! Lieu/DAUGHTER R.SWIFT2024# is THE BEST CAMPAIGN STRATEGIST EVER

Shannon Wright/Reba A. Hawkins

Campaign Website: www.Wright4Maryland.com

AFFORDABILITY: As Governor Fast-track housing for all Stabilize property taxes Expand workplace-based childcare options Strengthen Maryland's food supply chain Expand agriculture partnerships Increase access to home-based chronic-care support Fix a broken education system Cut waste, fraud, and mismanagement Support small businesses Invest in job training and apprenticeships I'll do this without raising taxes Maryland should be a place you can life, not just survive it.

VOTING: As Governor We will have year-round civic education Work with community organizations, faith leaders, and institutions Meet voters where they are Support early voting, and secure mail-in options Clear information about when and how to vote Run registration drives in underserved areas Use technology to provide reminders Strengthen trust by ensuring elections are transparent "A healthy democracy depends on participation"

HEALTHCARE: As Governor, we will Ensure every Marylander gets prompt, reliable healthcare Expand community clinics, urgent-care , and mobile health units Increase access to home-based care Strengthen partnerships with hospitals and local providers Keep essential services in underserved areas Hold insurers accountable for delays, denials, and hidden fees "When care is local, transparent, and responsive, Marylanders get help when they need it—not weeks later."

ECONOMY: As Governor We will grow our tax base Redirect resources into economic engines Cut waste, fraud, and mismanagement Strengthen small businesses with targeted investments Reduced regulatory barriers Invest in job training, apprenticeships Connect Marylanders to high-demand careers Create workforce pipelines Support rural and urban economic corridors Attract new industries "With declining federal dollars, and the loss of federal jobs, Maryland needs a Governor who will build a strong economy."

IMMIGRATION: As Governor, I will not allow Marylanders to be unprotected. I will require federal agencies to coordinate with state and local authorities before operations take place. I will demand clear protocols, clear identification, and accountability so Marylanders know their rights and know who is acting in their communities. We can support lawful enforcement without allowing intimidation or overreach. Public safety requires order and we will protect both safety and civil liberties with equal force.

BACKGROUND: I am a faith-driven leader, and strategist dedicated to strengthening Maryland's families and rebuilding trust in public institutions Known for my work at the intersection of policy, service, and empowerment. I has spent years working with parents, educators, small businesses, and local organizations to address challenges in

education, healthcare access, economic mobility, and public safety. I am a wife, pastor, author, and policy advocate who authored 2 bills this session, HB1626 and HB1632

Comptroller

DUTIES: The Comptroller collects, manages, and plans for state revenues. This includes Maryland taxes on income (personal and corporate), retail sales, motor vehicle fuel, tobacco, alcohol, and estates. The Comptroller, Governor, and state Treasurer serve on the Board of Public Works, which approves major contracts for the purchase of goods and services by the state government.

TERM: Four years. No term limit.

SALARY: \$175,000.

HOW ELECTED: Elected statewide.

WEBSITE: marylandcomptroller.gov

Questions

CONTRACTS: What factors will you use, in addition to cost, to evaluate major state contracts?

TAX POLICY: Please explain what legislation affecting tax policies you will actively support for consideration in the legislature.

CHALLENGES: What are the major financial stressors that the state of Maryland will face in the coming term?

REVENUE: The Comptroller's Office issues revenue projections annually that are used to develop the budget. How do economic uncertainties affect your ability to ensure these projections are accurate?

Democratic Candidates

Democrats may vote for no more than 1.

Brooke Elizabeth Lierman

Campaign Website: www.brookelierman.com

CONTRACTS: On the Board of Public Works, I ensure Maryland receives the best value - not just the lowest price - from every contract dollar. Beyond cost, I evaluate vendor track records, commitment to MBE goals, labor standards, local economic impact, and accountability mechanisms. I've also modernized contract spending reporting so Marylanders can see exactly how their money is being spent. Smart procurement means stronger communities and a more equitable Maryland economy.

TAX POLICY: As Comptroller, I do not set tax policy - I administer tax laws equitably and make government work better for every Marylander. I've expanded branch offices, boosted call center staff, and launched new tools to ease filing. I've championed access to Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit, supported small businesses, and returned a record \$121 million in unclaimed property in FY25. I'll keep fighting for free

federal tax filing so every Marylander can access the money they've earned.

CHALLENGES: Maryland faces two major financial stressors: a rising cost of living pushing residents out of state, and the unprecedented threat to federal funding - including the loss of thousands of federal jobs, cuts to grants and contracts, and reduced Medicaid, SNAP, and disaster relief. My office now publishes state-of-the-economy reports to keep policymakers and the public informed. We must be clear-eyed about what reduced federal investment means so we can build a strong financial future together.

REVENUE: Economic uncertainty is the defining challenge of revenue forecasting and today's environment is among the most volatile we've seen. Tariffs, federal cuts, inflation, and market instability all hit Maryland revenues in unpredictable ways. As Chair of the Board of Revenue Estimates, I ensured we proactively adjusted projections in December 2024 leading to a year of stable finances, and our new tax system gives us real-time visibility to better understand our financial situation.

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

Sonya Dunn

Campaign Website: www.VoteSonyaDunn.com

CONTRACTS: Primary factor: Is the company a Maryland-based firm? If not, what state resources or taxpayer support will it require to establish and maintain a presence in Maryland? Capacity building within Maryland is critical to strengthening and growing our procurement economy. State procurement dollars should support and circulate within Maryland whenever possible. Other factors include local workforce impact, compliance history, accountability, efficiency, risk management, and community engagement.

TAX POLICY: FOR: HB 392 & HB 1554 - Short term revenue loss but helps retain manufacturing jobs and reduce food deserts in Maryland. FOR: HB 1422 & SB0858 - Adds teeth to compliance unit to address repeated failed audits by state agencies. Strengthen financial management oversight of budgets and contracts. AGAINST: 2025 BRFA (Tax Changes) - 2% capital gains tax on high earners and 3% tax on IT/data services discourages investment, limits capacity building, and accelerates wealth migration from Maryland.

CHALLENGES: Budget & Revenue Shortfalls: structural deficit, slow revenue growth, federal job losses, and high-income out-migration. Economic Competitiveness: business out-migration, affordability, taxes, and inflation. Public Spending Cost: education costs, Medicaid, state pensions, and rural hospitals. Infrastructure Risks: transportation trust fund shortfalls, aging infrastructure (state buildings, water, sewer), energy transition costs, healthcare workforce, cybersecurity, and IT modernization.

REVENUE: I would be straightforward and transparent with taxpayers: Maryland is in a structural deficit. Rose-colored revenue projections create public distrust and lead to spending cuts to public and social programs. Maryland families, businesses, and communities deserve better. I plan to use conservative forecasting practices with a

spectrum of investment risk profiles. Build a team of reliable economists and financial analysts who evaluate risks like the migration of businesses and taxpayers.

Attorney General

DUTIES: The Attorney General is the chief legal officer of Maryland, providing legal advice to the Governor, the legislature, all state departments and boards, and most commissions. The Attorney General represents the state in all cases that relate to the Governor, the General Assembly and most state agencies. The office also has responsibilities for consumer protection, civil rights, medical and investment fraud, and the juvenile justice system.

TERM: Four years. No term limit.

SALARY: \$175,000.

HOW ELECTED: Elected statewide.

WEBSITE: oag.maryland.gov

Questions

CIVIL RIGHTS: What do you see as the greatest threat to Marylanders' civil rights, and what will you do to protect them?

CRIMINAL JUSTICE: Do you support initiatives, such as restorative justice practices, to reduce incarcerations and create better outcomes in the juvenile justice system?

PRIORITIES: As Attorney General, what will be your top priority areas, and how will you implement those priorities?

DISINFORMATION: Will you use the Attorney General's office to protect consumers from disinformation and fraud, including false advertising and scams? If so, how? If not, why not?

ADVOCACY: On what issues, if any, will you support bringing actions against the federal government on behalf of Marylanders?

Democratic Candidates

Democrats may vote for no more than 1.

Anthony G. Brown

CIVIL RIGHTS: No response received by deadline.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE: No response received by deadline.

PRIORITIES: No response received by deadline.

DISINFORMATION: No response received by deadline.

ADVOCACY: No response received by deadline.

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

James B. Rutledge, III

Campaign Website: www.electjim.com

CIVIL RIGHTS: The greatest threat to Marylanders' civil rights is the erosion of equal protection under the law — when government plays favorites, enforces laws selectively, or uses legal power as a political weapon. I will enforce civil rights protections evenhandedly, without ideology. Every Marylander, regardless of background, politics, or zip code, deserves equal justice. I am committed to uphold the MD Constitution and apply the law without partiality or prejudice as the AG's oath of office requires.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE: As AG, I will focus on victim-centered justice and public safety. I support approaches that hold young offenders accountable, change the direction of their lives, protect victims, and reduce recidivism. Restorative justice can complement — but not replace — accountability. I will work with prosecutors, juvenile case workers, and community leaders to identify solutions that can actually reduce juvenile crime and create hope for our young people, who are often victims of abuse themselves.

PRIORITIES: 1) Fighting crime by supporting our State's Attorneys and law enforcement and by putting the rule of law ahead of partisan politics; 2) Thwart cyber predators by pushing cyber-crime investigations to the next level, and 3) Protect clean water and our Chesapeake Bay by investigating and prosecuting environmental crimes that harm them. I will promote the Maryland Constitution without partiality or prejudice to build confidence in our institution of law for all Marylanders, not just a favored few.

DISINFORMATION: Absolutely. Protecting Marylanders from consumer fraud, scams, and deceptive business practices is a core responsibility of the AG. I will aggressively seek to hold these predators accountable. What I will not do is use the office to punish political speech or label a political viewpoint as 'disinformation' — that path leads to censorship, which I condemn. The AG does not have the power to declare whose political opinions are acceptable. That decision is made by the voters of Maryland.

ADVOCACY: The AG should defend the people of MD when the federal government exceeds the authority granted to it by the US Constitution. The MD Constitution declares that federal laws are the Supreme Law of the State and “all the People of this State, are, and shall be bound thereby.” It is a grave matter for MD to resist federal authority and sue to nullify federal law. I will make my decisions based on the facts and the law, and my allegiance to the MD Constitution, not to partisan politics.

Representative in Congress Dist. 1

DUTIES: U.S. Representatives make laws, oversee the operations of all federal government departments and investigate issues of national importance. Laws that impose taxes always begin in the House of Representatives. Through impeachment,

the House of Representatives can recommend that the Senate remove from office a public official accused of a crime.

TERM: Two years. No term limit.

SALARY: \$174,000.

HOW ELECTED: Elected by voters in each congressional district. Maryland is represented by eight of the 435 Representatives,

WEBSITE: www.house.gov

Questions

ELECTIONS: What laws will you support to protect election integrity and secure accurate vote counts?

IMMIGRATION: Do you support current approaches to enforcing federal immigration laws? Why or why not?

AFFORDABILITY: Many Marylanders are struggling to afford basic expenses such as housing, groceries, childcare, and healthcare. What will you do to make living in the United States more affordable?

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS: What do you see as the United States' role on the world stage?

SAFETY NET: How will you safeguard social safety net programs for the most vulnerable Marylanders?

Democratic Candidates

Democrats may vote for no more than 1.

Victor Allen Guidice

ELECTIONS: None. Our elections are secure. There is no evidence that they are not.

IMMIGRATION: Absolutely not. We are human beings, damnit. I am the descendent of immigrants to this country.

AFFORDABILITY: I wish to change building regulations that prevent affordable starter homes, keeping first time home buyers from reaching that goal. I wish to transform MD's 1st District into an agro-economic powerhouse by utilizing the pioneering techniques of the Netherlands. I believe that we can produce many billions more in agricultural dollars, reducing our cost of food here, and bringing many jobs into this region. I will support legislation which promotes Universal Health Care and Universal Childcare.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS: The United States is the most successful country in the history of the world. We must once again make it the shining example of what a country should be. To lead by example, not through might. By showing compassion and respect for our own citizens, we will once again become that shining example.

SAFETY NET: We must reverse the detrimental legislation that has been passed recently.

Dan Schwartz

Campaign Website: www.schwartzforcongress.com/

ELECTIONS: I would vote to restore the Voting Rights Act, which has been hollowed out by the Supreme Court and support legislation to ban partisan gerrymandering and put redistricting decisions in the hands of independent state commissions. Partisan gerrymandering kills people's faith in fair representation which undermines elections. I would also support the For the People Act which better funds equipment upgrades, provides security standards, broadens ways to register and expands early/mail voting.

IMMIGRATION: No. While we need immigration enforcement, the current approach is intentionally cruel. We need a complete overhaul in how ICE and CBP operate. ICE should not have a larger budget than the Marine Corps. Much of its budget must be reallocated and all types of law enforcement need to be held to high professional standards that protect people's civil liberties. I am worried about the message being sent to my six year old who wants to be a police officer when he sees heavily armed men in masks.

AFFORDABILITY: I will support legislation to reign in the President's use of tariffs and require him to follow the ruling of his own Supreme Court. I will fight to roll back the President's tax cuts for billionaires, and seek bipartisan support to overhaul the US Tax Code to ensure that corporations and billionaires are paying their fair share. We will seek permanent tax cuts for working class families instead of billionaires.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS: For decades, US foreign policy has been used not just to project military power, but to influence through diplomacy and aid. By feeding kids in war-stricken nations, fighting HIV/AIDS (PEPFAR program) etc. we build long term political and economic influence around the world. This administration has pulled back from these critical efforts while at the same time utilizing our military in the most interventionist fashion of any administration since WW1, increasing global instability.

SAFETY NET: Reversing the draconian cuts from the Big Beautiful Bill is step one. Another step is allowing people to choose to buy into Medicare if they want. That will expand the risk pool and expand people's ability to get the healthcare they need without going bankrupt. Closing tax code loopholes for billionaires and corporations to make them pay their fair share will also shift the burden of supporting social safety nets off the backs of the middle class.

George Walsh

ELECTIONS: No Response

IMMIGRATION: No Response

AFFORDABILITY: No Response

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS: No Response

SAFETY NET: No Response

Randi White

Campaign Website: www.RandiforMD.com

ELECTIONS: The most important step is passing the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act to restore the protections of the 1965 Voting Rights Act that were

weakened by the Supreme Court. We also have to fight gerrymandering that disenfranchises Black voters, support nationwide automatic voter registration, and oppose efforts like the SAVE Act that make it harder for eligible Americans to vote.

IMMIGRATION: No. Immigration enforcement isn't the problem—the way it's being carried out is. In MD-01, immigrants help power our agriculture, construction, and hospitality industries. Targeting hardworking families instead of real threats doesn't make us safer—it just spreads fear. Enforcement must follow the law, respect due process, and treat people with dignity.

AFFORDABILITY: My job as a congresswoman is to make life attainable for the people of MD-01. Right now, corporations pay poverty wages and taxpayers end up covering the difference through SNAP and Medicaid. That's backwards. I'll fight for real accountability on price-gouging and work toward universal healthcare and childcare so families aren't forced to choose between basic needs.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS: Right now, the U.S. is losing credibility on the world stage because our leadership keeps choosing conflict over cooperation. Our allies need to know that many Americans still believe in diplomacy and partnership. In Congress, I'll work with Democrats to rebuild those relationships and do real outreach so our allies know they still have partners here.

SAFETY NET: I'll fight to restore full funding for Medicaid and SNAP and protect the programs families rely on. I also support expanding Medicare and strengthening Social Security so people can retire with dignity. My standard in Congress will be simple: my votes will be for expanding the safety net and taking care of the people of MD-01 and not cutting it.

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

Chris Bruneau

ELECTIONS: No response received by deadline.

IMMIGRATION: No response received by deadline.

AFFORDABILITY: No response received by deadline.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS: No response received by deadline.

SAFETY NET: No response received by deadline.

Andy Harris

ELECTIONS: No Response

IMMIGRATION: No Response

AFFORDABILITY: No Response

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS: No Response

SAFETY NET: No Response

State Senator District 36

DUTIES: Maryland State Senators enact laws, raise revenue through taxes and fees, and approve the spending of money by state agencies in an annual budget. They may propose amendments to the state Constitution for ratification by the voters and oversee the operation of all state government departments. The Senate confirms the Governor's appointment of judges and the heads of certain government agencies.

TERM: Four years, no term limit

SALARY: \$56,636

HOW ELECTED: Senators are elected district wide. The state has 47 election districts. Each district is represented by one senator. District 36 includes all of Kent and Queen Anne's counties and parts of Caroline and Cecil counties. Qualified voters in District 36 cast ballots for 1 candidate.

WEBSITE: <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Members/District>

Questions

DATA CENTERS: Data centers can bring some important economic benefits, but also have a negative impact on the power grid, water supply, and land use. Do you support the establishment of additional data centers in Maryland? Why or why not?

UTILITY COSTS: What do you see as the factors contributing to escalating utility costs in Maryland? How will you address them?

TRANSPORTATION: Should the availability of public transportation be improved across the state? Why or why not?

BUDGET: Maryland is required to balance the budget every year. What will be your three top budget priorities, and what programs will you fight for?

IMMIGRATION: Immigrants are an important part of our community and make significant contributions, including to Maryland's economy. What will you do to support immigrant communities in Maryland?

Democratic Candidates

Democrats may vote for no more than 1.

Nivek Johnson

Campaign Website: www.johnson4senate.org

DATA CENTERS: I support responsible development of data centers in Maryland, particularly in rural communities where they can provide much-needed economic investment and increase local tax revenue. At the same time, we must address concerns about energy use, water supply, and land impact. Maryland should prioritize green data centers powered by renewable energy to protect our environment while creating jobs and supporting rural economies.

UTILITY COSTS: Rising utility costs in Maryland are driven by our reliance on imported electricity and a grid that can become overloaded during peak demand. We must invest

in clean, in-state energy like offshore wind to reduce dependence on outside power. I will support clean renewable energy investments & legislation, advocate for rate relief, and work with local nonprofits to expand financial assistance and energy relief programs for Maryland families.

TRANSPORTATION: Public transportation should be improved across the state, especially on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Many residents cannot afford reliable transportation for medical appointments, work, and essential services, and ridesharing options are often unavailable in rural areas. Expanding nonprofit transportation programs and commuter bus routes through the Maryland Transit Administration—including service beyond Kent Island—would help rural communities access critical resources.

BUDGET: Education, transportation, and housing are my top budget priorities. I will continue fighting for public school construction so every Maryland student learns in clean, green, energy-efficient spaces. I will work to improve MTA line times and expand transportation service across Maryland's Eastern Shore, which has long been overlooked. I will also push for greater investment in affordable housing in our high cost-of-living state.

IMMIGRATION: Immigrants strengthen Maryland's economy and communities. I will support access to essential services, legal assistance, and language resources so immigrant families can thrive. I will expand workforce training and small business support for immigrant entrepreneurs, strengthen educational opportunities for immigrant youth, and promote policies that build trust and ensure all residents feel safe, respected, and included.

John Queen

DATA CENTERS: No response received by deadline.

UTILITY COSTS: No response received by deadline.

TRANSPORTATION: No response received by deadline.

BUDGET: No response received by deadline.

IMMIGRATION: No response received by deadline.

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

Steve Hershey

Campaign Website: www.SteveHershey.com

DATA CENTERS: Data centers can bring tremendous economic value through tax revenue and technology jobs, but they must not drive up electricity costs or strain the power grid for existing ratepayers. Any large facility should be largely self-sufficient in its power needs. Unfortunately, given Maryland's current regulatory climate and energy policies, I'm skeptical that we'll see many large data centers choose Maryland over neighboring states.

UTILITY COSTS: Marylanders are seeing skyrocketing utility costs because state energy policy has prioritized green energy mandates over affordability and reliability.

Policies that force utilities to buy renewable credits from other states, participate in programs like RGGI, and premature retirements of reliable power plants have pushed prices higher. We need to encourage new in-state generation, reduce unnecessary mandates, and make sure ratepayers-not political agendas-are the priority in our energy policy.

TRANSPORTATION: Public transportation has a role in Maryland's urban areas, but in rural regions like the Eastern Shore, people depend almost entirely on their vehicles. Maryland drivers pay the highest gas taxes and vehicle registration fees in the region, yet we still struggle to properly maintain our roads and highways. Before expanding new transit programs, we need to make sure the transportation taxes that our drivers pay are being used for their intended purpose to maintain the infrastructure we rely on.

BUDGET: Maryland's budget problems are largely the result of excessive spending commitments made in recent years. The Blueprint for Education alone is projected to create \$4 to \$5 billion in structural deficits in the coming years. My top priorities are restoring fiscal responsibility, preventing further tax increases that drive residents out of the state, and ensuring that state spending is focused on core priorities rather than expanding government beyond what taxpayers can sustain.

IMMIGRATION: Maryland benefits greatly from immigrants who come here legally and want to contribute to our communities and economy. It's important not to confuse legal immigration with illegal immigration. I strongly support those who follow the legal process and are working to build a better future here, while also recognizing the importance of upholding the rule of law in our immigration system.

House of Delegates District 36 Caroline County

DUTIES: Maryland State Delegates enact laws, raise revenue through taxes and fees, and approve the spending of money by state agencies in an annual budget. They may propose amendments to the state Constitution for ratification by the voters and oversee the operation of all state government departments.

TERM: Four years, no term limit

SALARY: \$55,636

HOW ELECTED: Elected by residents of each of Maryland's 47 legislative districts. District 36 includes all of Kent and Queen Anne's counties and parts of Caroline and Cecil counties. Qualified voters in District 36 cast ballots for 3 candidates. The 3 candidates who receive the largest number of votes are elected EXCEPT that each person elected must be from a different county.

WEBSITE: <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Members/District>

Questions

DATA CENTERS: Data centers can bring some economic benefit, but also have a negative impact on the power grid, water supply, and land use. Do you support the establishment of additional data centers in Maryland? Why or why not?

UTILITY COSTS: What do you see as the factors contributing to escalating utility costs in Maryland? How will you address them?

TRANSPORTATION: Should the availability of public transportation be improved across the state? Why or why not?

BUDGET: Maryland is required to balance the budget every year. What will be your three top budget priorities, and what programs will you fight for?

IMMIGRATION: Immigrants are an important part of our community and make significant contributions, including to Maryland's economy. What will you do to support immigrant communities in Maryland?

Democratic Candidates

Democrats may vote for no more than 1.

Nevin Crouse

DATA CENTERS: Data Centers should be required to provide their own power and water, and not allowed to buy it from the grid, which raises demand and prices for all of us. Unless they are required to supply their own power and water, all of us are subsidizing them. Their owners get rich, and we get the bill.

UTILITY COSTS: In addition to the Data Centers, utility policy going back decades was to move to more renewables. We have been trying to do that ever since, but keep losing in the state house, I suspect because of large donations to sway votes. So, we haven't set up new systems, and we haven't done upkeep on the old systems we were replacing. Just as we were going to finally get going on wind, contracts were illegally cancelled by an unconstitutional executive order. That's why are prices are high.

TRANSPORTATION: Yes. As healthcare becomes more expensive and hard to access, transportation between rural areas becomes a more dire situation. We need to be connected.

BUDGET: Education — Community College funding, including trades training. Healthcare — Stopping our rural hospitals from failing as Medicaid is being cut. The Bay — Cover cropping, conservation verges, oyster propagation, solar farm places being inundated with brackish water occasionally; it only takes a couple times for land to be unprofitable for crops. Use that land for solar.

IMMIGRATION: Follow the constitution. The 14th Amendment says "No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." If you're born here, or naturalized, you're a citizen. If you're a person here you get due process and equal protection of the laws. No exceptions.

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

Jeff Ghrist

DATA CENTERS: I support data centers as long as we first have the infrastructure to support additional power generation. I do not support growth or development that strains our existing grid. We need significantly more power generation and grid upgrades before adding new demand, and communities should have input through assessments and town halls.

UTILITY COSTS: Utility costs in Maryland are rising largely because reliable power generation has decreased while demand for electricity continues to grow, and our grid infrastructure has not kept pace. When demand exceeds supply, prices rise. It's basic economics. For the past two years I've been working on a three-phase grid reliability project to strengthen infrastructure, bring in new power generation, and ensure our system can meet current and future demand.

TRANSPORTATION: Public transportation can be valuable, but many traditional systems are inherently inefficient in rural areas where populations are spread out. I support public transportation where it makes economic sense and where users cover most of the operating costs. We should focus on practical, cost-effective solutions that meet real transportation needs rather than expanding systems that require large ongoing subsidies.

BUDGET: Maryland faces an ongoing structural deficit driven largely by rising spending and mandated costs. My priority is reducing the overall cost of government in a responsible, thoughtful, and compassionate way. Within a balanced budget, my top priorities are funding critical infrastructure, maintaining efficient education systems, and ensuring public safety for our communities.

IMMIGRATION: Immigrants contribute to our communities and economy, and I support legal immigration and the diversity it brings. While immigration policy is largely a federal issue, I support efforts to streamline the legal immigration process. I believe public benefits funded by taxpayers should prioritize residents and citizens, as most countries prioritize the interests of their own people.

House of Delegates District 36 Cecil County

DUTIES: Maryland State Delegates enact laws, raise revenue through taxes and fees, and approve the spending of money by state agencies in an annual budget. They may propose amendments to the state Constitution for ratification by the voters and oversee the operation of all state government departments.

TERM: Four years, no term limit

SALARY: \$55,636

HOW ELECTED: Elected by residents of each of Maryland's 47 legislative districts. District 36 includes all of Kent and Queen Anne's counties and parts of Caroline and Cecil counties. Qualified voters in District 36 cast ballots for 3 candidates. The 3 candidates who receive the largest number of votes are elected EXCEPT that each person elected must be from a different county.

WEBSITE: <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Members/District>

Questions

DATA CENTERS: Data centers can bring some economic benefit, but also have a negative impact on the power grid, water supply, and land use. Do you support the establishment of additional data centers in Maryland? Why or why not?

UTILITY COSTS: What do you see as the factors contributing to escalating utility costs in Maryland? How will you address them?

TRANSPORTATION: Should the availability of public transportation be improved across the state? Why or why not?

BUDGET: Maryland is required to balance the budget every year. What will be your three top budget priorities, and what programs will you fight for?

IMMIGRATION: Immigrants are an important part of our community and make significant contributions, including to Maryland's economy. What will you do to support immigrant communities in Maryland?

Democratic Candidates

Democrats may vote for no more than 1.

Michelle Ravert

DATA CENTERS: No response received by deadline.

UTILITY COSTS: No response received by deadline.

TRANSPORTATION: No response received by deadline.

BUDGET: No response received by deadline.

IMMIGRATION: No response received by deadline.

Republican Candidates

No republican candidates filed for this race

House of Delegates District 36 Kent County

DUTIES: Maryland State Delegates enact laws, raise revenue through taxes and fees, and approve the spending of money by state agencies in an annual budget. They may propose amendments to the state Constitution for ratification by the voters and oversee the operation of all state government departments.

TERM: Four years, no term limit

SALARY: \$55,636

HOW ELECTED: Elected by residents of each of Maryland's 47 legislative districts. District 36 includes all of Kent and Queen Anne's counties and parts of Caroline and Cecil counties. Qualified voters in District 36 cast ballots for 3 candidates. The 3 candidates who receive the largest number of votes are elected EXCEPT that each person elected must be from a different county.

WEBSITE: <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Members/District>

Questions

DATA CENTERS: Data centers can bring some economic benefit, but also have a negative impact on the power grid, water supply, and land use. Do you support the establishment of additional data centers in Maryland? Why or why not?

UTILITY COSTS: What do you see as the factors contributing to escalating utility costs in Maryland? How will you address them?

TRANSPORTATION: Should the availability of public transportation be improved across the state? Why or why not?

BUDGET: Maryland is required to balance the budget every year. What will be your three top budget priorities, and what programs will you fight for?

IMMIGRATION: Immigrants are an important part of our community and make significant contributions, including to Maryland's economy. What will you do to support immigrant communities in Maryland?

Democratic Candidates

No Democratic candidates filed for this race

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

Jay A. Jacobs

Campaign Website: www.FriendsOfJayJacobs.com

DATA CENTERS: I support the limited establishment of Data Centers (DC's) in MD where zoning permits. DC's offer MD a rare opportunity to expand its tax base, creating high paying jobs and lead in the digital economy - without raising taxes. Modern DC's use sustainable cooling systems that reduce or eliminate the need for ground water by recycling wastewater in a continuous closed loop system. Electrical Infrastructure upgrades have to be paid for by DC's according to the Next Generation Energy Act of 2025.

UTILITY COSTS: MD's aggressive climate goals are causing high energy bills. There has been a 50% increase in energy costs since 2020. I would pause and roll back the Empower MD Efficiency Program, freeze rate payer fees, and withdraw from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, a multistate pact which contributes to high costs. I would also increase clean energy nuclear power production.

TRANSPORTATION: Yes. I would expand the Locally Operated Transit System (LOTS) program which provides transit in rural and small urban jurisdictions across the state. LOTS grants cover buses, facilities and equipment - often the only source of capital counties have to replace aging vehicles or sustain reliable services. Rural counties,

such as those in my district, need more defined routes so that riders are not stuck having to ride or wait for a bus all day.

BUDGET: Pushing for structural spending cuts rather than temporary fixes, opposing tax or fee increases to close the projected budget deficits, and prioritizing fiscal restraint to manage state budget deficits. I would fight to restore MD Developmental Disability Administration (DDA) funding, and also demand accountability of all departments with

IMMIGRATION: I support all communities in MD, including legal immigrant communities. America was founded by immigrants, including my own family. The legal immigrant community makes many contributions to all communities, both economically and in terms of diversity. I have helped immigrant constituents navigate housing and legal issues throughout my elected career.

House of Delegates District 36 Queen Anne's County

DUTIES: Maryland State Delegates enact laws, raise revenue through taxes and fees, and approve the spending of money by state agencies in an annual budget. They may propose amendments to the state Constitution for ratification by the voters and oversee the operation of all state government departments.

TERM: Four years, no term limit

SALARY: \$55,636

HOW ELECTED: Elected by residents of each of Maryland's 47 legislative districts. District 36 includes all of Kent and Queen Anne's counties and parts of Caroline and Cecil counties. Qualified voters in District 36 cast ballots for 3 candidates. The 3 candidates who receive the largest number of votes are elected EXCEPT that each person elected must be from a different county.

WEBSITE: <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Members/District>

Questions

DATA CENTERS: Data centers can bring some economic benefit, but also have a negative impact on the power grid, water supply, and land use. Do you support the establishment of additional data centers in Maryland? Why or why not?

UTILITY COSTS: What do you see as the factors contributing to escalating utility costs in Maryland? How will you address them?

TRANSPORTATION: Should the availability of public transportation be improved across the state? Why or why not?

BUDGET: Maryland is required to balance the budget every year. What will be your three top budget priorities, and what programs will you fight for?

IMMIGRATION: Immigrants are an important part of our community and make significant contributions, including to Maryland's economy. What will you do to support immigrant communities in Maryland?

Democratic Candidates

Democrats may vote for no more than 1.

Crystal Woodward

DATA CENTERS: I support data center expansion with regulations to minimize increases in utility bills, rezoning of farmland, and environmental impact. Data center investors/owners should cover the associated cost of electricity generation and grid improvements. It is not financially feasible for consumers to cover these costs. Data center expansion will boost our economy by attracting new investors (who might otherwise choose to invest in other states), supporting digital and AI platforms, and job creation.

UTILITY COSTS: The rapid and drastic increases to our electricity bills this year have been devastating. These increases are driven by data center expansion, closing of old fossil fuel facilities, PJM increases, and system upgrades. While solutions to increasing energy costs are not easy or straightforward, Maryland should support development and exploration of renewable energy sources, develop strategies and incentives for decreasing demand, and enact consumer relief and government oversight regulations.

TRANSPORTATION: Improving public mass transit options statewide is essential to job creation and access to jobs and to healthcare, education, and other services, and would improve our economic health. Mass transit lessens traffic congestion, decreases adverse environmental impact, and connects communities. The Eastern Shore currently lives in a mass transit desert. While there are some commuter bus and public ride options, these are insufficient. Light rail would provide incentive to our young people to stay.

BUDGET: Maryland's FY 2027 budget does not raise taxes and covers the current budget deficit. My top three priorities will be access and affordability; education and job creation; and attracting new business and industry partners.

IMMIGRATION: Like all Marylanders, the immigrant population should have access to affordable services like healthcare, career training, and education. Maryland should offer increased support for ELL/ESL and remove credential and licensing barriers. Legal assistance to ensure due process and assistance to lawfully become citizens must be accessible. Maryland should offer support to enable immigrants to make contributions to our economy and local communities.

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

Steve Arentz

DATA CENTERS: Understanding that we must address the impact while adhering to our zoning and available resource, I support DC's in MD. Solutions will require negating an impact on our current energy needs. Maryland must address our failures to provide the generation for current and future needs. Data centers should be required to provide the power that they will need. This type of technology is needed to build a sustainable economy and satisfy the needs of the people.

UTILITY COSTS: Poor planning & poor solutions contribute to rising costs. Solar has not fulfilled expectations. Since 2004 a lack of innovation & excessive subsidies resulted in less than 8% of generation is solar, & 90% of expired panels going to landfills. Excessive fees & penalties set by the Majority Party with added costs of a 40% deficit in production have contributed. Retain current generation until a viable solution is in place. Add baseload energy, nuclear & clean natural gas to alleviate shortage

TRANSPORTATION: Yes. Access to jobs & services continues to be an issue for many, especially in rural areas. This is expensive and we need to ensure cost effective solutions. However, with our population spread across the state we need to also ensure that our bridges and highways require maintenance and upgrading. Commerce requires access to provide these goods and services. Both should be considered across the state.

BUDGET: Spending cuts, tax relief, fiscal accountability. Addressing needs, not wants. Accountability across the board is needed. Tax increases since 2024 have been burdensome. MD is one of the most regulated business states in the country. We need to grow our economy within. This is a self-imposed crisis that requires leadership. Must address what is failing-- education, healthcare and mandates. Little in the Governor's budget addresses the large deficits looming.

IMMIGRATION: I support the legal immigration of people seeking to be in our great country. America was built on this principle. Accountability is a principle I believe in. All of us, for the most part, are a product of legal immigration. Constituent services are a major part of my job serving the citizens of Maryland.

Commissioner At Large

ABOUT THE OFFICE: There are five County Commissioners, four of whom are elected at large, with one residing in each of the four County Commissioner Districts of the county. The fifth, also elected at large, holds the position of President of the County Commissioners for the first year of his or her term and may reside in any area of the county. Following the first year of their term the County Commissioners annually, by majority vote, select one Commissioner to serve as President of the County Commissioners.

TERM: Four years, with no term limits

SALARY: \$25,000

How Elected: Select one candidate from at-large and each district, for a total of 5.

Questions

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL CHARACTER: Where should growth be encouraged in Queen Anne's County, and where should it be limited? What guardrails would you insist on in zoning and development approvals to protect rural character?

FISCAL PRIORITIES AND BUDGETING: What are your top three fiscal priorities for the county in 2026? Please list them in order.

ENVIRONMENT, LAND USE & INFRASTRUCTURE: What specific policies would you support to improve Chesapeake Bay waterway health, preserve agricultural land, and manage roads and traffic congestion as Queen Anne's County grows?

HOUSING AND COST OF LIVING: What is your plan to increase workforce housing in the county? Please name at least one concrete action you would take.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY: What is your plan to better connect where people live, where children go to school, and where people work? Include how you would improve or support reliable public transportation.

Democratic Candidates

Democrats may vote for no more than 1.

Liz Filter

Campaign Website: www.LizFilter4QAC.com

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL CHARACTER: I support the moratorium on residential growth in Districts 3 and 4, and would argue for continuance beyond its summer expiration so that residents can be heard at the polls. Commercial growth should be directed to vacant properties. I would halt development at the Rt 50 Rt 8 junction until public safety and current traffic issues are addressed. Any county development must include binding community benefit agreements, especially for noise pollution and traffic management.

FISCAL PRIORITIES AND BUDGETING: First, budget transparency: applying zero-based budgeting at the start of the next quadrennium to identify any inefficiency, and maximize every dollar. Second, audit utility agreements, and provide public testimony to PSC on behalf of residents. Third, use education funding to attract young families and workers by expanding KI High School, and supporting county-based trades programs - especially in the maritime and agricultural sectors.

ENVIRONMENT, LAND USE & INFRASTRUCTURE: I support expanding public water access and programming that connects residents to the Bay: if you can't appreciate the water, you won't protect it. I'll defend working waterfront zoning for our watermen, oppose developer-driven rezoning of productive farmland while supporting landowner-led transitions to solar. I support wetland buffers to address flooding and subsidence. I'll demand road improvements along our corridors as a condition of any ferry or new Bay Bridge plan.

HOUSING AND COST OF LIVING: Standardize the development approval processes to reduce confusion and resulting costs passed to buyers. Review regulations that inflate construction costs, including the sprinkler requirement for single-family homes. Require affordable units in new developments and update zoning to reflect workforce housing needs, by attracting essential services like childcare, healthcare and grocery options, reducing residents' travel time: making QAC more affordable beyond just housing.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY: Connectivity starts w/ basics: completing sidewalks and trails, improving signage, repainting lane markings, and modernizing traffic control. The broadband project needs to be completed & the grant program should include fiber access and satellite options. QAC should be a place

where we can live AND work w/ access to essential services nearby. I support a mass transit lane for the new Bay Bridge, and promoting “locals” discount toll rates while instituting “congestion pricing” on beach traffic.

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

Rick Bowers

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL CHARACTER: I encourage growth in the county north and east of Queenstown and I will stop new development on Kent Island. To limit growth, I want term limits of 2 terms on all boards and commissions. This will allow for balance over time, not the same old same old build build build. We must never lose our unique charm to overgrowth.

FISCAL PRIORITIES AND BUDGETING: I will save the county taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars by eliminating the lifetime health insurance benefits the Queen Anne's County Commissioners gave themselves after just 8 years of part time service a few years ago. I will look into the budget for possible areas of savings as well as reviewing our procurement processes. I will look for creative ways to bring business into our county in hopes of increasing our commercial tax base.

ENVIRONMENT, LAND USE & INFRASTRUCTURE: I will continue to support the conservation programs already in place. I will listen to the watermen and others directly involved with the bay for common sense advice. I will support action that causes our bay and wetlands to thrive. Road congestion already exists and unfortunately we are left with few real options. We could have a dedicated local turn lane or thru lane but overdevelopment has left us with this problem. Much is up to the state of Maryland.

HOUSING AND COST OF LIVING: Queen Anne's County should be a place where the average wage earner can enjoy the lifestyle our county offers. I am very interested in the potential of 3D printed homes and other structures. 3D printing provides a cost effective time efficient means of building homes or commercial buildings. Planned Communities of traditional frame built smaller homes up to 1500sf would provide starter homes where young families can begin to realize their American dream.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY: I haven't seen public transit pay for itself, it is a notorious money loser. Without taxpayer subsidies the system runs at a loss almost every time nationwide. Perhaps a program for low income residents through local lenders for qualified car buyers to get their independence started. We could offer tax credits for county employers who provide transit for employees or medical systems offering transportation to their patients. I believe this would result in a savings to the taxpayer.

Jim Moran

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL CHARACTER: The Comprehensive Plan directs all County Codes and Policies to ensure that residential and commercial growth occurs within the County's designated Growth Areas and incorporated Towns. Close coordination with the Towns and support of annexation proposals are key to focusing growth within designated Growth Areas. Through the recent Moratorium, the

Commissioners are ensuring that careful planning is in place to support the County Growth Areas by assessing and prioritizing infrastructure.

FISCAL PRIORITIES AND BUDGETING: 1) Public Safety: New replacement ambulances, continuing support to FEC/VFD's, Public water line interconnector (Kent Narrows to Grasonville) to improve water system reliability and fire protection 2) Public Education: Meeting State Blueprint Requirements, New QA Tech Center at Chesapeake College, Replacement of Centreville Middle School, 3) Quality of Life for Residents: Future Recreational Center, South Island Trail Extension, PED Bridge design to connect South Island Trail to Cross Island Tr

ENVIRONMENT, LAND USE & INFRASTRUCTURE: In 2014 QAC started removing 1600 failed septic systems on Kent Island. This reduction of pollutants put QAC ahead of every other county in the States mandated pollution diet. I plan on expanding this program. Since I was elected we have preserved over 90,000 acres of Farm land, which now leads the State in preservation of tillable land. I plan to work with the State on closing more exits in the Rt. 50 corridor on Kent Island from Memorial day to Labor Day, while we wait on the new Bay Bridges

HOUSING AND COST OF LIVING: We recently approved a budget amendment expanding funding for programs that help residents achieve homeownership and support the County's critical workforce. The amendment increases funding for the County's Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit Loan Program by \$200,000, allowing additional loans to be made available to first-time homebuyers. Continued support of accepting MPDU fee in lieu of payments allows the County to create workforce housing opportunities while maintaining flexibility for all.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY: The comprehensive Plan directs the County to examine Growth Area infrastructure and identify deficient infrastructure. Accordingly, many studies are underway including the Moratorium, the Bay Bridge to Ocean City, MD 18 Planning and Environmental Linkages and, Bay Crossing Study Tier 2. The County also enacted the Kent Is. Transportation Plan. The County not only advocates for multimodal connectivity for its residents, but also for the resolution of local traffic issues caused by through traffic

Tracy Ann Smith

Campaign Website: www.Tracyforgac@gmail.com

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL CHARACTER: A majority of growth and development in Queen Anne's County is focused on Kent Island creating congestion while changing its character. I support a more balanced approach to development spreading growth. Attracting larger employers to the county would increase revenue and make the county less dependent on residential property taxes. Approximately 44% of county residents commute out of the county for employment .Zoning appeals that relax zoning and development restrictions be more scrutinized.

FISCAL PRIORITIES AND BUDGETING: Although Queen Anne's County has a relatively low property tax rate, it ranks in the top half of income tax rates in the state. I would work to reduce this rate so residents keep more money in their paychecks. I would advocate for raising the county's Homestead Tax Credit Cap from 5% to 10% to

give tax relief to homeowners. Lastly, I would advocate to establish a county level inspector general. Even in a part time capacity, this would help to identify waste and potential fraud.

ENVIRONMENT, LAND USE & INFRASTRUCTURE: Regarding the Chesapeake Bay, ensuring the county's wastewater management and discharge is as clean and efficient as possible which is essential to the bay's health. Residents and conservation groups should not be the ones identifying environmental violations, it's the county's responsibility. Regarding agricultural land preservation, I would continue to advocate for conservation easements. I would work with state officials in developing comprehensive traffic management plans.

HOUSING AND COST OF LIVING: What I hear routinely from our teachers and public safety workers is that they are in need of affordable homeownership, not affordable rental apartments in this county. I would propose removing the fees associated with homebuilding as it would apply to workforce housing and create flexible zoning so developers can develop lower cost land to keep workforce housing cost down and more affordable. The Critical Workforce Home Loan Program's limited funding unfortunately benefits few county workers.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY: Queen Anne's County is the only Eastern Shore county considered part of the Baltimore metropolitan area. Unfortunately, we do not enjoy the benefits the Maryland Mass Transit Administration brings to other counties. There are only a few MTA commuter routes connecting to the western shore, mostly leaving from Kent Island Park and Rides. I would advocate bringing additional MTA services to the county which does not incur additional costs to our county.

Commissioner District 1

ABOUT THE OFFICE: There are five County Commissioners, four of whom are elected at large, with one residing in each of the four County Commissioner Districts of the county. The fifth, also elected at large, holds the position of President of the County Commissioners for the first year of his or her term and may reside in any area of the county. Following the first year of their term the County Commissioners annually, by majority vote, select one Commissioner to serve as President of the County Commissioners.

TERM: Four years, with no term limits

SALARY: \$25,000

How Elected: Select one candidate from at-large and each district, for a total of 5.

Questions

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL CHARACTER: Where should growth be encouraged in Queen Anne's County, and where should it be limited? What guardrails would you insist on in zoning and development approvals to protect rural character?

FISCAL PRIORITIES AND BUDGETING: What are your top three fiscal priorities for the county in 2026? Please list them in order.

ENVIRONMENT, LAND USE & INFRASTRUCTURE: What specific policies would you support to improve Chesapeake Bay waterway health, preserve agricultural land, and manage roads and traffic congestion as Queen Anne's County grows?

HOUSING AND COST OF LIVING: What is your plan to increase workforce housing in the county? Please name at least one concrete action you would take.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY: What is your plan to better connect where people live, where children go to school, and where people work? Include how you would improve or support reliable public transportation.

Democratic Candidates

No Democratic candidates filed for this race

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

Jack Wilson

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL CHARACTER: Per the State of Maryland all growth must be directed where there is Infrastructure. In Queen Annes County that is in our Incorporated Towns and the Unincorporated areas which are within the Terrapin Park Sewer and Water District. With this as the backdrop growth has effectively been limited by the Capacity that exists in these areas. With the constraints in place Residential growth throughout the County is capped at roughly an additional 1000 units or roughly an additional 4000 Citizens.

FISCAL PRIORITIES AND BUDGETING: The State Education mandated funding drives 2/3rds of the County Budget. With that in mind I will continue to balance the Budget and maintain Services without raising taxes. Being a part of the only Commission in QAC history to achieve 3 AAA Bond ratings speaks for the Budgetary success to date. It is not an easy task with the State continuing to Balance their budget on the back of the Counties. I will make sure that in the coming years the County will remain Fiscally strong.

ENVIRONMENT, LAND USE & INFRASTRUCTURE: As stated earlier growth has a capacity restraint in place, this will by itself control local traffic increases. In terms of Beach Traffic there is no way to stop it as the Beach areas continue to overdevelop. Plans in place have mitigated some of the seasonal issues but more work will and is being done. As Commissioner I have been apart of making QAC the #1 preserved land County in the State and will continue to support these efforts.

HOUSING AND COST OF LIVING: With the constraints of development already in place, housing is driven by supply and demand. Affordable housing is a very subjective

term as what may be affordable to some may not be to others. Without creating density affordability is market driven. I don't believe in large Government subsidies for housing, I think it creates false markets which eventually fail. There are some Rural solutions for affordable housing, one would be Affordable Dwelling Units which are being looked at right now.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY: We already have free County Ride since 2023 which provides a great service to many without other means of Transportation. Supporting more Business creation can help people stay closer to home and utilize our existing system. Continuing to enhance our Bike and Pedestrian trails will also offer alternative local Transportation options. Our Rural nature makes wholesale changes to Transportation unrealistic as the cost to implement would not be cost effective or sustainable.

Commissioner District 2

ABOUT THE OFFICE: There are five County Commissioners, four of whom are elected at large, with one residing in each of the four County Commissioner Districts of the county. The fifth, also elected at large, holds the position of President of the County Commissioners for the first year of his or her term and may reside in any area of the county. Following the first year of their term the County Commissioners annually, by majority vote, select one Commissioner to serve as President of the County Commissioners.

TERM: Four years, with no term limits

SALARY: \$25,000

How Elected: Select one candidate from at-large and each district, for a total of 5.

Questions

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL CHARACTER: Where should growth be encouraged in Queen Anne's County, and where should it be limited? What guardrails would you insist on in zoning and development approvals to protect rural character?

FISCAL PRIORITIES AND BUDGETING: What are your top three fiscal priorities for the county in 2026? Please list them in order.

ENVIRONMENT, LAND USE & INFRASTRUCTURE: What specific policies would you support to improve Chesapeake Bay waterway health, preserve agricultural land, and manage roads and traffic congestion as Queen Anne's County grows?

HOUSING AND COST OF LIVING: What is your plan to increase workforce housing in the county? Please name at least one concrete action you would take.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY: What is your plan to better connect where people live, where children go to school, and where people work? Include how you would improve or support reliable public transportation.

Democratic Candidates

Democrats may vote for no more than 1.

Andrea Alduino

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL CHARACTER: To encourage growth and maintain its rural character any development in the county should only occur where the existing infrastructure is not being over burdened. Too many of us in this county, must deal with excessive traffic that affects our everyday lives. Future planning must include smart growth planning to avoid this situation getting worse. In addition, I strongly believe that our farmland, shorelines, wetlands and critical zones around Chesapeake Bay must be protected.

FISCAL PRIORITIES AND BUDGETING: My top priorities are education, infrastructure, and public safety/health. It is essential to recruit and retain highly-qualified teachers. To achieve this goal, I would advocate for higher starting salaries for new teachers and pay increases for our veteran educators. I would also like to work with the State to ameliorate our "at-grade" crossings on the 50/301 Corridor to make our highways safer. In addition, I would like to open the Medical Adult Daycare that was closed in 2011.

ENVIRONMENT, LAND USE & INFRASTRUCTURE: It is critical to upgrade all wastewater treatment plants to enhance nutrient removal standards and to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus going into our waterways. A program that I support is Living Shorelines that provides habitat and filters run-off. Furthermore, I would vote to restrict development on areas of high environmental sensitivity and high-quality agricultural soils found throughout our County. Finally, I would encourage the creation of several "roundabouts" throughout the County.

HOUSING AND COST OF LIVING: One of the most pressing issues facing this nation is the affordable housing crisis. This is true for our younger citizens who are often priced out of the current market. Unfortunately, Queen Anne's County is not immune from this trend. I would explore grants like the Community Development Block Grant to fund housing studies and improvements. One innovation that many communities have used is public/private partnerships to increase the housing supplies.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY: One of the major deficiencies in the County is the lack of public transportation. Too many of our neighbors, especially senior citizens, are unable to access such essential services as grocery stores, medical care and county services. Although Queen Anne's County does have a public transportation system, it needs to be expanded. Our young people would benefit from community connectivity by creating additional bike/pedestrian pathways to connect our recreational areas throughout the County.

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

Mat Drayer

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL CHARACTER: No response received by deadline.

FISCAL PRIORITIES AND BUDGETING: No response received by deadline.

ENVIRONMENT, LAND USE & INFRASTRUCTURE: No response received by deadline.

HOUSING AND COST OF LIVING: No response received by deadline.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY:
No response received by deadline.

Patrick McLaughlin

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/share/1JSxHJAGQu/?mibextid=wwXlfr

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL CHARACTER: I voted for the Kent Island building moratorium to study APFO impacts on schools, traffic, and sewer capacity. Slowing growth on KI is essential to our quality of life. The 2020 Comp Plan directs growth toward Sudlersville, where infrastructure costs are developer-funded. Up-county projects remain more affordable while preserving our agricultural "breadbasket" and maritime heritage. We are starting a multi-sports fields and business feasibility study up-county.

FISCAL PRIORITIES AND BUDGETING: Growth, traffic, and affordability are the top issues. In my 3 years as Commissioner, D2 I have NOT voted for a single Tax increase on property, income, or business taxes. NOT One!!! My fiscal priorities: 1. Tax Stability: Opposing hikes despite state mandates. 2. Accountability: The BOE's \$12M over MOE request is unsustainable. They must negotiate with the ED & state rather than burdening you taxpayers. 3. Fiscal Responsibility: Up-county commercial development for jobs and attainable housing.

ENVIRONMENT, LAND USE & INFRASTRUCTURE: I have voted for every rural and farmland preservation initiative, including oyster restoration. I meet with MDE and EPA on upstream solutions at the Conowingo Dam, pushing the Army Corps to build sediment catchments and barrier measures to trap plastic bags, bottles, and debris before they hit the dam and enter the Bay. Regarding growth, I will scrutinize the upcoming APFO study to ensure it provides the strongest protections for our taxpayers, homeowners, property rights, and infrastructure.

HOUSING AND COST OF LIVING: As Commissioner, I will again protect our low-tax environment (2nd lowest property tax rate in MD). To increase workforce housing, I support using non-taxpayer funds to boost the MPDU program, providing first-time QAC buyers up to \$50,000 in assistance. 2 developments currently have over 200+ new homes in the up-county pipeline with some for affordable housing. This action allows our younger residents and workforce to build equity and wealth in the community they serve without raising taxes.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY: We presently have a good bus transportation van system our rural landscape, connectivity means maintaining safe roads while expanding sensible transit options. I will continue to aggressively pursue federal and state grants for public transportation, though these funds have become increasingly competitive. My plan focuses on supporting on-demand shuttle services and "Park and Ride" improvements to better link our residential areas with schools and work.

Stephen Wilson

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL CHARACTER: The most effective mechanism to preserve what's left of our rural aspect would be to enact the necessary zoning, tax, and other regulatory steps to terminate major development (8houses or more) in QAC. A coming wave of traffic and congestion will accompany the upcoming Bay Bridge expansion. We urgently need to limit this. All constructive growth required will be accomplished without any required encouragement because of the positive economic/geographic circumstances of the County.

FISCAL PRIORITIES AND BUDGETING: 1)Audit current QAC 5-year capital plan projects,currently no understanding/analysis of realities,consequences. Now excess of \$100 million upcoming construction lacking analysis of cost/ benefit,priority.2)Release agreed-upon funding expansion EMS staffing Grasonville/Kent Island area settled in last budget, not now released. Proceed immediately. 3) See Commissioners adhere to common sense priorities of spending:specifically health and public safety prioritized before less urgent desires.

ENVIRONMENT, LAND USE & INFRASTRUCTURE: See my section #1 response. There are many subsidiary remedies, but closing down major development, the ability of developers to buy a farm and throw 300 houses on it (with 600 cars) is the most immediate and critical element.

HOUSING AND COST OF LIVING: Utilize available grants to purchase rental property and subsidize additional affordable housing for qualified applicants. Monitor programs through current Aging and Housing Authority programs now in place and operational. As current Chairman of Queen Anne's County Housing Authority, I believe we can actualize this with financial support from County Commissioners.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY: Queen Anne's County currently has in place good operational transport system called County Ride. Evaluate for expansion, analyze current bus transport into Annapolis/Washington/commercial areas for expansion and efficiency. Require School Board to evaluate if school transport system is maximum efficiency with collection points, times and reduced traffic obstruction

Commissioner District 3

ABOUT THE OFFICE: There are five County Commissioners, four of whom are elected at large, with one residing in each of the four County Commissioner Districts of the county. The fifth, also elected at large, holds the position of President of the County Commissioners for the first year of his or her term and may reside in any area of the county. Following the first year of their term the County Commissioners annually, by majority vote, select one Commissioner to serve as President of the County Commissioners.

TERM: Four years, with no term limits

SALARY: \$25,000

How Elected: Select one candidate from at-large and each district, for a total of 5.

Questions

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL CHARACTER: Where should growth be encouraged in Queen Anne's County, and where should it be limited? What guardrails would you insist on in zoning and development approvals to protect rural character?

FISCAL PRIORITIES AND BUDGETING: What are your top three fiscal priorities for the county in 2026? Please list them in order.

ENVIRONMENT, LAND USE & INFRASTRUCTURE: What specific policies would you support to improve Chesapeake Bay waterway health, preserve agricultural land, and manage roads and traffic congestion as Queen Anne's County grows?

HOUSING AND COST OF LIVING: What is your plan to increase workforce housing in the county? Please name at least one concrete action you would take.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY: What is your plan to better connect where people live, where children go to school, and where people work? Include how you would improve or support reliable public transportation.

Democratic Candidates

No Democratic candidates filed for this race

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

Robert Buckey

Campaign Website: www.electrobertbuckey.com

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL CHARACTER: Look, Economic Development we need in areas like Centerville, Barkley, and Sudlersville who already have roads, water & Sewer- where it won't add to the traffic. I will vote to put a freeze on new building permits on Kent Island. I will work with the state to find a real solution to the traffic problems.

FISCAL PRIORITIES AND BUDGETING: Public Safety Infrastructure, funding Police, Fire, and Emergency services. Fiscal responsibilities I will vote not to accept the States Property Assessment Tax. I will vote to give seniors a tax break, who do not have children in the schools. I will vote to extend the Veterans Property Tax credit. I will work for a balanced budget, and to pay down the County debt. I will vote to reduce the Piggyback Tax.

ENVIRONMENT, LAND USE & INFRASTRUCTURE: I'd push three big policies to tackle environment, land use, and infrastructure—because Queen Anne's is growing fast. Chesapeake Bay health: More money for the Bay Restoration Fund. I'd back living shorelines everywhere—plant native grasses, build more oyster reefs, and more oyster seedlings. Preserving ag. Land. Roads and Traffic: I will work with the state to get more money for road improvements and I will also work with the state on finding real traffic solutions.

HOUSING AND COST OF LIVING: My plan is to boost workforce housing. Use county-

owned land—build the basics like roads, water, and septic. Tiny homes—600 hundred to 800 hundred square feet. Sell them to Queen Anne's residents: nurses, firefighters, police and EMS only. They can only re-sell to another qualifying worker. Keeps prices low, keeps our citizens here.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY: Firstly, I would like to make sure that our Transportation Department is the number one in the State. I will work with the State to get grants to better improve our bike trails to our Schools and Neighborhoods. I would look into better ways for people to get around Kent Island, I would work to partner with the State to build this walking bridge across Route 50.

Barry Donadio

Campaign Website: www.barrydonadio.com

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL CHARACTER: I support smart growth in Queen Anne's County in locations that are not already burdened by heavy traffic. Development on Kent Island should be limited; any further expansion would only worsen the traffic crisis. My top priority is ensuring that any proposed development enhances the quality of life for our citizens. Additionally, I am committed to preserving strong agricultural zoning protections and safeguarding farmland.

FISCAL PRIORITIES AND BUDGETING: My priority is to protect residents from unnecessary tax increases by maintaining strict fiscal discipline. My second priority is to invest in infrastructure and traffic solutions. Rapid development has placed serious strain on roads, intersections, and public infrastructure. I will prioritize budgeting for upgrades so existing residents are not forced to bear the cost of growth. My third priority is to ensure adequate funding for our law enforcement, EMS, and fire services.

ENVIRONMENT, LAND USE & INFRASTRUCTURE: Protecting the environment while managing growth is essential for our county. I support strong stormwater controls and preserving agricultural land through effective zoning. As the county continues to grow through responsible development, infrastructure must come first. Our roads, schools, and emergency services must be able to support new growth, and developers should contribute to the improvements needed to sustain it.

HOUSING AND COST OF LIVING: In Queen Anne's County, workforce housing should be built where infrastructure and services already exist, provided it does not add to the traffic crisis. We need to focus on designated growth areas that are not traffic choke points and can support development. One concrete action that I would support is updating zoning rules to allow smaller homes and workforce housing in areas with the necessary infrastructure, while protecting rural Kent Island and agricultural land from overdevelopment.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY: I will support expanding the county's transit services, including routes that better connect communities with schools, medical services, and employment centers. I will prioritize road improvements and safer intersections. I will support planning that focuses on easing traffic congestion and improving daily commutes. I will prioritize keeping our roads open and clear so residents can travel with as little interruption as possible.

Phil L. Dumenil

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL CHARACTER: Moving forward into the future Queen Anne's County should look to encourage growth in and around our municipalities and town centers. The focus should be in the northern part of the county. We have a comprehensive plan that will dictate future growth and the best place for it.

FISCAL PRIORITIES AND BUDGETING: Maintain our AAA bond rating. Ensure fiscal responsible educational spending. Maintain the high-level of public safety in our county.

ENVIRONMENT, LAND USE & INFRASTRUCTURE: Queen Anne's County already exists as one of the leaders in land preservation here in Maryland. The summer ramp closure programs seem to be helping with traffic congestion, but there is room for improvement as we work to condition drivers to stay on Rt 50.

HOUSING AND COST OF LIVING: I would like to see developers actually have 10% of the project size be committed to MPDU's rather than paying a fee in lieu.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY: I believe the trails in Queen Anne's County provide a great way to connect where people live, and with the future construction of the pedestrian crossover to connect the north and the south trails will also add to the connectivity for our folks. The county has a very dependable public transportation system in place and most of it free to our citizens, however we are heavily dependent on State level funding to ensure it continues at the current level of service.

Commissioner District 4

ABOUT THE OFFICE: There are five County Commissioners, four of whom are elected at large, with one residing in each of the four County Commissioner Districts of the county. The fifth, also elected at large, holds the position of President of the County Commissioners for the first year of his or her term and may reside in any area of the county. Following the first year of their term the County Commissioners annually, by majority vote, select one Commissioner to serve as President of the County Commissioners.

TERM: Four years, with no term limits

SALARY: \$25,000

How Elected: Select one candidate from at-large and each district, for a total of 5.

Questions

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL CHARACTER: Where should growth be encouraged in Queen Anne's County, and where should it be limited? What guardrails would you insist on in zoning and development approvals to protect rural character?

FISCAL PRIORITIES AND BUDGETING: What are your top three fiscal priorities for the county in 2026? Please list them in order.

ENVIRONMENT, LAND USE & INFRASTRUCTURE: What specific policies would you support to improve Chesapeake Bay waterway health, preserve agricultural land, and manage roads and traffic congestion as Queen Anne's County grows?

HOUSING AND COST OF LIVING: What is your plan to increase workforce housing in the county? Please name at least one concrete action you would take.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY: What is your plan to better connect where people live, where children go to school, and where people work? Include how you would improve or support reliable public transportation.

Democratic Candidates

No Democratic candidates filed for this race

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

Chris Corchiarino

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL CHARACTER: "Stop overdevelopment" is a bumper sticker, not a plan. State law requires growth to be directed to certain areas. Kent Island-Grasonville grows because it's the only unincorporated area in the county with a wastewater plant. Commissioners can manage growth — they cannot stop it. Candidates promising otherwise are uninformed or lying to you. Before you vote, watch the April 2025 development town hall at QAC-TV. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z-BzjJbodK4>

FISCAL PRIORITIES AND BUDGETING: Maryland faces a \$3 billion deficit. Annapolis' fix: shift costs to QA while cutting revenue sharing. Despite that, QA Commissioners earned a triple AAA bond rating, increased education funding, built parks and improved services — without raising taxes. Other counties couldn't. That's not luck. That's experience. Any candidate promising tax cuts without explaining how has never balanced a budget. Don't risk new taxes by hiring someone selling empty promises.

ENVIRONMENT, LAND USE & INFRASTRUCTURE: QA Commissioners have a record that leads. 90K acres of farmland preserved—#1 in Md. Bay nitrogen discharge cut by 22,000 lbs/year. Rts 50, 301, 18, and the Bay Bridge are State roads—not Commissioner controlled. Over 25M cars cross the Bay Bridge yearly and Rt 301 traffic is up 30% since 2019 from out-of-county traffic. In March Rt 8 to Grasonville is a 15 minute drive--July, an hour. That's beach traffic, not locals. Candidates promising to "fix traffic" won't tell you how—because they can't.

HOUSING AND COST OF LIVING: Affordability isn't just a housing problem — it's an everything problem—low wages, high electric, and debt until the math breaks. No housing program fixes that. At the county level: housing supply is constrained (because less development), but demand is high. So prices rise. The options: build more to lower prices, subsidize development (most do not want either option) or build in towns where infrastructure exists. Town boundaries are governed by Town Councils, not Commissioners.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY: In rural America, a car isn't a policy choice — it's a fact of life. To reduce the driving burden, the Commissioners have improved access to local jobs, shopping, and health care — including funding for a new hospital. For kids, bike and pedestrian trails have been extended, with a proposed Rt 50 crossing linking the Cross Island and South Island Trails to bike to school, library and rec center. For seniors, Commissioners made County Ride free since 2023.

State's Attorney

ABOUT THE OFFICE: He or she is the chief law enforcement officer for the county and prosecutes all jailable motor vehicle cases, in addition to criminal, juvenile and certain civil zoning and animal control violations that occur with Queen Anne's County. The State's Attorney must be a member of the Maryland Bar.

TERM: Four years with no term limits

SALARY: \$161,333.

Questions

QUALIFICATIONS: What professional background and specific experience prepare you to serve as State's Attorney, and how would you apply that experience in this role?

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM: What is your plan to expand restorative justice practices and alternatives to traditional prosecution in Queen Anne's County?

PRETRIAL JUSTICE AND BAIL: What is your position on bail reform and pretrial detention, and why?

PUBLIC SAFETY: What is your top priority for improving public safety in Queen Anne's County, and what specific actions would you take?

CIVIL LIBERTIES AND RULE OF LAW: What steps would you take to ensure law enforcement partners uphold constitutional rights and due process for all persons?

Democratic Candidates

No Democratic candidates filed for this race

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

Lance G. Richardson

QUALIFICATIONS: I have over thirty years of experience in the field of criminal law. I have served as the State's Attorney for Queen Anne's County since January, 2009. Before that I was a Deputy State's Attorney for six years. Previous to serving the State's Attorney's Office I was an assistant public defender for seven years. This previous experience has allowed me to prosecute the most serious crimes.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM: My office utilizes several diversion programs for non-violent offenders to allow these individuals to avoid a criminal record. These programs

educate and enlighten offenders and the programs offer a second chance to avoid the stigma of a criminal record which typically creates collateral negative consequences for employment, housing and even motor vehicle privileges.

PRETRIAL JUSTICE AND BAIL: Queen Anne's County has a robust Pre-Trial Release Program which is administered by the Queen Anne's County Detention Center. This program allows most offenders to be released pending trial. Typically the only offenders who are not released are those with excessive numbers of prior failures to appear for trial, or offenders who are alleged to have committed the most violent crimes.

PUBLIC SAFETY: My office believes gun violence is the top priority for public safety. Recently there was a homicide involving the death of a local young man which was the result of young men exchanging gunfire. My Office believes that we have to hold violent offenders accountable and to make it a priority to take guns out of offenders' hands to remove these handguns from our community.

CIVIL LIBERTIES AND RULE OF LAW: All of our law enforcement officers now wear and utilize body cameras as part of their daily equipment. Myself and my team of prosecutors review the law enforcement officers' video footage daily to ensure that civil liberties and constitutional rights of our citizens are being protected. I have placed certain officers on do not call list for integrity issues in the past and I will continue this

Clerk of the Circuit Court

ABOUT THE OFFICE: The Clerk of the Circuit Court is a state official who is locally elected. The responsibility of the Clerk is to manage the many different administrative duties for the Circuit Court which includes recording land transactions and the processing of court records in the electronic case management system. The Clerk's office processes all civil, family, criminal, and juvenile actions and collects all court fees. The office records land deeds, mortgages, plats, conveyances, and other land record documents and liens. Recording includes reviewing and processing land documents electronically and collecting recordation and transfer taxes. A percentage of all the financial collections are disbursed to the county, incorporated towns, and other state agencies pursuant to law. The Clerk administers oaths to Judges, elected officials and Governor appointees and issues marriage and business licenses and performs civil wedding ceremonies. The office issues notary public commissions, and processes passport applications. Other responsibilities include managing the Clerk's office budget as set by the State Administrative Office of the Court and all financial transactions are subject to audit by the State Legislative Audit division.

TERM: Four years with no term limits

SALARY: \$140,600 per year for the upcoming four-year term

Questions

QUALIFICATIONS: What qualifications and professional experience prepare you to serve as Clerk of the Circuit Court?

CHALLENGES: What is the biggest challenge you would face in performing the duties of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, and how would you address it?

TECHNOLOGY, CUSTOMER SERVICE AND PUBLIC ACCESS: What specific steps, including use of new technology, would you take to improve efficiency and ensure timely public access to records and services?

CUSTOMER SERVICE AND PUBLIC ACCESS: What specific steps would you take to improve the quality and timeliness of customer service to the public?

Democratic Candidates

No Democratic candidates filed for this race

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

Katherine Beane Hager

QUALIFICATIONS: I have served as the Clerk of the Circuit Court since 2018 and bring more than 30 years of experience working in the Clerk's office. For over 25 years, I have held management responsibilities, overseeing all operations of the Clerk's office and leading staff in multiple divisions. My experience includes direct work in every department - land records, licensing, civil, criminal and juvenile. I am a certified court executive and manager through the National Center for State Courts.

CHALLENGES: One of the biggest challenges facing the Clerk of the Circuit Court is providing electronic public access of the court and land records and ensuring that access is not compromised or used in fraudulent ways. Transparency and public access is essential, however there must be a balance of protecting sensitive information while maintaining the integrity of the people's records. I will continue to work closely with the state's information technology to implement safeguards against fraud.

TECHNOLOGY, CUSTOMER SERVICE AND PUBLIC ACCESS: I am a leader in the use of technology having served on many committees focused on improving the services the Clerk's office provides to both the public and legal community. AI is the latest technology facing the Judiciary today and I have been directly involved in understanding it's potential uses with today's court and land records. My focus is to use technology that will align with the Judiciary's strategic initiatives to enhance court accessibility and approve court operations.

CUSTOMER SERVICE AND PUBLIC ACCESS: I will continue to promote public trust and confidence with everyone who interacts with the Clerk's office by ensuring courteous, professional, and efficient services. I am always looking for ways to improve how we serve, whether through in person assistance or online through information provided on the Clerk's webpage, or other social media platforms. Providing clear information through pamphlets, public forums, and community outreach is also a way we improve our services to the public.

Register of Wills

ABOUT THE OFFICE: The Register of Wills keeps records of wills and estates, collects inheritance taxes, and acts as clerk to the Orphans' Court. The Register of Wills is authorized to oversee the administration of decedents' estates and to provide assistance to people administering estates. The State of Maryland pays the operating costs of this office.

TERM: Four years with no term limits

SALARY: \$134,899 per year for the upcoming four-year term

Questions

QUALIFICATIONS: What experience and qualifications prepare you to serve as Register of Wills?

CUSTOMER SERVICE AND PUBLIC ACCESS: How will you ensure respectful, helpful, and timely customer service for people navigating wills and probate?

TECHNOLOGY: How would you use technology to improve efficiency and provide timely, secure access to wills and probate records?

PUBLIC EDUCATION: What initiatives would you implement to educate the public and ensure people have clear information and access to assistance?

Democratic Candidates

No Democratic candidates filed for this race

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

Laura Nan Cook

QUALIFICATIONS: In my 27 years in the office, I've held many positions and have served as your Register of Wills for the last 12 years. In that time, I've gained extensive institutional knowledge of Maryland probate policies and procedures. My office is known as a trusted resource for the public and for attorneys who call with procedural questions related to administering estates in Maryland. We are service-oriented and take pride in the skills that allow us to quickly identify the needs of the public we serve.

CUSTOMER SERVICE AND PUBLIC ACCESS: The Office of the Register of Wills is a state agency and despite the telework trend of many state agencies since the pandemic, the Q.A. Co. office remains fully staffed and ready to help. My role and that of my staff is to serve the public. We go above and beyond to ensure that the immediate needs of a family member are met after the death of a loved one. We stay open through lunch and when someone calls with questions during work hours, they speak to me or a member of my staff, not a machine.

TECHNOLOGY: Each county in Maryland has a dedicated page on the Registers' statewide website @ www.registers.maryland.gov. The site offers a plethora of state agency information as well as resources unique to that county. A most valuable feature

is a user-friendly database of Maryland estates that updates daily and gives the user the option to order estate documents through an on-line payment portal. Once paid for, all accessible records, including wills, are immediately emailed to the user in a PDF format. **PUBLIC EDUCATION:** Handouts that focus on probate policies and procedures are readily available in the office. Additional materials that direct the public to services and resources beyond our jurisdiction are also available. The Register of Wills Association meets regularly to share news of newly launched programs and resources designed to enhance public access to estate planning and estate administration opportunities, including pro bono legal services offered to qualifying members of the community.

Judge of the Orphans' Court

DUTIES: Judges of the Orphans' Court supervise the administration of estates. The Orphan's Court shares jurisdiction with the Circuit Court over guardianships of minors. Orphan's Court Judges conduct hearings that involve probate and guardianship disputes, review and act upon administration accounts, and request payments from estates or guardianships.

TERM: Four years with no term limits.

HOW ELECTED: Elected countywide.

Questions

EXPERIENCE: How does your experience prepare you for the duties of this judgeship?

PRIORITIES: What are your priorities for this judgeship?

CHALLENGES: What is the greatest challenge facing the Orphans' Court system and how will you address it?

Democratic Candidates

Democrats may vote for no more than 3.

Don McKeough

EXPERIENCE: No response received by deadline.

PRIORITIES: No response received by deadline.

CHALLENGES: No response received by deadline.

Barry A. Schwartz

EXPERIENCE: I am an attorney who worked in the eDiscovery area which required an incredible focus on detail. This lends well in working with intricacies of estates to be certain the will of the decedent is properly administered. I am currently president of my community HOA. This position evidences my abilities to work towards consensus that are necessary in working with the other two judges on the Orphans' Court bench.

PRIORITIES: My number one priority is to fulfill the obligations of the court to the best of

my ability. My second priority will be to, as necessary, to educate those who come before the court in the workings of the court. Lastly, I will endeavor to participate in appropriate opportunities in QAC to educate people about the court.

CHALLENGES: The greatest challenge is people don't know what the Orphans' Court is and only learn about it when they are forced to find out due to a family death. Judges from the court can be invited to join community forums to discuss the court's functions and the expectations of those who come in contact with the court.

Jeff H. Starling

EXPERIENCE: I hold a Master of Public Administration and have firsthand experience closing out estates, giving me a practical understanding of the probate process. For the past 10 years in the mortgage industry, I have helped families navigate complex financial matters, often involving properties in probate. This experience has prepared me to approach the duties of the Orphans' Court with fairness, diligence, and compassion.

PRIORITIES: My priorities as a Judge of the Orphans' Court are to ensure the probate process is fair, efficient, and accessible to families during difficult times. I am committed to careful review of estate matters, protecting the interests of beneficiaries, and maintaining transparency and integrity in the administration of estates.

CHALLENGES: One of the biggest challenges facing the Orphans' Court is that many families don't understand the probate process while also dealing with the loss of a loved one. Having experienced that loss myself when my son passed away as well as other loved ones, I understand how difficult that time can be. As a judge, I will focus on fairness, careful review of estate matters, and making sure families feel the court is accessible and working for them.

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for no more than 3.

Kimberly Jean Cascia

EXPERIENCE: I have had the privilege & honor to serve the citizens of QAC as Judge since 2010. My goal has been for equal, fair & proper administration of the law. I'll continue to draw on my experience as a small business owner, farmer, wife, mother of two & guardian of my special needs daughter, and my 20+ years as a financial consultant in estate, trust & financial planning to apply common sense & compassion to the cases before me. I humbly ask for your consideration & vote.

PRIORITIES: Caring, practical & respectful of the law: That is my commitment to the citizens of QAC. I promise, if re-elected to continue to be a good listener, carefully examine all the evidence & review the facts before making my final decisions based on the law. I will remain fair & impartial, uphold the integrity & independence of the judiciary & refrain from political activity. I have served as a Board Member of MAJOC & the Conference since 2011, elected by my peers & appointed by the MD Chief Justice.

CHALLENGES: Often the testimony heard in our court is heart wrenching from families dealing with loss & grief. I feel am uniquely qualified to continue serving as your Judge, having 16 years' experience resolving disputes fairly, & having the expertise that is

required & necessary to see that the decedent's wishes are met, while administering Maryland law. I have 16 years of training at the Maryland Judicial Institute & I never miss a day in court. With your vote, I would be honored to serve another term.

John T. McQueeney, Jr.

EXPERIENCE: County Commissioner for 4 years-- Liquor Board 15 years to present-- Animal Control Board 16 years. Bailiff for Circuit Court 15 years. Making decisions for QAC citizens since 1994. 2 Sons both lawyers (Chris Marine Jag and Joey practice on KI)

PRIORITIES: Helping citizens during rough time with legal matters.

CHALLENGES: Being available for the citizens . Attendance hasn't been great. I haven't missed a meeting on the Liquor board in 15 years and attended over 300 Commissioner meetings without missing any. I will be there for our citizens.

Laurie J. Plemons

EXPERIENCE: As a Professional Genealogist, I have spent years researching wills and probate records in Queen Anne's County, developing a deep familiarity with the documents and family histories that shape estate matters. Through this work, I have also assisted family members and friends in preparing their own wills and in clearly communicating their wishes to loved ones, reinforcing my commitment to thoughtful planning and responsible stewardship of family legacies.

PRIORITIES: To protect the assets of decedent's estates and ensure proper distribution to beneficiaries, beneficiaries, and heirs; Ensuring adherence to state laws regarding the administration of estates.

CHALLENGES: Managing emotionally charged probate litigation and resolving complex estate disputes.

Roger Twigg

EXPERIENCE: Being an Orphans' Court Judge takes more than legal knowledge; it requires patience and genuine empathy for families navigating difficult times. My service as a QAC District Court Commissioner and my 30+ years in business management have given me the unique blend of administrative experience and compassion needed for the role of Orphans' Court Judge. I have built a career based on being fair-minded while helping others resolve their conflicts and work through tough negotiations.

PRIORITIES: My priorities for this judgeship are to remain fair and unbiased for each case while upholding the law and honoring the deceased person's wishes. This requires me to interpret and apply the law with compassion and integrity while maintaining the independence and political neutrality of the court. This also requires me to provide education about the law to those involved in a case so that they understand the probate process and its outcomes.

CHALLENGES: Fear of the unknown. Many people do not understand the probate process and its potential costs and inconveniences. I will provide basic education to help them understand and navigate the probate process, making the court feel less

impersonal and intimidating. By making it easier to understand complex laws, I can help people to protect the assets their loved ones worked hard for. I will treat people with compassion, respect, empathy, and sensitivity, remembering that my decisions affect lives.

Sheriff

ABOUT THE OFFICE: The Sheriff's Office is a full-service police agency consisting of deputies who are certified by the Maryland Police Training Commission. The deputies perform various patrol functions, criminal investigations, and community policing assignments. The Sheriff's Office also is responsible for security of the Circuit Court and for serving several thousand court documents annually.

TERM: Four years with no term limits

SALARY: \$161,333

Questions

QUALIFICATIONS: What experience best prepares you to serve as Sheriff?

CHALLENGES: What is the biggest challenge you expect to face as Sheriff, and how would you address it?

COMMUNITY TRUST AND ENGAGEMENT: What steps would you take to ensure your office maintains a positive, proactive relationship with the community?

PUBLIC SAFETY PRIORITIES: What are your top three priorities for improving and maintaining public safety, and why?

TRANSPARENCY: How will your office provide transparency in determining whether to arrest people suspected of criminal activity?

Democratic Candidates

No Democratic candidates filed for this race

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

Gary Hofmann

Campaign Website: www.yoursheriffonline.com

QUALIFICATIONS: As a dedicated community member, father of two little girls being experienced law enforcement executive, demonstrating my proven track record in reducing crime, keeping safe schools, continued fiscal responsibility and fostering community policing initiatives prepares me well for the continued role of Sheriff. I am committed to maintaining fairness in serving our diverse community.

CHALLENGES: The biggest challenge as Sheriff is overcoming national perceptions that deter new deputies from joining. Our unique and diverse community, paired with isolated national incidents and law enforcement reform, can make recruitment tough. By

emphasizing retention initiatives and showcasing our supportive community, we can highlight our positive work environment commitment to being very different.

COMMUNITY TRUST AND ENGAGEMENT: To maintain a positive relationship with the community, our staff will continue to attend meetings and events, reinforcing we are part of this community. We prioritize transparency in investigations and ensure equal protection for all, especially vulnerable groups like children and seniors. Our zero-tolerance approach to crime will emphasize fairness, equality and safety for everyone we serve,

PUBLIC SAFETY PRIORITIES: My top three priorities for improving public safety are: 1) Addressing high-crime areas to reduce criminal activity; 2) Seeking grant funding to minimize taxpayer burden while deploying cutting-edge technology and educational programs for vulnerable populations; 3) Protecting schools, churches, and public spaces from potential threats. These initiatives will help ensure our community safety.

TRANSPARENCY: To ensure transparency in arrest decisions, we have enhanced body-worn camera technology and established a process for citizens to voice concerns and seek mediation. While maintaining a zero-tolerance stance on crime, we will treat each individual fairly and equally. Our staff has received training to differentiate between mental health issues and criminal behavior fostering compassion w community

Democratic Central Committee

DUTIES: The Democratic Central Committee is responsible for leading and organizing the day-to-day operations of the local Democratic Party. The Committee recommends candidates to the Governor to fill vacancies in state and local offices when a member of the party resigns or dies in office. County Central Committees work with the State Central Committee, which in turn works with the national party.

TERM: Four years, no term limit.

SALARY: None.

HOW ELECTED: Democratic Central Committee members are elected countywide by registered party members. Voters may vote for the candidates of their choice. The winners will be determined by the greatest number of votes, while taking into consideration that those elected will be as equally divided by gender as possible.

WEBSITE: [Maryland Democratic Party](#)

Candidates

Members of this party may vote for no more than 10.
No more than half of the members can be elected from the same gender.

Frank William Alduino (Male)

SPECIAL ELECTIONS: One of the most important responsibilities of the Democratic Central Committee in Maryland is to fill vacancies in the General Assembly. This can be a difficult and arduous process. Accordingly, we must trust the collective wisdom and experience of the members of the Queen Anne's County DCC. In my opinion, it would be unnecessary for the State of Maryland to hold a special election to fill a vacancy in either the House of Delegates or the State Senate.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY VACANCIES: Perhaps the most important criteria that should be used in the selection of any public official is his/her integrity. Is this person honest? Is he or she committed to the principles of democracy? Another criteria that should be considered is his/her knowledge of state government. Will this person be able to represent his/her constituents immediately upon taking the oath of office. Finally, does he/she know the issues and policies that directly affect the district.

MOTIVATION: As a college professor for 40 years, I have always encouraged my students to have their voices heard and be involved in their communities. As a lifelong Democrat, I am still inspired by the courage of FDR, John Lewis, and many others who fought for the principles enshrined in our Constitution. As a member of the QAC DCC, I will work hard to ensure that those who cherish democracy are elected to public office in our county.

VACANCY SELECTIONS: By working in a collaborative and collegial manner, my colleagues and I on the Queen Anne's County DCC will do our best to send an individual to Annapolis who works hard to represent the needs of our district.

Deborah A. Collins-Krueger (Female)

SPECIAL ELECTIONS: No response received by deadline.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY VACANCIES: No response received by deadline.

MOTIVATION: No response received by deadline.

VACANCY SELECTIONS: No response received by deadline.

Christina Hynson Esters (Female)

SPECIAL ELECTIONS: No. Special elections are costly, produce low turnout, and leave districts unrepresented for months. Central Committee appointments are faster, more cost-effective, and keep qualified Democrats in office without delay. The key is ensuring the appointment process is transparent, structured, and genuinely community-informed — that's the accountability special elections are meant to provide.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY VACANCIES: I'll prioritize community rootedness, alignment with district values, capacity to serve, and electability. The appointee must reflect QAC's full demographic reality — especially underrepresented communities — demonstrate integrity, and commit to constituent engagement year-round, not just during sessions. The best appointment strengthens the district heading into the next election.

MOTIVATION: The Good Trouble Circle — which I founded in January 2025 with a committed core team — exists to empower underrepresented QAC residents through voter engagement, candidate education, and grassroots organizing. Joining the Central Committee is the natural next step: bringing that same community-first approach directly into the party structure where decisions get made.

VACANCY SELECTIONS: By using a structured, transparent process — public announcements, written applications, consistent interview questions, and scored evaluations. I'll seek community input before voting and communicate decisions with clear reasoning. Appointments should reflect the district's diversity and produce someone who can win the next election and serve constituents effectively.

Joshua Cardell Freeman (Male)

SPECIAL ELECTIONS: I support special elections to fill General Assembly vacancies because political representation should always be decided by the majority of constituents, not a small group of individuals. Special elections give voters the opportunity to select the person they feel will best represent their values, interests, and community.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY VACANCIES: To ensure that a vacancy is filled by the best candidate, I will use criteria based on the individual's policy priorities and their background in the community they seek to represent. I will prioritize candidates who have a deep understanding of the issues, strong commitment to representing everyone regardless of race, gender, or economic status, and emphasizes partnership with local organizations and institutions to move communities forward.

MOTIVATION: I'm running to serve on the QACDCC because I believe in building the Democratic Party from the ground up, expanding infrastructure to support down-ballot candidates, and engaging with diverse communities to ensure everyone has a seat at the table. Central Committees provide opportunity for anyone to be a leader in their community, and I believe it is the best way to grow civic participation and expand voter knowledge and registration.

VACANCY SELECTIONS: If elected to the QACDCC, I will ensure that decisions are made based on the full collaboration of all members of the committee, as well as engagement with local leaders and advocates. Filling vacancies must be a strategic decision that prioritizes community well-being, and we must choose candidates that reflect our core values and show a strong commitment to addressing the critical issues of every day residents.

Peter Hobby (Male)

SPECIAL ELECTIONS: Yes, I do support the Central Committee's role in filling vacancies. This provides important support for continued constituent representation in the political process.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY VACANCIES: A willingness to serve as a representative of the entire community. A commitment to honest, open dialogue to reach across the community and develop practical solutions to real-world issues. Flexibility to hear and respond to emerging constituent needs.

MOTIVATION: I value fair and open democratic processes to best serve local community needs. I think political diversity and reasoned discourse are fundamental to effective governance to achieve lasting results.

VACANCY SELECTIONS: I believe in centering community needs before reaching any decisions on a candidate. A transparent review of qualifications, platforms, and

actionable plans is also key to making informed decisions.

Sonseeahray S. Kelly (Female)

SPECIAL ELECTIONS: No response received by deadline.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY VACANCIES: No response received by deadline.

MOTIVATION: No response received by deadline.

VACANCY SELECTIONS: No response received by deadline.

Lynn Mason (Female)

SPECIAL ELECTIONS: No response received by deadline.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY VACANCIES: No response received by deadline.

MOTIVATION: No response received by deadline.

VACANCY SELECTIONS: No response received by deadline.

Michael Morgan (Male)

SPECIAL ELECTIONS: I believe the selection of vacancy appointments are a vital role for Central Committee members, and in fact this process is written into Maryland's constitution. I don't support special elections in vacancy circumstances because our current process saves the time and money of holding an additional (and often low-turnout) election, it preserves the party representation of that vacant seat, and the Central Committee members have already been elected with the fulfillment of this role in mind.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY VACANCIES: Our Democratic Central Committee bylaws outline a process that is designed to uphold transparency and fairness in selecting a candidate to fill a vacancy. This process includes public notices, public meetings, and a public committee vote by roll call after the committee has allowed qualified candidates to be heard and interviewed.

MOTIVATION: I believe a healthy democracy requires citizens to take an active role in government at any level in which they are able to serve. I also believe that Democrats living in Queen Anne's County and on the Eastern Shore deserve representation in their local governments, and I see this role as a vehicle in which I can help to make that happen.

VACANCY SELECTIONS: Transparency and communication with the electorate are absolutely key to serving as responsible stewards in the filling of vacant positions. By holding public meetings with adequate notice where candidates can be heard prior to holding a public committee roll call vote, we help ensure that the committee's appointments are transparent but also that appointees demonstrate the knowledge, experience, and commitment to fulfill their duties to the community effectively from day one.

Barry A. Schwartz (Male)

SPECIAL ELECTIONS: No response received by deadline.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY VACANCIES: No response received by deadline.

MOTIVATION: No response received by deadline.

VACANCY SELECTIONS: No response received by deadline.

Crystal Woodward (Female)

SPECIAL ELECTIONS: Yes, I support special elections to fill General Assembly vacancies to ensure maximum voter participation and input, and to align with and operationalize the democratic process.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY VACANCIES: Criteria should include outstanding character and extraordinary sense and the visible practice of common decency and ability to offer empathy. An understanding of local and state issues and demonstrated leadership ability and skills are also essential requirements. Public input should also be considered.

MOTIVATION: I have been actively engaged with the Queen Anne's Democratic Party for well over a decade and want to continue to have an effective mechanism for contributing my ideas and passion to the Democratic Party and continuing the strong momentum we've gained over the years to increase the number of Democratic voters.

VACANCY SELECTIONS: While I prefer special elections for public office vacancies, we can ensure vacancy appointment decisions serve the community's best interest by developing criteria that includes requirements that candidates demonstrate outstanding character, possess a sense of common decency and fairness, and have the ability to offer empathy. An understanding of local and state issues and demonstrated leadership ability and skills are essential requirements. Public input should be considered.

Republican Central Committee

DUTIES: The Republican Central Committee is responsible for leading and organizing the day-to-day operations of the local Republican Party. The Committee recommends candidates to the Governor to fill vacancies in state and local offices when a member of the party resigns or dies in office. County Central Committees work with the State Central Committee, which in turn works with the national party.

TERM: Four years, no term limit.

SALARY: None.

HOW ELECTED: Republican Central Committee members are elected countywide by registered party members.

Candidates

Members of this party may vote for no more than 7.

Helen Bennett

SPECIAL ELECTIONS: I believe that special elections shouldn't be held in these situations. Historically, special elections draw fewer voters and may not be

representative of the broader population. There is less campaign time and less engagement.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY VACANCIES: When a position held by a Republican becomes vacant, the community that voted for that official should receive an appointee who aligns with their political beliefs.

MOTIVATION: I am going to quote our first Republican President! Abraham Lincoln said "Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith, let us, to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it".

VACANCY SELECTIONS: I mentioned political belief alignment. As the current Republican Central Committee Chairwoman - I can say we welcome community engagement input. I value servant leadership qualities.

David Coffelt

SPECIAL ELECTIONS: No response received by deadline.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY VACANCIES: No response received by deadline.

MOTIVATION: No response received by deadline.

VACANCY SELECTIONS: No response received by deadline.

Jennifer Fitzmaurice

SPECIAL ELECTIONS: No response received by deadline.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY VACANCIES: No response received by deadline.

MOTIVATION: No response received by deadline.

VACANCY SELECTIONS: No response received by deadline.

Sharon T. Nuzback

SPECIAL ELECTIONS: I support letting central committees from either party choose the replacement. This way, we get a quick experienced person who matches the party voters originally picked, without the extra cost and hassle of a special election.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY VACANCIES: Must be from the same political party and district. Vetting through applications, interviews. Community ties, electability, also ability to win future elections.

MOTIVATION: I want to serve on my central committee to meet my community and help with all volunteering efforts. I like recruiting strong candidates, filling vacancies fairly, and getting people involved to build a stronger community for all. I love Queen Anne's County.

VACANCY SELECTIONS: Pick candidates with strong district ties who understand local needs. Get input from residents and community leaders through online postings, interviews, and ensure fairness. Maintain honesty, integrity, and transparency.

Tracy Ann Smith

SPECIAL ELECTIONS: No response received by deadline.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY VACANCIES: No response received by deadline.

MOTIVATION: No response received by deadline.

VACANCY SELECTIONS: No response received by deadline.

Shawyn Watson

SPECIAL ELECTIONS: No response received by deadline.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY VACANCIES: No response received by deadline.

MOTIVATION: No response received by deadline.

VACANCY SELECTIONS: No response received by deadline.

James A. Williams, Jr.

SPECIAL ELECTIONS: No response received by deadline.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY VACANCIES: No response received by deadline.

MOTIVATION: No response received by deadline.

VACANCY SELECTIONS: No response received by deadline.

Board of Education At Large

ABOUT THE OFFICE: The board consists of five members (one representative from each of the four commissioner districts and one member at large). The board is responsible for determining the mission and vision for the school system and adopting goals to help achieve that vision. The board shall adopt policies consistent with these goals and shall regularly review such policies and the progress towards attainment of these goals. The board shall also advocate for adequate funding for the school system and shall direct the expenditure of resources to best fulfill the goals.

TERM: Four years with no term limits

SALARY: \$3500/year (Board president \$4,000)

Questions

MOTIVATION AND QUALIFICATIONS: Why are you seeking a seat on the Board of Education? What skills, experiences, and perspectives would you bring, and how would you use them to strengthen QACPS?

ROLE: What do you see as the role of parents, teachers and Board members in the educational system in our County? How will you ensure transparency and resolve disputes?

STAFFING AND RETENTION: QACPS has seen significant staffing reductions over the past two years. How would you prioritize recruiting, hiring, and retaining teachers, special educators, paraeducators, specialists, and tutors across all schools? What specific actions would you support?

CLASSROOM SUPPLIES AND TEACHER REIMBURSEMENT: Teachers often purchase classroom supplies with their own money. What is your position on reimbursing these expenses, and what reimbursement approach or limit do you believe is appropriate?

OTHER PRIORITIES: What other issues are priorities for you?

Candidates

Voters may vote for no more than 1.

Shelly Frank

MOTIVATION AND QUALIFICATIONS: No response received by deadline.

ROLE: No response received by deadline.

STAFFING AND RETENTION: No response received by deadline.

CLASSROOM SUPPLIES AND TEACHER REIMBURSEMENT: No response received by deadline.

OTHER PRIORITIES: No response received by deadline.

Linda Kohler

MOTIVATION AND QUALIFICATIONS: I am seeking a seat on the BOE because I believe QACPS need better fiscal management as it impacts hiring, class size, school support – things that have the most profound impact on student learning. I run a community foundation that operates with 4% overhead and has grown from \$35,000 in assets to \$11M during my tenure. I also serve on the QAC Spending Affordability Committee and review the County's and BOE's budgets before they are made public. I volunteered at every QACPS my son attended.

ROLE: Parents, teachers, and Board members need to be involved and engaged so the system works. Parents need to support their child's learning, ensure they complete homework, and show up to school with a positive attitude. Teachers need to give every student their best so every child can read, do math, know history, and develop their skills. Board members need to invest the time to understand the budget and make informed decisions. I will ask questions openly in meetings and make my positions known.

STAFFING AND RETENTION: Far too many staffing cuts have been made, which have had a direct impact on student learning and teacher retention. A well-run, supportive school system attracts quality candidates and encourages good teachers to stay. This was how QAC operated for many years and what we need to return to. I support lowering class size, adding special and para-educator positions that were eliminated, and ensuring employees at all levels are involved in decision-making. Rebuilding takes time, but is doable.

CLASSROOM SUPPLIES AND TEACHER REIMBURSEMENT: QAC teachers should not have to use their own money for classroom supplies as these items should be included in the BOE budget. When state and local funding are not an option, we need to be innovative and find other ways to provide teachers with the tools they know will help their students. One example is the Queen Anne's County Education Partnership, a fund of Chesapeake Charities. Since 2021, this fund has provided \$26,000 to local teachers for supplies that weren't in the BOE budget.

OTHER PRIORITIES: Reading and math test scores need to improve at almost every grade level. After school programming needs to return to previous levels that included academic remediation, enrichment, art, science, as well as sports and drama.

John C. Lasken

MOTIVATION AND QUALIFICATIONS: Motivation for seeking a seat on the Board of Education is to ensure students receive the best possible material and atmosphere for learning. Background includes BS in Aerospace Engineering and Masters in Divinity Certified GED Math teacher. Raised 3 daughters and supported them from K - 12 in public school. Participated in PTO including Treasurer. 2 terms on the Mount Laurel, NJ K-8 school board. Schools tend to migrate toward cultural relevance. I desire to emphasize basic fundamentals

ROLE: Parents have the primary responsibility to raise their children. This includes education. While part of this responsibility involves delegating teaching to professionally trained educators, this does not include abdicating authority. This remains in the role of the parent. The School Board must work to ensure that parents are provided with full transparent access to directions that the school system takes in defining educational objectives.

STAFFING AND RETENTION: The single most relevant factor for recruiting and retention is budget. This places a high level of responsibility on the School Board, working with Community, Administration and Teachers, to prioritize budget items for the fundamentals of education above ancillary objectives. A second factor is providing recognition and support to those who work in the school system. The School Board can be proactively involved in giving support and recognizing contributions.

CLASSROOM SUPPLIES AND TEACHER REIMBURSEMENT: This becomes part of the budget process. As I previously indicated, I support efforts to place budget funding priority toward achieving the fundamentals of education. This includes expenses that the teachers fund for classroom supplies. As a secondary tactic, PTO's can be involved in fund raising that provides support for classroom supply costs.

OTHER PRIORITIES: A driving factor for my participation in the QACPS School Board is to ensure that the focus on education, not on cultural indoctrination. Schools must be politically neutral.

Mark Wade, Jr.

MOTIVATION AND QUALIFICATIONS: As a proud QACPS graduate and a Veteran with a distinguished service record, I am deeply committed to our students' success. My life is defined by service; as a dedicated mentor and active volunteer in several local programs, I work daily to strengthen our community. I want to ensure my children and all QACPS students have every opportunity to excel. By leveraging my experience in leadership and community service, I will fight to make Queen Anne's County a premier place to learn and grow.

ROLE: Active parental involvement is the cornerstone of a transparent school system. As a father with children in two different buildings, I believe that transparency starts with being involved in the classroom. I believe parents have a right to be informed and involved in every situation affecting their child. By fostering an open-door culture, we ensure accountability and build the trust necessary for our students to succeed.

STAFFING AND RETENTION: My top priority is securing equitable funding for QACPS. Currently third from the bottom in state support, our district deserves better. I will

advocate aggressively at the state level to ensure we receive our fair share. By securing these resources first, we build the financial foundation necessary to improve teacher retention, stabilize our workforce, and cultivate a professional climate where both educators and students thrive. Funding is the fuel for our success.

CLASSROOM SUPPLIES AND TEACHER REIMBURSEMENT: As a parent, I offer supplies to my children's teachers to ease their burden. However, I believe certain essentials should be reimbursable. To further support our classrooms, we should partner with local charities to redirect excess supplies from school drives directly into the school system for distribution. By streamlining these resources, we ensure every student and teacher has what they need without the personal financial strain.

OTHER PRIORITIES: As a father of students, the son and brother of three teachers, and a product of our schools, I am deeply invested in our education system. My commitment to our community is rooted in the belief that when our children thrive, we all thrive. I am eager to leverage my unique perspective to make a direct, positive impact on our youth and their future. Together, we can build a stronger foundation for the next generation. I would be honored to serve and help our students reach their full potential.

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