

# League of Women Voters Nonpartisan Voters Guide Guide to General Election—November 3, 2009

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## Allegheny County Council District 1

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(Vote for One)

Term: 4 years

Stipend: \$9,000

**Duties:** Initiates and adopts ordinances, makes appropriations, adopts an annual balanced budget, adopts an administrative code, approves Executive appointments, conducts investigations of County Departments, accepts grants, gifts or donations on behalf of County, may modify or eliminate departments, agencies or functions that no longer serve citizens.

**Question:** What do you see as the long term effects of the G-20 meeting on the county, particularly with respect to the sustainable “Green” development that was a factor in bringing the G-20 here? What efforts are currently in progress?

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### Democratic

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**Thomas Michalow**, 38, Ross    email:info@tommichalow.com

Campaign Website:www.tommichalow.com

**Education:** Graduated from North Allegheny HS in 1989, Graduated from Virginia Military Institute in 1993 with distinction, Graduated from Duquesne University in 1998 with a Masters in Education and Teaching Certificates in Social Studies and German

**Occupation:** Teacher at Northgate High School for 12 years.

**Qualifications:** I have been involved in local government for 12 years. I was instrumental in creating the Joint Planning Commission of Avalon, Bellevue and Ben Avon and writing the zoning code for those three boroughs. I have also been a member of Avalon’s Borough Council since 2005 and served as Finance Chair. In that capacity I have been very successful in making tough decisions that have led to a budget for the borough that is balanced, sustainable, and provides services efficiently and effectively.

**Answer:** Allegheny County has long been a leader in green technologies, but much more needs to be done. As a resident of Avalon, I can see the coke works and the waste gas fire plume on Neville Island from my front porch and am very concerned about the effects of pollution on our communities. On Avalon Council I have worked hard to reduce pollution, especially around the sewer rehabilitation mandate. In addition to making sure that all revenues intended for the sewer rehabilitation were used for that purpose, rather than to supplement the general fund or for other projects, I was instrumental in bring in a sizable grant from Harrisburg that allowed Avalon to move far ahead of other municipalities on the project. My work on the Joint Planning Commission has also allowed Avalon, Bellevue and Ben Avon to take a stronger stance on encouraging sustainable development in our boroughs, and I hope to continue in the same vein on County Council.

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### Republican

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**Matt Drozd**,                      Ross Township    email:mdrozd@verizon.net

Campaign Website:www.mattdrozd.com

**Education:** B.S., and MBA Duquesne University

**Occupation:** Businessman

**Qualifications:** County Councilman-voted against all tax increases, member of School Board-started initiative that saved taxpayers millions and reduced taxes, military service at the Pentagon/State Dept in homeland defense-twice deployed overseas and over 25 years experience in cost control/reduction and finance.

**Answer:** We all want a “green” environment but rather than discuss benefits of the G-20 that may take forever to realize, we need to talk about the importance of reimbursing the taxpayers for its costs. The G-20 diverted funds that are desperately needed for repairing our roads, bridges and infrastructure. The taxpayers want and deserve lower taxes; instead they get a useless river tunnel and a Summit that may or may not yield quantifiable benefits.

### Allegheny County Council District 3

(Vote for One)

Term: 4 years

Stipend: \$9,000

**Duties:** Initiates and adopts ordinances, makes appropriations, adopts an annual balanced budget, adopts an administrative code, approves Executive appointments, conducts investigations of County Departments, accepts grants, gifts or donations on behalf of County, may modify or eliminate departments, agencies or functions that no longer serve citizens.

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#### Democratic

**James R Burn, Jr.**, 46, Millvale, District: 3 email:jrb@abesbaumann.com  
Campaign Website: www.jimburn.com

**Education:** B.A. Duquesne University 1985, JD University of Dayton School of Law 1988

**Occupation:** Attorney

**Qualifications:** Mayor, Millvale 1994-2005; Allegheny County Council 2006-Present; Chair, Allegheny County Democratic Committee, 2006-Present

**Answer:** The historic G-20 summit in Pittsburgh gave our leaders an opportunity to showcase this region to the world. This is a region which, through innovation and hard work, reinvented itself after the collapse of steel and has consistently been cited both nationally and internationally as an area worthy of business development and other investment. As a County Councilman, I have and shall continue to support sustainable Green Development for this region.

#### Republican

*No Candidate Filed*

### Allegheny County Council District 4

(Vote for One)

Term: 4 years

Stipend: \$9,000

**Duties:** Initiates and adopts ordinances, makes appropriations, adopts an annual balanced budget, adopts an administrative code, approves Executive appointments, conducts investigations of County Departments, accepts grants, gifts or donations on behalf of County, may modify or eliminate departments, agencies or functions that no longer serve citizens.

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#### Democratic

**Michael J Finnerty**, 64, Scott Township email:mjfinnerty@comcast.net

**Education:** B.S., Duquesne University, 1969; M.S. Duquesne University, 1972

**Occupation:** Retired educator, Member of Allegheny County Council

**Qualifications:** Being on Allegheny County Council for four years, I understand the issues of the county. Prior to being elected (2005), I served as president of Chartiers Valley Federation of Teachers, an educator for 30 years, a coach for 23 years, and in many organizations. I have been in many leadership positions and interact with people in a positive manner.

**Answer:** The G-20 meetings presented a positive impression to the world of the city and county. This will increase tourism, convention business, and economic development. 'Green' development was a big factor. By stating this it has increased the 'green' effort especially as an economic development factor. In October (2009) FLABEG (a maker of solar mirrors) will have its grand opening.

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## Republican

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**Dean Petrone**, 39, North Fayette Twp. email:dean@deanpetrone.com

Campaign Website:www.deanpetrone.com

**Education:** B.S., Electrical Engineering, University of Pittsburgh, 1996

**Occupation:** Business Owner

**Qualifications:** Extensive business background with a strong focus on creating and maintaining jobs in the area along with personally being active in various social and community development activities.

**Answer:** The G-20 meeting itself will not drive additional "Green" development in the area, that is something that needs to be done by building owners, business owners, and those involved in the construction of these types of projects and initiatives. The public relations benefit that we received with the world wide exposure is perhaps the most valuable part of the G-20 being held here. Unfortunately, the effects of this will be difficult to track.

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### Allegheny County Council District 8

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(Vote for One)

Term: 4 years

Stipend: \$9,000

**Duties:** Initiates and adopts ordinances, makes appropriations, adopts an annual balanced budget, adopts an administrative code, approves Executive appointments, conducts investigations of County Departments, accepts grants, gifts or donations on behalf of County, may modify or eliminate departments, agencies or functions that no longer serve citizens.

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## Democratic

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**Charles Martoni**, 73, Swissvale District: 13 email:cmartoni@ccac.edu

**Education:** A.A CCAC, A.J. CCAC, B.S. Calif. Univ. of PA., M.A. Calif. Univ. of PA., Med. Duquesne Univ., M.S.ed Duquesne Univ., PhD Univ. of Pgh.

**Occupation:**

**Qualifications:** School Director 1971-1975, Council Borough of Swissvale 14 years, Mayor Borough of Swissvale 10 years, Allegheny County Council 10 years

**Answer:** The long term effects of the G-20 meeting on Allegheny County provided us to show the world our transition from a steel center to a world class business, educational and research center.

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## Republican

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*No Candidate Filed*

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### Allegheny County Council District 9

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(Vote for One)

Term: 4 years

Stipend: \$9,000

**Duties:** Initiates and adopts ordinances, makes appropriations, adopts an annual balanced budget, adopts an administrative code, approves Executive appointments, conducts investigations of County Departments, accepts grants, gifts or donations on behalf of County, may modify or eliminate departments, agencies or functions that no longer serve citizens.

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## Democratic

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**Bob Macey**, 60, West Mifflin email:robertmacey@hotmail.com

Campaign Website:www.bobmacey.com

**Education:** A.S. Business Adm. CCAC 1998, Certified Marketing Executive, University of Missouri

**Occupation:** IT Specialist

**Qualifications:** 1 year West Mifflin Sanitary Sewer MunicipalAuth. 3.5 years, Allegheny County Airport Authority .

**Answer:** The long term effect on the County started with reports sent around the world Pittsburgh has become a national leader in “Green” buildings and a hub for clean energy businesses and a home to top environmental education programs attracting business interest to Pittsburgh.

Efforts on the County level started with the hiring of a “Sustainability Manager” that will work with County department Directors and the County’s Green Action Team to reduce the County’s ecological footprint.

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**Republican**

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*No Candidate Filed*

**Allegheny County Council District 12**

(Vote for One)

Term: 4 years

Stipend: \$9,000

**Duties:** Initiates and adopts ordinances, makes appropriations, adopts an annual balanced budget, adopts an administrative code, approves Executive appointments, conducts investigations of County Departments, accepts grants, gifts or donations on behalf of County, may modify or eliminate departments, agencies or functions that no longer serve citizens.

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**Democratic**

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**Jim Ellenbogen**, 53, Pittsburgh, District: 12 email:jamesellenbogen@verizon.net

*No Reply*

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**Republican**

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*No Candidate Filed*

**Allegheny County Council District 13**

(Vote for One)

Term: 2 years

Stipend: \$9,000

**Duties:** Initiates and adopts ordinances, makes appropriations, adopts an annual balanced budget, adopts an administrative code, approves Executive appointments, conducts investigations of County Departments, accepts grants, gifts or donations on behalf of County, may modify or eliminate departments, agencies or functions that no longer serve citizens.

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**Democratic**

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**Amanda Green**, 37, Pittsburgh, District: 13 email:greenforthirteen@hotmail.com

Campaign Website:www.greenforthirteen.com

*No Reply*

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**Republican**

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*No Candidate Filed*