



**BRADLEY COUNTY**

**PRIMARY PREVIEW**

April 14, 2022 | A Special Supplement to

*The Cleveland Daily Banner*

Your voice in local politics and decision-making matters. Make sure you have the background you need to make an informed choice in the upcoming election, and remember to



**VOTE**



# Primary Preview offers election info

## From STAFF REPORTS

The Cleveland Daily Banner is offering this special publication as an opportunity to learn more about the local candidates in the upcoming Bradley County Primary Election on Tuesday, May 3.

All candidates were invited and encouraged to participate in this publication. All biographical information included in this preview is paid content.

While all candidates did not choose to participate, the Banner has listed all individuals who filed their petitions and the seats they are seeking in the primary election, in ballot order (I indicates Incumbent):

- Mike Jenne (I) — Circuit Court judge, Part 1, 10th Judicial District
- Mike Sharp (I) — Circuit Court judge, Part 2, 10th Judicial District
- Andrew Freilberg (I) — Circuit Court judge, Part 3, 10th Judicial District
- Jerri Bryant (I) — Chancellor, 10th Judicial District
- Sandra Donaghy (I) — Criminal Court judge, 10th Judicial District
- Paul Rush — Criminal Court judge, 10th Judicial District
- Steve Crump (I) — District attorney, 10th Judicial District
- Stephen Hatchett — District attorney, 10th Judicial District
- Leon Shahan — Public defender, 10th Judicial District
- D. Gary Davis (I) — County mayor
- Johnny Mull — County mayor
- Daniel Beaty — County Commission, District 1, Seat A
- Dennis Epperson (I) — County Commission, District 1, Seat A
- Don Scoggins — County Commission, District 1, Seat A
- Mike Hughes (I) — County Commission District 1, Seat B
- Louie Alford (I) — County Commission, District 2, Seat A
- Marc Baker — County Commission, District 2, Seat A
- Chris Scoggins — County Commission, District 2, Seat A
- Tyler Blackwell — County Commission District 2, Seat B
- Tom Crye (I) — County Commission District 2, Seat B
- Zach Kilby — County Commission District 2, Seat B
- Milan Blake (I) — County Commission, District 3, Seat A

- Denny Collins — County Commission District 3, Seat B
- Randy Howard — County Commission District 3, Seat B
- Scott “Donut” Gilbert — County Commission, District 4, Seat A
- Charlotte Peak (I) — County Commission, District 4, Seat A
- Rich Kienlen — County Commission District 4, Seat B
- Daniel Lautaret — County Commission District 4, Seat B
- Howard Thompson (I) — County Commission District 4, Seat B
- Bobby Goins (I) — County Commission, District 5, Seat A
- Rachel Ivey Goins — County Commission, District 5, Seat A
- Cindy Slater (I) — County Commission District 5, Seat B
- Tim Mason (I) — County Commission, District 6, Seat A
- Erica Davis (I) — County Commission District 6, Seat B
- Tommy Ledford — County Commission District 6, Seat B
- Josh Rogers — County Commission, District 7, Seat A
- Bill Winters (I) — County Commission District 7, Seat B
- Mike Smith (I) — Trustee
- Andrew Morgan — General Sessions judge, Division 1
- Barrett Painter (I) — General Sessions judge, Division 1
- David Calfee — General Sessions judge, Division 2
- Clay Collins — General Sessions judge, Division 2
- Rebble Johnson — General Sessions judge, Division 2
- Steve Lawson (I) — Sheriff
- Gayla Miller (I) — Circuit Court clerk
- Donna Simpson (I) — County clerk
- Dina Swafford (I) — Register of deeds
- Tom Collins — Road superintendent
- Sandra Knight (I) — Road superintendent
- Vicky Beaty (I) — County school board, District 2
- Chuck Evans — County school board, District 4
- Bartlee Norton — County school board, District 4
- Josh Taylor — County school board, District 4
- Amanda Lee (I) — County school board, District 6

- Jeff Lovingood (I) — County school board, District 7
- Daren Brantley — Constable, District 1
- Garry D. Moore (I) — Constable, District 1
- Earl Pike — Constable, District 1
- Ricky Humphries — Constable, District 2
- Jimmy Kendrick Jr. — Constable, District 2
- Jasper McDonald — Constable, District 2
- Jason Corum (I) — Constable, District 3
- Dwayne Henry (I) — Constable, District 4
- Andrew Underwood — Constable, District 4
- Steve Anderson (I) — Constable, District 5
- Tim Colbaugh (I) — Constable, District 6
- Tim Fowler (I) — Constable, District 7
- Jimmy Woody — Constable, District 7

Early voting is April 13-28 (closed on Good Friday and Sundays) at:

- Bradley County Election Commission Office – 155 Broad St. NW
- Bradley Square Mall (former Bath & Body Works)
- Southside – 2657 APD 40 (next to Planet Fitness)

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Saturday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

- Charlie Cogdill (I) — Cleveland school board, at-large
- Matthew Coleman — Cleveland school board, at-large
- Andy Lay — Cleveland school board, District 3
- Dawn Robinson (I) — Cleveland school board, District 3
- Peggy Pesterfield (I) — Cleveland school board, District 4
- Allan Jones — Cleveland school board, District 5
- Jodi Riggins — Cleveland school board, District 5

## BRADLEY COUNTY COMMISSION

### DISTRICT 1, SEAT A

My name is Dennis Epperson, my wife is Rhee Epperson. We were blessed with two children and their spouses, Clint and Suzanna Epperson, and Brooke and Blake Allison. Both of our children were educated here in Cleveland. We also have four grandchildren that we enjoy spending time with.

I am a self-employed businessman and have worked here all my life. My career has offered me the opportunity to meet and work with a lot of people throughout our community. It has helped me to understand the needs of Bradley County citizens. I know most people and myself understand that education is a top priority in helping our children become productive citizens and some will become our leaders of tomorrow.

Economic growth and job creation is important as well. Economic growth leads to a better standard of living and reduces poverty. Infrastructure plays a key role in economic growth. One can't



Dennis Epperson

be achieved without the other. Infrastructure such as utilities, roads and broadband are all equally important. Investing in infrastructure is a sign of a healthy society that is willing to invest in its future.

Our First Responders are a vital part of our community. They are on the front lines daily and play a key role in public safety. They experience things that most of us couldn't even imagine. We must always support this special group of heroes.

In closing, it matters who governs your community and understands what it takes to keep moving forward. I would appreciate your vote.

Paid for by the Campaign to Elect  
Dennis Epperson – Brooke Allison, Treasurer

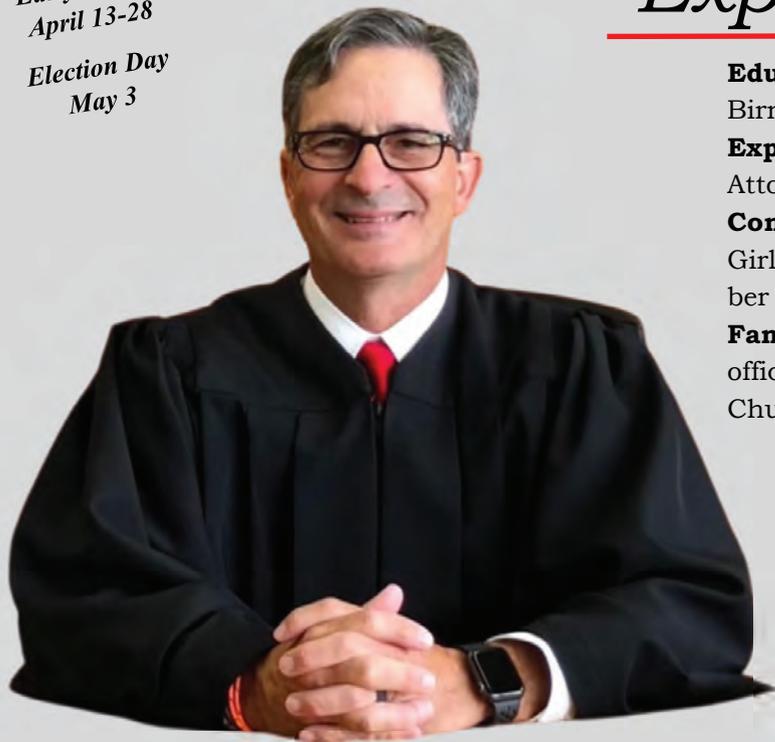
# D. GARY DAVIS

## Bradley County Mayor

### The Conservative Experience We Need to Keep

Paid for by the Committee to Keep Davis Mayor, Eddie Cartwright, Treasurer

Early Voting  
April 13-28  
Election Day  
May 3



## *Experienced Proven Leadership*

**Education:** University of Tennessee Chattanooga and Cumberland School of Law in Birmingham

**Experience:** Over 28 years legal experience-Private Practice, Bradley County Attorney, Cleveland City Court Judge, Special Judge and Sessions Juvenile Judge

**Community:** Bradley County Republican Party, Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Club, Board of Directors for Life Bridges Sunrise Rotary and past board member of the YMCA.

**Family:** He is married to Leslie Smith Painter. He has one son Sam, a city police officer and two step-sons, Miles and Kent Christian. They attend First Baptist-Church.

KEEP \_\_\_\_\_ Barrett  
PAINTER  
Sessions Juvenile JUDGE

Paid for the Committee to Elect Barrett Painter Judge, Alan Smith Treasurer

# GENERAL SESSIONS JUDGE, DIVISION 1

Andrew B. Morgan was born and raised in Bradley County and is married to the love of his life, Brittany. Andrew is the owner of the Law Offices of Andrew B. Morgan, which has grown in six short years to one of the largest law firms by case volume in the four-county 10th Judicial District and employs 10 Bradley County citizens. Andrew is intimately familiar with the successes and struggles of a small business owner and has worked diligently to see his law practice thrive.

Andrew has practiced law for nearly 15 years and has been repeatedly trusted by other judges to sit as Special Judge on more than 5,000 cases over the last 10 years. When sitting as Special Judge, Andrew treats each party with honesty and respect, and maintains a fair and impartial approach to the facts of each case.

As part of his law practice, Andrew has a passion to help the children of our community — from legal representation to sponsoring extracurricular activities



**Andrew B. Morgan**

and sports teams to establishing an internship program at his office in partnership with our local school system and Lee University, which has hosted over 20 high school and college students in the last five years. Andrew is a lifelong conservative with a voting record, party commitment, and service to back it up. That's why he asks for your vote as the conservative, honest and fair candidate for Bradley County Civil Sessions + Juvenile Court Judge. He hopes to see you at the polls!

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Andrew B. Morgan – Ben Absher, Treasurer

★ The Honorable Judge Barrett T. Painter is humbly asking for your vote and support to remain your General Sessions Court Judge, Division 1.

- ☆ “My desire to continue to serve this great community is as far from politics as one could be. Between my father, Harlen Painter, myself and my son, Sam Painter, someone in the Painter family has been serving this community for over 60 years.
- ★ “You can rest assured that serving as your Sessions Court Judge, Division 1, which includes Juvenile Court has not only solidified my qualifications but has also illustrated my vision for the children and residents of Bradley County. As I have articulated time and again, it is my mission to see that the children of Bradley County are not nameless, faceless numbers in the juvenile system but who are unique and inspired individuals who will be set up to succeed in life.”
- ☆ That vision is becoming a reality in the mentorship program he established.
- ★ Judge Painter is an active member of the Bradley County Republican Party,



**Barrett Painter**

Sunrise Rotary, and First Baptist Church. He also serves on the Board of Directors of The Boys' & Girls' Club and Life Bridges. He has an extensive and consistent record of being an even-tempered, compassionate and mature voice with a servant's heart. Married to

Leslie Smith Painter he has one son, Sam Painter, and two stepchildren, Miles and Kent Christian.

**EXPERIENCED PROVEN LEADERSHIP**

Visit “[votebarrettpainter.com](http://votebarrettpainter.com)” for more information.

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Barrett Painter – Alan Smith, Treasurer

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
**CLAY COLLINS**  
 FOR CRIMINAL SESSIONS JUDGE

Paid for by Committee to Elect Clay Collins

As a lifelong conservative and committed Christian, Clay Collins believes that it is essential for Bradley County to have a man of faith and true conservative on the bench. Someone who respects the Constitution, upholds the Second Amendment, enforces the law as written, is unequivocally pro-life, and stands for traditional values.

Over the past six years, Collins has worked as an assistant district attorney, fighting crime in our community. In this position, he handled thousands of criminal cases, argued hundreds of motions, and obtained numerous jury convictions (including convictions for first-degree murder and child rape). Collins also participated in numerous drug prevention programs in local schools.

Before becoming a prosecutor, Collins battled public nuisances across the country, working to shut down drug dens and prostitution rings. He has also worked with Alliance Defending Freedom and Republicans on Capitol Hill to advance, create, and defend pro-life legislation.

As a prosecutor, Collins spent countless hours in sessions court and saw how it needs to be improved. Currently, cases are often continued for years and repeat offenders (such as drug dealers and violent criminals) are granted bond after bond. Although he loved being a prosecutor,

as a husband and father, Collins could not sit idly by and watch Bradley become less safe. Collins intends to improve sessions court and our community by being tough on crime, ensuring that cases are heard within three months, and establishing a drug court for low level offenders.

Collins and his wife Carly have five rambunctious children (ages 11-1). The Collinses are active members at First Baptist Cleveland, where they regularly serve in children's ministry. Collins is also a member of the Rotary Club of Cleveland. In his spare time, he enjoys stopping by Old Fort for coffee and conversations, coaching his son's baseball team, reading the classics to his children, and hiking.

“We live in a wonderful county in a wonderful state. Let's do everything we can to keep Bradley County great by fixing sessions court! With our county's future in mind, I am humbly asking for your vote in the May 3rd Republican Primary.” – Clay Collins

- ✓ CHRISTIAN
- ✓ CONSERVATIVE
- ✓ EXPERIENCED
- ✓ PRO-LIFE
- ✓ PRO-TRADITIONAL VALUES
- ✓ FAMILY MAN
- ✓ FORMER PROSECUTOR
- ✓ PRO-LAW AND ORDER
- ✓ PRO-SECOND AMENDMENT

*vote* **ANDY**  
**LAY**

**Cleveland City School Board  
DISTRICT 3**

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT ANDY LAY. WES ROBBINS, TREASURER.

Charlotte Peak  
4th District  
Bradley County  
Commissioner

I ask for your vote  
again!



*Charlotte*

www.charlottpeak.com

Paid for by the candidate



**Reasons to VOTE for  
TOM COLLINS  
for  
ROAD SUPERINTENDENT**



Paid for by the committee to elect Tom Collins,  
Shannon Collins McDonald, Treasurer

**UNDER THE CURRENT ROAD  
SUPERINTENDENTS 7 YEARS**

- #1 Deficient bridge replacement has decreased by 100%
- #2 Asphalt paving has decreased by 50%
- #3 Raised Pavement Markings (Reflectors) on the center of the road decreased by 100%
- #4 Litter pickup by the Road Department has decreased by 100%
- #5 Superintendent added 3 additional office personnel after Tom Collins had only 3 office personnel for the previous 16 years.
- #6 Current Superintendent built an unneeded new office to accommodate the additional office personnel.
- #7 Current Superintendent started an unneeded parts department. There are 10 parts stores within 9 miles of the Road Department shop. Most of which deliver parts.
- #8 Decreased inmate labor by 100%
- #9 Gave OUTRAGEOUS and UNEARNED salary increases to an already well paid office staff.
- #10 Gave Road Department employees a \$0.65 /HR. Raise in March in the middle of the re-election campaign. Employees were ask soon after the raise appeared to give to the sign committee to buy more campaign signs.



ANDREW B.  
**MORGAN**  
*for* **JUDGE**  
CONSERVATIVE, HONEST & FAIR

**100% REPUBLICAN**

- ▶ Former Chairman, Young Republicans
- ▶ Former Treasurer, Bradley County GOP
- ▶ Proud Local Businessman
- ▶ NEVER VOTED DEMOCRAT

Early Voting  
April 13–28, 2022

Election Day  
May 3, 2022



PAID FOR BY COMMITTEE TO ELECT ANDREW B. MORGAN, BEN ABSHER - TREASURER

## CLEVELAND SCHOOL BOARD, DISTRICT 3

I'm Andy Lay, a candidate for the Third District seat of the Cleveland City School Board. I am married to Becca Lay and we have two sons, A.J. and James, who both attend Cleveland City Schools.

I am a lifelong Cleveland resident. I attended Mayfield Elementary, Cleveland Middle and Cleveland High, where I graduated in 1993. My involvement at Cleveland High included lettering in football and baseball and playing basketball. I was also a member of Key Club, where I served as president. I was a member of FCA and was awarded Fellowship of Christian Athletes' Athlete of the Year.

After graduation, I attended the University of Tennessee at Knoxville and received a bachelor's degree in economics. My family attends Broad Street United Methodist Church where I continue to volunteer and serve. I also enjoy volunteer coaching in the Cleveland Youth Football League and assisting with baseball in the Bradley County Recreation League. I am employed by Marion Environmental, Incorporated, serving as



**Andy Lay**

I love this community, and I am invested in the present, and future of Cleveland City Schools. I would love the opportunity to serve this great community as a member of the Cleveland City School Board. I humbly ask for your vote on May 3, 2022.

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Andy Lay – Wes Robbins, Treasurer

controller.

I am a strong believer in public education. My wife and I are both products of Cleveland City Schools. My wife Becca has been a teacher in the system for 18 years at Yates Primary and Candy's Creek Cherokee Elementary.



My name is Dawn Robinson and I am announcing my candidacy for the Cleveland Board of Education District 3.

I have been honored to serve our community's families while working to have successful public schools for the past 27 years. I have the experience necessary to best champion the education of every student who enters our schools' doors.

Not every student walks through those doors with the same needs. I will work to allocate the resources such as time, money and personnel in the most effective possible ways.

I will review policies and resources to ensure they are targeted to promote achievement for all students. The goals to accomplish high achievement include high standards for all, rigorous curriculum and high quality teachers.

My responsibility to the community is to be transparent — budgets, academic needs, facilitates needs, expenditures of taxpayer dollars, achievements, programs, policies.

I always return all calls and emails and try to provide relevant information to my



**Dawn Robinson**

callers. I will engage our community in decisions of major concern.

I believe in supporting our high quality teachers. The school board needs to be sure that those teachers have opportunities to collaborate and are given the freedom to innovate.

We must provide relevant professional development.

The school board must work together as a team. I am always willing to listen. I will advocate at the local, state and national level. I would appreciate your vote so I can continue serving our amazing public schools.

Paid for by the Campaign to Reelect Dawn Robinson – Don Robinson, Treasurer

Rebble  
**JOHNSON**  
for General Sessions Judge

Experience, Integrity, and a  
Conservative Judicial Philosophy



Paid for by the Committee to Elect Rebble Johnson, Chad Higgins Treasurer



*Keep*

# SANDRA NORTON KNIGHT

## ROAD SUPERINTENDENT



In memory  
of our Dad  
Johnny Norton



**Cheering us on  
from Heaven!**

**EXPERIENCED  
QUALIFIED  
DEDICATED  
HONEST**

We respectfully ask for your  
prayers, continued support,  
and your **VOTE to KEEP  
SANDRA KNIGHT**

*Thank You for allowing me to lead these talented men and women as Road Superintendent. I humbly ask for prayers for our Road Department family, your continued support, and respectfully ask for your vote during early voting or on May 3rd.*  
-Sandra



Road Superintendent  
Tom Collins endorses  
**SANDRA KNIGHT**  
to be his successor



Having worked with Ms Knight for the past 15 years, I have found her to be most knowledgeable of road maintenance and construction. Her past experience has been very beneficial in projects that have been undertaken by the Road Department. She is a very good manager of people, finances and other recourses. Sandra has a high ethical work standard and is exceedingly knowledgeable in construction, maintenance and engineering arenas. She will use her education and experience to continue to move Bradley County forward.

Having worked with Ms Knight for the past 15 years, I have found her to be most knowledgeable of road maintenance and construction. Her past experience has been very beneficial in projects that have been undertaken by the Road Department. She is a very good manager of people, finances and other recourses. Sandra has a high ethical work standard and is exceedingly knowledgeable in construction, maintenance and engineering arenas. She will use her education and experience to continue to move Bradley County forward.

Political Advertisement Paid for by Tom Collins  
Authorized by Candidate