

**Correspondence with Saginaw County Clerk's Office About Candidate List Posted on Website**

Subject: A Problem on Your Website  
Date: Fri, 22 Oct 2010 16:43:45 -0400  
From: John Anthony La Pietra for Fairer, Better Elections <jalp4FBE@triton.net>  
To: Susan Kaltenbach <skaltenbach@saginawcounty.com>  
CC: MI Greens Elections Group <MIGreens-Elections@YahooGroups.com>

Dear Ms. Kaltenbach,

While looking at the Saginaw County Website today (as you had suggested in your e-mail this morning), I found a page which linked to proof ballots for all cities and townships in the county:

<http://saginawcounty.com/November2010BallotProofs.aspx>

And the link to this page – the only one I can find so far, at least – is on the county's home page. However, right above it is what claims to be a link to information on the candidates and proposals for next month's election. And the list page that link eventually leads to is the same as one can reach from the link on the main "Elections" page entitled "Candidates for November 2, 2010 General Election"):

<http://saginawcounty.com/Docs/Clerk/Elections/CANDIDATES.PDF>

And unfortunately, that page – though it says it is updated "AS OF OCTOBER 22, 2010" – has no Green candidates, including me. In fact, it has no candidates for lieutenant governor, secretary of state, or attorney general at all. And, with the exception of one Libertarian in the 94th State House race, no candidate of any party but Republicans and Democrats.

I am sure this is an oversight – and I would be happy to do whatever I can to help you fix it as soon as possible. One thing I can pass on to you immediately, as GPMI's Elections Co-ordinator: the full GPMI candidate slate, with contact information, can be seen here:

<http://migreens.org/candidates2010.php>

I will also gladly pass on the word to the other parties in the Michigan Third Parties Coalition, to help make sure their candidates are listed accurately. (However, I cannot do that while using my campaign e-mail address, as it is not on that group's listserv.)

If I can do anything else to help, please do not hesitate to let me know and I will put on my non-candidate hat again.

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Subject: RE: A Problem on Your Website  
Date: Mon, 25 Oct 2010 10:58:02 -0400  
From: Susan Kaltenbach <skaltenbach@saginawcounty.com>  
To: 'John Anthony La Pietra for Fairer, Better Elections' <jalp4FBE@triton.net>

The minor party candidates will be added today. This information other than our local listings is still from the primary results. We usually do not add all of the State Candidates as they file and are listed by the Secretary of State. Again we are short staffed and have so much data entry that is beyond our required local that we sometimes do not have all of the State data. We only have 2 local write-ins: one for a school board and one for a partial term township supervisor. That data has been delivered to those precincts involved.

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Subject: Re: A Problem on Your Website  
Date: Mon, 25 Oct 2010 11:45:50 -0400  
From: John Anthony La Pietra for Fairer, Better Elections <jalp4FBE@triton.net>  
To: Susan Kaltenbach <skaltenbach@saginawcounty.com>

Susan Kaltenbach wrote:

> The minor party candidates will be added today.

Thank you. I will be watching eagerly to see that update on this page:

<http://saginawcounty.com/Docs/Clerk/Elections/CANDIDATES.PDF>

> This information other than our local listings is still from the primary results. We usually do not add  
> all of the State Candidates as they file and are listed by the Secretary of State.

But the list as it is posted now makes it appear that the candidates you show are the only ones on the ballot. And at this point, 2-1/2 months after the primary (and 1-1/2 months after the Bureau of Elections posted its official list of general-election candidates), voters – and even groups who might be holding candidate forums or sending out surveys – might be forgiven for thinking that this is true. The result would be that they have been making decisions for the past six to ten weeks about whom to vote for – or whom to invite to participate in activities and be considered for votes, endorsements, etc. – based on the incomplete information posted.

> Again we are short staffed and have so much data entry that is beyond our required local that we sometimes  
> do not have all of the State data.

I do sympathize. I have about ten years' worth of experience working in government myself – and I know Parkinson's Law can be particularly conservative when it comes to doing the people's business. (That's the one that says work expands to fill the time allotted – I say there's always more work to do than time to do it in.)

I have seen other county Websites where they post a list of "local" candidates (down to the county level, or including state- and Federal-level candidates who serve constituencies all inside the county) and a link to the Bureau of Elections list for higher-level candidates. I know there was an unusually long wait before the Bureau finally posted its list this year. While we were all waiting for that, perhaps a link to the Bureau's base page or a notice promising to add a link to the list when it was posted – or both – would have served the main purpose (of informing voters about their choices in November) fairly and evenhandedly, and accurately as far as it went, and stayed within the limits of staff time.

> We only have 2 local write-ins: one for a school board and one for a partial term township supervisor.  
> That data has been delivered to those precincts involved.

Good – that sounds like the information I'm looking for in the newer request. So please send it on sometime fairly soon.

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Subject: Saginaw County's Posted Candidate List  
Date: Tue, 26 Oct 2010 13:02:01 -0400  
From: John Anthony La Pietra <jalp@triton.net>  
To: Susan Kaltenbach <skaltenbach@saginawcounty.com>  
CC: MI Greens Elections Group <MIGreens-Elections@YahooGroups.com>,  
Michigan Third Parties Coalition <mithirdparties@yahoogroups.com>

Dear Ms. Kaltenbach,

I see my name is on the candidate list as updated this morning:

<http://saginawcounty.com/Docs/Clerk/Elections/CANDIDATES.PDF>

Thank you for the improvements you have made so far. But I am afraid there is more yet to do.

The Bureau of Elections' official list

[http://miboecfr.nictusa.com/election/candlist/10GEN/10GEN\\_CL.HTM](http://miboecfr.nictusa.com/election/candlist/10GEN/10GEN_CL.HTM)

shows the following candidates in the state- and federal-level partisan races affecting Saginaw County (as well as the nominally non-partisan Supreme Court race). I have made notes where changes in your list appear to be needed; these are all presented below.

(And, hoping to help you with your updating work somewhat, I have re-arranged the text in each candidate listing from the BOE's list to match more closely with your list's format. I have left the names within each race in statutorily-required ballot order, rather than alphabetizing them as your list does – though I would support a change to alphabetical order as the basis for rotating names to avoid the well-known benefit of several percentage points to the first-listed candidate.)



95TH DISTRICT STATE REPRESENTATIVE 2 YEAR TERM (1) POSITION FILES IN SAGINAW COUNTY

(REP) Sarge Harvey, 508 Ardussi, Saginaw, MI 48602 08095000  
(DEM) Stacy Erwin Oakes, 3309 Carter, Saginaw, MI 48601

95TH DISTRICT STATE REPRESENTATIVE PARTIAL TERM ENDING 01/01/2011 (1) POSITION FILES IN

(REP) Sarge Harvey, 508 Ardussi, Saginaw, MI 48602 SAGINAW COUNTY 08095008  
(DEM) Stacy Erwin Oakes, 3309 Carter, Saginaw, MI 48601

98TH DISTRICT STATE REPRESENTATIVE 2 YEAR TERM (1) POSITION 08098000

(REP) Jim Stamas, Post Office Box 592, Midland, MI 48640  
(LIB) J. Longtain, 10204 Dove Drive, Freeland, MI 48623

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION 8 YEAR TERMS (2) POSITIONS 09000000

(REP) Eileen Weiser, 855 Colliston Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48105  
(REP) Richard Zeile, 16800 Plainview Avenue, Detroit, MI 48219  
(DEM) Elizabeth W. Bauer, 1355 Lake Park Drive, Birmingham, MI 48009  
(DEM) Lupe Ramos-Montigny, 977 Waltham Avenue SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
(GRN) Latham Redding, 3520 Kensington, Detroit, MI 48224  
(GRN) Mary T. Wood, 27533 Santa Ana, Warren, MI 48093  
(UST) Karen Adams, 6274 Tischer Road, Lake Odessa, MI 48849  
(UST) Ronald Monroe, 6384 Woodcrest Ridge, Clarkston, MI 48346  
(LIB) Dick Gach, 29260 Franklin Road Apt. 218, Southfield, MI 48034  
(LIB) Bill Hall, 111 Lyon NW Ste. 900, Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
(NLP) Stacy Kohmescher, 8010 Windwood Beach Drive, Linden, MI 48451

\*\*statewide race not mentioned on the list at all\*\*

MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN BOARD OF REGENTS 8 YEAR TERMS (2) POSITIONS 10000000

(REP) Andrea Fischer Newman, 101 North Main Street #1015, Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
(REP) Andrew C. Richner, 718 Berkshire Road, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230  
(DEM) Paul Brown, 505 East Huron Street Apt. 407, Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
(DEM) Greg Stephens, 6856 Wellington Drive, Dexter, MI 48130  
(GRN) Diana Demers, Post Office Box 623, Belleville, MI 48112  
(GRN) Libby Hunter, 827 Bruce, Ann Arbor, MI 48103  
(UST) Joe Sanger, 4119 Thackin Drive, Lansing, MI 48911  
(UST) Linda Schrock Taylor, 21745 110th Avenue, Tustin, MI 49688  
(LIB) James Lewis Hudler, 17165 Fahrner Road, Chelsea, MI 48118  
(LIB) Leslie Lazerin, 1386 Bramblebush Run, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

\*\*statewide race not mentioned on the list at all\*\*

MEMBER OF THE MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES 8 YEAR TERMS (2) POSITIONS

(REP) Brian Breslin, 3944 Meridian Road, Okemos, MI 48864 11000000  
(REP) Mitch Lyons, 8344 Woodcrest Drive, Rockford, MI 49341  
(DEM) Dennis Denno, 410 Clarendon, East Lansing, MI 48823  
(DEM) Colleen McNamara, 4276 Tacoma Boulevard, Okemos, MI 48864  
(GRN) Surjit Singh Dulai, 14823 Woodbury Road, Haslett, MI 48840  
(UST) Bob Czak, 23711 Fairway Drive West, Woodhaven, MI 48183  
(UST) Christine C. Schwartz, 2395 144th Avenue, Dorr, MI 49323  
(LIB) Dan Johnson, 843 Wallin Drive, Jenison, MI 49428  
(LIB) Michael H. Miller, 6070 Carriage Hill Dr. Apt. 22, East Lansing, MI 48823

\*\*statewide race not mentioned on the list at all\*\*

MEMBER OF THE WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS 8 YEAR TERMS (2) POSITIONS

(REP) Diane Dunaskiss, 535 Cushing, Lake Orion, MI 48362 12000000  
(REP) Danialle Karmanos, 4740 Dow Ridge, West Bloomfield, MI 48324  
(DEM) Ed Bruley, 38157 Radde, Clinton Township, MI 48036  
(DEM) Brenda Moon, 19700 Villa Court East, Southfield, MI 48076  
(GRN) James Arnoldi, Post Office Box 623, Belleville, MI 48112  
(GRN) Margaret Guttshall, 4190 Kensington, Detroit, MI 48224  
(UST) Bill Mohr II, 1319 Penn Avenue NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505  
(UST) Patty Senneker, 1585 142nd Avenue, Dorr, MI 49323  
(LIB) Nicole Michalak, 13329 Common, Warren, MI 48088  
(LIB) Gregory Scott Stempfle, 1726 Pearson, Ferndale, MI 48220  
(NLP) Doug Dern, 4300 North Milford Road, Highland, MI 48357

\*\*statewide race not mentioned on the list at all\*\*

JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT 8 YEAR TERMS (2) POSITIONS 13000000

Alton Thomas Davis (INCUMB), [no address given on BOE's list]

Mary Beth Kelly, 8145 Saint James Drive, Grosse Ile, MI 48138

Denise Langford Morris, 5139 Autumn Ridge Court, West Bloomfield, MI 48323

Bob Roddis, 424 Madison, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

Bob Young (INCUMB), [no address given on BOE's list]

\*\*statewide race is mentioned, but no candidates listed\*\*

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Subject: RE: Saginaw County's Posted Candidate List  
Date: Tue, 26 Oct 2010 14:39:07 -0400  
From: Susan Kaltenbach <skaltenbach@saginawcounty.com>  
To: 'John Anthony La Pietra' <jalp@triton.net>

John,

There are plenty of other places for the voters to get this info. We concentrate on getting the locals and the ones we take filings for locally on the site as they do not appear in other places.

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Subject: Re: Saginaw County's Posted Candidate List  
Date: Wed, 27 Oct 2010 02:45:18 -0400  
From: John Anthony La Pietra <jalp@triton.net>  
To: Susan Kaltenbach <skaltenbach@saginawcounty.com>  
CC: MI Greens Elections Group <MIGreens-Elections@YahooGroups.com>,  
Michigan Third Parties Coalition <mithirdparties@yahoogroups.com>

Ms. Kaltenbach,

If you only wanted your Website to provide voters with a list of candidates who run and/or file at the county level, that would be understandable. As I said, I've seen other counties doing this – most of them offer a hyperlink to the Bureau of Elections list for the higher-level candidates. Doing it that way is a bit less convenient for voters, but it still gives them full information and eases the workload on the county staff.

But if you're going to post any information about "non-local" candidates, then you need to post it all. The people of Saginaw County have a right to rely on you to be authoritative about their ballots – to rely on the candidate list posted on your Website, and any other information you put out about the election for public consumption, to be accurate and complete.

This candidate list has been misinforming voters since it was posted. Until this week, it was telling them they had only Democrats, Republicans, and one Libertarian to choose from. The update has gone some ways toward properly acknowledging alternative parties and candidates -- and I thank you for that. Now I am asking you to finish the job of fixing the list -- and I have given you the information you need to do it.

I hope to see the final result soon. After all, there are only six days left now.

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Subject: Re: Saginaw County's Posted Candidate List  
Date: Thu, 28 Oct 2010 12:11:41 -0400  
From: John Anthony La Pietra <jalp@triton.net>  
To: Susan Kaltenbach <skaltenbach@saginawcounty.com>

Dear Ms. Kaltenbach,

A campaign event canceled out from under me, so I had an hour to spare – and I thought I would make one more effort to be of some help to you on this matter.

I think the attached file is generally in the format of your current candidate list. I copied the information from this morning's update of the posted list, and made the additions and corrections to the state- and federal-level partisan

candidates and the Supreme Court race. (I left the blank lines between races at full 9-point size – except for the school elections, where using 6-point lines let me fit all candidates on one page.)

If you find problems or errors, please let me know.

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