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Karen Burns

# Barefoot and Progressive's Voting Tour

by Joe Sonka and David Schankula of BarefootAndProgressive.com

Feel free to bring this guide with you to the voting booth on May 18th as your roadmap through all those funny names on the fancy voting machine screen.

**UNITED STATES SENATOR**

**James Buckmaster (D)**- Buckmaster is a family physician whose policy positions mirror the Republican Party platform. We assume he was confused when he filed for office as a Democrat.



**Jack Conway (D)** - Kentucky's Attorney General supported the health care reform bill and is pro-choice. When he's not busy winning the Bluegrass Stakes, he's wooing you with his dreamy eyes.



**Daniel Mongiardo (D)** - The Lt. Governor is a family values candidate who would have voted against Obama's health care bill and calls mountaintop removal "mountaintop development." He touts Kentucky as a tourist destination because we have no sharks.



**Darlene F. Price (D)** - Darlene is a former customs agent crime fighter, with both Navy and sailor-mouth experience. While we can commend her for the fine work on the frontlines of the Drug War, we're sad that her presence in this race allegedly scared Gatewood out of running.



**Maurice M. Sweeney (D)** - Sweeney is a Louisville businessman with many years of experience in civil service. In a world where it didn't take millions of dollars to become a US Senator, he would get more than 1% of the vote.



**John Stephenson (R)** - The former KY superintendent of schools says America needs to do "a U-turn back to God" and gave his answers at debates in the form of singing gospel hymns. He is also W.C. Field's doppelganger.



**C. M. "Trey" Grayson (R)** - KY's Secretary of State used to be known as a "moderate Republican", before that became about as popular as the scientific method among Republican voters. He now assures us he's as far-right as they come.



**Gurley L. Martin (R)** - Martin is an 86-year old who brings his birth certificate to candidate forums in order to emphasize that Obama is a foreign-born Muslim. He's been known to brag at these events that he's never raped a woman, and the lynching he attended in 1929 was not of a black man.



**Rand Paul (R)** - Paul is the spawn of both presidential candidate Ron Paul and Liberty itself. His hobbies include Tea Parties, shooting assault weapons, and criminalizing abortion even in cases of rape and incest.



**John Scribner** - To our knowledge, Scribner has never attended a candidate forum and might not actually exist.

**UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS  
6TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT**

**George Pendergrass (R)** - Pendergrass is a Georgetown emergency medical pilot who believes that those struggling in these hard economic times should get assistance from family, friends and churches, not the government. Get your own damned plane, sickos.

**John T. Kemper, III (R)** - Kemper is a Lexington developer who says that he will fight against "liberal lies" and the "global warming hoax," and calls abortion "The American Holocaust." He filed for bankruptcy last year, but at least he's not Dudley Webb.

**Mike Templeman (R)** - We'll let John Cheves at the Herald handle this one: "Retired coal executive Mike Templeman is running for Congress with no apologies for a career that includes bankruptcies, debt lawsuits, unpaid taxes and environmental messes left by his strip-mining companies in Appalachia."

**Perry Wilson Barnes (R)** - Barnes is the owner of a mail-order dance and exercise record business in Nicholasville. But Washington has too many of those types already.

**Matt Lockett (R)** - Co-founded the Conservative Freshmen Coalition with other first time Tea Party candidates around the country, saying they'll vote as a bloc, or tea brick. He also opposes the new health care reform law, though considering he's a Nicholasville funeral services salesman, who can blame him?

**Garland "Andy" Barr (R)** - Hmm... Is he the Andy Barr who's the reporter for Politico.com? What's that? He's Andy Barr the Fourth? Oh, well we're out of room.

**MAYOR**

**Jim Newberry** - Our current Mayor is responsible for everything good that has happened in Lexington over the past 4 years, except for the giant hole in the middle of our city, the water rate hikes, and all of the spending scandals. Just ask him!

**Teresa Ann Isaac** - Losing by 25 points in the last election would have stopped most people from running again, but Isaac is tougher than most people. And tweets more.

**Jim Gray** - Don't you just hate those people who are always right about everything? They're so annoying. You say, "Oh, it's cloudy," and they say, "Actually I think it's clearing." And it is. Damn grandstanders. Gray's trying to take all the fun out of watching Lexington's mayor make horrible, embarrassing mistakes. It's terrifying.

**Skip Horine** - Horine is running to avenge his mother's murder at the hands of the Lexington police and the City Hall cronies who seek to cover up the truth. Same old boring political cliches we hear every year.

**COUNCIL AT-LARGE**

**Chuck Ellinger, II** - Ellinger shows us all that the American dream is alive and well. If you are the son of a longtime elected official also named Chuck Ellinger, you too

can make it to the city council. He hopes to take over the Vice Mayor's seat, so he can refrain from calling out Newberry on every one of his giant disasters like that last grandstander we had. Unless he winds up reporting to the aforementioned grandstander. Which would be awkward.



**George A. Brown Jr.** - "Unabashedly pro-business," George thinks the Herald-Leader "is out-of-touch with the citizens of Lexington." He must have made been embarrassed when the paper gave him a minor-endorsement in this race.



**Kathy Plomin** - Former head of United Way of the Bluegrass and a board member at LexArts and a bunch of other great organizations, Plomin used her time at the candidate forums to endlessly recite the words "listening, agreement, understanding" over and over in an impressive abuse of political platitudes.

**Ismael Shalash** - Shalash couldn't be bothered to attend any candidate forums this spring, so we won't bother wasting energy writing about him.

**Ralph Ruschell** - Ruschell is a wealthy real estate agent who owns race horses. He is running as the "common man" candidate.



**Don B. Pratt** - The Hairy-Liberal always refuses to endorse Don Pratt even though they love everything he's ever stood for. A Lexington fixture, Pratt resisted the Vietnam War, fought for local ownership of water and once submitted a pair of his own underpants into evidence at a LFUCG meeting.



**Steve Kay** - Steve's run for office a lot but he's never quite won and no one's sure why. He's a mediator, a facilitator and an all-round decent guy - all things the LFUCG could use. Another big plus: His first campaign ad was kinda like a pleasant Ambien trip.



**Linda Gorton** - Linda's been on the council for 12 years. Some might say that means she's ineffective but in Linda's case it means she actually cares about her job and her community. She's an ordained deacon at 2nd Presbyterian Church and trained nurses in the Army Reserve. We're trying to be snarky here, but Linda has anti-snarked us into submission.

**Christopher Hignite** - A couple dirty cops maybe killed a Madame, and then there's the stuff about immaculate conception and Chuck Ellinger at a bachelor party and... if he gets through the primary at least this race will still be amusing.

**PVA**

**Renee True (D)** - True hopes to become the highest paid elected official in Kentucky, adding a PVA salary to her already healthy retirement pension she collects after having quit this job two years ago. True enjoys Fox News, traditional marriage, and putting her family members on the PVA payroll.

**David O'Neill (D)** - 'Bout the only bad thing you can say about O'Neill is that he's been sober for five years which really just means he's got more will-power than most people. It's also worth noting that he headed up the Fayette County Democratic Party and led it to massive voter turnouts and since he became the PVA he's cut the office's expenses and

brought it into the 21st century.

**STATE SENATOR  
12TH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT**

**Alice Forgy Kerr (R)** - Kerr likes the music of Taylor Swift and the politics of George W. Bush. What she doesn't like is horses, or at least, the horse set don't like Alice. She's continually voted against the various bills set forth to save the thoroughbred industry and now...

**Andrew M. Roberts (R)** - Alice is being challenged in the Primary by Andrew Roberts, an equine veterinarian. State Democrats (and the horsey folks) have targeted Kerr for removal in the general, but could Roberts do it in the primary?

**STATE SENATOR  
22ND REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT**

**Tom Buford (R)** - Buford's the incumbent and he's been endorsed by Kentucky Right to Life and, would you believe, the National Rifle Association. He also managed to trick Coach Cal into shaking his hand and that's one of four photos you'll see on his campaign website.

**Chad Crouch (R)** - Chad registered www.tombufordforsenate.com and then filled the page with evidence that Buford is a closeted-Democrat. He also says Buford's spent nearly \$50,000 of the taxpayers' money taking trips to tropical locales.

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
45TH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT**

**Matthew Vanderpool (D)** - The 45th has long been resented by one of Kentucky's most notorious conservatives, Stan "The 'Stache" Lee. So Vanderpool is taking Stan head on: by championing equal rights, health care reform and the American dream.

**Michael Coblenz (D)** - An intellectual property attorney, Michael likes Neil Young, Immanuel Kant and The Big Lebowski. Also, his campaign logo is a red clip-art airplane with his name written in blue across it.

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
62ND REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT**

**Ricky Hostetler (R)** - Ricky was compelled by his love of Kentucky to divert time from his electrical contracting business to run for office. He believes gays shouldn't get married, that mountaintop removal is awesome and that health care reform is not.

**Ryan Quarles (R)** - Grew up on the family farm and has three degrees from UK and one from Harvard. He's also done time in DC with Mitch McConnell and he's cute as a button!

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
72ND REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT**

**Dwaine Curran (D)** - All his campaign materials are printed with local vendors and he'd require that all state vehicles come from local Toyota or Ford plants. He's a Marine veteran and served in both Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom.

**Sannie Overly (D)** - First elected back in 2008, she won all four counties in her district. While earning her law degree, Sannie worked full-time in engineering. At Christmas she breaks out an awesome portrait of Santa and hangs it above the fireplace.

*Joe Sonka and David Schankula write for one of Kentucky's most-viewed political blogs, barefootandprogressive.com, and contributed this week's Guest Guide.*



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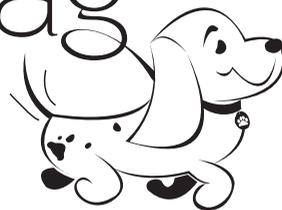
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Saturday, May 15  
 Woodford County Park  
 \$18 Advance Registration  
 \$20 Day of Race

**8:30 A.M. - 5K Race**  
 (For Humans Only)

**8:45 A.M. - 2K Dog Walk**  
 (For Humans With or Without a Friendly Dog on a Leash)

For more information and to register online, visit [www.woodfordhumane.org](http://www.woodfordhumane.org), or call the Woodford Humane Adoption Center at 859.873.5491.

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