

House Battleground Districts

Prepared August 20, 2022

About Missouri Scout

Missouri Scout is a private news service providing political intelligence and analysis. Started in 2007, *Missouri Scout* has become the must-read tip-sheet for Missouri state politics.

Monday through Friday, subscribers receive *Daily Updates* that include rumors, overlooked facts, and analysis about current events. These updates are almost entirely fresh dispatches with information that have yet to be reported anywhere else.

Saturday, MOScout publishes *The Weekender*. It contains the exclusive *MOScout Weekly Poll*, which provides opinion surveys on timely topics and races. Polling is conducted by Titus Bond at Remington Research; *The Hallway Index*, a survey of Missouri lobbyists which gives a look at sentiment from “inside the bubble;” and the ever-popular *Who Won the Week*.

On Sundays, subscribers receive *The Sunday6*, an enlightening collection of graphs, charts and other visuals from the week.

Subscribers may also opt-in to the *Weekly Summary* which they may forward to clients and colleagues, and *1st Draft* text messages, an advance brief of an upcoming story.

Subscribers include lobbyists and government relations executives, but also activists, consultants, legislators, and donors. The cost is \$985/year. Monthly subscriptions are also available. If you'd like to know more about subscribing, send me an email at dave@moscout.com.

About Drebes



In addition to *Missouri Scout*, Dave Drebes was founder of *Arch City Chronicle*. According to the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, it was “the industry newsletter for the Lou’s political insiders.” He was named one of St. Louis’ *Most Influential People* (2007), received the *Media Award* from the Missouri Association for Social Welfare (2006), the *President’s Award* from the Metropolitan Press Club of St. Louis (2006). His parents must be proud. Drebes also writes a regular column in the *St. Louis Business Journal* covering Missouri state politics.

Please Note

Incumbents have asterisks (*) next to their names.

Only Republicans and Democrats are covered (sorry Greens, Libertarians etc).

District maps and voting indexes were sourced at [Dave’s Redistricting](#).

All the information contained in this reference guide has been obtained by sources believed to be reliable, but there is no guarantee of such, and you are urged to verify the information for yourself.

Forecasts of races will change. Omissions, corrections, fundraising totals, etc will be updated. Please consult Daily Updates for most current information.

Subscriptions to the Daily Updates are available at <https://moscout.com/subscribe>.

Summary

There are 163 seats in the Missouri House. More than half (94) of these seats are uncontested. 67 Republicans do not face a challenger in November, and 27 Democrats likewise are uncontested. Most of the remaining 69 seats are not very competitive either. MOScout's 2022 Watch page breaks down the districts according to the likely outcome of each race. This report covers the 14 districts which are most competitive. However as the campaign proceeds, some of these will likely be categorized as "likely Republican" or "likely Democratic."

This report will be updated in early September, and then again two weeks before the November elections, when the final forecasts will be made.

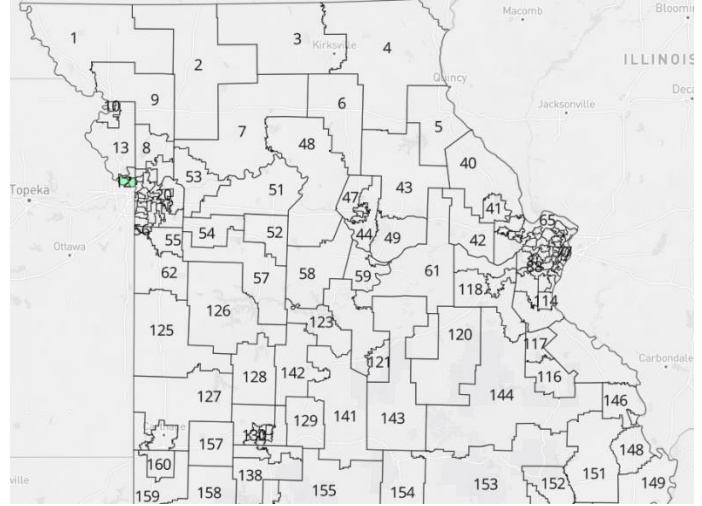
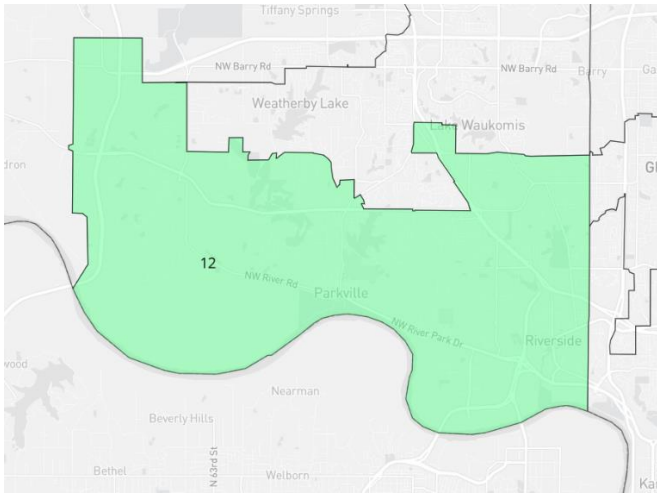
In this report

House 12... Open seat – North KC/ Parkville
House 14... Ashley Aune incumbent – Kansas City
House 16... Chris Brown incumbent – Kansas City
House 17... Mark Ellebracht incumbent - Liberty
House 21... Robert Sauls incumbent - Independence
House 29... Open seat (Rowland to mayor) - Independence
House 34... Open seat (Roeber resigned) – Lees Summit
House 47... Open seat (Basye termed) - Columbia
House 92... Michael Burton incumbent – St. Louis County
House 96... Open seat (Gregory vacated) – St. Louis County
House 98... Open seat (Gunby running for Congress) – St. Louis County
House 105... Adam Schwadron incumbent – St. Charles
House 133... Open seat (Trent to Senate) - Springfield
House 135... Betsy Fogle incumbent – Springfield

District 12

Open seat.

Partisan Lean: +1.4% D



Tom Hutsler



No biography available at this time.

Jamie Johnson



[From her website](#): Her dad and 11 others in her family were servicemembers, so caring for our veteran community is a priority for Jamie... Among all the roles Jamie fills, the one she is most proud of is being a mom to three children. Her eldest, Alecia, is a junior at Texas A&M Corpus Christi. Her middle child, Jamari, is a recent Park Hill South High School graduate. Her youngest child, CJ, enjoys reading, drawing comic strips, and playing flag football. Jamie loves spending time with her kids, reading, spin classes, and brunch with friends.

Web Presence

Tom Hutsler Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/tomhutslermo/>

Tom Hutsler Twitter: <https://twitter.com/HutslerTom>

Jamie Johnson website: <https://www.jamieformo.com/>

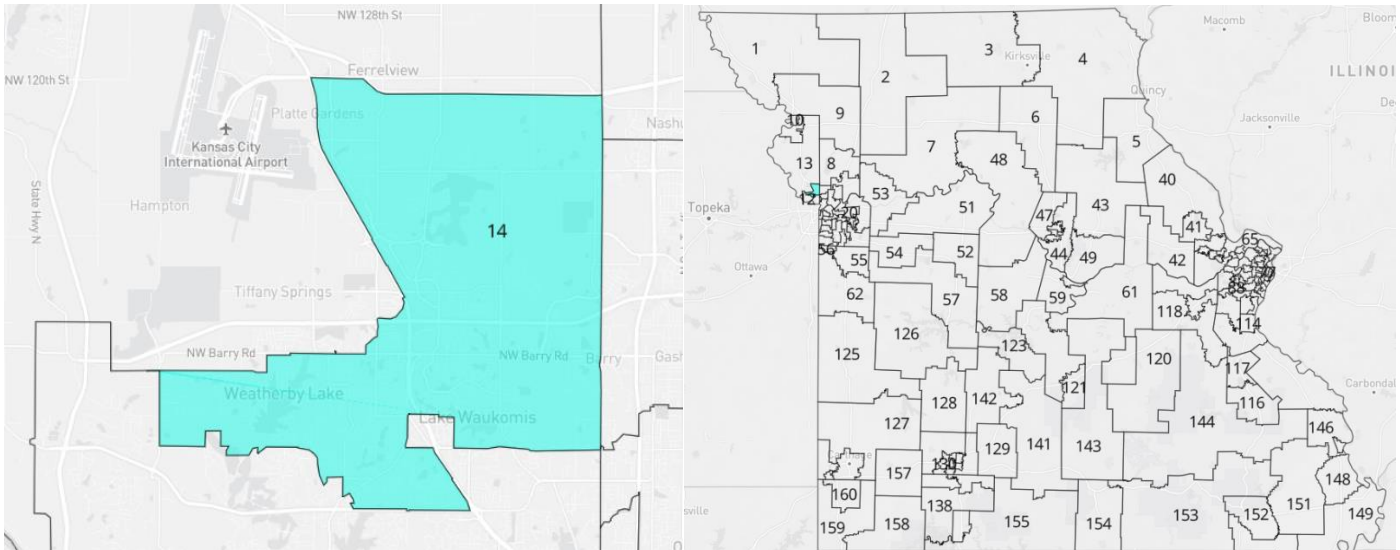
Jamie Johnson Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Jamie4MO>

Jamie Johnson twitter: <https://twitter.com/JamieforMO>

Initial Rating: Tilt Democrat.

District 14

Ashley Aune incumbent
Partisan Lean: +3.8% D



Eric Holmes



[From his website](#): Eric Holmes is a West Point graduate and 30 year veteran of the Army and Army Reserves, serving in Iraq. Eric has managed hundreds of millions worth of projects in the private sector; today he is an operations research analyst using his Masters of Science from Ga, Tech. Eric and his wife, Jenni, an ICU Registered Nurse, have two adult sons who both graduated from Park Hill. When Eric was assigned to Fort Leavenworth, the Holmes family chose to live in the Northland based on the reputation of the schools, and all the community has to offer.

Ashley Aune



[From her House bio](#): In addition to her legislative duties, Aune is the owner of Propel Creative Studio – a marketing agency in Kansas City. Aune received a bachelors’ degree in Communication Studies from the University of Kansas with a minor in English. Born in Colorado and raised in Kansas, Aune now lives in the Kansas City Northland with her husband and stepdaughter.

Web Presence

Eric Holmes website: <https://www.ericholmes.us>

Eric Holmes Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EricholmesforMissouriDistrict14>

Eric Holmes Twitter:

Ashley Aune website: <https://www.ashleyformissouri.com/>

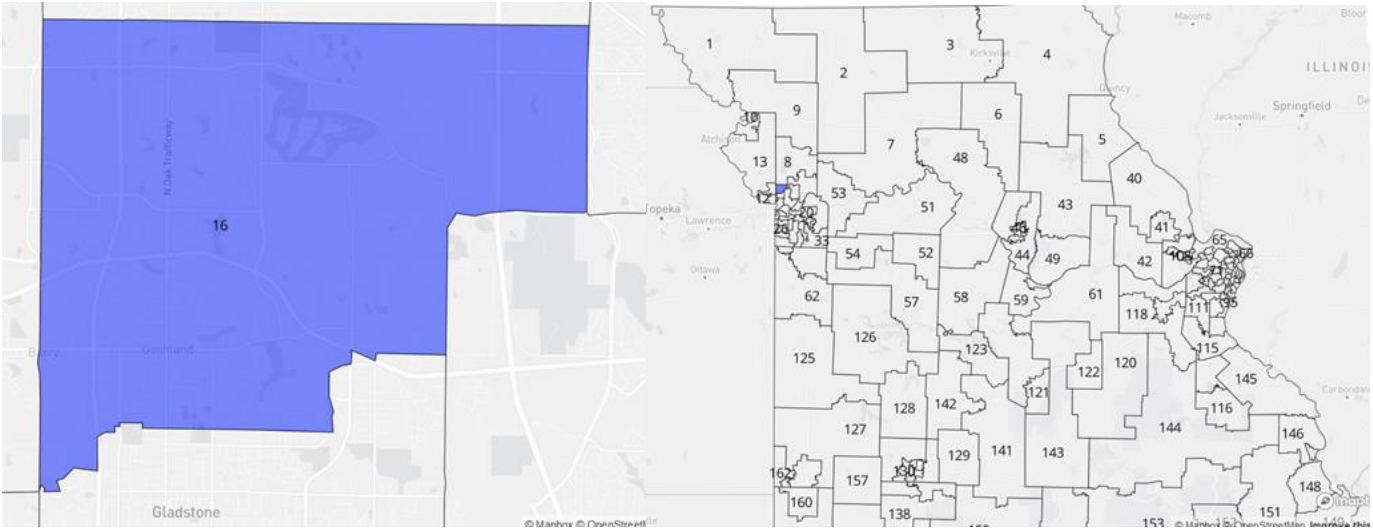
Ashley Aune Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ashley.n.aune>

Ashley Aune twitter: <https://twitter.com/Ashley4MO>

Initial Rating: Tilt Democrat.

District 16

Chris Brown incumbent
Partisan Lean: +1.4% R



Chris Brown



[From his House bio](#): Prior to serving in the legislature, Brown taught Advanced Placement Government, Politics and United States History for 32 years in the North Kansas City School District. He also coached football and wrestling, and he was the VFW Teacher of the Year in 2010. He obtained a bachelor's degree in Social Studies and a master's degree in Educational Administration from Benedictine College, where he also played football for four years. In addition to teaching, Rep. Brown is a licensed realtor and co-owns a family real-estate business specializing in residential sales and property management. Born in Kansas City, Brown currently resides there with his wife, Angela. They have two children, Nicholas and Ashley. He attends Good Shepherd United Methodist Church.

Fantasia Rene Bernauer



[From Twitter bio](#): Teacher | Momma | Mental health advocate | Survivor

Web Presence

Chris Brown website: <https://www.chrisbrownformo.com/>

Chris Brown Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100041301229227>

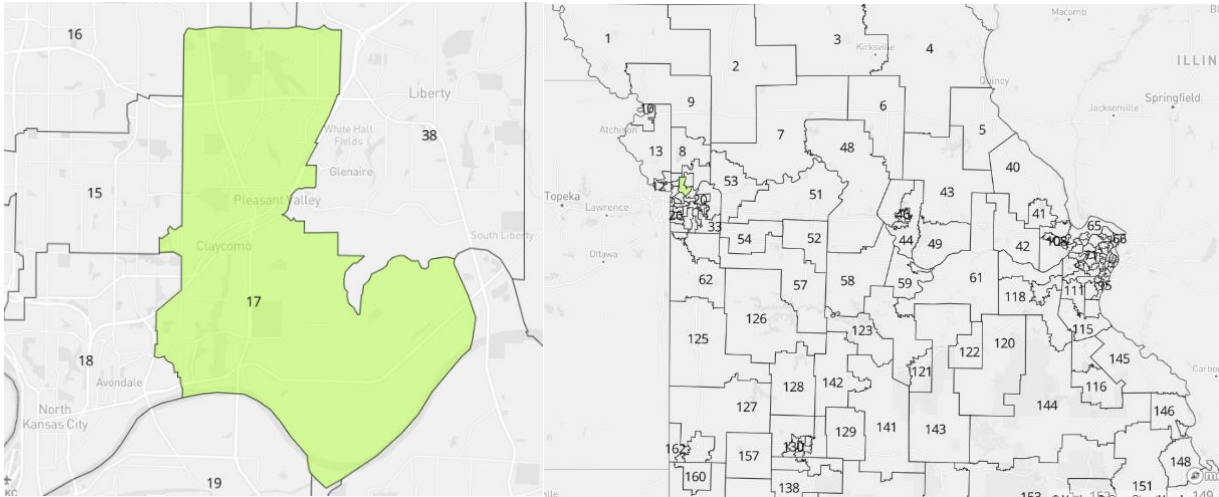
Fantasia Rene Bernauer Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100079933271529>

Fantasia Rene Bernauer twitter: <https://twitter.com/BFantasia2022>

Initial Rating: Tilt Republican.

District 17

Mark Ellebracht incumbent
Partisan Lean: +3.9% D



Bill Allen



[From his website](#): Bill is a proud husband to Marta and father of three adult children. He had 26 years of service in the United States Navy. He is a teacher and professor, and Cerner-trained education leader.

Mark Ellebracht



[From his House bio](#): In addition to his legislative duties, Rep. Ellebracht is an attorney. He previously served one tour as a non-commissioned officer in the United States Army (1999-2003). He also has worked as a cement mason. Rep. Ellebracht is a graduate of Liberty Senior High School. He earned a B.A. from William Jewell College, and obtained his J.D. from the University of Missouri School of Law.

Web Presence

Bill Allen website: <https://www.billallenformo.com/>

Bill Allen Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BillAllenforMO>

Bill Allen Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BillAllenforMO>

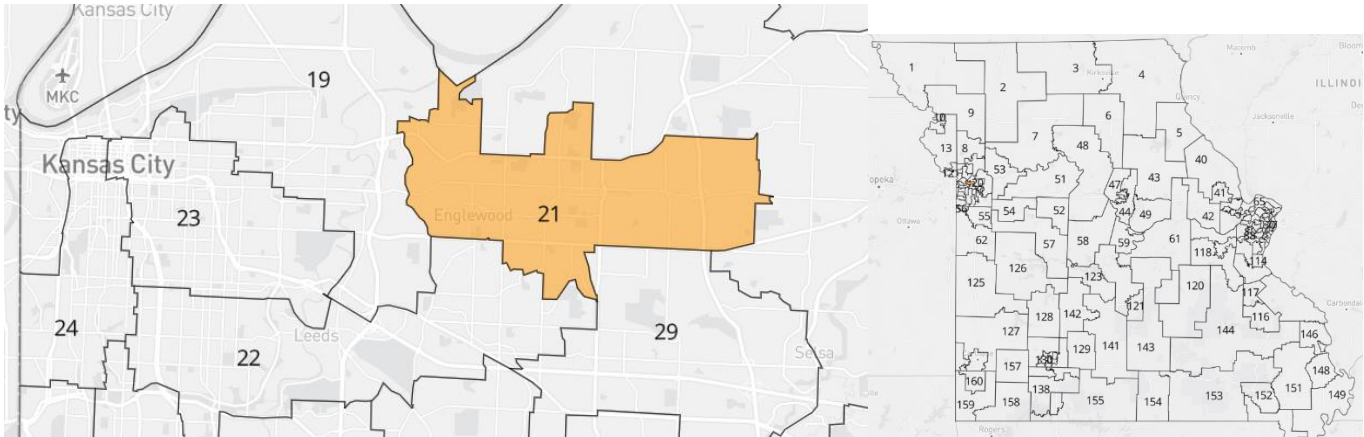
Mark Ellebracht Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/mark.ellebracht.5>

Mark Ellebracht twitter: <https://twitter.com/MarkEllebracht>

Initial Rating: Tilt Democrat.

District 21

Robert Sauls incumbent
Partisan Lean: +1.6% D



Dakota Worrell



[From LinkedIn](#): Account Coordinator with Harris Media LLC, Regional Field Director for Uniting Missouri.

Robert Sauls



[From his House bio](#): Prior to his legislative duties, Sauls was a Jackson County Prosecuting Attorney and a public defender. He also served as an assistant staff judge advocate in the United States Air Force. Sauls graduated from William Chrisman High School in 1998. He received a bachelor's degree in International Business from William Jewell College in 2002 and a juris doctorate from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in 2008.

Web Presence

Dakota Worrell Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100080464680353>

Dakota Worrell Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DakotaWorrell>

Robert Sauls website: <https://www.robertsauls.com/>

Robert Sauls Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/robertsauls21/>

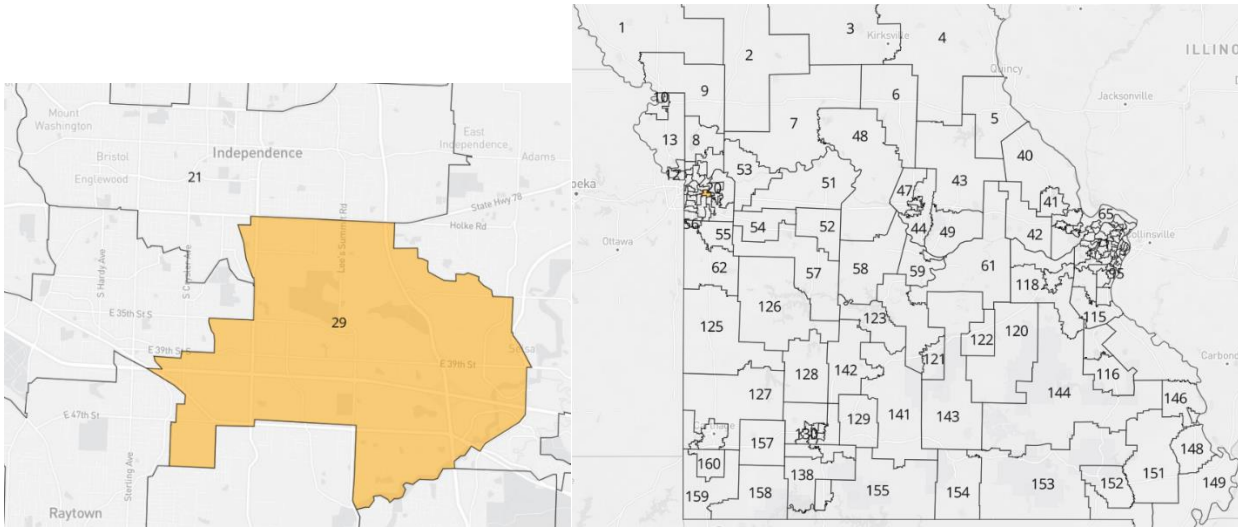
Robert Sauls twitter: <https://twitter.com/RobertESauls>

Initial Rating: Tilt Democrat.

District 29

Open seat. Rory Rowland vacated to become mayor.

Partisan Lean: even



David Martin



From his website: David Martin is a father, a truck driver, and a conservative running to be a voice for Central Jackson County in the Missouri state legislature. Like many Jackson Countians, David is tired of out-of-touch politicians who look the other way while ordinary Missourians struggle as a result of the problems they created. David is running to be a problem solver and a tireless conservative champion for the people of Independence and Kansas City.

Aaron Crossley



From his website: Raised by a small business owner and homemaker, the values of hard work, determination, and compassion were instilled in me from an early age, as was the importance of community service. I am a Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW) and I have spent the last two decades working in roles centered around social and community service... Currently, I work as a behavioral health business strategist and project manager at a local safety net hospital. I also am an adjunct professor teaching the social workers of tomorrow at a local university... My wife, Jessica, and I have made Independence our home since we were married in 2006. We have two children, Corban (13) and Isabelle (11), and they have attended Independence public schools their entire educational experience and will graduate from Truman High School.

Web Presence

David Martin website: <https://davidmartin.gop/>

David Martin Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DavidMartinforMO>

Aaron Crossley website: <https://www.aaroncrossley.com/>

Aaron Crossley Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/crossleyforourcommunity>

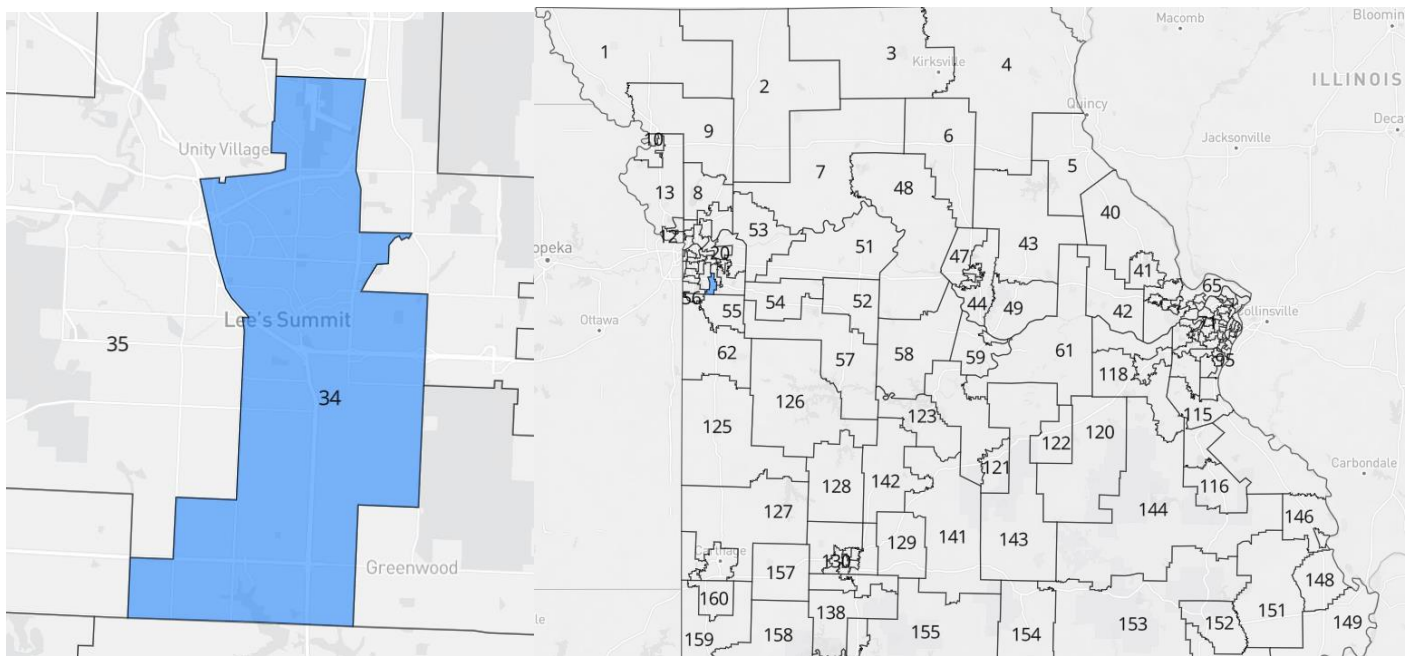
Aaron Crossley twitter: <https://twitter.com/aaroncrossley>

Initial Rating: Tilt Democrat.

District 34

Open seat. Rick Roeber resignation

Partisan Lean: +.8% R



J.C. Crossley



[From his website](#): I have served the families of Lee's Summit and Eastern Jackson County for 33 years as a small business owner, serving people in their homes, providing them safe, reliable HVAC services. I am on the leadership board at Lee's Summit Bible Church where Debbie and I served as youth group leaders and high school Sunday School teachers for over 20 years.

Kemp Strickler



[From his website](#): My wife, Kristy, and I have lived in House District 34 for over 35 years... I currently serve as Vice Chair of the Lee's Summit Arts Council and have served on many other committees and organizations over the years. My family and I are long-time members of Lee's Summit Christian Church, where I am serving

as the moderator for our church leadership team... I was born and raised in Kansas City, Missouri and have spent my entire life in the metro area. I went on to earn a bachelor's and master's degrees in industrial engineering and an MBA from the University of Missouri-Columbia. I am a lifetime Tiger and fierce advocate of our state's wonderful public institutions...

Web Presence

J.C. Crossley website: <https://www.jccrossleyformissouri.com/home>

J.C. Crossley Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CrossleyForMO>

Kemp Strickler website: <https://www.kempstrickler.com/>

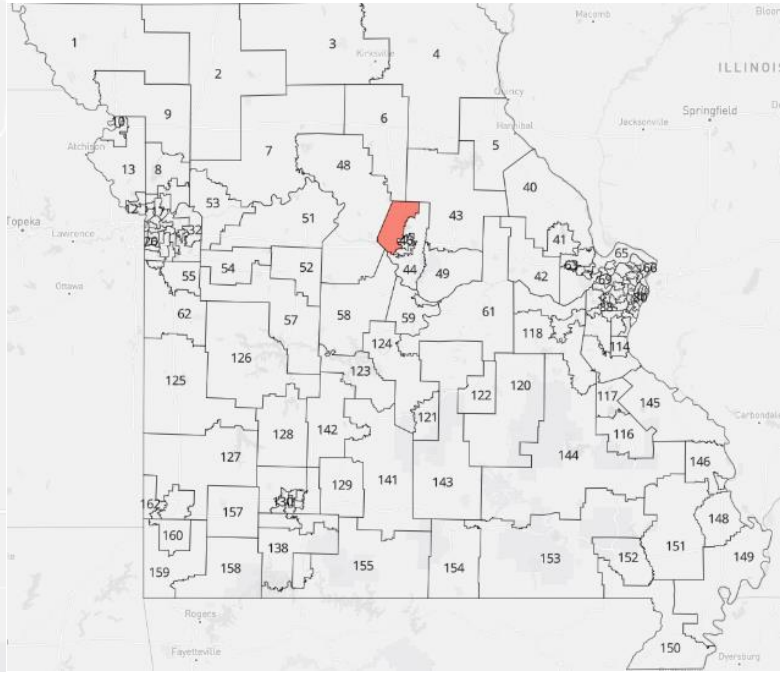
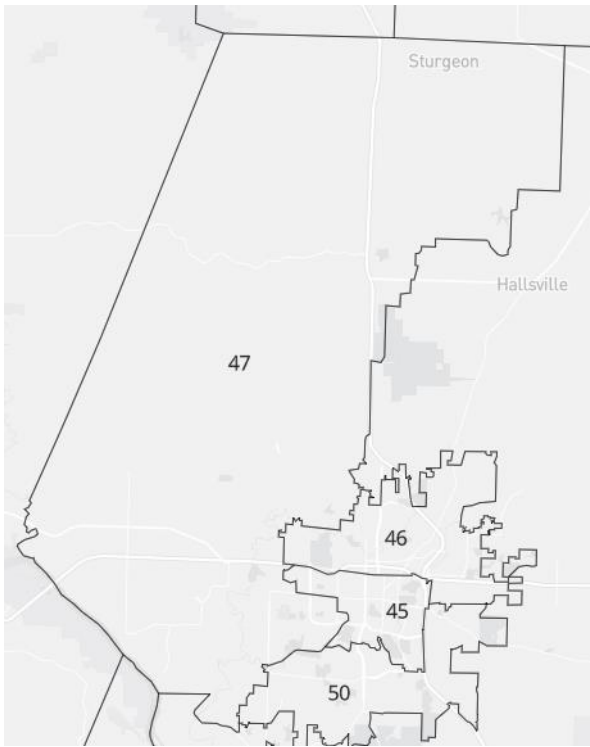
Kemp Strickler Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/KempStricklerMO/>

Kemp Strickler twitter: <https://twitter.com/kstric>

Initial Rating: Tilt Republican.

District 47

Open seat. Old Basye district.
Partisan Lean: +3.2% D



John Martin



[From his website](#): John is a native of Boone County and has resided in Columbia since 2005. John is the owner of Pro Pumping & Hydrojetting, a family-owned business that has been in operation for over 40 years. John attends Midway Heights Baptist Church and has served in various pastoral church leadership roles for the past 30 years. John is a husband and father of four children, three of which are graduates of Hickman High School and two have gone on to graduate from Mizzou with the third planning on attending there this fall.

Adrian Plank



[From his website](#): For 10 years, I worked hard to live what is still called The American Dream. I owned a small business; my workers and I traveled the country installing granite in motels. I had 3 crews with 3 to 4 workers per crew... And in December 2007 came the burst of the 8 trillion dollar housing bubble, and you all remember

the years of recession that followed... I tried to hang on; the last year I paid myself only eleven hundred dollars. In 2010, I let the last employee go and I officially dissolved my business. I have been married for 25 years to my wife, Dawn, and we have one daughter. Dawn supported me while I redefined my life. I worked my heart out—selling cars, doing construction jobs for friends—but I couldn't catch up financially. I looked for real work but there were no jobs in 2010. I felt broken. A miracle came for me just as it had for my father: In 2016 I had the opportunity to join a union. I had seen the benefits of a union job in my father's life. With today's worker-abusing attitudes, collective bargaining is more important than ever. I was in the union and I wasn't broken any longer

Web Presence

John Martin website: <https://martinfor47.com/>

John Martin Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/martinfor47>

Adrian Plank website: <https://www.adrianplank.com/>

Adrian Plank Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PlankFor47>

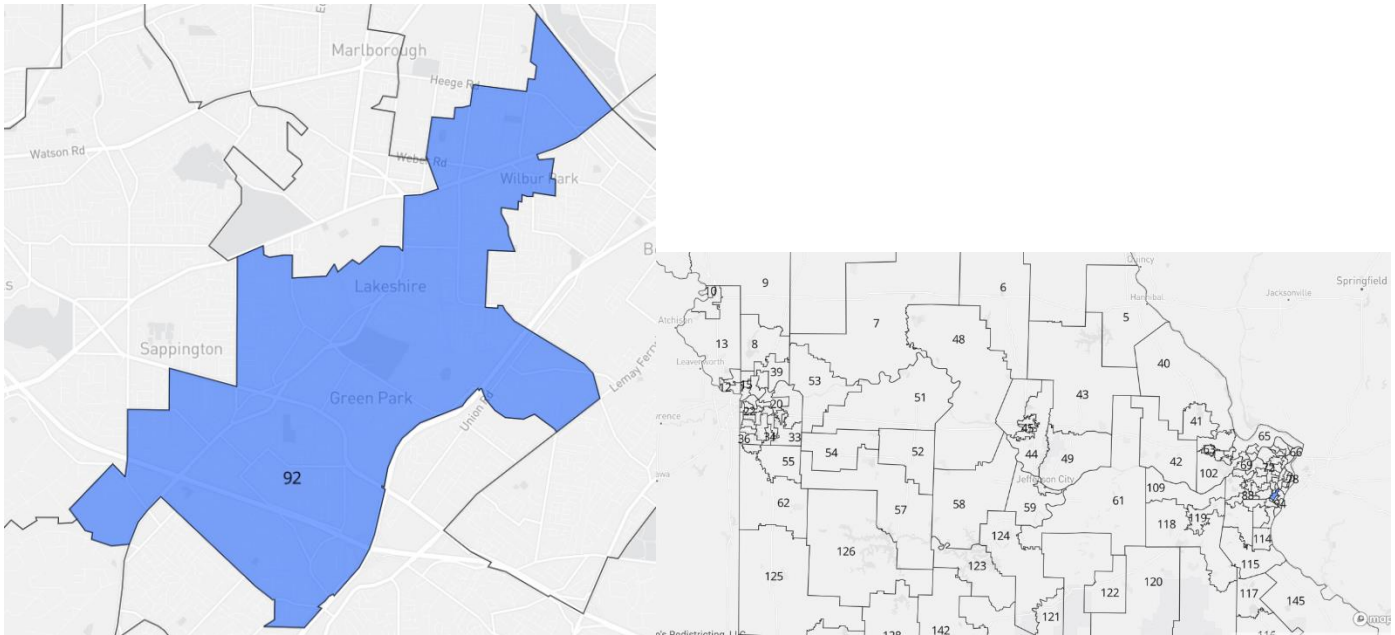
Adrian Plank Twitter: <https://twitter.com/AdrianPlank47>

Initial Rating: Tilt Democratic.

District 92

Rep. Michael Burton incumbent

Partisan Lean: +3.4% D



Michael Burton



[From his website](#): Michael was born and raised in Affton, right off Heege Rd. At age 15, his first job was a dishwasher at Happy Joes. Michael attended the Affton School District until his Junior year of high school when he was recruited to Christian Brother College for theater arts. Michael grew up performing in the St. Louis area and performed on stages like The Muny, The Fox Theater and was blessed to have also performed in the White House. While attending Lindenwood University Michael was cast in a Broadway show and moved to NYC to pursue his dream. In 2001, Michael came back to St. Louis and became a teacher where he was nominated for COCA's wall of fame. Along the way he served in soup kitchens and shelters, feeding and clothing the less fortunate. He has always felt a sense of service for his community.

Bob Mahacek



From his website: Born and raised in St. Louis County, Bob attended St. Catherine's for grade school, Vianney High School and then St. Mary's University in San Antonio... The family has always been involved in trucking and Bob bought his first truck at only 19 years old. He successfully owned and operated Baron's Express until selling in 2016... Currently, he works part-time in transportation, consulting as well as driving a few days a month.

Web Presence

Michael Burton website: <https://www.burton4mo.com/>

Michael Burton Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/burton4mo>

Bob Mahacek website: <https://mahacekformissouri.com/>

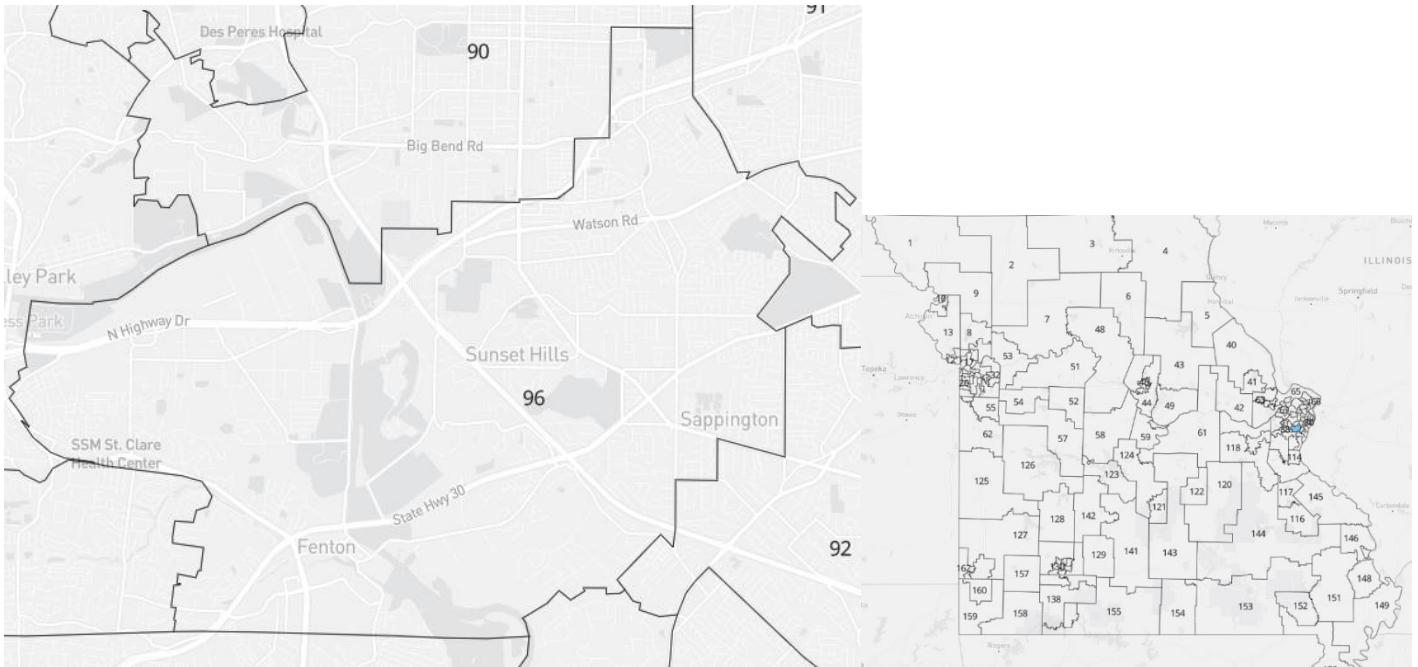
Bob Mahacek Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bob.mahacek>

Bob Mahacek Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MahacekForMO>

Initial Rating: Tilt Democratic.

District 96

Open seat. Old Gregory district
Partisan Lean: +2.5% R



Brad Christ



[From his website:](#) I grew up in Shrewsbury as the youngest of four children. I attended Affton Public Schools, Cure of Ars Catholic Parish, and St. Michael's for CYC sports. I then attended SLUH for high school and DePaul University in Chicago where I graduated with a degree in Finance. I married my beautiful wife, Erin, in 2010 and we have four incredible children Vivian, Hazel, Olive, and George.

Leslie Derrington



[From her website](#): Leslie Derrington is a proud stay-at-home mother and progressive advocate whose real-life experience informs her perspective on how our state government should be serving Missouri families. Leslie was born and raised in St. Louis County, the seventh of eight kids in a Catholic family. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Education from Missouri State University. While bartending and planning for graduate school, Leslie became pregnant with her first child in 2006. This incredible news changed her life and plans forever. As a single, working mom waiting tables and taking classes, she experienced firsthand the need for a strong social safety net, including affordable childcare and universal healthcare. She married her husband Glen, an immigrant from Belfast, Northern Ireland, in 2009. In 2012 their baby girl was diagnosed with spinal muscular atrophy, a rare genetic disease. She decided then to become a stay-at-home mom to care for her daughter and became an advocate for funding scientific research into rare diseases.

Web Presence

Brad Christ website: <https://www.bradchristformo.com/>

Brad Christ Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BradChristForMO>

Brad Christ Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BradChristForMO>

Leslie Derrington website: <https://www.upballot.com/Leslie-Derrington>

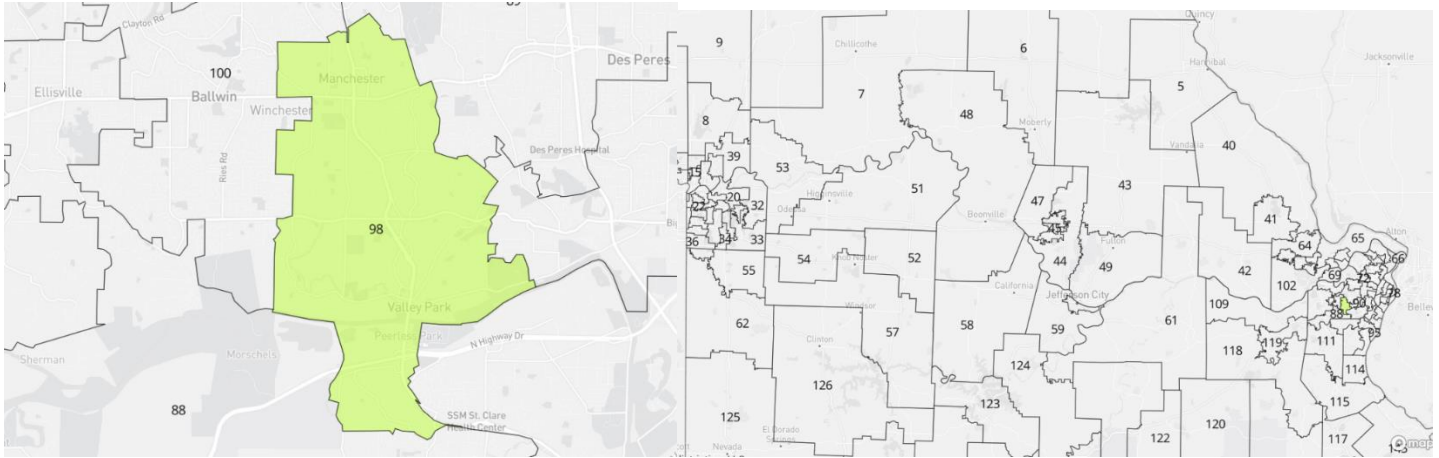
Leslie Derrington Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/lesliederrington4mo>

Initial Rating: Tilt Republican.

District 98

Open seat. Old Trish Gunby seat.

Partisan Lean: +1% D



Ryan Higgins



[From his website](#): For the past nine years, Ryan has been a teacher, spending most of his career as a history teacher for the Archdiocese of St. Louis... Ryan's family has owned and operated a small business in the district for more than 25 years... Ryan attended John F. Kennedy Catholic High School in Manchester. He is a graduate of the University of Missouri-St. Louis and earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees from UMSL. Ryan and his wife Megan live in Valley Park along with their dog Jimmy.

Deb Lavender



[From Wikipedia](#): Lavender was born and raised in Ridgefield, Connecticut. Her interest in government service developed while, as a teenager, she participated in Girls State, a leadership program sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary. Through her experience with the Girls State organization, she learned to appreciate the importance and value of democratic government. In 1979, Lavender was graduated from Marquette University in Milwaukee with a Bachelor of Science in physical therapy. She worked throughout her time in school to pay her tuition and living expenses. Soon after graduation Lavender moved to St. Louis, where she has been a resident for over 35 years. Lavender's political career began in 2006 as an intern for Missouri State Representative Barbara Fraser.[5] Lavender ran for office the first time in 2008 as the unsuccessful Democratic candidate... On her fourth try, she was elected to the District-90 State House of Representatives seat in 2014.

Web Presence

Ryan Higgins website: <https://higginsformissouri.com/>

Ryan Higgins Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HigginsForMissouri>

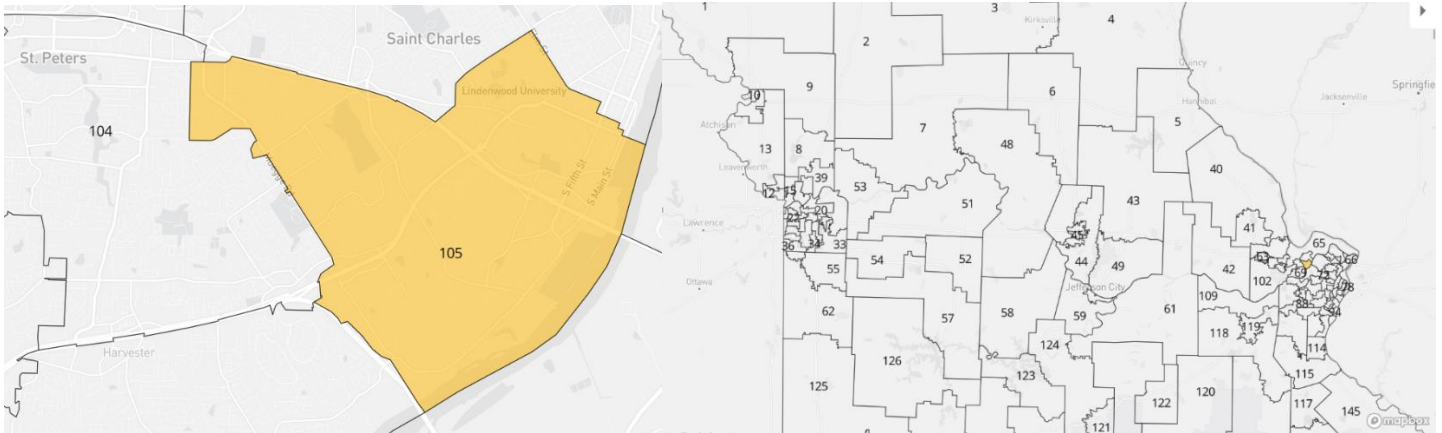
Deb Lavender Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/lavenderformissouri>

Deb Lavender twitter: <https://twitter.com/DebLavender>

Initial Rating: Tilt Democratic.

District 105

Adam Schwadron incumbent
Partisan Lean: +.8 R



Adam Schwadron



[From his House bio](#): In addition to his legislative duties, Schwadron is the owner/operator of Clean Carpet Company. He is a former Eagle Scout, and a current member of the National Eagle Scout Association, the NRA and serves as a board member for the St. Charles County Pachyderm Club. Schwadron grew up in St. Louis, attending Ladue Horton Watkins High School. He got his associate's degree in business administration from St. Louis Community College and a bachelor's degree in political science from UMSL. Schwadron lives in St. Charles with his wife, Elizabeth. They have two children.

Cindy Berne



[From her website](#): Cindy Berne is a proud Missourian, Democrat, and horticulturist. The daughter of an Air Force pilot and a registered nurse, she learned the values of hard work and responsibility early in life. Cindy worked her way through school to earn an associate's degree in Horticulture from Meramec Community College and a bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences from the University of Missouri - Rolla (now Missouri S&T). A proud mom, she lives in St. Charles with her husband Bill, a pipefitter and member of Local 562 for 40 years.

Web Presence

Adam Schwadron website: <https://www.adamschwadron.com/>

Adam Schwadron Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MOStateRep105/>

Adam Schwadron Twitter: <https://twitter.com/AJSchwadron>

Cindy Berne website: <https://cindyberne.com/>

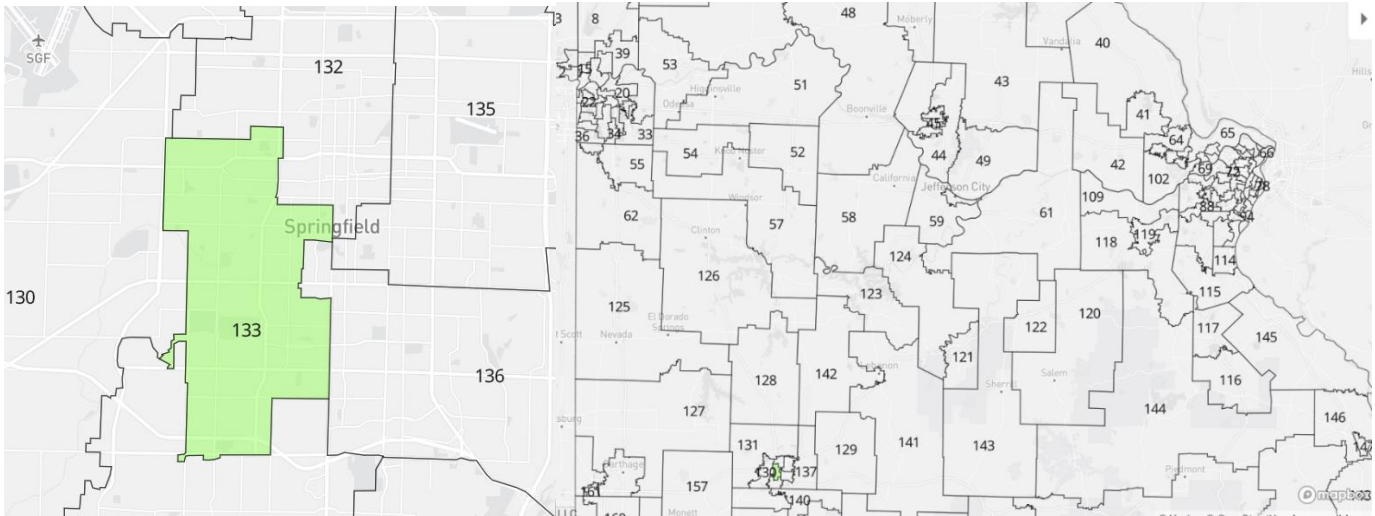
Cindy Berne Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cindy.berne.106>

Cindy Berne twitter: <https://twitter.com/CindyBerneMO>

Initial Rating: Tilt Republican.

District 133

Open seat. Old Curtis Trent seat.
Partisan Lean: +3% R



Melanie Stinnett



[From her website](#): Melanie graduated with her bachelor's and master's degrees from Missouri State University. She worked for several years in both hospital systems in Springfield before deciding to open an independent pediatric speech therapy clinic. With her guidance and hard work, that clinic has now grown to employ over 25 people serving thousands of children. She also founded a local non-profit and spends time volunteering on behalf of organizations advocating for those with disabilities.

Amy Blansit



[From her website](#): I have served as faculty at Missouri State University for more than a decade. My love of learning and teaching can also be witnessed through my work in our community. Through scholarships, I was able to attend Drury University. I worked in healthcare for seven years before my teaching career. A decade after completing my masters degree, and as a recent widow and single mother, I completed my Doctorate in Health Studies. My education and research—but more importantly—my experiences within our community have led me to see the need for civic work and advocacy.

Web Presence

Melanie Stinnett website: <http://www.melaniestinnett.com/index.php>

Melanie Stinnett Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MelanieStinnettSWMO>

Melanie Stinnett Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MStinnettSWMO>

Amy Blansit website: <https://www.upballot.com/amy-blansit/>

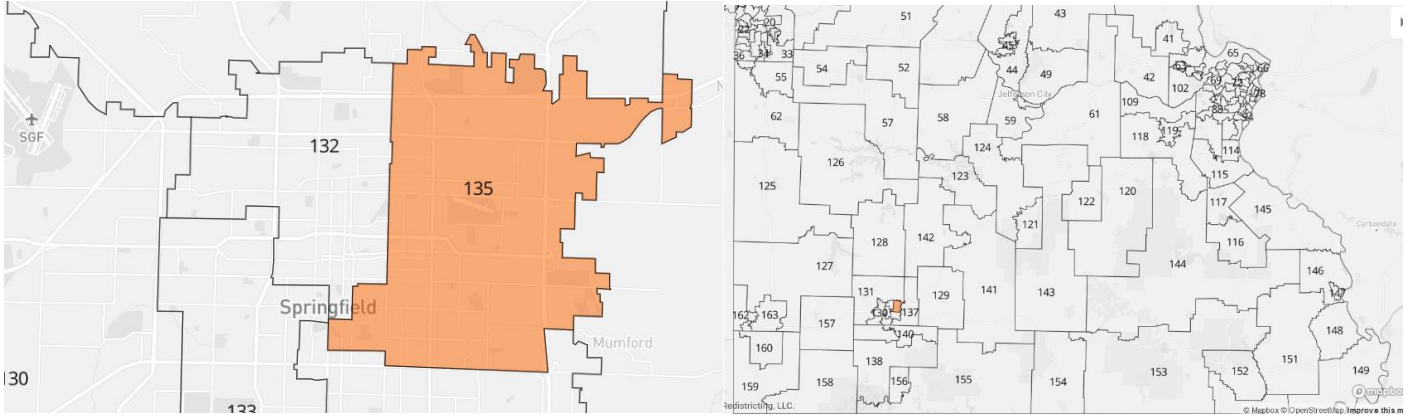
Amy Blansit Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Blansit4MO>

Amy Blansit twitter: <https://twitter.com/Amyblan>

Initial Rating: Tilt Republican.

District 135

Incumbent Betsy Fogle
Partisan Lean: +3.2% D



AJ Exner



[From LinkedIn](#): Experienced DNA expert with a trustworthy history of working within an accredited state law enforcement lab... Strong professional and corporate background with a Master of Science (M.S.) in Plant Science with experience in fruitful Government Contracting.

Betsy Fogle



[From her House bio](#): Prior to serving in the legislature, Fogle spent her career in public health while serving as the Director of Program Advancement for Jordan Valley Community Health Center. Born in Springfield, Fogle graduated from Springfield Public Schools. She obtained a bachelor's of science degree from Missouri State University and a master's in sociology from the University of Arkansas.

Web Presence

AJ Exner website: <https://www.exner4mo.com/>

AJ Exner Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Exner4MO/>

AJ Exner Twitter: <https://twitter.com/AJExner>

Betsy Fogle website: <https://www.upballot.com/betsy-fogle>

Betsy Fogle Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FogleForMO>

Betsy Fogle twitter: <https://twitter.com/Fogle4MO>

Initial Rating: Tilt Democratic.