The Primary Guide: St. Louis County

Prepared June 16, 2020





Political Intelligence and Analysis

About Missouri Scout

Missouri Scout is a private news service providing political intelligence and Call. 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 *1*st *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). It has been a long time since he has been awarded anything. Drebes also writes a regular column in the *St. Louis Business Journal* covering Missouri state

politics.

Please Note

Candidate are listed according to ballot order.

Incumbents have asterisks (*) next to their names.

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

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.

Overview

There are 27 House districts in the St. Louis County. Of those 27 districts, there are 12 primaries. Each of these gets a closer look in the following pages.

In this report...

House 67 – Incumbent Neil Smith challenged.

House 68 – Incumbent Jay Mosley challenged.

House 70– Incumbent Gretchen Bangert challenged.

House 73 – Incumbents Raychel Proudie and Mike Person battle each other.

House 75 – Incumbent Alan Gray challenged.

House 85 – Open seat. Three-way Democratic primary.

House 88 – Open seat. Two-way Republican primary.

House 92 – Incumbent Michael Burton challenged.

House 96 – Open seat (Gregory for Auditor). Two-way Republican primary.

House 99 – Open seat. Two-way Democratic primary.

House 100 – Open seat. Two-way Republican primary.

House 101 – Open seat (Grier seat). Two-way Republican primary.

Other districts in this area...

House 66 – Rep. Marlene Terry unopposed.

House 71 – Rep. LaDonna Appelbaum unopposed in primary. She has a general election opponent.

House 72 – Rep. Doug Clemens unopposed.

House 74 – Rep. Kevin Windham Jr. unopposed.

House 83 – Rep. Sarah Unsicker unopposed.

House 86 – Rep. Joe Adams unopposed.

House 87 – Rep. Paula Brown unopposed.

House 89 – Rep. Dean Plocher unopposed in primary. He has a general election opponent.

House 90 – Rep. Barbara Phifer unopposed in primary. She has a general election opponent.

House 91– Rep. Jo Doll unopposed.

House 93 – Rep. Bridget Walsh Moore unopposed in primary. She has a general election opponent.

House 94 – Rep. Jim Murphy unopposed in primary. He has a general election opponent.

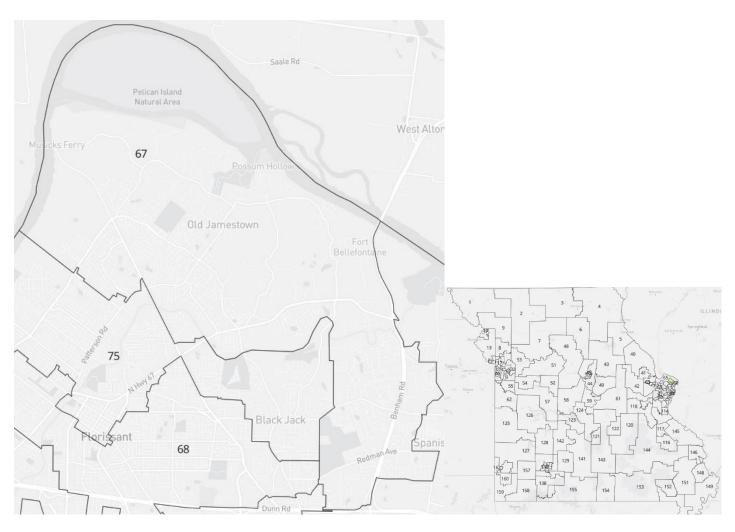
House 95 – Rep. Michael O'Donnell unopposed in primary. He has a general election opponent.

House 98 – Open seat. Neither party has a primary.

House 110 – Rep. Bruce DeGroot unopposed in primary. He has a general election opponent

Incumbent challenged. One-on-one.

Partisan Lean: +66D



Neil Smith



From his House biography: Smith graduated with honors from John F. Kennedy High School. He obtained a certificate in Telecommunications Fiber Optics along with low voltage cabling. Smith has served as Vice President of Marketing, Operations Manager, Business Contract Negotiator, and Project Manager for Underground Construction Planning. Smith also has a twenty-year career in the automobile industry where he held positions as a Sales Associate, Sales Manager, Floor Manager, and Inventory Manager. Smith is a member of Christ Temple Family Church. He and his wife, Jeanne Smith, have raised five children - Shannell Smith, Toniell Smith, Orlando Lloyd, Sterling Lloyd, and Delores Lloyd.

Chantelle N. Nickson-Clark



According to KSDK, Nickson-Clark is the owner of A&C Happy Hour Wine & Spirits in Florissant.

April Quarter Fundraising Results

<u>Candidate</u> <u>On-Hand</u> <u>April Receipts</u> <u>April Expenditures</u> <u>Debt</u>

Neil Smith \$4,313 \$250 \$4,302 Nickson-Clark Committee formed after deadline

Web Presence

Neil Smith on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/neilsmithforstaterepresentative67/

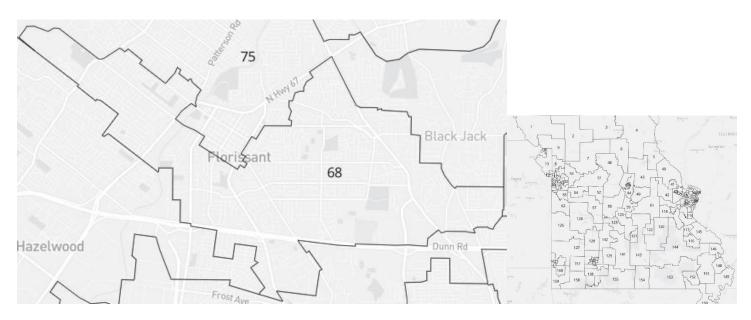
Neil Smith website: https://www.upballot.com/Neil-Smith/

Chantelle Nickson-Clark Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/chantelle.nicksonclark

MOScout Early Line: I believe Neil Smith will prevail.

Incumbent challenged. Three-way primary.

Partisan Lean: +48D



Jay Mosley



<u>From his House biography</u>: Rep. Jay Mosley, a Democrat, represents parts of St. Louis County (District 68) in the Missouri House of Representatives. He was elected to his first two-year term in November 2016. In addition to his legislative duties, Rep. Jay Mosley works as a Shuttle Driver, and was previously employed as a Firefighter and a Clerical Aid.

Rep. Jay Mosley graduated from Rio Linda High School in 1991. He earned his Bachelors of Science from Grambling State University in 1998 in Grambling, LA. Rep. Mosley was born in Sacramento, CA and is the son-in-law to former representative Elbert A. Walton Jr, and the brother-in-law to former Rochelle Walton-Gray. He currently resides in Florissant with his wife and their three children.

Pamela Paul



<u>From her Facebook</u>: I am a dedicated advocate. I am a Pastor, former early education teacher, certified Peer specialist, community engagement specialist, and mental health first aid trainer, which simply means, I am a

leader and servant bar none. I have been advocating for appropriate practices, fair and humane treatment, along with individuals rights for better than 20 years. I sit/work on several boards throughout Missouri that project advocacy, citizen responsibility, and fair practices. I am embarking upon this political platform to continue doing the things I know that work as well as learning from others with a proven track record. This will enable me to help ensure that North County is represented fairly and that our schools are held to exemplery standards that support both our children and their families, all the while helping to keep our community safe and prosperous.

Don Houston



From his website: I am have lived in Florissant pretty much my whole life. My parents grew up in Florissant. Grandparents on both sides of my family moved to Florissant. I am a 3rd generation Florissant Resident. I attended High School at McCluer North. I studied Information Systems at St. Louis Community College before changing directions and enrolled at Lindenwood University to study towards a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with emphasis on Accounting. I worked at Dierberg's Florissant as a teenager. I got into Machining as a young adult and joined IAM local 1345. In 2016 I landed my dream job at Boeing and joined Local 837 Machinist union where I continue to be a current dues paying brother. Now I am a Team Leader and perform planning at Boeing. I am Married to Melissa Houston and we have a 16 year old daughter, Margaret Houston.

April Quarter Fundraising Results

<u>Candidate</u> <u>On-Hand</u> <u>April Receipts</u> <u>April Expenditures</u> <u>Debt</u>

Jay Mosley \$11,216 \$2,240 \$2,900
Pamela Paul Committee formed after deadline.
Don Houston Committee formed after deadline.

Web Presence

Jay Mosley on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/jay.mosley1

Jay Mosley website: https://www.upballot.com/Jay-Mosley

Jay Mosley Twitter: https://twitter.com/JayMo_stl68

Pamela Paul Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/citizensforpamela/

Don Houston website: https://www.votefordonhouston.com/

Don Houston Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/votedonhouston

Don Houston Twitter: https://twitter.com/votedonhouston

MOScout Early Line: Jay Mosley is the favorite, but Don Houston is putting together a good campaign. The racial make-up of the district is majority African American, but not overwhelmingly so. Voting age population is 52% African American and 42% white.

Partisan Lean: +25D



Gretchen Bangert



From her House biography: Prior to her legislative duties, Rep. Bangert worked as a Job Coach with STL Youth Jobs, Director of Education for Junior Achievement of Greater St. Louis, Assistant Auditor for St. Louis County Government, and Administrative Assistant to the St. Louis County Council. In addition to her duties as Minority Caucus Secretary, Rep. Bangert serves as the President of the Women Legislators of Missouri, a bipartisan group of elected women in the legislature.

Stephanie Boykin



Unable to find profile online.

April Quarter Fundraising Results

Candidate	On-Hand	April Receipts	April Expenditures	Debt
Gretchen Bangert	\$12,306	\$400	\$889	\$1,030
Stephanie Boykin	\$907	\$2,017	\$1,109	\$2,017

Web Presence

Gretchen Bangert website: https://gretchenbangert.org/

Gretchen Bangert Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/gretchen.bangert.9

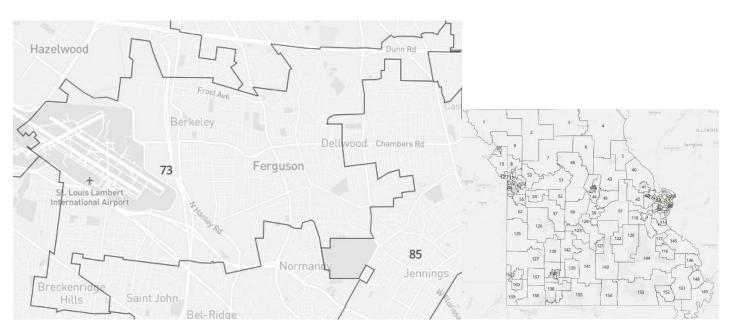
Gretchen Bangert Twitter: https://twitter.com/gretchenbangert

Stephanie Boykin Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/stephanie.boykin.90

MOScout Early Line: I expect Bangert to hold.

Two incumbents drawn together.

Partisan Lean: +63D



Raychel Proudie



From her House biography: Proudie is a certified Classroom Teacher and School Counselor in Missouri, Illinois, and Louisiana and has extensive experience working in public schools in urban and rural areas in both traditional public and charter schools. Proudie is known for her expertise on Pre-K 12 policy and procedures. She has earned a B.S in Elementary Education and a Doctoral Candidate (Ed.D) at Grambling State University, and an M.A. in Mental Health Counseling at Southern University and A&M College.

Mike Person



<u>From his House biography</u>: Representative Mike Person, a Democrat, represents Florissant, Ferguson, Jennings, Calverton Park, Dellwood, Country Club Hills, and Norwood (District 74). He was elected in November of 2019.

He is also the Committeeman for the Ferguson Township and was previously elected to the Riverview Gardens School Board.

He is a Diversity and Inclusion Facilitator for workshops at Ameren where he works to help and give employees of six months to two years of employment the social skills they need to navigate the ever-changing demographics of the workforce. He is a Diversity and Inclusion Ambassador for the Dorsett Campus of Ameren where he has discussions with employees at the Stores department about diversity issues.

As a Torchlighter for the United Way, he advocates for their funding to support charities around the country. Person has been a member of four unions (The Teamsters, Laborers, UAW, and IBEW) representing seven locals. Presently he is a member of IBEW local 1439.

April Quarter Fundraising Results

Candidate	On-Hand	April Receipts	April Expenditures	Debt
Raychel Proudie	\$10,925	\$670	\$1,732	
Mike Person	\$3,251	\$3,146	\$91,93	\$20

Web Presence

Raychel Proudie Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/VotePROUD73

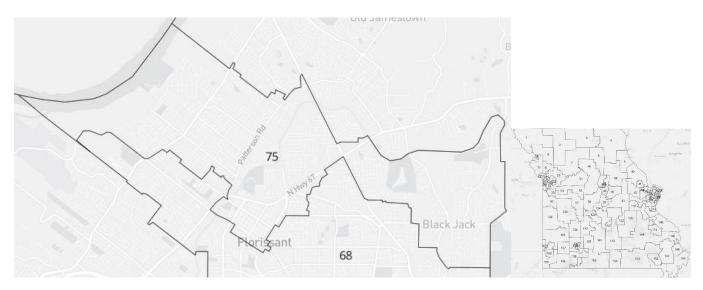
Raychel Proudie Twitter: https://twitter.com/RCProudie

Mike Person Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/michael.a.person

MOScout Early Line: A race to watch. I'd probably put my money on Proudie here.

Incumbent challenged. One-on-one.

Partisan Lean: +47D



Alan Gray



From his House biography: In addition to his legislative duties, Rep. Gray has worked with Lucent Technologies as an Installation Technician. He has also worked for the Missouri Department of Transportation. Prior to that, Rep. Gray served his country in the United States Marine Corps. Rep. Gray is a union member and belongs to the Communications Workers of America (CWA) and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW). Rep. Gray graduated from Southwest High school, and attended St. Louis Community College. Born in St. Louis, Rep. Gray continues to reside there with his wife, former State Representative Rochelle Walton Gray. They have two children.

Sylvester Taylor II



Taylor is a former state representative and an electrician with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1.

April Quarter Fundraising Results

<u>Candidate</u>	On-Hand	April Receipts	April Expenditures	<u>Debt</u>
Alan Gray	\$6,139	\$230	\$3,515	
Sylvester Taylor II	\$1,946	\$792	\$0	

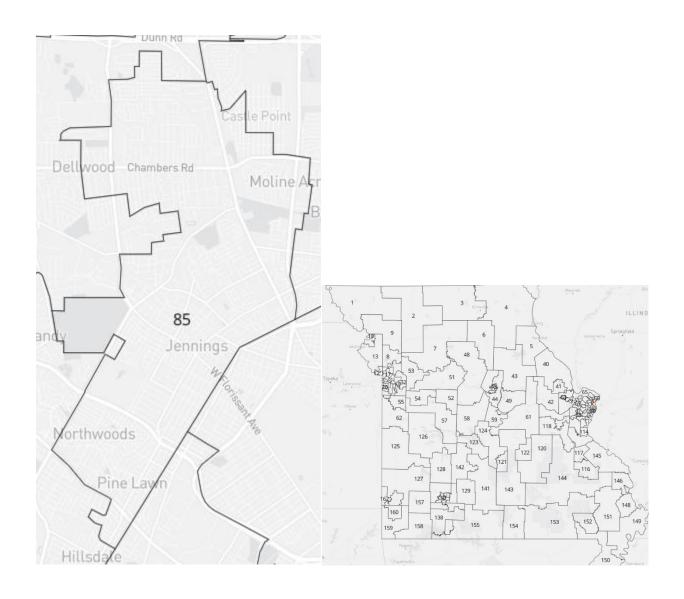
Web Presence

Alan Gray on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100058063028791
Sylvester Taylor II Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/sylvester.taylorii

MOScout Early Line: Could be another interesting race. Taylor has stayed active,

Open seat. Three-way Democratic primary.

Partisan Lean: +87D



Yolonda Fountain Henderson



Yolonda Fountain Henderson was mayor of Jennings, before being impeached.

Donovan Meeks



<u>From his website</u>: I have lived in St. Louis County, Missouri my entire life. Growing up in St. Louis watching district leaders make positive and impactful changes to the county inspired me to want to do the same... I truly have a firm understanding of what it takes to create and maintain a well-organized community, with great economical resources and ethical law for such a diverse community... The Donovan Meeks Committee has recognized that racism is embedded within our society as a whole and our system of justice. We will live up to the basic ideas of equality, equal opportunities, and equal justice under the law for every citizen.

Yolonda (Yonnee) Fortson



Unable to find a biography online.

April Quarter Fundraising Results

Candidate On-Hand April Receipts April Expenditures Debt Fountain Henderson \$100 \$100 \$0 \$100

Donovan Meeks Committee formed after deadline.

Yonnee Fortson Limited Activity

Web Presence

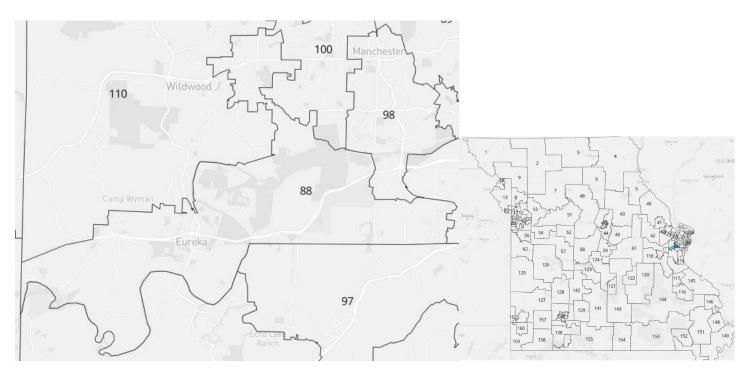
Yolonda Fountain Henderson Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100081165883805

Donovan Meeks website: https://www.upballot.com/donovan-meeks/ Donovan Meeks Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/donovan-meeks/ Yonnee Fortson on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/yonnee.fortson/

MOScout Early Line: I believe Yolonda Fountain Henderson's starts with the best name ID but it's too early to call.

Open seat. Two-way Republican primary.

Partisan Lean: +20R



Nancy R Stevens



From Missouri Times: Mrs. Stevens was born and raised in St. Louis. She graduated with a BS from Fontbonne University and completed a dietetic internship with graduate studies in medical nutrition. She completed additional graduate coursework in management and organizational development. Following graduation, she served as department director at Shriners Hospital for Children and acting department director at St. John's Mercy Medical Center. Her career took a new direction when she left to work at Christian Health System and BJC Healthcare as a clinical and management consultant. In the early 1990s, she started her own consulting company and helped develop the Nutrition Facts Panel for manufacturers. She expanded her company to provide clinical nutrition and management consulting for long-term care, hospitals and public health departments.

Holly Jones



<u>From her website</u>: Professionally I am the VP of Wellness Development for Nepute Wellness/Dr. Eric Nepute. I also serve as the Business Manager for Renz Law LLC/Attorney Thomas Renz. Personally I am the the wife of John and Bonus Mom to Dylan and Aria.

April Quarter Fundraising Results

Candidate On-Hand April Receipts April Expenditures Debt

Nancy R Stevens Committee started after the deadline.
Holly Jones Committee started after the deadline.

Web Presence

Nancy R Stevens

Nancy R Stevens Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/nancyrstevensforstaterepresentative

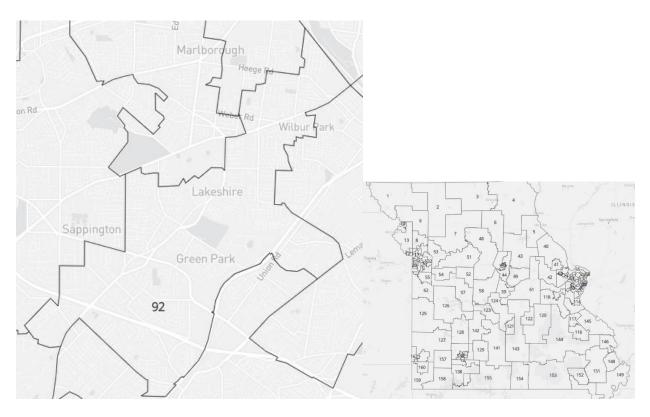
Holly Jones website: https://www.hollyjones4mo.com

Holly Jones Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100080900520640

MOScout Early Line: Stevens has put in \$50K of her own money since the April report and should be considered the favorite here.

Incumbent challenged. One-on-one.

Partisan Lean: +3D



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.

Kenny Edgar



Treasurer of IBEW Local 1.

April Quarter Fundraising Results

Candidate On-Hand April Receipts April Expenditures Debt

Michael Burton Limited Activity

Kenny Edgar Formed after the committee deadline.

Web Presence

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

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

Kenny Edgar Twitter: https://twitter.com/KennyEdgar111

MOScout Early Line: Burton faces a legit challenge from Edgar, particularly since he put himself in a vulnerable position by filing three straight quarters of limited activity. (Before that he reported \$215 in the bank.)

If I'm picking, I'd bet on Edgar.

Meanwhile, Republicans are eyeing this district for November and are touting their candidate (who has no primary) Bob Mahacek.

Open seat. Two-way Republican primary.

Partisan Lean: +2.5R

Des Peres Hoppital

90

Big Bend Rd

Watson Rd.

SSM St. Clare

SSM St. Clare

SSM St. Clare

Fenton

96

Sappington

Fenton

92

Mike Tsichlis



From his website: Mike has lived in Southwest St. Louis County with his family for 26 years. During this time, he has come to know the residents of District 96 well - its families, business owners, those living there for generations, as well as newcomers. During the past decade, Mike has had the privilege of serving the people of District 96 at the local level. In 2013 he was elected to the Board of Alderman in Crestwood where he also served as Board President. During his tenure, Mike fought to keep Crestwood safe, supporting the purchase of new police vehicles and fire apparatuses, as well as the provision of covered health insurance for first responders and their families.

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.

April Quarter Fundraising Results

Candidate	On-Hand	April Receipts	April Expenditures	Debt
Mike Tsichlis	\$12,790	\$36,519	\$28,367	
Brad Christ	\$84,084	\$3,500	\$3,544	

Consultants

Mike Tsichlis - C3 Public Strategies. Brad Christ – Axiom, Victory.

Web Presence

Mike Tsichlis website: https://mikeformissouri.com/

Mike Tsichlis Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/mikeformissouri

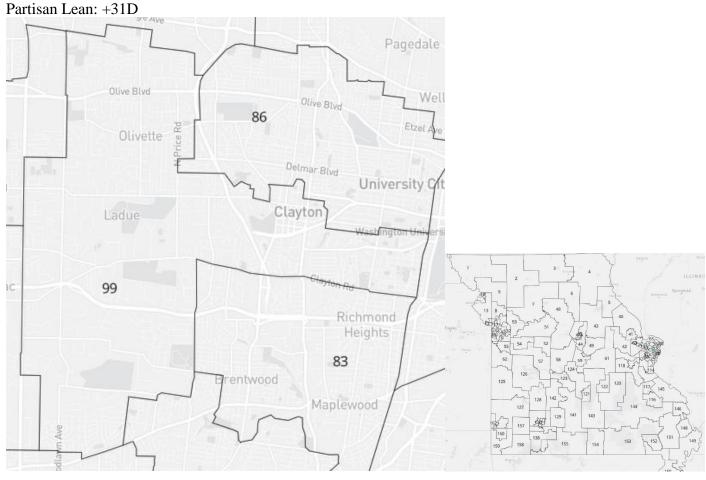
Brad Christ website: https://www.bradchristformo.com/

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

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

MOScout Early Line: Tsichlis has deep ties to the district having served in various capacities, but I wouldn't bet against Christ whose fundraising has been impressive. Christ is the favorite here.

Open seat. Two-way Democratic primary.



Ian Mackey



From his House biography: In addition to his legislative duties, Mackey is an attorney and former teacher. Mackey is a 2005 graduate of Hickory County R-1 High School. He graduated from Westminster College in 2009 with a B.A. in Early Childhood Education before getting his juris doctorate from Suffolk University Law School in 2017.

Boris Abadzhyan



<u>From his website</u>: Boris Abadzhyan is an American Politician, Political Scientist, Foreign Policy Specialist and Human Rights Activist. His expertise includes: U.S. Foreign Policy, South Caucasus Region, Eastern Europe and Western Europe, North America and South America, Central Asia, North Africa and Middle East. Mr. Abadzhyan was born in Yerevan City, the Republic of Armenia on March 20, 1987 and emigrated to Saint Louis, Missouri on November 1,1994.

April Quarter Fundraising Results

Candidate	On-Hand	April Receipts	April Expenditures	Debt
Ian Mackey	\$38,384	\$3,944	\$2,121	
Boris Abadzhyan	\$1,548	\$930	\$693	

Web Presence

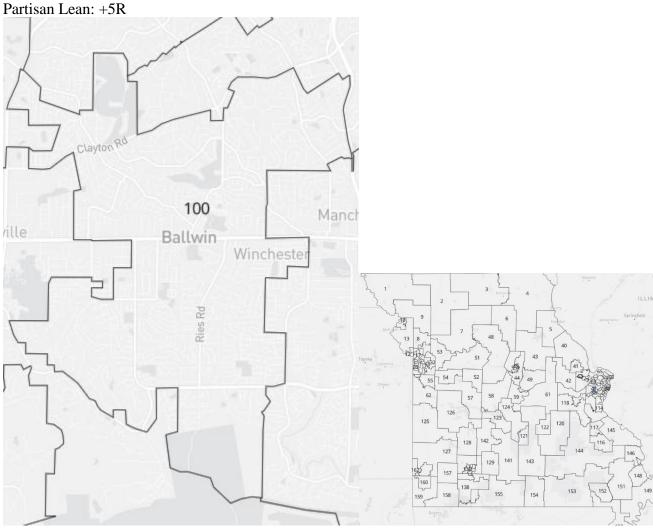
Ian Mackey website: https://www.imackey.com/

Ian Mackey Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/RepIanMackey
Boris Abadzhyan website: https://www.borisabadzhyanformissouri.com/
Boris Abadzhyan Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BorisforMissouri

Boris Abadzhyan Twitter: https://twitter.com/BorisAbadzhyan

MOScout Early Line: Mackey should win this easily.

Open seat. Two-way Republican primary.



Philip Oehlerking



From his website: I live in Ballwin with my wife, Sarah, and our three-year-old daughter. I graduated from the University of Missouri – St. Louis and work at the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority (MOHELA). I am proud of my active role at Trinity Presbyterian Church where I have served as a deacon.

Brant Harber



From his website: I have been a resident of Ballwin for over eighteen years, and I am a parishioner at Holy Infant Catholic Church. As a longtime resident of West Saint Louis County, I have a good understanding of the needs of my community as well as the unique challenges it faces in the coming years. I have many years of professional experience in both Medicine and Information Technology. I worked for companies such as Signature Medical Group, St. Anthony's Medical Center, Novant Health, SSM Health Care, Ascension, St. Louis University Hospital, Monsanto, and AT&T to list a few.

April Quarter Fundraising Results

Candidate On-Hand April Receipts April Expenditures Debt

Philip Oehlerking \$228 \$1,150 \$1,021

Brant Harber Limited Activity

Web Presence

Philip Oehlerking website: https://www.electphiloehlerking.com/ Philip Oehlerking Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/phil4missouri

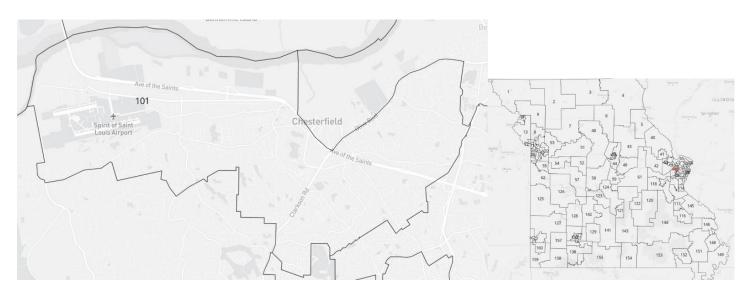
Philip Oehlerking Twitter: https://twitter.com/missouri4philip

Brant Harber website: https://brantharber.com/

MOScout Early Line: In his limited fundraising so far, Oehlerking has a check for \$500 from Jim Talent. Axiom is also consulting for Oehlerking.

Open seat. Two-way Republican primary.

Partisan Lean: +7R



John BrunnerCould not find profile





From his website: Having lived in Chesterfield for nearly thirty years, Ben has grown up along-side the City of Chesterfield. His wife Jenny grew up in Ellisville and works as a registered nurse at Barnes West County Hospital, having worked for BJC since graduating from Maryville University. Ben and Jenny have two young children, Lark (4) and Jai (2). Ben attended Chesterfield and Wild Horse Elementary on his way to graduating from Marquette High School, going on to study at Knox College in Galesburg, IL. At Knox, Ben was an academic all-conference baseball player and President of the Young Republicans. After undergrad, Ben went on to Syracuse University, obtaining a Masters degree in political science and his law degree.

Ben was admitted to the Missouri Bar in 2013, and in 2015 opened his own law practice in Chesterfield, where he represents clients in a wide variety of matters, with a focus on contracts and family-law issues. In 2017, Ben was first elected to the Chesterfield City Council, and completed two terms fighting to preserve neighborhoods and keep taxes low. In addition to a staunch fiscal conservative, Ben was a stalwart against the Better Together city-county merger, and he fought to keep services and businesses running amidst Covid overreach by St. Louis County. While on the City Council, Ben was elected to serve two terms as Chairman of the Public Health and Safety Committee.

April Quarter Fundraising Results

Candidate On-Hand April Receipts April Expenditures Debt

John Brunner Committee formed after deadline.
Ben Keathley Committee formed after deadline.

Web Presence

John Brunner: no web presence

Ben Keathley website: https://www.benkeathley.com/

Ben Keathley Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BenKumarKeathley

Ben Keathley Twitter: https://twitter.com/benKeath

MOScout Early Line: Keathley is a legit candidate, but I expect the Brunner campaign to overwhelm him.