INCOMING ELECTION

The Education Building is lit red, white and blue for Tuesday’s election

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Issue 1 proposes limitations on drug penalties

Stepha Poulin
Editor-in-Chief

Ohioans are well aware of the opioid epidemic due to the magnitude of its effects. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the rate of opioid-related deaths in Ohio is twice the national average. The epidemic has previously prompted a response from the state, like increased coordination between state and local treatment centers.

A more controversial response to this crisis is on Tuesday’s ballot.

Issue 1 is a proposed amendment to the state constitution that would reduce existing penalties for drug-related crimes, including possessing and using illegal drugs. The extent to which this ballot measure reduces consequences for drug-related crimes has been met with criticism.

Maureen O’Connor, jurist and Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, does not support Issue 1. While she said the state prison system definitely needs better paths to treatment, she does not believe decreased punishment will help substance abusers in the criminal justice system.

“We could not treat the addicted community without drug courts,” O’Connor said.

“Drugs courts” are specialized courts that make judgments or suggest treatment methods for offenders who use drugs.

O’Connor said the treatment community agrees that the “accountability of the court” is needed for substance abusers to get treatment. She cited statistics from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration that show many substance abusers don’t believe they have a problem.

Yet Stephen JohnsonGrove, an attorney at the Ohio Justice & Policy Center, said that his arguments in favor of the issue are not against drug courts.

“Seventy-five percent of the money saved will go towards evidence-based treatment methods, like drug courts,” JohnsonGrove said. JohnsonGrove does not believe prison should be seen as a path to treatment.

“The trauma of jail is like pouring gasoline on a fire,” he said.

But O’Connor has a hard time believing addicts will get help “if we have enough treatment centers.” She does not believe any projected savings from Issue 1 are necessary.

“Issue 1 makes you think we don’t have the funding for that (treatment centers),” she said, referencing millions of dollars in funding from the Violence Against Women Act.

JohnsonGrove said Issue 1 will create money for treatment on top of existing funding the state has already recived.

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Issue 1 practices compassion

Meredith Siegel
Forum Editor

The number of people in America incarcerated for drug offenses in 2016 was 456,000, according to the Drug Policy Alliance. The number of people who live in Columbus is 862,643, according to Data USA.

Comparatively, over half the population of Columbus is currently in prison because of a drug offense.

Issue 1 is a bill attempting to lower the number of people in prison and increase funding for rehabilitation programs, according to Ballotpedia. Drug possession offenses that are now considered felonies would be lowered to be considered misdemeanors.

In Ohio, misdemeanors do not result in prison time, only fines and the possibility of jail time, but time in jail is no longer than six months. Issue 1 would reduce the number of people in prisons. There are hundreds of thousands of people in prison on drugs offenses, and this includes simple possession charges.

If you’re someone who is worried about drug trafficking and has heard that Issue 1 will not punish those who are trafficking drugs, that is not true. According to Ballotpedia, “Issue 1 would not change the classification of first-, second-, or third-degree drug-related felonies such as the sale, distribution, or trafficking of drugs.”

The people in jail for possession of drugs are disproportionately men of color. According to the Drug Policy Alliance, 46.9 percent of the people arrested for drug offenses are black and Latino men, despite only making up 31.5 percent of the population.

According to NewsWeek, white men are the most likely to use marijuana, and according to U.S. News, “the highest at-risk population for heroin addiction is non-Hispanic white males between the ages of 18 and 25.”

By putting less people in prison for drug possession, there will be less men of color disproportionately in prison.

Putting less people in prison, while I believe this is the most moral thing to do, will also save the state a lot of money. Issue 1 requires that the money saved by not incarcerating people be put to rehabilitation programs and drug treatment for people who are addicted to drugs, according to Ballotpedia.

Another facet of Issue 1 is to “create a sentence credits program for inmates’ participation in rehabilitative, work, or educational programs,” according to Ballotpedia. This will allow reduced sentences for people in prison, except for those who were convicted of “murder, rape, or child molestation,” according to the Statewide Issue Report from Jon Husted, Ohio secretary of state.

Issue 1 was created to prevent more people from going to prisons, and I think that means treating people like people. Prison should not be a catch-all solution for all of society’s ills.

People who have an addiction have an illness; doctors and scientists agree on this. I don’t believe anyone should be sent to prison for simply having an illness. And addictions happen for a lot of reasons: many people who are addicted started in totally legal ways, like being given pain medication in a hospital.

We shouldn’t fault people with an addiction; we should help them. And keeping them out of prisons while funding programs to serve them is the right thing to do.

People are dying. It’s our duty to help them. I encourage you to vote “yes” on Issue 1 tomorrow in the voting booth.

Sincerely,
Stewart B. Epstein

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

I seem to find myself in the minority in today’s national Democratic Party.

I disagree with the tendency of most Democrats (including political candidates for Congress and those in the news media) to constantly bash President Donald Trump over his obnoxious personality and his divisive comments.

As conservative “Morning Joe” Scarborough has said on his MSNBC show, when Democrats talk negatively about Trump, it just makes his supporters angrier and more protective of him, while corroborating their paranoid belief that the Democrats and the liberal part of the media are out to get Trump. Rather, as Scarborough suggests, Democrats need to focus on communicating their values to the people and telling the people how the federal government can be a positive force for a lot of good and how it can make life better for all Americans in our country.

They don’t seem to realize research has consistently shown over the past forty years that most Americans agree with them: we need to protect the safety-net programs such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, food stamps, college student loans and unemployment insurance benefits.

These are winning issues and popular programs we should constantly be talking about, not trashing Trump.

Sincerely,
Stewart B. Epstein

Vote YES
Chief Justice recommends against Issue 1

Maureen O’Connor
Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court

A northern Ohio mother called recently to thank me for taking a public stand against Issue 1 on this fall’s ballot. She wanted me to know that a drug court has been the last resort for her addicted daughter. Issue 1, she said, would shut down the only institution that has helped her daughter and would tie the hands of the people helping her. That was a reference to a judge and his court personnel.

Her knowledge of the problem was deep because she’s lived the life of an addict’s mom.

“It takes the brain more than a year, 18 months at least, to recover from opioid addiction,” she said of her daughter. “Until she was charged with a felony, she had no help. She needs time for her brain to get better.”

A drug court and medication-assisted treatment, known as MAT, was seeing her daughter through. Issue 1 would shatter this system in Ohio.

This caring mom got it right – not because she’s a medical professional. She’s not. It’s because she is living the painful reality of mothering the child she loves and living through the ups and downs – mostly downs – of an addicted child.

She sees clearly the one way out for her child – a caring judge, a functioning drug court and medication-assisted treatment.

Many Ohioans probably don’t know about the drug-treatment infrastructure we’ve built over the past decade to fight addiction and save lives. They are called drug courts, and we have 170 of them in our state. They are designed to take extra steps – through extra caring, concern and focus on the individual addict.

This system is working. The problem is huge, so the progress of drug courts isn’t always apparent to the casual observer. But in county seats around our state, drug courts are putting people first and helping them win back their lives.

Why would Issue 1 devastate these courts? Issue 1 is a proposed constitutional amendment. It would carve into legal stone the right to possess small but deadly amounts of some drugs and face only a misdemeanor charge for those who get caught. Possession of less than 20 grams of fentanyl – the synthetic opioid ravaging our state – would be a misdemeanor. Yet, 19 grams can kill 10,000 people. This drug is so dangerous that first responders face sickness and death just by breathing it.

The fortunate addict is the one who is arrested and enters a drug treatment court, incentivized to complete the program, because not doing so would bring a felony conviction and prison time. Take away the felony and where is the incentive?

I agree with those who say that, for too long, we have tried to arrest and incarcerate our way out of the drug problem. But with a more enlightened way of thinking about addiction comes a new way of addressing its treatment. This means treating addiction as the disease it is. And it means having social structures in place to help the addicted. That’s our drug courts.

Accountability is where the courts come in. Judges should not be precluded from exercising their discretion when they have a drug-addicted defendant before them. That’s what Issue 1 would do. It would take away the discretion of prosecutors to charge and judges to judge – and care. And because it would be a new part of our constitution, our legislature couldn’t change it.

Issue 1 is a disaster that would worsen our opiate crisis. I implore Ohioans to reject it when they enter the voting booth.
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What you should be streaming this month

Evan Hayes
Pulse Editor

After an overwhelming amount of Halloween content was released by streaming platforms over the last month, there is an assortment of new shows and movies available to customers across the various platforms this month. In November, we see the return of a cult-classic, the arrival of a new psychological thriller led by the incomparable Julia Roberts and the return of a beloved science fiction epic, among others. Check our streaming guide for November to find the next thing you should be watching.

**Wonder**
(Amazon Prime and Hulu)
Genre: Family comedy-drama
Length: 113 minutes
Summary: Based on the 2012 novel of the same name by R.J. Palacio, “Wonder” follows a young boy named Auggie with Treacher Collins syndrome, which causes facial deformities, as he enters school and tries to fit in. The movie largely follows Auggie and his family, rounded out by Owen Wilson and Julia Roberts as his mom and dad. A well-acted film that doesn’t try to stray too far from its roots in its source material, “Wonder” never stops tugging at your heartstrings. And in a society where most of us are constantly focused on how we look, both in real life and on social media, “Wonder” projects the message that it’s what is on the inside of every person that truly matters.

**House of Cards**
(Netflix)
Seasons: 6
Episodes: 73
Length: 43-49 minutes
Summary: The final season of Netflix’s biggest original drama to date sees Robin Wright’s Claire Underwood step into the leading role. This, of course, comes after this past year’s sexual misconduct allegations against former star Kevin Spacey. While the season sees the psychological thriller trying to wrap up an unruly amount of plot lines neatly into a finale, it is Robin Wright’s performance that keeps this show together as it comes to a close. She is unmatched as Claire, chilly and somehow more calculating than her late husband Frank ever was. Nothing she says should be believed until the very end, making this one of the more interesting watches this month.

**The Great British Baking Show**
(Netflix)
Seasons: 6
Episodes: 36
Length: 43-44 minutes
Release Date: Nov. 9
Summary: If you’re looking for something to turn on during a lazy Sunday doing homework or you’re feeling hungry for some confectionary delights, “The Great British Baking Show” will be coming back soon with a new season. Lauded for reinvigorating the baking craze throughout Britain and Ireland, the soothing cooking show is one of the most low-stakes reality shows in production today. While there is no prize money, many contestants have gone on to careers in the baking industry after their appearances.

**Homecoming**
(Amazon Prime)
Seasons: 1
Episodes: 10
Length: 24-37 minutes
Summary: From “Mr. Robot” creator Sam Esmail, who directed the entire first season, comes “Homecoming,” a psychological thriller released just a couple days ago and based on the narrative podcast of the same name by Eli Horowitz and Michael Bloomberg. Bloomberg and Horowitz both helped create and write the series, which stars Julia Roberts as main character Heidi Bergman. Bergman is former caseworker who worked at the Homecoming Transitional Support Center helping soldiers transition back to civilian life. Years later, she is confronted about why she left and realizes her memories are not what they seem. It will be the first time Julia Roberts will be starring in a TV show, and the cast is rounded out by Bobby Cannavale of HBO’s defunct “Vinyl,” Stephan James of “Race” and the unparalleled Sissy Spacek. Fans of “Mr. Robot” will want to spend next weekend binging the entire first season.

**The Expanse**
(Amazon Prime)
Seasons: 3 (1 new)
Episodes: 36
Length: 43-44 minutes
Release Date: Nov. 15
Summary: Fans of the SyFy science fiction drama, rejoice! Amazon Prime will be releasing a fourth season of “The Expanse,” a space epic based on the novel series of the same name, following its cancellation by SyFy this past year. The show has been consistently praised as one of the best works of science fiction currently being made, and its move to a major streaming platform will be interesting. While we have seen other shows achieve moderate success after making moves to streaming platforms, having one of such prestige on a small network has never really happened before. But fans of science fiction will love this show, which capitalizes on the humanity of its characters by examining the fears driving them forward.

**The Big Lebowski**
(Hulu)
Genre: Comedy
Length: 119 minutes
Summary: The Coen brothers’ famous comedy starring Jeff Bridges as The Dude has finally arrived for streaming, landing on Hulu on Nov. 1. The endlessly quotable cult-classic follows The Dude, Jeff Lebowski, as he tries to unravel a mystery caused by his confusion with a millionaire, also named Jeffrey Lebowski. This movie is driven by fantastical characters, such as the John Goodman’s deranged Walter Sobchak, Julianne Moore’s Maude Lebowski and Steve Buscemi’s Donny. A roller coaster ride of laughs and mystery, “The Big Lebowski” never fails to disappoint.

**Gotti**
(Amazon Prime)
Genre: Biographical crime-drama
Length: 112 minutes
Available: Nov. 15
Summary: “Gotti” premiered this past summer at the Cannes Film Festival, and reviewers in attendance hated it. Then, when it had its wide theatrical release, there was controversy surrounding both reviews on Rotten Tomatoes and the fact that 40 percent of the opening weekend audience being MoviePass subscribers, since MoviePass had a large financial stake in the movie. So why you should you watch a movie that has been hailed as “the worst mob movie of all-time?” For the same reason that “The Room” has become a cult classic. John Travolta’s performance is downright hilarious, and the ridiculousness of one scene is often accompanied by the dullness of the next. Somehow, “Gotti” tries to portray one of the most notorious New York mobsters as a loving family man, a ridiculous notion to any sane human being.
Women's soccer steamrolls SIUE on senior night

Jacob Clary
Sports Editor

Women's soccer defeated Ball State in sudden death penalty kicks Sunday to take the MAC Tournament Championship and punch their ticket to the upcoming NCAA Women’s Soccer Tournament.

The match began well for the Falcons, who controlled the majority of possession. Neither side, however, was getting many chances; there was only one shot each midway through the half. In the 27th minute, Nikki Cox was taken down, and Falcons’ defender Maureen Kennedy stepped up to take the kick. Kennedy knocked the ball into the back of the net. This changed the score to 1-0 in favor of the Falcons. The rest of the half left the score at 1-0.

The second half started off with the Cardinals in the front foot, with Ball State looking ready to tie the score up. There were a couple times the Cardinals almost got the ball in the back of the net, but their goal came in the 55th minute. The play started with a corner kick and turned into many people trying to get the ball into the net. The side referee signaled the ball had fully passed the goal line from one of these kicks, which tied the match up at 1-1. The remainder of the half saw the Falcons gain some of the momentum back, almost taking the lead. However, they couldn't quite get the golden chance they needed, and the second half ended at 1-1.

Overtime was more of the same with the Falcons having much of the possession and chances. They were not able to capitalize on any of these chances, and the game went to penalty kicks. The Falcons and Cardinals both played to a 4-4 draw in the first five penalty shooters, which led to sudden-death penalty kicks. Ball State started by missing the goal entirely, leading to the Falcons bringing in Elisa Baeron for their first chance in sudden death. Baeron expertly slotted the ball into the back of the net, giving the Falcons the win and the MAC Tournament Championship.

The team has been a force the whole season, only losing one match in the MAC during the entirety of the season, and with that comes a lot of hope to win bigger and better things later in the season. Coach Matt Fannon talked about his feelings on winning the tournament.

“We dominated the game, and I was incredibly impressed and proud of the performance as much if not more so than the result, because the girls really stuck to the game plan and they did really well,” he said.

The Falcons were the better team for the majority of the match, and with that comes time where the game is unpredictable. Fannon commented on some of those points.

“The first 20 minutes of the second half it was all Ball State, wasn't it? And I think when they scored they certainly had the momentum, and they were all over us for a portion, but I think we were very clearly the better team in the first half,” he said. “When you're pushing and pushing and don't get a goal, it can often hurt you emotionally.

“After that, I think our schedule this year and what we've done and what we've just been through as a team this year prepared us for the moment to not get too down on ourselves emotionally and let us ourselves get into pens and make sure that we were just able to focus on what we were doing rather than the emotions of ‘oh man, we didn't score.’”

The Falcons were also thorough in being able to close out the match like they had most of the season. This match may have went longer than the matches the rest of the season, but Fannon talked about how what they did in training helped them during the match.

“We've been practicing pens for a bunch of weeks now and honestly, we've just been smashing them top ends left and right, so I wasn't too worried,” he said. “At one point, we were 3-1 down, and I may not have been quite as confident at that moment. But overall, I think that we've spent a lot of time working on our composure and being calm, and I think that probably shown through in the end.”

The Falcons were able to win the MAC Tournament Championship after going into the tournament as the first seed. It has not been decided yet which team the Falcons will play.

Men’s soccer steamrolls SIUE on senior night

Jacob Clary
Sports Editor

Men's soccer defeated Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville 2-0 Saturday. It was also Senior Night for the Falcons for four senior players — Ebenezer Ackon, Moe Mustafa, Peter Pugliese and Tate Robertson.

The Falcons started the match defending well and pressuring the Cougars’ defense. They attacked well and had a lot of chances in the first half that almost went in the back of the net. They had five shots in the half and held the ball and the pace of play the whole half.

They were also able to hold the Cougars to no shots in the first half. Goalkeeper Anthony Mwembia saw almost nothing that half. The half looked like it would end in 0-0, but the Falcons got a corner kick with 30 seconds remaining. Ackon came through with a header after the kick, giving the Falcons the lead before the end of the half.

The second half was more of the same. Even though the Cougars started getting more offensive, with five shots and one on goal, the Falcons still controlled the vast majority of play.

The team also got another goal within the first couple minutes of the half with a shot from Peter Pugliese with an assist coming from Tate Robertson.

The Falcons played a stellar match, controlling all sides of the ball, which is enlightening to see this late in the season.

“I'm really proud of the guys and really proud of how it's come together … and they're peaking at the right time,” head coach Eric Nichols said.

The Falcons played like they wanted to win, and that was shown in how they tested the Cougar defense and stopped their attack. Nichols also discussed his feelings about Saturday's match.

"I was really pleased," he said. "I think we controlled the game from the beginning to the end.

The Falcons had some trouble this season in finishing off games, and Nichols commented on the changes in Saturday's game compared to other matches.

“One of the things we talked about was being able to close out a lead," he said. “A couple times this year, we had leads that we weren't able to finish off, and that was one of the things we worked on. But before we got to close our lead, we had to get a lead, so put one thing before the other. But that's basically the only thing different that we did this week.”

The Falcons finished the season in second place in the MAC, only behind the West Virginia Mountaineers, who gave the Falcons their only MAC loss in the season. They will travel to West Virginia to play in the MAC playoffs. They will either play Western Michigan or Northern Illinois Friday at 2:30 p.m. in the MAC Semifinals.
Men’s hockey splits Northern Michigan series

Jamison Terbrack
Sports Reporter

The men’s hockey team split a pair with the Northern Michigan Wildcats over the weekend. The Falcons won the first game Friday by a score of 3-1 but dropped the Saturday tilt 2-0.

This was the first taste of WCHA action this year for the Falcons, and the physical play did not disappoint. Junior Lukas Craggs had a hard hit to set up the first goal of the weekend for the Falcons. His hit would jar the puck from a Wildcat player, allowing senior captain Stephen Baylis to feed an open teammate for the goal. That goal would be a memorable one, as it was the first in the career of freshman Taylor Schneider.

“I think that it’s really important,” Head Coach Chris Bergeron said of physical play, “whether it’s an individual or collective. We have some guys that are really good at it, Lukas being at or near the top of that list. Good, clean solid hit and good things happen. I think it’s 100 percent necessary for us to establish ourselves physically.”

After that, it was time for Craggs’ brother to make a play, as sophomore Sam Craggs picked up the garbage. Sophomore Brandon Kruse made a move up the right side of the ice, firing a shot the goaltender could stop but not corral. The younger Craggs brother picked up the loose puck in the slot and fired it home, putting Bowling Green up by 2 points.

After Troy Loggins brought the Wildcats within 1, it was time for the Falcons’ “magic man” to make something happen. Kruse was not content with just his assist on the day, as he would use his best asset to make another goal happen: his wheels. Kruse, a draft pick of the Vegas Golden Knights, credited his speed to his wheels. Kruse said, “Just trying to find it every game and use it to the best of my ability. It helps push the pace and get the puck in their zone, so it’s for sure my biggest attribute.”

Falcon goalie, junior Ryan Bednard, stood tall all weekend, allowing only three of 38 shots to pass him. His effort would not be enough for the Falcons in game two of the series, as the Falcons could not get past his counterpart for the Wildcats, Atte Tolvanen.

The Falcons outshot the Wildcats 35-15 in game two, but the team just could not finish when it mattered most.

“If there was one takeaway from this weekend, it’s that our powerplay needs to be better. It was not good this weekend,” Bergeron said.

The Falcons made Northern take eight penalties in each game of the series but could not convert on the chances they were given.

The Falcons hockey team will head up north next to take on the Alaska Anchorage Seawolves in Anchorage next weekend.

Volleyball sweeps both matches on the road

Zane Miller
Sports Reporter

The Falcon volleyball team grabbed a pair of three-set shutouts, taking down the Miami RedHawks 3-0 on Thursday night before defeating the Northern Illinois Huskies 3-0 on Saturday night.

The Thursday match began with the Falcons winning 25-21 in the first set with junior outside hitter Jessi Holly leading the team with four kills. In the second set, the Falcons took a close victory as they won 25-23, junior middle blocker Celena Kanagin leading the offense with four kills in the set. The third set would not be as close, however, with the Falcons winning it 25-17 to claim the 3-0 match victory. Holly led the team with four kills in the final set, as well as leading the team offensively in the match overall with nine kills. Kanagin and freshman outside hitter Katelyn Meyer also had strong offensive performances with eight and seven kills respectively.

“I am very proud of our team for the way they prepared and played against a tough Miami team,” volleyball head coach Danijela Tomic said. “We executed our game plan excellently, and everyone did their job. Our defense and serve receive were outstanding and helped us create opportunities for our offense that was also very efficient tonight. … This might be our best performance this season, but we want to build on this and continue getting better.”

On Saturday, the team travelled to Northern Illinois and started out with the team taking a 28-26 victory in the first set, coming back from being down 24-18, with Kanagin earning five kills. The second set saw the team win it 25-20, Kanagin leading the team with seven kills. In the third set, the team closed it out with a 25-17 victory to win the match 3-0. Kanagin and Meyer tied for the team lead in the final set in kills with three each as Kanagin led the team in the match overall with 15 kills.

“This was a huge road win for us because NIU is probably the toughest place to play on the road,” Tomic said. “Our team showed so much grit, poise and maturity throughout the whole match but especially in the first set. To come back (being down) 11-21 and (16-7) speaks volume about the character and toughness of our team.”

The team next plays in its final series of the regular season, facing the Ohio Bobcats on the road on Friday night and the Kent State Golden Flashes on the road on Saturday night. After the next weekend, the team will play in the MAC tournament in Oxford, Ohio, as the team currently holds first place in the MAC.
Students voice opinions on Issue 1

Meredith Siegel
Forum Editor

Students at the University were asked if they thought felons being denied the right to vote and the right to work certain jobs was morally right and if this knowledge changed their view on Issue 1.

Issue 1 is a topic on this election’s ballot that has been discussed heatedly by people who disagree on the best ways to solve the opioid crisis. A “yes” on Issue 1 would consider drug offenses related to possession and use a misdemeanor, not a felony; it would also require the state to spend money saved from a reduction of inmates on drug treatment and rehabilitation programs, according to Ballotpedia. However, this would not change the classification of “first-, second-, or third-degree drug-related felonies, such as the sale, distribution, or trafficking of drugs.”

Currently in Ohio, people who have been charged with felonies cannot vote while in prison, and they are banned from several occupations and can legally be denied jobs because of their criminal record.

Kyrsten Nagypaul, a Spanish education sophomore, believes felons should keep their right to vote despite time in prison because “they are still American citizens.”

“I think if people just have drugs and are not just trafficking them, then the law (Issue 1) is probably fair because trafficking is bad,” she said.

When asked about the current laws around felonies, Ian Walland, a software engineering freshman, said, “Half of that is okay and half of that is not. People should be allowed to get jobs to change their lifestyle, but jobs related to their crime should not be allowed.”

He also believes felons should be able to vote while in prison.

This information did not change Walland’s opinion on Issue 1, and he believes the “drug epidemic is a problem that the community as a whole needs to deal with, so it’s the problem of the people with the drugs.”

Nick Jellison, a criminal justice senior, thinks the lack of jobs available for felons is a “secondary punishment that people don’t see because the people who don’t have felonies don’t experience it.” He believes it “takes opportunities away unfairly.”

“I think that as far as I’ve seen about how it’s going, it’s going to redistribute funds. I think it would be good to pass it. The offenders being punished are abusers and should not be locked away. They need to be put into a rehabilitation program; they shouldn’t be locked away for something they can’t totally control,” Jellison said.

Natalie Sittak, a history junior, believes the rights a felon gains or has taken away “really depends on the situation.” She would “probably vote against that because the effects of drugs can really affect families.”

Sophia Rechin, an English sophomore, believes the removing those rights from felons is morally wrong.

“I personally believe in second chances. If someone has that many restrictions, they are lowering the chances they have to get back on their feet,” she said.

Rechin also thinks Issue 1 reducing the sentencing for all drugs is “a little iffy” because that money is being put towards rehabilitation. She likes Issue 1 because “even though it’s not a felony on your record, (addiction) is still being addressed.”

Marquita Luckett, a media communication student from another university, does not believe the current laws surrounding drug felonies are moral.

“I’m from Detroit, Michigan; I’ve seen a lot of things. I’ve had family members going to prison for doing things they probably shouldn’t have done,” she said. “If they’re going to prison, they should be rehabilitated. In my opinion, that’s how we get repeat offenders because they’re sitting at home with no job. They can’t find a good job to keep them busy.”

Luckett said she would vote “yes” on Issue 1 because she “doesn’t see a little bit of drugs as the problem.”

Issue 1 is on the ballot for the midterm election on Tuesday.
Find out what’s on the Ohio 2018 ballot

Ohio general mid-term elections are coming up, and the race for different issues and offices are at large.

Here is a compilation of some — but not all — issues and significant candidates that will appear on Tuesday’s ballot.

Issues

Wood County:
There are two levies, the first funding $1 million to addiction and mental health services for over 10 years starting in 2019, and the second renewing $2.95 million to developmental disabilities that will last until 2023.

Bowling Green:
There are four issues relating to charter amendments. These amendments look to:
- Tighten language about the appointment and duties of the Director of Planning position, expanding the office’s authority.
- Other cities’ issues are also on the ballot, including those of Perrysburg City and Perrysburg Township.
- School districts outside of Bowling Green in the county are also represented through levy votes.

Ohio state offices

Gubernatorial Race:
Richard Cordray — D, with Betty Sutton: a former Ohio Attorney General who supports the controversial anti-imprisonment stance on Ohio drug use and looks for more public spending. He was also Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau under Obama, but he resigned in 2017.

Mike DeWine — R, with Jon Husted: heavily discourages tax increases and has a hard line on illegal drug use.

Ohio state offices

Attorney General:
- Steve Dettelbach — D
- Dave Yost — R

State Auditor:
- Robert C. Coogan — Libertarian
- Keith Faber — R
- Zack Space — D

Ohio Secretary of State:
The race is between four candidates, including independent and libertarian candidates.
- Kathleen Clyde — D
- Frank LaRose — R
- Dustin R. Nanna — Libertarian
- Michael W. Bradley — Independent

Treasurer:
- Rob Richardson — D
- Robert Sprague — R

Ohio Supreme Court Justices:
- Craig Baldwin — R
- Michael P. Donnelly — D
- Mary DeGenaro — R
- Melody J. Stewart — R

Ohio House of Representatives:
- Theresa A. Gavarone — R
- Aidan Hubbell-Staeble — D

Ohio Board of Education:
- Jeanine P. Donaldson, of Lorain
- Charles Froehlich, of Avon Lake
- Kirsten Hill, of Amherst
- W. Roger Knight, of Norwalk
- Sue Lardimer, of Perrysburg
- Vicki Donovan Lyle, of Sylvania
- Annette Dudek Shine, of Toledo

Wood County Offices

Judge of Common Pleas:
- Molly Mac — R , of Perrysburg

Auditor:
- Matthew Oestreich — R
- Buddy Ritson — D

County Commissioner:
- Doris Herringshaw — R

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