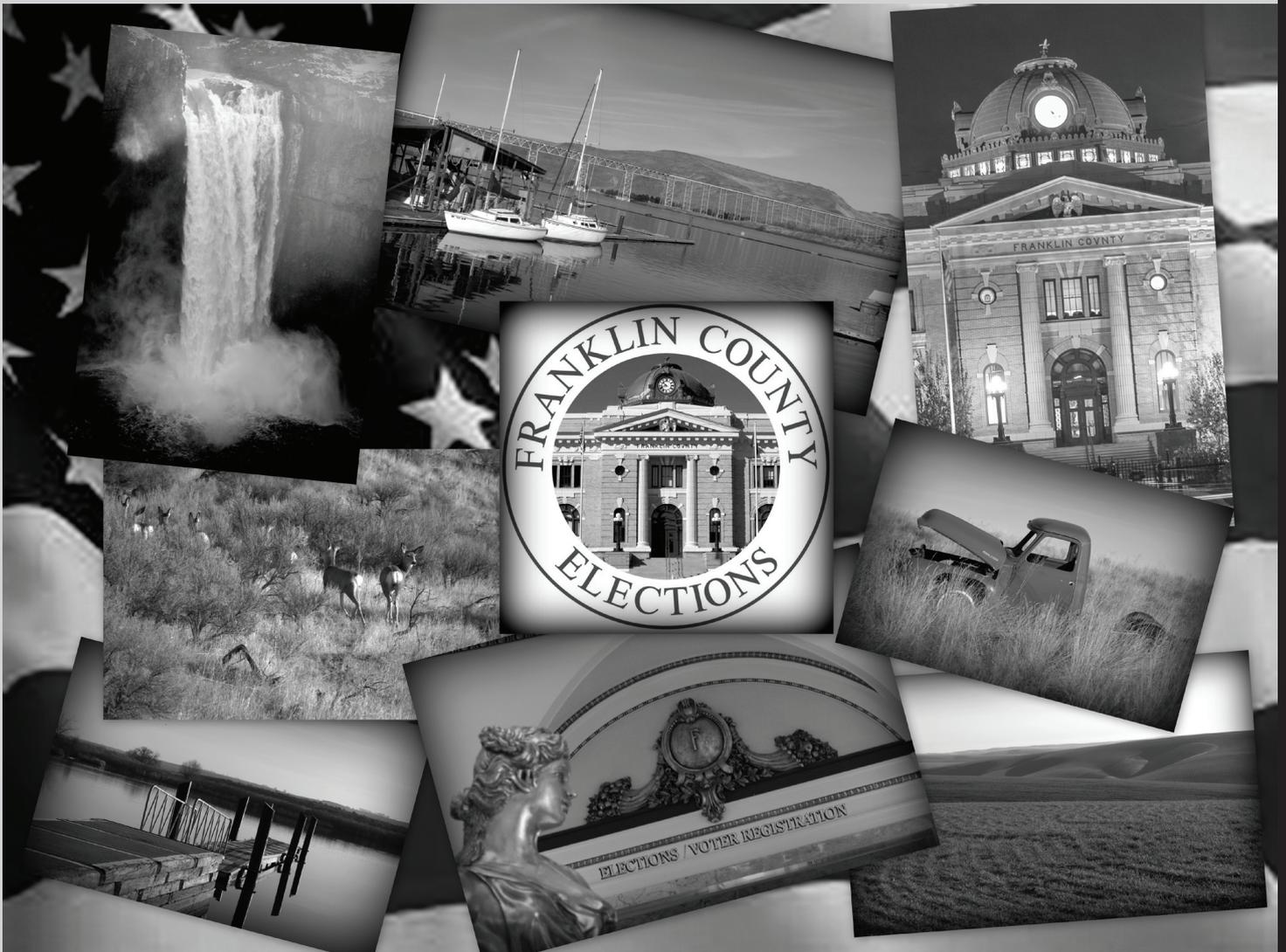


Franklin County Official Local

Voters' Pamphlet

November 4, 2014 General Election



Published by the Franklin County Auditor's Office

Message from Franklin County Auditor

Dear voter,

As our 34th President, Dwight D. Eisenhower said: "The future of this republic is in the hands of the American voter."

I believe the future of the republic is like each of our individual futures. It is ever changing and dependant on our continued education, discipline and vigilance.

We in the Franklin County Auditor's office are here to answer your questions and assist with your election needs. We work hard to provide a secure, accountable and transparent election each time we are tasked to hold one on your behalf.

We all bring different experiences and perspectives to our communities. When we vote individually the collective outcome carries a mandate for action.

Finally, I encourage you to Vote it, Sign it and Send it by November 4th.



Matt Beaton

Matt Beaton

November 4, 2014 General Election

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Candidate statements are printed exactly as submitted. The elections division does not make corrections of any kind or verify statements for truth or fact.

Steven Marks
(Prefers Republican Party)

No
photo
submitted

Unopposed

Elected Experience: No information submitted.

Other Professional Experience: No information submitted.

Education: No information submitted.

Community Service: No information submitted.

Statement: No information submitted.

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semarks80@gmail.com

Matt Beaton

(Prefers Republican Party)



Unopposed

Elected Experience: Franklin County Auditor 2011 to Present.

Other Professional Experience: No information submitted.

Education: BA in Business Administration, University of Washington.

Community Service: Lourdes Hospital Foundation Board Member, Central Washington Catholic Foundation Board Secretary.

Statement: Four years ago I promised you that I would work diligently to bring change in the culture and operations of the Auditor's office. I promised you that I would introduce a new level of accountability and transparency, and that I would work hard on your behalf. I'm pleased to share my initial results:

First I focused on defining our mission: *"The mission of the Franklin County Auditor is to facilitate honest, transparent, and accurate elections; preserve and allow convenient access to public records; provide accurate, responsive, and efficient licensing services; and ensure fiscal responsibility and accountability of public funds."*

Then I worked to integrate this mission into our daily routines - which helped us discover and end the largest and longest fraud in Washington State's history. We exposed a 20 year scam that cost tax payers over three million dollars. In the Elections department we've emphasized ballot security, voter accessibility and elections transparency. Our innovative outreach efforts resulted in us being awarded "Auditor of the Year for Outreach" from the Secretary of State in 2012.

This term I will continue to account for and report on the use of your tax dollars, conduct fair elections, work hard on your behalf.

Contact: (509) 948-1362;
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Michael J. Killian

(Prefers Republican Party)



Elected Experience: Franklin County Clerk, elected 2000 - 2010.

Other Professional Experience: Certified Public Official, Washington State Association of County Clerks-current Vice President, former member of Gender and Justice Commission for 4 years, served 2 years WA State Public Trust and Confidence Committee, court Management Council and the Board for Judicial Administration for 2 years.

Education: Pasco High School Graduate, Ventura Community College, Ventura, CA.

Community Service: 15 years member Kiwanis Club of Pasco-current Vice President, current Key Club Advisor, active member of St. Patrick Catholic Parish in Pasco, Knights of Columbus, American Legion, and Farm Bureau.

Statement: The office of the County Clerk is the very heart of the court system. It is responsible for all permanent court records and finances for the superior court as well as the county's jury management system to ensure that courts on all levels have sufficient jury panels to proceed to trial. It is an office that requires administrative know-how, knowledge of the law, courts rules and financial management. It requires innovation and efficiency with dedication to quality of work and customer service.

I am fiscally conservative. As Clerk I balance budgeting challenges every year. No easy task when the population, court cases, and the number of judges to be supported have increased but the resources have not. Yet under my leadership Franklin County is recognized as a county with the highest collections of legal fines due. I serve on various committees locally and across the state to stay fresh and on top of issues.

I have lived in Pasco for 39 years. I care about our community. I am committed to public service. I consider it a privilege to serve you as county clerk, and my passion is to continue to serve you honorably. Please vote for me, Michael Killian.

Contact: (509) 845-3417;
clerkmann@gmail.com

Byron J. Pugh

(Prefers Republican Party)



Elected Experience: No information submitted.

Other Professional Experience: Paralegal in private law office, member of adjunct faculty for Columbia Basin College instructing Intro to Paralegalism and Family Law; President of Foreva Farms, Inc., owner of Puma Orchards, LLC, Chief Deputy Clerk for the Benton County Clerk's office and Interim Clerk of Benton County.

Education: Graduate of Connell High School, graduate of Spokane Community College and attended Eastern Washington State University.

Community Service: Served as leader of Boy Scouts of America troop, Director for Bailie Memorial Youth Ranch, President of Bailie Memorial Youth Foundation, President of Finley Youth Council and past member of Franklin County Cattlemen's Association.

Statement: The Franklin County Clerk's office is the objective repository for the records of Franklin County. The responsibilities are complex and multifaceted ranging from summoning jurors, keeping minutes and identifying exhibits for court proceedings, accepting passport applications, collecting legal financial obligations, staffing juvenile court and mental competency hearings. The Clerk must manage staff members, insure data is up to date and accessible to the public, the judiciary, and coordinate closely with the Court Administrator's office, prepare timely budgets and work within the monetary constraints of the County. This requires a full-time administrator dedicated solely to the administration of the office for which he/she has been elected.

As your County Clerk, I pledge to work closely with those for whom my office serves to assure that the office is operated in the most cost efficient manner while meeting the requirements of the public, the judiciary and the State of Washington. Having been a lifelong Republican, dedicated to the principles of smaller government and less taxes, I consider it my personal obligation to assure that the Clerk's office will be efficient and continually streamlining its procedures to produce the highest quality result for the least expenditure of tax dollars.

Contact: (509) 539-1476;
bforeva@eltopia.com

Melinda Didier

(Prefers Republican Party)



Elected Experience: No elected experience.

Other Professional Experience: Personal Banker Loan Officer, 21 years City of Kennewick Planning Department and Customer Service, Washington State Association of Permit Technicians Member, Franklin County Planning Commission Chair, Washington Association of Public Records Officers Member, International Code Council Certified Permit Technician, 26 years co-owner family farming operation.

Education: RiverView High School graduate, Columbia Basin Community College.

Community Service: North Franklin School District Math Team parent volunteer, 4-H volunteer, Credit Women International Treasurer, Connell-North Franklin Jr. Miss parent volunteer, Connell Fall Festival volunteer.

Statement: I am delighted to be running for Franklin County Commissioner, District 3.

I have lived in Franklin County for 27 years on the family farm. It has been a wonderful place to live, as well as learn the values of hard work and dependability.

I was a Personal Banker and responsible for helping over 2,000 clients manage their personal financial accounts. During that time I served as Treasurer of the local chapter of Credit Women International, a service organization devoted to furthering education in credit and collections. Currently I am an administrative assistant for a local City government planning department, and Chairwoman of Franklin County Planning Commission.

As Commissioner I will be responsible for setting suitable county policies, keeping county taxes reasonable, caring for county property, buildings and roads, making sound financial decisions, and managing growth while encouraging economic and agricultural development. My extensive experience in finance, municipal planning, growth management, and as a successful farm business owner proves that I am uniquely qualified to serve. I look forward to working for you.

Please vote for me, Melinda Didier, Franklin County Commissioner District 3.

Contact: (509) 297-4435;
melinda.didier12@gmail.com

Rick Miller

(Prefers Republican Party)



Elected Experience: 2007-current Elected Franklin County Commissioner; 1986-1997 Commissioner Washington State Potato Commission; 1986-1999 National Potato Council Board of Directors; National Potato Board; Franklin County Farm Bureau Board Member.

Other Professional Experience: Washington State Potato Commission Legislative Committee; National Potato Council Chairman of the Leadership Development Institute; Small businessman, 3rd generation diversified farmer; Vocational Teacher; Emergency Medical Technician; Washington Agricultural and Forestry Leadership Program.

Education: B.S. in Agriculture, minors in Management and Business Administration, Washington State University; A.A.S. in Ag-Chem Business; Vocational Teaching Certificate, CWU.

Community Service: Volunteer for PDQ Foundation; Volunteer Judge Pasco School District's Annual Enterprise Week, and Agricultural Advisory Board; Volunteer TCYSA (soccer).

Statement: I have lived and farmed in Franklin County for 46 years. I want to protect what's working in the county and continue to improve what's not.

Franklin County has changed since my childhood and I am proud of our legacy, but I know we still face substantial challenges. Franklin County continues to grow at a rapid pace. We need to continue to work to preserve our land and quality of life through responsible growth.

As your Franklin County Commissioner for the past two terms, I have listened and I have learned. I understand the county, its finances, the services it delivers, and challenges we face. I examine the issues, contemplate the anticipated short and long-term costs and benefits of county action and projects, and I am willing to take a tough position when necessary, implementing corrective actions. I am committed to responsible government and I am respectful of your hard-earned dollars in the budgeting-process. As the 2013 Chairman, I was proactive in protecting landowners during the Fish and Wildlife Endangered Species listing for the White Bluffs Bladderpod. I will continue to protect your rights.

Your vote is important to all of us and I would appreciate your support for re-election!

Contact: (509) 492-6857; rmiller0233@charter.net

Dan R Blasdel
(Prefers Republican Party)

No
photo
submitted

Unopposed

Elected Experience: No information submitted.

Other Professional Experience: No information submitted.

Education: No information submitted.

Community Service: No information submitted.

Statement: No information submitted.

Contact: (509) 727-3766;
pasco_coroner@yahoo.com

Shawn P. Sant

(Prefers Republican Party)

**Unopposed**

Elected Experience: No information submitted.

Other Professional Experience: No information submitted.

Education: No information submitted.

Community Service: No information submitted.

Statement: I would like to thank the citizens of Franklin County for giving me the opportunity to serve as your prosecutor since 2011. During these last few years, my office has taken pride in the service we have provided to crime victims, law enforcement, schools, and to every member of our community that has entered our office. I strive to live true to the slogan on our office wall: "Justice is not about winning, it's about getting it right." As a team, we take the time in evaluating criminal cases and civil litigation, to ensure that we reach a just outcome.

My goal is to ensure that everyone has been treated fairly and with respect. Usually it is during unfortunate circumstances that citizens come to our office. Whether as a crime victim, a witness to a crime, or even as family members of one accused of committing a crime, I am committed to the highest standards of service.

I will continue to work with community leaders on finding solutions for people suffering from mental health conditions that bring them into contact with the criminal justice system. Together, we can continue to make Franklin County a safe and enjoyable community.

Contact: (509) 539-1175;
santlaw@msn.com

Jim Raymond
(Prefers Republican Party)



Elected Experience: No information submitted.

Other Professional Experience: 31+ years in law enforcement for City of Pasco as a uniformed patrol officer, Patrol Division Sergeant, Tri-City Metro Drug Task Force Supervisor, currently hold the rank of Captain, Field Operations Division Commander, Investigative Services Division Commander, Records Division Commander, Street Crimes Unit Commander, Property & Evidence Division Commander, and Special Investigations Unit Commander.

Education: A.A. Degree in Criminal Justice from CBC; attended Northwest Law Enforcement Command College; certifications in Law Enforcement Executive and Middle Management.

Community Service: S.A.R.C. Board Trustee, Tri-Tech and CBC Curriculum Boards, Department of Correction Work Release Screening Committee, Rotarian.

Statement: This year Franklin County citizens have a choice for their elected sheriff. I believe in a *close, open-door partnership* between the citizens of Franklin County and their sheriff's department. It is essential to understand the needs and expectations of the communities we serve. The true measurement of success is not in crime rates or statistical data, but rather in the community's level of trust and confidence in the sheriff's office's ability to protect the communities we serve. I will renew a *collaborative relationship* with other local law enforcement agencies. Criminals know no jurisdictional boundaries. It is imperative that we work together to increase public safety. I will foster *transparency and accountability* between the sheriff's department and the public it serves. The elected sheriff is not a department of county government; it is the independent office through which the sheriff exercises the powers of the public trust. Elected sheriffs are accountable directly to the citizens of their county, constitution of their state, the United States Constitution, and local statutes. I will continue to work tirelessly to build this partnership and EARN the public's trust and confidence.

Contact: (509) 851-9512;
jdraymond1208@gmail.com
www.jimraymondforsheriff.com

Richard Lathim
(Prefers Republican Party)



Elected Experience: Franklin County Sheriff 27 years.

Other Professional Experience: 37 years of law enforcement, 1977 – Connell Police Officer, 1978 Franklin County deputy sheriff, 1981 promoted to Corporal, 1982 promoted to Sergeant, 1986 elected Sheriff. Past president of Washington State Sheriffs Association, Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs, and Washington Association of County Officials.

Education: Kahlotus Public Schools '74 Valedictorian, WSU – Police Science & Administration, Seattle police Academy, FBI Command College, Washington State Executive Level law enforcement certification.

Community Service: Pasco Kiwanis – 26 years/past president, former 4-H club leader 19 years, 4-H & FFA Livestock judge, Life Group leader for my church.

Statement: I have committed my law enforcement career to serving the citizens of Franklin County. During my tenure as your Sheriff we have seen crime drop by over 50% while at the same time seen our population almost triple. We have had many challenges over the years to keep our county safe and working together we have made this a safer community. I have managed all aspects of the Sheriff's Office through sound fiscal responsibility always mindful that it is your tax dollars and that you have entrusted me to spend your money wisely. The Sheriff's Office became accredited in 2008 and reaccredited in 2012, and we are in the process of our jail being one of the first jails accredited under a new state jail accreditation program. I am committed to running an office that upholds our constitutional rights for both the law abiding and the law breaker. I run a no frills jail, 23 hour per day lock down and no TV. We have one of safest jails in the state for both the inmates and the staff. I seek your vote to continue serving you as your Sheriff. Thank you for this honor. Your Sheriff, Richard Lathim.

Contact: (509) 521-6727;
rlathim@q.com

Josie Koelzer

(Prefers Republican Party)



Unopposed

Elected Experience: 2010-2014 Elected Franklin County Treasurer.

Other Professional Experience: Josie has been a financial manager for an insurance firm and a large agricultural business, managing significant budgets. Josie has also managed the finances of their family farm for 25 years, which is still owned and operated by Josie and her husband.

Education: Washington State University – Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a Minor in Human Resources.

Community Service: No information submitted.

Statement: Treasurer Josie Koelzer believes in transparency, service to our community, and the stewardship of our assets.

Since her time in office, she has improved the way we can pay our taxes and she reduced the cost of those services. Josie looks to add the ability to file and process excise taxes online, furthering the efficiency in the Treasurer's Office.

Since 2011, Josie has managed the County's bond debt and will have saved the taxpayers nearly \$850,000 by actively managing and refinancing Franklin County's bonds. Since Josie has been in office as Treasurer, the County has improved its financial rating with Standard and Poors from "A" to "AA-." This was instrumental in reducing the County's cost of financing.

Transparency of government was important for Josie before she took office and it continues to be a goal. The Treasurer's website breaks down how tax dollars are collected and distributed, as well as the duties of the Treasurer's Office.

Contact: (509) 269-4793;
josiekoelzer@gmail.com

Gerald F. "Jerry" Roach
(Nonpartisan)



Unopposed

Elected Experience: No information submitted.

Other Professional Experience: No information submitted.

Education: No information submitted.

Community Service: No information submitted.

Statement: Gerald F. "Jerry" Roach was born and raised in Pasco and is a lifelong resident of Franklin County. He and his wife of 28 years, Maria Roozen-Roach, have five grown children.

Elected in 2002, he was a part time District Court Commissioner for six years prior to his election and worked as an attorney in private practice since 1978. He served as President of the Benton-Franklin County Bar Association, chairman of the Bi-County Law Library Committee and has been actively involved with several professional and community organizations. He is a member of the District and Municipal Court Judges Association and served seven years on the Washington State Commission on Judicial Conduct.

He would appreciate your vote in the November election.

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judgejerryroach@gmail.com

Curt DeWoody

(Nonpartisan)



Elected Experience: No information submitted.

Other Professional Experience: Account Executive, Edison International for 37 years. Co-owner, Valley Insured Property Management Inc., for 20 years.

Education: Certified Business Energy Professional, American Institute of Electrical Engineers. Associate's Degree in Business, Victor Valley Community College.

Community Service: Served as the Chair and Vice Chair for Edison's United Way campaigns. Volunteer Toys for Tots, Junior Achievement and Rose Bowl Pedal Pushers.

Statement: I spent 37 years saving electric utility customers money by analyzing their energy needs and developing plans to increase efficiency. Now, with Franklin County's growing customer base, I believe that Franklin PUD will need to increase its Energy Efficiency Programs to not only maintain reasonable rates for customers today, but also to curb future growth issues.

With customer growth also come new renewable energy mandates for Franklin PUD. My experience in this extremely complex industry has taught me that not all renewable energy sources are created equal. I know my understanding of these technologies will help discern which sources are the most environmentally responsible and cost effective options for Franklin County PUD.

I understand and respect that public utility districts exist to meet the needs of the community they serve and to focus on value for their customers. My experience gives me an advantage of providing new insights and leadership to Franklin PUD while still keeping that mission in the forefront.

Contact: (509) 380-5058;
cwdewoody@gmail.com

Bill Gordon

(Nonpartisan)



Elected Experience: No information submitted.

Other Professional Experience: No information submitted.

Education: No information submitted.

Community Service: No information submitted.

Statement: When I was elected in 2002 Franklin PUD had the highest rates of any PUD in the state, dangerously low reserves and a low bond rating. Through my work with fellow commissioners and PUD staff, we put new policies in place that enabled us to lower rates while building reserves and improving our bond rating. At the same time our customer base increased from around 17,000 customers in 2003 to 24,000 today. During the last 12 years we brought fiber to schools in Franklin County to enhance learning opportunities. We added over a hundred miles of lines, increased substation capacity and made improvements to our office to better serve customers. And we did this while keeping competitive rates. There is more work to be done. We are negotiating the Columbia River Treaty, working to prevent BPA rate increases, and dealing with a potential Energy Imbalance Market. With your vote I will continue to be your advocate on all issues challenging your utility.

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