

# Progressive Neighbors

Takoma Park  
Silver Spring

November 2008 Voter Guide

Progressive Neighbors is a nonprofit, grassroots group of citizens who mostly live in MD Districts 18, 19, 20. We have talked to candidates, read their literature, and discussed and debated their ideas and positions.

We recommend. . .

U.S. PRESIDENT

**Barack Obama**

U.S. CONGRESS

*District 4*

**Donna Edwards**

*District 8*

No Endorsement (see over)

MARYLAND COURT OF  
SPECIAL APPEALS, JUDGES

**Deborah Eyler**  
**Robert Zarnoch**

MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

*At-large*

**Phil Kaufman**

*District 2*

**Laura Berthiaume**

*District 4*

**Christopher Barclay**

MARYLAND BALLOT  
QUESTIONS

Question 1:  
**Early Voting** **YES**

Question 2:  
**Slot Machines** **NO**

MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
BALLOT QUESTIONS

Question A:  
**Repeal of  
Legally Ineffective  
Provisions** **YES**

Question B:  
**Property Tax Limit** **NO**

# We recommend. . .

## U.S. PRESIDENT

**Barack Obama**

## U.S. CONGRESS

**District 4: Donna Edwards**

**District 8: No Endorsement**

Progressive Neighbors is split between endorsing the incumbent Chris Van Hollen and Green Party challenger Gordon Clark. We appreciate many of the stands Van Hollen has taken but have been disappointed by his lack of progressive leadership on issues that Clark is championing such as ending the War in Iraq and single payer, universal health care.

## MARYLAND COURT OF SPECIAL APPEALS, JUDGES

Initially, the Governor appoints, and the Senate confirms, these 13 judges. After ten years, they are required to appear on the ballot so voters can say, "Yes! Retain" or "No! Remove from office." We urge a 'yes' vote for:

**Deborah Eyler**  
**Robert Zarnoch**

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

We have been disappointed in the current Board's lack of oversight, especially regarding the multi-billion dollar budgets, the increase in non-teaching positions, and the graduation rates. We expect these candidates to challenge the status quo:

**At-large Phil Kaufman**  
**District 2 Laura Berthiaume**  
**District 4 Christopher Barclay**

## MARYLAND BALLOT QUESTIONS

### **Question 1: Early Voting YES**

This incremental change leads toward the goal of enabling more voters to find convenient times/days to cast their ballot through early voting and no-excuse absentee voting. A "Yes" vote allows the legislature to craft improved legislation.

### **Question 2: Slot Machines NO**

State government should not foster gambling, because one-half of gross revenue will go to gambling interests, because the first benefits won't accrue until 2012, because gambling will generate unpredictable social problems, and because a more progressive tax solution is needed to address the state's budget problems.

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY BALLOT QUESTIONS

### **Question A: Repeal of Legally Ineffective Provisions YES**

Would remove three non-enforceable provisions from the County Charter, as recommended by the Charter Review Commission.

### **Question B: Property Tax Limit NO**

Would require unanimous vote of all 9 Council persons to increase taxes, thus giving veto power to individuals and thwarting the will of the majority.

**Progressive Neighbors Steering Committee:** George Vlasits, Wally Malakoff, Barbara Lenkerd, Felicia Eberling, Shelley Fudge, Joan King, Rick Kowalski, Denny Shaw, Stephan Fineberg Sylvan, Mike Tabor, Cynthia Terrell, Alex Thuronyi, Tim Willard, Mark Woodard, Sarah Wilton.