

HATS IN THE RING

Republican candidates for:

COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS: SEAT 4-B

PRIMARY: MAY 5
GENERAL: AUG. 6

District 4
The district is the only commission district with three seats - A, B and C. The rest of the districts have two seats.

Precincts:
Board of Education
Chilhowee View
Fairview
Montvale

Incumbent:
Dawn Reagan
(Not running)

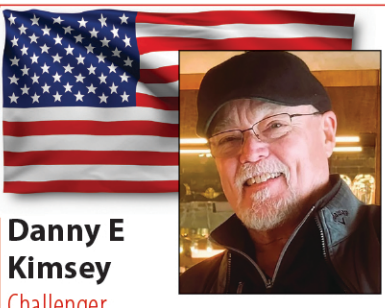
On GOP ballot:
Danny Kimsey
Jason Payne
Robert Simerly

Aug. 6:
Winner faces
Hilary Trudell (D)

Hats in the Ring

The Daily Times emailed all candidates qualified in a contested primary with an opportunity to complete a free profile form for Hats in the Ring. Responses to each question were character count limited to provide equal opportunity for space to each candidate. Direct questions to elections@thedailytimes.com

— Marcus Fitzsimmons
The Daily Times



Danny E Kimsey
Challenger

ONLINE: na
BRIEF BIO: Christian, husband, father, and grandfather committed to serving Blount County with integrity. Focused on fiscal responsibility, supporting law enforcement, protecting families, and managing growth while preserving our community's values.
WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR THIS OFFICE? I'm running because we can grow—but we must grow responsibly. Blount County's small-town character, strong families, faith, and heritage are worth protecting. With thoughtful leadership, we can continue to move forward without losing what makes our community special.
WHAT EXPERIENCE DO YOU HAVE THAT WILL ASSIST YOU IN THE DUTIES OF THIS OFFICE? I bring over 39 years of public service as a city inspector, working directly with water and sewer systems, environmental concerns, and regulatory compliance at the local, state, and federal levels. That experience has given me a practical understanding of infrastructure, growth, and how decisions impact taxpayers. I'm committed to using that knowledge to support responsible development, fiscal stewardship, and the long-term well-being of our community.
IF ELECTED, WHAT WOULD YOUR TOP TWO PRIORITIES BE? If elected, my top priority will be ensuring responsible, well-planned growth. Blount County is growing, and I believe that growth should be carefully managed so it does not overwhelm our infrastructure, schools, or public services. This includes reviewing infrastructure before approving new developments and supporting impact fees so growth helps pay for itself rather than burdening existing residents.
My second priority will be being a strong, steady voice for the people of this county. I am committed to listening to my constituents, valuing public input, and making decisions based on what is best for our families and community. I believe in transparency, accountability, and being a responsible steward of taxpayer dollars in every decision I make.
IN WHAT COMMITTEE DO YOU FEEL YOU COULD DO THE MOST GOOD? Planning
WHY SHOULD VOTERS ELECT YOU? Voters should elect me because I bring a lifetime of experience, a commitment to integrity, and a genuine desire to serve this community. As a lifelong resident of Blount County and a retired city inspector with over 39 years of public service, I understand how decisions about growth, infrastructure, and regulations impact everyday families.
I'm not a politician, I'm a neighbor who cares deeply about protecting what makes this county special. I believe in responsible growth, strong families, and being a good steward of taxpayer dollars.
As someone who is retired, I am independent and free to serve without any employment ties to county government. My only responsibility will be to the citizens I represent.
I will listen, be transparent, and make decisions based on what is best for our community.



Jason Payne
Challenger

ONLINE: na
BRIEF BIO: Born and raised in Blount Co. Married with two children, Christian conservative, member of Hill Crest Baptist Church, the church that my grandfather and great grandfather helped build.
WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR THIS OFFICE? The outcry for change in Blount Co has been deafening, I am that change. I love logistics, I want to help the citizens of Blount Co, I feel it is my duty to try and keep our great county the best it can be.
WHAT EXPERIENCE DO YOU HAVE THAT WILL ASSIST YOU IN THE DUTIES OF THIS OFFICE? I'm not sure what experience you need to have for the position, I've worked at 4 places in past 34 years, I've been in management at two of those, most assuredly I can make unbiased moral decisions based on what the people want, not what I want!
IF ELECTED, WHAT WOULD YOUR TOP TWO PRIORITIES BE? I've been door to door from Mint Rd to Payne Hollow, budget and traffic seem to be the two biggest concerns, if elected I have ideas for those and lots of other issues expressed by people I've met with.
IN WHAT COMMITTEE DO YOU FEEL YOU COULD DO THE MOST GOOD? Veterans Affairs
WHY SHOULD VOTERS ELECT YOU? Common sense ain't common, my life long profession as a automotive painter and manager has made me to be efficient at making quick decisions to fix problems that work, I'm not a politician, I know only one person on the commission, or in Blount Co government, I'm beholden to no one, and will remain that way, and I will push for term limits, which is another big topic with voters.



Robert G Simerly
Challenger

ONLINE: www.facebook.com/groups/1182687320660231/
BRIEF BIO: Married to Kelly Potter Simerly for 36 years, 40+ years living in District 4 (Chilhowee View), Life-long Blount Countian, Graduate of Heritage High School (1985), Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice - Bethel University
WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR THIS OFFICE? Our county will face important decisions regarding growth, planning, and infrastructure over the next four years. Our community deserves leadership that is fiscally responsible, forward-thinking, and dedicated to preserving the quality of life we all value. I believe that I am that leader.
WHAT EXPERIENCE DO YOU HAVE THAT WILL ASSIST YOU IN THE DUTIES OF THIS OFFICE? Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice, Certified Public Administrator (CTAS), 328 hours of county government training in leadership, finance, HR, purchasing, budgeting, and ethics. Over 25 years in law enforcement, Extensive training in leadership, crisis intervention, emergency operations, and management, Active involvement in community organizations and public service boards, 25 years of service in a County or Municipal Government work environment
IF ELECTED, WHAT WOULD YOUR TOP TWO PRIORITIES BE? Growth and infrastructure go hand-in-hand, and currently, our growth has outpaced our infrastructure. This is evident across the county. We must develop a responsible plan to upgrade infrastructure without placing additional tax burdens on our citizens. This includes reviewing existing revenue streams for efficiencies and identifying available funds that can be redirected toward improvements. We should also actively pursue state and federal grant opportunities to support infrastructure projects throughout Blount County.
Schools: Ensuring the safety of our schools must remain a top priority. Parents should never feel hesitant or fearful about sending their children to school. While challenges in recent years have impacted public trust, I believe progress has been made through updated policies and procedures. Moving forward, the County Commission and School Board must continue working together to strengthen safety measures for our children.
IN WHAT COMMITTEE DO YOU FEEL YOU COULD DO THE MOST GOOD? Budget
WHY SHOULD VOTERS ELECT YOU? I am a lifelong Blount County resident who believes strongly in faith, family, and freedom. I graduated from Heritage High School, earned a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Bethel University, and became a Certified Public Administrator through CTAS. I have completed 328 hours of county government training in leadership, finance, budgeting, and ethics.
With over 25 years in law enforcement, I bring real-world experience in leadership, crisis management, and public service. I have also served in multiple community roles, including the Chilhowee View Community Center, New Hope Children's Advocacy Board, and the Boys & Girls Club.
My campaign is built on Integrity, Accountability, and Service. I will be transparent, take responsibility for my decisions, and work tirelessly to serve the people of Blount County. I respectfully ask for your vote.

Tanner Jones
COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 3
Seat A. Trusted conservative leadership that works for YOU!

PAID FOR THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT TANNER JONES, MARK D. BENNETT, TREASURER

VOTE

EARLY VOTING: April 15 to April 30
Pellissippi: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays
Everett 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays
Library: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays
8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 17, April 24

**Providence: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays, opens April 22
8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 24**

INFO: www.blountn.gov/447/Election-Commission

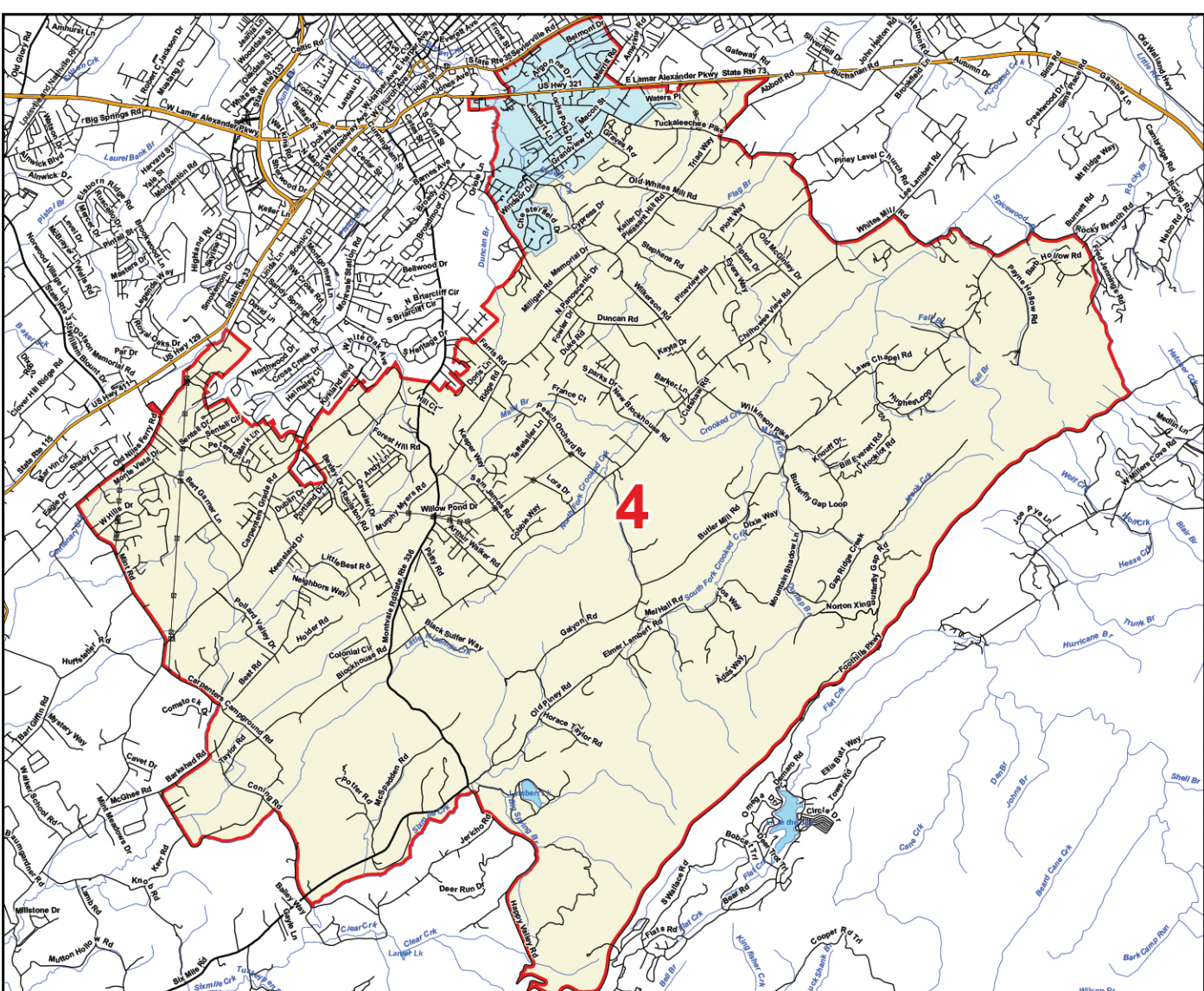
Vote JERRY BURNS
FOR BLOUNT COUNTY SHERIFF

PUBLIC SAFETY OVER POLITICS

As Sheriff, I will:

- Strengthen public safety
- Recruit and retain top deputies
- Combat the drug and mental health crisis
- Protect our children

www.burns4sheriff.com



Blount County

County Commission District 4

# OF COMMISSIONERS	3
TOTAL POPULATION	19,081
DEVIATION	-245
% DEVIATION	-1.3%
WHITE POPULATION	17,409
% WHITE	91.2%
BLACK POPULATION	302
% BLACK	1.6%
OTHER POPULATION	1,370
% OTHER	7.2%
HISPANIC POPULATION	480
% HISPANIC	2.5%

- County Commission District
- Interstates
- U.S. Highway
- State Highway
- Local Roads
- Railroads
- Powerline (Incomplete)
- Stream
- Lakes / Rivers
- City, Town

TENNESSEE COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY
Created On: 12/16/2021