

Democratic primary in Ohio emerges as test for progressives

By Will Weissert
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Amid relentless sunshine and intensifying humidity, Nina Turner led a small procession of voters last week to a polling place on Cleveland's east side, guiding the group down a long block to the crosswalk even though darting across the street would have been easier.

"We don't want you breaking the law," an aide admonished. "Let's go down to the light."

Turner built a national reputation as a leading voice for Bernie Sanders' presidential campaigns, bringing crowds in packed auditoriums to their feet with rousing calls for universal health care and bold action to combat climate change. But as she faces an election of her own next month, Turner is focused on more mundane aspects of campaigning, like avoiding jaywalking as she encourages supporters to vote and offering reassurances that her brand of politics still has a place in the Democratic Party.

"Something I can add, whether mainline Democrats get this or not, is I can speak the language of people from all walks of life," Turner said in an interview. "That is important for the expansion of the Democratic Party."

Turner is the best known of more than

a dozen Democrats vying to replace former Rep. Marcia Fudge, who left Congress to become President Joe Biden's housing chief. The Aug. 3 primary is shaping up as one of the final tests this year for progressives, who have faced setbacks in other races, including Democratic primaries for Virginia governor and New York mayor.

With just a six-seat advantage in the House, some Democrats are taking aggressive steps to blunt Turner and back more centrist alternatives.

House Majority Whip Jim Clyburn, the highest-ranking Black member of Congress, whose support helped Biden secure the Democratic nomination last year, is backing county councilwoman Shontel Brown over Turner. Hillary Clinton, the political arm of the Congressional Black Caucus, several leading unions and more than 100 local leaders are doing the same.

Federal rules prohibit Fudge from endorsing in the race, but her mother appeared in a commercial for Brown.

While the contest is emerging as a proxy for the future of the Democratic Party, local leaders say voters are more worried about issues like creating jobs, addressing crime and improving access to health care, which remains elusive for many, despite Cleveland's high concentration of major hospital chains.

Shelters

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connect our shelters to funding opportunities designed to increase our capacity to achieve our missions. Read a feature story in the Virginia Beach newspaper about her work with animal

rescue at <https://bit.ly/3Djmxw>," the news release said. "We want to thank everyone who was involved in helping raise this money as well as the caring individuals who found it in their hearts to donate, adopt and volunteer within our mission driven organizations."

DOG POUND PET OF THE WEEK



Submitted photo
Miss Maggie, a sweet, exuberant, older boxer mix with a lot of personality, is the Highland County Dog Pound Pet of the Week. She just wants to hang out, be petted and make friends with absolutely everyone. Maggie is likely at least 8 years old and is 63 pounds, though still skinny, and looks people right in the eyes. She takes treats very gently. A terrible flea issue left her hind end almost bare, but her fur is growing back. To meet Maggie, call the Highland County Dog Pound at 937-393-8191 for an appointment.

Ohio IDs 117 noncitizens who voted or registered in 2020

By Julie Carr Smyth
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ohio's elections chief on Monday referred for possible prosecution 117 apparent noncitizens who either registered to vote or cast a ballot last year — a tiny fraction of the state's electorate and a significantly reduced number from two years ago despite record 2020 turnout.

Republican Secretary of State Frank LaRose said that of those, 13 cast ballots and 104 registered but did not vote. They were identified as part of a routine review and referred to Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost.

"The bottom line is this: Citizenship matters. It's an important status that we should all treasure," LaRose said at a Statehouse news

conference. "With that comes the ability to be a voter. We want all Ohioans who are eligible to be able to cast a ballot, but certainly that means only citizens are able to do so."

Ohio has more than 8 million registered voters. Ohio does not allow noncitizens to register or vote.

LaRose made a similar referral of 277 individuals to Yost after the 2018 election, including 77 who cast a ballot. Only a handful were ever prosecuted, according to data from the Franklin County prosecutor's office.

Ohio produced an extraordinary level of access in last year's presidential election, setting records with nearly 6 million votes cast and a 74% turnout that tops the average of the past 20 years.



AP Photo
Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose, right, speaks at the Franklin County Board of Elections on Sept. 24, 2020, in Columbus, Ohio. LaRose, Ohio's elections chief, on Monday referred for possible prosecution 117 apparent non-citizens who either registered to vote or cast a ballot last year — a tiny fraction of the state's electorate and a significantly reduced number from two years ago despite record 2020 turnout.

LaRose said citizenship could be checked at the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles under changes he is advocating to a sweeping election reform bill pending in the state Legislature.

He said he would like to see the bill adjusted to allow more access to drop boxes at county boards of elections, a position shared by the Ohio Association of Election Officials.

Explosion

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Tri-County Fire Department (Mount Sterling), Southwest Pickaway Fire Department (Williamsport), and the Circleville Fire Department responded to the scene, worked to extinguish the fire and conduct a search and rescue operation.

Shortly after 10 a.m., first responders located Patricia Miller within the structure debris.

She was pronounced deceased by Fayette County Deputy Coroner Dr. Brad Dickson.

Investigators from the State Fire Marshal's Office arrived on scene Saturday morning to conduct their investigation into the cause of the explosion. No foul play was suspected at the time.

The Millers' home was described as a single-story ranch house. Several neighbors told authorities that the nearby explosion shook their homes.

Others responding and



Courtesy photo
One woman was killed and her husband was seriously injured during a house explosion Saturday morning in the 1900 block of Good Hope-New Holland Road in Fayette County.

assisting at the scene were Fayette County EMS, Fayette County Emergency Management Agency, and Box 65 units from Fayette & Pickaway counties.

Members of the Pickaway Fire Department, sheriff's investigators, and the State Fire Marshal's Office are collaboratively working to determine the cause of the explosion.

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has set for public hearing Case No. 21-214-GA-GCR to review the gas cost recovery rates of Pike Natural Gas Company, the operation of its purchased gas adjustment clause, and related matters.

This hearing is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, Hearing Room 11-A, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard.

Further information may be obtained by viewing the Commission's web page at <http://www.puc.state.oh.us> or by contacting the Commission's hotline at 1-800-686-7826 or for hearing or speech impaired customers: 7-1-1.

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