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It's the sound of ideas from Idea Stream Public Media. I'm Drew Maziasz in for Stephanie Haney. Thanks so much for joining us. Voters in Cleveland Heights overwhelmingly approved a recall of Mayor Kahlil Seren, the first person directly elected to serve as mayor of that city. 82% of voters said yes to the recall of sarin, while just 18% oppose the measure.

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The issue made it to the ballot following a petition led by citizens. Seren had been embroiled in a series of controversies over the last few months, including a complaint filed with the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, claiming Seren and his wife created a hostile work environment at City Hall. The recall vote in Cleveland Heights was perhaps the biggest issue at stake in Tuesday's municipal primary that involved just five other Cuyahoga County cities Cleveland, East Cleveland, Garfield Heights, Lakewood and Maple Heights.

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In those communities, voters decided which candidates in mayoral and city council races will advance to the November ballot. In Cleveland, voters were casting ballots in newly drawn city council wards that reflect the city's loss of population. As a result, council will be reduced by two seats from 17 to 15. We're going to discuss some of the results from the Cuyahoga County primary here in the first part of the show.

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Later, we hear from NPR's Scott Detrow on this current state of journalism and public media. But first, joining me now in studio to talk about the primary results we have Ida stream public media reporters Abby Marshall and Gabriel Kramer. Good to see you. Happy happy Wednesday. Thank you. Good morning for having us. If you'd like to join the conversation, call (866) 578-0903.

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Email us so-i at Idea stream.org again (866) 578-0903 or Sly at idea stream.org. Gabe, let's start with the Cleveland Heights issue and the mayoral recall. As I mentioned, voters overwhelmingly voted for the recall of Mayor Khalil Seren. Was that a surprising outcome? It was not. I mean, there was enough traction behind this that it seemed like that's where if you were here to show up for the election, that's what you were probably here to show up for.

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And it was overwhelming at 82%, as you said. But what's interesting is voter turnout in this particular primary in Cleveland Heights was much higher than the surrounding suburbs in Cleveland. As you mentioned, you mentioned five cities. It was about 23% voter turnout in Cleveland Heights. And everything else was, I think, 12% in these. Cleveland and every other town was less than 10% voter turnout.

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So people really turned up for this recall vote. And then what's also interesting is the amount of people who did vote for the recall yesterday was just a little bit, but pretty much neck and neck with how many people show up to vote for Khalil Seren in the general election of 2021, when he became the first mayor of Cleveland.

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I was reading your reporting last night and actually made a note of that on. As of last night, 6829 people voted for the recall. Back in 2021, 6899 people voted for Sarah in the general election. That's just off by 70 votes. That's what's really, really striking. It's and it's very close. So I mean, things things changed for him over the last four years, but things particularly changed for him in the last one year.

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Now what happens in terms of Sarah leaving office. Kind of what are the what are the next steps here. So the the votes need to become certified and officially official by the Board of Elections. But then the law department in Cleveland Heights will certify that and eventually, when when that becomes certified, Tony Cuda, the president of city council, will take over mayoral duties.

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Now, what's interesting is the term ends at the end of the year. So there's really only three months left in this term. So Tony Cuda will no longer be mayor on January 1st. Yeah. We're already getting some emails. Dave emailed in and he said, as the British maxim states, good riddance to bad rubbish. Thanks for the thoughts, Dave.

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And then Marvin emailed in, I think I'm missing details of the Cleveland Heights mayor story. Did he do or say anything personally to create the alleged hostile environment? If not, why is he being held accountable for someone else's behavior? Just because that person who happens to be his spouse should. That should matter. Unless in his capacity as mayor, he had done something wrong.

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Do you care to weigh in on that? Yeah. So the it's still under investigation. So exactly what all the specific details are, are being found out still. But what we do know is that the mayor was bringing his wife to work for a period of time, and he told us that up front. And if you're bringing somebody to work who is not an employee of the city, and as a family member, you do have to take responsibility for their actions in the workplace.

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And people in the complaint were saying that she was acting as a de facto manager of people and making decisions. And when she's making, what are considered what, we're considering the complaint to be anti-Semitic and homophobic comments in the

workplace. That's were really, where people had an issue and he, has mayor Sharon denied these allegations?

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Yes. He's he's strongly denying the allegations. But like I said, it's under investigation and and time will tell. And have you heard, a response from Sarah and or those who spearheaded the recall? Post the vote last night. So we heard we so I made efforts to reach out to Sharon and his and his communications team. We didn't get the interview that we wanted, but he did make a statement about 3 to 4 hours before polls closed, essentially saying that this is not what Cleveland Heights needs.

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And, you know, he said he was happy that the people of Current Heights were exercising their right to vote. But, you know, recalling the mayor three months before the term ends is not, the right thing for Cleveland Heights is essentially what he said. The people who were campaigning to recall him, I spoke with a few of them last night.

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They held a, you know, a watch party in Cleveland Heights on Lee road. And I spoke with a few people who, quite honestly, you know, we had this viewer email from us and they're saying, you know, good riddance. And, making the joke. But each person was wishing him the best, but happy to move forward with, you know, whichever candidate becomes the next mayor.

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Yeah, yeah. And I read the read the statement that says, yeah, this isn't great for the city of Cleveland, but we're just trying to move past this essentially. Right? Right. No city wants to go through this, essentially. If you're just joining us on The Sound of Ideas, I'm speaking with Abbi Marshall and Gabe Kramer, two of our reporters here at Ida Stream Public Media.

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We are recapping some of the primary results from last night. We would love your feedback. So I at Ida stream.org again see at Ida stream.org. So Seren is not running in November. And that was decided before this this recall vote right. So early this summer while he was, I suppose, campaigning to become mayor a second time, there was you know, you have to collect signatures and petition and he didn't get enough ballot signatures.

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So there was, you know, while while he had filed to run for mayor, he didn't have enough signatures certified by the Board of Elections. So it came down to five other candidates. Right. And can you talk again about, who's on tap to run and replace Sarah in the November? Okay. So now it's two council members. There was five people running in.

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The two council members who ran were the top two vote getters, and they were pretty neck and neck yesterday. And in the primary results both getting. So it was, Jim Petrus who is the was lead vote getter. He had just over 28% of the votes. And David Russell, another council member who had just under 28% of the votes, I think the number unofficially was 41 votes that separated the two.

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So another tight race for those two. And I think there's a lot to wonder about how the other three candidates, the votes who went to them will be divided amongst these two. So I think it's gonna be a tight race here in November. Interesting, intriguing. Although you'll be following it closely. Abby, let's move to you and talk about the Cleveland City Council races and a few of the ward races in Cleveland.

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Let's begin with Ward five, where two incumbent council members were on the ballot. Rebecca Moore and Richard Starr. They will now compete against one another, to stay on council in November. But it appears Starr has some momentum after last night. Yeah. So this is an interesting race because of that recent redistricting process in which the board boundaries were redrawn, have to reduce from 17 to 15 because of that population loss.

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So it's forced some candidates to go up against each other. Moore's ward was divided into multiple pieces, but she decided ultimately to run in what is going to be the new Ward five, which is where Richard Starr is the incumbent. So that's one that we're really looking out for. But according to polling results last night, he got about 70% of the vote.

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She was closer to 2,025%. So if that's any indication of what's going to happen in the fall, that's a pretty wide margin. But we'll see what happens when there is not another candidate in the mix. And maybe her campaigning picks up, as we get closer to November. And how about, support from council leadership in terms of this race?

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What does that look like? Right. So council President Blaine Griffin has endorsed and backed Richard Starr. The president also controls what is called the Council Leadership Fund. It is a political action committee that has this money that he can dole out to his allies campaigns. And he has backed Starr in that in that campaign. And there is one other notable race that I'll be looking at in the fall.

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It wasn't part of the primary, but it is another race in which incumbents will be up against each other. That's in Ward ten. That'll be long. Longtime council member Mike Polensek, who is actually the longest serving member of council up against Anthony Hairston and Griffin, has said that he will support Hairston over second. Interesting, interesting. Yeah, yeah.

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And, we mentioned that the new ward maps in Ward five, this is one of those maps that's that's redrawn essentially. Can you give some context to Moore being one of the critics to how these maps are redrawn? Right. So Moore kind of called foul on this when the maps were being drawn up. Like I said, the original maps that were proposed split her ward, which is current Ward 12, into six pieces, it's still pretty fractured, under the approved maps.

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And she said that that was gerrymandering. She has kind of clashed with some of council leadership in the past. So she said that this was a way to oust her. And again, she is not being supported by that council leadership fund. So, you know, look, Wayne Griffin has denied those allegations of saying that it was gerrymandering, saying that he only got involved at the very end because they had an independent consultant that came in.

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But he basically said, you know, we have to lose two wards. Something's got to give. Someone is going to lose. Basically, in Ward one, the incumbent is Joe Jones and one key challenger is former state representative wanting a Brant. Jones and Brant will both move on to this November election. Yeah. They were there were a few, others in the race, but those two came out pretty far ahead.

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Jones had about 60% of the vote. Brant had about 30%. Again, that vote is fractured because there were some other candidates in the mix. So we'll see what happens. That'll be an interesting one to follow because usually incumbents have the upper hand in this case. But, we've seen Joe Jones have some controversy at City Hall and some ongoing problems there that might affect the campaign.

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Yeah. Drill into those controversies a little bit more. Lay those out for us. And, how that could potentially impact between, the race between now and November. Sure. So earlier this year, a council investigation found that Jones basically violated likely violated, sexual and non sexual harassment policies at City Hall. There has been some professionalism training that have come as a result of that for all council members and some one on ones with Jones.

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But most recently, there was a there's going to be a censure vote, later this month after another complaint was filed from an employee that said that Joe Jones threatened to kill, this person. And, so there's just been a lot of controversy that has kind of followed the councilman throughout this year. So it'll be interesting to see how that, conflict in City Hall translates maybe into the ward, because he is very out and active in his community as well.

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If you're just joining us on The Sound of Ideas or recapping some of the primary results from last night, I'm with Gabriel Kramer and Abby Marshall, reporters here at Ida Stream Public Media. We would love your feedback. So I at [ida.stream.org](http://ida.stream.org), Chris sends us an email about the Award seven race, which I want to ask you about.

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There were some, new names in this race. And, full disclosure, we all live in Ward seven, so I'm interested to kind of talk about this. Who's vying for this? This newly drawn, seat. Right. So last night, the two contenders that came out on top are Austin Davis and Muhammad Faraj. Austin Davis most recently served as mayor.

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Justin Bibb, senior policy advisor. He's stepped down to focus on the race. I actually spoke to Faraj and Davis in the last week. I will be putting out more comprehensive voter guides as we draw near so this is a plug for you. Can you send me emails with any questions that you might have or you want to know, but both are attorneys.

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Both are pretty active in the community. And those are the people that that's one of the races I'm going to be following closely, because it's a race that's shaping up to be exciting, and it's kind of paving the way for newcomers. Like I've talked a lot about incumbents, but this is only one of two races in which there is not an incumbent.

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So it kind of does clear the path for someone, someone new to pop in. And, Chris in Ohio City emails in. He says, my question is this Austin Davis, who has the backing of many wealthy real estate developers, won the most votes yesterday in my ward's election. What do you think it says about the most likely voters in Ward seven that they align with real estate development money, despite complaints and worries about gentrification being prevalent in the community?

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Right. So the voter turnout was quite low. It was 7% across the city. It's really this has been an election. It's been a criticism that having these off year elections does make it really difficult and inaccessible for people. You have to kind of go out of your way to vote. So I think that there is a point to be said about that, that the people who is going

out and voting, again, I will have all of my interviews out with these folks, but something that Austin Davis and Faraj both mentioned was affordable housing.

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Unknown

And that's a big problem in having access not just to only affordable housing, but housing that kind of goes across various, socioeconomic levels and having access to a diverse mix of housing, so that is certainly something that I think is a valid concern. Yeah. Gabe, if I if I may add, in the 2021 general election, where Cleveland voted for Mayor Justin Bibb, that a part of town Ward seven, which is kind of now parts of what was wards three and 15, had really high turnout in that in the general.

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So I am curious, I think if it was very low this time, I wonder if it was very engaged four years ago. So I'm curious what might happen there as well. Any thoughts? You know, not that either of you have a crystal ball, but any thoughts on why why we always see all, results being low on these primary elections, but thoughts on, this ward in particular and low turnout right there.

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Unknown

None of the excitement from from the, about, I mean, there was only one item on the ballot and a lot of the precincts, I think people are, are just kind of disengaged. And I think, you know, people do tend to turn out for, for bigger items, like, like I said, four years ago was voting for a new mayor, and it was the first new mayor in 16 years in Cleveland.

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So people, you know, were really engaged in that. And I and I said turnout was high in wards three and 15 at that time, but it was still low relative to, you know, everything going on. It was high for the city. But the city as a whole had very low turnout at the

time. Right, and I did I did want to note that I don't have the numbers right in front of me when I said 7%, that's across the whole city.

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Unknown

So that wasn't specific to work. Seven and I since we're mentioning all these numbers, I know it can get really confusing. I want to point out that new Ward seven includes Ohio City, Tremont, parts of Detroit, Shore Way and the flats in downtown. And. Well, yeah. And explain that for for listeners who might not be super familiar with the west side of Cleveland, but, there's no incumbent in this race kind of layout.

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What who was there and who's not running this time around. Yeah. So Carrie McCormack represents Ward three, which probably most closely represents the new Ward seven. And he has since said he's not running for reelection. And the only other race, that kind of has only newcomers is Ward 11, which most closely matches Jenny Spencer's Ward 15. And she has also said she is not running for reelection.

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Unknown

And now, unlike other council members that have maybe departed in years past, both of them said they'll finish out their term. They're not going to, appoint a successor. So that allows someone totally new to come in and campaign and throw their hat in the ring. And get back to your, back to Chris's email. You go out and talk to a lot of a lot of voters, a lot of communities.

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Unknown

Have you heard that this gentrification issue and, housing is kind of something that resonates with people in Fremont, downtown Ohio City? It absolutely is. And I think, you know, I think when you think of gentrification, I think these neighborhoods are kind of the face of it. For Cleveland. And I think it's twofold. I think people are excited to see these neighborhoods that were once underdeveloped be very well developed.

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Unknown

But it's interesting. You know, I remember I live in Fremont, full disclosure. And ten years ago when I first moved to Tremont, there was a community meeting where people were talking about potentially having a new apartment building, and it would be the first new, like multi-story apartment building treatments had in a long time. And now they're popping up all over the place.

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Unknown

Now there's tons of them and that and that drives in a lot of younger people. It drives in people with, higher incomes. So it's definitely changing the face of the neighborhoods. And you're seeing people kind of you know, wonder, not only am I is it changing the makeup, the demographics of the neighborhood, but is it going to change up the value of where we live and therefore bring up the rent prices?

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Unknown

So, I think we're seeing what people were worried about ten years ago, perhaps becoming a bigger topic now in 2025. Yeah. Let's talk about the East Cleveland mayoral race real quick. And, five candidates in this one, including the sitting mayor, Lateef Shabazz, and the former interim, mayor Sandra Morgan. And now Gabe, which, candidates advanced in that race?

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So Sandra Morgan had an overwhelming, lead 78% of the votes. Letitia Wright has got 15% of the votes. So those two will be going toe to toe in November. You know, the other three candidates, weren't able to get you in trouble. Two digit votes, yesterday. So it wasn't a particularly close race. But those are your two.

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Unknown

How much will the all the upheaval and, the kind of infighting in East Cleveland do you think play into this race over the next couple of months? You know, here's the thing. Voter turnout is so crazy low. I mean, 12% in East Cleveland on a primary where you've had turnover. I mean, I've been work here for ten years, and I can I mean, I feel like I can count on both hands the amount of mayors I've had in that time and even last few months, they've had I mean, we were making jokes about three this year alone, three this year alone.

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Unknown

We were making jokes about Cleveland Heights going to have three mayors because of the recall. And, a four month period. But it's really been happening in Cleveland Heights. So all right, in East Cleveland. So it is a bizarre scenario where you had, you know, Sandra Morgan appointed. And then, the city charter determined that it actually should be Shabazz.

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Unknown

And it looks like people were overwhelmingly supporting Morgan. So she, you know, has a real big shot or high chance of getting back to that seat. But yeah, a lot of the turnover is dramatic, but it seems like people aren't really turning out, to to have a huge voice in it. Yeah. I do wonder if that whiplash effect will, will, invigorate voters or kind of, you know, make a good glazed over eyes and think to themselves, what?

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Unknown

What good does my vote do? Yes. And spending time in in East Cleveland over the years, I, you know, and like you said, talking to just residents about how things are going. People are very proud in East Cleveland. People are very proud to ensure that it remains a municipality they're proud of. You know, being from East Cleveland rather than being from Cleveland and, you know, wanting to really represent, you know, being a shore graduates and, you know, they're often very embarrassed about often like the crime that happens there.

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Unknown

So, you know, when you talk to people, people are really happy to be a part of it. So I think that what people are looking for is some kind of stability. And if they can get that in this election, I think people will be pretty happy. Yeah. We just have a couple minutes left and, Abby, before we close, Justin Bibb running for a second term.

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And that will be decided this November as well. Yeah. So that was in on the primary because only one other candidate, Laverne Gore, filed to run. Bibb likely will have a very easy path to, reelection. And I expect to see him take a second term. Before we close any other, story. And Laverne Gore, who is she?

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Unknown

Kind of. What? What's her history of of running, in the city of Cleveland? Yeah. So she has not had political office in the past. She's had a few other failed, political campaigns. I've done a story on her. You can go to [idea.stream.org](http://idea.stream.org) and look for my interview with her to kind of get a gauge on who she is.

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She lives in Cleveland. She's a long time resident. She's an entrepreneur. And she just says, you know, I want someone who she had a lot of criticisms about bid and, his green ness to politics, and things like that. So that's kind of her criticism is I'm stepping up to the plate because she doesn't feel like Deb has done a good job.

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Unknown

Meanwhile, Bibb has kind of laid out his campaign priorities and has been posturing for a second term in the work that he's going to do ahead. Interesting. And, again, before we close, storylines, other races, trends, voter response that you guys are each going to

be looking out for between now and November. Abby. Yeah, like I said, I pretty much expect incumbents based on the results that we saw yesterday to kind of take take it, in the races where they are contested.

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But of course, I'll follow all of those. I'll be looking at wards five and ten where we have those incumbents versus, going up against each other. I will also be looking at, seven and 11, which are the ones that will have some newcomers, and those will be the four I'm really tuned into. But of course, I will be paying attention to all wards, including the ones that have some races that are unopposed.

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Unknown

Interesting. And, you mentioned your email. People send your questions for your council people to a marshall at [Idea stream.org](http://Idea.stream.org). And, Gabe, last word to you. What are you going to be covering between now and the November election? Well, starting in the Cleveland Heights primary or the Cleveland Heights general election, between those two candidates, I think is particularly interesting.

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Unknown

That was it was neck and neck very close to the new council members. So, we'll see where that goes. But I, I got to admit, there's a part of me that's a little bit disappointed that the, the fanfare and the drama behind the Cleveland mayoral race is going to be different than the last two elections. There are so many people running in the last two elections, and now it's just a couple of people.

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Unknown

And it was kind of an overwhelming majority for bid this last time. So we'll see. My thanks to Gabriel Kramer and Abby Marshall, for their work late at night last night and early this morning. You can find their full reporting and, coverage of the primary online at [Idea stream.org](http://Idea.stream.org), or on KSU. Thank you to you both for coming in today.

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Thank you.

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You're what? The sound of ideas from idea stream public media. I'm Drew macias in today for Stephanie Haney. Thanks for being with us this hour. If you're a regular listener to NPR, you probably know the voice of Scott Detrow. He's been on the air since 2015. He recently moved from the host of Weekend All Things Considered to the weekday version of that program, which you hear Monday through Friday starting at 4 p.m. right here on Wksu.

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I was able to speak with Joshua recently about his career in journalism and his work at NPR. We also discussed the mission of public radio and the importance of continued community support. In the wake of funding being pulled from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Scott Detrow, welcome to The Sound of Ideas. Hey, good to be here. Thanks for having me.

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So I read that you got your start in, and radio at Fordham University's Wfuv. What kind of interested you in the radio format and then public media from there? You know, I generally kind of knew, like, I was like, I used to love politics, and I knew that was of interest to me. And I like the idea of, like, writing and kind of reporting theoretically.

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Unknown

And luckily, we had a station on campus that had it was a professional station, but there were chances for for students to, to be on air reporters as well, which is just amazing

and just kind of the idea that, like, it is your job and what you have to do that day to go to where the interesting thing is happening.

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Unknown

Learn all you can about it and then tell people who weren't there what happened and why. It matters. Just seemed like, wow, this. What a fun thing to do. I don't think I would want to do anything else. So I just got a chance to, to try out this idea of reporting. Loved it. And very quickly, like it wasn't clear to me that I want to be a reporter, it was clear to me that I want to be a reporter within public radio and public media, because I feel like we can tell these stories in in a more nuanced way.

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Unknown

We can get into more details, we can bring listeners with us and kind of paint the scene in their minds in a way that that's kind of hard to do in any other form. Yeah. And you've been at NPR for ten years now. Is that kind of that's kind of the ethos that's kept you there, that ability to take a listener along and to to dive really deep into a topic.

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Unknown

Yeah. I, I started covering politics for NPR right at the time that, now, President Trump was first running just at the beginning of the 2016 election cycle. So it's been, you know, I've been there for ten years, but it kind of sometimes it feels like I've been there for 70 years in terms of just like how much news has happened since I started.

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Unknown

But yeah, I think, it's really obviously, a challenging and rapidly changing and hard to understand time in American politics and whether it's as a, as a reporter on the air filing stories or whether it was as a podcast host of the Politics podcast, just trying to understand what was going on as best as I could, and helping listeners understand things as best as they could was a challenge that that I've enjoyed, even when it's

sometimes more challenging than other times to, to kind of get a sense of what the day's news actually is and why it matters.

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Unknown

Yeah. To go back to your the first question I asked you, you you use the word community earlier when you're talking about kind of getting into the community to talk about stories. Do you think that that aspect of public media still rings true? Do you still think that that's kind of the, one of the beacons of the work that these community radio stations do across the country?

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Unknown

I think so. I think I think not that many other news outlets or information outlets are really, partnerships in the way that public media is. Right? Like we have we have us at NPR kind of charged with covering the national international news and providing it to member stations. Member stations are charged with with figuring out what is going on in their communities, in their states, telling their listeners and when the story is big enough, filing reports that we air nationally because we we depend on each other in that way.

00:25:47:37 - 00:26:08:43

Unknown

And all of us are depending on on listeners who who tune in every day, who listen to our podcasts, who read our stories on the website, who download our apps. You know, all of the dozens of ways that we are providing this information. We wouldn't be able to do it without the individual support of people who say, I do use this, I do value this.

00:26:08:48 - 00:26:26:01

Unknown

I do get entertainment from this. I do get companionship for this. At times like this is this is a constant in my life, and therefore I'm going to contribute to make sure it keeps going. You know, that was always important. And it's so much more important now at this moment where where suddenly we all have these massive budget gaps that we're trying to figure out how to fill.

00:26:26:06 - 00:26:43:13

Unknown

Yeah. You've alluded to kind of the evolution of the news cycle and the media landscape a couple times already, and I wanted to ask you about, you know, over, just over the ten years that you've been at NPR, the media landscape has evolved so much. Oh, yeah. Are there specific challenges that public broadcasting to public broadcasting to staying relevant?

00:26:43:18 - 00:26:59:53

Unknown

You talked about the apps and streaming and stuff. Do you think that we've handled certain things well from an insider's perspective? What are your thoughts there? I do think there's been so much change, and it's interesting. I mean, there's so many directions this could go because everything is, like, massively changing at such a fast pace.

00:26:59:58 - 00:27:18:15

Unknown

I think the one thing I'm spending a lot of time thinking about right now is just how, like on one hand, it's never been easier in the history of humanity to be informed, and the other hand, it's never been more confusing because people are just inundated with with information from so many different sources, and so much of it is dubious.

00:27:18:20 - 00:27:40:46

Unknown

You know, people are misrepresenting the news. People are, you know, oftentimes it's not even people I is just kind of churning out videos and, and audio and texts that just could be at times entirely made up for malicious or just sloppy reasons. So, you know, it's really hard to tell at this moment of time when, when, when so many traditional news sources are contracting or ceasing to exist.

00:27:40:51 - 00:27:57:52

Unknown

I feel like that makes what we do more important than ever, because we are putting ourselves out there as a source of news that people can trust, as a source of news that people rely on day to day. They know our voices. They know that we are doing our best to ascertain the facts and tell them to people.

00:27:58:04 - 00:28:15:42

Unknown

And that is, sadly, an increasingly rare thing in the in the world right now. So I think it's more important than ever that we keep trying to do that, even if it's a little more challenging than before. Yeah, you just mentioned that people. No, no, the voices that they hear on NPR that they expect when they turn on their radio or that streaming service and yeah, people know your voice from All Things Considered Weekend.

00:28:15:42 - 00:28:34:10

Unknown

Now, what you're the host of and you've kind of been on both sides of us. You've been a reporter and now you're kind of in the host role. What have been the the interesting, you know, challenges or things you've learned about, you know, guiding an hourlong program through various topics versus just reporting on a singular story. It's it's interesting because, like, it's the same job and it's a wildly different job.

00:28:34:10 - 00:28:53:29

Unknown

And like, I don't know if this is too insider for a lot of listeners, but I, I quickly found out that I had to entirely reinvent the way that I did interviews, which is like an important part of our job. So it was kind of surprising I didn't fully realize it, because when you are a reporter, you're just kind of like trying to learn as much information as you can, and you're thinking in like, is this a sound bite?

00:28:53:29 - 00:29:10:47

Unknown

Is that a sound bite? Oh, you said something there that could be a five second clip that I can use in my story. And then you're kind of taking all the information you gathered and

processing it yourself and doing the writing and presenting it. Right. So that's that's the typical reporter job. And then as a host, it's wildly different because you're part of the conversation yourself.

00:29:11:01 - 00:29:29:22

Unknown

You're hearing your questions and you're hearing their answers and you're it's it's kind of like I'm in charge of making sure this is the right pace. If somebody was a little too complicated, getting them to slow down and break down that point again so people can listen, there's almost like a little bit of an entertainment value because you're trying to make it an engaging conversation that people want to follow along with.

00:29:29:27 - 00:29:47:16

Unknown

So just like kind of on a technical side, I'd say that was the biggest change. And I'm also always mindful, you know, we're on the air for an hour on a weekend, and there's always a lot of news. Hard news to cover in the world. And it feels like we're just in the stretch where so many giant breaking stories happen on Saturdays and Sundays.

00:29:47:21 - 00:30:03:53

Unknown

So like, obviously that's most important because that's our primary job. But I'm also trying to kind of give people a break and kind of get to corners of the world that people might not have had had the space to engage in on Monday through Friday, because so much news is always happening. So I'm trying like, where is a moment where we can kind of entertain people?

00:30:03:53 - 00:30:17:12

Unknown

Where is a moment where we can tell you about this quirky thing that you never would have thought of, but it's really interesting and you want to hear more about it and you want to hear a five minute conversation with the person in charge of it, you know, like, what are some musicians that we can feature day to day that people might not have heard otherwise?

00:30:17:12 - 00:30:35:30

Unknown

So, like thinking the experience that somebody get over the course of 60 minutes is, is a new challenge and one that I really enjoy digging into each week. Yeah. We talked you kind of alluded to the budget cuts earlier when talking to friends and family about the current political landscape. I know anytime I go to a family gathering or go out to a bar, people are like, oh my gosh, what's happening to you?

00:30:35:31 - 00:30:52:46

Unknown

Or you guys are right. What's that? What's that been like? How is it as a journalist and one on the national, level, do you kind of approach those those questions and those interactions when people are asking about what what things are like an NPR right now? You know, I think I think what I say is we're still doing our job, we're still showing up to work.

00:30:52:46 - 00:31:14:35

Unknown

We're still trying to do the things that people rely on us to do. And I think, like, we have to do that even though it's financially harder. And I'm glad that other people at NPR are trying to solve that while I'm trying to focus on covering the news, I think like if we are asking people to step up their support for this institution, if we are saying that what we are doing is in danger, but it's valuable, we need to show people why it's valuable.

00:31:14:35 - 00:31:31:12

Unknown

We need to work as hard as we can to tell people in the news, to tell people those stories that they think about when they think about NPR. So I think like, I think just doing the work, it's the best way through it. And that's what I tell people. But that's what I honestly believe. Like, we don't know what's going to happen with budgets.

00:31:31:12 - 00:31:47:30

Unknown

We're going to do our best to try and fix that on our in, but part of it's out of our control. What we do know is that we can show up and cover the news every single day and, and try to tell people the facts every single day. You know, in our case, each afternoon and all things Considered, but on a 24 hour basis across all of NPR.

00:31:47:35 - 00:32:03:02

Unknown

Yeah. And you're doing the job every single day. All these journalists are doing their jobs every single day. But what about protecting against burnout? And not just for journalists that are covering hard news all the time, but. Yeah, but listeners and viewers out there who are, you know, who are trying to digest all the stuff that's coming at a breakneck speed.

00:32:03:07 - 00:32:24:19

Unknown

One thing I have told people for years is, maybe people who are in charge of them would disagree, but I feel like, turn off the push alerts on your phone. You don't need them. The news is always there when you want to tune into it. I definitely take mental breaks. I mean, I've got a seven and three year old kid at home, so it's kind of out of my hands that, you know, I'm just I'm not thinking about the news when I get home.

00:32:24:23 - 00:32:46:31

Unknown

I'm thinking about life. I'm thinking about life in front of me. I am keeping my phone out of reach and trying to read a book. At the end of the day, I think, I think there's a lot going on, and it's good to kind of take mental breaks as best as you can and kind of go down those fun phone wormholes, whether it's baseball or whether it's books or whether it's music or something else like the news is always there waiting for you can always catch up on what's going on, and we're going to always be there giving you the news.

00:32:46:31 - 00:33:00:22

Unknown

If you want to turn us off for a little bit for a break, that's fine. I'll be there the next Saturday to tell you what's going on and what you missed. Always doing the work. That is Scott Detrow, the weekend host for All Things Considered and co-host of the Consider This podcast. Scott, thanks so much for talking to us today on The Sound of Ideas.

00:33:00:27 - 00:33:18:00

Unknown

Hey, thanks for having me. I enjoyed it again. That was my conversation with Scott Detrow, who is now the one of the weekday hosts of All Things Considered. A little bit of a promotion there, I guess, which you can hear starting at 4 p.m. right here on Wksu with your local host, Amanda Rabinowitz. And that wraps up the show for today.

00:33:18:00 - 00:33:38:35

Unknown

To get the last word on today's topics, send an email to Zoe at [Ideo stream.org](mailto:Zoe@ideo.stream.org). You can also follow us on Instagram or at Ideo stream NGO tomorrow on The Sound of Ideas. As the crackdown on immigration continues to be a primary focus for the Trump administration, we turn our attention to Cleveland's Welcoming Week, which seeks to make the area inclusive for those newcomers.

00:33:38:39 - 00:33:53:56

Unknown

If you missed any part of today's show, you can listen to the Sound of Ideas podcast or watch the show on YouTube at any time. You can also hear a rebroadcast tonight at nine on 89.7 ASU. I'm Drew Maziaz in for Stephanie Haney. I'll be back in the host chair tomorrow.