

Written by Kathy
Wednesday, 13 April 2022 21:58



Pictured is former president Donald Trump

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By Kathy Wray Coleman, political and investigative reporter, editor-in-chief

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Former president Donald Trump will speak at a GOP-led rally in Ohio ahead of the May 3 primary election, an effort, say sources, to boost voter turnout for Republican candidates, though he has not yet announced an endorsed candidate for governor or for the high profile U.S. Senate race for the seat up for grabs due to the upcoming retirement of GOP Sen. Rob Portman of Cincinnati.

Trump will headline a GOP rally at the Delaware County Fairgrounds in Delaware, north of Columbus, on the evening of April 23, organizers said.

Several Republicans are vying for the nomination to succeed Portman in what has become a political bloodbath. Among them are author and venture capitalist J.D. Vance, businessman Mike Gibbons, former state Treasurer Josh Mandel, former Ohio GOP Chair Jane Timken, and state Sen. Matt Dolan

U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan, attorney Morgan Harper and tech executive Traci Johnson round out the Democratic candidates vying to replace Portman, Ryan a Youngstown area Democrat who is not seeking reelection to Congress this year and the front-runner candidate for the Democratic primary.

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Both Harper, a former consumer protection attorney with the Obama administration, and Johnson are Black.

The former president last visited Ohio on June 26 of last year and spoke at a GOP rally at the Lorain County Fairgrounds. According to Trump's Save America PAC, last year's rally marked the first of many appearances by the former president "in support of candidates and causes that further the MAGA agenda and accomplishments of President Trump's administration."

That GOP rally last year in Wellington, Ohio where Trump spoke was to support Max Miller, whom he has endorsed in the primary for Ohio's 16th Congressional District against GOP incumbent Rep. Anthony Gonzalez. The rally later this month where the former president will speak is also to stump for Miller, sources said.

A conservative one-term president and real estate mogul, Trump, a staunch Republican, lost re election in 2020 to current president Joe Biden, a Democrat and former U.S. senator and vice president under former president Barack Obama, the nation's first Black president. But the former president, still a controversial figure, remains a viable force for GOP endorsements as gubernatorial and congressional and U.S. Senate races heat up and the November midterm elections near.

By Kathy Wray Coleman, associate publisher, editor. Coleman is a seasoned Black Cleveland journalist who trained at the Call and Post Newspaper for 17 years and an experienced investigative and political reporter. She is the most read independent journalist in Ohio per Alexa.com-

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the most read Black digital newspaper and Black blog in Ohio and in the Midwest.

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(216) 659-0473. Email: editor@clevelandurbannews.com. We interviewed former president Barack Obama one-on-one when he was campaigning for president. As to the Obama interview

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