

VOTER GUIDE – AUGUST PRIMARY ELECTION
COUNTY COMMISSIONER – DISTRICT 9

Tuesday, August 4, 2020
POLLS ARE OPEN 7:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OAKLAND AREA

Website: www.lwvoa.org **E-mail:** contact@lwvoa.org **Phone:** 248-594-6602

You may VOTE in ONLY ONE PARTY'S PRIMARY - either Democratic or Republican – for ALL partisan offices on ballot.
Note: Candidates are ordered within each office by party with Democrats preceding Republicans.

2 Candidates for COUNTY COMMISSIONER for ONE 2-year term
1 Democrat and 1 Republican are running for this office in District 9

CANDIDATES for COUNTY COMMISSION ONE 2-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i>	Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for County Commissioner and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.	Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues that the County Commission should address and what actions would you, as a commissioner, take regarding each of them?
<p><i>Democrat</i> GWEN MARKHAM 45540 Violet Ln. Novi, MI 48374</p>	<p>I was elected to this position in 2018. Prior to that, I served 5 years on the Novi City Council. I work with leaders at all levels of government to bring effective policies and resources to Oakland County. I am an effective organizer, having served in leadership on several local boards and Commissions. I'm currently majority Vice-Chair of the Board of Commissioners Finance Committee, and I am Chair of the Airport and Financial Audit Committees, among others. My signature project this year was the distribution of 5000 Oak trees to communities throughout the County in commemoration of the County Bicentennial. We worked with local governments and non-profit organizations to complete this fun and important project.</p>	<p>For this year, we are looking at unprecedented challenges in all areas of the County. Our first priority must continue to be the health and safety of the County residents, and provide resources to those who need help. Our second priority must be assessment of the budget impact of all the needed actions taken to respond to the Covid-19 crisis, and develop plans to deal with the impact going forward. Our third priority should be to focus our efforts on restarting our local economy safely, and to develop strategies for the rehiring of those affected by the job losses during this time.</p>

COUNTY COMMISSIONER – DISTRICT 9 (Continued)

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<p>Republican DAVID STAUDT 23715 Nilan Dr. Novi, MI 48375</p>	<p>I have been a resident of Novi for 26 years and have served on City Council for 13 years, the last 9 as Mayor Pro-Tem. I am married Jean for 35 years and have two daughters; Rachel, a high school art teacher and Amber, an EMT. I am a member of the Holy Family Catholic Church. I volunteer in many capacities and am a member of the Novi Rotary, Novi Chamber of Commerce and BPO Elks. I have has over 30 years of executive management experience. I have served in positions as COO, CFO, Vice President & Chief Technology Officer at various companies in SE Michigan. I hold a BA degree in Business Administration from Lakeland College and a MS degree in Management from the UW-Milwaukee. I am currently the Comptroller of the Associated Builders and Contractors of Southeastern Michigan and SEMCA. I own Impact Media Professionals, a Novi small business.</p> <p>I am running to return the commission's focus back to fiscal responsibility, smaller government, greater transparency and personal freedom.</p>	<p>1) Maintaining a fiscally responsible and transparent government and our AAA Bond rating - This will be done by focusing on retaining our hard earned rainy-day fund which is being spent down every day on dubious big government programs and policies. I will again require all requests to spend money be scrutinized from a financial impact to the County perspective as has been the practice for many years.</p> <p>2) Focusing County tax dollars on the residents of Oakland County - I will oppose any funding scheme for any program that allows Oakland County taxpayer dollars to be funneled out of Oakland County. We are not the regions piggy bank.</p> <p>3) Reapportionment - The Democratic Majority of the County Commission has appointed progressive commissioners to propose reapportionment boundaries. Their intention will be to create commission districts that guarantee reelection of Democrats for the next decade. I will insure that all districts are fair and chosen to best represent those that live in them.</p>

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan national organization whose purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party. Candidate responses are included as submitted and have not been edited except in cases where the replies have exceeded the stated word limitations. **Spelling and Grammar were not corrected.** The inclusion of candidates' statements and opinions is solely in the interest of public service and in no way is to be construed as an endorsement by the League of Women Voters which takes no responsibility for any views or facts stated by the candidates.