

VOTER GUIDE – AUGUST PRIMARY ELECTION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF BLOOMFIELD

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.

4 Candidates for TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR for ONE 4-year term

CANDIDATES for SUPERVISOR ONE 4-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 Township office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.	Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues facing your township and what actions would you, as a township official, take regarding each of them?
<p><i>Democrat</i> SCOTT NADEAU 4424 Stony River Dr. Bloomfield, MI 48301</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</p>	
<p><i>Democrat</i> DANI WALSH 7130 Wing Lk. Rd. Bloomfield, MI 48301</p>	<p>I am a lifelong resident of Bloomfield Township for 48 years. The education and life lessons learned while growing up in the Bloomfield Hills Schools District prepared me for success at the University of Michigan Ann Arbor and throughout my adult life.</p> <p>After 20+ years of working for global corporations and honing my skills in strategic planning, organizational management, process and budget efficiencies, procurement, training and workforce development, and management, I became a Business Consultant in 2018. I help businesses redefine or reinvent themselves to improve and succeed in a changing business environment.</p> <p>As a Trustee, I have an inside look to the lack of transparency and outdated business practices that risk the long-term sustainability of Bloomfield. As a public servant, whether it was going public with the OPEB & spending concerns, approving a land swap to save the nature center to the detriment of my property, or bringing citizen perspective to board decisions, I always put the citizens needs first. As Supervisor, I will bring successful business acumen and leadership you can trust to make Bloomfield stronger and rebuild the bridges with our schools & community.</p>	<p>1) Financial Concerns – Liabilities, spending, & accounting practices is the largest concern. Our OPEB liability was one of the least funded in Michigan. I agreed with Plante Moran, & the resident survey, that asked for budget cuts & shared sacrifice before taxing. Concern also surrounds the contracts negotiated before the compensation & staffing study was completed. I would end the pitting of employees vs citizens & approach it as a consultant that finds opportunities for efficiencies and reduction in spending, while maintaining services. Long-term we want this to be a great place to live & work.</p> <p>2) No master plan– The strategic plan expired about 7 years ago. Implementing a master plan would end the knee jerk decisions being made that are taking away from the vision & character of the township. I would like to implement a committee filled with leadership, employees, and citizens coming together to help</p> <p>3) Outdated Structure – “That’s the way it’s always been done” is not a reason to avoid improvement. A part-time Treasurer and part-time Supervisor would allow funds for a qualified Superintendent that reports to the entire board, ending the withholding of information to Trustees.</p>

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

<p>CANDIDATES for SUPERVISOR</p> <p>ONE 4-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for Township office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues facing your township and what actions would you, as a township official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p>Republican DAN DEVINE 4511 Lakeview Ct. Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301</p>	<p>Township Treasurer and Architect of the now-vulnerable AAA Bond Rating (2000-2016) by prudent investments and strategic planning.</p> <p>Negotiated Union Contracts in 2004 and 2010 saving Taxpayers over \$100 Million by closing the old Defined Benefit Pension and closing lifetime Retiree Healthcare Benefits for new hires.</p> <p>Successfully crafted Balanced Budgets, prudently invested Township Funds, and cost-effectively managed benefits involving over 500 Employees and Retirees.</p> <p>Certified Public Finance Administrator (CPFA).</p> <p>Experienced Municipal Law Expert and Attorney (1987-2020)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I pledge to develop a Resident Focused Strategic Plan to effectively guide the Township's future. I will work with the new Board of Trustees to prioritize exemplary services to Residents while sensibly addressing the Structural Budget Crisis exacerbated over the last 4 years and further complicated by the unknown economic fallout of COVID-19. We need to make the Residents Job #1 again. We will Re-Open Township Hall with a 5 Day Work Week and prohibit Free Luxury Cars for Elected Officials and Department Heads. 2. I pledge to straighten out the Water and Sewer Department's poor business practices and exorbitant billings and resolve the issues called out in the \$12 Million Class-Action Lawsuit lost in Court by Bloomfield Township. The Current Administration has used our Water and Sewer Fees to pay over \$1 Million to attorneys to fight a case against us. We Taxpayers are on the losing end either way. We will establish Free Online Access to all Accounting Records in real time to track revenues, expenses, debt and all Water, Sewer and Road Projects. 3. I pledge to provide Full Financial Transparency and Public Participation in all we do before decisions are made.

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

<p>CANDIDATES for SUPERVISOR</p> <p>ONE 4-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for Township office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues facing your township and what actions would you, as a township official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p><i>Republican</i> LEO C. SAVOIE 3883 S. Miller Way Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301</p>	<p>I have spent approximately 40 years in the private sector owning and managing numerous companies employing upwards to several hundred people at any one time. These businesses dealt with finances and valuations. I first became involved with Bloomfield Township governance about 25 years ago when I was asked to sit on the Board of Review for tax assessments and then asked to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals. In 2004 I was elected as a Trustee on the Bloomfield Township Board of Trustees. In 2011 I became the Supervisor for Bloomfield Township. Being involved with these different positions has allowed me to view the issues through both the residents' and municipal eyes. A strong financial acumen, good people skills and a compassion for people have allowed me to be an effective Supervisor in Bloomfield Township. I look forward to serving the residents of Bloomfield Township for another 4 years.</p>	<p>Public Safety, Infrastructure and Finances. The number one function of government is to protect the citizens. This protection comes from both our police and fire departments.</p> <p>Infrastructure. We have seen the devastation suffered by municipalities that fail to upgrade their water and sewer systems. This was caused by ignoring problems for decades. We have an obligation to continually update and upgrade our systems so the residents today as well as 30 or 40 years from now don't face a catastrophic problem.</p> <p>Finances enable us to accomplish these priorities. We have a duty to provide the best services possible at an affordable price. Strong management and leadership makes that happen. Even though we always have a balanced budget every year we still need to prioritize to make sure we are delivering services that are expected by our residents or that are mandated by law.</p>

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

4 Candidates for TOWNSHIP CLERK for ONE 4-year term

<p>CANDIDATES for CLERK</p> <p>ONE 4-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for Township office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues facing your township and what actions would you, as a township official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p>Democrat MARTIN BROOK 1332 Lake Crescent Dr. Bloomfield, MI 48302</p>	<p>My experience and past track record in this community demonstrate the qualities necessary for success as Bloomfield Township Clerk. 24 years as an attorney practicing labor and employment law. 17 years as a Township resident. 6 years on the Bloomfield Hills School Board - 1 year as President of the Board. Plus deep community involvement. I serve on the Board of Directors of the Friends of The E.L. Johnson Nature Center, I am active with Bloomfield Hills Schools as a forensics coach and judge, and I am a member of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce.</p> <p>I was elected to Bloomfield Hills School Board in 2005. I priorities were openness, strategic planning, budgeting/financial controls, and protecting/enhancing what makes our schools great (quality teachers, broad curriculum, and unique assets such as the Farm and Nature Center). For several years I was Chair of the Finance, Facilities, and Legal Affairs Committee. As Board President, I lead the District through a community-based effort to select a new Superintendent. In nearly 6 years on the Board, the best thing we did was bring the district back together and launch it on a new unified path.</p> <p>Learn more Facebook: @BrookforBloomfield</p>	<p>The Clerk runs elections and is a member of the Board of Trustees - the legislative body of the Township. As Clerk, I will:</p> <p>(1) Continue to run elections that you can trust and deliver excellent public services.</p> <p>(2) Be transparent and open. The business of the township must be clear and easily available. I believe in proactive openness and not openness simply for compliance sake. My prior School Board service demonstrates my commitment to these things and I hope you allow me to will bring this experience to the Bloomfield Township Clerk position.</p> <p>(3) Start a community conversation. The Township does not just have a structural budget deficit, it has a trust deficit! The Township Board cannot fix these deficits alone. It must initiate a community conversation that engages everyone and listens closely.</p> <p>(4) Make tough business decisions - openly and collaboratively. Township's tax revenue and budget are essentially flat when compared to numbers from before the great recession. Difficult decisions lay ahead and to be successful we must tackle them together</p> <p>I will work hard every day to earn your vote and your trust! I want to hear from you: martin.brook@comcast.net</p>

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

<p>CANDIDATES for CLERK</p> <p>ONE 4-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for Township office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues facing your township and what actions would you, as a township official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p>Republican MALISSA BOSSARDET 1709 Orchard Ln. Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301</p>	<p>I have more than two decades of experience in healthcare, veterinary and pharmaceutical sales. My career has centered around serving the needs of professionals and I intend on bringing that same level of service to the Bloomfield Township Clerk’s office. I am the only candidate for clerk with training and experience as a Bloomfield Township election worker. I’m an elected Republican precinct delegate and serve as the Vice President of the Birmingham Republican Women’s Club and I’m member of the Oakland County Republican Party Executive Committee. I am the proud mother of three great kids: Oliva, a graduate of Detroit Country Day School and pre-medical student at the University of Michigan. My son Remi graduated from Seaholm High School in 2018. My youngest son, Ashton, will start his junior year at Seaholm this fall. I’m a graduate of Indiana University, where I earned a Bachelor of Arts degree.</p>	<p>My first goal is to promote voting and making it as safe and convenient as possible for our voters. As a mom, I believe in the need of forming partnerships with local schools to encourage students to be involved in the election process.</p> <p>I will serve as the taxpayers’ watchdog on the township board. My long history in the business world has instilled in me a strong sense of fiscal conservatism. I will work cooperatively with other board members to maintain our excellent AAA bond rating while eliminating luxury perks for elected officials such as taxpayer funded vehicles. All of my actions will be transparent and accountable to taxpayers.</p> <p>Providing township residents with excellent customer service at the Clerk’s office will be critical daily goal. Residents deserve the same level of service excellence they have received from Clerk Jan Roncelli and I intend to deliver that service to them.</p>

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

<p>CANDIDATES for <u>CLERK</u></p> <p>ONE 4-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for Township office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues facing your township and what actions would you, as a township official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p>Republican TOM SMYLY 737 Satterlee Rd. Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304</p>	<p>I attended the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, graduating with a BA in Psychology. I married my college sweetheart, Cyndi, and spent a few years serving in the non-profit sector. After attending the police academy in 2007, I was hired by the Bloomfield Township Police Department and have been an officer for over 12.5 years. I have received two lifesaving awards, multiple MADD awards, trained new recruits as a Field Training Officer, and assisted in our Empowering Self Defense Workshops for Women. Outside of my law enforcement career, I am also a local realtor and currently serve as President of my neighborhood association. Cyndi and I have 3 children in the Bloomfield Hills Schools.</p> <p>"Serving Every Resident With Excellence and Respect" is not only my campaign slogan, but what I have made a career doing in my 12.5 years of public service. I serve and work with individuals from all sides of the political aisle. I am dedicated to improving the lives of Bloomfield Twp residents, and believe government at every level is employed by and works on behalf of the citizenry, not the other way around. I am committed to providing the highest levels of efficiency and customer service.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Helping all Bloomfield Township residents navigate through the many recent changes in voting laws and practices. Since the last election cycle, Michigan passed No Reason Absentee Voting which allows any registered voter to receive an absentee application upon request. Some residents, however, may need guidance to understand the full process. Absentee applications must be completed and returned in order to then receive an absentee ballot on which to cast their vote. Additionally, Bloomfield Township has recently combined several voting precincts which is another change residents must be aware of. 2) Helping residents feel valued, cared for, and their concerns heard by providing efficient, positive customer service with a smile. Government should exist to help residents simplify and accentuate their lives, not complicate them. 3) Maintaining the sterling reputation retiring clerk, Jan Roncelli, has established in the office. The Clerk's office provides numerous support services including voter registration, elections, passports, record keeping, notary, and neighborhood associations. The position demands handling multiple items simultaneously, but never sacrificing excellence.

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

<p>CANDIDATES for CLERK</p> <p>ONE 4-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for Township office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues facing your township and what actions would you, as a township official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p>Republican DAVID C. THOMAS 2945 W. Hickory Grove Rd. Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302</p>	<p>II am running for Bloomfield Township Clerk to rebuild the public trust and respect that is absent from the present Board of Trustees.</p> <p>My background includes 39 years at Ford. There I was in engineering, marketing, a call center, and purchasing. During my career I managed people, processes, and major budgets. I also have experience in the financial planning industry, and I am presently a realtor and mortgage loan originator.</p> <p>My unique background makes me the only candidate running for Clerk that has the expertise in managing people, processes, and budgets which is exactly the duties of the Clerk.</p> <p>The Township Clerk is responsible for the integrity of the elections, maintaining the all the public documents, managing the checkbook, and the audits of the township finances. The Clerk is the constant interface of the township and the residents. I am the only candidate that possesses expertise in each of the key area of the Clerk’s is responsibility.</p> <p>I am the person that discovered the overcharges of sewer and water rates by the Township and I led the team that that stopped the Township’s attempt at creating a Special Assessment District for the entire township last August.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A lack of civility towards the citizens and between the present board members. It is so bad the present supervisor told the citizens at the Board meeting just before Thanksgiving to go (Expletive) yourselves. This cannot go on and actions like that should be censured. I will ensure that will not happen in the future. 2. Fiscal responsibility as being demonstrated by the present administration has lost any credibility. The recent SAD and millage elections exposed unsustainable employee benefits. Further the administration refused to eliminate the free vehicles for all the township department managers. And now they have issued six-year labor contracts against a one-year budget that includes some rich golden parachutes for the managers. This in the face of increasing debt and future obligations. <p>This has undermined their accountability and trust with the community. That is why I will not take a township vehicle. You lead by example.</p> 3. Transparency is the next major factor. There is a total lack of transparency with the township finances. The judge in the sewer and water suit pointed this out several times in his judgement. This is why I want to put the checkbook online.

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

2 Candidates for TOWNSHIP TREASURER for ONE 4-year term

<p>CANDIDATES for TREASURER</p> <p>ONE 4-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for Township office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues facing your township and what actions would you, as a township official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p>Republican MARK ANTAKLI 1550 Georgetown Dr. Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304</p>	<p>Mark Antakli, candidate for Bloomfield Township Treasurer, is concerned about the long-term financial health of Bloomfield Township. Bloomfield Township’s unfunded post-employment liabilities exceed \$160 Million. Furthermore, growth in property tax revenues is restricted by tax caps.</p> <p>Mark has an extensive business background in the automotive and façade material industries. He has decades of experience in sales and management. Mark utilized his finance background to support board and management activities such as; forecasts, budgets, cost savings initiatives, financial analysis, and stakeholder relationships.</p> <p>Mark graduated from University of Michigan – Dearborn with a Master Degree in Business Administration, concentrating in finance. He graduated with distinction and was accepted into Beta Gamma Sigma, the National Honor Society for Business Schools. Mark’s undergraduate degree is in Mechanical Engineering, from University of Michigan, College of Engineering – Ann Arbor.</p>	<p>1) Lack of a long-term financial plan to fund over \$160 million in post-employment liabilities 2) Fiscal Responsibility 3) Financial Transparency</p> <p>A long-term financial plan to fund \$160 million in post-employment liabilities is more than making payments according to an actuarial; a long-term financial plan includes making additional payments during an economic expansion.</p> <p>Fiscal responsibility includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing a long-term financial plan and updating the plan annually • Updating budgets and comparing actual results to estimates • Working a 5-day week for you <p>Financial transparency includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing residents access to all records • Adding a consolidated operating report to the annual budget • Addressing post-employment liabilities • Providing on-line quarterly updates of investments <p>Providing quarterly updates on Township investments and access to several financial documents can be performed at the discretion of the Treasurer’s Office. Other items will require the support of the Board and involvement of the Finance director. Mark will work to make Bloomfield Better.</p>

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

<p>CANDIDATES for <u>TREASURER</u></p> <p>ONE 4-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for Township office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues facing your township and what actions would you, as a township official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p><i>Republican</i> BRIAN E. KEPES 4615 Pickering Rd. Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301</p>	<p>I believe I have provided solid results and a proven record to continue to serve as your Bloomfield Treasurer. In the last four years, township reserves have earned \$2,881,000, verses the previous Treasurer’s last four years earning only \$476,000. We performed 6 times better by eliminating excessive broker fees and investing in safe government bonds. I have provided 26 years of service to the Township, 15 on the Zoning Board of Appeals and Tax Board of Review, 7 as Trustee, and 4 as your Treasurer. Professionally I am a Certified Public Accountant, started, built, and managed successful businesses’ for over thirty years. Additionally, I have provided active long-term leadership in diverse community organizations. To date, we have eliminated approximately \$1,000,000 in annual perpetual costs and fees. As a fiscal conservative, I will maintain a laser focus on continued taxpayer cost reductions and value enhancements for the benefit of Bloomfield Township residents.</p>	<p>First, continue to meet and exceed residents' expectations of a safe, secure, and stable community while balancing the limited revenues available, even in the face of these hopefully once in a lifetime catastrophic events. Second, provide and support innovative solutions to our challenges that include road maintenance and/or provide opportunities for new roads, the essential maintenance and restoration of our aging water and sewer infrastructure. Also provide and improve the very best services to our residents while retaining and attracting top quality staff to perform these vital services like police, fire, and advanced life support. Third, we need a cohesive Township Board that can maintain the trust of the taxpayers and provide a transparent, civil, and respectful local government we can all be proud of. Last but certainly not least, we need to remain committed to fiscally conservative policies and keep our tax rates low and maximize value for residents.</p>

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

9 Candidates for TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE for FOUR 4-year terms

<p>CANDIDATES for TRUSTEE</p> <p>FOUR 4-year terms <i>Vote for no more than FOUR</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for Township office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues facing your township and what actions would you, as a township official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p><i>Democrat</i> STEPHANIE FAKIH 1537 Quarton Ridge Cir. Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301</p>	<p>I grew up in Bloomfield Township. I attended Birmingham Public Schools and Cranbrook Kingswood before moving to Ann Arbor to attend the University of Michigan. I moved back to Bloomfield Township after graduating from Fordham University School of Law in New York City. I am running for Bloomfield Township Trustee because I am dedicated to keeping the community a desirable place for homeowners to invest and for families to grow.</p> <p>As an attorney and member of legislative committees tasked with offering position statements to Michigan legislators on proposed legislation, I am abreast of new laws and can help identify trends and potential problem areas for the Township and its residents. I am also actively involved in the community through volunteering, both as an attorney and as a citizen. I dedicate a portion of my legal practice to pro bono service for those who cannot afford zealous counsel. I am also a candidate for the MSU Extension Master Gardener program which was created, in part, to encourage community engagement in gardening and other small farming practices. I am passionate about civic engagement and believe an engaged citizenry helps create robust and desirable communities.</p>	<p>The top three "priority issues" facing Bloomfield Township include maintaining a balanced and transparent Township budget, enhancing Township services to retain Township residents and attract new residents, and creating more opportunities for community engagement.</p> <p>If elected to be Bloomfield Township Trustee, I will work to encourage continued investment in Township properties. The Township is in a unique position with little development opportunity. Bloomfield Township has established properties and we must strive to maximize the value of those properties and other investments. As Township Trustee I would also work to expand and enhance Township services like electronic and hazardous waste recycling while ensuring the Township remains one of the safest communities for families. It is also important to create volunteer opportunities for Township residents, increasing engagement with elected officials and with other members of the community. Encouraging community engagement helps strengthen neighborhood bonds and ties to a sustained Township.</p> <p>I encourage Township residents to visit my website FakihforTrustee.com to learn more about me and why they should vote Fakih for Trustee.</p>
<p><i>Democrat</i> MITSUAKI MURASHIGE 5760 Whethersfield Ln., #5E Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301</p>	<p align="center">DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</p>	

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

<p>CANDIDATES for TRUSTEE</p> <p>FOUR 4-year terms <i>Vote for no more than FOUR</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for Township office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues facing your township and what actions would you, as a township official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p>Democrat VALERIE SAYLES MURRAY 4831 Ballantrae Rd. Bloomfield, MI 48301</p>	<p>I'm running for Bloomfield Township Trustee as a 35-year homeowner and resident. My goal is to restore honesty, transparency, and fiscal responsibility to the board, while creating an environment where resident input is welcomed. I spent 9 years in the business community, as an Advertising Media Buyer/Planner and manager of Operations. I most recently was an IT/support staff for Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills Schools for 20+ years, and still substitute. I served 6 terms on my subdivision board, including Road Paving chair, where I had my first experiences working with the Township and County Road Commission. I have a degree in Communications from MSU, and years of IT training, provided by the district technology department, along with crisis intervention. I've worked on local campaigns for Promote the Vote, Voters Not Politicians, passing absentee voting for any reason in Michigan, and more. I am devoted to this community, spending 10 years and counting as an Adopt-A-Road volunteer, cleaning up "The Murray Mile" in the Twp. I am also a foster home for rescue kittens, having hosted over 100 mom cats and kittens in our home. I am very dedicated to, & love this community.</p>	<p>My top priority is to ensure that the Township is financially sound. Through research, we learned the Township has accumulated a great deal of debt, not just the OPEB benefits that have been allowed to accumulate. & most recently passing a generous 6 year employment contract, while only proposing a 1 year budget. We need to do a forensic audit, establish a Strategic Plan, something we used to have, but expired and not renewed. I want to see the Plante Moran and more recent staffing study. Residents paid for these studies, but have not been disclosed or available. Utilize expert advice in a new, long term plan & provide security for employees. Sadly, the Township has become a very divided and hostile environment. I promise to work diligently towards a more cohesive board, and resident friendly meetings, where input is welcome and actually addressed. We have a very well educated, resourceful community in the Township, why not use some of that experience to further the services and programs we can provide residents. I want to restore the trust of the residents. Residents are a top priority, it's over 90% of our community! Let's return to be a wonderful, family based community.</p>

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

<p>CANDIDATES for TRUSTEE</p> <p>FOUR 4-year terms <i>Vote for no more than FOUR</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for Township office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues facing your township and what actions would you, as a township official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p>Democrat LINDA P. ULREY 1236 Hidden Lk. Dr. Bloomfield, MI 48302</p>	<p>Educational: Michigan State University - B.A.; Masters of Business Administration - U of Detroit Mercy. 35 Years experience as a FCA executive as Plant Manager, Director of Global Supplier Quality & Procurement and Supply Chain Mgt. As Plant manager I was responsible for all operations of facility including, HR management, Finance, Engineering and Manufacturing Operations. In Global Supplier Quality responsible for ensuring management of automotive supply chain quality conformance throughout all divisions. I seek the position as trustee to bring operational and finance experience combined with fresh perspective on the management of township services to its residents. Our township has serious financial challenges which must be met with creativity, transparency, acumen and a resolve to ensure our community is viewed as a superior place to live. All residents must feel valued and welcome to express different and diverse ideas to solve our community issues. I welcome and encourage more resident participation in their local government via advisory groups. I seek to partner with the BHSD and BTPL to create a programs and offerings to our residents that maximize value and opportunity.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a lack of a coherent Master Plan for the township. Every community needs a well thought out plan for how it wants its community to move forward. Residents can be an active part in the creation of this vision for their community. There is resident little involvement in township decisions. This must change and I aim to change that by utilizing the experience and intelligence of our community members through extensive participation in advisory councils including our high school students, seniors and young families. 2. The township has deep financial liabilities that have not been publicly vetted whether OPEB debit or escalating W&S charges or a balanced budget. I am committed to information transparency, residents are willing to accept negative information if provided honestly and with a plan for resolution. Facts must be transparent and not hidden behind closed doors - this has led to suspicion and divisiveness in the community. This will end if I am elected and be replaced by receptivity of diverse opinion, and a willingness to share all information good or bad. 3. City Mgr. for the Twp. - a good idea that needs serious discussion for long term management stability.

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

<p>CANDIDATES for TRUSTEE</p> <p>FOUR 4-year terms <i>Vote for no more than FOUR</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for Township office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues facing your township and what actions would you, as a township official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p><i>Republican</i> NEAL BARNETT 6730 Oakhills Dr. Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301</p>	<p>I have worked as an attorney for thirty-two years primarily in the areas of trusts and estates and probate litigation. I am also a psychologist. Finances are a major part of my legal practice. I have lived in Bloomfield Township most of my life. My wife and I raised our three children in the Township. I have been on the Bloomfield Township Board as a Trustee for over 16 years. I was on the Zoning Board of Appeals prior to being on the Board of Trustees. I am also on the Planning Commission, Financial Sustainability Committee, Design Review Board (alternate), Election Commission and Gilbert Lake Board.</p> <p>I am running for re-election because Bloomfield Township is a wonderful place to live and I believe I have contributed to making Bloomfield Township an exemplary community. I want to maintain it's excellence and continue to make it an attractive place for young families and seniors to live.</p> <p>I have the institutional knowledge of Bloomfield Township that the other candidates lack. I work well with people and am a consensus builder. My legal and financial background have been important skills that I have brought to the Board as a Trustee.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Delivering outstanding services to the residents and being nimble enough to adjust to the changing needs of our residents. 2. Confronting issues facing the Township without being divisive. As Justice Scalia said, "we are different we are one", " I attack ideas not people. Some people have bad ideas." 3. The finances of Bloomfield Township are strong. we have cut significant expenses and financial liabilities in the past few years. However, with the current pandemic we are in uncharted territory and must be prepared for further spikes of COVID-19 and its impact on our finances and investments. We must continue to work closely with our financial advisors and be prudent with our investments.
<p><i>Republican</i> TIMOTHY ROBERT MEYER 3036 W. Ridge Ct. Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</p>	
<p><i>Republican</i> ERIC L. PERNIE 1000 S. Old Woodward Ave Ste. 103 Birmingham, MI 48009</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</p>	

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

<p>CANDIDATES for TRUSTEE</p> <p>FOUR 4-year terms <i>Vote for no more than FOUR</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for Township office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues facing your township and what actions would you, as a township official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p>Republican MICHAEL SCHOSTAK 6070 Darramoor Rd. Bloomfield, MI 48301</p>	<p>I am the father of 2 young children and a business consultant, with a bachelors degree and MBA in business, economics and finance from The Wharton School and the University of Michigan. As part of my 18+ years of professional experience, I spent 2 years working at the U.S. Defense Department building financial models, conducting cost/benefit analysis, and doing policy analysis on classified military and intelligence programs, after which I spent 3 years on Wall Street working in investment banking.</p> <p>After several years out East, I chose to move back and live in Bloomfield Township because of the overall quality of life enjoyed by residents, and as trustee I have, and will, work to protect and improve it. My financial and analytical skills have allowed me to develop a deep understanding of our budget and financial position. I know that positivity and team building will always surpass negativity and hostility in getting things done. I bring a pragmatic, innovative approach to problem solving, always putting residents’ needs above petty politics. Bloomfield Township residents can always count on me to tell it like it is and to answer their calls or emails when they need something.</p>	<p>The heightened unease and distrust of township government among many residents is concerning. I would push to improve access by allowing remote commenting at Board meetings, creating new subcommittees that bring together subject matter experts from among the residents in areas like finance & accounting or design. We must make sure that accurate information is made available to everyone at all times.</p> <p>There is a misalignment between the growth in tax revenue and operating expenses that will strain future budgets. Some issues are already identified, I will encourage the board to continue working to mitigate expense growth and keep the budget balanced while maintaining healthy reserves.</p> <p>Bloomfield’s median age has increased to over 50. While we need to serve our seniors well so that they can age in place, I believe we need to better attract young families to maintain the strength of property values and retain the vibrancy of our community. One area of opportunity I see is recreation and green space, in fact I was instrumental in the protection of the E.L. Johnson Nature Center and the addition of 10 acres of green space in the township with easements that protect them in perpetuity</p>

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

<p>CANDIDATES for TRUSTEE</p> <p>FOUR 4-year terms <i>Vote for no more than FOUR</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for Township office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues facing your township and what actions would you, as a township official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p>Republican DON VALENTE 2763 Mackintosh Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302</p>	<p>I am running for Trustee to offer my experience to Township residents because I recently retired.</p> <p>My wife & I are 45 year Bloomfield Twp. residents.</p> <p>We have a 50 year marriage with 5 children (3 doctors, 1 Attorney & a Para Legal) & 14 grandchildren</p> <p>My education includes the following degrees: B.S. in Accounting, an M.B.A. in Finance & a J.D. Law Degree.</p> <p>My employment & experience includes: Employment with 3 Nat'l CPA firms in Accounting & Auditing, the U.S. Justice Dept. & Wayne & Oakland County Prosecutor Offices and 35 years of self-employed practice of Law in business & real estate.</p>	<p>i. Effect savings to drastically reduce almost \$200 M of Twp. debt, including \$164 M for unfunded employee health care debt that has almost doubled in the last 8 years, and then reduce taxes.</p> <p>ii. Modify the 2020 employee contracts effective 4-1-2020 for 6 years of uncertain economic times although based on a 1 year budget, including but not limited to a 2.5% raise each year for hundreds of employees and bonuses to assure \$100 a month health care.</p> <p>iii. Stop the 4 day work week and luxury vehicles to many employees. for their personal use 24/7/365 including on their 3 day weekends for better service for residents and eliminate over-the-top benefits.</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.