

VOTER GUIDE – AUGUST PRIMARY ELECTION
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF HIGHLAND

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 TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR for ONE 4-year term

CANDIDATES for SUPERVISOR	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?
ONE 4-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i>		
<i>Republican</i> KEVIN D. CURTIS 5140 N. Duck Lk. Rd., Highland, MI 48356	DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION	
<i>Republican</i> RICK A. HAMILL 1000 Tall Pines Dr. Highland, MI 48356	DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION	

1 Candidate for TOWNSHIP CLERK for ONE 4-year term

TAMI FLOWERS 4520 Bretton Ln., Highland, MI 48356

HIGHLAND TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

2 Candidates for 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><i>Republican</i> ROSE D'AMBROSI 4420 Mallards Landing Highland, MI 48357</p>	<p>My husband and I, along with our two sons have lived in Highland Township for 24 years. Our sons are attending Huron Valley Schools where for over 12 years I have been a board member of their Parent Teacher Groups. As a co-chair of many school fundraisers I helped gross a total of \$200,000, more than tripling totals of previous years. I have successfully owned and managed several service and retail businesses for the past 30 years with a track record of zero debt. Graduating with a degree in Commerce has guided me in all areas of support from my family to our community. I have a strong and long root in our community and volunteering weekly at our local food pantry satisfies my sense of community, fellowship and is a perfect dovetail to all that I would represent as Treasurer of Highland Township. Sharing my skill set and love of our town would give me a great sense of reciprocity and gratitude. I have a confident sense of self, family, and faith. I would be proud to represent Highland as Treasurer.</p>	<p>Business recovery after pandemic: The re-opening after covid-19 may prove difficult for many businesses. I would like to offer resources to support them and promote employment of local residents. My experience as a business owner and manager can help us relate to the challenges they will face.</p> <p>Township growth: I am confident I can strengthen the balance between the preservation of our small-town and the addition of necessary civic improvements. As a longtime resident, I have the experience of understanding and participating with the evolution and preservation of our fair town. I have a decade of experience within the community organizing events and fundraisers for the betterment of the families, students and Highland community.</p> <p>Community communication: As treasurer of Highland Township, my goal would be to help give the citizens the opportunity to choose specifically where township funds are allocated, especially considering our country's current economic climate. I will change how information is delivered to the community, providing citizens all the facts, fostering a completely transparent approach.</p>

HIGHLAND 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> JENNIFER FREDERICK 1517 W. Highland Highland, MI 48357</p>	<p>Highland is my home. I have the experience, dedication, and responsibility to be Highland Township's next Treasurer. As Treasurer, I will listen to residents and business owners, invest and spend tax money responsibly, and work as a team to make the right choices for Highland Township's future. I'm a Planner, certified by American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) with a Bachelor of Science degree in Urban and Regional Planning. I have committed the last 17 years working for Highland Township as a Certified Planner and the Assistant to the current Supervisor, Rick Hamill. Since 2012 I've been serving as Assistant to the Supervisor. My responsibilities include customer service to our residents and business owners, grant writing, facility maintenance, and working as a team with the Supervisor, Treasurer, and Clerk managing the annual budget, and working with that same team on a daily basis with all the situations and challenges that come into our offices. I've applied for, received, and completed over \$1 million dollars in Federal and State grants for Highland to increase parkland, provide safe routes to our schools, and fund public services for low income and senior citizens.</p>	<p>As Treasurer, I will work with the community on their concerns about transparency. We will maintain Highland's Financial Dashboard on our website and in the tax newsletter delivered to residents twice a year. I encourage anyone with concerns to contact us and we will discuss existing practices and possible changes.</p> <p>I will work towards establishing a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), which is a short-range plan that identifies capital projects and equipment purchases. The Plan would specifically address the maintenance of our aging facilities and parks, the costs of the improvements, and the option of financing over the next five to ten years.</p> <p>I will continue to support and work together with our new senior and disabled adults transportation program, Western Oakland Transportation Authority (WOTA). This transportation program is a newly formed partnership with Highland Township, Walled Lake, Waterford, and White Lake to provide transportation services in those communities. All the communities are helping fund this program for their residents so they can maintain their independence while taking care of themselves.</p>

HIGHLAND TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

6 Candidates for TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE for FOUR 4-year terms

CANDIDATES for TRUSTEE FOUR 4-year terms <i>Vote for no more than FOUR</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>Republican</i> JUDY COOPER 2794 Obie Ln. Highland, MI 48357</p>	<p>I've served 8 years as elected treasurer and 20 years as deputy treasurer between Highland and White Lake Townships. I have a bank management and customer service background including investments, loans and employee oversight at the local branch level. Serving on several boards has brought additional experience in fiscally responsible decision making as well as collaboration skills vital for efficient board work.</p> <p>Highland Township has been my home for 50 years. I graduated from Milford High School and came home from Hope College to marry my high school sweetheart. We raised our children here. Highland is my home. It has been my privilege to be entrusted as Treasurer. I would like to continue making decisions that make Highland the best it can be in a Trustee role. I humbly ask for your vote for Highland Township Trustee.</p>	<p>The first priority is ongoing communication and collaboration. Networking across all segments of the community helps understand community needs. The Community Round Table, Neighborhood Network, Interfaith Prayer Breakfast and a Community Dinner are platforms I've helped create. These groups make a difference and I would like to see them move forward. The Detroit Civility Project with Nolan Finley and Steven Henderson explaining how they maintain their friendship despite their differences is our next project. This is a virtual experience including public participation on July 30th.</p> <p>Second priority is capital improvement projects that have been put on hold for years including a renovation and upgrade to Highland's township hall, park repairs and two new fire halls. The Township hall and park repairs will be financed with monies saved over time. The fire halls are financed with voted millage.</p> <p>Third priority is to be part of continuing that movement toward a better Highland. It has been my privilege and passion to be part of such a great community. To be part of the conversation and decision making process is a great honor. I would like to continue in that role as trustee.</p>

HIGHLAND TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

CANDIDATES for TRUSTEE FOUR 4-year terms <i>Vote for no more than FOUR</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>Republican</i> BETH GRATE 631 W. Livingston Rd. Highland, MI 48357</p>	<p>As 30 yr residents, my husband and I are grateful to have raised our 4 children in a rural community that values nature and individual freedom. Highland has a history of public servants and citizens that truly care about our Township. I would be honored if Highland chose me to represent them as they are busy daily working, serving, and giving in other ways. I'll strive to enhance amenities and conveniences without sacrificing the individualism and freedom rural living offers.</p> <p>Former teacher including 10 yrs as a Huron Valley Schools Guest Teacher (BS Sec ED); Certified 1st Responder Chaplain specializing in Human Trafficking and Trauma (CISM,NOVA); Founder Northwest Oakland Abolitionist Hub (NOAH); Founder/Director bGr8: Enslaved to Empowered (Facebook: BGr8); 1st Responder Oakland County Crisis Response Org.; iACT Intl. Accredited Human Trafficking Speaker; Call 4 Backup Trainer</p> <p>As a wife and mother I connect with Highland's PEOPLE. As a former teacher I connect with Highland's FUTURE. As a 1st Responder I connect with Highland's NEEDS. As an Ordained Chaplain I connect with Highland's HEART. As a local Precinct Delegate & Poll Worker I connect with Highland's WORKINGS.</p>	<p>Priority #1 is maintaining the benefits and freedoms of a rural community. We are blessed with miles of natural landscape including parks, trails, rivers and woods. We value our farmland, open spaces and outdoor recreation. Along with this comes a strong sense of personal liberty, individualism. and family values. These values need to be protected while balancing an adequate tax base to support strong schools, infrastructure, public safety and modern conveniences.</p> <p>In light of COVID 19 recovery efforts; what previously might have been priorities #2, #3, now must be re-evaluated. Individuals, families and businesses are hurting. Government on every level must be willing to rethink their 1,5 & 10 yr plans to put the new needs of the residents and businesses first while maintaining priority #1.</p>
<p><i>Republican</i> SCOTT GREEN 4269 Taggett Lk. Dr. Highland, MI 48357</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</p>	

HIGHLAND TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

CANDIDATES for <u>TRUSTEE</u> FOUR 4-year terms <i>Vote for no more than FOUR</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>Republican</i> BRIAN HOWE 2135 Woodridge Ct. Highland, MI 48357</p>	<p>I am a proud 1982 graduate from Milford High School and returned to the Huron Valley School District in January of 1995 to teach at Lakeland High School. I have been a teacher for over 33 years and the last 25 years at Lakeland High School. In my 25 years at Huron Valley, I have coached at both high schools and all four middle schools (Highland, Oak Valley, Muir and White Lake). I also taught many of the Huron Valley students how to drive, teaching driver education for many years in the school district and for Accurate Driving School. We moved to Highland in 1999 and raised our three children here. All three attended Highland Middle School and Milford High School.</p> <p>I am seeking reelection to my third term as YOUR Trustee because I really enjoy helping and serving the residents of Highland Township. I am very proud of what we have done the past eight years and I look forward to continuing my role as the link to the township government and to help in any way possible. I really enjoy assisting the people of Highland Township when they have questions and I can find the answer to their question. I am an Ombudsman to the residents of Highland Township.</p>	<p>The first priority for me personally for Highland Township is to build a bike/pedestrian path from Highland to Milford. There are many people in our township that walk and ride bikes and it would be great if they could get to Milford from Highland without using the roads. There is a great bike/pedestrian path that begins in Milford and it would be nice to be able to get there from Highland. My goal is to reach out to the right people and see if we can get something built in the near future to make that link.</p> <p>The second priority will be to make sure the township gets back to business after the Covid-19 situation. We are going to need to make sure that we have the resources necessary to provide the services that our residents expect from their township government. We are also going to have to make sure that our employees have a safe environment to work in so the people of our township will have access to the services that they expect on a daily basis.</p> <p>The third priority will be to make sure that our local businesses stay here in Highland. My job is to do what I can to make Highland Township a pro business community that people want to operate their businesses in.</p>

HIGHLAND TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

CANDIDATES for TRUSTEE FOUR 4-year terms <i>Vote for no more than FOUR</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>Republican</i> BETH LEWIS 3227 Giddings Blvd. Highland, MI 48356</p>	<p>My husband and I have been Highland residents for 31 years and I want to work to preserve Highland's uniqueness and rural character. We do not want to be a "clone" of the communities around us and we need to remain an oasis in the midst of urban sprawl. I feel now more than ever, our residents and small businesses will need our help and support to face unique challenges during uncertain economic times. I strongly believe in communication, collaboration and teamwork between the township and residents. I have over 30 years of experience on Highland Township boards and committees. I'm a current member of the Highland Township Planning Commission Board, and was previously elected to the Huron Valley Schools board where i served a four year term. I also was a member of the Highland Downtown Development Authority Board and the Highland Equestrian Conservancy Board. I'm a "people person" and chose my current profession as a hospital patient advocate since I love working with people to solve problems with creative solutions. My priorities in life are faith, family and friends and I love giving back to my community by helping those in need..</p>	<p>I feel that our top priorities have changed drastically during the past several months due to COVID-19. Every township resident has faced uncertainty regarding what the future holds and many have been dealing with economic hardship from the loss of jobs and businesses. Life as we know it has changed in many ways and everyone is dealing with our new normal. I feel our top priority should be supporting the residents and small business owners in our community who are struggling financially. The township could host community garage sales with items donated that residents are in need of. Fund raisers could be implemented for our small business owners. Township trustees could be responsible for checking with business owners on a regular basis to determine needs. Our second priority would be to continue to maintain Highland's rural atmosphere and open spaces by conservative zoning decisions. Our third priority should be to continue working on communication, collaboration and teamwork between the township and residents. All our residents are important and need to feel that their opinions are heard. Highland should always be a place we want to come home to.</p>
<p><i>Republican</i> JOSEPH M. SALVIA P. O. Box 622 Highland, MI 48357</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</p>	

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