



**NON-PARTISAN VOTER GUIDE - AUGUST PRIMARY**

**REDFORD TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE**

**Tuesday, August 3, 2010**

**POLLS ARE OPEN 7:00 am – 8:00 pm**

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NORTHWEST WAYNE COUNTY**

Website: [www.lwvwww.org](http://www.lwvwww.org) E-mail: [lwvmail@yahoo.com](mailto:lwvmail@yahoo.com) Phone: 734-421-4420

*You may VOTE in ONLY ONE party's primary - either Republican or Democratic.  
If you attempt to vote in more than one party's primary, your ballot will be invalidated.  
In a Primary election, voters CANNOT "split their ticket" for the Partisan offices.*

*There are 6 Democratic candidates. Vote for not more than one. There are NO Republican Candidates.*

**DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES**

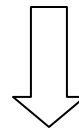
*Candidates are listed in alphabetical order.*

<p><b>Question 1</b> (200 Words or less):</p> <p><i>Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for this position. What relevant qualities and skills would you bring to the position?</i></p>	<p><b>Question 2</b> (200 Words or less):</p> <p><i>What are the top three priorities facing the Township, and what actions would you take to address them if elected?</i></p>
<p><b>CANDY ESCOBEDO</b> 10012 Inkster Road, Redford</p> <p>I have been active in my community for some time. I speak with so many of the residents that need help, are hungry, cold, and/or are fed up with the township decline. I donate my time wherever it is needed most at the time. I attend most every township meeting, so that I can see and hear first hand what has happened or will happen with in our township. I can also say that I have learned more about our budget issues know from attending. I do not have it committed to memory, however I do see many areas that can be scaled back, some cut completely. I am not a career politician. I do not have all the answers I will work very hard to find the answers. I work well with others, I am open to new ideas. I will also speak with anyone who approaches me with questions,comments,ideas etc. before, during, and after the election. Whomever is elected will need to speak with you to find out what you and all the other voters want to be effective.</p>	<p><b>CANDY ESCOBEDO</b> 10012 Inkster Road, Redford</p> <p>Police, no township can thrive without the help of a well trained,dedicated police department. Redford residents want our officers back. I believe that if we revisit our current budget we should be able to get back our officers. I would work very hard to find a way to get them back.</p> <p>Budget, I have seen several of our budgets and believe that we can do better. I would ask that our residents show up to the meetings and let our elected board know their choice ie spend \$12,528 a year on flowers etc for the township or would they prefer the safety and security for themselves and their family with having at least one part-time police officer. This year we will also spend \$807,319 on street lighting. We need to look into alternatives.</p> <p>Redford Township Community center, our center has a wealth of programs that help all of our citizens. Children and seniors alike benefit from the programs they offer. Their fund has been cut so far back they are struggling. I will work hard to get more funding into the center.</p>

**Cont. Redford Township Trustee Candidates (vote for one)**

<p><b>Question 1</b> (200 Words or less):</p> <p><i>Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for this position. What relevant qualities and skills would you bring to the position?</i></p>	<p><b>Question 2</b> (200 Words or less):</p> <p><i>What are the top three priorities facing the Township, and what actions would you take to address them if elected?</i></p>
<p align="center"><b>R. MILES HANDY II</b> 14986 Fox, Redford</p> <p>R. Miles Handy, II graduated from Lee M. Thurston High School in 1983. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Louisiana at Monroe, where he met his wife Barbara. They have two children Ashley and Trey. Handy started Oink-Oink, a pet treat business, earning him a finalist position as Entrepreneur of the Year in 1996 in the State of Michigan and again in 1997. He was named one of the top 20 innovators of the 20<sup>th</sup> century by Pet International Magazine. Handy was featured in the Wall Street Journal, LA Times, and Success Magazine, as well as other national publications. Handy was invited to be a guest lecturer at Cornell University on Entrepreneurship. Feeling the pull of his political roots, Handy successfully ran for and was elected Township Trustee in 1996 and again in 2000. In 2004, Handy was elected Township Supervisor. As Supervisor he successfully instituted a road-paving program that paved more than 43 miles of dirt roads in the township. He also instituted a neighborhood pride program to fight blight and opened a splash pad for neighborhood children. Under his supervision, the township was the recipient of the first MDOT grant in 30 years.</p>	<p align="center"><b>R. MILES HANDY II</b> 14986 Fox, Redford</p> <p>The top 3 priorities I would focus on when elected Trustee would be public safety, reducing blight and adding stricter regulations to rental properties. The police and fire departments are very important aspects of our community, if people don't feel safe than the township has a big problem on their hands. With the recent deep cuts made to our police department many people are starting to question if their safety in their neighborhoods will be compromised. I would find creative ways to bring more officers back. I would also work to reinstitute the Gang Squad that the township used to have back in the 1980's to ensure that our parks and neighborhoods are safe for all members of the community. I would also work to reduce blight in our township parks and neighborhoods by reinstituting the Neighborhood Pride Program that helped to significantly reduce blight and additionally brought in revenue to the township. I would also work to NOT make Redford a rental house community. With property values declining it is important that strict regulations are put in place to hold landlords accountable for proper upkeep of homes. For our township it is important to have stability in our neighborhoods.</p>
<p align="center"><b>JOHN KEENAN</b> 15002 Kinloch, Redford</p> <p align="center"><b>Did not respond in time for publication.</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>JOHN KEENAN</b> 15002 Kinloch, Redford</p> <p align="center"><b>Did not respond in time for publication.</b></p>

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<p align="center"><b>MAUREEN OKASINSKI</b> 15440 Norborne, Redford</p> <p>I chose to run for this position in order to bring fresh ideas to the work of the Board of Trustees. I want to build on the strengths of this community that I have seen in the time I have lived here with my family. I come to the position with 19 years of experience in leadership and management. In my work in non-profits, I have been able to address tough financial circumstances with sound fiscal management and an ability to deliver meaningful services to customers. These skills directly translate to the challenges facing the township. I have demonstrated my dedication to the community through voluntary service through the Redford Parks and Art Conservancy. In my leadership on the Conservancy and service as a Parks and Recreation Commissioner, I have identified unique ways of strengthening the community through promoting the arts, local businesses and recreational opportunities. I have made sure that projects and initiatives reflect the voice of the citizens. I have placed teamwork and cooperation above personal interest. I will continue to use critical thinking to identify solutions to the challenges facing the township.</p>	<p align="center"><b>MAUREEN OKASINSKI</b> 15440 Norborne, Redford</p> <p>The township must successfully meet the challenges brought about by the changed economic circumstances of the community and the state. We can do this through working effectively to attract and retain individuals and businesses. We will need to work cooperatively with regional and state initiatives doing the same. We must address concerns about safety and look at creative ways to prevent crime and blight and be diligent in addressing it when it does occur. Finally, we will need to continue to build on improvements that have been happening in the township to parks, roads, businesses and schools. This means engaging with citizens and encouraging involvement in the community and connections between people, businesses and school.</p>

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<p align="center"><b>GEORGE C. STANLEY</b> 8863 Wormer, Redford</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age 58</li> <li>• Wife - Mary Ann</li> <li>• Two Children - Tina - age 34, Michael - age 32</li> <li>• Redford resident for 32 years</li> <li>• Education: K-12-Dearborn School District</li> <li>• Graduated: Fordson High School - Michigan 1971</li> <li>• <u>College</u>: Henry Rod Community College - 3 years</li> <li>• Studies - Auto Teach/fire Science (Degree)</li> <li>• <u>Work History</u> - Michigan Gas Co. - 10 years (Mechanic) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Redford Twp. Fire Department - 27 years (Retired as Battalion Chief in 2007)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>I am running to fulfill the open position on the Township Board. I believe the people of the township need someone who will truly keep their needs for a stable, fair and honest administration. Someone who will think of every decision that has to be made will serve best for everyone involved. I believe my work ethics and willingness will ad me to consider all the facts before making any important decisions. With an open mind and conversations with other board members and residents, I hope to guide Redford toward a positive future.</p>	<p align="center"><b>GEORGE C. STANLEY</b> 8863 Wormer, Redford</p> <p>I <u>understand the needs</u> that we as residents of Redford face. But, due to the fact that this seat on the board is already half over, I believe if I were elected, could do well by getting to <u>understand the budget</u> which we'll be working within and finding out what the current board has for an agenda. Also, to study and concentrate on the <u>priorities in place and work at completing them for a beneficial</u> outcome to our friends, neighbors, residents of our community. I think that anymore added priorities would only slow the jobs at hand down. Let's get things done to secure a brighter , more positive future for each and every family in this fine city of ours!!</p>
<p align="center"><b>KELLY D. WATSON</b> 14972 Seneca, Redford</p> <p align="center"><b>Did not respond in time for publication.</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>KELLY D. WATSON</b> 14972 Seneca. Redford</p> <p align="center"><b>Did not respond in time for publication.</b></p>

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County is a nonpartisan organization whose purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League never supports or opposes any political party or candidates. Candidate responses are included as submitted and have not been edited except in cases where the replies 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. The League takes no responsibility for any views or facts stated by the candidates.