# VOTER GUIDE – NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF ORION

Tuesday, November 3, 2020 POLLS ARE OPEN 7:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.

#### LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OAKLAND AREA

Website: my.lwv.org/michigan/oakland-area E-mail: lwvoami@gmail.com Phone: 248-594-6602

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.

## 1 Candidate for TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR for ONE 4-year term

CHRIS BARNETT P. O. Box 888, Orion, MI 48361

## 1 Candidate for TOWNSHIP CLERK for ONE 4-year term

PENNY S. SHULTS 1770 Kinmount Dr., Orion, MI 48359

## 1 Candidate for TREASURER for ONE 4-year term

**DONNI STEELE** P. O. Box 826, Lake Orion, MI 48361

## **6 Candidates for TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE for FOUR 4-year terms**

CANDIDATES for TRUSTEE  FOUR 4-year terms Vote for no more than FOUR	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?
Democrat CHEYENNE DWYER 3676 Grafton St. Lake Orion, MI 48359	DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION	
Democrat EILEEN NOLTON 1201 W. Clarkston Rd. Orion, MI 48362	As an educator, community volunteer, and activist, my life's work has been about serving others. I have actively been involved in many initiatives and outreach activities throughout the community: Elks Club, helping serve breakfast to homeless veterans. I have organized food collection drives for the Orion Center. I organized a donation drive to help provide economic relief for UAW striking members in October 2019. Helped organize a "Community Conversation on Race" which featured a frank discussion about how our community can do better in the areas of policing, education, and in ensuring we champion diversity. As our community grows and prospers, I believe we need representation that reflects our evolving economic, social, racial, and gender diversity. All of our residents should feel welcomed, valued, and fully represented. Our local government can only benefit from leadership that welcomes diversity of thought and ideology. I will bring that fresh perspective and a new voice to the Orion Township Board of Trustees.	1. Now more than ever, we need bold leadership one that encourages a team of trustees from more than a single political party with the same political point of view. The importance of listening to all residents and addressing their concerns is absolutely essential. I promise to be accessible and accountable to all residents. I will champion inclusivity, transparency, and innovative ideas.  2. It's essential that we take a more thoughtful, measured approach to development. Our area boasts some of the most beautiful green space in the county, and strategic plans must balance development with the preservation of natural spaces, parks, and the protection of our environment. As a trustee, I'll prioritize stewardship with sensibly increasing revenue and fiscal responsibility.  3. Safety and security are always essential to the well being of any community. It's critical that our community stands firmly on the side of justice FOR ALL. As a trustee, I will always be a strong advocate for advancing diversity, equality, justice and opportunity for EVERYONE in Orion Township.

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	Brian Birney is a proud husband and father of four. He grew up in Beverly Hills, Michigan and now lives with his family in Lake Orion, Michigan. He attended Brother Rice High School and Ferris State University.  He is proud to be a Veteran of the United States Marine Corps, where he served during Operation Enduring Freedom in Djibouti, Africa - winning Marine of the Quarter while deployed. He spent 8 years with 1/24 Marines, Alpha Company (Grand Rapids).  Brian owns and operates two businesses, The Birney Directive, a full service marketing agency, and Lake Orion's American Summer, a yearly celebration in the Lake Orion area. During his career, we worked as the Marketing Director for the Detroit Media Partnership, Race Director for the Detroit Free Press Marathon and Marketing & Communications Director for Crittenton Hospital Medical Center as well as President of OACC.  Because of all the hard work and	
	determination over recent years, Brian was selected to L. Brooks Patterson's Elite 40 Under 40 class for Oakland County and awarded the 2016 Economic Impact Award and 2018 Business Person of the Year for the Orion Area Chamber of Commerce as well as 2019 Patriot of the Year.	

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Republican JULIA DALRYMPLE 1435 Beach Dr. Lake Orion, MI 48360	I am running for Township Office for a simple reason - I live, work and play with my family in this one of a kind community and I want all residents to love it as their community.  Orion Township Trustee since 2018.  Lake Orion High School 17 year Marketing Educator. Lake Orion Teacher of Year in 2015. Michigan Marketing Teacher of the Year in 2014.  Highly involved in the Forgotten Harvest weekly Mobile Pop-up Pantry in Orion Township since March.  Works hand in hand with the Orion Area Chamber of Commerce for their yearly Shop Local EXPO.  DECA Advisor, an association of high school marketing and entrepreneurship students at LOHS that compete on the District, State and International Level in diverse marketing areas and gain top leadership skills.  Lake Orion Work Based Learning Coordinator - connecting students with local professionals to gain work experience and skills outside of the classroom.	I believe the top issues facing Orion Township are to continue to plan and prepare to provide the best services for our residents. One example is providing Advanced Life Support with our amazing LO Fire Department. I also want to continue to provide and improve amenities to our community that keep our property values high like park improvements and more safety path connections. I treasure all our open spaces and natural beauty in Orion as an outdoor enthusiast. I also believe safety is a top priority for all our residents and providing these things are priority issues.

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Republican MICHAEL FLOOD, JR. 3920 Rohr Rd. Orion, MI 48359	Life-long Orion community involved resident. Starting as a youth, member Cub Scouts Pack 59 and Boy Scouts Troop 59. Served 10-yrs. volunteer firefighter Orion Township Fire Department-Station #3, nineterm elected president Gingellville Community Center and numerous township voluntary citizen's advisory committees. Occupation: Retired 40 yrs. GM Truck-Pontiac, Skilled Trades Journeyman Engineer-Powerhouse. Education: LO Dragon graduate, OCC Auburn Hills Technology Campus and Oakland University. Communication is the most important skill for a public servant. Constituents want to be heard and share their thoughts/concerns, whether it be pro or con, with their respective local grassroots elected/appointed officials. We may not always totally agree on a subject matter, however, it is incumbent that their respective viewpoint be taken seriously and be considered during the public Board deliberation and consensus decision making process. Throughout my own personal life and career experience, I have tried my absolute best to adhere to my late mother's family value teachings, "please listen before you speak". I'm seeking re-election "To Serve".	The top issues facing our diversified Lake Orion/Orion township community include public safety, preserving our public open spaces, natural resources and managing the budget. Especially during this horrific COVID-19 pandemic we find ourselves experiencing. It is crucial that our township first responders, police and fire, have the necessary funding and resources to continue to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of all Orion residents as well, the general public. Continue being proactive preserving and maintaining our township parks, trails and safety pathways. Good stewards protecting our natural resources, air, lakes, streams and land through education and proper collection and disposal of household solid waste and recyclable products as well, household hazardous waste materials. Fiscal conservative financial spending and planning of all township public funds. Serving as a trustee, I stand by my public record of doing my homework before each public Board meeting to fully engage in public deliberation and Board consensus decision making. Meeting challenges head on and not kicking the can down the road. Proactive vs reactive.

CANDIDATES for	Question 1 (150 Words or less):	Question 2 (150 Words or less):
TRUSTEE	Provide biographical information and	What are the top 3 Priority Issues facing your
	explain why you are running for Township	township and what actions would you, as a
FOUR 4-year terms	office and relevant qualities and skills you	township official, take regarding each of
Vote for no more than FOUR	would bring to the position.	them?
Republican KIMBERLY URBANOWSKI 2965 Lessiter Dr. Lake Orion, MI 48360	I have lived in the Orion area for over 20 years, happily married to my husband Lee whom I met while we were both in Navy A-School in Tennessee. We have five beautiful children in our blended family, three of them are proud Lake Orion Dragons. I was a personal chef in the early 2000s and continue to share my love of food by creating original recipes and sharing them online.  My passion for Orion Township grew while serving as the Executive Director of the	
	Orion Area Chamber of Commerce. Some of the community projects I chose to participate in, that I am most proud of, include; KABOOM! playground build at Camp Agawam, volunteering at LO Palooza to fundraise for the Miracle Field at Friendship Park and the Editorial Board for Orion Living Magazine.	expenditures did not exceed the budget framework. Over 3 years of conservative spending and creative revenue generating resulted in a 59% increase in the Chamber's operating reserve fund, making it possible for the Chamber to continue "taking care of business" during lean economic times. I will apply the same acumen to making decisions with respect to the Township's finances.
	I am running for Trustee because I am enthusiastic about the future of Orion and want do my part to ensure it remains the best place to work, live and play in Oakland County.  Orion Township Planning Commission	3. Collaboration with community members. Listening to residents and business owners is essential. Addressing their needs, goals and challenges is equally important. Serving the community with integrity begins with meaningful conversations and works
	Member  Treasurer of Student Accounts, Lake Orion Band Boosters	towards collaborative problem solving. I am highly accessible and enjoy making genuine connections.
	Executive Director, Orion Area Chamber of Commerce	
	Treasurer, Oakland Chamber Network	
	Small Business Owner in Orion, Urban Gourmet	
	United States Navy Veteran	