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But to this one I will look, to him who is humble and contrite of spirit, and who trembles at My word. ~ Is 66:2b

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Political Disclaimer

The Fruitport Area News invited all candidates in the August primary to submit information for publication. However, several candidates did not respond.

Ben Gillette

Democratic candidate for Michigan state representative, 91st District



"My name is Ben Gillette and I want to be your next state representative. We need new leaders in Lansing who will look out for your needs, not their own. I am the breath of fresh air that will do that. Too many of our legislators are focused on partisan bickering. Hard working families need a hard working state representative making sure they get what they deserve!"

Ben Gillette is a hard working person, just like you. He has a record of involvement in our community. He is a graduate of Fruitport Community Schools, and attended college at Michigan Tech and MCC. Gillette is a full time retail manager at OfficeMax, Inc. He is married to his high school sweetheart of almost 11 years, Kaeleen. Gillette has a daughter, Emma, and a son, Brady, born in March of this year. He has a wealth of experience — elected to the Fruitport board of education, an officer of the Fruitport Fraternal Order of Eagles, and is a member of the 2nd Congressional District Democratic Executive Committee. He has the experience and qualities that we all look for in a leader. His strong work ethic and leadership skills will shine when he is elected state representative. •

Holly Hughes

Republican candidate for Michigan state representative, 91st District



"I am running for state representative because I want to live in a Michigan where jobs are abundant, where our children can receive a world-class education, and where they can live and raise their families, instead of having to move to another state in order to find a job. I will work hard each and every day to do these things. That is my promise to you."

Holly Hughes is a 1976 Fruitport High School graduate. She is married and has two daughters. Her family-owned businesses include Master Tag and Bolema Lumber.

She has been a White River Township trustee for 12 years, and is a former board member of the Montague Area School Board, the Muskegon Local Emergency Planning Commission, Hackley Hospital Cornerstone Foundation, and the White Lake Community Fund. She has also served on the Community Foundation for Muskegon County, the Tanglewood Park Finance Committee, Lebanon Lutheran Church Council, and White Lake Recyclers.

Holly has a B.A. in business from Michigan State University. She is pro-Life and Pro-2nd Amendment. •

Ken Punter

Republican candidate for state representative, 91st District



Ken is a first generation American who relocated to Michigan from the eastern United States in 1978 to attend college. He majored in criminal justice and earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Grand Valley State University. Ken has been married to Kay since 1982, and is the proud parent of two. His daughter Krista is married to Jeff and is the mother of identical twin girls, Kayla and Kyla. Ken's son Kees is a second lieutenant in the

United States Marine Corps.

Ken is the manager and minority partner of Crockery Creek Farms, located in Ravenna, Holton, and Fremont. He spent 22 years in the Marine Corps (both active and reserve), and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 2004 after serving in Desert Storm and Operation Enduring Freedom. He has served on the board of Ravenna Public Schools for 16 years. He has also served on the Ravenna Zoning Board of Appeals, is a member of the Ravenna Chamber of Commerce, Michigan Farm Bureau, and American Legion. He has spent time as a Cub Scout leader and little league coach. Ken has been a registered MHSAA track and cross country official for 12 years and is one of the founding trustees of the Ravenna Community Educational Foundation.

Most of Ken's weekdays and weekend days begin at 6:30 a.m. doing chores on the farm, with his workday usually ending between 4 and 5 p.m. Since Ken is an avid runner, he commits to running about five days a week. When he has extra time, he spends it viewing professional sports and college basketball. Of course, there are always projects to work on, and he enjoys reading. Ken and his wife Kay attend church regularly at North Casnovia Baptist Church. Ken most values the time he can spend with his children and grandchildren, watching them grow into the people God has intended. •

David Fisher

Democratic candidate for Muskegon County Drain Commissioner



Prior to my appointment to the drain commissioner position, I have served the residents of Muskegon County in the public works field for over 35 years. I have managed over \$250 million in local public works projects that serve our residents. I have worked with developers, performed site plan reviews, and issued permits for over 30 years. I managed sewer and water systems serving over 9,000 customers.

I served as the chairman for the Muskegon County Wastewater Management Committee, a board member for the Muskegon County Regional Water System Policy Board, founding member of the County Regional Storm Water Committee, and many other environmental and watershed committees.

The drain commissioner position is a responsibility, not a job opportunity. I have the credentials to warrant my appointment as drain commissioner.

Please vote to RETAIN David Fisher for drain commissioner on August 3. •

Mike Smith

Republican candidate for Muskegon County Drain Commissioner



Mike Smith is a candidate for county drain commissioner. He was born and raised in Muskegon. He attended Muskegon Community College, and went on to earn a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering; a master's degree in sanitary engineering, and a master's degree in sanitary engineering from Michigan State University. Later in his career, he also earned a master's degree in business administration from Grand Valley State University.

Mike's work experience includes six years as Muskegon County Wastewater Operations Engineer and Egelston Township Sewer System Construction Engineer. For six more years, he owned and operated Sewer Connectors, inc., a sewer and water construction business. For 13 years, Mike was the engineer-manager for the Oceana County Road Commission. He then worked three years for the City of Muskegon's engineering department in the design and reconstruction of drainage, sewer, street and water projects. Mike retired in 2007 from the City of Muskegon Heights having served in the position of Director of Public Works.

Since 1976, Mike has been a registered professional engineer in Michigan. Mike says, "I believe my education and work experience presents me as the most qualified candidate to professionally manage the county drain office. •

Troy Wasserman

Democratic candidate for Muskegon County Drain Commissioner



I was born and raised in Muskegon, I am 37 years old. I run our family business, Wasserman's Floral and Gifts. We are celebrating our 130th year in business.

I have a horticultural degree from Michigan State University and a real estate license.

I have been married to my beautiful wife of eight years and have two wonderful children.

I have had the privilege of living my entire life near the beautiful waters of Muskegon Lake, Lake Michigan and the surrounding rivers and streams. I want to be a strategic part of their preservation for future generations to enjoy as much as our family has.

My top two priorities include: 1) Upgrading the office and representing the people of Muskegon County through quality drainage projects at low cost. 2) Engage jail inmates to keep drain maintenance program costs low. The intent of this program would be to remove trees, logjams, brush and debris. This program would be less invasive than using large equipment. •