

OTSEGO COUNTY

**FROM PAGE 36**

**PROFESSIONAL CAREER:**

Worked for public office (government) for 16 ½ years; deputy register of deeds clerk, records clerk in Otsego County Sheriff's Department.

**TOP ISSUE/WHY?**

To restore professionalism and courtesy to the office. Change office hours, rotating lunch hours, so customers can do business during their luncheon hour. Work closely with township clerks.

**WHY VOTE FOR YOU?**

Motivational, problem-solving and leadership skills. Self-motivated, with refined management relations and people skills. Effectively manage multiple tasks and responsibilities. Enthusiastic, able to meet any challenge. Excellent organization, time management, and attention to detail. Expertise in multiple computer programs.

**KAY PAGEL**

Republican

AGE: 48

**RESIDENCE:** Gaylord  
**EDUCATION:** North Central Michigan College, Petoskey; course study in business administration and human resources.

**POLITICAL CAREER:** No prior elected public office.

**PROFESSIONAL CAREER:**

1988, deputy Otsego County clerk; 1989-97, office manager, Otsego County Prosecutor's office; 1997-98, Catholic Human Services, human resource manager; 1998-99, Plunkett & Cooney Law Firm, Gaylord, legal assistant; 2000-present, 46th Circuit Trial Court, Circuit Division, judicial assistant, ADR clerk and appeals clerk.

**TOP ISSUE/WHY?** Upgrade and maintain computer technology in the county clerk and register of deeds offices. Also, as keeper of the records for the county, it is very important for those records to be readily avail-



able to the public on demand.

**WHY VOTE FOR YOU?** With my 16 years of experience, knowledge and understanding of county government and office administration, it would be a smooth transition for me to step into the office of County Clerk-Register of Deeds.

**TREASURER**

**DIANN M. AXFORD**

Republican

AGE: 46

**RESIDENCE:** Gaylord

**EDUCATION:** High School;

continuing education in principles of banking and governmental bookkeeping.

**POLITICAL CAREER:** None  
**PROFESSIONAL CAREER:**

Otsego County treasurer; chief deputy treasurer; office manager, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service; teller, bookkeeping, revolving credit, Gaylord State/Old Kent Bank.

**TOP ISSUE/WHY?** Continue sound investment strategy for county assets, protect the county's bond rating and provide a strong fiscal platform for the board of commissioners.

**WHY VOTE FOR YOU?** There is no substitute for experience. My 11 years of banking taught me the importance of fiscal responsibility. During my 11 years in the treasurer's office, I have learned all aspects of the position. Born and raised in Otsego County, I know the people of the county and county government.

**SUSAN NORRIS**

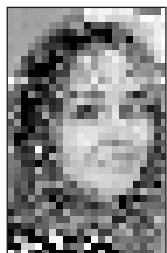
Republican

AGE: 45

**RESIDENCE:** Gaylord

**EDUCATION:** B.A., materials and logistics management, Michigan State University, 1981; B.A., accounting, Davenport University, 1998; University of Wisconsin, financial management, 1995.

**POLITICAL CAREER:** First



time running for office.

**PROFESSIONAL CAREER:**

Currently chief financial officer, North Bancorp Inc. and First National Bank of Gaylord; Prior to that, vice president and controller for First National Bank of Gaylord;

accountant and manager with Butterworth HMO in Grand Rapids, Motor Wheel in Lansing, and a material control manager for Oldsmobile in Lansing.

**TOP ISSUE/WHY?** Growth, change, money issues and challenges every governmental body faces.

**WHY VOTE FOR ME?** These are challenging times and our county faces its share of difficulties. My professional background in finance will serve the citizens of Otsego County very well. The professional experience I have in finance, funds management and technology are critical skills we need in our county's government.

**SURVEYOR**

**RONALD BRAND**

Republican

AGE: 34

**RESIDENCE:** Gaylord

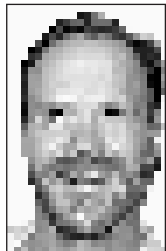
**EDUCATION:**

B.S., surveying engineering, Ferris State University, 1996; bachelor's degree, general studies, University of Michigan, 1991.

**POLITICAL CAREER:** None

**PROFESSIONAL CAREER:** Michigan licensed professional surveyor since 1997; director/manager of Mitchell and Associates, P.C., Gaylord.

**TOP ISSUE/WHY?** Proper implementation of state remonumentation program, which provides money, funded by recording fees at the register of deeds, to research, recover and monument government survey controlling corners within Otsego County. Otsego's program has been poorly coordi-



nated in the past and thousands of dollars have been left unspent.

**WHY VOTE FOR YOU?** I will bring dedication and professionalism to the office. I will do everything possible to ensure that available funding is used to benefit the public of Otsego County.

**CARL ROBINSON**

Republican

Did not respond.

**ROAD COMMISSION**

**EUGENE FLEMING**

Republican

Did not respond.

**THOMAS MATELSKI**

Republican

Did not respond.

**JIM SPIRES**

Republican

Did not respond.

**COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**DISTRICT 1**

**CARL BATES**

Republican

Did not respond

**DISTRICT 2**

**PAUL BEACHNAU**

Republican

Did not respond

**DISTRICT 3**

**PAUL LISS**

Republican

Did not respond

**DISTRICT 4**

**LEE OLSEN**

Republican

AGE: 58

**RESIDENCE:** Gaylord  
**EDUCATION:** B.S., University of Minnesota; M.A., Central Michigan University.

**POLITICAL CAREER:** 6 years as Otsego County Commissioner; 2 years as chairman of the board.

**PROFESSIONAL CAREER:** Retired teacher at Gaylord Community Schools.

**TOP ISSUE/WHY?** To help revitalize Otsego County's

Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance so that Otsego County grows in a positive fashion. This will require "smart growth," citizen involvement and intergovernmental cooperation to insure that Otsego County's view-cape is protected.

**WHY VOTE FOR YOU?** I have the experience as chairman of the Otsego County Planning Commission and chairman of the board of commissioners to help lead Otsego County for the next two years and beyond. I am also proud to say that I represent township concerns at the county level.

**ROBERT REESE**

Republican

AGE: 58

**RESIDENCE:** Johannesburg  
**EDUCATION:** High school graduate, fire-related courses at Detroit Institute of Technology, attended Macomb and Schoolcraft Community Colleges.

**POLITICAL CAREER:** None  
**PROFESSIONAL CAREER:** Hamtramck fire fighter for 26 years, currently retired.

**TOP ISSUE/WHY?** Quality jobs, planned growth, community college similar to Kirtland.

**WHY VOTE FOR YOU?** Political change can be healthy, new ideas, solutions to old problems. If voters are satisfied with the current government, return them to office.

**DISTRICT 5**

**ERMA BACKENSTOSE**

Republican

Did not respond

**DISTRICT 6**

**KENNETH GLASSER**

Republican

AGE: 46

**RESIDENCE:** Gaylord

**EDUCATION:** B.S. and B.A., Central Michigan University.

**POLITICAL CAREER:** 4 years as Otsego County commissioner.

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