

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

101st DISTRICT

RICK GEBHARD Democrat AGE: 32 RESIDENCE: Manistee EDUCATION: Hope College, B.A., English, 1995 POLITICAL CAREER: No prior elected public office.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER: Teacher, nine years; coached football, soccer, basketball, track and Quiz Bowl. As student, clerked in family's century-old jewelry store, restaurants, warehouses, and swim instructor.



TOP ISSUE/WHY? Having the best schools is our key to unlocking full potential of our communities. Lack of adequate funding increases class sizes and cuts programs that prepare children to be successful adults.

WHY VOTE FOR YOU? I'm a father, teacher, and disgruntled constituent. Our voice in Lansing is being sold to big corporations and a billionaire from Grand Rapids. It's time for a change that gives us our voice back and I'm the candidate to do that.

DAVID PALSROK Republican Did not respond

102nd DISTRICT

PAUL CHALLENGER Democrat AGE: 48 RESIDENCE: Big Rapids EDUCATION: Big Rapids Public Schools POLITICAL CAREER: Former chairman, Mecosta County Dems.

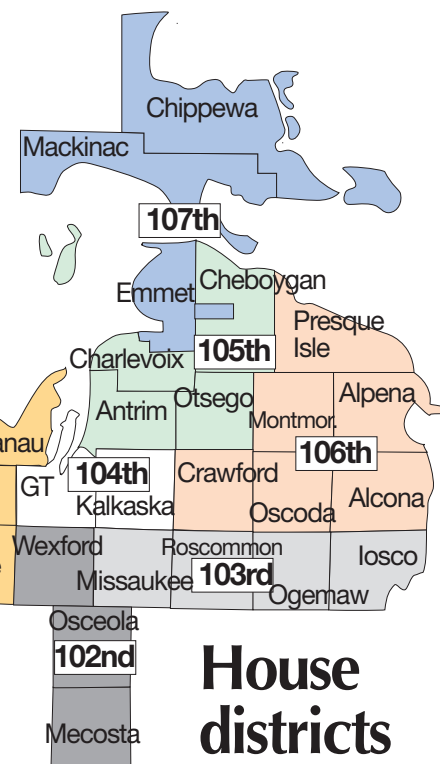
PROFESSIONAL CAREER: Twenty-five years at current job. Several union posts (UAW Local 389); financial secretary, UAW; TOP ISSUE/WHY?: Jobs, jobs, jobs. Affordable health care.

Senior citizens and veterans getting what they deserve from the government they gave so much to, that we can never repay. The environment — making sure our rivers, lakes and air will be around for our children.

WHY VOTE FOR YOU?: From the working class, I know what it is to work for a living, on a budget, with a meager income. I will represent all citizens, not just a lobbyist who can get me elected.

RONALD BLANCHARD Republican AGE: 68 RESIDENCE: Cadillac EDUCATION: 1951-1954 Millersburg Military Institute, Millersburg, Ky.; 1954-1958, Michigan State University.

POLITICAL CAREER: Cadillac mayor, 1989-present. PROFESSIONAL CAREER: 1959-1980, subcontractor, Marley Cooling Tower Company, Kansas City, Mo.; 1980-1982, owner, Sierra Motel, Traverse City; 1983-1988, owner/operator, Ron's Beverage Dock,



House districts

Cadillac; 2004-present, manager for Sen. Michelle McManus, Cadillac office.

TOP ISSUE/WHY? Job security. I will also work to strengthen agriculture, forestry and tourism in order to protect our jobs and keep northern Michigan's economy strong.

WHY VOTE FOR YOU? As a mayor and former small business owner, I have brought industry and government to the table to create jobs in our community. As state representative, I will fight to lower the tax burden and will lead the fight for Proposal A's cap on property taxes to protect homeowners.

DARWIN BOOHER Republican Did not respond.

LINDA HOWARD Republican AGE: 53 RESIDENCE: Remus EDUCATION: Chippewa Hills High School, Ferris State University. POLITICAL CAREER: Wheatland Township clerk, 11 years. PROFESSIONAL CAREER: Owner of agri-business and employer of seven. Director of Remus Area Downtown Development Authority.



TOP ISSUE/WHY?: A stronger economy is needed in Michigan. Too many jobs have left our state. Job creation and business retention will help be a catalyst as this state moves forward with the rest of the nation. Health care and education are also top issues that need to be addressed. WHY VOTE FOR YOU?: I've made a difference in my community and want to make a difference for our district. I want to be involved in setting the policy that will determine a strong economic basis for this area and the state. I am a business-owner and farmer with local government background.

MORRIS LANGWORTHY JR. Republican Did not respond.

RANDY MAXWELL Republican Did not respond.

TED RAVEN Republican AGE: 60 RESIDENCE: Tustin Michigan EDUCATION: B.S. Central Michigan University; masters degree, Central Michigan University. POLITICAL CAREER: None. PERSONAL CAREER: 33 years in public education as a teacher, coach and high school principal; K-12 school superintendent (retired in 1997).



TOP ISSUE/WHY? Many essential services such as education and police protection are being compromised because of state budget problems. It is absolutely essential that Michigan take steps to improve the business climate so that we can retain and add job opportunities which will help to adequately fund services. WHY VOTE FOR YOU? The electorate should vote for me because I care deeply about our communities, and have the financial background and the people skills to be an

effective representative. ART STEVENS Republican AGE: 32 RESIDENCE: Cadillac EDUCATION: Bachelor's degree, political science, Central Michigan University. POLITICAL CAREER: Cadillac City Council, 2 terms; 2002 campaign manager for Speaker of the House Rick Johnson.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER: Independent financial adviser; part-time government teacher, Northwestern Michigan College.

TOP ISSUE/WHY? The most important issue facing our district is job retention and recruitment. Michigan needs to be more competitive with other states in recruiting and retaining businesses and industries of all sizes. I intend on implementing such a program when elected.

WHY VOTE FOR YOU? My running for state representative is not an afterthought; my political involvement has naturally brought me to this path. I desire to be a leader of integrity — answering to the people of the district, not special interest groups. I commit to listening and making decisions for families' best interest.

JERRILYN STRONG Republican Did not respond.

GREG WILLIS Republican AGE: 51 RESIDENCE: Cadillac EDUCATION: GED, some college after U.S. Navy service. POLITICAL CAREER: None. PROFESSIONAL CAREER: Factory worker, quality technician, American Society for Quality member.

TOP ISSUE/WHY? Reducing

