



PRESS RELEASE

April 19, 2010

For Immediate Release

Local Elected Officials Endorse Margaret O'Brien for State Representative in the 61st

Portage, MI: Portage City Councilwoman and 61st State Representative Candidate Margaret O'Brien announced the endorsements from nearly 30 current and former elected officials on the same day she filed her official paperwork to place her name on the ballot. Her willingness to listen to others, work ethic and record of results were cited as some of the many reasons they have endorsed her.

Portage Mayor Pete Strazdas has worked with O'Brien for seven years and endorsed her based on her ability to work with others to deliver real results. "Margaret has earned the respect of the City Council. Her work ethic, listening to citizens, and willingness to work together on a diverse Council has proven her abilities and she can do the same at the State level." Portage Mayor Pro Tem Ed Sackley echoed Mayor Strazdas's remarks. "Margaret is one-of-a-kind. If anyone around the table can guide a group toward consensus, it's Margaret. She's smart, she studies issues from all angles and brings a fresh, common sense approach to politics."

Many outside of Portage agreed with his sentiments. Texas Township Trustee Steve Bosch endorsed O'Brien, "I have known Margaret for many years, and I am impressed by her honesty, integrity, and devotion to her work. Margaret is not a woman of talk but of action." Parchment Mayor Robert Heasley agreed, stating, "Ms. O'Brien has served the people of Portage so well over the years; as a Councilperson she has proven skills and a work ethic that has produced results for the City. She has my support!"

Schoolcraft Township Supervisor recognized O'Brien for being a leader who is willing to take the time to help others outside of Portage, "I am endorsing Margaret because of her intellect, energy, and persistence in getting to the bottom of issues that affect our area. Margaret has the uncanny ability to see both sides of an issue and help those involved reach consensus."

O'Brien was honored to be recognized by many local community leaders. "It is humbling to have so many well respected community leaders endorse me. I pledge to continue to work with our community leaders and citizens with a common sense approach that includes job creation and collaboration. We have lost too many jobs and lead the nation in all the wrong categories. I am ready to roll up my sleeves and do the hard work it takes to put Michigan back on track. "

The full list of endorsements includes:

Oshtemo Township: Treasurer Nancy Culp, Clerk Deb Everett, Trustee James Grace

Texas Township: Clerk Linda Kerr, Trustee Don Boven, Trustee Erin Hoogendyk, Trustee Steve Bosch

Schoolcraft Township: Supervisor Don Ulsh

Pavilion Township: Supervisor Pat White

Alamo Township: Trustee Dawn Potter-Williams

City of Portage: Mayor Pete Strazdas, Mayor Pro Tem Ed Sackley, Councilwoman Claudette Reid, Councilwoman Elizabeth Campbell, Former Mayor Betty Lee Ongley, Former Mayor Pro Tem Ted Vlieg, Former Councilman Lew Bashaw

City of Parchment: Mayor Robert Heasley

Kalamazoo County: Treasurer Mary Balkema, Commissioner Jeff Balkema, Commissioner John Zull, Commissioner Nasim Ansari, Commissioner Dave Maturen, Former Commissioner Judy Todd Johnson

State Officials: Former State Senator Paul Wartner, Former State Senator Dale Shugars, Former State Representative Jack Hoogendyk, Former State Representative Don Gilmer

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Margaret O'Brien has a distinguished record of public service to Kalamazoo County and will work hard to represent the 61st District with an emphasis on job creation, smaller government and lower taxes. She currently serves on the Portage City Council and is a REALTOR® with RE/MAX Advantage.

For more information, please contact Margaret O'Brien at margaret@margaretobrien.com or by phone at 269-377-4294. You may also visit her website www.margaretobrien.com.