

## Forks Township Democrats mount write-in challenge for two supervisors seats

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Photos Courtesy of Candidates Wideman, Gioia

The Forks Township Democratic Party is fielding two write-in candidates to vie for two supervisors' seats left vacant when incumbent board members Bonnie Nicholas and Donald Miller decided not to seek re-election.

The candidates, who made up their minds about running after the March 10 filing deadline, will face two Republicans in the Nov. 3 general election.

According to party member and Supervisors Chairman David Howell, party officials gathered Thursday night to endorse James Wideman, a township-based businessman, and Lilly Gioia, a past president of the Lehigh Valley Business and Professional Women's Organization as Democratic candidates.

**"We're catching up on a mistake we made,"** Howell said Thursday. **"We just assumed Bonnie and Don would run."**

**"We look forward to bringing a message of innovative, accountable government to Forks Township voters,"** Wideman said in a prepared statement.

Wideman noted he and Gioia plan to campaign as a team.

**"In these tough economic times I hope to use my knowledge of both business and government to serve the seniors and families, who are neighbors and friends in my own home town,"** Gioia said in a prepared statement.

The primary election is set for Tuesday, May 19.

The five Republicans on the ballot for Forks supervisors are David Billings, a product marketing official in the telecommunications industry; Michele L. Rogers; Kevin L. Wall; Simon Sikora Jr.; and Henning Holmgaard, vice chairman of the Easton Area Sewer Authority.

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