

I am pleased to announce my candidacy for the position of Forks Township Supervisor and seek the Democratic nomination in the upcoming May 2007 primary election.

After graduating from Council Rock High School in Newtown, PA, I went to Penn State University to study forestry. During my college years, I formed a partnership and started my first woodworking company, which evolved into the company I now solely own for the past twenty years. My business experience and management skill qualify me to take a leadership role in Forks Township.

I, with Sandra and Julia, my wife and daughter, moved to Forks Township in the summer of 2001. Having lived in Easton for almost twenty years, it was a refreshing change to own a home in the midst of the rural landscape of Forks' Farmland Preservation district. As a township resident, my interest and participation in local township meetings led me to the opportunity to serve out the term of a retiring member of the Forks Planning Commission.

As a planning commissioner, my role was to study each commercial and residential plan presented to our Board of Supervisors and offer my input concerning its practicality and viability under our township's building and zoning ordinances. My experience in this process allowed me to see that unplanned development may adversely impact our infrastructure and some may even lead to higher taxes.

Anticipated residential growth will place substantial burdens on local government's ability to serve Fork's residents and to maintain our quality of life. I want to promote and protect our township infrastructure so that we can be assured of the best level of services possible. Secondly, I will focus on the promotion of sensible and sustainable commercial development, which will increase our tax revenues without placing further burden on our school system. Lastly, recreation for families and seniors is a very important aspect of life in Forks. I will strive to enhance our parks and recreation facilities to meet our needs now and in the future.

I look forward to serving the residents of Forks Township.

Sincerely yours,

James Wideman