

## DEKALB 9-12 VOTER GUIDE

### GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 2, 2010

The DeKalb 9-12 group is composed of a cross-section of local citizens who share a set of conservative values as core beliefs. We are dedicated to provide all voters our best assessment of selected candidates running in the November 2010 General Election. In our “get out the vote” campaign we stress values and knowledge as the key points to keep the United States of America the land of freedom and opportunity for all. We affirm that, regardless of political party affiliation (Democrat, Republican or Independent) you are a Conservative if you believe:

- In one nation under God
- In Limited Government
- The U.S. Constitution as written by our Founders is the absolute law of our land
- That personal freedom and personal responsibility are respectively a fundamental right and a basic obligation

This Voter Guide looks at each selected candidate from a data base of personal interviews, voting records, responses to questionnaires and other available information. The comments expressed here represent our best efforts to seek the truth beyond the usual political rhetoric available to voters. Please review the statement at the end of the Voter Guide for more information.

#### **U.S. House of Representatives, Indiana District 3**

**Marlin Stutzman (CONSERVATIVE):** A solid conservative candidate, Marlin Stutzman holds the same conservative values as the 9-12 Group. As an ordinary, hard working, tax-paying farmer and small business owner, husband and father, he became involved in politics because he felt that the people in office were not making decisions that reflected conservative values. He stepped into the political ring first as an Indiana representative, then as a senator. His voting record clearly demonstrates that his values are staunchly conservative. He has defended traditional marriage, the right to life, family values, balanced budgets, gun rights, and most importantly, our Constitution. Marlin has demonstrated leadership by authoring or sponsoring legislation that conservatives can appreciate. He backs the conservative positions on issues currently under debate such as card check, cap & trade, immigration, government spending, education and the government takeover of health care. Marlin is a down-to-earth Hoosier who knows how to solve problems. He has shown that he can be trusted with even more responsibility. We endorse him in the 3<sup>rd</sup> District Congressional race. For more details, see <http://gomarlin.com/>

**Thomas Hayhurst (LIBERAL):** DeKalb 9-12 made a series of attempts to interact with Tom Hayhurst. We sent e-mails, made phone calls, and visited his campaign office with requests for Tom Hayhurst to address the DeKalb 9-12 group and provide an interview with DeKalb 9-12

representatives. We offered to interview him at the time and place of his choosing. All the DeKalb 9-12 overtures were either rejected or ignored. This conduct speaks very poorly for any candidate who aspires to any public office high or low. The outright avoidance of a specific group of voters and potential constituents suggests the candidate intends to govern in the same pattern as we see from Pelosi and Obama. We can only speculate why Tom Hayhurst would treat voters in such a contemptuous manner in order to avoid questions and answers that might identify him as a Liberal-Progressive. Our understanding without direct access to this candidate is that he is Pro-Choice which conservatives also refer to as Pro-Abortion. Hayhurst supports Obamacare (Government takeover of the healthcare system). Hayhurst is weak on the illegal alien problem and would likely support amnesty. Hayhurst is not a strong proponent of the 2nd Amendment and would likely support additional gun controls. His record on spending in Fort Wayne government suggests he would fit in very well with the current reckless and out-of-control spending policies of the Progressive Democrat Congress. He also sees government as a solution to problems rather than allowing people and markets the freedom to seek solutions. Since we have not been allowed any access to this candidate we offer Tom Hayhurst an opportunity to correct any factual errors in the speculations we have made.

### **Indiana House of Representatives, District 51**

**Dick Dodge (CONSERVATIVE):** Pro-Life, Pro-Second Amendment and a former businessman and employer, Dick Dodge understands the role state government should play in private job creation. He understands that a lean government, low taxes, less red tape and good infrastructure are qualities that make Indiana an attractive place for businesses to start or expand existing operations. These factors contribute to profitability, which is vital for job security and the economic health of any state or community. Dick Dodge has a record of solid conservative positions:

- Opposes federal government encroachment and attempts **to supersede state rights**;
- Supports a bill to fight illegal immigration (similar to Arizona);
- Strongly opposes bailouts and takeovers of private companies;
- Fought for legislation to improve legislator ethics, reduce homeowner and agriculture property taxes, and create incentives to reduce unemployment - and *won*;
- Worked hard to create legislation and support decisions to bring in a new generation of employers, creating paychecks for Hoosiers;
- Serves on the Military and Veterans Benefit Board, which develops policy and administrates benefits for veterans and members on active military duty.

While he was criticized by some for declining to enter into a debate with his opponent, we understand from the 9-12 interviews that Dick Dodge wishes for his record and character to speak for itself in this election. Please see: <http://dickdodge.com/>

**Codie Ross (LIBERAL):** Codie Ross campaigns in the style of Barack Obama. Ross and Obama both use an articulate waterfall of words to mislead voters regarding their Liberal-Progressive values and conceal their true Liberal intentions as how they will act if elected. When this cascade of words is carefully analyzed or when Mr. Ross is cornered by an unequivocal question the realities of the Codie Ross Liberal-Progressive beliefs and values are exposed. For example, we contrasted the words of Mr. Ross from his DeKalb 9-12 interview plus his address to the DeKalb 9-12 Group with the language he uses in his campaign literature and campaign comments. From the words of Codie Ross we now know:

- Codie Ross is Pro-Choice and by his own comment he is Pro-Abortion for the first two trimesters of a mother's pregnancy.
- Codie Ross would punish businesses for hiring illegal aliens but give the illegals a free pass (Despite the fact illegal aliens in Indiana now cost the Indiana taxpayers over \$250 million dollars per year. At the same time the illegal aliens take hundreds of millions of dollars from the Indiana economy when they send that money back home to foreign countries.).
- Codie Ross opposes building a fence to keep illegal aliens out of the U.S., saying such a fence is a waste of taxpayer money, despite the reality that illegal aliens, drug dealers, gang members and criminals cross our southern borders every day.
- Codie Ross uses the Democrat talking points to support Obamacare (healthcare reform) by saying "We had to do something."
- Codie Ross essentially opposes home schooling and private schools as he would deny them tax credits.

Codie Ross is a most adept politician when it comes to avoiding answers to direct questions. For example when asked about wealth redistribution, he responded with "We are already doing that." His responses were evasive and disingenuous when questioned about why trial lawyers in southern Indiana would contribute some \$15,000 to his campaign.

Codie Ross states that the decisions on public education should be made closer to home. In the next breath Codie Ross says he would deny equal tax benefits to those who prefer home schooling or private schools. Codie Ross calls this potential for equal tax treatment to parents who also are tax payers, "government subsidies." In fact, Codie Ross follows the Obama agenda for education.

At one point he told us he was a conservative Democrat and later he stated that he was a moderate Democrat. Our conclusion is that in truth Codie Ross is a Liberal/Progressive of the same stripe as Nancy Pelosi and Barrack Obama. All conservatives, Republican, Democrat and Independent, should oppose Codie Ross.

## **Indiana House of Representatives, District 85**

**Phyllis Pond (CONSERVATIVE):** Phyllis has a long record of service representing District 85. Her only challenger this election is Libertarian Paul Leslie. Like most Libertarian candidates, he has near zero name recognition, no web presence, and no real financial support. Mr. Leslie is judged as not a viable candidate. We have interviewed Phyllis and heard her speak. She is relatively strong on many issues conservatives hold dear such as gun rights, anti-gambling, reducing taxes and red tape, limiting punitive damages from malpractice suits, encouraging domestic energy production, and allowing school vouchers. Even though Phyllis has served since 1978, she has not emerged as a strong leader or visionary. She seems entrenched in the Republican Party and is not likely to make the kind of waves many of us would like to see in Indianapolis. She favors restricting abortion as opposed to abolishing it. She favored a state-wide smoking ban which we feel is another example of the government taking away personal freedoms which could quickly become a slippery slope. But, in this election, Phyllis is the best option for conservatives. We suggest you vote for her one more time and look forward to a strong conservative candidate in the 2012 election.

## **Other Conservative Candidates endorsed by DeKalb 9-12**

United States Senator, Indiana, Dan Coats

Indiana Treasurer of State, Richard E. Mourdock

Indiana State Senator, District 14, Dennis K. Kruse

Indiana State Representative, District 52, David Yarde II

Prosecuting Attorney- DeKalb County (75th Judicial Circuit), ClaraMary Winebrenner

DeKalb County Sheriff, Don Lauer

**BALLOT QUESTION 1** – “Shall property taxes be limited for all classes of property by amending the Constitution of the State of Indiana?”

**We recommend a “Yes” vote.** Taxes on property (real and personal) are the primary source of income for units of local government. They also finance all but the general fund for public K-12 schools. If passed by simple majority, the current caps become very difficult to raise or eliminate, thereby establishing an absolute limit to revenue that government units must operate within. It does however; give voters the flexibility to override the caps, through referendums, if they choose to do so. This puts the decision of exceeding the caps in the hands of voters, not politicians and school officials.

## **NOTE:**

**Purpose:** The purpose of the DeKalb 9-12 General Election November 2, 2010 Voter Guide is to provide information to voters about selected candidates and issues.

**Use of this voter guide:** This voter guide is but one source of information. We recommend all voters conduct their own research and evaluation of candidates using all available sources of information. Our web site, [dekalb912.com](http://dekalb912.com), contains additional reference materials, details and background data. Voters also may contact us by e-mail at [wtp@dekalb912.com](mailto:wtp@dekalb912.com).

The voter guide provides summary evaluations by office for selected candidates. These evaluations are opinions based on analytic results from our research, candidate questionnaires, candidate interviews and candidates addressing and meeting with our group. We have found the interviews, question and answer sessions with small groups and the voting records to be the most important elements of the evaluation process. Campaign literature and political rhetoric give little real insight into the person. Even the questionnaire adds little if no amplifying comments are included; without comments the questionnaire becomes just another piece of campaign literature. We will continue to update this voter guide as additional information is made available prior to the Primary Election.

**Statement of Fact:** The DeKalb 9-12 Group is not a political action group. The DeKalb 9-12 Group is a nonpartisan organization that has no official affiliation with any political party. The DeKalb 9-12 Group is partisan as far as the stated conservative values and principles of the DeKalb 9-12 Group. Our beliefs simply stated: America will be renewed if it returns to: our traditional values of hard work, personal freedom and responsibility; a limited government that follows the Constitution and the rule of law; valuing and protecting human life and the institutions of marriage, family and belief in almighty God as the foundation for society. One of the goals of the DeKalb 9-12 Group is to educate and inform voters. The efforts to educate and inform are an absolute act within our right to freedom of speech as provided by the First Amendment of the US Constitution. We do not tell any DeKalb 9-12 members how to vote; nor do we tell any other voter how to vote. Not every member agrees with all of the opinions within this document. Any expressions of opinion in this guide, our web site or other venues are the essence of our right to free speech. If any factual error is found on the web site or in this voter guide we will correct on presentation of valid evidence. We seek the truth and believe the truth shall help us remain free.

Notice: This DeKalb 9-12 General Election November 2, 2010 Voter Guide is the property of DeKalb 9-12 Group and may not be used for any other purposes than those stated above.