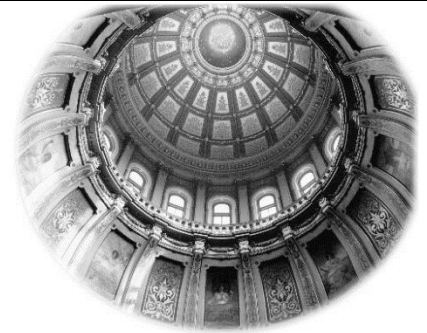


CAPITOL NEWS UPDATE

WEEK OF AUGUST 6, 2018

Integrity. Individual Attention. Precision Strategy. Proven Results



SCHUETTE, WHITMER TAKE NEXT STEPS IN RACE FOR GOVERNOR

Top candidates for Governor—Democrat Gretchen Whitmer and Republican Bill Schuette—are moving quickly into general election campaign season as they attempt to make peace with the other candidates, gather endorsements, choose running-mates, and negotiate debate dates and formats.

Endorsements—Following a bitter primary election campaign between Lt. Gov. Brian Calley and Attorney General Bill Schuette, Gov. Rick Snyder dodged a full-on endorsement of Schuette, while Calley said the Schuette team declined his offer to take the stage at the unity rally, which was open to the media, in Grand Rapids Wednesday night to publicly endorse Schuette.

Democrats held a closed meeting, but Whitmer's opponents Dr. Abdul El-Sayed and Shri Thanedar endorsed Whitmer to the crowd and the news media.

Running-mates—Candidates are hustling to finalize their choices for lieutenant governor before the parties' conventions on Aug. 25-26.

Whitmer's list could include Garlin Gilchrist, Sen. Morris Hood III, Detroit City Councilmember Alex Spivey, or Rep. Sheldon Neeley (D-Flint).

Schuette's list is shorter. It's topped by Macomb County Public Works Commissioner Candice Miller, secretary of state from 1995-2002 and U.S. representative from 2003-17, or possibly Rep. Laura Cox (R-Livonia).

Debates—With neither candidate being the favorite, both gubernatorial campaigns released statements on Thursday proposing three televised debates. In 2010 and 2014, there was only one debate.

Schuette's campaign called for "a minimum of three televised debates" with at least one in the Detroit media market, one in the Grand Rapids media market, and "additional debates" in the Flint, Lansing "and/or" Traverse City media markets.

Whitmer's campaign released a similar statement proposing a debate in the Detroit media market focused on education and skills training, one in the Flint media market focused on clean water and infrastructure and one in Grand Rapids focused on affordable health care.

DUGGAN-BACKED AUTO-REFORM CANDIDATES PERFORM WELL, TOP DETROIT SENATE BALLOT

Eight of the 13 Democratic candidates backed by Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan won their Detroit primaries on Tuesday, making way for Duggan to continue striving for auto insurance reform.

Duggan-backed democrats who won their primary:

- **Governor: Gretchen Whitmer** Duggan actively campaigned and fundraised for Whitmer after endorsing her candidacy in late February.
- **2nd Senate District: Adam Hollier** (Grosse Pointes, parts of Detroit, Hamtramck, Harper Woods, and Highland Park). Hollier, is an appointee of former Detroit Mayor Dave Bing who won with 24.5 percent of the vote in an 11-candidate primary. He defeated former state Rep. Brian Banks and former Rep. LaMar Lemmons III and will likely fill the partial term ending Jan. 1, 2019 and the next term. The seat was left vacant by term-limited Sen. Bert Johnson (D-Detroit) who resigned in March after pleading guilty to federal theft and conspiracy charges.
- **3rd Senate District: Sylvia Santana** (Dearborn, Melvindale, and parts of Detroit). State Rep. Sylvia Santana had 41.5 percent of the vote to Wayne County Commission Chair Gary Woronchak's 38.7 percent. She was also one of four Detroit Democrats who voted in support of the mayor's auto insurance plan in the House last November.
- **4th Senate District: Marshall Bullock** (Parts of Detroit, Allen Park Lincoln Park, and Southgate). Bullock is a district manager in Duggan's Detroit Department of Neighborhoods who beat out state Rep. Fred Durhal III by 44.2 percent to 38.3 percent with a margin of 1,644 votes. Durhal voted against the mayor's insurance reform plan.
- **2nd House Districts: Joe Tate** (Parts of Detroit, Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms, and Grosse Pointe Park).
- **3rd House District: Rep. Wendell Byrd** (Parts of Detroit.). Byrd voted in favor of the mayor's auto insurance plan in the House last November.
- **9th House District: Karen Whitsett** (Parts of Dearborn and Detroit). This newcomer won her primary with 56.42 percent of the vote.
- **10th House District: Rep. Leslie Love** (Parts of Detroit and Redford Township). Love voted in favor of the mayor's auto insurance plan in the House last November.

Duggan-backed candidates who lost:

- **13th Congressional District:** Council President Brenda Jones won the special primary but lost the regular primary.
- **1st Senate District:** State Rep. Bettie Cook Scott finished third.
- **4th House District:** Duggan's 2017 campaign manager Rico Razo finished fourth.
- **5th House District:** Rita Ross lost in a six-candidate Democratic primary
- **6th District:** Terra DeFoe works for the mayor in senior citizen outreach and faith-based initiatives. She came in third in a 10-candidate race.

WAYNE COUNTY ELECTION GLITCHES CAST DOUBT ON FINAL TALLIES

After a long night in Wayne County on Tuesday with fluctuating vote tallies, a server overload, and ballot machine breakdowns, several legislative candidates are waiting to concede their elections. A Wayne County commissioner is asking for an investigation into the voting system, and a primary winner is calling for the Secretary of State to get involved.

Detroit democratic candidates for the state Senate, Rep. Fred Durhal III in District 4 and former Rep. Brian Banks in District 2 have said they are waiting for the Board of Canvassers to complete their final tally before officially conceding their elections.

Both candidates lost their primary races to candidates backed by Mayor Mike Duggan.

Wayne County Commission Vice Chair Jewel Ware called for an investigation into the processes the clerk's office used to report results at a commission meeting on Thursday.

Rep. Sherry Gay-Dagnogo (D-Detroit), who won her primary Tuesday by a large margin, also called for Secretary of State Ruth Johnson and the Wayne County Board of Canvassers to begin audits of Detroit's election results to ensure the same thing doesn't happen in November.

KNEZEK LOSS HIGHLIGHTS UNEXPECTED PRIMARY RESULTS

A stunning upset of Sen. David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights) in the 5th Senate District is the best example of the unexpected twists and turns in Tuesday's primary election.

Knezek, a popular senator who was expected to be able to take up to 80 percent of the vote, was solidly unseated by an unknown candidate. In addition to the Wayne County election glitches, it is also an illustration that voters preferred female candidates across the entire state.

Unofficial results showed little-known candidate Betty Jean Alexander winning the race with 53.8 percent of the vote to Knezek's 44.9 percent.

Backed by former state Rep. LaMar Lemmons III, Alexander received a waiver for campaign finances and did not raise or spend \$1,000 on the race. She also did not have a website and little information was available about her.

According to Lemmons, Alexander, 53, is a mother of two who works in an administrative clerical job. Lemmons served as her volunteer campaign manager. Alexander ran unsuccessfully in 2016 for the Detroit Public Schools Community District Board of Education.

Knezek's campaign is waiting to officially concede until the Board of Canvassers certifies results.

Alexander will face Republican nominee DeShawn Wilkins in the Nov. 6 general election.

MM&A BRIEFS

Gubernatorial primary proves expensive

Michigan's candidates for governor spent a record \$27 million and raised a total of \$32.7 million according to reports filed with the state at the end of July—in a fight that some say could have been the most expensive gubernatorial primary in the state's history.

Of the seven candidates, Democratic candidate Shri Thanedar, who placed third with 16 percent of the vote, said he spent close to \$11.5 million of his own money. In the Republican race, fourth place candidate Dr. Jim Hines donated \$2.7 to his campaign.

Gov. Snyder names fountain to honor Whiston

The Capitol Plaza fountain has been dedicated in honor of former Superintendent of Public Instruction Brian Whiston. Gov. Snyder dedicated the fountain, which sits between the Hannah Building and the Ottawa Building, to Whiston, who died in May of cancer.

Calendar of Important Events

- Aug. 11 Sen. Dale Zorn (R) Fundraiser
Location: 5:30 p.m., 7498 Ida East Road, Ida
- Aug. 12 House Republican Campaign Committee Fundraiser
Location: 6 p.m., Hidden River Golf and Casting Club, Brutus
- Aug. 13 U.S. Rep. John Moolenaar (R) Golf Fundraiser
Location: 8 a.m., Bucks Run Golf Club, Mt. Pleasant
- Senate Republican Campaign Committee
Location: 6:30 p.m., Bay Harbor Golf Club, Bay Harbor
- Aug. 20 Rep. Sara Cambensy
Location: 5 p.m., Presque Isle Pavilion, Marquette
- House Democratic Fund Fundraiser
Location: 6 p.m., Fifth Avenue, Royal Oak