

CAPITOL NEWS UPDATE

WEEK OF AUGUST 6, 2018

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A charged political environment and a plethora of primary races mean an exciting upcoming campaign season as Michigan's candidates prepare for the November election.

GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATES

The top candidates in the race for Governor will be Democrat Gretchen Whitmer and Republican Bill Schuette, who ended the night lengths ahead of their competitors to gain their respective party's top billing.

Whitmer, a former State Senator from East Lansing, beat out Dr. Abdul El-Sayed in several counties, including Wayne and Genesee, where El-Sayed was hoping for an upset. She also had strong leads in Oakland and Macomb Counties. When the race was called around 10 p.m., Whitmer was ahead with 50 percent of the vote, El-Sayed with 34 percent and Thanedar with 16 percent.

Schuette, Michigan's Attorney General from Midland, held strong leads throughout the state, surpassing both of his opponents Lt. Gov. Brian Calley and Sen. Patrick Colbeck in all counties. Schuette held the biggest advantage in Macomb County, and had significant leads in Oakland, Livingston, Kent, and Wayne counties. When the Republican race was called around 9:30 p.m., Schuette had about 51 percent of the vote, compared to Calley's 24 percent. Other Republican candidates Colbeck and Hines had 14 percent and 11 percent of the vote.

RACES TO WATCH:

U.S. Senate

In the Republican primary for U.S. Senate, John James, a business executive from Farmington Hills and Iraq war veteran, defeated Grosse Pointe business executive Sandy Pensler. James will face sitting U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow in November.

U.S. House

District 13 – Former state Rep. Rashida Tlaib has beat Detroit City Council President Brenda Jones in the Democratic primary race for Michigan's 13th Congressional District to replace U.S. Rep. John Conyers (D-Detroit). Conyers served for over 50 years before he resigned in December 2017. Because there are no Republicans running, Tlaib will become the first Muslim woman in the U.S. House. In a separate special primary to fill the last couple months of Conyers' term, Brenda Jones was ahead in early results.

Other U.S. House primary results:

District 3 – Democrat Cathy Albro knocked out Fred Wooden. Albro will face incumbent Republican Justin Amash in the general election.

District 4 – Democrat Jerry Hilliard won over Zigmund Kozicki to run against incumbent Republican John Moolenaar in the fall.

District 6 – Democrat Matt Longjohn was victorious in the primary. The incumbent in this seat will go head to head with incumbent Republican Fred Upton.

District 7 – Democrat Gretchen Driskell won her nomination by a long stretch over Steven Friday and will go on to face Republican Tim Walberg.

District 8 – Democrat Elissa Slotkin goes on with over 70 percent of the vote. Republican Mike Bishop also won his primary with over 92 percent.

District 9 – Democrat Andy Levin won the 9th Congressional District primary against former Rep. Ellen Lipton. Levin is the son of retiring U.S. Rep. Sander Levin and will most likely win the election in November.

District 10 – Kimberly Bizon will represent Democrats in the fall election.

District 11 – Former Obama administration official Haley Stevens beat Tim Greimel in a close Democratic primary. Republican businesswoman Lena Epstein won the Republican nomination to run to replace U.S. Rep. Dave Trott (R-Birmingham) who stepped down.

STATE SENATE HIGHLIGHTS

1st: Rep. Stephanie Chang (D-Detroit) won the Democratic primary over former Reps. Alberta Tinsley-Talabi and Bettie Cook Scott. Chang, a two-term representative, is now likely to fill the seat of term-limited Sen. Coleman Young II.

2nd: Adam Hollier, an appointee of former Detroit Mayor Dave Bing, took the lead in the primary race against second-place frontrunner Brian Banks and a field of others including former Rep. George Cushingberry Jr. Mr. Banks resigned from the House last year as part of a plea deal in a criminal bank loan forgery case. By winning the primary, Hollier, who supports auto insurance reform, 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.

19th: Rep. John Bizon, a Republican physician from Battle Creek, easily defeated former Rep. Mike Callton (R-Nashville), moving on to run to replace term-limited Sen. Mike Nofs.

21st: Rep. Kim LaSata (R-Bainbridge Twp.) captured the Republican primary by beating Rep. Dave Pagel (R-Berrien Springs). LaSata will go on to run to against Democrat Ian Haight to replace term-limited Sen. John Proos (R-St. Joseph).

24th: Rep. Tom Barrett (R-Potterville) defeated Rep. Brett Roberts (R-Eaton Twp.) to run to replace term-limited Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge).

30th: Rep. Roger Victory, from Georgetown Twp. defeated two other Republican candidates fellow Rep. Daniela Garcia (R-Holland) and former Rep. Joe Haveman (R-Holland) to win the primary. Unofficial results show Victory with 42 percent of the vote.

34th: Former Rep. Jon Bumstead (R-Newaygo) defeated Rep. Holly Hughes (R-White River Twp.) by a narrow margin 52 percent to 48 percent in an expensive and competitive race. Bumstead will face Democratic primary winner Poppy Sias-Hernandez (D-Muskegon).

35th: First term Rep. Curt VanderWall (R-Ludington) has successfully won the Republican primary against several heavy hitters including former Rep. Bruce Rendon (R-Lake City), and former Rep. Ray Franz (R-Onekama). VanderWall is expected to win the election to replace term-limited Sen. Darwin Booher (R-Evart) in November.

See below for the rest of the State Senate and State House primary results.

State Senate primary results

3rd: Democrat Sylvia Santana beat Gary Woronchak by a small margin.

4th: Democrat Marshall Bullock had a nearly 6 percent lead over Fred Durhal

5th: Betty Jean Alexander beat incumbent David Knezek in a tight Democratic primary.

6th: Erika Geiss won the Democratic race.

8th: Republican Peter Lucido will face Democrat Paul Francis in the general election.

9th: Democrat Paul Wojno will run against Republican Jeff Bonnell.

10th: GOP candidate Michael MacDonald lead the pack in the Republican primary.

11th: Democrat Jeremy Moss won the primary with 52 percent of the vote.

12th: Michael McCready won the Republican nomination.

14th Republican Secretary of State Ruth Johnson won her primary for the Senate and will face Democrat Renee Watson.

15th: Jim Runestad won the Republican primary.

16th: Mike Shirkey will be the Republican candidate in the general election.

18th: Former Rep. Jeff Irwin (D-Ann Arbor) won the Democratic primary by 239 votes over Washtenaw County Commissioner Michelle Deatrick.

22nd: Republican Lana Theis knocked off her opponent in the primary

23rd: Andrea Pollock won the GOP primary.

26th: Former Rep. Aric Nesbitt (R- Lawton) was victorious over former Rep. Bob Genetski (R-Saugatuck) in an expensive Republican Senate primary. Nesbitt should go on to win the general election this fall in this conservative district.

28th: Craig Beach will be the Democratic candidate for the general election.

29th: GOP candidate Chris Afendoulis will run in the Fall.

31st: Former Rep. Kevin Daley (R-Lum) won the Republican primary and will face Democrat Bay County Clerk Cynthia Luczak.

32nd: Phil Phelps will the Democratic candidate for the general election.

33rd: Republican Rick Outman will face Democrat Mark Bignell.

37th: Incumbent Wayne Schmidt (R-Traverse City) won the Republican primary.

38th: Former Rep. Ed McBroom (R-Vulcan) won the Republican primary in a landslide over Mike Carey. McBroom will now face a competitive general election against Democratic Rep. Scott Dianda (D-Calumet).

State House primary results:

2nd: Democrat Joe Tate was ahead of Carla Tinsley-Smith with 91 percent of precincts reporting.

3rd: Incumbent Wendell Byrd took the Democratic primary.

4th: Isaac Robinson will run to replace term-limited Rep. Rose Mary Robinson, D-Detroit, in Michigan's House District 4. Mayor Mike Duggan's former campaign manager Rico Razo came in fourth place.

5th: A tight finale shows Cynthia Johnson beating Rita Ross by only five votes in the Democratic primary.

6th: Tyrone Carter knocked out nine others to get the Democratic nomination to run to replace State Rep. Stephanie Chang who is running for Senate. Carter has said that reforming auto insurance is his priority.

7th: Rep. LaTanya Garrett (D-Detroit) took over 81 percent of the primary vote. The GOP candidate for the general election will be Marcelis Turner.

8th: Rep. Sherry Gay-Dagnogo (D-Detroit) had 62.5 percent of the vote for Dem primary.

9th: Democrat Karen Whitsett won her primary with 56.42 percent of the vote.

10th: Rep. Leslie Love (D-Detroit) was victorious in her primary and will likely keep her seat in a run against Republican William Brang.

11th: With only 73 percent of the precincts reporting, Democrat Jewell Jones is ahead of Democrat Randy Walker by only around 100 votes.

13th: Frank Liberati won the Democratic nomination.

14th: Cara Clemente won the Democratic primary.

16th: Democrat Kevin Coleman won the Dem primary with 39.44 percent of the vote.

19th: Laurie Pohutsky pulled in the Dem nomination.

27th: Rep. Robert Wittenberg (D-Oak Park) will go on to the general election.

28th: Democrat Lori Stone pushed out incumbent Rep. Patrick Green (D-Warren) with only a 475 vote difference between the two.

29th: Brenda Carter won the Dem primary with just over 30 percent of the vote.

30th: John Spica will go on to run for the Democrats.

31st: Tight races were still too close to call with William Sowerby ahead for the Dems and Lisa Valerio-Nowc ahead in the Republican primary.

34th: Rep. Sheldon Neeley (D-Flint) will stay on to run.

35th: Democrat Kyra Bolden won the nomination.

36th: GOP candidate Douglas Wozniak defeated four others to face Democrat Robert Murphy.

37th: Republican Mitch Swoboda will run against incumbent Rep. Christine Greig (D-Farmington Hills).

38th: Republican incumbent Rep. Kathy Crawford will continue on to face Democrat Kelly Breen.

39th: Ryan Berman won the GOP primary

40th: Democrat Mari Manoogian will run against Republican David Wolkinson.

41st: Republican Doug Tietz won the GOP nomination.

43rd: Republican Andrea Schroeder will face Democrat Laura Dodd.

44th: Matt Maddock knocked out several other candidates to win the Republican primary.

45th: Kyle Cooper will be the Democratic candidate in the general election.

46th: Democrat Mindy Denninger won the primary.

48th: Democrat Sheryl Kennedy will face Republican Al Hardwick in the general election.

49th: John Cherry won the Democratic primary with nearly 47 percent of the vote.

51st: Mike Mueller was victorious in the GOP primary.

54th: Democrat incumbent Rep. Ronnie Peterson will race against Republican Colton Campbell.

55th: Democratic candidate Rebekah Warren won her primary with 13,046 votes and will face Republican Bob Baird who had 1,898 votes.

61st: Alberta Griffin won the Democratic primary.

64th: Democrat Sheila Troxel will race in the November elections.

67th: Republican Leon Clark will run against Democrat Kara Hope this Fall.
68th: Sarah Anthony beat six other candidates in the Democratic primary.
69th: Julie Brixie was ahead in the Democratic primary with 92 percent of the precincts reporting.
71st: Republican Christine Barnes won her primary to face Democrat Angela Witwer.
72nd: Incumbent GOP Rep. Steven Johnson goes on with more than 8,300 votes.
73rd: Republican Lynn Afendoulis knocked out three other candidates.
77th: Democrat Dana Knight will face Republican Tommy Brann in the general election.
78th: Brad Paquette won the GOP primary against five other candidates.
79th: Joey Andrews took the Dem primary and will face Republican candidate Pauline Wendzel.
80th: Mark Ludwig took the Democratic primary by nearly 72 percent.
81st: In a tight race which has not been called, Republicans Gary Eisen had a very slight lead over Kenneith Nicholl.
84th: GOP candidates Phil Green and Matthew Bierlein are the leading two in another tight primary.
88th: Luke Meerman won the Republican primary.
89th: Incumbent Rep. Jim Lilly (R-Park Twp.) took the primary with about 79 percent of vote.
90th: Republican Bradley Slagh will continue on to the general elections.
91st: Republican front-runner Greg VanWoerkom will run against Democrat Tanya Cabala
94th: Candidate Graham Filler won the Republican primary.
97th: Democrats Celia Young-Wenkel and Bob Townsend were still too close to call with 11 votes between.
98th: Annette Glenn will be the Republican candidate in the Fall.
101st: Democrat Kathy Wiejaczka will face Republican primary winner Jack O'Malley.
102nd: Incumbent Michele Hoytenga (R-Manton) will race against Democrat primary winner Dion Adams.
103rd: Tim Schaiberger won the Democratic primary.
107th: Republican incumbent Lee Chatfield will face-off against Democratic primary winner Joanne Galloway.
110th: GOP candidates Gregory Markkanen and Kirk Schott are in a tight race with 24 votes apart that is yet to be called.