

Election will clarify several Mich. races

Positions, millage issues on ballot

BLADE STAFF

TEMPERANCE — The Bedford Township board could look much different after the general election, and the Aug. 2 primary will make the future a bit clearer.

Paul Pirrone is running against Supervisor Greg Stewart, elected in 2012, on the Republican side. The winner will face Democrat Larry O'Dell, also an incumbent, who is unopposed in the primary, in November.

Two Republicans each are running in the races for township clerk and treasurer. No Democrats are running for those positions.

Clerk Trudy Hershberger is challenged by Austin Mack. Ms. Hershberger was appointed in January, 2012, and won the election the following fall. Treasurer Paul Francis was also elected in 2012. He is opposed by David Dunnigan.

Ten candidates are vying for four trustee seats in Bedford Township. Incumbents Rick Steiner and Nancy Tienvieri are joined by Michelle Bork, TC Clements, Brent Cook, James Nyhan, Michael Sprott, Bob Stammer, and George Welling on the Republican side. Greg Robinson is the only Democrat running.

The four Republicans with the most votes will advance to the November ballot, along with Mr. Robinson.

Doug North and incumbent Tim Walberg are running as Republicans for Michigan's 7th District U.S. House seat. Gretchen D. Driskell is the Democrat on the ballot.

The race for state representative in the 56th House District is between Republican Jason Sheppard, the incumbent, and Democrat Tom Redmond.

Monroe County Sheriff Dale Malone is opposed by fellow Democrat James Reaster. The winner will face Republican David Uhl in November.

The county commissioner race for the 8th District pits Democratic incumbent R. Mark Ellsworth against Republican Greg Moore, Jr.

In other county races, William Paul Nichols (prosecuting attorney), Sharon D. Lemasters (clerk and register of deeds), Kay M. Sisung (treasurer), David P. Thompson (drain commissioner), and Scott Warnke (surveyor) are unopposed as Democrats.

There also are several millage questions on the ballot, two of which are specific to Bedford Township.

The Bedford Township Fire Department seeks a 1-mill fire protection renewal for four years starting in 2017. The revenue would fund general operations and maintenance to buildings and equipment.

The Bedford Township transportation issue asks the renewal of a service millage that expired in 2015. If approved, the township board would levy up to 0.2462 mills annually for three years to provide local transportation services by the Lake Erie Transportation Commission or another provider.

A 0.5-mill countywide senior citizen millage is up for renewal for four years. About \$2.8 million would annually fund senior citizen services for residents 60 and older. An additional supplemental millage is on the ballot, increasing the senior citizen millage by 0.25 mills to generate an additional \$1.4 million a year.

— Jay Skebba