

U.S. HOUSE

6th District

For the second time in two years, incumbent Republican Fred Upton and Democratic challenger Paul Clements face each other. Laurence Wenke is running as a Libertarian.



UPTON



CLEMENTS

The district covers Berrien, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph and Van Buren counties, and most of Allegan County.

Clements, 55, is a Kalamazoo native and political science professor at Western Michigan University. This is the second time he is running for the office.

Upton, 63, is seeking his 16th term and serves as chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. His role with the committee ends with this term.

Wenke, 71, of Galesburg had served in the Michigan House of Representatives. Tonya Schuitmaker defeated Wenke in the 2010 Republican Party primary election for the 20th state Senate district.

STATE HOUSE

(2-year terms) 59th District

Aaron Miller, R-Sturgis, is being challenged for a second term by Democrat Carol Higgins. The district covers much of Cass County, including Dowagiac.



MILLER

Higgins is the mother of three and stepmother of three more. Her and her husband, Larry, live in Mendon. She holds degrees from Nazareth College and Western Michigan University and taught in Marcellus schools.



HIGGINS

She has been a small business owner and was raised on a farm.

Miller taught in Middlebury, Ind., schools before running for state House in 2014. He holds degrees from WMU and Bethel College in Indiana. He and his wife, Alexandria, raise cattle.

66th District

Republican Beth Griffin and Democrat Annie Brown are seeking to replace Rep. Eric Nesbitt, R-Lawton, who must step down due to term limits.

The district covers all of Van Buren

County and a portion of western Kalamazoo County.

Brown, 55, has served on the South Haven school board since 2004 and is a former board president. She and her husband, Jeff, have three children and own the Filbrandt Family Funeral Home in South Haven. They live in South Haven.

Griffin, 49, is vice chairwoman of the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners and a former teacher. She and her husband, Gregory, have two children and live in Mattawan.



GRIFFIN



BROWN

78th District

Incumbent Republican Dave Pagel of Oronoko Township faces Democrat Dean Hill of Niles. The 78th covers central and southern Berrien County and four southern townships in Cass County.

Pagel, 61, of East Shawnee Road is seeking his third and final two-year term. He owns Dave Pagel Produce. He and his wife, Sue, have four children.



PAGEL



HILL

Hill, 65, of Yankee Street is making his second run for public office, having run unsuccessfully for the Niles City Council in the 1980s. He is an art teacher at Dowagiac Union High School. He and his wife, Lorrie, are raising their three grandchildren.

79th District

Democrat Marletta Seats, Republican Kim LaSata and Carl Oehling, of the U.S. Taxpayers Party, are seeking the seat. The district covers northern Berrien County.



SEATS

Seats, of Benton Township, is serving her sixth term as the Berrien County commissioner representing District 3. She serves on the Board of Commissioners' Administration Committee and works with the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission and the land Bank. She retired as lead auditor from Bosch after 32 years with the company.

LaSata, of Bainbridge Township, is a teacher at Lake Michigan Catholic Elementary School in St. Joseph. She has a bachelor of science degree from



LaSATA

Western Michigan University and a master's from Western. LaSata and her husband, Charles, have four children. She won the Republican primary against three opponents.

Oehling, of Coloma, is retired and worked as a chemist for 30 years. He also was a machinist, a quality assurance manager of a division of Clark Equipment and as a laborer in quality assurance. Oehling has a bachelor's degree in biology from Michigan State University and attended Lawrence Institute of Technology. This is his third run for the 79th.



OEHLING

80th District

Rep. Mary Whiteford, R-Casco Township, faces a re-election challenge from Democrat John Andrysiak of Martin. The district serves most of Allegan County.



WHITEFORD

Whiteford, 51, has held the office since March. She and her husband Kevin, have three children.

No information was available on Andrysiak.

LAKE MICHIGAN COLLEGE

BENTON TOWNSHIP — Trustees John Grover of St. Joseph Township and Judy Truesdell of Niles are unopposed for six-year terms.

Voters will decide 0.48-mill property tax for 10 years for building and site improvements. The tax would raise \$4.36 million in its first year.

The college district covers Berrien County, the South Haven school district and Covert Township.

STATE APPEALS COURT

Incumbents Joel Hoekstra and David Sawyer are unopposed for two six-year seats.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Incumbent Democrat John Austin of Ann Arbor is seeking re-election to one of two eight-year terms at stake. Ish Ahmed of Novi is also running as a Democrat.

The Republican hopefuls are Tom McMillin or Rochester Hills and Nikki Snyder of Whitmore Lake.

The Libertarian candidates are Scotty Boman of Detroit and Bill Hall of Grand

Rapids.

Karen Adams of Lake Odessa and Douglas Levesque of Owosso represent the U.S. Taxpayers Party while Derek Grigsby of Alanson and Sherry Wells of Ferndale are Green Party candidates.

Mary Anne Hering of Detroit is running on the Working Class ticket.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN REGENTS

Incumbent Democrats Laurence Deitch of Bloomfield Hills and Denise Ilitch of Bingham Farms are being challenged for two eight-year terms.

The challengers are Republicans Carl Meyers of Dearborn and Ron Weiser of Ann Arbor, Libertarians James Hudler of Chelsea and John Jascob of Temperance, U.S. Taxpayers Party's Audra Driscoll of Ann Arbor and Richard Hower of Big Rapids.

The Green Party nominated Latham Redding of Detroit while the Natural Law Party candidate is Bridgette Abraham-Guzman of Brighton.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY TRUSTEES

Incumbent Democrats Dianne Byrum of Onondaga and Diann Woodard of Brownstown face challenges for two eight-year seats.

The Republicans are William Deary of Jackson and Dan Kelly of Clarkston.

The Libertarians are Justin Burns of Flint and Gregory Stempfle of Ferndale.

Angela Grady of Cedar Lake is running a U.S. Taxpayers nominee while Will White of Bath is running as a Green.

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY GOVERNORS

Eleven candidates are seeking two eight-year terms.

They are Republicans Michael Buisuito of Troy and Kimberly Shmina of Ira, Democrats Yvette McElroy-Anderson and Mark Gaffney, both of Detroit; Libertarians Bhagwan Dashairya of Westland and Al Seder of Dearborn. Robert Gale of Sterling Heights and Marc Joseph Sosnowski of Dearborn Heights are running under the U.S. Taxpayers Party.

The Green Party hopefuls are Margaret Guttschall of Dearborn and Fran Shor of Royal Oak. The Natural Law candidate is Wendy Goossen of Rochester.