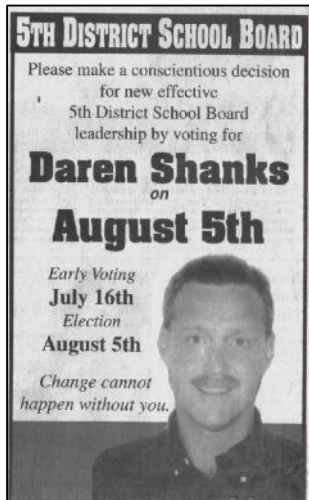


Williams, **Shanks** win school board seats
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Thursday's election proved that every vote does count in several races for offices in Putnam County with some incumbents being ousted by just a handful of votes.

In Putnam's lowest voter turnout in recent history, the closest race was for the office of city recorder in Baxter. Longtime incumbent Glenda Burgess lost the office she had held for 17 years to Stacey Austin by two votes. Austin received 175 votes, while Burgess received 173.

Putnam Election Administrator Nancy Boman said that only 4,521 or 12 percent of Putnam's 37,328 registered voters voted in Thursday's election, and in one precinct -- Double Springs West -- no one voted.

"Every vote really does count," Boman said. "You never know what's going to happen on any given election day."

Baxter

Baxter Mayor Jeff Wilhite retained his position with 62 percent of the vote. Wilhite received 216 votes, while his challenger, Billy J. Medley, who is also a former mayor of Baxter, received 135 votes.

Baxter alderman Jimmy Fields lost his seat in the election for two aldermen, bringing two new faces to the board in Baxter.

Tony Helm and Brian Burgess were elected as Baxter aldermen, with Burgess receiving 151 votes and Helm receiving 179. Fields received 99 votes, and Richard T. Waller received 146.

The Baxter mayor and two aldermen are elected for four-year terms.

Monterey

Monterey Mayor Ken Wiggins retained his position against challenger and former Monterey Mayor John Henry Bowden. Wiggins received 281 votes, while Bowden received 135.

Also in Monterey, incumbent Bob Webb was defeated by challenger David Delk in the bid for the two seats in Ward 1 of the Board of Aldermen.

Delk received 246 votes, while Webb received 186 votes. Incumbent Ernest Hodge retained his position with 215 votes.

In Ward 2, incumbents Mark Farley and Richard Smith were running unopposed. Farley received 268 complimentary votes, while Smith received 229.

In Ward 3, incumbents Gary McCloud and Johnny Ray retained their positions against challengers John Sumner and Sonya Sumner.

McCloud received 238 votes, and Ray received 253 votes. John Sumner received 71 votes, and Sonya Sumner received 58 votes.

In Ward 4, incumbent Vickie Henley retained her position with 237 votes, and Ted Sheckler was also elected with 189 votes. Sharon McAnally received 121 votes.

The Monterey mayor is elected to a four-year term, and Delk, Farley, Ray and Henley are elected to four-year terms because they were the top vote-getters in the wards in which they ran, after the Monterey board decided in November to phase in the staggering of elections.

Hodge, Smith, McCloud and Sheckler are elected to two-year terms. Their seats will be up for election for four-year terms in 2006. After that, four seats will be elected every four years.

Algood

Algood City Councilmen Loyd Norris and Johnny Bennett retained their positions against challengers Billy D. Bilbrey and Buck Fowler, a certified write-in candidate.

Norris received 330 votes, and Bennett received 323 votes. Bilbrey received 269 votes, and Fowler received 200 votes.

The two Algood councilmen are elected to four-year terms.

Putnam School Board

In the race for four seats on the Putnam School Board, 5th District Representative Michael Rodgers was ousted by Daren Shanks by 48 votes.

Shanks received 508 votes, while Rodgers received 460 votes. G.W. Brown received 63 votes.

In the 3rd District, incumbent Roger Williams retained his seat against challenger Cynthia Strong. Williams received 720 votes, and Strong received 592 votes.

In the 1st District, incumbent Walter Derryberry received 355 complimentary votes.

In the 6th District, Adam Bernhardt received 244 complimentary votes.

All school board representatives are elected to four-year terms except for Bernhardt, who was elected to a two-year term after he was appointed by the Putnam County Commission to fill the unexpired term of Maxine Frasier.

In other county elections, Putnam Property Assessor Rhonda Chaffin was reelected to a four-year term with 3,190 complimentary votes, and Putnam Trustee Gail Glover was elected to a two-year term with 3,258 complimentary votes.

Glover was elected following her appointment to fill the unexpired term of her late husband, Al Glover.

State, federal primaries

State Rep. Jere Hargrove received the Democratic nomination for the 42nd District in the uncontested race. Hargrove received 2,220 complimentary votes.

Raymond Dyer received the Republican nomination for the 42nd District in the uncontested race to challenge Hargrove in the November election. Dyer received

The 42nd State House District includes most of Putnam County.

In the 43rd State House District, State Rep. Charles Curtiss received the Democratic nomination in the uncontested race with 200 complimentary votes. Curtiss is essentially elected, as there is no Republican challenger in the November election.

The 43rd State House District includes part of Putnam County, all of White and part of Warren counties.

U.S. Congressman Bart Gordon of Rutherford County defeated challenger Robert C. Hall for the Democratic nomination for the 6th District, which includes Putnam as well as Robertson, Sumner, Macon, Clay, Overton, Jackson, Smith, Trousdale, part of Wilson, DeKalb, Cannon, Rutherford, Marshall and Bedford counties.

In Putnam County, Gordon received 2,606 votes, while Hall received 222 votes.

And Nick Demas of Putnam County received the Republican nomination for the U.S. House 6th District seat against Elizabeth Hall of Putnam County.

In Putnam County, Demas received 659 votes, and Hall received 289 votes.

Court of Appeals Judge Sharon Lee was retained in the Eastern Division with 1,982 Putnam votes in favor of her reappointment. Lee received 707 votes against her reappointment.

Court of Appeals Judge Frank Clement Jr. was retained in the Middle Division with 2,289 Putnam votes in favor of his reappointment. Clement received 664 against his reappointment.

In several races, there were a variety of write-in candidates submitted in the election, but Boman said that in order for those to be counted, the write-in candidate has to be certified. The only write-in candidate who was certified in the election was Buck Fowler, who became certified to run for Algood City Council on July 15.

Most city and county offices will take effect in September, but Baxter Mayor Jeff Wilhite said that the Baxter elected offices could take effect as soon as the election is certified by the Putnam Election Commission.

Boman said that the election will be certified on Aug. 16.

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Daren Shanks won the election. He was a 6th generation down from Craven, being a Grand son of Virgil, whose father was Van, only child of Craven & Elizabeth Burgess Shanks.

Daren Shanks is the son of Donna Brewington & Freddy Wayne Shanks.



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