

## 2018 Thurston County Pre-Election Analysis.    Nov. 5, 2018

Level	Office	Candidates	Party	Status	Sex	Other
Fed.	Senator	Maria Cantwell	D	Incumbent	F	
	Senator	Susan Hutchison	R	Challenger	F	
Fed.	Rep.	Jaime Beutler	R	Incumbent	F	
	Rep.	Carolyn Long	D	Challenger	F	
Fed.	Rep.	Denny Heck	D	Incumbent	M	
	Rep.	Joseph Brumbles	R	Challenger	M	
State	Rep.	Andrew Barkis	R	Incumbent	M	
	Rep.	Anneliese Feld	D	Challenger	F	
State	Rep.	JT Wilcox	R	Incumbent	M	Unopposed-R
State	Rep.	Richard DeBolt	R	Incumbent	M	
	Rep.	John Thompson	D	Challenger	M	
State	Rep.	Ed Orcutt	R	Incumbent	M	
	Rep.	Brennan Bailey	D	Challenger	M	
State	Rep.	Laurie Dolan	D	Incumbent	F	
	Rep.	C Davis	I	Challenger	M	
State	Rep.	Beth Doglio	D	Incumbent	F	
	Rep.	Allen Acosta	L	Challenger	M	
State	Rep.	Irene Bowling	D	Challenger	F	
	Rep.	Tim Sheldon	D	Incumbent	M	
State	Rep.	Dan Griffey	R	Incumbent	M	
	Rep.	James Thomas	D	Challenger	M	
State	Rep.	David Daggett	D	Challenger	M	
	Rep.	Drew MacEwen	R	Incumbent	M	

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Category	Office	Candidates	Party	Status	Sex	Other
State	Supreme Court	Susan Owens	Non	Incumbent	F	Unopposed-Non
State	Supreme Court	Nathan Choi	Non	Challenger	M	
	Supreme Court	Steve Gonzales	Non	Incumbent	M	
State	Supreme Court	Sheryl McCloud	Non	Incumbent	F	Unopposed-Non
State	Court of Appeals	Rebecca Glasgow	Non	Open Seat	F	Unopposed-Non
County	Assessor	Steven Drew	D	Incumbent	M	Unopposed D
County	Auditor	Mary Hall	D	Incumbent	F	
	Auditor	Stuart Holmes	I	Challenger	M	
County	Clerk	Linda Enlow	D	Incumbent	F	Unopposed-D
County	#3 Commissioner	Bud Blake	I	Incumbent	M	
	#3 Commissioner	Tye Menser	D	Challenger	M	
County	Coroner	Gary Warnock	D	Incumbent	M	Unopposed-D
County	Pros. Att.	Jon Tunheim	D	Incumbent	M	
	Pros. Att.	Victor Minjares	D	Challenger	M	
County	Sheriff	John Snaza	I	Incumbent	M	Unopposed-I
County	Treasurer	Jeff Gadman	D	Incumbent	M	Unopposed-D
County	Dist. Ct. Judge P-1	Kalo Wilcox	Non	Incumbent	F	Unopposed-Non
County	Dist. Ct. Judge P-2	Sam Meyer	Non	Incumbent	M	Unopposed-Non
County	Dist. Ct. Judge P-3	Brett Buckley	Non	Incumbent	M	Unopposed-Non
County	PUD #1	Linda Oosterman	Non	Incumbent	F	
	PUD#1	Andrew Saturn	Non	Challenger	M	

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### **Statistics (number of races by category)**

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Total Partisan Federal = 3	Total Non-Partisan Fed. = 0
Total Partisan State = 9	Total Non-Partisan State = 5
Total Partisan County = 8	Total Non-Partisan Co. = 4

### **Partisan Races Only**

Challengers	Federal	State	County	Key
R vs. D	3	5	0	R = Republican
R unopposed	0	1	0	D = Democrat
D unopposed	0	0	4	L = Libertarian
I unopposed	0	0	1	I = Independent
R vs. R	0	0	0	Non = Non Partisan
D vs. D	0	1	1	
R vs. L or I	0	0	0	
D vs. L or I	0	2	2	
Total D candidates	3	9	8	
Total R candidates	3	6	0	
Total L candidates	0	1	0	
Total I candidates	0	1	3	

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### ***Federal Elections***

From a local perspective a county political party has the least influence in terms of money. The two major political parties and their mega donors dominate national contributions. Notwithstanding, the number of small donations is often a good indicator of voter enthusiasm across the nation as well as is attendance at local rallies when a candidate or his/her surrogate visits a state. Volunteers are the greater force locally by phone banking, door belling, sign-waving and sign placement. Local volunteerism is vital to all political campaigns.

### ***State-wide Elections/Partisan***

- Democrats field 53% of all Thurston County related candidates (9/(6+1+1)).
- Democrat vs. Republican: The Ds dominate by fielding 60% (9/(9+6)) of the candidates related to Thurston County.

### ***State-wide Elections/Non-Partisan***

- Of the 3 State Supreme Court and 1 Court of Appeals races there was only one challenger.
- Judicial Races are typically difficult to assess being (supposedly) non-partisan races.

### ***County Elections/Partisan***

- This years Thurston County election-cycle statistics are telling.
- There are 8 partisan-county races this cycle:
  - There were 0 Republican incumbents
  - There were 0 Republican challengers
  - In 3 (38%) out of 8 races Democrats ran unopposed
  - In the 2 races where Democrats had challengers, one was another Democrat and the other an Independent
  - The two non-Democrat incumbents were Independents
- From the statistics it appears the Republican Party has given up on County politics and is only focused on State and possibly Federal elections.
- It is likely that those who have in the past supported Republican candidates are now throwing their support to Independent or Libertarian candidates.
- As it stands, before the votes are counted, 6 out of 8 (75%) of incumbents running for office are Democrats and the other 2 (25%) are Independent.
- It should be noted that there is only one County Commissioner race this election cycle and that all three current County Commissioners are Independents.

### ***County Elections/Non-Partisan***

In this election cycle there were no school board or PCO races; there were only Judicial and PUD Commissioner races, which are difficult for most people to get any good information about qualifications or quality of candidates.