

## Why Your Vote Counts on November 2



**Did you vote in the primaries?** That selection narrowed the choice of candidates you'll get to vote for in the general election...if you vote. Unfortunately, as Maryland Politics Watch blog recently pointed out, this year's primary turnout was "BY FAR the lowest in at least thirty years." Voter turnout was down from 30.1% of registered voters in 1978 to 18.6% this September (<http://maryland-politics.blogspot.com/2010/09/on-montgomery-countys-plummeting.html>). The blog noted, too, that Census data shows that only 14.7% of those eligible to vote in Montgomery County (18 or over) actually voted (not including absentee or provisional ballots). Therefore, as a result of the low turnout, one person in seven has already decided the winners in races that are uncontested in the general election.

**Do you really want so few controlling what happens at your doorstep?** These County and State elections put people in office who determine how many kids per class you'll see in the public schools, how many more cars will be added to Connecticut Avenue by proposed development in Chevy Chase Lake, how much money will or will not be available for transit or repairing the Bethesda Metro escalator, and whether gardens will or won't be watered and weeded in the newly remodeled Elm Street Park.

Come hear State candidates at the October 20 final neighborhood political forum.

Candidates for District 18 Maryland Senator Debate

**Incumbent Richard Madaleno (Democrat)  
Challenger Kurt Osuch (Republican)**

**Wednesday, October 20, 7 p.m., Town Hall**

Joined by the three District 18 Delegates:

**Al Carr, Ana Sol Gutierrez and Jeff Waldstreicher**

### **Maryland General Assembly: Did You Know?**

- Maryland Senate and House of Delegates meet in Annapolis each year for 90 days to act on more than 2,300 bills including the State's annual budget. The 428th Session begins January 12, 2011, and adjourns April 11, 2011.
- The General Assembly has 47 Senators and 141 Delegates elected from 47 districts.
- Maryland's 18th Legislative District rests in the heart of Montgomery County. The boundaries include all of Kensington and Wheaton, most of Chevy Chase and parts of Rockville, Silver Spring and Bethesda.
- The General Assembly oversees a statewide budget of about \$32.1 billion.

### **Who Are Those At-Large County Council Candidates, Anyway?**

To find out more about candidates running to represent the entire County on the Montgomery County Council, watch the forum held before the primaries at the 4H Center. Hear what the Democratic primary winners (Marc Elrich, Nancy Floreen, George Leventhal, Hans Riemer); three Republicans (Robert Dyer, Brandon Rippeon, Mark Fennel); and one Green Party candidate (George Gluck) have to say on major issues. Four in all will be elected. Request a DVD copy of the forum from the Town Office: [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org) or 301-654-7144.

**VOTING MATTERS—BE INFORMED**