

Fall Elections Rapidly Approaching

BY Karen Cross

When my children were young, my daughter danced and my sons performed in plays. Those who merely attended the performances didn't see all of the work—much of it mundane—and the preparation and planning that had been done to make this incredibly pleasurable evening possible.

In a political sense, we're approaching show time! In choosing most of the nominees for the House and Senate, much of the foundation has been laid for the November 7 elections. Soon the decisions will be in the hands of voters.

Since the last issue of NRL News, primaries have been held in Nevada, Wyoming, Florida, Arizona, Delaware, Maryland, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Wisconsin. Five still remain: Alaska, Massachusetts, Washington, Hawaii, and Louisiana.

In the August issue, we looked at many U.S. Senate match-ups. On September 12, Democrats and Republicans chose their candidates to replace retiring pro-abortion Maryland Senator Paul Sarbanes (D). Democrats selected pro-abortion Congressman Ben Cardin. The Republican nominee is pro-life Lt. Governor Michael Steele.

In Minnesota pro-life Congressman Mark Kennedy (R) will face Hennepin County attorney Amy Klobuchar (D), who was endorsed by EMILY's List, in the race to replace retiring pro-abortion Senator Mark Dayton (D).

In Michigan, pro-life Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard (R) is challenging another EMILY's List candidate, Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D), for her U.S. Senate seat.

EMILY's List only endorses and promotes female Democratic candidates who support abortion on demand, partial-birth abortion, and using your tax dollars to pay for abortions. Unfortunately, EMILY's List received more contributions (\$20.1 million for this cycle) than any other federal political action committee in the country.

House

In Arizona's Republican primary for the 8th congressional district, Randy Graf, who is supported by NRL PAC, defeated Steve Huffman in a five-way race. Graf will now face an EMILY's List-endorsed candidate, Gabrielle Giffords (D).

In Minnesota's 6th congressional district, pro-life state Senator Michele Bachman (R) is running against pro-abortion candidate Patty Wetterling (D).

In Texas' 22nd congressional district, Houston City Councilwoman Shelley Sekula-Gibbs, a pro-life Republican candidate, will mount a write-in campaign against former pro-abortion Congressman Nick Lampson (D). The seat has been held by pro-life Rep. Tom DeLay (R), who has resigned.

Also in Texas, due to a court decision, seven Democrats, including pro-abortion former Congressman Ciro Rodriguez, will challenge pro-life Congressman Henry Bonilla (R) in Texas' 23rd congressional district. If no one receives 50% of the vote on November 7, the top two vote getters will compete in a run off.

In Ohio, pro-life state Senator Joy Padgett (R) won a September 14 special election to replace retiring pro-life Congressman Bob Ney (R). Padgett will run against Zack Space (D)

The Nevada Republican primary was particularly painful as pro-life candidate Sharron Angle lost by a scant 421 votes in the 2nd congressional district.

As a result of Florida's primary races, pro-life Vern Buchanan (R) is pitted against pro-abortion Christine Jennings (D) in the 13th congressional district. Pro-life candidate Gus Bilirakis (R) will take on Phyllis Busansky (D) in Florida's ninth congressional district

Rep. Sherwood Boehlert (R) is retiring in New York's 24th congressional district. Pro-life state Senator Ray Meier (R) is facing Democrat Mike Arcuri, who is endorsed by NARAL, to be Boehlert's replacement. NARAL supports candidates who believe abortion should be allowed for any reason, even as a method of birth control.

Pro-life Congressman Mark Green (R) vacated his seat to run for governor. To replace Green in Wisconsin's 8th congressional district, Republicans chose pro-life Assembly Speaker John Gard while Democrats selected pro-abortion physician Steve Kagen, who is "self-funding" his campaign. In the Democratic primary, Mr. Kagen defeated Nancy Nusbaum, who was endorsed by EMILY's List and NARAL.

Governors

Pro-life Michigan businessman Dick DeVos (R) is challenging pro-abortion Governor Jennifer Granholm, who also is endorsed by EMILY's List. Polling indicates this race will be extremely close.

In Arizona pro-life attorney Len Munsil (R) will challenge pro-abortion Governor Janet Napolitano (D).

As mentioned above, pro-life Congressman Mark Green (R) vacated his seat to run against pro-abortion Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle (D).

This list is by no means exhaustive. There are many more races. Be sure to watch for the October edition of NRL News for updated information on the national election scene.

As you can see, the stage is set.