

Blanchard piles up votes

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FARMINGTON HILLS City Clerk Joan Reynolds was pleased with the number of voters that cast ballots even though she was originally hoping 60 percent of the city's registered voters would turn out.

"Our past elections this year were so minimal — the turnout, it was hard to project. But we projected according to the last governor's race (in 1982) and we were pretty close," Reynolds said. In 1982, 59 percent of the Hills' approximately 39,000 registered voters cast ballots.

Farmington City Clerk Josephine Bushey, unavailable for comment early Wednesday, was hoping to equal the 1982 turnout of 67 percent.

In the gubernatorial race, Farmington voters cast 10,399 votes for Blanchard and 6,170 for Lucas. In Farmington, voters cast 2,087 votes for Blanchard and 1,819 for Lucas. Counts are unofficial.

Farmington Hills voters helped Austin ease into his fifth term as secretary of state with 11,127 votes. Yeager received 7,296 votes. Farmington voters cast 2,184 for Austin —

almost 100 votes more than cast for Blanchard — and 1,604 for Yeager.

Hills voters contributed to Kelley's re-election to another four-year term by casting 10,609 votes compared to 7,745 for Cleland. Farmington voters followed suit, giving Kelley — the longest-serving holder of statewide office — 2,050 votes compared to 1,769 for Cleland.

ALTHOUGH STATEWIDE vote totals were not available Wednesday morning, Farmington-area voters turned back state proposals A and B and supported C.

Total Farmington and Farmington Hills votes cast for the defeat of proposal A was 10,314 compared to 8,576 yes votes. For proposal B, Farmington and Farmington Hills voters cast a total of 11,524 no votes and 6,859 yes.

Proposal C received a total of

10,384 yes votes and 6,502 no votes from Farmington and Farmington Hills voters.

Proposal A asked voters to establish the Library of Michigan under the state Legislature. Operation of the library is under an agency of the state Legislative Council, where it was placed in 1983.

Proposal B asked voters to clarify that the state Legislature, as well as the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules, has the constitutional authority to approve or disapprove proposed administrative rules for various state agencies.

Proposal C asked voters to place the setting of salaries for state officers under the State Officers Compensation Commission — the agency that now sets salaries for governor, lieutenant governor, state legislators and Supreme Court justices.



Farmington Hills Deputy Clerk Kathy Frey demonstrates how punch card voter ballots are tabulated by machine in Farmington Hills.

It's clear sailing for district judge

Judge Margaret Schaeffer will continue her tenure for another six years on the 47th District Court bench in Farmington.

The judicial veteran and former Farmington Hills city councilwoman ran unopposed in Tuesday's general election for her successful third bid for the seat she has held for 12 years — two six-year terms. The 47th District Court covers Farmington and Farmington Hills.

run unopposed. In her first successful attempt in 1974, Schaeffer squared-off with another Farmington-area woman attorney, Judith Holtz. In 1980, her opponent was attorney and former Farmington Hills City Councilman Jack Burwell.

At 65, this will be Schaeffer's last term on the bench because state law prohibits anyone 70 years or older from running for judicial office.

She was in private legal practice for 25 years before seeking election to the bench.



Margaret Schaeffer

In the final unofficial vote tally, Schaeffer garnered 13,305 votes. Farmington voters cast 3,329 votes for Schaeffer, Farmington Hills voters, 10,976.

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