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"I think it was more fun having more candidates . . . and running a more vigorous campaign," Webb said. "That's the competitor in me."

As for the result, Webb said, "I'm real pleased."

Inch campaigned with verve, going door to door and passing out literature. He left nothing to chance, stumping in West Bloomfield where the Farmington district cuts into a small portion of the city.

Such diligence paid off. Inch took Precinct 4 at Warner Middle School with 40 votes.

With more than half the precincts in, Inch had a firm grasp on the board. He wasn't ready to do any celebration jigs, though.

"I remember (Harry) Truman and (Thomas) Dewey when I was a senior in high school," Inch said as the results were being tabulated.

ed. "I went to bed and when I got up the next morning, my mother asked, 'Who is the president?' I said Dewey."

Inch almost didn't run. He decided to go ahead after he received a letter from Webb and encouragement from other board members.

"I took a look at how long you should serve . . . When does longevity become a detriment instead of a strength?" he said.

Said Webb: "We need him there. I enjoy and depend on him being on the board table."

Inch's triumph will guarantee him 20 years on the board. Only trustee Helen Prutow has been on longer.

Stein wanted to thwart Inch's bid, taking issue with the incumbent's longevity at the only candidates forum. Stein could not be reached for comment Tuesday.



Jack Inch



Cathy Webb

If the number of voters didn't keep precinct workers hopping, the storms and tornado sirens did.

Lights went out in Precinct 8 at Gill Elementary, where only 20 voters turned out by 10 a.m.

Workers scurried for cover, taking the ballots with them.

"Voters kept coming in," said election worker Richard Karr. "We had more people here during the shelter emergency than we did the time before that."

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Challenger wins seat

BY MARIE CHESTNEY
STAFF WRITER

Challenger Gary Garrison beat incumbent Lisa Burr Monday to win a four-year seat on the Clarenceville Board of Education. The Clarenceville District includes the southeast corner of Farmington Hills.

Incumbent Linda Brandemihl squeaked past Burr to win another four-year term on the board.

While pleased with his victory, Garrison said he felt bad about unseating a trustee who put her heart into her job.

"There was no one that I wanted to see leave the board; I only wanted to challenge people," said Garrison, maintenance equipment foreman for the city of Livonia. "I feel bad for Lisa. To unseat someone when their hearts

CLARENCEVILLE

are into it, it's rough. I wish there had been three seats open."

Garrison's goal as trustee, he said, is to "get enthusiasm back about Clarenceville's schools."

"There's a whole bunch of people who care a lot; elementary parents get fired up, so do middle school parents. We need to get them all fired up together."

Burr called Garrison a "great person" who can only enhance Clarenceville schools. "Clarenceville won't lose with him. He's good, he's fair; what more could we ask for?"

With 114 votes, Garrison was the top vote getter. Brandemihl got 105; Burr, 103. There were 322 votes cast.



Gary Garrison



Linda Brandemihl

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