

Frugoli's lead continues to narrow

DA RACE


By Richard Halstead

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With an additional 22,578 votes counted since Friday, the race between Lori Frugoli and Anna Pletcher to become Marin County's next district attorney continues to tighten.

Frugoli, a Marin County deputy district attorney for 28 years, now leads Pletcher, who spent 10 years working as a prosecutor for the U.S. Department of Justice in San Francisco, by just 1,655 votes. The day after the election, Frugoli led by 2,560 votes, about a 4 percentage-point lead. Now her lead has shrunk to under 2 percentage points.

Marin Registrar of Voters Lynda Roberts estimates about 24,422 ballots remain to be counted. Pletcher has not conceded, saying that the race is still too close to call. Frugoli has expressed confidence that she will be the final winner.

 The next update will come at 5 p.m. Friday. Roberts estimates she will have another 7,000 to 10,000 votes counted by then. The updates will continue Wednesdays and Fridays until all the votes are counted.

"We've been working really hard," Roberts said. "We know people are anxious for the final results. We really do."


 By law, the elections department has until Dec. 6 to certify and report final election results to the Secretary of State.

There are several other local races with candidates competing for three open slots where fortunes have shifted as late votes have come in.

The Sausalito Marin City School District board race has seen a seesaw between Bonnie Rose Hough and Jennifer Conway for third place. Hough is now back in the lead by three votes.

In the other tight races, none of the leaders have changed since Friday.

Kevin Saavedra leads Barbara McVeigh by 985 votes in the contest for the third open seat on the Tamalpais Union High School District board.

 In the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District board race, Rabi Elias now leads Russ Greenfield by 61 votes in the battle for the third open seat on the board.

In the Bolinas-Stinson Union School District board race, Jennifer Pfeiffer now holds a 76-vote lead over Stephen O'Neal in their contest for third place.

And in the race between three candidates for two open seats on the Sanitary District No. 5 board, Omar Arias-Montez trails second-place finisher Tod Moody by 44 votes.

None of the high-profile local measures on the Nov. 6 ballot — such as Measure W, which will increase the transient occupancy tax for hotels and shortterm rentals from 10 percent to 14 percent — finished close enough to be in doubt. With the new votes added, Measure W, which requires two-thirds sup-

port to pass, now has 72.77 percent of the vote.

Measure AA, which would renew the county's existing half-cent sales tax for 30 years to pay for transportation-related expenses, also requires two-thirds support to pass. It now has 76.02 percent of the vote. And Measure J, Tamalpais Union High School District's parcel tax proposal, which requires two-thirds support, now has 73.39 percent of the vote.
