

## Strong win for GOP in county

Written by Alex Davis

Wednesday, November 07, 2012 11:54 am

---

MIDDLE TOWNSHIP – The Republicans won the county races during Tuesday's General Election, according to unofficial election results.

Cape May County Freeholder Susan Sheppard will become the first female surrogate in Cape May County. She will replace longtime Surrogate Robert Hentges, who is in his 40th year in the position.

Leonard C. Desiderio will return as a freeholder. He has held office since 2002. He's also the mayor of Sea Isle City.

Sheppard received 26,080 votes and challenger Jeffrey H. Sutherland took 14,715 votes, according to unofficial election results. There were 18 write-in votes.

Desiderio, a Republican, won with 26,860 votes, and Walter Deegan, a Democrat, received 14,174 votes, according to unofficial election results. Nineteen write-in votes were cast.

Sheppard, who is also a lawyer, said is excited to be elected surrogate. She has been in law for more than 20 years. She was elected to the county freeholder board in 2010.

She said she is leaving the freeholder board in good hands, with director Gerald Thornton.

Sutherland said he appreciated the clean campaigning, and that he was able to learn a lot and meet many new people. The Ocean City lawyer is not ruling out running for a political office in the future.

Deegan called the freeholder race a class act between him and Desiderio.

## Strong win for GOP in county

Written by Alex Davis

Wednesday, November 07, 2012 11:54 am

---

“We knew we had an uphill battle from the beginning,” Deegan said.

He is not sure if he is going to throw his hat into the ring next year for Cape May County Freeholder.

“I haven’t given that any thought yet,” he said.

Desiderio could not be reached Wednesday morning.

The county also supported Republicans at the federal level, although in the senate and presidential race the count was closer than in the countywide races.

Frank LoBiondo received strong support for another term in the House of Representatives, representing New Jersey’s largest congressional district, running from the Delaware River to the ocean. In Cape May County, the Republican took 67.8 percent of the vote, outpolling Democratic challenger Cassandra Shober 29,405 to 13,044. In most races since he was first elected in 1995, LoBiondo has polled close to 70 percent.

The margin countywide favoring the GOP in the senate and presidential race was much closer. Cape May County went for Republican Mitt Romney over President Obama 25,488 to 21,275, according to unofficial results from the County Clerk’s office. The county supported Republican Senate candidate Joe Krillos over incumbent Democrat Robert Menedez 22,013 to 19,634, according to the clerk’s office.

Both Obama and Menendez took New Jersey, and Obama won reelection, with Romney conceding the race after midnight.

In the federal races, there were several votes for independent and alternate party candidates, but none reached 1 percent of the vote, according to the posted numbers. The closest was Gary Johnson, the Libertarian Party candidate, with 244 votes for president, or 0.51 percent of the

## Strong win for GOP in county

Written by Alex Davis

Wednesday, November 07, 2012 11:54 am

---

vote.