

## Primary Run-Off Voting Today

Written by Steve Frank  
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With little fanfare, today is the second primary election day, the runoff from races not decided in the May 6th primary. Early voting officially ended at 1 p.m. last Saturday. For voters in Ashe and Watauga, there's one choice—for Democrats to choose who faces incumbent 5th District Congresswoman Virginia Foxx in the fall election. In that, Democrats will decide between Josh Brannon and Gardenia Henley to face Foxx in the Fifth District. Brannon is a software developer from Vilas in who's campaign statement says he will fight for the rights of people over corporations, for equal representation in government and for education. Henley is a U.S. Air Force veteran and retired U.S. diplomat inspector general auditor in charge from Winston-Salem. Henley's platform includes ethical, transparent and unbiased representation; responsible use of tax dollars; and economic development and redevelopment.

Avery Republicans have one race on their ballot, a runoff between Faith (Faye) Lacey and Kenny Poteat for Avery County Commission.

Off the mountain, a runoff in the 25th District Attorney's race is drawing a lot of interest as accusations and counter accusations of improprieties have made the news in the race between James Jay Gaither Jr. and David Learner. Polls opened at 6:30 a.m. and voting ends at 7:30 p.m. tonight at all precinct polling locations in the county.