

# THE SUNDAY MACOMB DAILY

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Sunday, November 9, 2014 \$2.00 FACEBOOK.COM/MACOMBDAILY TWITTER.COM/MACOMBDAILY

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**ELECTION 2014**

## Technology blamed for slow results

By **Chad Selweski**  
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The extremely slow Macomb County election returns on Tuesday night are blamed, in part, by county officials on outdated technology.

Despite mediocre voter turnout typical of a mid-term election, many Macomb County voters went to bed on Election Night with no idea who had won the races in their community. Three of the county's largest towns -- Warren, Sterling Heights and Shelby Township -- kept voters in the dark until well after midnight.

The lack of results also delayed an outcome in numerous races for the state Legislature and county Board of Commissioners that extend beyond the bor-

ders of those three municipalities.

The county's cities and townships rely upon election tabulators -- the polling place machines that swallow up each voter's ballot -- which run on technology from 10 to 15 years ago.

In addition, each voting precinct's computerized results are transported by an analog line -- a modem -- to the county Clerk's Office. The final step involves putting the election updates on the county's heavily traveled election returns website.

While many smaller Macomb communities reported their election results before 10 p.m., Warren's final returns came in at 1:13 a.m., Shelby Township's results were not fully reported until 12:11 a.m., and Sterling Heights did not have all of their num-

**RESULTS » PAGE 14**

**COURTS**

## Chief justice, Viviano on court

They discuss technology, sentencing guidelines, new attorney watchdog

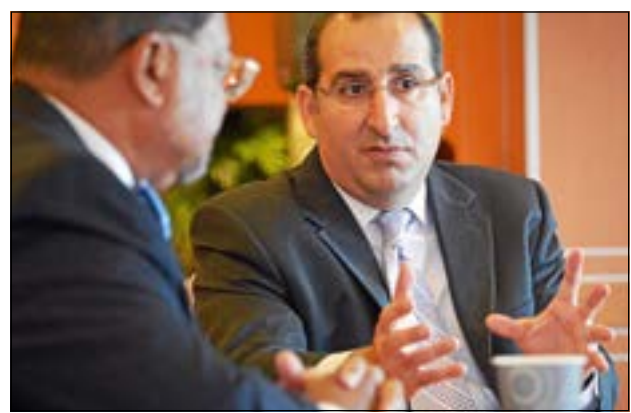
By **Jameson Cook**  
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State Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert Young Jr. and Justice David Viviano addressed potential changes in sentencing guidelines, the Attorney Grievance Commission's new leader, State Bar dues, judicial resources, and technological upgrades and

needs, in an exclusive interview last week with The Macomb Daily.

The justices met between their visit to Chippewa Valley High School in Clinton Township and the high court session held at the Macomb Community College Performing Arts Center in the township, the first time the seven-member body has heard a case

**COURTS » PAGE 12**



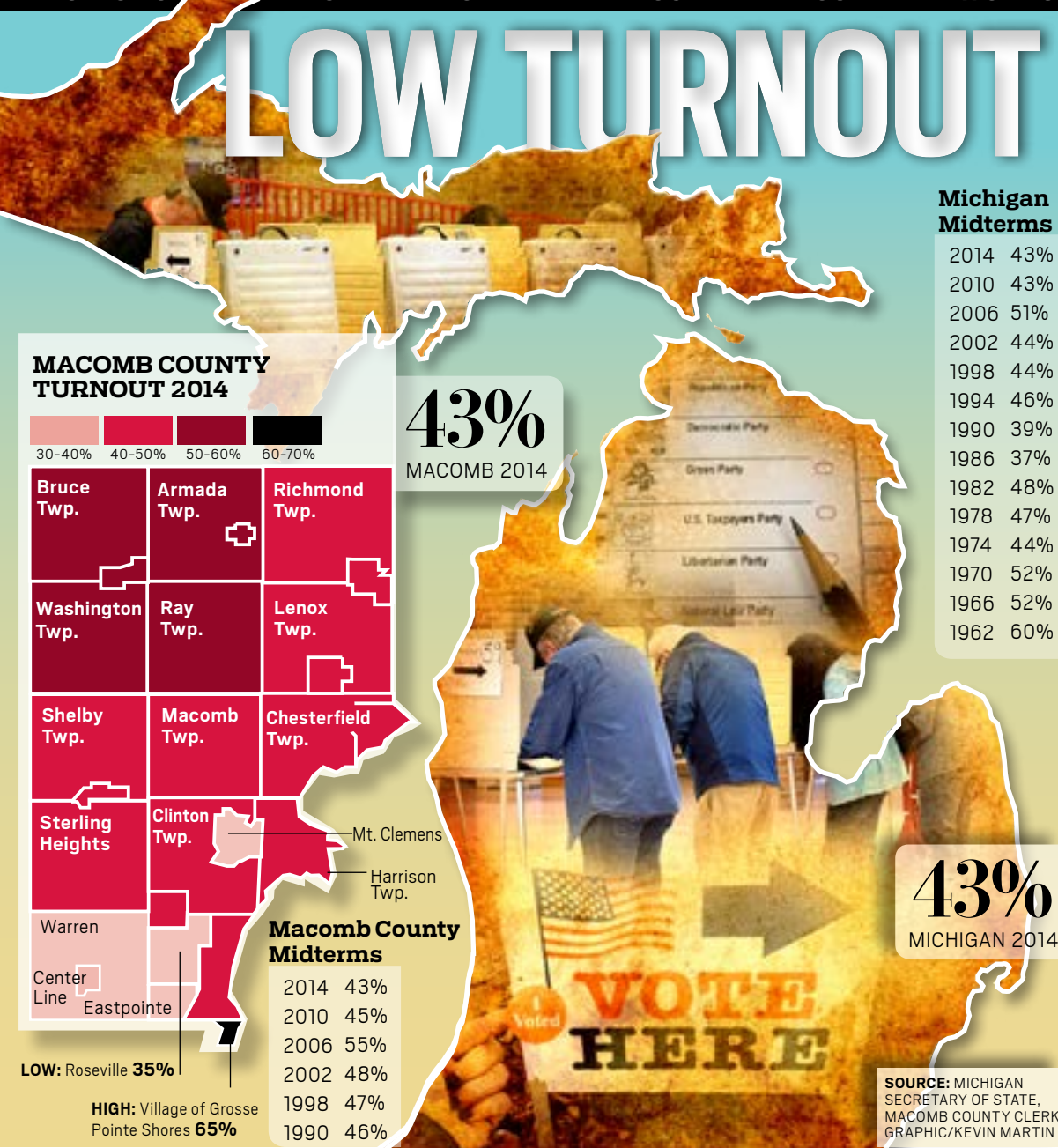
RAY SKOWRONEK - THE MACOMB DAILY

Justice David Viviano makes a point as Chief Justice Robert Young listens.

**ELECTIONS**

# Voter turnout higher in northern Macomb

**ELECTIONS** MORE DATA ONLINE AT [MACOMBDAILY.COM/DATAWORKS](http://MACOMBDAILY.COM/DATAWORKS)



By **Norb Franz**  
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Every vote counts, but many people don't want to be counted.

Tabulations from Tuesday's mid-term election show the number of Macomb County residents who flexed their democratic muscle was weaker than expected.

Countywide, 43.15 percent of registered voters cast their ballots in the Nov. 4 election. Statewide, turnout was slightly less, at 42.8 percent, according to the Secretary of State.

"I don't think the weather was a factor. I think it was just voter complacency and not feeling their vote (makes a difference)," said Macomb County Clerk Car-

mella Sabaugh, who had predicted turnout would be approximately 50 percent.

"I was really surprised it was that low, especially with all the hype," she said.

Although Macomb County experienced a net increase of 2,200 registered voters the last four years, the number of submitted ballots in the most recent election was 3,600 less than the 2010 general election, according to unofficial tallies provided by the county clerk's office.

The Nov. 4 totals vary from one community to the next but also show a geographic trend.

Overall, 16 of the 24 communities in Macomb County -- votes by residents of the villages of Armada, New Haven and Romeo are counted by the neighboring townships -- experienced voter participation above the

**TURNOUT » PAGE 14**

<p><b>BLOGS</b></p> <p><b>'Open Book' with Pat Caputo</b></p> <p>Check out what sports columnist Pat Caputo has to say in his 'Open Book' blog. <a href="http://MACOMBDAILY.COM/BLOG">MACOMBDAILY.COM/BLOG</a></p>		<p><b>NOURISH CAFÉ BLOG</b></p> <p><b>Do one thing well</b></p> <p>Many companies miss the crucial first step of crafting mission and vision. <a href="http://MACOMBDAILY.COM">MACOMBDAILY.COM</a></p>	<p><b>WEATHER</b></p> <p><b>Your place for local &amp; hour-by-hour forecasts</b></p> <p>For current conditions and our 7-Day Forecast, go to <a href="http://WEATHER.MACOMBDAILY.COM">WEATHER.MACOMBDAILY.COM</a></p>	<p><b>PHOTO GALLERY</b></p> <p><b>The day the Berlin Wall came down</b></p> <p>The 25th anniversary of the day the Berlin Wall came down. <a href="http://MACOMBDAILY.COM">MACOMBDAILY.COM</a></p>
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