

# Third District race shaping up as South Jersey's most interesting

25 COMMENTS



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**The Inquirer** A U.S. Senate and three House races headline the election Tuesday in South Jersey.

The most heavily watched contest is the hard-fought Third Congressional District, where Republican Tom MacArthur is sparring with Democrat Aimee Belgard. The contest has drawn national attention.

Voters also will decide two statewide ballot questions and county, municipal, and school board races. Polls will be open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Democratic Sen. Cory A. Booker, who is trying to win his first full six-year term, holds a 16-point lead over Republican Jeff Bell, according to Real Clear Politics' average of polls last week.

Despite the popular Booker on the ticket, don't expect a heavy

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held the district, which covers much of Burlington and Ocean Counties, but Obama won support from the district in his two elections.

MacArthur has spent \$5 million of his own money so far on the campaign, including the June primary, according to Federal Election Commission reports. Belgard has contributed \$3,200 of her own money and raised about \$1.5 million.

In the race to replace former Rep. I-5.3(r.8( ba)i.2( th)drews-6..4(an)--6.6(( ba)FirstJ 0 -1.5 TD .0029 T0 -.0035 T2 [(Fe)5Di-5.6

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