



Michael Holahan/The Astoria Chronicle
Democratic challengers Jon Ossoff, left, and Raphael Warnock defeated their Republican opponents in Georgia for seats in the U.S. Senate, giving Democrats control of the Senate.

Democrats gain Senate control after wins in Georgia runoffs

By STEVE PEOPLES, BILL BARROW and RUSS BYNUM
Associated Press

ATLANTA — Democrats won both Georgia Senate seats — and with them, the U.S. Senate majority — as final votes were counted Wednesday, serving President Donald Trump a stunning defeat in his last days in office while dramatically improving the fate of President-elect Joe Biden's progressive agenda.

Jon Ossoff and Raphael Warnock, Democratic challengers who represented the diversity of their party's evolving coalition, defeated Republicans David Perdue and Kelly Loeffler two months after Biden became the first Democratic presidential candidate to carry the state since 1992.

Warnock, who served as pastor for the same Atlanta church where civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. preached, becomes the first African American from Georgia elected to the Senate. And Ossoff becomes the state's first Jewish senator and, at 33 years old, the Senate's youngest member.

Their success is a symbol of a striking shift in Georgia's politics as the swelling number of diverse, college-educated voters flex their power in the heart of the Deep South.

This week's elections mark the formal finale to the turbulent 2020 election season. The unusually high stakes transformed Georgia, once a solidly Republican state, into one of the nation's premier battlegrounds for the final days of Trump's presidency — and likely beyond.

In an emotional address early Wednesday, Warnock vowed to work for all Georgians whether they voted for him or not, citing his personal experience with the American dream. His mother, he said, used to pick "somebody else's cotton" as a teenager.

"The other day, because this is America, the 82-year-old hands that used to pick somebody else's cotton picked her youngest son to be a United States senator," he said. "Tonight, we proved with hope, hard work and the people by our side, anything is possible."

In an interview with ABC's "Good Morning America," Warnock described his win as a "reversal of the old Southern strategy that sought to divide people."

Loeffler, who remains a Georgia senator until the results of Tuesday's election are finalized, returned to Washington on Wednesday morning to join a small group of senators planning to challenge Congress' vote to certify Biden's victory.

Georgia's other runoff election pitted Perdue, a 71-year-old former business executive who held his Senate seat until his term

expired on Sunday, against Ossoff, a former congressional aide and journalist.

"This campaign has been about health and jobs and justice for the people of this state — for all the people of this state," Ossoff said in a speech broadcast on social media Wednesday morning. "Whether you were for me, or against me, I'll be for you in the U.S. Senate. I will serve all the people of the state."

Trump's false claims of voter fraud cast a dark shadow over the runoff elections, which were held only because no candidate hit the 50% threshold in the general election. He attacked the state's election chief on the eve of the election and raised the prospect that some votes might not be counted even as votes were being cast Tuesday afternoon.

Republican state officials on the ground reported no significant problems.

Both contests tested whether the political coalition that fueled Biden's November victory was an anti-Trump anomaly or part of a new electoral landscape. To win in Tuesday's elections — and in the future — Democrats needed strong African American support.

Drawing on his popularity with Black voters, among other groups, Biden won Georgia's 16 electoral votes by about 12,000 votes out of 5 million cast in November.

Trump's claims about voter fraud in the 2020 election, while meritless, resonated with Republican voters in Georgia. About 7 in 10 agreed with his false assertion that Biden was not the legitimately elected

president, according to AP VoteCast, a survey of more than 3,600 voters in the runoff elections.

Election officials across the country, including the Republican governors in Arizona and Georgia, as well as Trump's former attorney general, William Barr, have confirmed that there was no widespread fraud in the November election. Nearly all the legal challenges from Trump and his allies have been dismissed by judges, including two tossed by the Supreme Court, where three Trump-nominated justices preside.

Publicly and privately, some Republicans acknowledged that Trump's monthslong push to undermine the integrity of the nation's electoral system may have contributed to the GOP's losses in Georgia.

"It turns out that telling the voters that the election was rigged is not a great way to turn out your voters," said U.S. Sen. Mitt Romney, a Utah Republican and a frequent Trump critic.

Even with Trump's claims, voters in both parties were drawn to the polls because of the high stakes. AP VoteCast found that 6 in 10 Georgia voters say Senate party control was the most important factor in their vote.

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OBITUARIES

Rev. John Tindell

Seaside

April 2, 1936 — Dec. 31, 2020

Rev. John Tindell has been called home after a lifetime of service to the Lord, many communities in Alaska and the Pacific Northwest and his family. He died peacefully at home, under hospice care, on Dec. 31, 2020, after a struggle with complications from a stroke.

John was born on April 2, 1936, in Miami, Florida, to John J. and Mary L. (McLean) Tindell. His mother raised him in their neighborhood Allapattah Methodist Church, which led to his goal at age 12 of serving as a Methodist pastor, a path he followed for almost all of his adult life.

John met Beryl Insinger while they were students at Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Florida. They were married in 1959, while John was finishing a master's degree in divinity from Emory University, and following Beryl's agreement to a life of adventure in Alaska and beyond. The two traveled the globe together extensively. Beryl died in 2018, after 60 years of marriage.

In his deepest self he was an explorer, following mission opportunities in Cuba, Appalachia, Scotland and over 35 years in Alaska. He was the founding pastor of the Sitka United Methodist Church, and the first pastor of the then newly combined Methodist and Presbyterian Northern Light United Church in Juneau. He

also led the east Anchorage and Anchorage First United Methodist churches.

After his official retirement in Alaska, John served four more churches, two in Idaho and two in Oregon. His final assignment was 11 years as pastor of the Seaside United Methodist Church in Seaside.



Rev. John Tindell

John is survived by his two children, Raymond and Cynthia ("Cindy"); grandson, Kevin; and sister, Estelle Lima, of Miami, Florida.

Raymond is a Portland attorney and graduate of the University of Miami and Southern Methodist University Law School. Cindy is a graduate of Georgetown University, has master's degrees from Columbia University and the Harvard Business School, and is a vice president at NextEra Energy in Palm Beach, Florida.

In retirement years, John and Beryl enjoyed being a part of the life of their grandson, Kevin, a doctoral student at Arizona State University.

A Zoom celebration of life and ministry is planned for Jan. 30 at 11 a.m. Please contact seasidemedethodist@gmail.com for details.

In memory of John's life, donations may be made to the Alaska Methodist Conference, the Pacific Northwest Methodist Conference or the Seaside United Methodist Church.

Donna Kaye Hill

Morrill, Nebraska

Aug. 19, 1943 — Dec. 5, 2020

Donna Kaye Hill, 77, from Morrill, Nebraska, passed away Dec. 5, 2020, at Regional West Medical Center.

Donna was born to William and Darlene McCune in Hastings, Nebraska, on Aug. 19, 1943.

She enjoyed playing cards, bunco, crocheting, sewing, reading with children at Astor Elementary School through the foster grandparent program and teaching English as a second language through Clatsop Community College.

In 1994, Donna married the love of her life, Ron Hill, and moved to Astoria, where they lived for over 20 years.

Donna is survived by her brother, Bruce (Nita) McCune; sisters, Rhonda (Curt) Palin and Jolynn (Dan) Bloom; her children, Anna Miska, of Kannapolis, North Carolina, Shane (Amy) Reinbold, of Morrill, Nebraska, Shannan Reinbold, of Denver, Colorado, Kathie (Darin) Young, of Severance, Colorado, and Sandie (Charlie) Dodson, of Astoria; 19 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.



Donna Hill

She is preceded in death by her husband, Ron Hill; brother, Ronald McCune; granddaughter, Brittani Carter; and grandson, Branden Reinbold.

Per Donna's request, no service will be held.

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SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
51 44	50 39	50 42	50 45	53 46	53 48	56 47
Remaining cloudy	A bit of rain	High clouds	Cloudy, a little rain	Periods of rain	Cloudy, rain possible	Cloudy, rain possible

ALMANAC

Astoria through Tuesday

Temperatures

High/low 52/40
 Normal high/low 49/37
 Record high 63 in 2006
 Record low 16 in 1974

Precipitation

Tuesday 0.76"
 Month to date 5.75"
 Normal month to date 1.74"
 Year to date 5.75"
 Normal year to date 1.74"

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2021

UNDER THE SKY

Tonight's Sky: Last quarter moon (1:37 a.m. PST).

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today 7:57 a.m.
 Sunset tonight 4:47 p.m.
 Moonrise today 1:40 a.m.
 Moonset today 12:43 p.m.



TODAY'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks	Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
7:26 a.m.	8.5	12:58 a.m.	1.9	
8:23 p.m.	6.2	2:27 p.m.	1.5	
Cape Disappointment				
7:08 a.m.	8.5	12:12 a.m.	2.1	
8:04 p.m.	6.0	1:45 p.m.	1.7	
Hammond				
7:20 a.m.	8.8	12:36 a.m.	2.0	
8:12 p.m.	6.5	2:01 p.m.	1.5	
Warrenton				
7:21 a.m.	8.9	12:42 a.m.	2.0	
8:18 p.m.	6.6	2:11 p.m.	1.6	
Knappa				
8:03 a.m.	8.8	1:59 a.m.	1.7	
9:00 p.m.	6.5	3:28 p.m.	1.3	
Depoe Bay				
6:22 a.m.	8.7	1:15 p.m.	1.6	
7:16 p.m.	6.0	none		

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Fri.
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	51/38/r	47/33/sh
Boston	41/26/s	35/24/s
Chicago	36/31/c	35/25/c
Dallas	51/38/pc	49/34/c
Denver	47/25/pc	42/23/pc
Honolulu	81/68/pc	83/69/pc
Houston	58/40/s	56/37/s
Los Angeles	71/51/s	71/51/pc
Miami	76/67/pc	77/56/pc
New York City	45/29/s	40/30/pc
Phoenix	71/46/s	71/43/s
San Francisco	59/51/pc	60/45/pc
Wash., DC	46/30/s	41/29/c

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

City	Today	Fri.	City	Today	Fri.
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W		Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Seattle	50/43		Wenatchee	36/32	
Tacoma	49/38		Moses Lake	43/32	
Aberdeen	50/42		Yakima	44/35	
Olympia	47/38		Kennewick	48/35	
Longview	49/40		Walla Walla	48/36	
Astoria	51/44		Lewiston	47/34	
Portland	50/43		Enterprise	41/30	
The Dalles	48/38		Hermiston	49/35	
Salem	48/41		Pendleton	46/34	
Albany	46/39		La Grande	41/32	
Corvallis	47/39		John Day	41/32	
Eugene	47/42		Burns	38/26	
Bend	42/33		Ontario	42/33	
Medford	46/39		Caldwell	42/32	
Klamath Falls	38/32				