Secretary Kitty Rhoades Dies at 65

After falling ill last week, the Department of Health Services Secretary Kitty Rhoades passed away on Saturday. Secretary Rhodes was appointed to the position in 2013 by Governor Walker. The Governor released the following statement:

“Kitty had the chance to do what she loved - serving and leading the people of Wisconsin on health care issues. Her passion for public policy through her time serving as a business and community leader in Hudson, as a Wisconsin State Representative for 12 years, and then as Secretary of the Department of Health Services, was evident to all those who worked with her. It was an honor to serve with her.

Kitty’s dedication and service to the state have changed Wisconsin for the better; and she leaves behind a long list of accomplishments as her legacy. She also leaves behind many friends in my administration who admired her tenacity, spirit, and leadership. We will miss all that she offered to us on behalf of Wisconsin citizens. As kitty would say, we are all in this together.”

Secretary Rhoades served in the state Assembly from 1999 until 2010. Between 2007
and 2008, she served as co-chairwoman of the Joint Finance Committee. Secretary Rhoades joined the Department of Health Services in 2011 as Deputy Secretary.

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**Marquette University Law School Poll: Clinton Takes the Lead in Wisconsin**

On June 15th, the Marquette University Law School released their latest poll numbers and despite the tumultuous campaign season thus far, Wisconsin voters continue to stay blue. Out of the 800 registered voters interviewed between June 9th and 12th, the majority say they will vote Democrat for the two biggest races in the state, the Presidential and the U.S. Senate.

**Presidential Race: Likely Voters:**

- Clinton: 46%
- Trump: 37%
- Neither: 13%

**U.S. Senate: Likely Voters**

- Johnson: 42%
- Feingold: 51%

**Governor Walker: Approval**

- Approve: 39%
- Disapprove: 57%
2016 Wisconsin State Elections: An Early Look at Wisconsin's Political Landscape

The 2016 campaign season has begun and is setting-up to be extremely intense, if not turbulent, as the next six months are sure to deliver many twists and turns. In fact, the only safe predication in the current political environment is to expect the unexpected.

Of course, most of the political intrigue and uncertainty starts at the top of the ticket with the presidential race. As both parties candidates begin to emerge from a strenuous primary season, candidates on the state level are fearing the repercussions of a historic and divided general election. The impact of presidential politics on the campaign trail is more likely to be felt by Republicans. The following is a brief look at the key Wisconsin State Assembly and Senate races this November:

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New Deputy for the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance

The Office of the Commissioner of Insurance (OCI) has appointed a new Deputy, J.P. Wieske. Commissioner Ted Nickle announced Wieske’s appointment last week stating he was pleased to have him on board. A veteran of the department, Wieske has over 20 years of experience within the insurance industry, including
four and a half years as the departments legislative liaison and public information officer.

Read More...

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**This Week in Madison**

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