

Newly re-elected Pine Lake mayor hopes to finish projects she started
Two new councilmen **elected** in Avondale

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This month's mayoral race in **Pine Lake** was so close that on election night, incumbent candidate Myra Singer congratulated her opponent James Paden. That was before **she** realized **she** had won. "I was in (the city hall) kitchen when they were calling out the votes and didn't hear the final tally," **Mayor** Singer said. "I started **to** congratulate him when he said, 'What for? You've won - congratulations!'" This month's mayoral race in **Pine Lake** was so close that on election night, incumbent candidate Myra Singer congratulated her opponent. That was before **she** realized **she** had won. "I was in (the city hall) kitchen when they were calling out the votes and didn't hear the final tally," **Mayor** Singer said. "I started **to** congratulate him when he said, 'What for? You've won - congratulations!'"

Seven votes spelled the difference between **Mayor** Singer and challenger James Paden. "**She** thought I'd won, but it turned around in the last few votes that were counted," Paden said. The confusion was understandable, considering that **Mayor** Singer garnered 61 votes **to** Paden's 54 votes. Turnout at the Nov. 4 election was 116 participants, about 40 percent of the city's estimated 290 registered voters, according **to** election figures.

Four incumbent council members facing no opposition were **re-elected**. The winners were Jennifer Brabson, Richard Newman, Philip Piper and Susan Spangler. **Mayor** Singer said **she** sought **re-election** in order **to finish** several **projects** started during her administration. For example, **she** wants **to** complete the updating of the city's code book, continue efforts **to** solve drainage problems created by heavy rains and build a new bridge over Snapfinger Creek. "I'm trying **to** show people that we can accomplish things if we set a goal and work toward it a step at a time, rather than thinking our problems are too big **to** tackle," **Mayor** Singer said.

In Avondale Estates, no such mix-up took place during the Nov. 5 election for two city council seats. Candidates Allan Kirwan and Dan Arnold won handily in a race which drew 421 of the city's 909 registered voters. "We ran a good campaign and were hoping that that's the way it would turn out," Arnold said. "I feel great." Arnold said he and Kirwan had campaigned on similar platforms. Their main concern is protecting the safety of residents, he said. "Avondale is the fourth safest city in the nation (according **to** a magazine survey) and we want **to** keep a close eye on anything that could affect our safety," Arnold said. "There are a lot of things popping around here and we want **to** make sure the city's interests are protected."

Of particular concern is the planned extension of the MARTA rail line from Avondale to Kensington Road, he said. "How and where that's built will have a big effect on the city and we're going to be watching," he said.

Final election returns for the cities of Avondale Estates and **Pine Lake** are listed below.

AVONDALE ESTATES

Allan Kirwan (winner)	238
Dan Arnold (winner)	201
Roy Glascoe	185
Linda Nardone	107
Jim McMahan	94

Total votes: 421 PINE LAKE

Mayor

Myra Singer (winner)	61
James Paden	54
Council seats (uncontested winners)	
Jennifer Brabson	82
Richard Newman	84
Philip Piper	82
Susan Spangler	85
Total votes:	116

Photo: mug of Myra Singer./ Billy Downs