

# Next Congress: Perhaps a Cheney, Panetta, more minorities

By Matthew Daly

WASHINGTON (AP) - No matter who wins the presidency, women and minorities are poised to make gains in the next Congress. The offspring of two pillars of the Washington establishment - former Vice President Dick Cheney and ex-CIA Director Leon Panetta - have a good chance to resume their families' service in Congress.

The number of women in the Senate could increase by four or more above the current 20, with as many as three female minorities. It would be the highest number of women in the Senate in history, but nowhere near the percentage of females in the general population.

A record 167 women are running for the House. While outcomes are uncertain, analysts predict the number of women in the House for the 115th Congress that convenes Jan. 3 will exceed the current 84.

Racial minorities are expected to make historic gains, although Congress is likely to remain overwhelmingly white, male and middle-aged.

The new Congress could have some familiar names, with several former members seeking their old seats.

A look at how the demographics of Congress may change following the Nov. 8 elections.

## WOMEN ASCENDANT

Twenty women now serve in the Senate, a total likely to rise next year.

Kelly Dittmar, an assistant professor at Rutgers University and a scholar at the Center for American Women and Politics, said female candidates may benefit from running with Hillary Clinton at the top of the ticket - and from sexist comments made by Donald Trump. But she said the major boost is from Clinton's standing. Twelve of the 16 women running for Senate this year are Democrats.

"Democratic candidates will be helped by a strong Democrat on top of the ticket," Dittmar said. She cited Deborah Ross in North Carolina, Katie McGinty in Pennsylvania and Rep. Tammy Duckworth in Illinois as likely beneficiaries of possible Clinton coattails.

There are two states where a woman is guaranteed to win: New Hampshire, where

incumbent Republican Sen. Kelly Ayotte faces Democratic Gov. Maggie Hassan, and California, where two Democrats - state Attorney General Kamala Harris and Rep. Loretta Sanchez - square off.

Not all the news for women is positive, said Dittmar, who has written research briefs outlining the prospect for female candidates in the House and Senate. Based on current polls, Maryland's 10-member congressional delegation is likely to revert to all-male, which Dittmar called especially notable because Sen. Barbara Mikulski, D-Md., holds the record as the longest-serving woman in Congress. Rep. Donna Edwards is retiring after losing a bid for the Senate.

Maryland could join more than a dozen states with all-male delegations in Congress. If elected, McGinty would be the state's first woman to serve in the Senate and could find herself the lone woman in Pennsylvania's 20-member congressional delegation.

"Pennsylvania has a lot of work to do" to elect more women, Dittmar said, including better recruitment of female candidates at all levels. "They are still contending with a bit of a boys' club in Pennsylvania."

## Durham Business & Professional Chain Awards

Please join the Durham Business & Professional Chain at its November 17, 2016 Business Awards Luncheon where we will honor six accomplished and deserving Triangle entrepreneurs. The Chain is Durham's leading African American business advocacy organization now in its seventy ninth year of service to the business and professional community and it is with great pride that we recognize the accomplishments, ability and talent of our honorees — Dosali and Cimarron Reed-Bandele (New Business Award), Eric Cardin (New Business Award), Monica and Daniel Edwards (Business Achievement Award), Andrea and Leon Carter (Business Achievement Award), Daphne Davis (Business Longevity Award) and Caren Ochola (Business Longevity Award).

What: Durham Business & Professional Chain Business Awards Luncheon

When: November 17 (Thursday)

Where: Nzinga's Cafe • Phoenix Crossing Shopping Center • 826 Fayetteville Street • Suite 110 • Durham NC

Time: 12:00 pm (Noon) - 2:00 pm

Registration: 11:30 am - 12:00 pm (Noon)

Cost: Cover charge for event is \$15.00 for the lunch buffet & iced tea/lemonade (\$10 Chain members)

RSVP: 919-683-1047 or email [durhambusinessprofessionalchain@frontier.com](mailto:durhambusinessprofessionalchain@frontier.com)

You can also RSVP on Facebook at "Durham Business & Professional Chain"

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## Online Training Session for New Automated FY 2017-18 Funding Application Process

For the FY 2017-18 funding application process, the City of Durham Department of Community Development (DCD) will be using an online application process. The DCD will be using a ZoomGrants online system for its FY 2017-18 funding application process for the first time.

The expected amount of federal funding to be available is as follows: \$138,000 in Community Development Block Grant \$240,000 in HOME-CHDO, \$160,000 in Emergency Solutions Grant, and \$290,000 in Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS funds. Additionally, up to \$200,000 in Dedicated Housing Funds are available for Rapid Re-Housing activities.

Eligible non-profits considering applying for funding are strongly encouraged to attend a ZoomGrants training to learn about the upcoming on-line application process on Thursday, November 17, 2016 at 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM at the Department of Community Development, 807 E. Main Street, Bldg. 2, Suite 200, Durham, NC 27701. **The training will be limited to no more than two representatives from each organization planning to attend.** For additional information, please contact Wilmur Conyers, Federal Programs Coordinator at (919) 560-4570, ext. 22277 or via email at [wilmur.conyers@durhamnc.gov](mailto:wilmur.conyers@durhamnc.gov).

### Notice under the Americans with Disabilities Act

A person with a disability may receive an auxiliary aid or service to effectively participate in City government activities by contacting the ADA Coordinator, voice 919-560-4197, fax 560-4196, TTY 919-560-1200, or [ADA@durhamnc.gov](mailto:ADA@durhamnc.gov), as soon as possible, but no later than 48 hours before the event or deadline date.

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