

Get ready for shock-and-awe in political campaign ads

By DEREK HARPER, Staff Writer | Posted: Monday, September 2, 2013 8:30 pm

Don't like political ads?

Then you might want to tune out the next few months.

An unusual confluence of state and national elections is expected to saturate the airwaves of South Jersey, home to some of the few competitive state legislative districts.

In October, Newark Mayor Cory Booker, a Democrat, and Steve Lonigan, the Republican former mayor of Bogota, Bergen County, are the main candidates in a contest to replace longtime U.S. Sen. Frank Lautenberg.

Lautenberg, 89, died in June. Gov. Chris Christie ordered a special election for Oct. 16.

Democrats and Republicans are expected to do whatever they can to get voters to the polls in the unusual Wednesday election.

"People aren't used to coming out two times," explained Daniel J. Douglas, the director of the