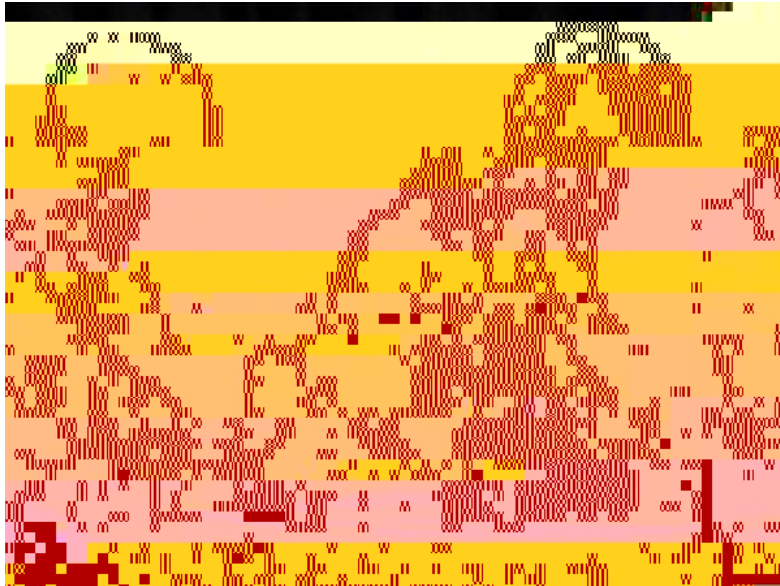


Poll gives MacArthur 5-point edge over Belgard in N.J.

3 COMMENTS



Battling for a U.S. House seat, Republican Tom MacArthur and Democrat Aimee Belgard enjoy a lighter moment at their debate in Moorestown. (Elizabeth Robertson / Staff Photographer)

Jan Heffler, Inquirer Staff Writer

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The latest poll shows the gap between the candidates narrowing when compared with a Monmouth University poll released two weeks ago. That poll reported 51 percent of likely voters supporting MacArthur, while 41 percent leaned toward Belgard. A Stockton poll released Sept. 15 had found the two candidates were tied, with each receiving support from 42 percent of likely voters.

"This election is trending toward the Republican," said Daniel J. Douglas, director of the William J. Hughes Center. "A fair number of voters have not yet committed as the candidates continue to battle."

MacArthur has a five-point lead among unaffiliated voters, the poll found.

Though more than one-third of likely voters didn't know who the candidates were in the Sept. 15 poll, only 15 percent to 16 percent now say they do not know who MacArthur and Belgard are.

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