Energized Democrats are Voting in Competitive Primaries in Droves, New York Times, <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/06/25/us/politics/midterm-primaries-voter-turnout.html>, Adam Pearce and Alexander Burns, 06/25/18.

Main Points:

* Democrats are showing massively increased voter turnout in the primaries which is a positive sign that it will continue into the upcoming midterms.
* Democrat officials warn that while the increased voting count is a positive sign it is by no means a guaranteed victory.
* Republican officials are trying to raise support in their own voter base encouraging them to get to the polls to vote in order to counter the surge of democrat voters.

Summary:

The article talks about the upwards trend of voter turnout in the democratic party in the primary election. This trend is both hoped and expected to continue into the midterm elections allowing for a potential for a large change in the current political climate. While most officials in the Democratic party agree that the increased voter count is a good thing, they are still cautious that it might just be people who would vote anyways and not necessarily a sure thing. This cautioning is also followed up with additional encouragement to get out and continue to vote to support their candidates. Republican leaders such as President Trump are encouraging Republican voters to remain vigilant and to continue to go to the polls so that they can counter the current wave of Democrat voters and maintain their hold on the government.

Connection:

This article highlights both the idea of political parties as well as how they perform their function of stimulating voters. It illustrates clearly the division between party lines and the competition between the two in order to get their particular candidates elected. The most important part however is the articles discussion of party leaders informing the general public about the issues and encouraging them to go and vote. Without having parties to perform this task voter turnout would be much lower and the candidates elected would have a much lower chance of representing the views of the majority in general.