www.CollierVotes.gov

News & Views ~ September 2023

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS COLLIER COUNTY MELISSA R. BLAZIER

Important Election Dates & Deadlines

<u>2023 City of Everglades City Election</u> Voter Registration Deadline: October 30 Election Day: November 28

<u>2024 Presidential Preference Primary</u> Voter Registration Deadline: February 20 Early Voting: March 9-16 Election Day: March 19

2024 Primary Election Voter Registration Deadline: July 22 Early Voting: August 10-17 Election Day: August 20

<u>2024 General Election</u> Voter Registration Deadline: October 7 Early Voting: October 21-November 2 Election Day: November 5

Early voting dates subject to change.



Melissa R. Blazier Supervisor of Elections

SUPERVISOR'S MESSAGE Voter Registration Month

September is a special month for election administrators as it holds several electioncentric themes including National Voter Registration Day (September 19) and Constitution Week (September 17-23).

Our team has had boots on the ground all month getting Collier residents Election Ready for 2024! This includes registering and pre-registering students to vote during our 10th Annual High School Voter Registration

Challenge, helping voters in assisted living facilities renew their Vote-by-Mail ballot requests and so much more!

This month we also kicked off our New Election Worker Orientations. These orientations provide an overview for voters who may have an interest in working at the polls during early voting or on Election Day, or who may be interested in working temporary positions in our Voter Services Department.

If you have an interest in getting involved this year, visit our website at <u>www.CollierVotes.gov/HELP</u> to see how you can contribute to the upcoming elections.

Read on to learn more about what we have been up to this month and what is on the horizon for our Elections Team!





It was great to run into so many dedicated public servants this month at Wake Up Naples! Top: Florida Senate President Kathleen Passidomo. Bottom from left: Clerk of Courts and Comptroller Crystal Kinzel, and County Judges Tamara Nicola and Blake Adams.



OUT & ABOUT

Welcome to Our Newest Citizens!

Earlier this month, Supervisor Blazier welcomed 19 new U.S. citizens from five different countries during a naturalization ceremony held in Fort Myers. During these ceremonies, applicants complete their long journey to citizenship by saying the Pledge of Allegiance for the first time as an American citizen.

Our office regularly attends naturalization ceremonies to assist new citizens in registering to vote and providing them with important information about upcoming elections.

Visit our website to view all of the outreach activities we are participating in this fall!



ADOPT-A-PRECINCT

The 2024 elections are just around the corner, and we are looking for civic-minded organizations to join our Adopt-a-Precinct program!

Adopt-a-Precinct is a public/private partnership where groups "adopt" a precinct by providing volunteers to staff elections for an election cycle. Group members who work at the adopted precinct are paid for their work, but the funds are automatically forwarded to their organization. Groups can use this program to raise funds for their cause or a designated charity. It is also a great team-building opportunity and learning experience.

Local groups can earn between \$1,700-\$2,600 per election to benefit their charity or fundraiser. The organization will also receive community exposure through various election-related materials.

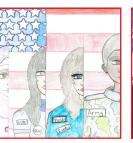
To learn more about our Adopt-a-Precinct program, visit <u>www.CollierVotes.gov/ADOPT</u>. Pictured: Adopt-a-Precinct group SCORE, who adopts Precinct 414 on Election Day, located at Faith Lutheran Church.

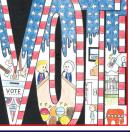
Art for Democracy

Calling all student artists! The Art for Democracy competition kicks off Monday, October 2. This competition is open to all Collier County students from kindergarten to 12th grade. Interested students must submit original artwork with voting and election-centric themes. Students K-8th grade may also enter an original design for an "I Voted" sticker that will be considered for use in the 2024 elections. Winning students and schools receive recognition at an artists' reception and a monetary prize is awarded to the winning high school student, as well as the school's Art Department for the piece that wins Best in Show.

The submission deadline is Friday, November 10. To see the full Call for Entry, visit our website: <u>www.CollierVotes.gov/ART</u>. We can't wait to see the amazing art that is sure to knock our "chalks" off!







MYTH BUSTER

MYTH

You do not have to be a Collier County resident to become an Election Worker.

BUSTED

Election workers must be registered voters of Collier County in order to work on behalf of our office.

Get more Myth Busters - follow us on social media! @CollierVotes | #ElectionReady



Congratulations to Voter Services Supervisor, Kerry Black, who recently became a Certified Elections/Registration Administrator (CERA) through the National Association of Election Officials also known as Election Center.

Black joins more than 1,400 other election officials with this national certification and is the fifth member of the Collier County Supervisor of Elections office to obtain the credential.

Kudos to Jake Pirosseno who celebrated his fifth year on our Elections Team this month! Officially, Jake serves as the Election Services Coordinator. He serves as the point of contact with all of our early voting and Election Day polling locations and assists with the maintenance and deployment of our voting equipment during elections.

Unofficially, Jake is also our office's barista and makes the best cafecito in all of Collier County!

SPOTLIGHT