



COLLIER COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

NEWS & VIEWS

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Contact "News & Views":
email electionworker@colliergov.net or call
(239) 252-8052



JENNIFER J. EDWARDS
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

SUPERVISOR'S MESSAGE

Are You Election Ready?

Happy New Year from the Collier County Supervisor of Elections office! We are in full election-prep mode and ready to take on the 2016 Election Cycle! Our focus this year is making sure that our voters, election workers, candidates and staff are "Election Ready" for 2016! We know this year is going to be big and we want to ensure that everyone is ready for this election cycle.

There are three elections this year: the Presidential Preference Primary in March, the Primary Election in August and the General Election in November. Earlier this fall, all of our Election Workers should have received a survey requesting information on their availability and desired positions for this Election Cycle. Our Training Department is now using that information to develop their staffing plans.

Don't forget that there are three ways to vote. You can cast your ballot by mail, vote early at one of our eight designated Early Voting locations, or you can vote on Election Day at your assigned precinct. If you are working at the polls on Election Day and are assigned to work outside of your precinct, our office will automatically send you a ballot to vote by mail. You can also visit www.CollierVotes.com and make your request today!

And while you are on our website, visit our Community Calendar to see where our Education & Outreach team will be! As election season begins to heat up, we will be attending farmer's markets, candidate forums and other events to register voters and answer any questions that voters may have about casting their ballot in 2016.

Thank you all again for everything you do to help our team run smooth elections! We couldn't do it without you!

OUT & ABOUT

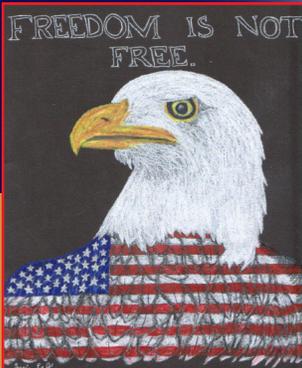
Art for Democracy

We were very excited to host a reception for the winning artists (pictured above) who participated in the Art for Democracy art contest! This fall, we invited students of all grade levels to express the spirit of democracy through their artwork.

Congratulations to the 12 winners including Angie E. Joseph from Palmetto Ridge High School (top illustration), who received a \$500 scholarship donated by our local VFW and Poinciana Elementary (bottom illustration) who took home the "Best of Show" title awarding their Art Department \$500.

Thank you to our partners: Collier County Public School system, VFW posts 4254 & 7721 and to our judges.

Winning entries are featured in our 2016 election-based calendar. Stop by our office to pick up your copy and BE election ready!



VOTER EDUCATION

Where can you find us?



HEATHER WYSOCKI
EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Greetings and happy New Year! As “the season” heats up, we are out and about across Collier educating voters on the 2016 Election Cycle!

And none of our efforts can go without recognizing our wonderful Diplomats! We have more than a dozen volunteers who provide voter education, help residents register to vote, update addresses and signatures and serve to answer any questions voters may have!

Find out where we will be stationed by visiting our Community Calendar at www.CollierVotes.com, and make sure you stop by to confirm that you are election ready for the Presidential Preference Primary Election in March.

If you are organizing an event, we would love to hear from you about providing voter information or education before the Presidential Preference Primary! Get in touch at (239) 252-8805 or email:

HeatherWysocki@colliergov.net



VOTE BY MAIL UPDATES



JESSICA CHRONISTER
ABSENTEE SUPERVISOR

Do you know your Vote-by-Mail facts?

As we prepare for the Presidential Preference Primary on March 15, here are a few reminders about Voting by Mail:

- Any voter may Vote-by-Mail. Florida does not require an excuse!
- Your signature is important! When voting by mail, your voter registration signature is compared with your signature on the voter certificate located on the back of the returned ballot envelope. Visit our website or call our office to learn how you can update

your signature.

• You may check your Vote-by-Mail status by going to our website www.CollierVotes.com; click on “Am I Registered?” and enter your voter information. Your ballot request status will be listed under “Voter Status.”

• Vote-by-Mail ballots count! Vote by Mail ballots are the first results reported.

CANDIDATE QUALIFYING

Are you familiar with the Electoral College?



DAVE CARPENTER
QUALIFYING OFFICER

On Monday, December 19, 2016 Florida’s 29 presidential electors will meet in Tallahassee to cast Florida’s official electoral votes for President and Vice President of the United States. The names of these electors never appear on a ballot in Florida, yet they cast Florida’s most important vote. How are these people chosen and what do they actually do?

Under Florida’s Election Laws, presidential electors are nominated by the Governor; however, the nomination is merely a formality. Each party executive committee

prepares a list of its proposed electors who are then appointed by the Governor. Each party with a presidential candidate on the ballot will propose 29 electors - one for each of Florida’s U.S. Representatives and Senators. This process must be certified to the Florida Department of State by September 1 of each presidential year. The parties are free to pick any Florida voter registered with their party, but as a rule, the honor goes to long time party supporters or dignitaries. The 2012 Democratic presidential electors included Buddy Dyer, Mayor of Orlando; Jean Monestime, Miami-Dade Commissioner; State Senator Audrey Gibson; and Party Chairman Rod Smith. Each proposed elector must take an oath that he or she will cast their electoral vote for the candidate of the party which nominated them.

When we vote for President during the 2016 General Election we are actually voting for the slate of presidential electors sworn to support him or her. The State Canvassing Commission composed of the Governor and two cabinet members conduct the final certification of the election results which determines the winning candidate and the candidate’s slate of presidential electors. All of the other 49 States and the District of Columbia have similar methods established by law to select their electors.



JULIO VIGIL
ELECTION SERVICES
COORDINATOR

OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT

We are prepared - are you?

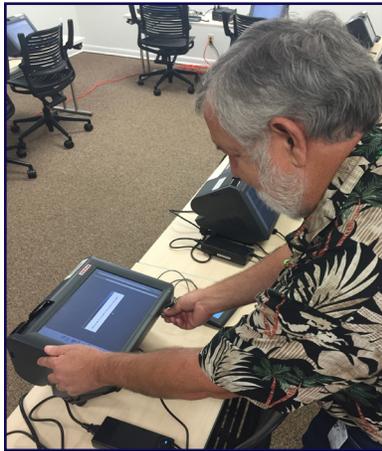
The first election of 2016 is fast approaching and the Operations Department is in full gear!

We are updating all of our EViD's with the latest software for 2016 which includes new features and enhancements which should create more ease with management and operations for our Election Workers during the check-in process (pictured below).

We are also working with Century Link to activate all our phone lines at each Early Voting location and at all Election Day precincts. In addition, we are conducting our first test of the phone lines to ensure they are functioning properly.

Our department continues to go through our Election Day Supply Bins to ensure that every Precinct has enough supplies to be Election Ready.

We are anticipating record-breaking turnout during the 2016 Election Cycle and we cannot do it without you. Thanks for all you do!



TRAINING NEWS

Who is ready for Training?

We hope everyone was able to spend some quality time with family and friends this holiday season!



ROGER MUNZ
TRAINING DIRECTOR

In October, we launched correspondence to currently active Election Workers requesting their availability for the upcoming 2016 Election Cycle. One very important goal for this notice is to confirm that we have all of the correct and current contact information for our workers including phone numbers and email addresses. If you feel like you haven't received this correspondence from our office, please give us a call at (239)252-8052 or email: ElectionWorker@collier.gov.net. Election assignments will be sent by February 1.

There are three elections in 2016 and we anticipate an 85% turnout for the General Election in November. Thank you for your continued support in making elections successful in Collier County! We could not conduct elections without YOU.



The Training Team was proud to take home first place during our staff's Gingerbread House contest!



TONY DE MARTINO
ABSENTEE ANALYST

NEW STAFF!

Tony De Martino was raised in Goodland and Marco Island, but left for California over 30 years ago.

Tony graduated from Heald College of San Francisco with honors and most recently worked in Silicon Valley and the San Francisco Bay area in the Information Technology private sector.

Tony moved back to Goodland in February of last year and keeps busy with a 9-year-old son and a 2-year-old tasmanian devil of a dog. He is glad to be back home in Collier County and often wonders what took him so long to return.

As our Absentee Analyst, Tony's responsibilities include communicating the convenience to voters about casting their ballots by mail and he assists in making sure that voters have a smooth transaction when they vote by mail in the 2016 Election Cycle.

Please join us in welcoming Tony to our staff! We are so pleased to have him working in our Vote by Mail Department!

SPOTLIGHT: EMPLOYEE MILESTONES!

Happy 20 years to our staff!

We are so proud to celebrate 20 years with two of our staff members! Thank you to Dave and Shavontae who, on a daily basis, go above and beyond their regular tasks to ensure that our voters and candidates have a pleasant election experience!



Dave Carpenter - Qualifying Officer
Start Date: June 21, 1995/Elections: 70+



Shavontae Dominique - Customer Service Rep
Start Date: November 30, 1995/Elections: 70+

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

Presidential Preference Primary: March 15, 2016
Book closing: February 16

Primary: August 30, 2016
Book closing: August 1

General: November 8, 2016
Book closing: October 11

Visit us on the web: www.CollierVotes.com

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