



COLLIER COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

NEWS & VIEWS

Volume XXXII ~ Issue 4

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JENNIFER J. EDWARDS
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

SUPERVISOR'S MESSAGE

Thank you!

Conducting elections for over 250,000 voters is never an easy task, and to add a mandated redistricting process followed by a category 4 hurricane on the cusp of a General Election only increased the stress of our preparation. But we did it – and by “we,” I not only mean our office, but also the hundreds of volunteers who served at the polls, our community partners who helped us get out the vote, and the voters who made voting a priority even in the aftermath of Hurricane Ian!

Below are some highlights from the 2022 General Election.

- **Voting by mail remains the preferred method of casting a ballot.** Of the more than 164,000 voters who voted, over 60,000 voters cast their ballot by mail. For in-person voting, a little over 51,000 cast a ballot during early voting and nearly 53,000 voted on Election Day.

- **We broke a new record by serving 52,989 voters on Election Day.** Before this year, the highest number of voters who cast a ballot on Election Day was during the 2012 General Election when a little over 49,000 voters voted at the polls on Election Day that year.

- **We opened two new early voting locations which performed exceptionally well during this election.**

The new Heritage Bay Government Services Center served nearly 5,600 voters and the South Regional Library served over 4,400 voters. The North Collier Regional Park opened as a new early voting location in 2014. In its first year, less than 3,000 voters cast their ballot there during the General Election.



In December, my staff and I took our annual oath as Supervisor and Deputy Supervisors of Elections.

We are so grateful for our community who continue to place their trust in us.

As we enter into another year, we want to thank all of our supporters who had a role in helping us ensure that every voter had the opportunity to cast their ballot!

OUT & ABOUT

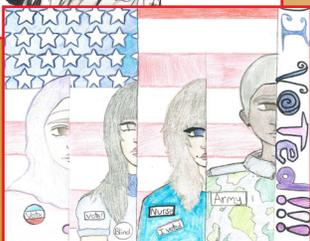
2022 Art for Democracy Contest

Congratulations to the winning artists of the 2022 Art for Democracy contest: Karoll De La Hoz Barragan of Lely High School and the Gulfview Middle School Art Department whose artist, Daniella Pantoja, was selected as “Best in Show.”

This year, we received over 200 art submissions and 12 winning entries were selected to appear in 2023 election materials. A winners’ reception will be held on January 30 at the South Regional Library to honor all 12 winning students.

The Supervisor of Elections office collaborated with the Collier County Public School system and Champions For Learning to host the contest. Awards are provided by Champions For Learning through the Chuck Mohlke Endowment Fund of the Community Foundation of Collier County and the Naples Chapter of the Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution (SAR).

Visit www.CollierVotes.gov/ART for more information about the contest.



VOTER OUTREACH

2022 Outreach Recap



The Outreach Department had a fantastic year due to the many partnerships within the county which helped us better assist our voters.

We started 2022 with the Sunshine State Young Reader Award elections, in partnership with the Collier County Public Schools media specialists. More than 4,000 students, grades K-8, voted for their favorite book using real voting equipment.

In the fall, we worked with the schools again during our annual High School Voter Registration Challenge. Congratulations to Dr. Larry Mutter and Palmetto Ridge High School, for their immense effort in getting students registered and pre-registered to vote. Palmetto Ridge High School won the contest with 208 of the 640 applications received by our office.

We wrapped up 2022 with our annual Art for Democracy contest, in collaboration with the Collier County Public Schools, and Champions For Learning. We received more than 200 entries from students around the county.

We are grateful for all our partnerships including the agencies who provide year-round support for our voter outreach initiatives including those who host farmers markets, the Tax Collector's office and our local libraries.

TRAINING NEWS

General Election by the Numbers



KEVIN TURNER

TRAINING & OUTREACH DIRECTOR

Thank you to all of the election workers who worked during the General Election. Especially remarkable are those who served over 120 hours during a 10-day period of early voting *and* on Election Day! Overall turnout was strong in Collier County and the vast majority of voters were very complimentary of their voting experience.

After each election cycle, we offer a commemorative pin to show our thanks to the workers who made elections possible. The 2022 pin will be available for pick-up at our office the week of January 23. Be on the lookout for an email with more details.

For those who are interested in some of the numbers behind the election, out of the over 104,000 votes that were cast in person, only 187 provisional ballots were cast. The Canvassing Board accepted 58 of the submitted provisional ballots, with the most common reason being for no photo/signature identification. Ninety percent of rejected provisional ballots were for registering after the book closing deadline or for not being a registered voter. In total, 2,076 voter affirmations were completed with voters filling out 1,141 name/address/signature changes and 873 request for assistance forms were received.

Looking ahead, the next scheduled countywide elections will be in 2024. We will reach out to everyone towards the end of 2023 to check on your initial availability and provide election dates.



KERRY BLACK

VOTE-BY-MAIL SUPERVISOR

VOTE-BY-MAIL UPDATES

Vote-by-Mail Requests Have Expired

Now that the 2022 General Election has wrapped up, it is important to remind everyone that all Vote-by-Mail requests for future elections have expired.

Even if you have voted by mail in past elections, due to changes in legislation, it will be necessary for you to place a new request for the 2024 Election Cycle should you wish to vote by mail.

The easiest way to do that is to follow the link below to our website: www.CollierVotes.gov/RequestBallot

Rest assured, prior to the 2024 elections, we will send out notifications as reminders to request your Vote-by-Mail ballot for the upcoming elections. Given the majority of our voters spend time in more than one home during the year; we recommend that you verify when the ballot will be mailed to ensure your ballot is sent to the appropriate address; remember that by law, ballots cannot be forwarded.



BONNIE KELLY
CUSTOMER SERVICE
SUPERVISOR

CUSTOMER SERVICE

FAQs

Last year was a busy one for our department. To kick off the New Year, here are a few of the most frequently asked questions we received in 2022.

QUESTION: Do I need to notify your office if I just moved?

ANSWER: Yes! Whether you moved within the county or moved into Collier County from another county or state, you should update your voter registration with current residence address.

QUESTION: How do I update my voter information?

ANSWER: All voter information updates can be made online at www.CollierVotes.gov or by filling out a Florida Voter Registration Application; this includes voters' name, address and/or party affiliation. Address changes within the state of Florida can also be made by calling our office: (239) 252-8683.

QUESTION: Are Florida voter records public?

ANSWER: Voter registration information is public record, including the name, address, date of birth, party affiliation, phone number and email address. Information regarding your Social Security Number, driver license number or Florida ID number and the source of your voter registration is exempt from public record. Voter signatures are also available to view, but not copy.

Voter registration information is also exempt from public records for pre-registered voters and for voters who qualify under the Attorney General's Address Confidentiality Program or are who fall within one of the statutorily designated classes of high-risk professionals.

CANDIDATE QUALIFYING



DAVE CARPENTER
QUALIFYING OFFICER

Ready, Set...Run!

It just turned to 2023 and there is already news about candidates ready to run in 2024. While presidential candidates may feel it necessary to announce two years ahead of the election; I would hold off on putting yard signs out. The law allows local candidates to pick their own legal start time; however, until you file your appointment of a treasurer and designation of a

bank for your campaign account, you are not technically a candidate and you cannot receive or spend any money on behalf of your campaign.

County Judge qualifying will take place in April 2024 whereas all other local seats including County Commission and School Board will qualify in June 2024. There are two ways to qualify for ballot placement: by petition or by paying a qualifying fee. The number of petitions needed for ballot position is based on the population of either the county or district being served whereas the qualifying fee is determined by the position's salary and includes an election assessment fee and a party assessment fee for partisan offices.

Our office cannot choose a time for a candidate to file their papers, but we can assist by helping candidates understand the laws surrounding campaigns and by providing data to help them make informed decisions regarding their run for office.

ELECTION SERVICES



WILLIAM KOCSES
ELECTION SERVICES
DIRECTOR

Post Election

We recently completed the post-election inventory of the 2022 General Election. Now that all the equipment and supplies have been accounted for, the process of a full inventory review has begun.

Over the winter months, we will deep clean all the equipment and supplies so they are ready for future elections in 2023 and 2024. We will also unpack and store any reusable supplies and dispose of outdated or unusable materials. After our full inventory review, we will start ordering needed supplies for future elections. The supply bins will be restocked, and we will replace any necessary signage and restage all voting equipment.

Later in the year, we will conduct a precinct study as we consider changes for 2024. Our department will also complete any necessary polling site reviews, inspections and required surveys needed to meet ADA compliance. Some of our busiest years are those when there is not an election immediately on the horizon.

SPOTLIGHT: ELECTION SERVICES



When voters arrive in person to vote, whether during early voting or on Election Day, they arrive to a managed polling location set up with voting booths, EViD check-in stations, tabulation equipment and so much more.

The men behind this set up are from our Election Services Department. Along with a team of movers, temporary staff and security agencies, Election Services Director, William Kocses and Coordinator, Jake Pirosseno work their magic behind the scenes to ensure that voters have a quick and pleasant voting experience.

These two make up the most organized team in the industry and we are proud of the work they do to make elections happen in Collier County!

IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES

City of Everglades City Election

Election Day - November 28, 2023

Primary Election

Election Day - August 20, 2024

Presidential Preference Primary

Election Day - March 19, 2024

General Election

Election Day - November 5, 2024

Visit us on the web: www.CollierVotes.gov #CollierVotesLocal | #ElectionReady



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Jennifer J. Edwards
Supervisor of Elections

