

From the desk of...

Kaiti Lenhart

FLAGLER COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

May 2016



A message from your Supervisor of Elections

Only 90 days left until Election Day, August 30, 2016! Your Elections Office is well ahead of deadlines and now we are shifting gears towards intense election preparations including equipment testing and ballot preparation over the next few weeks. Candidate qualifying week begins at Noon on Monday, June 20 through Noon on June 24. After the ballot certification, you can expect to see an Official Sample Ballot for the upcoming Primary Election.

We are also continuing to inform voters through community outreach. A focused Voter Outreach Program is essential to conducting a successful election. Citizens of our county need every opportunity to register to vote, to update their voter registration and they need current elections information and deadlines in order to be election ready. We have conducted 17 voter outreach drives since August 2015 and the Voter Outreach Team has distributed thousands of Voter's Guides with important local elections information to help voters prepare for this important election year. As a result of the Flagler County Voter Outreach Program, we have received 260 voter registration applications during these outreach drives, including new voter registrations and voter registration updates, a record for Flagler County!

Kaiti Lenhart

Flagler County Supervisor of Elections

BE ELECTION READY

New Voting Equipment Approved in Flagler County



The Flagler County Board of County Commissioners approved the purchase of a new voting system at their meeting on Monday, May 2. Florida law requires our ADA accessible equipment be upgraded by the year 2020. Our current equipment turns 18 years old this year, making the precinct-level tabulators old enough to vote.

Estimates from a few years ago put a new system around \$800,000. With the competitive bid RFP process, our cost will be closer to \$550,000.

Federal grant funding has not been received in the



2016 ELECTION DATES & DEADLINES

Primary Election

Deadline to register to vote or change your party:
August 1

Early Voting:
August 15 - August 27

Election Day:
August 30

General Election

Deadline to register to vote or change your party:
October 11

Early Voting:
October 24 - November 5

Election Day:
November 8

Polls are always open from
7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
on Election Day.

Where's my precinct?

You must vote in your assigned precinct on Election Day. Use the Precinct Finder tool online:



Vote By Mail

Mail ballots must be returned to the Elections Office by 7:00 P.M. on Election Day. Request a mail ballot:

Elections Office since 2010. For several months now, I have been leading the effort to negotiate with the Department of State to secure Federal grant funds to help 13 counties across the state of Florida, including Flagler County, to upgrade their aged voting systems. Over \$147,000 in grant funding will be used in Flagler County at a state-level to offset the cost of this purchase.

What seemed impossible two years ago is happening today. The new equipment will be installed next year, and we will be ready for the 2018 gubernatorial election cycle – well ahead of the state deadline – with a new voting system. A proud day for Flagler County!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Over the past several years, I have taken note of the most frequently asked questions which we receive in the Elections Office. This section of the newsletter will highlight one question and provide an answer to a question we hear often.

Q: I moved to Flagler County but haven't changed my address. Can I vote in this election?

A: Change your address today, it's easy! If you have moved and your new address is within Flagler County, you may simply call the Elections Office at (386) 313-4170 and change your address by phone. Only the voter may change an address over the phone. Address changes by phone from friends, family or spouses will not be accepted. A new Voter Information Card will be sent to you once the change has been processed.

Address changes may also be completed using this online form: [Address Change Form](#)

If you need to register to vote or update your registration information, you may also complete the [Florida Voter Registration Application](#). The application must be signed and the original copy returned to the Elections Office. You may bring the completed application to the Flagler County Supervisor of Elections Office at 1769 E. Moody Blvd, Building 2, Suite 101, Bunnell or if you prefer, you may mail it to us at P.O. Box 901, Bunnell, FL 32110.

If you have moved to another county in Florida, you must contact the Supervisor of Elections in your new county to make a change of address: [Florida County SOE Contact Information](#)

OFFICE HAPPENINGS

FSASE Summer Conference – Kids Voting USA

I was invited by Dr. Doug Dobson, Executive Director of the Lou Frey Institute at the University of Central Florida to give a presentation at this year's summer conference for the Florida Association of Supervisors of Elections. I demonstrated the Kids Voting USA online balloting software which I have used since 2011 to administer school elections in Flagler County.



The Lou Frey Institute will not only be sponsoring the software and expanding the development of this program, but Dr. Dobson also has a vision – to have a million students in a statewide mock election for the 2016 General Election on November 8, 2016! Many Florida counties will now be participating in this effort.

Thank you to Dr. Dobson for your support of this essential program and for partnering with the FSASE to encourage civic awareness, creating this opportunity for our students across the State of Florida. It was an honor to make this presentation to all Florida county Supervisors of Elections and staff in attendance at this year's conference.

Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Proposed Budget

For the first time in Flagler County, the Board of County Commissioners has been provided an illustrated resource to clarify the Supervisor of Elections Office budget expenditures. The “Supervisor of Elections (SOE) Budget Book” provides the estimated amounts for the Administrative and Elections budget expenditures, and clearly explains justifications for each item. It also includes an overview of the operations of the Elections Office, expected turnout for the 2016 General Election, voting trends and statistics. A hard copy of the SOE Budget Book was delivered to County Administration on Friday, May 20, 2016. The public may view this information on the Elections Office website: www.flaglerelections.com/budget

VOTER OUTREACH

Over 125 New Resident Voter Packets have been distributed since January 2016!

Flagler County Voter Outreach Program

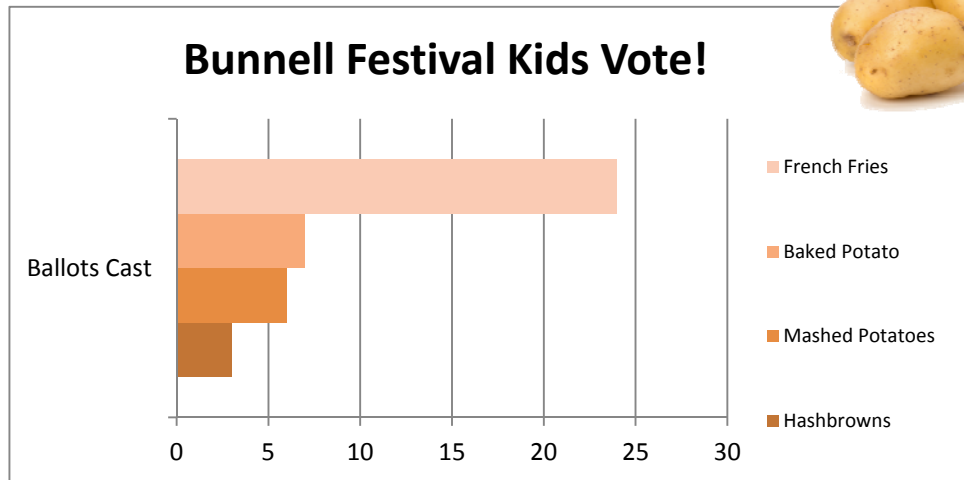
Voter education is an essential function of the Supervisor of Elections Office. We are continuing to take your Elections Office into the community to reach voters with important election dates and information. This will be one of the most important election years of our lifetime, the future of Flagler County and the United States will be on your ballot this year. Your vote is your voice, be heard!

Favorite Potato Election - Bunnell Festival

The official winner of the Favorite Potato Election at this year’s Bunnell Festival... French Fries! An overwhelming majority of children voted for French Fries as their favorite potato at the Supervisor of Elections Voter Outreach Tent on Saturday, May 14, 2016.

Vote For Your Favorite Potato

Election Day: May 14, 2016



Upcoming Voter Registration Drives

Visit the Supervisor of Elections Voter Outreach Tent at the following events to Be Election Ready in 2016!

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| Sunday, June 5 | European Village Farmer's Market | 12:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. |
| <p>Entrance of the European Village The European Village Farmer's Market features locally grown organic produce and artisan vendors. Restaurants are also open for a sit down drink or meal for your enjoyment as well. Register to vote or update your voter registration information at the Supervisor of Elections Voter Outreach Tent, located on-site during this event. For more information, contact the Elections Office: (386) 313-4170.</p> | | |
| Sunday, June 19 | European Village Farmer's Market | 4:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. * * TWILIGHT HOURS BEGIN THIS WEEK |
| <p>Entrance of the European Village The European Village Farmer's Market features locally grown organic produce and artisan vendors. Restaurants are also open for a sit down drink or meal for your enjoyment as well. Register to vote or update your voter registration information at the Supervisor of Elections Voter Outreach Tent, located on-site during this event. For more information, contact the Elections Office: (386) 313-4170.</p> | | |
| Saturday, July 3 | Fabulous 4th Picnic In The Park – Town Center | 4:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M. |
| <p>Town Center Palm Coast The most exciting Independence Day celebration in Palm Coast! The fun kicks off at 4:00 P.M. where guests enjoy food, music and outdoor activities for the whole family leading up to the spectacular fireworks show at 9:00 P.M. Register to vote or update your voter registration information at the Supervisor of Elections Voter Outreach Tent, located on-site during this event. For more information, contact the Elections Office: (386) 313-4170.</p> | | |

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