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From Supervisor Chambless



Greetings!

Just when you thought it was over...you realize the first Presidential debate will happen this June. Yes, in less than two months, Election season will be back. Political ads, presidential debates, ballot

Florida has history as a swing state. That status isn't changing any time soon- as winning margins of less than 1% will demonstrate. Politicians work hard to woo our 13 million voters. It's no easy task. We're the third largest state and one of the most diverse- racially, economically, and politically.

One of the most important trends to watch is the sharp increase of voters with No Party Affiliation or who are registered with a minor party. Younger voters are less tied to a single political party and are more likely to follow candidates rather than party. In a state that's fiercely fought for, this changing mentality will surely play a role in campaign strategy.

Though the number of registered voters

questions, oh my!

Though most people have enjoyed the break from the politickin', those of us who work in Elections have been functioning as if 2019 doesn't exist. We've stayed in election mode-training, updating equipment and procedures, cleaning up our voter rolls- with eyes turned towards 2020.

continues to grow, in the end it remains to be seen who actually shows up. As with anything, actions speak louder than words.







2019 Municipal Super Tuesday

On April 9, 2019 Keystone Heights and Green Cove Springs held their Municipal Super Tuesday Elections. Both municipalities featured charter amendments to vote on. Seven officials had uncontested races and will retain city council seats. 1,017 votes were cast, 91.54% were Vote by Mail. Eight of the nine proposed charter amendments passed.

Green Cove voters rejected Amendment 5 which would have eliminated the requirement for the city attorney to live or have an office within city limits. Amendments 1-4, which focused on the powers of the city manager, all passed.

In Keystone Heights, all amendments passed. Amendment 1 makes city council appointees meet residency requirements. Amendment 2 allows voters to file Vote by Mail ballots at the SOE office. Amendment 3 allows temporary transfer of duties to the vice mayor until the next General Election if the mayor's seat is vacant. Charter 4 renames the Keystone Airpark as the Keystone Heights Airport.

For Summary Results click here









Does your registration need spring cleaning?

This time of year is for fresh starts and tidying up. It's not always fun, but it's almost always necessary. While sorting through old papers and organizing your desk, don't forget to check your Voter Registration!

Have you moved or changed your name? How long has it been since you updated your signature? Florida is a Closed Primary state, do you need to change your party affiliation?

Use a registration application to update any info that's changed. You can do it in person or online (we pull your signature from your FL Driver's License or ID). Easy peasy!

Update your information here.

Outreach Events

Spring is always a busy time for our Outreach team. With events like Clay Day, the Clay County Fair, and programs like Sunshine State Young Readers Awards (SSYRA) and high school registration drives, there's never a dull moment!

Here are just a few pictures of what we've been up to the last few months.





In February, we held a Thank You Lunch for Volunteers and Election Workers. Grill Billy's Catering fried up fresh fish and everyone brought a dish to share. Delicious food and great company made for a fantastic day!











Clay Day

On March 14th, we celebrated Clay Day in Tallahassee. It marked the beginning of the legislative session and gives us a chance to show off all the amazing things Clay County has to offer!

The SOE office displayed our collection of past voting equipment and Supervisor Chambless handed out fresh hot popcorn to the crowd!











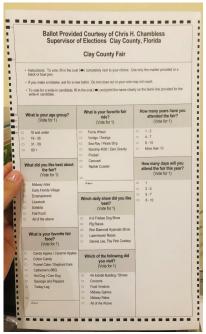


Clay County Agricultural Fair

The Clay County Fair is one of the biggest events we participate in. It's always fun to see the creativity from the vendors, meet new people, and, of course, sample all the yummy food! This year the theme was "Homegrown Traditions" and we spotlighted voting traditions and created a video titled "How to Grow a Voter."

At the Fair, residents can register to vote, update their information, learn more about upcoming elections, and even vote on their favorite rides. This year the Fair reported record-breaking attendance! A huge THANK YOU to everyone who volunteered at our booth, we couldn't have done it without your help!





SSYRA

Each year, we team up with local elementary school to conduct Sunshine State Young Readers Awards. SSYRA is a statewide reading motivation program for students in grades 3 through 8. It encourages students to read independently for fun and focuses on what interests them rather than their reading level.



Students who read 3 or more books from SSYRA's list are able to vote for their favorite title. The program not only promotes reading, but allows us to start a conversation about voting and create an interest in the voting process.

Click here to learn more about SSYRA.







High School Registration Drives

Did you know we visit EVERY high school in the county? We partner with the schools to educate the seniors on the voting process and why it's so important. We follow our discussion with a registration drive that gives 18-year-olds the chance to register to vote and 16-and-17-year-olds the chance to pre register. We love to connect with the new generation of voters!







Around the Office

There's always something to celebrate at the SOE office! Read on to meet some new faces, see who's celebrating birthdays and anniversaries, and other happy news!



Movin' On Up!

First up, we say CONGRATULATIONS to Kemie! Kemie has been full time with our office since 2014 as a Voter Services Associate. Kemie is always quick to step in and help out. We're happy to announce she's been promoted to Clerk II! Way to go Kemie!

Meet the new additions



I was born in Sterling, Illinois and lived there until 1988. My husband, Jon, and I were married in 1987, 1 year later Jon accepted a promotion and became the Advertising Manager of the Daily News in Iron Mountain, MI.

We lived in the bitter cold for 10 years (I hated it) when Jon was offered a job in Orange Park, FL at the Clay Today Newspaper. When he told me about it, I didn't have to think twice. We packed up all of our belongings and our 3 daughters and moved to Florida! June 1st will be 21 years.

Over the years our three daughters have married and started families of their own. Katie, our oldest, has four children (and one on the way. She is part rabbit), she and her family live in Daytona. Jennifer has two children and lives in Cadillac, MI and has been in the Coast Guard for 10 years. Danielle has one child and lives in Green Cove



My wife, Nancy, and I have one son, Todd. We moved to the Clay County area in 1983 and, except for two years overseas in the Azores, have lived in the Orange Park/ Middleburg area ever since. I retired from the Navy after 27 years, then worked for Vystar Credit Union for 13 1/2 years.

In 2013 I decided to see what full-time retirement was like. While talking with friends, Bob and Alice Toovey mentioned that they were Election Workers. I asked if they thought I could do it; after Bob stopped laughing, Alice said "Sure, they'll take any body."

I started off in the 2014 Primary as an Assistant Clerk. Over the years, I worked as a Clerk for multiple Elections. In January 2019, I joined the office part-time as an Election Services Clerk.

Working in the Elections office reminds me of my time in the Navy-good people

Springs. We sure have multiplied since moving to Florida!

In 2012 through Jon's work relationship with Chris Chambless I heard about an opening for a temporary part-time position in the front office. I came in and interviewed and was hired right away. Yay! I loved working at the SOE office during the Elections in 2012, 2014 and 2016. I worked in Data processing with Lynn Gaver and Leslie Robey. In 2018 I was asked to work in the warehouse and to stay on permanently. I really enjoy working at the SOE office and the people are great, too!

• Phyllis Cantrell

doing their best to get the job done right. They really care about what they do, help in any way they can to make sure things are done correctly the first time around. I'm grateful for the opportunity to work with such wonderful people and (don't tell Holly I said this) look forward to coming to the office for work.

In my spare time, I enjoy working with wood and building furniture, cabinets, and anything else that catches my eye. I also like yard work and gardening and collecting coins from the U.S. Mint.

• Rick Percival

Yesterday, Today, or Tomorrow: In the end, it's all about the results

On Tuesday April 30, Clay County
Supervisor of Elections Office unveiled a
photograph provided by Ann and Mason
"Eddie" Wiggins. Taken in 1992, the photo
captured the end of a 20-year tradition. It
featured Monica Boccieri writing election
results on a chalkboard, as Mason "Eddie"
Wiggins observed and rain poured down. It
was the last time the chalkboard was used
to post election results.

To commemorate the picture, Supervisor Chambless invited Mr. Wiggins and Mrs. Boccieri to recreate it- with a modern twist. As both guests stood together again, a digital background scrolled results from the most recent election. Though the chalkboard has long been retired, and results are now posted electronically, waiting for the numbers to roll in continues to be tradition.

It just goes to show, nothing beats the excitement of Election Day, whether the results are handwritten or digitally displayed.





The picture will hang in the Supervisor of Elections Training Center. It will serve as a reminder of the past and hope for the future that voting remains a strong tradition in Clay County.



Happy Birthday!

Who's celebrating a birthday this Spring?

Marti....3/7 Lynn....3/11 Holly....4/14 Thunder...5/9



Happy Anniversary!

We have two staff members celebrating anniversaries this quarter.

*Leslie....4/9 Anthony....4/23

*Denotes full-time employment anniversary



WE NEED YOU!

Do you like helping people? Are you interested in being part of the elections process?

We're always looking for Election Workers- especially those of you who are bilingual. For more information, please visit us online at **www.ClayElections**.

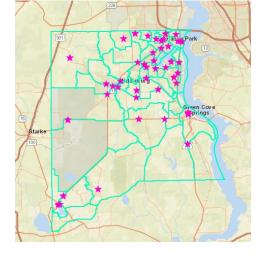
News & Updates

Curious about what's new on our website or in the Election world? Keep reading to find out the latest news and updates that may affect you.

Voter Information Map

Simply enter your address and quickly find your assigned precinct and representatives. Zoom in and out to see the location, streets, and boundary lines. It's a convenient way to find out where to vote and who is representing your district.

Click here to find your precinct



Technology is ever evolving and the Supervisor of Elections office strives to keep up and give Clay County voters every advantage possible.

In a joint effort with the Board of County Commissioners' GIS

Department, we now offer an interactive map on our site.

Туре	District		
School Board District	2	Carol Studdard	View on Map
Precinct	218		View on Map
Commissioner District	3	Diane Hutchings	View on Map
Florida House	018	CUMMINGS, TRAVIS	View on Map
Florida Senate	005	BRADLEY, ROB	View on Map
	Forward b		September 1st

We're Making Moves

We're happy to announce Keystone
Heights City Hall will serve as an Early
Vote site for the 2020 Election season.
Previously, Keystone Heights Tax
Collector's office was used for Early
Voting. The new location allows more
space to accommodate the increasing
number of voters who prefer the flexibility
of Early Vote.

As more and more residents are looking for convenience, Early Vote has grown in popularity.



With six Early Vote locations, you're sure to find one that works with your schedule. See you at the polls!

Click here for all our Early Vote sites

Vote by Mail Bill

Voting by Mail has quickly become one of the most popular and convenient ways to cast a ballot. A new committee bill intends to streamline the process and create uniform standards for all Florida counties. It's received support from the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections (FSASE). The bill aims to fix some of the timeline issues with Vote by Mail ballots and require more training for signature verification. It would extend the period Vote by Mail ballots can be requested, move up the deadline for requesting those ballots, and allow Vote by Mail ballots to be canvassed earlier. Ultimately, it gives additional time to get ballots to voters, gives ballots more time to be delivered, and Election officials



more time to fix potential problems.

"More and more voters are embracing not only voting by mail, but also voting early and specifically if the majority of population is now trending towards voting other than on Election Day, this is going to help them, " explains Supervisor Chambless.

If the bill passes, it would go into effect July 1st.

Spanish Ballots Ordered

On April 11, 2019, Governor Ron DeSantis, in response to a federal court case, ordered Spanish-language ballots to be provided across Florida. The change is due to the increase of people who migrated from Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria.

Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens and many are more proficient in Spanish than English. There has been a push to provide more support for them when they cast ballots.



"It is critically important that Spanish-speaking Floridians are able to exercise their right to vote without any language barriers," DeSantis said.