

# POLK COUNTY ELECTION NEWS

SUMMER  
2019



LORI EDWARDS  
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS



## Become a Blue Ribbon Winner



With the 2020 Presidential Election coming up, we are on the lookout for capable individuals with good customer service skills to serve on our team of Election Workers. We hope you'll help us grow our team by recruiting people who have what it takes to get the job done. We need individuals who:

- Are registered to vote in Polk County or are eligible to register.
- Are willing and able to work a 14+ hour day.
- Are friendly and have excellent customer service skills.
- Are willing and able to attend 2 to 10 hours of training before each election.
- Understand the importance of operating our voting location efficiently, accurately, and in accordance with Florida's voting laws.

If you know someone who would be a good addition to the team, call to learn how to recruit them and earn a "Team Builder" ribbon for your election worker button!

See **JOIN OUR TEAM!** on page 2 for upcoming recruitment dates.



## JOIN OUR TEAM!

We are looking for election workers! During a busy election year, we on-board and train somewhere between 1500-1700 workers for each election.

We have several recruiting events planned for the upcoming year. [Refer a friend to join our team!](#)

### Winter Haven - Various Dates

**July 16<sup>th</sup> or September 25<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm**

Supervisor of Election Operations Center  
70 Florida Citrus Boulevard

**Lake Wales** August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 4 pm

James P. Austin Community Center  
315 Doctor M.L.K. Jr. Boulevard

**Bartow** June 11<sup>th</sup>, 11 am

Bartow Civic Center  
2250 S. Floral Avenue

**Davenport** September 4<sup>th</sup>, 11 am

Davenport Community Center  
5 S. Allapaha Avenue

**Lakeland** July 31<sup>st</sup>, 11 am

Lake Mirror Auditorium  
121 S. Lake Avenue

**Lakeland** September 17<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 am

Simpson Park Community Center  
1725 Martin L. King Jr. Avenue

**Winter Haven** August 6<sup>th</sup>, 11 am

Supervisor of Election Operations Center  
70 Florida Citrus Boulevard

**Poinciana** October 4<sup>th</sup>, 11 am

Anthony DePalma Community Center  
395 Marigold Ave



## VOTER REGISTRATION

ACTIVE VOTER  
STATISTICS (AS OF 4/23/19)

TOTAL: 431,031



## SPOTLIGHT ON ELECTION WORKER TRAINING



Meet Katherine Sanders! Katherine joined the Election Worker training team in 2018.

Katherine recently retired from State Farm Insurance Company where she served in many roles. In her final years at State Farm, she was a Learning & Development Manager leading the team of trainers responsible for onboarding new employees and classroom training for employees and leaders across the organization.

Katherine began assisting with the Clerk/VIS training classes by helping out in the classroom. As we move into the upcoming training cycle, look for her to be more involved with your training classes!



Welcome to our youngest Election Worker, Zoe Harrell! Zoe is the daughter of one of our Precinct Clerks, Michelle Roberts. Zoe joins her mom and her two brothers, Austin and Zackery, as the next generation of Election Workers.



This year we say a fond farewell to Nancy Parker as she hangs up her Deputy badge. Nancy has been an Election Worker—more correctly— a Deputy since 2007. Thank you for your dedication!

## Legislative Update

The Florida Legislature is completing the 2019 session and they have made a few changes to Florida election laws. The one that Polk's election workers may notice first is the no solicitation area outside polling locations has been increased. While campaigners have been required to stay 100 feet from the polling room door, the new law increases that distance to 150 feet. Of course, our Deputies will learn of this change when they attend training, and they will mark the distance with signs, flags and chalk. They will probably be explaining the changes to campaigners who have become accustomed to being closer to the door.



Important  
Dates

### Upcoming Elections

#### 2019

Fall Municipal:  
November 5, 2019

#### 2020

Presidential Preference  
Primary: March 17  
Municipal: April 7  
Primary: August 18  
General: November 3

## ONLY THE NAME HAS CHANGED...

This fall, you'll notice that the Voter Information Specialist name will be changing to **Assistant Clerk!** The role stays the same, the name change reflects what the job really is all about!



### FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPERVISOR:

As an election worker you know that you perform an important duty by serving your fellow voters at the polling location each election. But there's more than that to your position. I think of election workers as ambassadors for our office! I hope you read about our Outreach team on page 4. They are always looking for new opportunities to set up a voter education table. That's one of the ways you can help our office become more involved in our community.

Please call or email [MaribelRamirez@PolkElections.com](mailto:MaribelRamirez@PolkElections.com) and tell her if you know of an upcoming event that would benefit from a voter registration station.

## New Electronic Poll Books!

In January, new voting equipment arrived to the Election Operations Center.

The new electronic poll books, that we refer to as EViDs, replace the iPads that were used at our customer service positions in the polling places on Election Day. This new technology enhances our customer service for those voters who need extra attention with voting such as: address or name changes, assistance with voting or voting a provisional ballot. Communication is in near-real time ensuring that changes made in the field are captured as soon as they are input.

The EViD made its debut during the April Municipal Elections with great success! The election workers found the equipment easy to use and the voter's did not notice a change in the service our workers provided!

We will roll out the new electronic poll book to all of our Assistant Clerk positions in the upcoming elections during the 2020 election cycle.





### Outreach Team Goals:

- To raise voter awareness among residents of Polk County.
- To provide opportunities for the public to learn about the elections process.
- To provide convenience when registering to vote.



### Voter Registration!



During lunch on  
WEDNESDAY! (3-20-19)

Any student 16 or older is eligible to REGISTER!  
Once the student reaches the age of 18,  
they will be mailed their voter registration card.  
Students must have either their Driver's License OR  
Last 4 digits of their Social Security Number!

### Look for our Outreach Team at these community events:

**6/13**

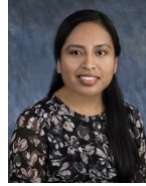
Haines City Healthcare  
Haines City  
2:00-4:00 pm

**6/25**

Polk Vision-Youth  
Leadership Group  
Bartow  
10:15-11:00 am

# MEET OUR OUTREACH TEAM

Our Outreach team is led by Maribel Ramirez along with her team of Education Specialists: Sonya Miller, Kieran Sequin, Sam Santana and Gisela Davila (who does double-duty as the Early Voting Assistant). You may see the Outreach team at any number of events around the county assisting Polk County citizens registering to vote.



Gisela, Kieran, Sam, Sonya

Sam Santana and Gisela Davila



**ROCK  
THE  
OTE**



Our Outreach team along with some volunteer helpers spent many days in our local high schools pre-registering 16 and 17 year olds.

The competition between the schools is phenomenal! This year, the tagline "one vote matters" became reality for two of our schools! Winter Haven High School beat out Haines City High School by 1 registration! Way to go Blue Devils!!



## NEWS FROM OUR OUTREACH TEAM

On June 18th, our Outreach team will be hosting a workshop for several Supervisors of Elections and their staff. During this all-day workshop, the teams will share best practices around social media, voter education outreach efforts, and student elections. They'll also share ideas for newsletters. It's promising to be a day filled with fun, learning and getting to know colleagues from other Supervisor of Elections offices from around the state!

## Why People Don't Vote:

The United States Census Bureau surveyed registered voters who do not vote and asked them why they chose not to cast a ballot.

Dislike of the candidate or campaign

Not interested in the election

Too busy

Have a conflicting schedule

Illness or disability

## ELECTION WORD

S K Q D F C O M M I S S I O N N T F P X  
G Y C C O U N T Y M Z O F V U N F R A K  
T T S K C Q E W T J J I C K E H E V D V  
K I S X Q T H U P Q R P S U U C L Y Z F  
K R C P O J R O P R R G T N I U T U L U  
K O J V R N X Q Y E I I V N H Y P A A L  
M J P Z O O V E S K T M C F O Y O A R O  
N A T U B G V I T S C T A D U U L U E Z  
T M T P C X D I N A D F U R M R L H N S  
L Q A R I E Z O S O B A C R Y M B T E F  
A I V Q N L C O T I S E F D F O O V G F  
P O X T M C M W R N O F D I X N O L K Q  
I H L U N O M I N E E N F V B F K D V C  
C G R W E L E C T I O N A E O A M M O J  
I Y X B L S Q Q U Q T C E L E O L N I L  
N X Q H P G D E M O C R A C Y N G L R T  
U S Y W E T A D I D N A C T B R T T O J  
M R W W V G T Y Y B E Q W M E K L G I T  
V W V N G I A P M A C J F S J B Y H F A  
K J H S P A B Y L R R D S X N V E P T W

### WORD LIST:

BALLOT  
CAMPAIGN  
CANDIDATE  
COMMISSION  
CONGRESS  
CONSTITUENT

COUNTY  
DEBATE  
DEMOCRACY  
ELECT  
ELECTION  
EVID

GENERAL  
MAJORITY  
MUNICIPAL  
NOMINEE  
POLLBOOK  
PRECINCT

PRESIDENT  
PRIMARY  
PROVISIONAL  
TURNOUT  
VOTE

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