

MARTIN OTES

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In a recent letter to the editor I challenged voters to exceed the 55 percent voter turnout recorded during 2010's off-year election. Voters did just that. Our voter turnout for this election was 59.36 percent while the state average was 50 percent.

Each year we emphasize the convenience of Voting by Mail, an option many Martin County voters now choose. This year, however, was fascinating as we saw a return to mass voting on Election Day—and in a non presidential year! Over 23,000 Martin County voters cast their ballots on November 4.

Fortunately, the voting process was smooth on Election Day, with no reports of unnecessarily long lines or concerns over confusing ballot language. The credit for no delays at the polls goes directly to our "Elections Team of 2014."

We have hundreds of poll workers, including student techs, rovers and temporary staff, who invest their time to be trained in state elections requirements and processes so they're well prepared to address whatever arises. They make things so much easier for voters. I'm also indebted to the dedication of my staff, which prepared literally years in advance to ensure every detail is addressed so voters have a straightforward voting experience.

Having recently conducted a recount on the One-Cent Sales Tax Referendum which resulted in a 64 vote difference, this effort once again reminds us that each and every vote does count. Thank you Martin County voters, for defying the trends and the critics—and for demonstrating your commitment to our community and our country.

Vicki Davis

*Martin County
Supervisor of Elections*

Meet Gaby

Gaby Kiernan is the Deputy of Election Support Services, and the newest member of the Elections Center team.

Born in Venezuela, Gaby and her family moved here when she was fifteen years old. After graduating from high school, Gaby enrolled at Florida Atlantic University and graduated with a degree in Political Science.

Prior to working for the Martin County Supervisor of Elections, Gaby gained experience working on political campaigns and she worked for two years as a legislative aide.



When asked what she enjoyed most about working at the Elections Center, Gaby said, "I really enjoy working with the public and assisting voters when they come in the office."

When not working at the Supervisor of Elections office, Gaby enjoys spending quality time with her husband of four years, Tom, and their dog Bananas at their home in Palm City. Currently, Gaby is preparing to begin graduate school in January to earn her MBA from Nova University.

Welcome Gaby!



Color Me Patriotic

Supervisor of Elections, Vicki Davis, is pleased to announce the winners of an inaugural “Color Me Patriotic” art contest.

The competition is designed to involve our future voters in the elections process, while showcasing their creative talent.

The three winners of the contest received a monetary award and trophy, through a sponsorship made possible by Gary Lesser of Lesser, Lesser, Landy & Smith, PLLC.

The winners are as follows:

- 1st place - Olivia Wilson- The Pine School
- 2nd place - Danielle Keller- The Visionary School of Arts
- 3rd place - Anna Tarasova- Jensen Beach High School

Eight of the pieces submitted for this contest will be displayed at the Elections Center. The general public is encouraged to stop by and view these patriotic masterpieces on canvas.

“It brings me great joy to announce the winners that participated in our first “Color Me Patriotic” art contest. I am grateful to all of the students who submitted a piece of art work this year,” said Vicki Davis, Supervisor of Elections.



Helping People Succeed Community Connections Participants Cast Their Vote



Casting their ballots on November 4th are Helping People Succeed Community Connections participants Eugene Grondin, Ed Grant and Trisha Overton.

The trio, showing off their I VOTED stickers, went online to study candidate positions and issues, filled out sample ballots and took them to the Martin County Supervisor of Elections office to vote.

Contributed by Adrienne Moore



Students Work the Polls on Election Day!

The Martin County Elections Center partnered with Dr. Robert Farley, a History Professor at Indian River State College, to recruit students to “Work the Polls” on Election Day.

This special program provided local college students with hands-on experience in the elections process while serving as voting equipment technicians or inspectors. Students who work the polls on Election Day leave with a greater awareness of the electoral process while serving their local community.

Additionally, each student is required to write an essay about their Election Day experience.

“I am encouraged to have our students work the polls on Election Day! These college students are the future of the elections process. The students were wonderful additions to precinct teams and I look forward to a lasting partnership with the college to recruit students in the future,” said Vicki Davis, Supervisor of Elections.

Adopted Precincts Raise Funds

Supervisor of Elections, Vicki Davis proudly announced that five non-profit organizations raised funds for their organizations, by “Adopting-A-Precinct” during the 2014 elections cycle. Members from Immanuel Lutheran Church, PEO-Chapter P, PEO-Chapter CI, Indiantown Chamber of Commerce, and the Kiwanis Club of Martin County, worked the polls on behalf of their organization.

These local organizations use the “Adopt-A-Precinct” program as a way to earn unrestricted dollars for their various organizations. Each group recruits its own volunteers to participate in required training to staff a precinct on Election Day. In addition, the Elections Center provides signage for the adopted precincts to let voters know which organization adopted their polling location.

“Adopt-A-Precinct is a win-win partnership! The Adopt-A-Precinct program allows the Supervisor of Elections Office to build strong partnerships with community service organizations while having additional professional poll workers staff our precincts on Election Day”, said Davis.



Partnership Brings Voter Awareness

Vicki Davis, Supervisor of Elections, thanks local attorney Lauri Goldstein and the law firm of Goldstein, Schmitt & Cambron, PL for donating space on their digital billboard at the intersection of Kanner Highway and Monterey Road in Stuart.

A series of colorful messages were displayed during the 2014 elections cycle which encouraged voters to “Join Our Team in 2014!” by checking their voter status, updating their voter records, requesting a mail ballot, and encouraging voters to VOTE!

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Vote By Mail Campaign!

In an effort to increase voter turnout, the Elections Center focused on areas throughout the county where turnout had traditionally been low and promoted Voting by Mail. Through this outreach effort, creative postcards were designed with slogans for each of the targeted communities. Marketing efforts worked because 40% of those who voted in the General Election voted by mail!

