

## A MESSAGE FROM TOMMY...

With the March Presidential Preference Primary Election officially over, we now look to the next major elections of 2024: the August 20 Primary Election and the November 5 General Election.

As always, I encourage you to be election-ready. Ensure your voter registration is up-to-date with our office; this includes your name, address, signature, and party affiliation.

Your party affiliation is especially important for the primary election because Florida is a closed primary state. To vote in partisan contests in a primary election, you must be registered with one of the two major political parties.

If you are registered as an Independent, a minor party, or no party affiliation, you can only vote on nonpartisan races that may appear on your ballot. If you wish to change your party for a primary election, you must do so at least 29 days before that election.

If you plan on voting by mail, it's important to remember that you need to renew your request after every general election. If you have not requested a Vote-by-Mail Ballot since the last general election in 2022, you must submit your request again by calling our office at (239) 533-8683 or online at www.lee.vote.



# INSIDE THE ISSUE

#### TOMMY'S MESSAGE

- PPP RECAP
- Community Education Services
- Candidate Qualifying
- Recent Office Renovations
- Staff Spotlight
- Election Dates

### ...CONTINUED

This year is expected to be a busy hurricane season! Requesting a Vote-by-Mail Ballot for the upcoming elections is an insurance policy in the event you cannot make it to the polls.

Please reach out to our office with any questions or concerns. My staff and I are your trusted source for election information and are always happy to help.

- Tommy Doyle

#### PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY ELECTION STATS

The Presidential Preference Primary (PPP) Election was held on Tuesday, March 19, and was open only to voters registered with the Republican Party.

Voting by mail was the preferred method of voting by a large margin. We expect voters to choose this method of voting in the upcoming August Primary and November General Elections as well.

## ACTIVE ELIGIBLE VOTERS 223,951

TOTAL BALLOTS CAST 55,860

PERCENT TURNOUT 24.94%

### Percentage of Ballots by Type

Mail: 76.41%

• Early Voting: 8.44%

• Election Day: 15.09%

Provisional: 0.06%

## **QUALIFYING UPDATES**

Candidate qualifying will soon begin and will take place at our Main Office location for all countywide office, countywide special district, and independent special district candidates.

Beginning this year, our Qualifying Department will also handle the qualifying process for the candidates of the City of Cape Coral and the Town of Fort Myers Beach.

The candidates from the cities of Bonita Springs and Fort Myers still qualify through their respective city clerk's offices.

#### 2024 KEY DATES:

77 Qualifying Dates: Noon, June 10, 2024, through noon, June 14, 2024.

Pre-Qualifying Period: Pre-qualifying begins on May 27, 2024.

Please note that our office will be closed on May 27 due to Memorial Day but will open on May 28 to assist you.

## **VOTE-BY-MAIL DEPARTMENT RENOVATIONS**





Lee County Elections' voter rolls reflect a significant increase in our county's population. We understand the need to keep up with the demands of this steady growth to fulfill our commitment to the voters of Lee County.

To continue providing efficient, superior election services, we renovated our Vote-by-Mail Department—a necessary improvement to meet the increase in voters who prefer to vote by mail.

The renovation created more office space, enabling increased staffing of temporary election support personnel responsible for processing the incoming Vote-by-Mail Ballots. We have also implemented newer security methods to ensure the safety of our staff, ballots, and voting equipment.

# **COMMUNITY EDUCATION SERVICES**





We wrapped up our High School and Charter High School Voter Registration Challenge in April. Supervisor Doyle and Community Education Services Director Juan Diez presented the winning schools with their trophies at the Lee County School District School Board Meeting!

Lehigh Senior High School and Oasis High School won first place for their respective Challenge. East Lee County won second place, and Island Coast High School won third place.

We are grateful to our local high schools for their participation and for helping to promote the importance of voting among our future voters!

The Lee County Elections Arts Vote contest began on October 23, 2023, and ended on March 29, 2024. The contest showcases the artistic talent of local high school students and provides a platform for them to express their creativity while promoting the importance of voter participation and civic engagement.

An invitation went out to all Lee County high schools at the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year. Supervisor of Elections Tommy Doyle and staff selected the winning pieces from 35 entries: 13 from Cypress Lake High School, 21 from North Fort Myers High School, and one from East Lee County High School.

1st Place
"Best Artwork":
Emma Corbin
Cypress Lake High School



2nd Place
"Most Original Artwork":
Daniela Uribe de la Hoz
East Lee County High School



3rd Place
"Most Creative Artwork":
Lily Spangaro
North Fort Myers High School



# **STAFF SPOTLIGHT**



Welcome to the team, Sawyer!

Sawyer recently joined our team as a Voter Registration Coordinator, whose primary responsibilities are to provide superior election services to our public on the phone and in person at our Main Office.

Last year, shortly after marrying, Sawyer and her husband moved to Lee County from a small town in Wyoming, where she worked as an Administrator for an Assisted Living Facility. It was so small that it only had one stop light, and there wasn't another one within a 60-mile radius.

She is the second oldest of her parents' five grown children: two women and three men. Sawyer and her family are very excited about the birth of her older brother and wife's first child this March. He is the first grandchild and nephew in the family, and Sawyer is having fun spoiling him!

Sawyer loves spending time outdoors and enjoys fishing and reading. Her favorite parts of working at Lee Elections are the need to keep up to date with the new laws and the opportunity to see how all the different roles, duties, and responsibilities work together to conduct transparent and accurate elections in Lee County.

Meet SashaLee, our newest Vote-by-Mail Coordinator!

Sasha worked in hospitality management and with the US Postal Service before joining our team. She is enthusiastic about transitioning to a different field and exploring the world of elections!

Outside of work, she lets her adventurous spirit shine through in her hobbies, which include traveling and exploring different cultures and food.

Sasha considers herself a very family-oriented person and combines her love of travel and family by often visiting her loved ones in Jamaica.



We are thrilled to have SashaLee join our team with her positive and vibrant energy!

# **2024 ELECTION DATES & DEADLINES**

# PRIMARY ELECTION AUGUST 20, 2024

- The deadline to register to vote or change party affiliation is July 22, 2024.
- The deadline to request a Vote-by-Mail Ballot is 5:00 PM, August 8, 2024

# GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 5, 2024

- The deadline to register to vote or change party affiliation is October 7, 2024.
- The deadline to request a Vote-by-Mail Ballot is 5:00 PM, October 24, 2024

All Vote-by-Mail Ballot requests expire after every general election.

If you plan to vote by mail in 2024, you must submit a NEW request!



If you want your mail ballot sent to an address that is different from the one in your voter record, you must use the new Statewide Vote-by-Mail Request Form, DS-DE 160.

MAIN OFFICE
MELVIN MORGAN
CONSTITUTIONAL COMPLEX
2480 THOMPSON ST, 3RD FLOOR
FORT MYERS 33901

CAPE CORAL BRANCH OFFICE
COMMISSIONER JOHN E. MANNING
GOVERNMENT COMPLEX
1039 SE 9TH AVE
CAPE CORAL 33990

LEE COUNTY ELECTIONS CENTER
SOUTH FORT MYERS
BRANCH OFFICE

13180 S CLEVELAND AVE FORT MYERS 33907

LEHIGH ACRES BRANCH OFFICE EAST LEE COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER 600 HOMESTEAD ROAD S, #9 LEHIGH ACRES 33974 BONITA SPRINGS BRANCH OFFICE AT BONITA COMMONS

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