



TOMMY DOYLE, SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

LEE COUNTY ELECTIONS

Contact: Vicki Collins
Communications Director
Lee County Elections Office
Direct: 239-533-6335
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Important Information for the March 2, 2021 City of Sanibel Regular Election

Lee County, FL (Friday, January 29, 2021) The City of Sanibel Regular Election is Tuesday, March 2, 2021.

The residents of the City of Sanibel have until Monday, February 1, 2021, to register to vote and be eligible to participate in their Tuesday, March 2, 2021, Regular Election.

The deadline to request a Vote-by-Mail ballot is 5 p.m. Saturday, February 20. For information to request and return a ballot, voters may call our office at 239-533-8683 or visit our website lee.vote.

All Vote-by-Mail ballots must be returned to the Lee County Supervisor of Elections Office by 7:00 p.m., Election Day, Tuesday, March 2, 2021. Voters may check the status of their Vote-by-Mail ballots on our website here <https://www.lee.vote/Admin/Check-my-Registration-Status>.

The Canvassing Board will meet to conduct the testing of the voting machines and tabulating equipment to be used in the precincts and for tabulating mail ballots on Wednesday, February 10,

2021. The Canvassing Board meeting schedule is available on our website here <https://www.lee.vote/Election-Information/Public-Notices>.

The Lee County Supervisor of Elections is providing in-person services at all office locations, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

- Bonita Springs Branch Office - 25987 S Tamiami Trail #105, Bonita Springs FL 34134
- Cape Coral Branch Office – 1039 SE 9th Ave, Cape Coral FL 33990
- Elections Center – 13180 S Cleveland Ave, Fort Myers FL 33907
- Main Office - Melvin Morgan Constitutional Complex, 2480 Thompson St, 3rd Floor, Fort Myers FL 33901

We are committed to providing superior election services while maintaining a sanitized and safe environment for those working in and visiting our offices. A mask is required when visiting our offices to ensure the well-being of our staff and others transacting business in our Main Office and Branch Office service lobbies.

Citizens also have the option of utilizing our online service tools, offered on our website, [lee.vote](https://www.lee.vote) that does not require them to appear in-person at our office to conduct business. On this site, they can [register to vote](#), [update their voter information](#), [request a Vote-by-Mail ballot](#), or [contact us](#).

To submit an online application, you will need your Florida driver license (Florida DL) or Florida identification card (Florida ID card) issued by the Florida Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles. Online Voter Registration has multiple safeguards in place to verify and protect a person's identity and personal information.

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Florida Supervisors of Elections to Offer Scholarship Opportunities in 2021

Lee County, FL (February 2, 2021) The Florida Supervisors of Elections (FSE) is proud to once again offer scholarship opportunities to students from around the state. Three scholarships in the amount of \$1,200 will be awarded to each winning student. The FSE Scholarship Committee will announce the scholarship recipients at the 2021 Summer Conference.

To be eligible for the FSE Scholarship the student applicant shall:

- 1. Be either a Political Science/Public or Business administration or Journalism/Mass Communication major.
- 2. Be a citizen of the United States.
- 3. Have been a bona fide resident of Florida for two years preceding the academic year for which an application is made.
- 4. Be enrolled or accepted as a full-time student in a senior college or university in Florida. No postgraduate or second-degree students.

- 5. Have finished two years of junior college or undergraduate work (enough credits for enrollment as a junior).
- 6. Submit two current letters of recommendation: one from the college or university last attended or graduated from; and one from a citizen of good standing in the community.
- 7. Submit a resume of your high school and/or college activities as well as what you have done for your community.
- 8. Demonstrate a financial need and furnish a financial statement, which shows what your own contribution is to your educational expenses. (Student does not have to submit an official form, can just send a statement of their financial need.)
- 9. Have maintained a “C” average or above for the previous year.
- 10. Be available for personal interview by the Supervisor of Elections in the county where you are registered to vote.
- 11. BE REGISTERED TO VOTE. (Written verification required by Supervisor submitting application where you are registered to vote.)

The Scholarship must be given to a student attending a Florida university or college, which is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, with the stipulation that the scholarship check will be made payable to the winning applicant and to the school which they will be attending.

The student must apply in accordance with all eligibility requirements. Failure to do so could result in non-consideration. The scholarship recipient must continue to meet all initial eligibility requirements, maintain a “C” average or above, and remain in good standing at the institution.

The 2021 FSE Scholarship packet is available on the Lee County Supervisor of Elections website, <https://www.lee.vote/Community-Education-Services/College-Students/FSE-Scholarship>. The Lee County Supervisor of Elections must receive all applications by March 26, 2021. Letters of recommendation must accompany the application or be received by the deadline.

**Mail applications to the:
Lee County Supervisor of Elections
Tommy Doyle
PO Box 2545 Fort Myers, FL 33902**

Each County's Supervisor will review all applications received and select one finalist to submit to the FSE Scholarship Committee, along with a written opinion of the applicant. The Committee will select three winners (\$1,200 each) from the finalists submitted from the Supervisors. A student who has received the scholarship award may make a second application of the following year.

The three scholarships are in memory of former Supervisors of Elections Dorothy Ruggles of Pinellas County, Joe Oldmixon of Escambia County and Jimmy Whitehouse of Highlands County.

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2021 “ArtsVote” Contest Winners!

Lee County, FL (May 10, 2021) The Lee Elections “ArtsVote” Contest gives students at participating high schools the opportunity to unleash their creativity and talent to the fullest to promote civic engagement, voting, and patriotism. The 2021 contest began December 14, 2020, and ended on April 16, 2021.

Lee County Supervisor of Elections, Tommy Doyle, is thankful for the participation of the students and teachers who submitted their pieces in this different and challenging school year. Tommy stated, “We were excited to receive 13 remarkable entries, one more than last year!”

Cypress Lake High School and North Fort Myers High School participated in this year’s contest. Tommy Doyle and his fellow judges selected the winning pieces from the 13 entries; 12 from Cypress Lake High School and one from North Fort Myers High School.

Supervisor Doyle is honored to announce the three top winners.

- **First Place “Best Artwork”: Cooper Kraft, North Fort Myers High School**
- **Second Place “Most Original Artwork”: Alayna Calkins, Cypress Lake High School**
- **Third Place “Most Creative Artwork”: Richard Riley, Cypress Lake High School**

Cooper Kraft is a junior whose First Place “Best Artwork” made North Fort Myers High School the winner for the first time in the four-year history of Lee Elections’ “Arts Vote” Contest! In his own words, Cooper explains, “Dreaming is fine, but my artwork shows a young woman on the cusp of turning 18. At 18, we can do something about our dreams – we can take action and vote.”

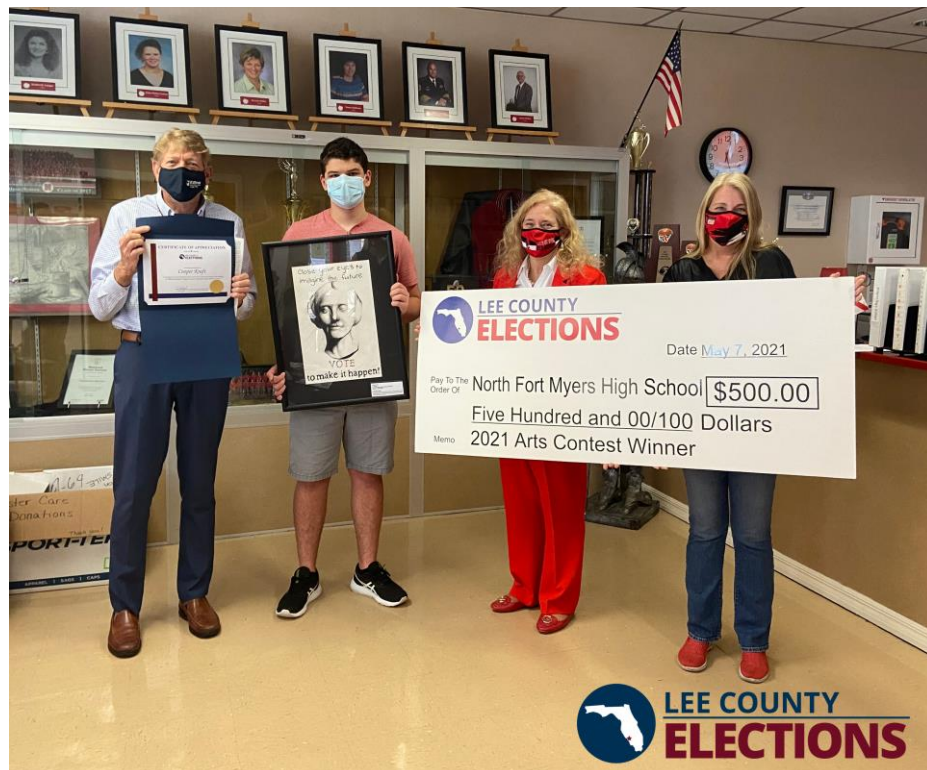
Alayna Calkins, a sophomore from Cypress Lake High School, won this year’s Second Place “Most Original Artwork” with an art piece depicting the importance of participation in voting, no matter what your political views are. She wrote, “Over the years, America has become a battlefield in regards to political views. Without eligible citizens voting, America would never be able to reach for the best results of its future. You are the missing piece to this puzzle; no matter what side you partake in; we will make the states united together.”

Cypress Lake High School junior Richard Riley’s Third Place “Most Creative Artwork” piece incorporates cultural symbols that resemble freedom in the United States. He explains his work “exhibits United States cultural symbols that resemble freedom such as the bald eagle, our American Flag, and our right to vote. Thus promoting how we are a country whose people are free to influence the nation as a whole and guide its progression. Showing just how important voting is for the country and its people.”

The Lee County Supervisor of Elections Office awarded First Place Winner Cooper Kraft with a gift card and a certificate of appreciation for participating in the contest. In support of local schools and the arts, Supervisor Doyle presented North Fort Myers High School Principal Debbie Diggs with a \$500 donation! A special thank you to Art Teacher Joy Williams for her support of the contest.



Cooper Kraft, First Place Winner



Left to Right: Tommy Doyle, Cooper Kraft, Joy Williams, & Debbie Diggs

Participants: *(in alphabetical order)*: Cypress Lake High School: Mckenzie Donahue, Kaitlyn Logue. Melaine Logue, Vanessa Moran, Sophia Morris, Jacinto Parra de Lao, Genesis Quiros, Irini Remboulis, Richard Riley, and Trinity Shain.

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2020-2021 High School Voter Registration Challenge Winners!

Lee County, FL (May 19, 2021) Lee Elections invited county high schools to compete among themselves in the 2020-2021 High School Voter Registration Challenge. The objective was to register the highest number of eligible students to vote and educate them about the election's process.

Lee County Supervisor of Elections, Tommy Doyle, is excited to announce the three winning high schools of the 2020-2021 High School Voter Registration Challenge:

First Place: Lehigh Senior High School (84 registrations)

Second Place: North Fort Myers High School (45 registrations)

Third Place: East Lee County High School (37 registrations)

The 2020-2021 High School Voter Registration Challenge was conducted differently due to COVID-19 and the subsequent health and safety guidelines implemented at the seven participating high schools. While in-person voter registration and education are ideal, the Community Education Services Department (CESD) adapted by reaching students through virtual presentations and digital material. Despite the added challenge of adjusting from in-person to virtual, our office received a total of **248** registrations from students ages 16 and above.

Although the High School Challenge was different from past years, the Community Education Services Department's goals remained the same: to encourage students to become active voters, dispel doubts and misconceptions about the voting process, and impress upon them that through participation, they have the power to choose the leaders of their local, state, and federal government.

We are grateful for our students' ability to adjust to new guidelines and for the teachers and school personnel who provided space in their schedule for the Community Education Services Department's virtual presentations.

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Nina Mendes is the Lee County Recipient of the 2021 Florida Supervisors of Elections Scholarship

Lee County, FL (June 18, 2021) Lee County Supervisor of Elections Tommy Doyle is pleased to announce that Nina Mendes of Florida Gulf Coast University is a recipient of the “Dorothy Walker Ruggles Scholarship” awarded by the Florida Supervisors of Elections (FSE) Scholarship Foundation on Wednesday, June 16, at the 2021 Annual FSE Summer Conference

Each year, the FSE awards \$1,200.00 scholarships to three or more deserving Florida undergraduate students. A student must be enrolled or accepted as a full-time student in a senior college or university in Florida, and must be a Political Science, Public Administration, Business Administration, Journalism, or Mass Media Communications major.

Mendes, a Journalism major, was the sole applicant from Lee County and received the highest score from the Scholarship Committee for her academic achievements and civic engagement. “Receiving this scholarship is a huge honor, and I’m incredibly thankful for this opportunity. Thank you

to Supervisor Doyle and everyone involved in making this decision. I was proud to accept this achievement and represent Southwest Florida at this year's FSE Conference.”

Nina works in the Communications Department at Valerie’s House, a Southwest Florida-based nonprofit dedicated to helping children grieve the loss of a parent or sibling. Her current role involves interviewing and writing articles about the families the organization supports. Nina is “passionate about sharing their stories and allowing their voices to be heard.” She plans to continue working with Valerie’s House after graduating next spring.

Supervisor Doyle wishes Nina much success in her future endeavors and he is “proud to have a Lee County student be the recipient of the scholarship!”

About the FSE Scholarship Foundation

The FSE Scholarship honors three former Supervisors of Elections: Escambia County's Joe Oldmixon, Highland County's Jimmy Whitehouse, and Pinellas County's Dorothy Walker Ruggles. All of Florida’s 67 counties may participate. Each County Supervisor reviews applications received and selects one finalist to send to the FSE Scholarship Committee.



Secretary of State Laurel Lee, Nina Mendes, and Lee SOE Tommy Doyle



FLORIDA SUPERVISORS OF ELECTIONS

PO Box 350 | Tallahassee, FL 32302 | Telephone: (850) 599-9120

Florida Supervisors of Elections Message to Voters on Election Integrity

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2021 - 2022

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The strength of our nation rests on the ability that “We the People” have a voice in its governance and are confident in the integrity of our elections. In this hour, public trust in our elections is being systematically undermined, to the detriment of all Americans. During and after the 2020 Presidential Election, the integrity of our democracy has been challenged by misinformation, disinformation, and malinformation that sows discord and undermines trust in America’s electoral process.

As your Supervisors of Elections, and citizens of our own communities, we have dedicated our public service to the impartial administration of Florida’s election laws and conducting fair, honest, and accurate elections. Those laws make it easy to vote and hard to cheat. Florida voters can be confident in the professionals they elected to administer our elections, and the protections that ensure every ballot is counted accurately and only eligible Floridians are on the voter rolls.

Florida law requires that all voting in Florida is done using paper ballots. Those ballots can only be counted using certified machines that have been publicly tested before and after each election. And after every election, we always conduct a public audit to verify that the results are accurate.

Officials throughout Florida are confident in the integrity of our system. Governor Ron DeSantis recently stated that “What we do in Florida is, there’s a pre- and post-election audit that happens automatically. So, that has happened. It passed with flying colors in terms of how that’s going.”

Similarly, Secretary of State Laurel Lee, Florida’s Chief Election Officer said “We have already completed an audit of all 67 counties. And that audit demonstrated an exceedingly high level of election integrity and, again, demonstrated that our results were accurate, reliable.”

In the Gettysburg Address, President Lincoln proclaimed that the American people must dedicate themselves to ensuring that “Government of the people, by the people, for the people must not perish from the Earth.” It is through elections that government by the people is accomplished. In this spirit, we call on our fellow voters to dedicate themselves to learning about the many safeguards already in place that guarantee the accuracy of Florida’s elections.

We encourage you to get the facts from the trusted election experts in Florida. Contact your local Supervisor of Elections or visit their website to learn more about how elections are administered and the security measures in place that protect our votes.