



Indian River County

Supervisor of Elections

Leslie Rossway Swan

A Message From Supervisor Swan

Preparations are underway for the 4 elections our office will be conducting during the next eighteen months. Our poll worker coordinator, Samantha Pearsaul, has been busy composing new manuals for our upcoming poll worker training classes. She is also developing a new format for our instructional courses.

In December, our office upgraded our EVID's (electronic voter identification units) used for voter check-in, to the new state-of-the-art version which is smaller, more compact, and faster. The new version of EVID has several unique features which must be incorporated into our training program.



One way our staff is enhancing poll worker training is by employing new technology that enables our poll workers to experience voter check-in using simulated identification cards. These cards allow poll workers to practice swiping identification cards, checking that the ID is current and valid, and experiencing the "alerts" which are displayed on the voter's record. The new training approach is truly hands-on and mimics real world voting experiences in anticipation of the tremendous volume of voters that we anticipate in the upcoming Presidential election cycle.

Michelle Fields, a California native, received her Bachelor's Degree from California State University of Northridge. Michelle works at the front desk as an Elections Specialist assisting voters with daily questions and records maintenance. Michelle also collaborates with other departments. She helped create a winning entry for a local public relations award with Technical Programs Coord. Stephanie Nelson and is currently preparing for Poll Worker training with Poll Worker Coord. Sam Pearsaul and Voting Equipment & Logistics Coord. Shane Bias.

Meet Michelle Fields & Shane Bias



Shane is another gregarious addition to the Elections Office. An Indian River County native, Shane earned his Bachelor's Degree in Public Relations from Marshall University in West Virginia. He returned to IRC in 2014 and began working at the Elections Office in January 2015. Shane's main responsibilities include managing the warehouse and maintaining the voting equipment. Shane has been cross-training to learn the ropes of Poll Worker Orientation and Training and enjoys helping out with voter outreach programs.

We have some exciting news regarding voter registration procedures in the State of Florida. Governor Scott signed into legislation online voter registration (OVR), which will be implemented by October 2017. OVR will allow applicants to register online, eliminating the need to submit a paper application. OVR applicants will be processed utilizing information already gathered from applying for or updating their Driver's License or Florida Identification Card through the Florida Motor Vehicle and Highway Safety records. OVR is currently available in twenty states and has proven to be quite successful. Benefits of OVR include lower costs, more security and greater accuracy. Research also indicates that more people register to vote when online voter registration is available.

Registration Statistics

Republicans:	44,839
Democrats:	27,193
Other:	26,497
Total:	98,529

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Left: The Indian River County Supervisor of Elections Office was the recipient of an Image Award, a Judges Award and a Grand Image Award. The awards, presented at the Florida Public Relations Association's Image Awards Ceremony for the Treasure Coast, were in recognition of our absentee mailer postcard developed in preparation for the 2014 General Election, which increased the absentee ballot return rate by 51% and decreased the undeliverable rate by 56%.



Above: United Way Campaign Co-Chairs, Supervisor of Elections Leslie Swan and husband Mike Swan, a partner in the firm Rossway Swan Tierney Barry successfully led teams of volunteers in generating a record-breaking 2,791,065 for the United Way's 2015 Fundraising Campaign. Leslie and Mike have been involved with the United Way for many years, but this was the first time serving as Campaign Co-Chairs.

HOORAY!

Voter Feedback

Subject: Proof of Voter Registration

"Dear Kathy, Thank you so much for your help. It is a real pleasure (and actually astonishing) to receive something so quickly. It is no wonder my mother was so happy to live in Florida. Best regards, Maria"

CALENDAR

Apr 16: Impact 100 Election
Apr 16: Florida Public Relations Image Award Ceremony
Apr 21: St. Ed's Student Govt Election- Class Officers
Apr 28: Vero Beach HS Voter Registration Drive
Apr 30: Sebastian River HS Voter Registration Drive
May 1: Indian River Charter HS Voter Registration Drive
May 6: Sebastian River HS Student Govt Election
May 19: Vero Beach HS Student Govt Election
May 20: Poll Worker Orientation
May 21: Best Places to Work Awards Ceremony
May 25: Memorial Day (office closed)
Jun 19: 100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage in FL
Jun 26: Indian River County Employee Health Fair
Jun 30: Facility Tour: Advanced Citizens Academy
Jul 3: Office Closed in Observance of Independence Day

Did You Know?

June 19th marks the 100th anniversary of the first woman to vote in Florida, which happens to have taken place right here in Indian River County. Zena Dreier, cast her ballot in Fellsmere, FL on June 19, 1915. A celebration will be held on Friday, June 19 from 10-11 a.m. at the Fellsmere City Hall Auditorium (Old Schoolhouse Building) in honor of Mrs. Dreier and the men who helped bring about this monumental change.

VOTER OUTREACH



Above: **Indian River State College Job Fair**
Samantha Pearsaul and Stephanie Nelson traveled to Indian River State College's Main Campus in Fort Pierce to participate in their annual Job Fair. The purpose of their trip was to educate students about internships and poll worker opportunities for the upcoming 2016 election cycle.

Below: **Saint Edward's School Class Elections**
Students at Saint Edward's Upper School voted for their 2015-2016 Student Government officers and representatives using touch-screen machines programmed by the Elections Office. Over the last three months, **3,214** people from **13** schools have voted in **7** elections using one of **37** machines programmed by the Elections Office.



Above: **2015 Law Week Voter Drives**
The Elections Office conducted several voter registration drives during Law Week in association with the Indian River Lawyer's Auxiliary. Elections staff visited Sebastian, Vero and Indian River Charter High Schools and registered 148 students to vote during the week of April 27, 2015.

Below: **Democracy Class @ VBHS**
Each year the Elections Office is invited to Mr. O'Neill's student government classes to prepare students to register and participate in the democratic process. Democracy Class is a 45-minute presentation where students watch a video, listen to a presentation, hold a mock election & register to vote. In total, 67 students registered in one day!



THIS & THAT

♥♥♥ WE'RE *expecting!*

Samantha Pearsaul, Poll Worker Coordinator is expecting her first bundle of joy in August 2015!

Stephanie Nelson, Technical Programs Coordinator, is expecting her first in October 2015!



Pictured Left to Right: Anne Kroh, Dominique Taylor, Stephanie Nelson, Leslie Swan and Ann McFate

Elections Specialist Anne Kroh, Technical Programs Coordinator Stephanie Nelson and Supervisor of Elections Leslie Swan attended the annual Youth Guidance Breakfast at Quail Valley. Anne sits on the Board of Directors for YG and she and her husband Brian are long time mentors to Dominique and Destiny Taylor.

Tricia Boyle gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, Clara Evalyn, on Friday, April 24th. Tricia and her husband, Stephen, are so in love with their newest bundle of joy. Here she is enjoying a little Florida sunshine!

Impact 100 Election

This past April, we had the pleasure of conducting the annual election for Impact 100. This process determined which non-profits would receive over 400K in grant money. The Elections Office programmed 13 voting machines and tabulated 339 votes between absentee and in person voting. Members of Impact 100 prefer the ease of touch-screen voting machines over paper ballots and we are able to cut down the time required for voting to less than 30 minutes!

