

# THE POLL WATCHER

AN ONLINE NEWSLETTER FOR PRECINCT ELECTION OFFICIALS

## FROM THE DIRECTORS – *Paulette and Bill*

Thank you to all of you who have signed up to work on November 8<sup>th</sup> and came to the training classes. As we stated in class, there aren't many changes effective for this election as it relates to your poll worker duties and responsibilities.

For those of you who are working outside of your precinct and must vote absentee, please be aware that you must vote in our office prior to 6:00 P.M. on Friday November 4<sup>th</sup>. We will be open Saturday October 29<sup>th</sup> from 8 until Noon, as well as weekdays from 8 until 4 through next Thursday. On Friday the 4<sup>th</sup>, we will be open until 6:00 P.M. We previously announced that we would be open Saturday November 5<sup>th</sup> and Monday November 7<sup>th</sup> for absentee voting. House Bill 224 revised this deadline to Friday at 6:00 P.M. Many of you previously voted absentee on supply pick-up day on Monday November 7<sup>th</sup>, **but this is no longer allowed. You must vote absentee by Friday Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M.**

Please take advantage of our open practice on Monday October 31<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday November 1<sup>st</sup> from 9 A.M. until 3 P.M. in the lower level classroom. This is a great opportunity for you to review the set-up and tear-down procedures hands-on and increase your level of confidence prior to the election. You may spend as much or as little time practicing as you wish, and you may come individually or with your other poll workers.

Presiding Assistants (PA's) must still accompany the Presiding Judge to return supplies to the Board of Elections at the close of polls. Paychecks for all poll workers should be issued by the 18<sup>th</sup> of November or sooner, depending on the work load of the county's finance department. We usually submit the election payroll to finance the day following the election.

Again, we sincerely appreciate your willingness to serve as Precinct Election Officials.



## Richland County Board of Elections

1495 W. LONGVIEW AVE.  
SUITE 101  
MANSFIELD, OHIO 44906

Phone 419.774.5530  
Fax 419.774.5534

[boardofelections@richlandcountyoh.us](mailto:boardofelections@richlandcountyoh.us)  
[www.richlandcountyoh.us/boe](http://www.richlandcountyoh.us/boe)

GENERAL ELECTION DAY  
NOVEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2011

**Remember to vote absentee by  
Friday November 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M.!**

### QUESTIONS FROM POLL WORKER TRAINING CLASS

**1. May a person with a Concealed Carry Permit bring a gun into the polling place?**

**Answer** – We are still waiting on an answer from the Secretary of State's Office. We will address this in the Presiding Judge memo distributed on pick-up day.

**2. The Observer fact sheet states that no uniformed officer may serve as an Observer – how can the poll worker determine if the Observer is a Police Officer, Fireman, etc?**

**Answer** – This rule only refers to the fact that no observer should be in uniform at the polls. It's intimidating to the voters to enter the polling place to vote and see a person in uniform watching the voting process.

### Calendar of Events

Mon. Oct. 31 – Open Practice 9-3

Tues. Nov. 1 – Open Practice 9-3

Fri. Nov. 4 – Deadline to vote absentee

Mon. Nov. 7 – Pick-Up/Set-Up Day

Tues. Nov. 8 – Election Day

Wed. Dec. 7 – Filing Deadline for March 2012 Election

### Provisional Voting Reminders

- Make sure the Provisional Voter is voting in the correct precinct for their new address. If you're in a vote center, be sure they're at the right check-in table. You must direct them to the correct precinct, and you must tell them their vote won't count if they cast their ballot in the incorrect precinct.
- If a Voter changed their address with the Board of Elections prior to the Election, but their address on their Driver's License still shows their former address, they can vote a regular ballot (not Provisional). They need to provide you with the last 4 digits of their Social Security Number (list this number on the 6:30 A.M. blank hanging list).
- Be sure that the front of the Grey Provisional Envelope is completely filled out and signed by both the Voter and the Poll Worker. The back of this envelope only needs to be filled out and signed by the Poll Worker.
- If your precinct has splits, check the split number in your electronic poll book for the Provisional Voter's new address and issue the appropriate paper ballot. The paper ballots are bundled with a band which is clearly marked with the precinct and split information.
- Double-check both sides of grey envelope before dropping it into the slot of the red provisional bag to make sure it's completely filled out and signed by the voter and the poll worker

ABSENTEE REQUESTS, CANDIDATE AND ISSUE LISTS, POLLING PLACE LOCATIONS, AND MORE ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.RICHLANDCOUNTYOH.US/BOE](http://WWW.RICHLANDCOUNTYOH.US/BOE)

*"The largest party in America is neither the Democrats nor the Republicans. It's the party of non-voters."*

– Robert Reich



Place "Vote Here" Signs near road where passers-by will see them and be reminded to vote.



Flags should be placed to mark the boundaries of the 100 ft. radius from the polling place entrance. No campaigning or electioneering is allowed within this area.

### MISCELLANEOUS NOTES & REMINDERS

- Observers may be present in each precinct – they must present form #215 "Certificate of Appointment" to the PJ upon arrival and be read the oath of office
- Poll workers do not ask party affiliation in a General
- 17 year old voters may not vote in a General
- No cell phones or electronic devices allowed in polling place, except for poll workers, rovers and media
- Media may enter the polling place if they're not disruptive to the voting process
- Write-Ins are certified for the City of Ontario only
- Your Rover name and cell numbers will be distributed to the PJ on pick-up day
- Call 911 if a voter or poll worker becomes ill, or if you have an irate person at your polling location, or other emergency
- Revert to creating voter access cards on your encoder if your Electronic Poll Book fails and contact our office or your Rover immediately
- Provisionals must be voted on Paper Ballots and placed in gray envelope
- The Poll Worker signs "ENV" in the EP for a Curbside voter which denotes that the voter has signed the Gold Envelope
- Poll Workers or Voters may not discuss candidates or issues, or politics in general, at the polls
- Anyone of their choice may assist a voter, except a candidate, the Voter's Boss, or their Union Representative. If Poll Workers assist the voter, you must have one worker from each party present. If a poll worker's spouse or other family member is voting, this poll worker should not assist them unless a poll worker of the opposite party is present

BY LAW, THE COUNTY SHERIFF IS ON CALL FOR IMMEDIATE RESPONSE TO THE POLLS ON ELECTION DAY

*'The most important single ingredient in the formula of success is knowing how to get along with people.'*

- Theodore Roosevelt

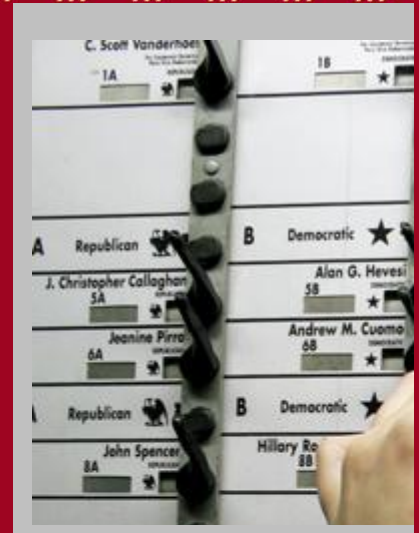
# THE POLL WATCHER

## **2012 Elections**

*As it stands now, the Primary Election for U. S. Senate and the Local Candidates and Issues will be Tuesday March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The Primary Election for U. S. Congressional Representative and U. S. President will be Tuesday June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012. You will notice that the June date is actually the second Tuesday of June, not the first Tuesday after the first Monday which is how all other election dates are determined.*

*No August Special Election is allowed in 2012 as a result of the additional Primary. The General Election in 2012 is scheduled for Tuesday November 6<sup>th</sup>.*

*Please let us know as soon as possible if you are unable to work any of the above listed election dates. It will be a very challenging and busy year for all of us!*



**Remember the old lever voting machines?**

## **RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

MARK ARNOLD, CHAIR  
JOSEPH H. MUDRA, VICE-CHAIR  
CASSANDRA M. STEIN, MEMBER  
MICHAEL A. CASTO, MEMBER

### **ADMINISTRATION**

PAULETTE HANKINS, DIRECTOR  
BILL FREYTAG, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

### **STAFF**

DEBBIE OBENOUR, IT TECHNICAL SUPPORT ELECTION SPECIALIST V  
ANDREW BRINLEY, ELECTION SPECIALIST II, CARRIE HILL, ELECTION SPECIALIST II

Please visit the Secretary of State's Online Training  
[www.ohioelectiontraining.com](http://www.ohioelectiontraining.com)