



Election Judge News

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'Tis the Season!

Hello, and welcome to the final issue of the newsletter for 2021!

In this issue, we remind you of some additional opportunities to serve the voters of Washington County (while picking up a little extra cash!), and we make a plea to return your election judge application, if you haven't already done so, as well as turn in any past election judge manuals you may have lying around the house.

Also, several important holidays are celebrated in December.

Whichever holiday you celebrate (or don't!), we hope you are able to spend it with the ones you love, and we wish you a happy and healthy New Year!

2022 Election

The details of the upcoming election are slowly taking shape. Here are some updates and how you can get involved in 2022:

- **Early Voting**—Our two Early Voting Centers were approved by the State Board of Elections (SBE) on Thursday, December 16th. The two Early Voting Centers are:
 - 1) Washington County Election Center, 17718 Virginia Avenue, Hagerstown, and
 - 2) Washington County Free Library, 100 S. Potomac Street, Hagerstown.

We can use your help in staffing either of those Early Voting Centers. Many election judges use this opportunity to further familiarize themselves with the election process ahead of Election Day, sort of a supplement to their training. Not to mention you get the same Election Day pay for each Early Voting day you work!

Your Election Judge Application included an area where you could volunteer to work Early Voting. If you didn't check that box but are still interested in working Early Voting, please let us know.

- **Drop Boxes**—We are proposing six Ballot Drop Boxes for 2022, spread throughout the county. The proposed drop boxes will be located at:

- 1) Washington County Election Center, 17718 Virginia Avenue, Hagerstown
- 2) Washington County Free Library, 100 S. Potomac Street, Hagerstown
- 3) Boonsboro Town Hall, 21 N. Main Street, Boonsboro
- 4) Clear Spring Town Hall, 146 Cumberland Street, Clear Spring
- 5) Hancock Town Hall, 126 High Street, Hancock

- 6) Smithsburg Town Hall, 21 W. Water Street, Smithsburg

Since there are more drop boxes, stretched from Boonsboro to Hancock, we will utilize multiple bipartisan teams to do our daily pickups.

So yet another opportunity for you to work some additional hours in support of the election, and remember: not only do you get paid for your time, but we pay your mileage expenses as well!

Applications

If you have not yet sent in your Election Judge Application, please do so soon. We will soon be in the process of placing election judges in their assigned polling places and preparing for the upcoming training.

If you misplaced your application, you can find all the required documents on our website at washco-mdelections.org/become-an-election-judge.

Binders

We are currently working on the Election Judge Training Manual for the 2022 election.

Every election we provide each election judge with a training manual that they can hold onto from the Primary to the General Election.





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Binders (cont.)

On General Election night, we ask that all manuals be turned in with the rest of the supplies. We do this, because we recycle the binders to be used in the next election.

The chief judges are responsible for ensuring everyone turns their manual in, but we recognize that the chiefs have a lot on their minds on election night.

If you still have your manual from past elections (and can locate it), please drop it off at our office, so that we can reuse it, rather than purchase new ones.

We appreciate it, and so do the taxpayers of Washington County!

Some Holiday Trivia

We found these backstories on some of the most popular holiday songs and thought you might find it interesting:

Jingle Bells

Did you know "Jingle Bells" was the first song played in space?

On December 16, 1965, Gemini VI astronauts Tom Stafford and Wally Schirra played "Jingle Bells" on the harmonica and bells for Mission Control in Houston as a prank, pretending to see Santa flying by in space.

Also, "Jingle Bells," originally written by James Lord Pierpont in 1850, was first performed at a Thanksgiving Sunday school service.

The song gained world wide fame when Bing Crosby and the Andrews Sisters recorded it in 1943.

White Christmas

When Irving Berlin first completed "White Christmas" in

1940, he proclaimed that, not only was it the greatest song he'd ever written, it was the greatest song EVER written.

One thing is certain: it is the most popular of the more than 1,500 songs Berlin wrote over his 80 year career.

Bing Crosby's version of the song has sold over 50 million copies, making it the best selling pop single of all time.

It's initial popularity can be attributed to the World War II years, when service members and their families were separated and longed to be with their loved ones again.

The song evokes a nostalgia and even sense of sadness that endears it to its fans.

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer

"Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" was first recorded by Gene Autry in 1949, then made into a stop-motion television program in 1964.

But Rudolph first appeared on the cover of Montgomery Ward's annual promotional coloring booklet for Christmas, 1939.

Robert L. May, a Dartmouth educated copy writer for Montgomery Ward's catalog, was given the assignment to create a brand new character in early 1939.

May's favorite story as a young boy was "The Ugly Duckling," because as a small and shy child, he identified with the character. So Rudolph was based on the small bird that eventually became a beautiful swan.

At the time that May was writing the story, his wife was dying. She passed away shortly before he finished the story.

His employer offered to pass the assignment off to someone else, but he needed Rudolph more than ever, and he gratefully buried himself in the writing.

When finished, he read the story to his toddler daughter and in-laws, and he knew from their reaction, he had accomplished what he had hoped.

Source: getpocket.com

Training Center

From the Election Judge Training Manual, Chapter I, about children in the voting booth:

1.18 General Policies About

Voters

1.18.2 Children Accompanying Voters

Children who are 17 years of age or younger may go with a voter into the voting area. The child must stay with the voter and must not disturb or interrupt normal voting procedures.

Anyone who is 18 years of age or older must complete a *Voter Assistance Form* if he or she goes with a voter into the voting area.

Trivia Question

What was the first company that used Santa Claus in advertising?

Answer below:



Happy Holidays from the Washington County Board of Elections!