

# Coronavirus and Elections 2020

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## **LATEST CHANGES (5/5/20-5/20/20)**

### **PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY FOR DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES**

The Presidential Primary has been restored and will occur on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Hand Sanitizers will be available at polling sites and voters are encouraged to wear face masks when voting. Practicing social distancing will help keep voters and poll inspectors safer. Polls will be open on Election Day, the 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 6 AM to 9 PM. Early voting will also be available in the County Office Building as follows:

- Saturday June 13<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> – 9AM to 2 PM
- Monday June 15<sup>th</sup> – 9 AM to 5 PM
- Tuesday June 16<sup>th</sup> – 9 AM to 8 PM
- Wednesday June 17 – 9 AM to 5 PM
- Thursday June 18<sup>th</sup> – 9 AM to 8 PM
- Friday June 19<sup>th</sup> – 9 AM to 5 PM
- Saturday June 20<sup>th</sup> and Sunday June 21<sup>st</sup> – 9 AM to 2 PM

### **EXPANDED ABSENTEE BALLOTING OPPORTUNITY -- PPRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY**

Due to the Coronavirus epidemic and the potential for the virus to be lingering in our community and with concern for the health and safety of Poll Inspectors and Voters, Absentee Balloting in the June 23<sup>rd</sup> Presidential Primary is strongly encouraged. This opportunity is only available for the June 23<sup>rd</sup> primary.

- An application is being sent to all registered Democrats and a postage paid return envelope will be provided. It must be completed and returned.
- For all valid applications, an absentee ballot will be sent out prior to the election and a postage paid return envelope will be provided the voter.
- Balloting instructions will be provided with the ballot.
- All absentee ballots must be mailed on or before June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

If you believe you are entitled to this absentee balloting procedure and have not received your application by June 6<sup>th</sup>, please contact the Yates County Board of Elections at 315-536-5135

## **ADDITIONAL BALLOT ACCESS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

During these difficult times, individuals who may have difficulty completing an absentee ballot application or absentee ballot will have access to a Ballot Marking Device commencing June 1<sup>st</sup> in the Yates County Board of Elections Offices. If the County Office Building is not yet fully open for business, you may gain access to complete a ballot by calling the Board of Elections at 315-536-5135-0.

## **CONSOLIDATION OF VOTING DISTRICTS**

Election Districts Jerusalem 1 & 4, normally held in the Keuka Park Fire Hall are moved to the Branchport Fire Hall; and Election District Milo 4 normally held in the Himrod Fire Hall is moved to the Penn Yan Academy. Postal cards notifying affected voters of these changes will be mailed to their home addresses.

## **OLDER CHANGES AND NEWS**

**VILLAGE ELECTIONS:** Village Elections are scheduled for September 15<sup>th</sup>. All of the ballots and election preparations for the Penn Yan Village Election are frozen and will be used on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Prior absentee ballots are still valid. Any person requesting an absentee ballot for the new date may apply to the Board of Elections and ballots will be sent out in August. The rules governing this Village Absentee Ballot are not affected by the Governor's Executive Orders and will follow the more restrictive reasons used prior to the COVID-19 special rules.

**SCHOOL DISTRICT VOTING:** All school elections originally scheduled for May will be held June 9<sup>th</sup>. Watch for meeting and balloting information from your school district.

**STATE PRIMARY (June 23<sup>rd</sup>):** The Serve American Movement (SAM) party will have a primary election to determine which of two candidates will become a SAM state committee member. This election has been scheduled for June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Ballots and Affidavit voting procedures will be at all polling sites and early voting.

**GENERAL ELECTION:** The General Election is unchanged and is scheduled for November 3<sup>rd</sup>. In this election, there will be contests for President, Congress, State Supreme Court Judges, State Senate and Assembly, Yates County Coroner and Town of Jerusalem Town Board. At this time, the rules governing this

Absentee Ballot are not affected by the Governor's Executive Orders and will follow the more restrictive reasons used prior to the COVID-19 special rules.

**BOARD OF ELECTIONS OFFICE REMAINS CLOSED:** A reduced staff is physically in the office to process phone calls and mail. Walk in public access to the office has been halted until June 1<sup>st</sup> and all business is being conducted remotely by email or phone.

**UPDATES:** This web page will be updated as information is received from the Governor's Office, the State Board of Elections and the Yates County Administrator