



### A Message from Lori:

Happy Holidays and warm wishes from your Election Team!

As 2016 comes to a close, we reflect back on our accomplishments: successfully conducting the Presidential Primary Election in March, five city elections in April, the Statewide Primary in

## A Look Forward

2017 is already looking pretty busy -- there are two municipal election dates -- April 4th and November 7th. In April, the cities of Bartow, Dundee, Davenport, Eagle Lake, Frostproof, Haines City, Hillcrest Heights, Highland Park, Lake Alfred, Lake Hamilton, Lake Wales, Mulberry, and Polk City have the potential for an election. In November, the cities of Auburndale, Fort Meade, Lakeland, and Winter Haven will take their turn. Election Workers will be needed, so be sure to keep your contact information up to date if you'd like to be considered.

As we prepare for these elections, we'll carefully consider the valuable feedback many of you provided to see how we can implement your good ideas. We'll also concentrate on training and staff development, to ensure that our office is keeping up with best practices and new technological advances. And some of our managers will be attending classes that are part of the Florida Certified Election Professionals program.

We'll continue to grow our team by conducting new

August, and the largest Presidential Election in history in November, not to mention opening our new Operations Center in May. We've had quite a year!

We often use the phrase "it takes a team," and we saw the reality of that statement over and over again throughout this year. The success of Polk County's elections, in large part, lies in the dedicated service of each and every one of you. From attending training classes, working long hours at an early voting or election day polling place, helping out at our Operations Center, or helping recruit additional team members, each of you did your part to ensure fair and accurate elections for our county, our state, and our nation. You have much to be proud of.

election worker orientation sessions throughout the year, and hope you'll help by recruiting people who have what it takes to get the job done.

And, as part of her continuing effort to monitor and affect legislation that impacts voters, Lori Edwards will be joining other Supervisors of Elections from around the state to advocate for voter privacy, working to advance a bill that will help keep voter data off the internet.



## A Fond Farewell

It is with sad, but joyful hearts that we say "so long" to two very dear members of our election team. Debbie and Nick Nicholson are retiring after 14 years of dedicated service to Polk County's voters. Most of you know Debbie (top left) from talking with her on the phone or signing in with her at training. Many of you know Nick (top right) from voting equipment or deputy training, or greeting you as you arrived. Debbie and Nick plan to get a little "R & R," then they will be off to see the sights. While they will be sorely missed, we wish them well as they begin their next great adventure!

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# Quick Links

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## 2016 Presidential Election

### Polk County Voter Turnout

Eligible Voters	407,647
Ballots Cast	289,068
Voter Turnout	71%

### How They Voted

