

TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

INSPECTOR NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 1 SUMMER 2008

*PREVIOUS ISSUES ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE

The 90/10 Principle will change the way you react to situations. 10% of life is made up of what happens; 90% is decided by how you react. We have no control over 10% of what happens; the other 90% is different. How? By your reaction.

NEW VOTING SYSTEM

The Tioga County Board of Elections Commissioners have ordered Sequoia's optical scan voting device to comply with the federal government overhaul of our voting system. The Sequoia Voting System (ballot marking device) BMD uses paper ballots that are counted electronically. A portion of the assembly will take place, right here, in Owego, NY at Harvard Manufacturing. Eighteen new devices were ordered and will be shipped to Albany for testing before delivery to our county. The cost of the new voting machines will be paid for mostly with federal money, although counties have to contribute five percent of the total. The device will only be used for the disabled this year. Next year, the new optical scanners will replace the lever voting machines that have been used throughout the state for decades. There will be more news and updates as they become available. Voters will be facing many exciting changes in the coming year....stay tuned!



PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

- ◆ Nine presidents never attended college: Washington, Jackson, Van Buren, Taylor, Fillmore, Lincoln, A. Johnson, Cleveland, and Truman.
- ◆ Franklin D Roosevelt was the first president to appear on television.
- ◆ The college that has the most presidents as alumni (six in total) is Harvard: J. Adams, J.Q. Adams, T. Roosevelt, F. Roosevelt, Kennedy, and G.W. Bush (business school).
- ◆ Fourteen presidents served as vice presidents: J. Adams, Jefferson, Van Buren, Tyler, Fillmore, A. Johnson, Arthur, T. Roosevelt, Coolidge, Truman, Nixon, L. Johnson, Ford, and George H.W. Bush.
- ◆ John Tyler fathered the most children.
- ◆ Ronald Reagan was the only President who had been divorced.
- ◆ The oldest **elected** president was Reagan (age 69); the youngest was Kennedy (age 43). T. Roosevelt, however, was the youngest man to become president - he was 42 when he succeeded McKinley, who had been assassinated. The "Oldest Living" former president was G. Ford, who was born on 7/14/1913, and died on 12/27/2006, at age 93.
- ◆ James Buchanan had two different colored eyes.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- ◆ **SEPTEMBER 9, 2008**
PRIMARY ELECTION
(POLLS OPEN 12 NOON TO 9PM) **INSPECTORS ARRIVE BY 11:30AM**
- ◆ **NOVEMBER 4, 2008**
GENERAL ELECTION
(POLLS OPEN 6AM TO 9PM) **INSPECTORS ARRIVE BY 5:30AM**

EXTRA...EXTRA
IF YOU KNOW OF ANY FRIENDS OR FAMILY THAT WOULD LIKE TO BECOME ELECTION INSPECTORS, PLEASE NOTIFY OUR OFFICE ASAP!

Contact Information:

Democratic Inspectors:

Call 687-8219 or email

Cinda Lou Goodrich

goodrichc@co.tioga.ny.us

Republican Inspectors:

Call 687-8218 or email

Bernadette M Toombs

toombsb@co.tioga.ny.us

Check our website

[http://](http://www.tiogacountyny.com/departments/legislature/boe/index.php)

[www.tiogacountyny.com/
departments/legislature/boe/
index.php](http://www.tiogacountyny.com/departments/legislature/boe/index.php)

“THINGS WILL GET BETTER—DESPITE OUR BEST EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THEM”
WILL ROGERS



It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold:
when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade.
~Charles Dickens~

BECOMING A PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE DEMOCRAT

To become the Democratic nominee for president, a candidate has to be nominated by a majority of delegates attending the Democratic Convention in Denver, Colorado in August 2008.

A candidate has to win a simple majority of 2,024 delegates out of a total of 4,047 to win the 2008 nomination.

REPUBLICAN

To become the Republican nominee for president, a candidate has to be nominated by a majority of delegates attending the Republican National Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota in September 2008.

A candidate has to win a simple majority of 1,191 delegates out of 2,380 to win the nomination.

WHERE DOES THE VICE PRESIDENT LIVE?

In July 1974 Congress designated a house on the southeast corner of 34th Street and Massachusetts Avenue in Washington, DC where the vice president of the United States would live. Located on the grounds of the US Naval Observatory, the house was built in 1893 for the Superintendent of the Observatory.

Before 1974, vice presidents either bought a temporary home in Washington, DC or stayed at hotels.

Gerald and Betty Ford were the first family to live in the house. But the resignation of Richard Nixon occurred before renovations on the house were completed, and the Fords headed to the White House. New Vice President Nelson Rockefeller, of the wealthy Rockefeller family, used the house mainly to entertain.

The first full-time residents were Walter Mondale, Jimmy Carter’s vice president, and his wife, Joan, in 1977.

The house is a three story, white painted brick, Victorian-style home with 9,150 square feet of floor space. It served as the home of the chief of the Naval Observatory beginning in 1929. This is why people often call it the Admiral’s House.



CAN YOU GUESS WHICH U.S. PRESIDENTS COINED THE FOLLOWING PHRASES?

1. “A HOUSE DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF CANNOT STAND.”
2. “I HAVE NEVER BEEN HURT BY ANYTHING I DIDN’T SAY.”
3. “SPEAK SOFTLY AND CARRY A BIG STICK.”
4. “HONESTY IS THE FIRST CHAPTER OF THE BOOK OF WISDOM.”
5. “THE ONLY THING WE HAVE TO FEAR IS FEAR ITSELF.”

1. Abraham Lincoln, 16th President 2. Calvin Coolidge, 30th President 3. Theodore Roosevelt, 26th President 4. Thomas Jefferson, 3rd President 5. Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 32nd President

ABSENTEE VOTER INFORMATION

The 2008 U. S. presidential and state primary season has begun. We encourage you to act now so that your opinion is heard – not only in the November 2008 presidential and general elections, but also in the presidential primary and state primary elections! The official U.S. Government website for overseas absentee voting assistance is the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP), www.fvap.gov.

Generally, all U.S. citizens 18 years or older who are or will be residing outside the United States during an election period are eligible to vote absentee in any election for Federal office. This includes primary, run-off, and special elections that occur throughout the year, as well as the general election in November 2008. Some states allow overseas voters to vote in elections for state and local offices, and for state and local referendums. Voting eligibility and residency requirements are determined by the various U.S. states, and are available on-line at <http://fvap.gov/pubs/vag.html>. Your "legal state of residence" for voting purposes is the state where you last resided immediately prior to departure from the United States. Voting rights extend to overseas citizens even though they may no longer own property or have other ties to their last state of residence, and even if their intent to return to that state may be uncertain. For those who have never resided in the U.S., sixteen states, to date, allow eligible U.S. citizens to register where a parent would be eligible to vote.

Non-partisan information about candidates, their voting records, and their positions on issues is widely available and easy to obtain via the Internet. Use the links appearing on the FVAP website at <http://www.fvap.gov/links/otherlinks.html>. Read your hometown newspaper on-line, or search the Internet to locate articles and information.

WHAT ARE DEMOCRATIC SUPERDELEGATES???

IF YOU HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING THE TIGHTLY CONTESTED RACE TO CHOOSE A DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE, YOU'VE PROBABLY HEARD THE TERM SUPERDELEGATE. TO PARAPHRASE WIKIPEDIA, MOST DELEGATES ARE SELECTED THROUGH PARTY PRIMARIES AND CAUCUSES. HOWEVER, A MINORITY OF DELEGATES ARE 'UNPLEDGED' AND KNOWN AS SUPERDELEGATES. SUPERDELEGATES ARE SEATED BASED SOLELY ON THEIR STATUS AS CURRENT OR FORMER ELECTED OFFICEHOLDERS AND PARTY OFFICIALS. THEY ARE FREE TO SUPPORT ANY CANDIDATE FOR THE NOMINATION, ALTHOUGH MANY OF THEM HAVE PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED ENDORSEMENTS. SUPERDELEGATES TO THE 2008 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION INCLUDE ALL DEMOCRATIC MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS, DEMOCRATIC GOVERNORS, VARIOUS ADDITIONAL ELECTED OFFICIALS, MEMBERS OF THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE, AS WELL AS "ALL FORMER DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTS, ALL FORMER DEMOCRATIC VICE PRESIDENTS, ALL FORMER DEMOCRATIC LEADERS OF THE U.S. SENATE, ALL FORMER DEMOCRATIC SPEAKERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND DEMOCRATIC MINORITY LEADERS, AS APPLICABLE, AND ALL FORMER CHAIRS OF THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE. AT THE 2008 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION, THE SUPERDELEGATES WILL COMPOSE APPROXIMATELY ONE-FIFTH OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DELEGATES.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE TIOGA COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY, PLEASE CONTACT:

ART MYERS, TIOGA COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CHAIRPERSON—607-687-3281

OR VISIT [HTTP://DEMOCRATS.GREATEROWEGO.NET/](http://democrats.greaterowego.net/)

WHAT ARE REPUBLICAN DELEGATES???

DELEGATES ARE AWARDED BASED ON THE RESULTS OF PRIMARIES, CAUCUSES AND/OR CONVENTION VOTES. THERE ARE SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES IN THE WAY NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES ARE CHOSEN FROM STATE TO STATE. SOME STATES AWARD DELEGATES TO CANDIDATES ON A "WINNER-TAKE-ALL" BASIS, MEANING THAT THE CANDIDATE WITH THE MOST VOTES IN A STATE DURING A PRIMARY ELECTION IS AWARDED ALL OF THAT STATE'S DELEGATES. OTHER STATES AWARD DELEGATES IN PROPORTION TO EACH CANDIDATE'S SHARE OF THE PRIMARY VOTE. ANOTHER IMPORTANT DISTINCTION IS WHETHER DELEGATES ARE "BOUND" OR "NOT BOUND" TO VOTE FOR THE SAME CANDIDATE THE VOTERS IN HIS OR HER STATE OR DISTRICT SUPPORTED IN THE PRIMARY. THESE RULES ALSO VARY WIDELY BY STATE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE TIOGA COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY, PLEASE CONTACT:

DON LEONARD, TIOGA COUNTY REPUBLICAN CHAIRPERSON—607-589-4501

OR VISIT TIOGAGOP@YAHOO.COM

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HOW THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE ELECTS THE PRESIDENT

When you vote for a presidential candidate you are really voting to instruct the electors from your state to vote for the same candidate.

Electoral College representation is based on congressional representation; states with larger populations get more Electoral College votes.

While the state electors are "pledged" to vote for the candidate to the party that chose them, nothing in the Constitution requires them to do so.

Critics of the Electoral College system point out that the system allows the possibility of a candidate actually losing the nationwide popular vote, but being elected by the electoral vote. Can that happen? Yes, and it has.

WE'RE ON THE WEB

[HTTP://WWW.TIOGACOUNTYNY.COM/DEPARTMENTS/
LEGISLATURE/BOE/INDEX.PHP](http://www.tiogacountyny.com/departments/legislature/boe/index.php)

**Tioga County Board of Elections
56 Main St
Owego, NY 13827**

Board of Elections News

We are pleased to welcome two new employees to our office.

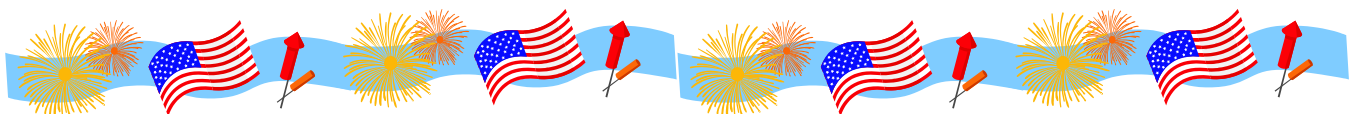
Joanne Worden and Lila Hall have joined us on a part time basis.

We welcome them and appreciate their knowledge and expertise.

You might get a chance to say hello if you call our office this summer.

We also send thanks to our loyal inspectors who will be unable to work this year:

Jacqueline Pokrinchak, Helen Chandanais, Julianna Zamoiski, Emma Jane Van Vorce.



IF YOU AREN'T PART OF THE PROCESS, YOU ARE PART OF THE PROBLEM!