



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the Director

Special Election Season

Spring sees several special elections

National Clearinghouse Awards

BVRE once again in the national spotlight with duo Clearies

SCARE Midyear Conference

Election leaders prepare to attend midyear gathering

College Partnership Checkup

Reviewing BVRE's college partnership made possible by federal grant

Outreach Updates

Efforts keeping voters informed, engaged year-round

2025 Municipal Elections Ahead

Local contests this fall are quickly approaching

STAY IN THE KNOW



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2

3

GET VOTE READY

4

Check your registration information, review your voting districts, and find your polling place by scanning the QR code!

5

6

7

8



Charleston County Board of Voter Registration & Elections

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



*Above: Charleston County Board of
Voter Registration and Elections
Executive Director Isaac Cramer*

As we wrap up a busy spring and head into summer, I want to thank our staff, election workers, and community partners for their continued dedication to ensuring accessible, secure, and smooth elections in Charleston County.

This latest season, our office successfully administered several special elections, giving thousands of residents the opportunity to make their voices heard on issues that directly impact their communities. We're proud of the professionalism and care our team brought to each contest, from candidate filing to certification.

I'm also proud to share that our work has been recognized nationally. We received two Clearinghouse Awards (Clearies) from the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) for our innovative efforts in accessibility and outreach. These awards reflect our team's creativity and passion for voter education, including our collaboration with Charleston County Public Library to publish *Owlbert Learns to Vote* and the continued progress of our Voter Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Across every initiative, our focus remains the same: serve every eligible voter with integrity, equity, and transparency.

As Executive Director, I believe that election administration is not just about accurately counting votes. It's about building trust, educating our community, and meeting people where they are. Whether it's managing the polls, attending a local festival, or taking on a volunteer shift with a community group, we are committed to being a responsive, people-first office. We know that elections belong to the public, and we are here to protect and support that process every day.

Thank you for staying engaged with your elections office and for supporting a stronger Charleston County.

Isaac Cramer
Executive Director



Follow us on social media!

SPECIAL ELECTION SEASON

Spring sees several special elections

This spring, thousands of Charleston County residents exercised their right to vote, participating in several important special elections that helped shape their local communities. The season kicked off with contests for South Carolina House District 113 and Mount Pleasant Town Council. In the statehouse race, Democratic candidate Courtney Waters ran unopposed, securing the seat. Meanwhile, Mount Pleasant voters had a more crowded field to navigate for their open town council seat, ultimately electing Mike Tinkey from a diverse slate of candidates.

The election season continued into May, with North Charleston residents tasked with filling two vacant city council seats. In City Council District 3, voters elected Stephanie Ganaway-Pasley to represent their interests on the council. Over in District 5, residents chose Christopher Emde as their new representative.

Local elections like these directly impact the quality of life in our neighborhoods, influencing everything from public safety and infrastructure to education and economic development. By participating, Charleston County residents help shape the future of their communities.

To learn more about the rest of the year's municipal contests, go to **Page 8**.



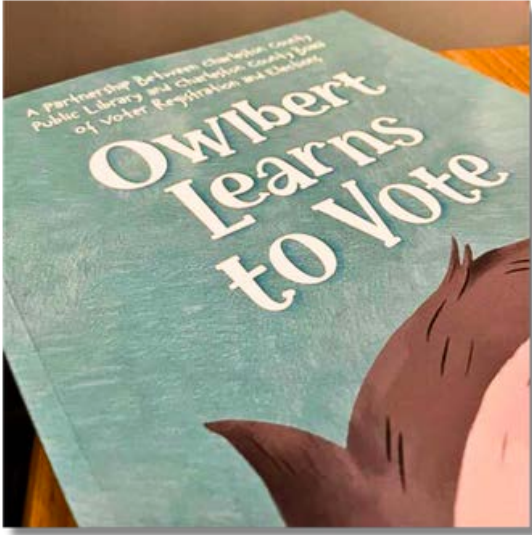
Are you vote ready?

You can find your polling location, view your sample ballot, and more, [from the comfort of your computer, smartphone, or tablet](#). Make sure you're prepared before heading to the polls!



NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE AWARDS

BVRE once again in the national spotlight with duo Clearies



Above: The cover to *Owlbert Learns to Vote* is pictured.

The Charleston County Board of Voter Registration and Elections (BVRE) has received two prestigious Clearies from the EAC, recognizing excellence in election administration.

BVRE won in the Communications category for *Owlbert Learns to Vote*, a children's book created with Charleston County Public Library (CCPL). The story uses Owlbert, the library's mascot, to introduce young readers to civic concepts like decision making, participation, and respectful disagreement. The project has gained national attention for its engaging approach to voter education.

Below: The U.S. Election Assistance Commission's logo is displayed.



The department also earned top honors for Accessibility, thanks to the launch of its Voter Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC). This committee brings together advocates and community members to improve voting access for residents with disabilities, ensuring that all eligible voters can participate in Charleston County elections.

These achievements continue BVRE's tradition of national recognition for voter-focused innovation. For more information about Charleston County elections, visit CHSVotes.gov.

SCARE MIDYEAR CONFERENCE

Election leaders prepare to attend midyear gathering

This summer, election officials from across South Carolina will gather for the South Carolina Association of Registration and Election Officials, Inc. (SCARE) Midyear Conference. Over several days, representatives from counties statewide will engage in valuable training, share best practices, and discuss the latest developments in election administration.

The Midyear Conference serves as a vital forum for election officials to collaborate, address emerging challenges, and explore innovative solutions designed to improve the voting experience for all South Carolinians. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in educational sessions covering a range of topics, from voter outreach strategies and cybersecurity measures to legislative updates and poll worker management.

With BVRE Executive Director Isaac Cramer continuing his term as SCARE President, Charleston County will once again be an active participant, continuing a commitment to maintaining high standards of service, accessibility, and transparency for voters. This annual gathering helps ensure that election officials across the state remain informed, connected, and prepared to administer secure and accessible elections.

For more information on SCARE and its efforts to support election officials statewide, visit scarenews.org.



Above: The logo for the South Carolina Association of Registration and Election Officials, Inc. is shown.





COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP CHECKUP

Reviewing BVRE's college partnership made possible by federal grant

BVRE is proud to continue its partnership with the College of Charleston through the EAC's Help America Vote College Program, a nationwide initiative designed to engage college students in the electoral process by recruiting them as poll workers.

This year, BVRE has enhanced its outreach efforts on campus, thanks in large part to the work of our dedicated intern, who has been actively promoting the program to her peers. Through student organization presentations and direct outreach, she has helped educate her fellow students about the importance of civic engagement while offering them a unique opportunity to serve their community on Election Day.

Her efforts have already led to an increase in interest among College of Charleston students, and BVRE is gathering information from those who wish to serve as election workers for upcoming contests. By participating, students gain firsthand experience in election administration, earn competitive pay, and build valuable skills in leadership, teamwork, and problem solving.

The Help America Vote College Program is a crucial tool for BVRE's commitment to cultivating the next generation of election officials and ensuring that Charleston County's polling places are staffed by a diverse, well-trained team for many years ahead.

For more information about the Help America Vote College Program, visit the [EAC's website](#).

Want to earn money, serve your community, and boost your resume? Scan the QR code and express your interest in being a poll worker!



OUTREACH UPDATES

Efforts keeping voters informed, engaged year-round



Above: Camp Road Middle School students participate in an activity during a visit from our outreach team.

This spring, our outreach team remained active across Charleston County, meeting voters at major events and community programs. We attended some of the season's most popular gatherings, such as the Charleston Black Expo, the MUSC Senior Expo, and the Blessing of the Fleet & Seafood Festival!

As the school year came to a close, we wrapped up a series of classroom visits and events aimed at educating and empowering the next generation of voters. Through our student engagement programs and partnerships like the Help America Vote College Program, we've continued building strong relationships with students and schools across the county.

And as we head into summer, our outreach will remain visible at libraries, community centers, and neighborhood events to ensure every resident has the tools they need to vote with confidence. Are you interested in having our team come to you? Reach out to us on our [website!](#)



Right: A table with giveaway items, forms, and other resources is set up at the Blessing of the Fleet & Seafood Festival.

2025 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS AHEAD

Local contests this fall are quickly approaching

Registration Deadline	Early Voting Period	Election Day
Sunday, October 5	Monday, October 20 - Friday, October 24 Monday, October 27 - Friday, October 31	Tuesday, November 4

Voting absentee?

Our office must receive completed applications for absentee ballots by 5 p.m. on Friday, October 24.

Be a Poll Manager!

- ★ Serve your community
- ★ Participate in the democratic process
- ★ Get paid for your work

