



KFRW ELECTIONS

KFRW Political Newsletter

May 31, 2015

WHERE O WHERE HAVE THE VOTER'S GONE?

Last year, after the mid-term elections, several reports went out talking about how low voter turnout was and that it was the worst turnout in 72 years. In a New York Times Article from November 2014, it was stated that not only was it the worst turnout since 1942, but it was "even worse for democracy". It is very frustrating, especially for candidates, and those who work so hard on campaigns, to see such low turnout. After walking neighborhoods, attending zillion's of events, making hundreds of phone calls, spending all that money on ads and mailers, what is a person to do? Kentucky Secretary of State, Alison Grimes, predicted that there would be a 10% turnout for the 2015 gubernatorial primary. We actually ended up with an unofficial report that Kentucky had roughly a 12% turnout. 399,000 ballots were cast out of 3.1 million registered voters. For those of us who are political activists, working so hard to educate people and get out the vote, it is very disheartening to read such dismal statistics.

The Center for Voting and Democracy lists several factors that affect voter turnout. Some of those are election type (primary, mid-term, presidential, etc.), voting laws, age, race, gender, and socio-economic status. Other research shows that ignorance of the issues, apathy toward the system, feeling that one vote won't be able to affect change, excuses of those that just don't want to be bothered to vote (Can't get off work, weather, traffic, no transportation, etc.), and on a national level, the west coast hearing the east coast returns and having the election called before your polls are closed.

You would think that options such as early voting, absentee voting, voting by mail (this is being done in some west coast states) that people would use these methods more often to vote. But even with these options, people are still not voting.

My personal opinion is that people are just plain apathetic to elections anymore. I talk to people all the time, who don't even know who the candidates are in a particular election, and you can tell they really don't care about trying to learn who they are. In current national elections, people are so discontent with the work congress is doing they don't seem to think it makes any difference if they vote or not. In the most recent Rasmussen report completed on May 6, 2015, 59% of voters continue to give the U.S. congress a poor rating.

Unfortunately, there aren't any quick fixes to these problems, but we must keep the faith and keep pushing forward. We must continue to deliver our message of hope and freedom and continue to "get out the vote" by whatever means possible. We can call, text, email, facebook, tweet and snap chat, and continue to do our best to encourage and educate the voters.

Debra Henley



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FIRST FEMALE STATE TREASURER FOR KENTUCKY

Allison Ball, a native of Kentucky and current bankruptcy lawyer, could be our first female State Treasurer if she wins in November. Allison just finished winning the state's primary where she ran against two other opponents getting 46.9% of the vote, which was 29,000 votes over the second place candidate. As Allison goes forward into the general election we wanted to ask her some questions that relate to the upcoming election and get her opinion regarding the office of State Treasurer. Her responses are below:

Question #1: What would you say is the major difference between you and your Democratic opponent, Rick Nelson, that makes you the better person for the job?

Answer: My background uniquely qualifies me to carry out the duties of Kentucky State Treasurer. I am a bankruptcy attorney. My whole job is to get people out of debt and no sound financial footing. I also served as a prosecutor for several years, so I learned how to fight for what is right. My financial training, coupled with my experience as a prosecutor, have prepared me to be a watchdog for our money.

Question #2: If elected what is the number one area of the Treasurer's office that you feel needs an overhaul?

Answer: As many people know the Treasurer is the keeper of the Commonwealth's money. What many people do not realize is that in that capacity, the Treasurer sits on several significant boards that deal with our State's finances, including the Board of the Kentucky Teacher's Retirement System, the Lottery Board, and the Investment Commission. It is imperative to have a Treasurer who is committed to fiscal responsibility and believes in conservative economic principles as a voice on those boards.

Question #3: One of your primary opponents, Jon Larson, has said the State Treasurer's office needs to be abolished—how do you feel about this?

Answer: It is important to clarify that the office of Kentucky State Treasurer is a constitutional office. It cannot be unilaterally eliminated by whoever holds the office. The office can only be significantly modified by amending the Kentucky Constitution which would require more than a majority vote in both the State House and Senate, and then a vote of approval by the people on a general election year. My role as Kentucky State Treasurer would be to fulfill my duties as directed in the Kentucky Constitution by serving as a watchdog for our money.

Question #4: The Kentucky House of Representatives recently passed HB261 regarding a Kentucky Retirement Account. The State Treasurer would be a part of the governing board for this account. What is your opinion of the Retirement Account?

Answer: This particular bill was promoted by our current State Treasurer, a Democrat, and related to state involvement for retirement benefits of Kentucky employees who work in the private sector. Kentucky is inadequately ensuring the retirement needs for its governmental employees, as well as those enrolled in the Kentucky's Teachers' Retirement System. As State Treasurer, I would recognize that my first priority is to ensure that we fulfill our contractual obligations to our public employees and teachers.

Allison goes on to say that she would like to express her gratitude to all of her fellow members of the Kentucky Federation of Republican Women, not only for electing her as the Republican nominee, but also for the friendship and support that she has received from the ladies for many years. Allison says *"As the only down ticket female candidate, and potentially the first Republican female State Treasurer, she especially wants to thank her fellow KFRW members for the ways that they have encouraged and influenced her. We have some strong, energetic, conservative women across the Commonwealth, and I am excited about the ways that we, as Republican women, will create an impact this year to take the governor's seat, as well as every other office on the ticket. I am humbled and honored to be one of you."*



Campaigns & Elections

Election Calendar

9/14— Deadline for printing of regular and absentee ballots

9/17—Last day for county clerks to mail absentee ballots to voter who request absentee ballots prior to the printing of the ballots. (within 3 days of the receipt of the printed ballots. Absentee ballots that are requested subsequent to the receipt of the ballots by the county clerks shall be mailed to the voter within 3 days of the receipt of the application)

11/3—ELECTION DAY

Congratulations

The KFRW would like to congratulate all of the Republican candidates that won their primaries. Now on to the general election where we wish you the best in your campaigning and look forward to helping you get elected in November.

Governor's Race: Matt Bevin/Jenean Hampton
531 Barberry Lane
Louisville, KY 40206
www.mattbevin.com
info@mattbevin.com

Secretary of State: Stephen Knipper
1480 Shirepeak Way
Independence, KY 41051
www.knipperweb.com
slk@knipperweb.com

State Treasurer: Allison Ball
389 Maple Ave
Prestonsburg, KY 41653
Ballforkkentucky.com
Allison@ballforkkentucky.com

State Attorney General: Whitney Westerfield
P.O. Box 340
Hopkinsville, KY 42241
westerfieldforag@gmail.com

State Auditor: Mike Harmon
P.O. Box 2044
Danville, KY 40423
Harmonforauditor.com

Commissioner of Ag: Ryan Quarles
P.O. Box 1001
Georgetown, KY 40324
www.ryanquarles.com

We would like to say

Thank You

To all the primary candidates who cared enough about the future of Kentucky to spend the time, effort, and finances to run for state office. And a special thank you to the families of these candidates who allowed them to be away from home for so many months to share their passion with the state's people.

[Are We A Nation of Immigrants?](#)

One of the biggest political issues in America today is Obama's plan to give illegal amnesty to 5 million South Americans. Obama is already admitting tens of thousands of aliens from South America and trying to justify it by repeating the line that "we are a nation of immigrants." The problem is that the immigrants coming into our country today are not the same sort as the immigrants who contributed so much to building our great country. The immigrants who came to America in the 1920s and '30s were different – with very different motives.

May 11th was the birthday of one of our most famous immigrants. Born the son of a rabbi, he emigrated with his family from Russia to New York. Falling in love with America, he served as a sergeant during World War I. After taking up a career in music, he wrote some of our all-time popular songs, such as "White Christmas" and "God Bless America." He gave the royalties from those two songs to the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts. His name was Irving Berlin. In 1945, President Harry Truman awarded him the Army's Medal of Merit. In 1955 he received the Congressional Gold Medal from President Eisenhower, and in 1977 he received the Freedom Medal from President Ford. Irving Berlin's devotion to America was so eloquently expressed in the song that all Americans so frequently sing today: "God Bless America, Land that I love, Stand beside her, and guide her, through the night with the light from above. From the Mountains, to the prairies, to the oceans white with foam, God bless America – my home sweet home."

It's quite true that America was built by hard working people from all over the world who sought a place of freedom where they could succeed if they had a dream, worked hard, and no tyrannical king or dictator could keep them down. But the illegal immigrants today are not the same as those who built this country. They don't want to leave their homes and become Americans, accepting all that comes along with it. Many of them just want to reap the rewards of our free nation without accepting American culture, the English language, and the rule of law.

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Phyllis Schlafly is the founder and President of Eagle Forum, a conservative national organization.

Eagle Forum's Mission is to enable conservative and pro-family men and women to participate in the process of self-

UPCOMING

ARTICLES

Interview with candidates
(tentative)

Just Sayin (Opinion piece)

Campaign updates

Newsletter Resources:

www.cincinnati.com/story/news/politics/elections

www.economist.com

Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning
& Engagement (CIRCLE)

NewYorkTimes.com

Eagleforum.org

Rasmussonreports.com

Ballforkentucky.com

Kentucky.com