

UP FRONT



Newsletter from John A. Cunningham, Kane County Clerk

From the Clerk...

Spring is a busy time in the Kane County Clerk's Office. Although elections attract the most attention from the public and media, we have seen a lot of activity in **all** areas of the Clerk's Office in recent months.

This spring, the Clerk's Office **extended taxes** to more than 190,000 residential and commercial parcels in the county valued at over \$16 billion. **Tax extension is a critical step** in the property tax cycle. In the tax cycle, local governments set their tax levies, or the amount they will collect from taxpayers. The township assessors assess the value of the properties. The township assessors send those values to the county's Supervisor of Assessments to certify all the values. The Clerk's Office then extends the taxes on all the properties, or in other words, calculates all the individual tax rates for each taxing body based on their tax levies, and then those numbers are sent to the Treasurer who mails the tax bills and collects the payments.

As we enter the property tax payment season, it is important to note that the **Clerk's Office saved the county's property taxpayers more than \$500,000 this year and more than \$2 million** since taking over election administration in Aurora in 2018. Kane County taxpayers subsidized the Aurora Election Commission at around \$500,000 a year (based on property values). We have also **saved City of Aurora taxpayers approximately \$5 million** during the last 4 years. **Through efficient management**, the Clerk's Office has assumed the responsibilities of running elections in Aurora and adding more than 50,000 registered voters to the county's voter rolls.

Our Vital Records division has been busy issuing marriage licenses for the very popular summer season. June and July are generally the months in which the most marriages occur, and applicants must apply for licenses prior to the ceremony.

From the Clerk... (continued from Page 1)

The Clerk's Office is statutorily responsible for collecting Economic Interest Statements (EIS) from local elected and appointed officials prior to May 1. We were one of the **first in the state to create an online portal** to accept the statements, and we sent instructions to all filers to facilitate their filing. The state legislature passed a new law last year which changed the questions asked of filers and we had to inform them of the changes.

Our passports department has seen a **significant increase in passport applications** this year. As more people look to travel this summer for the first time in a few years, our office has been very busy, especially on **Wednesday nights** when the office accepts applications **until 7:30 p.m.** We saw near record levels in March and April and **anticipate a continued high demand** for the rest of the year, so make sure to apply early for your passport if you plan to travel this year.

Finally, our office continues preparations for the **June 28 Primary Election**. Last year, the state legislature moved the primary from March to June, but the November General Election remains on November 8. As with all elections, a significant amount of work is necessary to prepare. Some of the steps in preparation for the June 28 election include:

- Accepting petitions from local candidates
- Mailing new voter registration cards to more than 300,000 registered voters to reflect the changes made by the IL General Assembly and Kane County Board during redistricting
- Securing polling locations for Early Voting & Election Day based on the new voting districts,
 - Training hundreds of election judges
- Waiting for decisions and lawsuits based on objections to candidate petitions before being able to certify the ballot
 - Creating sample ballots
- Preparing, assembling, and processing Vote by Mail ballots
 - Programming voting machines
- Getting equipment to all the Early Voting and Election Day voting sites, and more
....even before voting actually begins!

We take election security very seriously and strive to be the **most transparent election authority** in the state. We welcome observers to view our secure and transparent election operation and have been making presentations to community groups about our election security program. Please contact the office if you are interested in having our office present to your organization.

Remember, you are always welcome at the Kane County Clerk's Office!



Kane County Clerk John A. Cunningham



If you prefer to receive this newsletter **via e mail**, please email emersonjohn@co.kane.il.us, and we will add you to our list!

VITAL RECORDS

Planning a Spring or Summer Wedding?

June is a popular time for weddings.

Apply for your
Marriage License today!

Couples who get married in Kane County
must apply for a marriage license
at the Kane County Clerk's Office
before your planned wedding ceremony.

For information on how or when to apply for a
marriage license or to start your
license application online, please visit
[kanecountyclerk.org/VitalRecords/Pages/
Marriage-License.aspx](http://kanecountyclerk.org/VitalRecords/Pages/Marriage-License.aspx)

Twitter: @KaneCoILClerk

FB: @KaneCountyClerk

Phone: 630-232-5950

FOLLOW THE CLERK'S OFFICE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

@KaneCoILClerk on Twitter

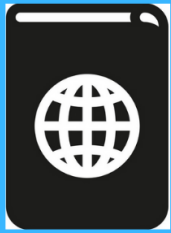
Facebook.com/kanecountyclerk on Facebook

Website: www.kanecountyclerk.org

@SecretarioKane on Twitter (Spanish)

Facebook.com/secretariokane on Facebook (Spanish)





PLANNING A VACATION THIS SUMMER OR FALL?

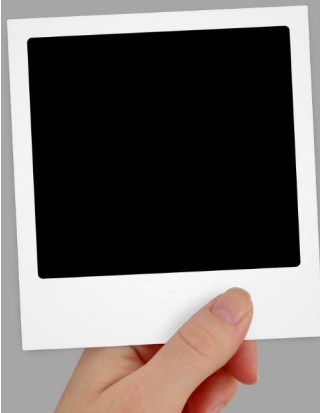
AVOID THE RUSH

Apply for a passport today at the Kane County Clerk's Office!



Passport applications are accepted **Mon., Tues., Thurs., and Fri. from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Wed. from 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.** For information about required documents, valid forms of ID, costs, and anything else related to passport applications, please visit kanecountyclerk.org/VitalRecords/Pages/Passports.aspx or call (630) 232-5950. Passport processing time can take 10-12 weeks, **so make your plans in advance!**

PASSPORT PHOTOGRAPHY AVAILABLE AT THE CLERK'S OFFICE



Need your passport photos?

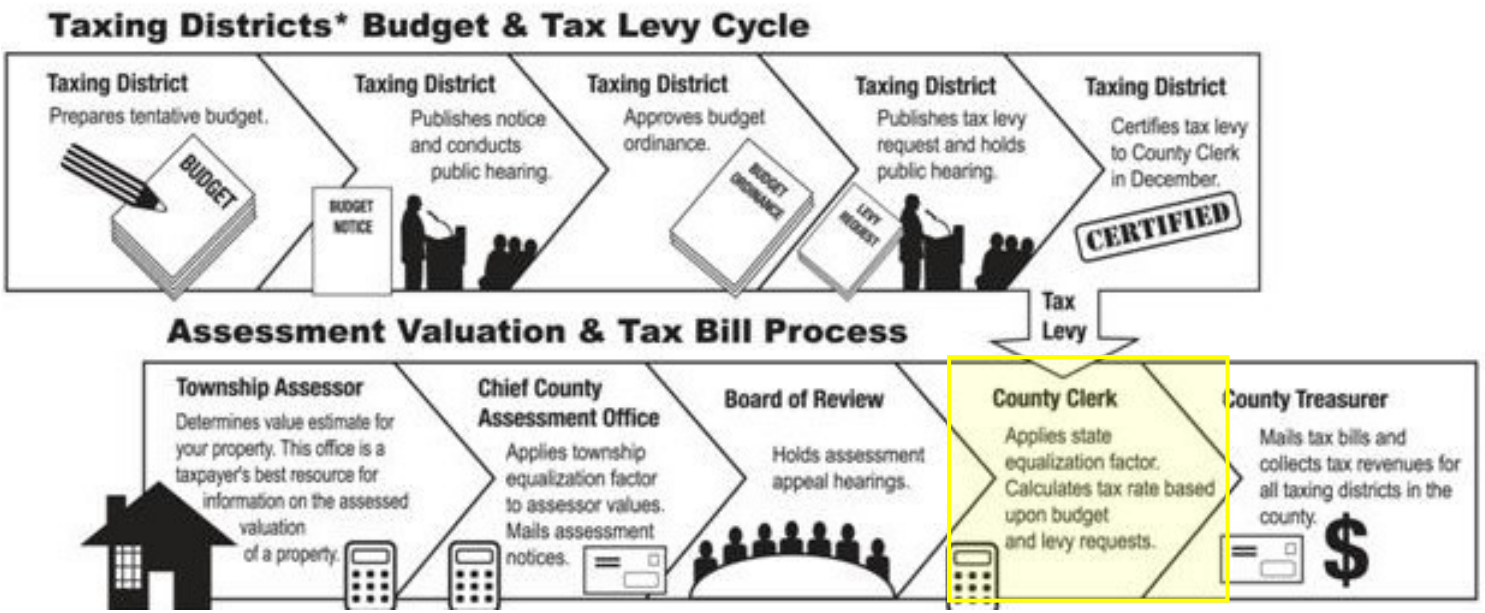
We can do that, too!

Passport photography is available at the Clerk's Office for only \$15.

The Clerk's Office is your one stop for Passport Services.



TAX EXTENSION AND REDEMPTION



Credit: Lake County Clerk's Office

Did You Know?

The property tax extension process is a complicated one that involves collaborative work between the local governmental bodies who levy taxes, Township Assessors, the County Supervisor of Assessments, the County Treasurer and the County Clerk. All parties involved must work together to make sure that property tax bills are sent out on time so that the local governments who rely on those taxes to do things such as maintain roads, run schools, keep residents safe and healthy, and provide services get those tax dollars on time.

The County Clerk's Office plays a major role in the extension of taxes for the hundreds of taxing bodies in Kane County on more than 190,000 parcels of land in the county.



KANE COUNTY ELECTIONS

Kane County Voters have 3 ways to vote in the June 28 Primary Election!

1

EARLY VOTING (begins May 19)



Where can I vote early?

May 19- Jun 10: Clerk's Office Geneva & Aurora **only**, Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

June 13-27: At all Early Voting sites around the county (including night & weekend hours) You can vote at ANY Early Voting site in Kane County

Early Voting sites/dates/times: kanecountyclerk.org/Elections/Pages/Early-

2

VOTE BY MAIL (begins May 19)



Apply for a Vote by Mail ballot: kanecountyclerk.org/Elections/Pages/Vote-by-Mail.aspx (Online, in person, or by phone)

Track your ballot: votekane.ballottrax.net/voter

Deadline to request ballot: June 23 @ 4:30 p.m.

Returned ballot postmark must be on/before June 28.

3

ELECTION DAY (June 28)



Polls are open 6 a.m. -7 p.m. on June 28

Search for your polling place: kanecountyclerk.org/Elections/Pages/Voter-Search.aspx

Polling places by precinct: kanecountyclerk.org/Elections/Pages/Election-Day-Voting.aspx



DO YOU CARE ABOUT PROMOTING DEMOCRACY
...AND WANT TO MAKE SOME EXTRA MONEY?

**JOIN OUR TEAM AND EARN UP TO \$250 PER
ELECTION AS AN ELECTION JUDGE!**

ADULTS:

ELECTION JUDGE REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:

- A U.S. CITIZEN
- A RESIDENT OF KANE COUNTY
- A REGISTERED VOTER
- ABLE TO SPEAK, READ AND WRITE ENGLISH

REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS:

- U.S. CITIZEN
- H.S. JUNIOR OR SENIOR IN GOOD STANDING
- MAINTAIN AT LEAST A 3.0 GPA (4.0 SCALE)
- COMPLETE AN ELECTION JUDGE TRAINING COURSE
- APPROVAL FROM PRINCIPAL & PARENT/GUARDIAN

WHAT DOES AN ELECTION JUDGE DO?

- ✓ OPEN/CLOSE THE POLLING PLACE
- ✓ SET UP ELECTION EQUIPMENT
- ✓ PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO VOTERS
- ✓ VERIFY VOTER QUALIFICATIONS
- ✓ OPERATE VOTING EQUIPMENT
- ✓ FILL OUT FORMS
- ✓ PROCESS AND CERTIFY VOTE TOTALS

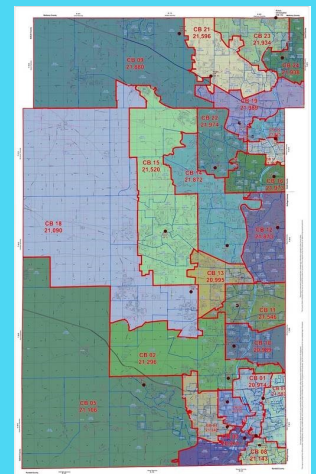
**HOW CAN I BECOME
AN ELECTION JUDGE?**

- CALL (630) 232-5990
- EMAIL ELECTIONS@CO.KANE.IL.US
- VISIT KANECOUNTYCLERK.ORG/ELECTIONS/PAGES/ELECTION-JUDGES.ASPX



**District maps are available on the
County Clerk's website!**

Maps of County Board districts, precinct and other legislative districts ("2022 maps") are available at kanecountyclerk.org/Elections/Pages/Maps.aspx.



Find out by visiting:

<https://www.kanecountyclerk.org/Elections/Pages/Voter-Search.aspx>



Thank you to our Election Judges and other poll workers who work long days to make sure that elections in Kane County remain safe, secure, and transparent!

Click Here



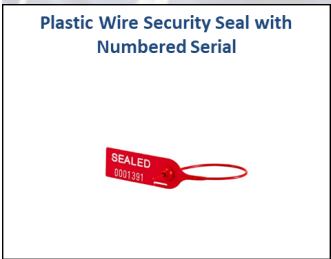
**to view
your personalized
Sample Ballot
for the 6/28 Primary**

kanecountyclerk.org/Elections/Pages/Voter-Search.aspx

The Clerk's Office takes election security and ballot security very seriously. Ensuring safe, secure, and transparent elections is critically important to the Clerk's Office and Kane County voters.

Some basic principles of the Kane County Election Security Plan to ensure that the process is transparent and secure, voter eligibility is verified, and ballots cannot be added, lost, or altered include the following:

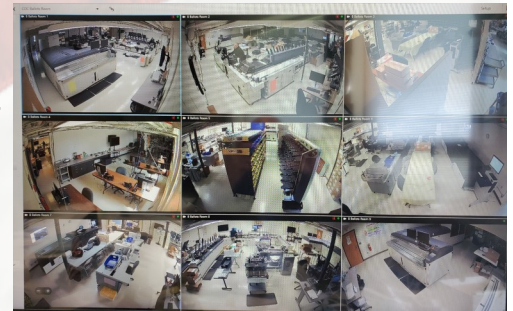
► **Bipartisan Chain of Custody:** At least one Democratic and one Republican election judge must be present at any time Vote by Mail ballots are handled.



► **Locks and Seals:** When ballots are not under direct oversight of bipartisan teams, they are stored under lock and numbered seal, to ensure they can't be altered.

► **Rigorous Documentation:** Chain of Custody Logs record all security seals, as well as the number of returned ballots received, accepted and scanned, and are signed by a bipartisan team of election judges.

► **Openness to Observers:** Observers can watch all secure processes, from signature verification through opening envelopes, scanning ballots, processing/tabulating ballots, and sealing them securely in storage, either directly or on live closed-circuit video.



► **Multiple Levels of Security:** Election equipment and supplies are kept in secure storage and cybersecurity protocols are followed.


Date	VBM Receiving						VBM Processing						VBM Storage		Additional Seals		
	Mail Room (t)	Kane Co. (t)	EV (t)	Ballot (t)	Count (t)	Total (t)	Blue/White (t)	Blue/White (t)	Sign (t)	Envelope (t)	Missed (t)	Count (t)	Total (t)	Seal #1	Seal #2	Seal #1	Seal #2
Day 1																	
Day 2																	
Day 3																	
Day 4																	

► **Vigorous Compliance:** Completeness and accuracy are audited on a daily basis to verify data and to increase the level of confidence in the integrity of the process.

Instructions:
 *If ballots are held overnight in receiving, circle and initial end of day totals, note seal number(s) and sign. Complete the 2nd day's totals before the first.
 *If processing is not completed on Day 1, circle and initial the total for the first phase completed. Indicate Additional Seal(s) in main storage columns.
 *On Day 2, continue to complete processing columns, and indicate final seal storage location and seal in the Additional Seal(s) column.
 *When processing is complete for all batches, fill up column totals for processing and compare to Received Total. Do they match? If not, explain below.


Kane County Clerk – Elections Department

Vote By Mail Ballot Processing Overview




Receiving & Sorting

- Ballots are only accepted into the custody of the Kane County Election's Office by a bipartisan team of election judges or staff.
- Teams retrieve ballots from drop boxes, early voting sites and the Kane Co. mailroom and return them in security-sealed carrier bags.
- Chain of Custody logs track the receipt of each carrier bag, recording the unique security code on its seal.
- Ballot envelopes are removed from the containers in the secure ballot processing room, inventoried, and readied for sorting.




Signature Review

- Running the envelopes through the BlueCrest sorting machine captures an image of the voter's signature and date stamps the envelope.
- The EIMS system pulls up the voter record matching the label on the envelope, allowing bipartisan teams to compare signatures and challenge those that do not match the voter's registered signature on file.
- On the second pass the BlueCrest machine puts good envelopes in batches to be scanned and pulls challenged envelopes for voter contact.




Ballot Extraction & Ballot Inspection

- Batches of sealed ballots then move to the Opex machine, which slices the certification envelopes open.
- Bipartisan teams extract voted ballots, inspect them for machine-readability and flatten them for scanning.
- Empty envelopes are moved to storage, while ballots are placed in trays and proceed to the secure ballot scanning area.




Ballot Replication

- Bipartisan Judges flag ballots printed on non-standard paper (primarily Military & Overseas ballots) and damaged or otherwise unscannable ballots.
- Bipartisan judges print a blank ballot of the same ballot style/precinct and carefully replicates the selections from the original.
- Replicated ballots are reviewed to ensure the voter's markings were transferred correctly.
- A serial number ties the new ballot to the original for auditing. The replica goes with the batch of ballots to be scanned, while the original is archived and is not counted.



Ballot Scanning

- A bipartisan team runs each batch of ballots through the voting system scanner.
- The scanner creates an image of each ballot and records the voter's choices.
- After scanning, the tabulation team records information from the Batch Cover Sheet in the Master Log.
- The Log shows
 1. How many ballots came in on a given day,
 2. What batches they were sorted into,
 3. How many ballots in each batch were challenged or otherwise unscannable, and how many were scanned.



Ballot Storage

- Processed ballots are locked in the secure elections ballot storage vault until completion of the post-election audit.
- After the canvass, ballots and ballot declaration envelopes are transferred to long-term storage for the statutorily required timeframe.



EARLY VOTING

MAY 19—JUNE 27

Early Voting locations and times for the June 28 Primary Election:

May 19 - June 27, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. only at Clerk's Office:
719 S. Batavia Ave., Bldg. B, (Geneva) and 5 E. Downer Place, Suite F (Aurora).

Mar. 3-Mar. 16: Permanent Early Voting sites (7 days a week ; hours vary)

- ▶ Kane County Clerk's Office locations in Geneva and Aurora
- ▶ Fire Station No. 93, 5000 Sleepy Hollow Rd., Carpentersville
- ▶ Elgin Township, 729 S. McLean Blvd., Elgin
- ▶ Gail Borden Library, 270 N. Grove Ave., Elgin
- ▶ Kane County Branch Court , 530 S. Randall Rd., St. Charles
- ▶ Vaughn Athletic Center, 2121 W. Indian Tr., Aurora

Other Early Voting centers (dates/times vary):

- ▶ Campton Community Center, 5N082 Old LaFox Rd., Campton Hills
- ▶ City of Batavia, 100 N. Island Ave., Batavia
- ▶ City of Elgin, 150 Dexter Ct., Elgin
- ▶ Del Webb Sun City, 12880 Del Webb Blvd., Huntley
- ▶ Hampshire Township, 170 Mill Ave., Hampshire
- ▶ Sugar Grove Library, 125 S. Municipal Dr., Sugar Grove
- ▶ Town & Country Library, 320 E. North St., Elburn
- ▶ Village of West Dundee, 102 S. Second St., West Dundee



The Votemobile will be at the following locations from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.:

- ▶ Jun. 13-14: Jewel Osco (Batavia), 119 S. Randall Rd.; Jewel Osco (Aurora), 1952 W. Galena Blvd.
- ▶ Jun 15: Jewel Osco (St. Charles), 652 Kirk Rd.; Jewel Osco (Aurora), 1952 W. Galena Blvd.
- ▶ Jun. 16: Jewel Osco (Huntley), 13200 Village Green Dr.; Prisco Ctr. (Aurora), 150 W. Illinois Ave.
- ▶ Jun. 17: Jewel Osco (Elburn), 800 N. Main St.; Prisco Ctr. (Aurora), 150 W. Illinois Ave.
- ▶ Jun. 20: Jewel Osco (Elgin), 1660 Larkin Ave.; Phillips Park Stover Ctr. (Aurora), 1000 Ray Moses Dr.
- ▶ Jun. 21: Jewel Osco (W. Dundee), 1250 W. Main; Phillips Park Stover Ctr. (Aurora), 1000 Ray Moses Dr.
- ▶ Jun. 22: Jewel Osco (W. Dundee), 1250 W. Main; North Aurora Police Dept., 200 S. Lincolnway.

A list of all Early Voting locations, dates, and times is available at

kanecountyclerk.org/Elections/Pages/Early-Voting.aspx or by calling (630) 232-5990.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS IN **THE VOTER OUTREACH PROGRAM!**

Clerk John A. Cunningham would like to thank our community partners in the Voter Outreach Program (VOP). The VOP is a partnership between the Clerk's Office and Kane County businesses, schools, local governments, and community organizations with electronic or marquee signs in front of their locations. VOP participants display messages such as "Register to Vote," "Vote Early," and "Don't Forget to Vote," on their signage in the weeks prior to Election Day.



- Alderman Emmanuel Llamas (Aurora)
- Annah Mitchell d/b/a Gobble Doggs
- Batavia Fire Department (Batavia)
- Colonial Café & Ice Cream (St. Charles)
- Dairy Queen Grill & Chill (St. Charles)
- DeKane Equipment Co. (Big Rock)
- DuKane Corporation (St. Charles)
- Dundee Township
- East Dundee Fire Department
- Elburn & Countryside Fire Protection District
- Elgin Community College (Elgin)
- Elgin Community Unit Dist. U-46
- Elgin State Bank (Elgin)
- Firestone Complete Auto Care (N. Aurora)
- First American Bank (C'vile & W. Dundee)
- GAT Guns (E. Dundee)
- Huntley Park District
- Kane County Fairgrounds (St. Charles)
- Kishwaukee Community College
- Marmion Abbey and Academy (Aurora)
- Mooseheart Child City and School
- Northwestern Delnor Health & Fitness (Geneva)
- Presence Mercy Medical Center (Aurora)
- Ream's Meat Market (Elburn)
- River View Diner (Montgomery)
- Salvation Army-Tri Cities (St. Charles)
- South Elgin Parks & Recreation (Elgin)
- St. Catherine of Siena Church (W. Dundee)
- St. Charles Bowl (St. Charles)
- Toyota of St. Charles
- Tuffy Auto Service Center (Elgin)
- Walgreens (Aurora, Geneva, Sugar Grove)

Do you have a sign? Call (630) 232-5916 to join the VOP!