

Hall County Election Office

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<u>Nearly 2,200 Nonpartisan Voters Will See a Blank Primary Ballot</u> <u>Sample Ballots Available in Hall County</u>

Grand Island, Nebr. – Nearly 2,200 Hall County voters who are registered nonpartisan will not have any local races on their May 14 Primary Election ballot.

"If there aren't enough candidates to pare down in the primary election, Nebraska law allows those candidates to auto-advance – or automatically advance on to the General Election ballot," said Hall County Election Commissioner Tracy Overstreet. "All of the local nonpartisan races for city council and school board, except for Kenesaw School Board, have auto advanced in the May 14 primary."

The auto-advance issue has created blank ballots for nearly 2,200 nonpartisan voters in Hall County. All of those nonpartisan voters with the blank ballots live in Legislative District 34 and vote in the following precincts and polling places in Grand Island:

- Precinct 5 Evangelical Free Church
- Precinct 12 Peace Lutheran Church
- Precinct 13 Northridge Assembly of God Church
- Precinct 14 Resurrection Catholic Church
- Precinct 15 Third City Christian Church
- Precinct 16 Southern Public Power District
- Precinct 19 St. Leo's Catholic Church
- Precinct 20 Heartland Lutheran High School

Although the ballot has no local candidates for nonpartisan voters in those precincts, the ballots are printed to inform the nonpartisan voter they may request a second partisan ballot for Congress. "Many nonpartisan voters don't realize they may request a second ballot to vote in the partisan races for U.S. House and U.S. Senate," Overstreet said. "That opportunity is open to every nonpartisan voter in a primary election and is especially important when there are no local nonpartisan races on the ballot." Nonpartisan voters may make that request at the polling place or on applications for mailed ballots.

Every Hall County voter may view their own individual sample ballot online at Nebraska Voter Check (<u>https://www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov/VoterView</u>). Nebraska voters may also view their current party affiliation, polling place, and status of mailed ballots at Nebraska Voter Check.

Mailed ballots will begin to be sent April 8. Early voting in person at the Hall County Administration Building begins April 15 and is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, through May 13.