



BOOKS AND BALLOTS



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Program Overview

The Books & Ballots program is a strategic initiative aimed at expanding voting access in rural and underserved areas through a partnership between the Monterey County Elections Department (MCE) and the Monterey County Free Libraries (MCFL). This collaboration addresses the challenge of enhancing civic engagement amidst limited resources and high costs associated with traditional election infrastructure.

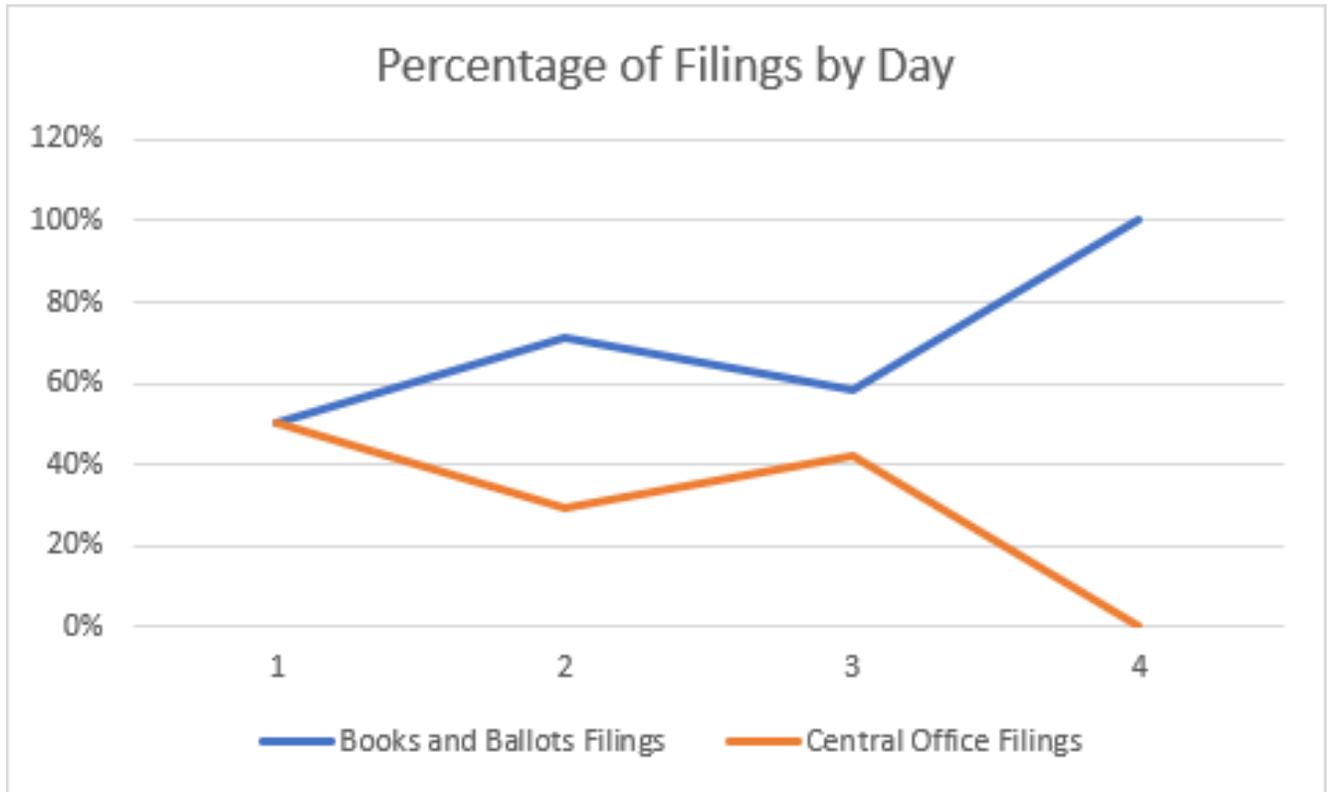
The Books & Ballots program utilizes MCFL's extensive network of libraries—trusted community hubs with extended hours—to offer election-related services. By integrating these services into existing library facilities, MCE effectively extends its reach without the need for new infrastructure. Libraries provide public computer access for registration and education and are staffed by personnel skilled in assisting the public. This approach leverages existing resources to enhance accessibility and efficiency, making election services available to a broader audience.

Building on the MCE Flex Voting program, which offered early voting sites at community events, Books & Ballots formalizes a partnership with MCFL to provide ongoing election services at library locations. This expansion includes not only voter registration and voting but also candidate and campaign filing. The program has brought election services directly to rural and underserved communities, aligning with local needs and schedules.

Books & Ballots have facilitated direct interaction between voters and election officials, providing transparency and building trust. Future voters, including those under 18, have also benefited from educational outreach. By supporting local candidates with convenient filing options, the program strengthens the quality of local elections. In summary, the Books & Ballots program demonstrates how leveraging community resources can enhance democratic participation while managing costs effectively.



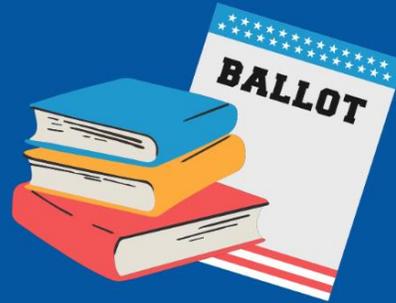
Books and Ballots Filings vs. Central Office Filings





Event Announcement Flyer

BOOKS & BALLOTS



FEB
Tuesday
20

1 pm - 6:30 pm
Gonzales Library
851 5th Street, Gonzales

FEB
Wednesday
21

1 pm - 7 pm
Soledad Library
401 Gabilan Dr, Soledad

FEB
Thursday
22

1 pm - 6 pm
Greenfield Library
315 El Camino Real, Greenfield

FEB
Friday
23

12 pm - 5 pm
King City Library
402 Broadway Street, King City



**VOTE IN-PERSON OR
DROP OFF YOUR BALLOT**



LIBROS *y* BOLETAS



FEB
Martes
20

1 pm - 6:30 pm
Biblioteca de Gonzales
851 5th Street, Gonzales

FEB
Miércoles
21

1 pm - 7 pm
Biblioteca de Soledad
401 Gabilan Dr, Soledad

FEB
Jueves
22

1 pm - 6 pm
Biblioteca de Greenfield
315 El Camino Real, Greenfield

FEB
Viernes
23

12 pm - 5 pm
Biblioteca de King City
402 Broadway Street, King City



VOTE EN PERSONA O ENTREGUE SU BOLETA



Photos









Social Media Graphics

NOVEMBER 5, 2024
BOOKS & BALLOTS
CANDIDATE FILING

AT THE CARMEL VALLEY LIBRARY

Location:
 65 W. Carmel Valley Rd,
 Carmel Valley

Date & Time:
Thursday
July 25, 2024
 11:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Friday
July 26, 2024
 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

School and Special District Candidates Only! For more information about candidate services, please visit: www.CountyofMonterey.gov/Elections

SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT: (831) 796-1499

5 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2024
LIBROS & BOLETAS
POSTULACIÓN DE CANDIDATOS

EN LA BIBLIOTECA DE CARMEL VALLEY

Ubicación:
 65 W. Carmel Valley Rd,
 Carmel Valley

Fecha y hora:
Jueves
25 de julio de 2024
 11:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Viernes
26 de julio de 2024
 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

¡Solamente candidatos para escuelas y distritos especiales! Para obtener más información sobre los servicios para candidatos, visite: www.CountyofMonterey.gov/Elections

AGENDE SU CITA: (831) 796-1499

BOOKS & BALLOTS

GONZALES LIBRARY	FEBRUARY 20
SOLEDAD LIBRARY	FEBRUARY 21
GREENFIELD LIBRARY	FEBRUARY 22
KING CITY LIBRARY	FEBRUARY 23

LIBROS Y BOLETAS

BIBLIOTECA DE GONZALES	FEBRERO 20
BIBLIOTECA DE SOLEDAD	FEBRERO 21
BIBLIOTECA DE GREENFIELD	FEBRERO 22
BIBLIOTECA DE KING CITY	FEBRERO 23



**BIG SUR LIBRARY
FLEX VOTE CENTER**

MAR
2

10am - 3pm
Highway 1 at
Ripplewood Resort,
Big Sur

BOOKS & BALLOTS



**BIBLIOTECA DE BIG SUR
CENTRO DE VOTACIÓN
FLEXIBLE**

MAR
2

10am - 3pm
Highway 1 at
Ripplewood Resort,
Big Sur

LIBROS Y BOLETAS



 **Hartnell Community College District
Trustee Area 6, Partial/Unexpired Term**



MAY
28

11 A.M. - 7 P.M.
851 Fifth Street,
Gonzales

GONZALES LIBRARY

BOOKS & BALLOTS



 **Distrito de Hartnell Community College,
Área de Síndico 6, Término Parcial / No Vencido**



MAYO
28

11 A.M. - 7 P.M.
851 Fifth Street,
Gonzales

BIBLIOTECA DE GONZALES

LIBROS Y BOLETAS





Sample Press Releases

Books and Ballots: Candidate Filing (English)



Monterey County Elections & Monterey County Free Libraries



JOINT NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, July 23, 2024

Contact: Gina Martinez, Registrar of Voters
Phone: 831-796-1499
E-mail: elections@countyofmonterey.gov
Website: www.countyofmonterey.gov/elections
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Monterey-County-Elections/>
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/montereycountyelections/>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MontereyVote>

Monterey County Elections Announces Books and Ballots: Candidate Filing

SALINAS, CA – The Monterey County Elections Office and the Monterey County Free Libraries are joining efforts to offer Books and Ballots: Candidate Filing. The event offers flex candidate filing locations at various libraries during specified times in the candidate filing period. Candidates for school and special district offices will be able to meet with a filing officer to ask questions or file for office, and of course, check out the latest offerings at their local library.

On partnering with Elections, Hillary Theyer, Director of the Monterey County Free Libraries, states, "Part of the public library mission is to help people engage with their rights and resources. Voting is critical and this partnership is a pleasure."

According to Gina Martinez, Registrar of Voters, "After the successful launch of our Books and Ballots voting program, we are pleased to announce the Books and Ballots: Candidate Filing program. This program expands access to the ballot and enhances participation in the democratic process, especially for schools and special districts." She adds, "We are fortunate to have partners in democracy, such as the Monterey County Free Libraries, to help us improve access to the ballot to our communities."

Books and Ballots dates and locations include:

- Thursday, July 25, 2024, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m., at Carmel Valley Library, 65 W. Carmel Valley Rd, Carmel Valley
- Friday, July 26, 2024, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., at Carmel Valley Library, 65 W. Carmel Valley Rd, Carmel Valley
- Tuesday, July 30, 2024, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m., at King City Library, 402 Broadway St., King City
- Wednesday, July 31, 2024, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m., at King City Library, 402 Broadway St., King City

Appointments are required and can be scheduled via email at CandidateServices@countyofmonterey.gov or by phone (831) 796-1499/toll-free (866) 887-9274.

In addition, official nomination documents are available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, during the filing period at the Monterey County Elections Department, 1441 Schilling Place – North Building, Salinas, CA. Candidates are encouraged to schedule an appointment. Candidates for municipal offices will contact their city clerk for more information.

Monterey County Candidate Guidelines and a virtual candidate seminar are available at <https://www.countyofmonterey.gov/government/departments-a-h/elections/candidates/election-calendar/candidate-guidelines/>

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Books and Ballots: Candidate Filing (Spanish)



Monterey County Elections & Monterey County Free Libraries



NOTA DE PRENSA EN CONJUNTO

PARA PUBLICACIÓN INMEDIATA

Martes, 23 de julio de 2024

Contacto: Gina Martínez, Directora del Departamento Electoral

Teléfono: 831-796-1499

E-mail: elections@countyofmonterey.gov

Página Web: www.countyofmonterey.gov/elections

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Monterey-County-Elections>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/montereycountyelections/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MontereyVote>

El Departamento de Elecciones del Condado de Monterey anuncia Libros y Boletas: Postulación de Candidatos

SALINAS, CA – La Oficina de Elecciones del Condado de Monterey y las Bibliotecas Gratuitas del Condado de Monterey están uniendo esfuerzos para ofrecer Libros y Boletas: Postulación de Candidatos. El evento ofrece ubicaciones flexibles para la postulación de candidatos en varias bibliotecas durante momentos específicos del período de postulación de candidatos. Los candidatos para cargos escolares y de distritos especiales podrán reunirse con un oficial de postulación para hacer preguntas o postularse para un cargo y, por supuesto, consultar las últimas ofertas en su biblioteca local.

Sobre la asociación con Elecciones, Hillary Theyer, Directora de las Bibliotecas Gratuitas del Condado de Monterey, afirma, "Parte de la misión de la biblioteca pública es ayudar a las personas a comprometerse con sus derechos y recursos. Votar es fundamental y esta asociación es un placer".

Según Gina Martínez, Registradora de Votantes, "Después del exitoso lanzamiento de nuestro programa de votación Libros y Boletas, nos complace anunciar el programa Libros y Boletas: Postulación de Candidatos. Este programa amplía el acceso a la boleta y mejora la participación en el proceso democrático, especialmente para las escuelas y distritos especiales". Agrega: "Somos afortunados de contar con apoyo en la democracia, como las Bibliotecas Gratuitas del Condado de Monterey, que nos ayudan a mejorar el acceso a la boleta en nuestras comunidades".

Las fechas y ubicaciones de los Libros y Boletas incluyen:

- Jueves, 25 de julio de 2024, de 11 a.m. a 6 p.m., en la biblioteca de Carmel Valley, 65 W. Carmel Valley Rd, Carmel Valley
- Viernes, 26 de julio de 2024, de 10 a.m. a 4 p.m., en la biblioteca de Carmel Valley, 65 W. Carmel Valley Rd, Carmel Valley
- Martes, 30 de julio de 2024, de 11 a.m. a 6 p.m., en la biblioteca de King City, 402 Broadway St., King City
- Miércoles, 31 de julio de 2024, de 11 a.m. a 6 p.m., en la biblioteca de King City, 402 Broadway St., King City

Se requieren citas y se pueden programar por correo electrónico a CandidateServices@countyofmonterey.gov o por teléfono (831) 796-1499/número gratuito (866) 887-9274.

Además, los documentos oficiales de nominación están disponibles de 8 a.m. a 5 p.m., de lunes a viernes, durante el período de postulación en el Departamento de Elecciones del Condado de Monterey, 1441 Schilling Place – North Building, Salinas, CA. Se anima a los candidatos a programar una cita. Los candidatos a cargos municipales se comunicarán con el secretario de su ciudad para obtener más información.

Las pautas para candidatos del condado de Monterey y un seminario virtual para candidatos están disponibles en



Books and Ballots: Early Voting (English)



Monterey County Elections & Monterey County Free Libraries



**JOINT
NEWS
RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, February 20, 2024**

Contact: Gina Martinez, Registrar of Voters
Phone: 831-796-1499
E-mail: elections@co.monterey.ca.us
Website: www.MontereyCountyElections.us
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Monterey-County-Elections>
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/montereycountyelections/>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MontereyVote>

Monterey County Elections Flex Voting Kicks off on February 20th with Books and Ballots Week in South Monterey County

SALINAS, CA – The Monterey County Elections Office and the Monterey County Free Libraries are joining efforts to offer Books and Ballots Week in South Monterey County. The event offers early flex voting centers at various libraries throughout the week. Voters will be able to vote in-person, return their mail ballot, visit with the elections team and, of course, check out the latest offerings at their local library.

On partnering with Elections, Hillary Theyer, Director of the Monterey County Free Libraries, states, “Civic engagement and participation in our community is crucial to the mission of Monterey County Free Libraries, and supporting voting and voters is a big part of that. We are proud to continue expansion of these services and our partnership with the Monterey County Elections Department.”

According to Gina Martinez, Registrar of Voters, “In 2022, we launched the flexible early vote center program, essentially bringing the elections office to communities across Monterey County at dates and times outside of normal operating hours.” She adds, “We are fortunate to have partners in democracy, such as the Monterey County Free Libraries, to help us bring flexible voting opportunities to our communities while maintaining accessible polling places throughout the County.”

Books and Ballots Week dates and locations include:

- Tuesday, February 20, 1 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., at the Gonzales Library, 851 5th Street
- Wednesday, February 21, 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., at the Soledad Library, 401 Gabilan Drive
- Thursday, February 22, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., Greenfield Library, 315 El Camino Real
- Friday, February 23, 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., King City Library, 402 Broadway Street

Additional dates and locations will be announced on Monterey County Elections social media pages and at www.montereycountyelections.us.

Early voting and registration services are available 8am to 5pm, Monday – Friday at the Monterey County Elections office, 1441 Schilling Place – North Building, Salinas, 93901.

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Books and Ballots: Early Voting (Spanish)



Monterey County Elections & Monterey County Free Libraries



NOTA DE PRENSA

PARA PUBLICACIÓN INMEDIATA

Martes, 20 de febrero de 2024

Contacto: Gina Martínez, Directora del Departamento Electoral

Teléfono: 831-796-1499

E-mail: elections@co.monterey.ca.us

Página Web: www.MontereyCountyElections.us

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Monterey-County-Elections>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/montereycountyelections/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MontereyVote>

La votación flexible del Departamento de Elecciones del Condado de Monterey comienza el 20 de febrero con la Semana de Libros y Boletas en el sur del condado de Monterey

SALINAS, CA – El Departamento de Elecciones del Condado de Monterey y las Bibliotecas Gratuitas del Condado de Monterey están uniendo esfuerzos para ofrecer la Semana del Libro y las Boletas en el sur del Condado de Monterey. El evento ofrece centros de votación temprana flexible en varias bibliotecas durante la semana. Los votantes podrán votar en persona, devolver su boleta por correo, visitar al equipo electoral y, por supuesto, consultar las últimas ofertas en su biblioteca local.

En la colaboración con Elecciones, Hillary Theyer, Directora de las Bibliotecas Gratuitas del Condado de Monterey, afirma: "El compromiso cívico y la participación en nuestra comunidad son cruciales para la misión de las Bibliotecas Gratuitas del Condado de Monterey, y apoyar el voto y los votantes es una gran parte de eso. Estamos orgullosos de continuar la expansión de estos servicios y nuestra asociación con el Departamento de Elecciones del Condado de Monterey".

Según Gina Martínez, Registradora de Votantes, "En el 2022, lanzamos el programa flexible de centros de votación temprana, que esencialmente lleva la oficina electoral a las comunidades de todo el condado de Monterey en fechas y horarios fuera del horario normal de funcionamiento". Agrega: "Somos afortunados de contar con colaboradores en la democracia, como las Bibliotecas Gratuitas del Condado de Monterey, que nos ayudan a brindar oportunidades de votación flexibles a nuestras comunidades y al mismo tiempo mantener lugares de votación accesibles en todo el Condado".

Las fechas y lugares de la Semana de Libros y Boletas incluyen:

- Martes 20 de febrero, 1 p.m. a 6:30 p.m., en la Biblioteca Gonzales, 851 5th Street
- Miércoles 21 de febrero, 1 p.m. a 7 p.m., en la Biblioteca Soledad, 401 Gabilan Dr.
- Jueves 22 de febrero, 1 p.m. a 6 p.m., Biblioteca Greenfield, 315 El Camino Real
- Viernes 23 de febrero, 12 p.m. a 5 p.m., Biblioteca de King City, 402 Broadway Street

Se anunciarán fechas y ubicaciones adicionales en las páginas de redes sociales de Elecciones del Condado de Monterey y en www.montereycountyelections.us.

Los servicios de inscripción y votación anticipada están disponibles de 8 am a 5 pm, de lunes a viernes en la oficina de Elecciones del Condado de Monterey, 1441 Schilling Place – North Building, Salinas, 93901.

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Sample Local News Coverage

King City Rustler

[Monterey County Elections announces Books and Ballots program for candidate filing](#)

KION 45

[Ballots and Books events taking place throughout the week in Monterey County](#)

Salinas Valley Tribune

[Monterey County Elections, libraries partner for early voting](#)