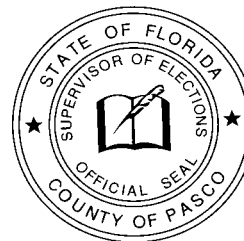


VOTE NOTES

KURT S. BROWNING

PASCO COUNTY
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS



April, 2005

Quarterly Publication

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS...are coming!

The Supervisor of Elections will conduct elections for three of Pasco County's municipalities on April 12, 2005.

Voters in the city of Port Richey will have two contests on their ballot. Two candidates are running for the mayoral seat while another two are vying for a councilperson seat.

Sample ballots are expected to be mailed to Port Richey households in late March. All registered voters living inside Precinct 23 will be eligible to vote in this election.

Zephyrhill's voters will only have one race to decide this year. Councilperson, Seat 5 has two candidates seeking the office. Registered voters residing in Precincts 6, 90 and 115 are eligible to vote in the city's election.

The city of New Port Richey has the lengthiest ballot due to the ten proposed charter amendments accompanying the councilperson race. There are seven candidates running for the city's three councilperson seats.

Voters living in Precincts 25, 50, 60, 67, 76, 83, 95 and 99 will be eligible to cast a ballot in New Port Richey's Municipal Election. Voters living in those precincts should expect to see a sample ballot in their mailboxes by the end of March.

Early voting is available for all municipal elections in the three Supervisor of Elections offices. Early voting begins Monday, March 28th and ends Monday, April 11th. The hours for early voting are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ■



Chief Deputy Melba Hamilton led the instructional meeting for the city clerks in January. Five city clerks along with respective staff members attended the annual meeting.

VOTERS IN PRECINCT 60 HAVE A NEW POLLING PLACE

Voters residing in Precinct 60 will be voting in a new facility. Registered voters will be notified by mail of the polling place change in mid March. The Finnish American Club at 6016 Delaware Avenue has agreed to become Precinct 60's new polling facility. Should voters in Precinct 60 have any questions or need directions to their new polling place, they should call the Supervisor of Elections' office at 1-800-851-8754. ■

EDUCATION WORKSHOP...

Sharing ideas helps us do a better job

Elections office education coordinators throughout the state attended a one-day Education Workshop in Citrus County on February 10, 2005.

Judy Walker of Polk County opened the workshop with a presentation regarding the communications challenges of implementing an emergency plan. Thrice hit by devastating hurricanes during the 2004 election cycle, Polk County managed to conduct credible elections with no decrease in voter turnout.

Mike Wright of the Citrus Chronicle relayed secrets to the success of the Chronicle Crew, a political student forum and focus group he spearheads in Citrus County. Mr. Wright believes that children involved in the voting process ultimately care more about the community, and that empowerment through information dispels the apathy created by political disconnection.

Through an open forum, the group evaluated the success of the 2004 Get Out The Vote Campaign. In preparation for the Every Vote Counts campaign of 2005, Marketing Concepts' Marty Rogol was on hand to take feedback and suggestions. There was an open discussion in which counties that utilized the campaign shared their activities.

A disabilities group forum shared their voting experiences offering kudos for accommodations thus far and suggestions for future improvement as elections offices move forward to complying with the Help America Vote Act and making all polling places ADA compliant by July 1, 2005.

Lastly, Communication Consultant Dr. Ruth Johnson offered tips on public speaking and effective communications. The workshop was informative and well attended. Sharing ideas and success stories helps all of us do a better job. ■

New Perspectives and New Ideas

Mr. Browning joined his precinct supervisors for coffee in early February to discuss the 2004 Election Cycle. Nearly one hundred supervisors attended the pollworker coffees which gave Mr. Browning an opportunity to hear from those out on the front line.

Mr. Browning feels that meetings like these give the elections office new perspectives and ideas for improving polling



place procedures. The February sessions were no exception.

Topics of discussion ranged from pollwatchers to Kids Voting to training issues with



multiple side notes. The elections office came away with five pages of material to investigate, incorporate, and/or implement in their evaluation of polling places, pollworkers, and voter education.

Our hats are off to all of the pollworkers that diligently serve Pasco County. Without you, our ability to conduct nearly seamless elections would go unrealized. ■



GROWING PAINS

All you have to do is look around or drive by a neighboring subdivision to see the growth permeating Pasco County. What will the influx of residents to Pasco County mean to the Supervisor of Elections office?

For one, the number of registered voters could increase exponentially which in turn would increase the number of applications processed by our Voter Services Department. In 2004 alone over 63,500 applications were processed. The applications generated over 27,500 newly registered voters in the county.

Second, the increase in voter totals would affect the number of voting precincts. Pasco could be looking at upwards of 20 new precincts in 2006. Due to the increase of precincts, we would also be looking at an additional 20 polling places throughout the county. This in turn expands the number of pollworkers and equipment needed to run an election.

When looking at the big picture, we see a chain reaction of modifications to investigate, incorporate, and then implement into the procedures that define Pasco County's successful elections. ■

Something to Crow About...

Pasco County Fair a huge success

This year's Pasco County fair theme "Something to Crow About", gave opportunity for us to "crow about" the success of the 2004 election cycle, and other "crow-worthy" accomplishments such as our voter education program, our poll worker training program and special events in which we have participated.



Preparations begin Friday morning before opening day Monday.



Charles Van Tuyle and Richard Cunningham (not pictured) take first shift opening day.

The fair booth, open for 7 days, was staffed by volunteers, many of them election day workers, who willingly gave their time to pass out information, demonstrate the voting machines and assist people in registering to vote.

Our efforts to showcase our accomplishments paid off with a first-place trophy for "Best Commercial Exhibit Depicting Fair Theme", an honor we have won for the last three years, and something we'll add to our list of "crow-worthy" accomplishments. You can view photos of our fair booth on our web site www.pascovotes.com. (On the home page, click on current events and then highlights of past events).

Without the assistance of our volunteer pool, many events in which we participate in would not be possible. If you would be

interested in joining our pool of volunteers and assist at one of our events, such as the fair, please call the office and ask for Louise. ■



A proud scarecrow stands guard over the fair booth.

In keeping with the theme, our display board showcasing photographs of our accomplishments was surrounded by a cornfield. A dirt road invited fairgoers to view the display board while a scarecrow and roosters looked on. An airplane towing a banner flew overhead among the clouds and sun. One wall of the booth was dedicated to the "Magic of Education" and showcased posters contributed by Pasco County school students. A row of sunflowers anchored the other wall while a barn off in the distance proudly displayed "Pasco County" on its roof.



Paul and Nancy LeBel log volunteer hours doing iVotronic demonstrations.



Display board of "Things to Crow About."



Staff members Sybil Adams and Xenia Kemp pose for a photo opportunity.

Legislative Session Underway

The 2005 Legislative Session began in early March and Florida voters could see quite a few changes to election laws by the end of the session in May. Items on the agenda may include issues like: Restrictions to absentee ballot requests being handled by third parties, an increase in acceptable early voting sites, a repeal of the Second Primary or the expansion of time between elections, an increase in the restrictions regulating solicitation at the polls and early voting sites, consideration of voting centers (super precincts) as well as revisions regarding felons. The July issue of VoteNotes will give an in-depth look into the law changes and what they will mean to Pasco County voters. ■

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WEST PASCO
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quote of the quarter

“The reasonable man adapts himself to the world; the unreasonable one persists in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore all progress depends on the unreasonable man.”

~George Bernard Shaw

Calendar of Events

Early Voting Begins

March 28, 2005

Early Voting Ends

April 11, 2005

Municipal Elections

April 12, 2005

REGISTRATION STATISTICS

Republican 109,774 40.2%

Democrat 101,343 37.1%

Other 62,183 22.7%

Total 273,300

(As of March 10, 2005)

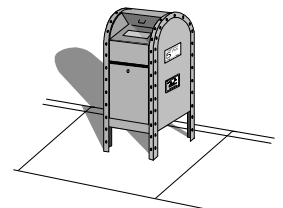
DID YOU KNOW?

On average, a person takes about 2½ million steps in a year.

Did you know that there are more earthquakes in Alaska than in California?

Source:
www.didyounow.cd/facts.htm

Do you know anyone who would like to be put on our mailing list? Please let us know so they can start receiving VOTENOTES.



ELECTION DATES

Municipal Elections

April 12, 2005

Usted Habla Espanol?

The Supervisor of Elections office is looking for bilingual individuals to work in polling places serving concentrations of Spanish speaking people. If you speak Spanish, and would be interested in translating for voters in Pasco County, please call Xenia at (352) 521-4302 and (813) 929-1288 or Joyce at (727) 847-8162. ■

For more information, visit our website at pascovotes.com.