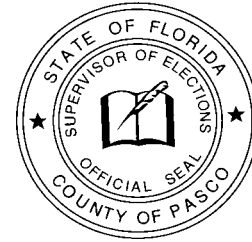


VOTE NOTES

KURT S. BROWNING

PASCO COUNTY
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS



July, 2005

Quarterly Publication

Legislative Changes Impact Florida Elections

Substantial reform affects the conduct of elections in Florida...

Florida's supervisors of elections will be busy implementing extensive changes adopted during the 2005 Legislative Session. The election code faces substantial reform that will affect the conduct of elections throughout the state. Take a look at the highlights of House Bills 1567, 1589 and 1673.

HB 1567 – Changes to the Election Code (Signed into law by Governor Bush on June 20, 2005)

- Provides for the administration of the statewide voter registration system (FVRS) as required by HAVA legislation
- Revamps the Florida Voter Registration Application and its requirements
- Provides the requirements for third-party collection of voter registration applications and submission
- Provides new timeline for the collection of signatures on candidate petitions
- Updates the Voter's Bill of Rights and the Voter Responsibilities
- Redefines provisional ballots including when and where to use them along with a voter's right to support his/her eligibility to cast a provisional ballot
- Provides that an absentee ballot request for a ballot to be mailed must be received no later than 5:00 pm on the sixth day (Wednesday) prior to the election and the supervisor shall mail the ballot no later than the fourth day prior to the election (Friday)
- Provides that early voting begin on the 15th day prior to the election and end on the 2nd day before the election (Sunday)
- Provides that solicitation at the polls shall not be conducted within 100 feet of the entrance of the polling place (no exceptions)

HB 1589 – Florida Voter Registration System (Signed into law by Governor Bush on June 20, 2005)

- Provides for the implementation, operation and maintenance of the Florida Voter Registration System (FVRS – a multi-user system that contains the entire state of Florida's voter roll)
- Revises the list of acceptable IDs that may be used at the polls by first-time voters who registered by mail
- Changes the Voter Identification Card to the Voter Information Card and its content
- Provides for the capturing of electronic signatures at the polls
- Provides that the supervisor shall provide precinct level elections results for absentee and early voting
- Changes the candidate qualifying period for the office of state attorney and public defender

HB 1673 – Permanent Repeal of the Second Primary

- Permanently cancels the Second Primary
- Provides for the Primary Election to be held nine weeks prior to the General Election
- Deletes the requirement for mailing advanced absentee ballots
- Provides for additional filings of campaign treasurer's reports

SUPERVISORS OF ELECTIONS EMBRACE CHANGE...

Ins and outs of the latest election reform

With great resolve, supervisors of elections and their staffs attended their annual conference in June. Determined to learn the ins and outs of the latest election reform, the group embraced the new legislation that will shape future elections in the state.

Pasco County hosted the 60th Annual Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections (FSASE) conference held at Saddlebrook Resort in Wesley Chapel. Joined by notable guest speakers and facilitators, the elections office personnel gained insight into House Bill 1673, House Bill 1567, and House Bill 1589.

The bills will cause supervisors to complete extensive modifications before the 2006 election cycle. All were in agreement that teamwork and positive attitudes appear to be the best tools for creating the uniformity it will take to continue to promote successful elections in Florida.

Complementing the educational workshops and user group meetings, 22 vendors showcased advancements available in voting systems, voter registration systems, polling place equipment, mapping software, election supplies and mailing solutions.

Each county returned home with a foundation to build upon and streamline before the 2006 election cycle. ■



The Honorable Mike Fasano, State Senator, District 11, addressed the association during the luncheon on Wednesday, June 8, 2005. Senator Fasano spoke of legislative changes and the high regard he has for the state's elections officials.

Election Systems & Software (ES&S) representatives touch base with their clientele during an afternoon break at the FSASE conference. The ES&S group also conducted user-group meetings for both optical scan and iVotronic counties.



Kurt S. Browning, Legislative Committee Chair, addressed the association on Tuesday, June 7, 2005 with a synopsis of the accomplishments of the committee during this year's Legislative Session.



Orange County's Supervisor of Elections and President of the FSASE, Bill Cowles, conducted the association's business session on Tuesday, June 7, 2005. The association's board members present include the Honorable Kay Clem, Indian River County; Honorable Barbara Kirkman, Clay County; Honorable Terry Vaughn, Bradford County; Honorable Kathy Dent, Sarasota County; and Honorable Susan Gil, Citrus County.

Staff Director for the House Ethics & Elections Committee, Bucky Mitchell along with Staff Director for the Senate Ethics & Elections Committee, Wayne Rubinas attended the FSASE meetings and Division of Elections workshops.



The FSASE conference was supported in part by the 22 vendors on hand to showcase the advancements available in voting systems, voter registration systems, polling place equipment, mapping software, election supplies and mailing solutions.

Members of the public visited the Election Systems & Software, Inc. (ES&S) vendor booth at the conference held at Saddlebrook Resort in Wesley Chapel the first week of June. The individuals received a demonstration of an ADA compliant touchscreen voting machine manufactured by ES&S.



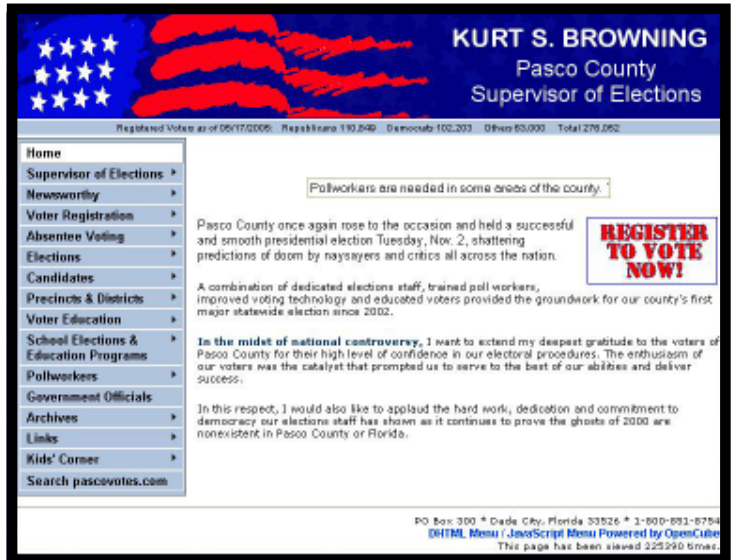
pascovotes.com Gets a Facelift!

Redesign makes navigation easier than ever

Since its launch in 1999, *pascovotes.com* has provided services and information to thousands of Pasco County voters and other interested individuals. Through the years of its existence, the Pasco County Supervisor of Elections office has added more and more sections and links to our website to keep pace with public demand for additional services and information.

Although our users have always found *pascovotes.com* to be helpful and informative, we've decided to improve on a good thing. In an effort to better serve our users, the Supervisor of Elections has redesigned *pascovotes.com* to make it even more user-friendly.

The new look was unveiled July 1, 2005. Navigation is easier than ever! All the links are available on the left side of every page, so you can go immediately to the information you seek. To make navigation a one-step process, many frequently used topics are listed under multiple sections.



We're sure you will agree that *pascovotes.com* is a good thing. Check it out! ■

Supervisor of Elections Opens Satellite Office

An opportunity to accommodate the growing population in south central Pasco county



Kurt S. Browning, Pasco County Supervisor of Elections, in conjunction with Mike Wells, Pasco County Property Appraiser, will be opening a satellite office later this summer. The office will be located in the Village Market Shopping Plaza at the corner of Bruce B. Downs Boulevard (County Road 581) and State Road 54 in Wesley Chapel.

According to the United States Census Bureau, Pasco County is currently ranked 38th in the nation for the fastest growing United States counties (7th in the state). This an increase in over 40 positions from the 2003 standings. Fourteen Florida counties made the top 100 list. Flagler County, Florida was ranked number one in the state and the country.

Both Browning and Wells view the new office as an opportunity to accommodate the skyrocketing population of South Central Pasco County.

The office will be the fourth full service location of the Supervisor of Elections. The new office will also serve as an early voting site during future elections in Pasco County. Visit our website, pascovotes.com, for contact information and directions to all offices of the Supervisor of Elections. ■

ELECTION DATES

Municipal

April 11, 2006

Primary

September 5, 2006

General

November 7, 2006

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

REGISTRATION STATISTICS

Republican	111,496	40.1%
Democrat	102,655	37.0%
Other	63,445	22.9%
Total	277,596	

(As of June 21, 2005)

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CENTRAL PASCO
(813) 929-1288

WEST PASCO
(727) 847-8162

quote of the quarter

“Live in such a way that you would not be ashamed to sell your parrot to the town gossip. ~Will Rogers

You can't build a reputation on what you are going to do. ~Henry Ford

DID YOU KNOW?

More than 50% of the people in the world have never made or received a telephone call.

The largest toy distributor in the world is McDonald's.

Hawaii has the only royal palace in the United States - Iolani.

Source:
www.corsinet.com/trivia/only.html

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



FSASE SCHOLARSHIP

Alyssa Ramirez accepted one of the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections (FSASE) scholarship awards at the association's banquet on June 8, 2005 at Saddlebrook Resort. Each year, three \$1,200.00 scholarships are awarded to Florida students. The other two recipients were Charity Carbo and Lucas Thompson.

The scholarship program is open to students who have finished at least two years of junior college or undergraduate work and are enrolled or have been accepted into a four-year college or university in Florida. To qualify, the applicants must be majoring in one of the following: Political Science/Public Administration, Journalism/Mass Communications or Business Administration and have maintained at least a "C" average. Applicants must also be Florida residents and registered to vote. ■

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. ■

