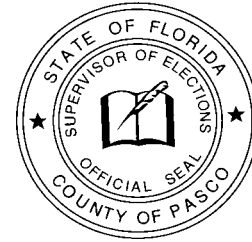


OTE NOTES

KURT S. BROWNING

PASCO COUNTY
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS



October, 2004

Quarterly Publication

PREPARATION IS KEY TO SUCCESS

Voter turnout in the General Election is expected to be considerably higher than the 20 percent turnout recorded in the August Primary Election. This aspect contributes to the importance of electors being aware of their responsibilities in experiencing a hassle-free election.

Voters should make sure their record is up-to-date including their signature. They should remember to take photo and signature identification to the polls and utilize their sample ballot while voting. They should also become familiar with the iVotronic touchscreen voting system used in Pasco County.

Public demonstrations of the voting equipment are held throughout the county on a regular basis. Pasco County residents are encouraged to acquaint themselves with the equipment at one of these demonstrations. While demonstrations are available at the polls, we recommend they familiarize themselves with the equipment at a demonstration or in one of our three offices before Election Day.

Local businesses, civic organizations, clubs and committees can help the efforts of the elections office by inviting our demonstrators to attend their regularly scheduled events. If your organization or group would like an in-depth presentation or demonstration of the iVotronic voting system, please contact the elections office. We will be happy to send the equipment and staff needed to accommodate your request.

Contact Louise at (813) 929-1288 to schedule a demonstration. A current list of scheduled demonstrations is available on our website, www.pascovotes.com. Click on **Touchscreen Demonstrations Schedule** under **The News** for more details. ■

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Pollworker Training Sessions



Kurt Browning, Pasco County Supervisor of Elections, and select staff members hit the road in August to facilitate over 40 training sessions for pollworkers, election day workers and election

night workers. Each training session is designed to equip election workers with the tools necessary to perform their jobs on Election Day.

Mr. Browning believes that the positive results Pasco County experiences on Election Day stem from the methodical training of his volunteers. This is why Pasco County puts a lot of time and effort into developing a top-notch training program, including in-depth PowerPoint presentations, intensive “hands-on” equipment training, state of the art video instruction, and user-friendly training manuals. The elections crew will head out again on October 1st to begin the final



round of training sessions for the 2004 election cycle. By October 28, 2004, the elections office will have conducted nearly 120 training classes since preparation began for the March 9th Presidential Preference Primary. The election's office applauds the commitment of the volunteers who attend the trainings and provide quality service on election day. ■

An Emergency Plan...

Formulating possible solutions and outlining a course of action

For years, we have skirted the impact of a major storm that would force improvisation of the election process in Pasco County, a remarkable fact considering hurricane season and election season parallel each other. With the passing of Ivan, we can once again exhale, but Frances brought to life the necessity of having a "Plan B". As many areas of the county continue to dry out from heavy rains, Mr. Browning and the Emergency Operations Center are working to finalize our emergency plan in case the next storm is not so kind.

The only impact Pasco County elections suffered from Hurricane Frances was the structural damage and relocation of one polling place. That was not the case in Charlotte County which was devastated by Hurricane Charley just 2 1/2 weeks before the August 31st Primary. Fortunately, very little voting equipment was damaged, but in the aftermath, the few polling places still standing were being occupied by the Red Cross and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Charlotte County had to quickly make arrangements to accommodate their normal 80 precincts. Sixty-three precincts were divided among 9 locations, mostly churches, where "Super Polling Places" were set up that served 9-11 precincts each. Voters were notified on local radio stations and in the newspapers when sample ballots were published. Thirty voting machines were used at each location. In addition, 17 regular polling place facilities that survived the storm were utilized to accommodate 2-3 precincts each.

One of the biggest challenges was locating the pollworkers who either fled from the storm or sought temporary lodging after their homes were damaged. Charlotte County Supervisor of Elections Judy Anderson utilized local radio stations to notify her pollworkers who were MIA. What began as a hopeless situation ultimately turned into an overwhelming response from dedicated pollworkers who came forward. All who were willing to work were given assignments.

Nine regular office staff members, some of whom had lost their homes, came to work every day and faced the challenge of increased absentee ballot requests and Early Voting. Early Voting in Charlotte County was available just one week after Hurricane Charley and due to the late start, continued 12 hours a day, 7 days a week, through 5:00 p.m. August 30th.

Against the odds, and through the resourcefulness of a dedicated staff and help from the Division of Elections in Tallahassee, Charlotte County managed an honorable primary election. In the words of Judy Anderson, no emergency plan could have foreseen the obstacles to be overcome. Just the same, it can't hurt to formulate possible solutions and outline a course of action beforehand. ■

✓ VOICE OF THE VOTER

"The entire operation went as smooth as any I have ever seen." ~John, Precinct 29

"As a first-time voter here in Florida, I was very impressed by the voting procedure and professionals."

~Myrtle, Precinct 114

"The pollworkers were exceptionally knowledgeable, capable, and friendly. Voting couldn't be any easier."

~Gloria, Precinct 21

"The official, precinct dedicated sample ballot was very well prepared and helpful. It was clearly printed (large letters) and a great time saver. Good Job!" ~Anthony, Precinct 36

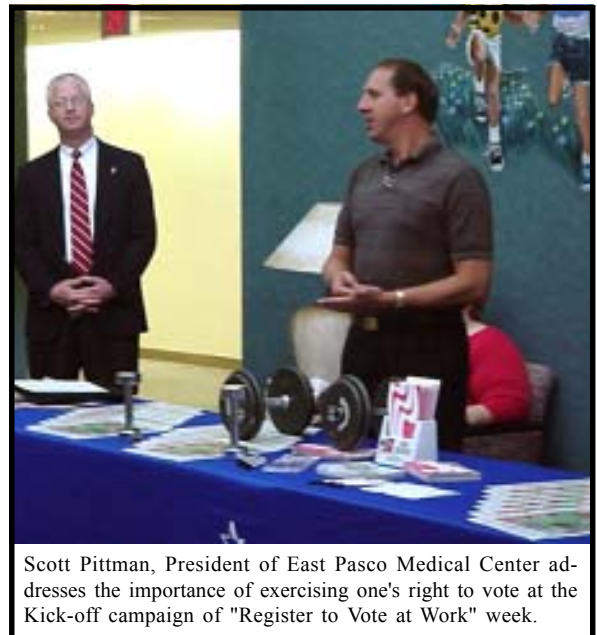
"Just wanted to let you know that I was very satisfied with voting yesterday. The machines worked perfect."

~Marlene

"I voted in Precinct 44, my rating to all the workers is excellent. We received fast, professional polling ... keep up the good work." ~Lois

"Friendly, Courteous & Very Quick."

~Maria, Precinct 99 ■



Scott Pittman, President of East Pasco Medical Center addresses the importance of exercising one's right to vote at the Kick-off campaign of "Register to Vote at Work" week.

EARLY VOTING

Pasco County will begin early voting on Monday, October 18, 2004 and end on Monday, November 1, 2004. Early voting will be available in all three Supervisor of Elections offices during normal office hours on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. On Saturdays, the hours will be from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Extended hours are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Early voters will be using the iVotronic touchscreens to cast their ballots. Mail ballots will also be available. The initial mailing of absentees for the General Election is scheduled for late September. Voters interested in voting by mail should call the elections office at their earliest convenience, 1-800-851-8754. ■



“Kids Voting USA® (KVUSA) is a national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that teaches students about the concepts of citizenship, civic responsibility, democracy and the importance of political participation,” www.kidsvotingusa.org.

Pasco County will be hosting the Kids Voting Tampa Bay program during the

General Election on November 2, 2004. Children of all ages are being invited into Pasco County’s official polling sites to cast a ballot alongside adults.

While the support and enthusiasm of Mr. Browning and the elections office is vital, the recruitment of volunteers is paramount. Unfortunately, our pollworkers will be unable to volunteer due to their election day responsibilities. Therefore, we are appealing to all members of home owners associations, civic associations, local clubs and organizations to participate in this event.

If your organization is interested in volunteering for the Kids Voting Tampa Bay program, please contact Michelle Card, Executive Director, Kids Voting Tampa Bay by mail at 4239 Carlos Court, Hernando Beach, FL 34607. You can also reach Ms Card by phone at (352) 597-0809 or Email her at: kidsvoting@tampabay.rr.com.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your support and participation. ■

RECOUNT

School Board Member, District 2



The Pasco County Canvassing Board convened at the Election Support Center in Dade City on Thursday, September 2, 2004 to conduct a machine recount of the Primary Election race for Member School Board, District 2.

During the recount, members of a counting team were given instructions on examining Under Votes on absentee ballots. The Member School Board, District 2 race had 4,150 Under Votes.



CALL CENTER VOTER INFO HOTLINE

The Pasco County Supervisor of Elections office takes pride in being one of the best elections offices in the state.



In our continuing effort to improve the elections process, this election cycle, we implemented a

call center to serve as an information source for voters. The call center was operational during the month of August and will resume again in October.

The 2-month pilot program employs eight telephone operators who respond to voter questions. After attending two days of training, the call center began fielding routine calls regarding voter registration and polling place information as well as processing telephone address changes and inputting absentee ballot requests.

This new service proved to be a win-win situation during the Primary Election. Calls were answered quickly, voters were efficiently served and the elections staff was able to concentrate on assigned tasks and assist people at the counter. This in turn decreased the amount of overtime and the resultant stress that goes along with the long hours associated with an election.

The call center is located at the Election Support Center in Dade City, the site normally used as the Election Day phone bank. The individual operators and elections office staff managing the call center are looking forward to getting back in the game and being a part of the process that will restore the reliability in Florida’s elections. ■

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Each election year this office receives hundreds of requests for information, explanations, and the political position of individual ballot issues. The Supervisor of Elections’ office is prohibited from offering an opinion concerning any of the issues. However, we can direct voters to the resources available to conduct their own research.

There will be eight Constitutional Amendments on the November 2, 2004, General Election ballot. Log onto www.pascovotes.com for a list of the proposed amendments. Click on *Ballot Issues* under *The 2004 Elections* for detailed information and available resource links. ■

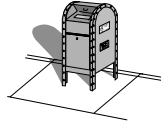
For more information, visit our website at pascovotes.com.

REGISTRATION STATISTICS

Republican	104,613	40.0%
Democrat	98,090	37.6%
Other	58,459	22.4%
Total	261,162	

(As of September 21, 2004)

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

General Election
November 2, 2004

Municipal Elections
April 12, 2005

KURT S. BROWNING

Supervisor of Elections

Pasco County

P. O. Box 300

Dade City, FL 33526-0300

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EXTENDED OFFICE HOURS

Please note that the Supervisor of Elections office will be open from 7:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning October 19, 2004. The expanded office hours will be in effect through the General Election on November 2, 2004. All services will be available during these hours. Normal business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., will be observed on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. In addition, the office will be open on Saturday, October 23rd and Saturday, October 30th from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

DID YOU KNOW?

Peanuts are one of the ingredients in dynamite.

Mexico City sinks about 10 inches per year.

No piece of square dry paper can be folded in half more than 7 times.

Source:
www.geocities.com/area51

Calendar of Events

Devil Rays host "Rock the Vote"

Tuesday, September 28, 2004
One Tropicana Drive
St. Petersburg

All Pasco County K-Marts

Voter Registration Drive
Saturday, October 2, 2004

Voter Registration Books Close for General Election

Monday, October 4, 2004

Public Test for Voting Equipment

Monday, October 11, 2004
Election Support Center
38245 McDonald Street
Dade City

Early Voting Available

Beginning Monday, October 18, 2004
East Pasco Government Center, Dade City
Central Pasco Professional Center, Land O' Lakes
West Pasco Government Center, New Port Richey

General Election Day

Tuesday, November 2, 2004

SAMPLE BALLOTS

Coming soon to your mailbox...

Voter specific sample ballots will be mailed to all active, registered voters on October 19, 2004. Voters are encouraged to mark their sample ballots, take them to the polls and use them as a guide when voting. Sample ballots will also be available on our website, pascovotes.com.

quote of the quarter

"A people that values its privileges above its principles soon loses both." ~Dwight D. Eisenhower