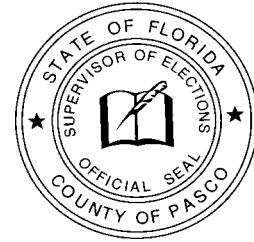


# VOTE NOTES

# KURT S. BROWNING

PASCO COUNTY  
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS



October, 2005

Quarterly Publication

## ***FVRS Coming Soon!***

Pasco County, as well as other counties throughout the state, is busy preparing for the conversion to the statewide voter registration system.

In compliance with the Help America Vote Act, Florida counties are preparing for the January 1, 2006 conversion to the Department of State maintained Florida Voter Registration System (FVRS).

The statewide database replaces the current system of individually maintained county voter registration rolls and will enhance communications among federal, state and local agencies to process voter registration applications and update voter lists.

House Bill 1589 further defines the role of the FVRS by recognizing a statewide system that allows voters to make election day address changes from any county within the state and without regard to book-closing date. It revises the identification requirements for first-time voters who register by mail to include only those who have never voted within the state.

In preparation for the conversion, software provider VR Systems, Inc. will be holding 5 regional workshops throughout the state in December. The purpose of these workshops is to instruct staff on changes in the voter registration software

and how it will interface with the FVRS. Pasco County elections staff will attend the workshop in Pinellas County.

The conversion in Pasco County will take place December 26 through December 30, 2005. ■

## ***New Certification Calls for Enhancement of Voting System***

Recently, an extensive upgrade of software and hardware was conducted on the ballot tabulation network at the Election Support Center in Dade City. This network receives the modemed results from the polling places, the early voting results, and the absentee ballot results, combines them and produces reports for the public, the press and the candidates.

Due to the latest certification of the voting system, approved by the Division of Elections, certain enhancements were made to the system to make tabulation of votes more efficient. Voters will see these changes the next time they use a touch screen unit to cast their votes. The look is much easier for voters to view and use.

Pasco County is committed to continually providing refined and improved voting methods as technology evolves. ■



Election Systems & Software technician confers with elections staff at the Election Support Center in Dade City.

## LIST MAINTENANCE

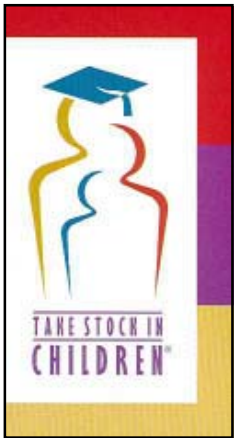
2005 Biennial List Maintenance Program

The Supervisor of Elections' office has completed its 2005 Biennial List Maintenance Program as required by Florida Statutes. The program aims to update the voter registration file with current addresses, and to remove voters who no longer reside in Pasco County.

Voters were notified, by mail, if they had no activity with the Pasco County Supervisor of Elections' office during the past two years. Notifications were mailed to nearly 40,000 registered voters. All voters receiving a notification should respond accordingly. Failure to respond could cause delays at the polling place on Election Day. ■

## Take Stock In Children

Staff volunteers participate in mentoring program



Rosanne Heyser, the student advocate for the Take Stock in Children (TSIC) program, met with the elections office earlier this year looking for volunteers to participate in their mentoring program. The program offers long-term support and the opportunity of receiving a 4-year college education to “at-risk” children.

The elections office readily accepted her invitation to be a part of the program, which takes an innovative approach to reducing Florida’s dropout and teen crime rates.

According to the TSIC guidelines, the role of a mentor is to guide, encourage and help recipients of the TSIC scholarship to remain focused on their long-term goal of a college education. Each mentor is considered a valuable resource for each student since their efforts will support and direct the students to make the necessary effort required to reach their goals.

Seven members of the elections staff have already completed the necessary paperwork, background checks and workshops required to mentor an eligible student. The participating staff members have begun to initiate contact with the scholars assigned to them and have experienced positive introductions that should lead to successful partnerships.

For more information about the Pasco Education Foundation, Inc. and Take Stock in Children program visit [www.pascoeducationfoundation.com](http://www.pascoeducationfoundation.com) and [www.takestock-inchildren.com](http://www.takestock-inchildren.com). ■

## Certified Public Manager Course

Staff attends Level I Training Course

Earlier this month, Facilitator Shawn Baldwin, Director of the Certified Public Manager (CPM) Program, guided 32 students through the first level of the CPM course. The program is offered through Florida State University, who began their CPM program in 1979.



The CPM course is a nationally-recognized program designed for managers at all levels of state and local governments. The program consists of eight four-day training sessions. In addition to class work and lectures, participants are required to complete out-of-class readings, projects, and examinations.

The curriculum covers a wide array of management topics from individual performance to organizational issues and public policy. The courses aim to professionalize the practice of public management while moving toward transformational leadership qualities and practices. A good balance of state-of-the-art theory and practical applications are incorporated into the course.

Four of Supervisor, Kurt Browning's elections team attended the Level I training held at the Election Support Center in Dade City. Browning believes the training will increase his staff's knowledge and heighten their managerial abilities while continuing to promote the high standards adopted by him and his office.

The elections office staff members plan to continue their CPM education with Levels 2 through 8 over the next two years. Visit [www.fcpm.fsu.edu](http://www.fcpm.fsu.edu) for more information about Florida's CPM program. ■

Source: Florida Center for Public Management

## **Heart and "Sole" of Pasco**

Supervisor of Elections' staff walks to support the American Heart Association

The Supervisor of Elections office is participating in the 2005 Nature Coast Heart Walk. The Heart Walk will be held Saturday morning, October 29<sup>th</sup> at the Rotary Pavilion at The Concourse. The Concourse is located approximately ¼ mile west of the Suncoast Parkway and State Road 52 Junction at 15325 Alric Pottberg Road.

Kurt Browning, Supervisor of Elections, and his staff welcome this opportunity to support the American Heart Association and its efforts to prevent, treat and defeat cardiovascular disease and stroke. Nearly 950,000 fatalities are attributed to cardiovascular disease and stroke each year making them the number one and number three killers in the nation.

The 2004 Heart Walk raised more than \$200,000 in Pasco and Hernando Counties. The association is striving for \$250,000 this year. The elections office is attempting to raise \$2,000 of that goal. Visit [www.heartwalk.kintera.org/faf/home/](http://www.heartwalk.kintera.org/faf/home/) to follow the Nature Coast's progress.

If you would like more information about the 2005 Nature Coast Heart Walk, visit [www.americanheart.org/naturecoastwalk](http://www.americanheart.org/naturecoastwalk). For additional information on the American Heart Association visit [www.americanheart.org](http://www.americanheart.org). ■



2005 Heart Walk Chair, King Helie, and Red Cap Ambassador, Brandon Meier, got the ball rolling at the Heart Walk's kick-off celebration held Thursday, September 8, 2005 at the Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point. ~photo provided by American Heart Association, Nature Coast

## **Doors are Open -- Stop In**

Wesley Chapel office is now open for business



The fourth full service location of the Supervisor of Elections opened for business on August 1, 2005. The office is located at 5325 Village Market Drive in Wesley Chapel on the corner of Bruce B. Downs Blvd (County Road 581) and State Road 54. The office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday with extended hours on Wednesdays until 7:00 p.m. Elections office personnel may be reached at (813) 929-1392.

The office is a joint venture between Pasco County's Supervisor of Elections and the Property Appraiser. The grand opening held on August 15, 2005 included a ribbon cutting attended by Supervisor of Elections Kurt Browning, Property Appraiser Mike Wells and members of the Greater Wesley Chapel Chamber of Commerce.

Spectators watched as the chamber welcomed the two governmental offices to the growing neighborhood.

Visit our website, [www.pascovotes.com](http://www.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](http://pascovotes.com).

## REGISTRATION STATISTICS

Republican	110,505	40.3%
Democrat	100,977	36.8%
Other	62,775	22.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>274,257</b>	

(As of October 18, 2005)

## KURT S. BROWNING

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WELSEY CHAPEL  
(813) 929-1392

LAND O' LAKES  
(813) 929-1288

NEW PORT RICHEY  
(727) 847-8162

### *quote of the quarter*

It is common sense to take a method and try it; if it fails, admit it frankly and try another. But above all, try something. ~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Resolve to be a master of change rather than a victim of change. ~Brian Tracy

## Pasco to Exceed 152 Precincts

New precincts for Pasco County are in the near future

Kurt Browning, Pasco County Supervisor of Elections, will be creating additional voting precincts later this year. Current precincts will be divided or redrawn in an effort to accommodate the exponential growth of the county. The majority of the new precincts will be located in the south central part of the county. Voters affected by the new precinct boundaries will be mailed a new voter information card prior to the 2006 elections.

The information card will include the location of the voter's new polling place as well as the district information for the precinct. The elections office encourages voters to visit [www.pascovotes.com](http://www.pascovotes.com) for additional information on precincts and districts as well as the government officials assigned to each district. ■

### 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, (813) 929-1288 and (813) 929-1392 or Joyce at (727) 847-8162. ■

### DID YOU KNOW?

Montpelier, Vermont is the only U.S. state capital without a McDonald's.

The world's largest coffee pot is located in Davidson, Saskatchewan. It measures 24 Feet (7.3 Meters) tall, is made of sheet metal and could hold 150,000 eight ounce cups of coffee.

Table salt is the only commodity that hasn't risen dramatically in price in the last 150 years.

Source:  
[www.angelfire.com/ca6/uselessfacts/](http://www.angelfire.com/ca6/uselessfacts/)

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

