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SUMMER 1986

THE INSIDER

Official Publication of the Board of Election Commissioners of St. Louis, Co. 41 South Central Avenue, Clayton, MO 889-2255

Welcome to the Summer issue of "The Insider". Since the last edition of this newsletter, the Election Board has conducted a Countywide election on April 1, with a 29.5% turnout, a Supplemental Election on June 1, involving one-fourth of the County with a 22.8% turnout, and a Special Election on April 29th that drew 11.8% of the 10,532 registered voters involved.

As the August Primary draws closer, our staff is already busy with new registrations, ballot preparation and printing, vote recorder assembly, securing polling places, absentee ballots and campaign finance. Just prior to August 5, voters' telephone inquiries will peak at close to 1,000 per day.

We appreciate the support and dedication of the many people who keep our elections running smoothly. We hope this publication contributes to your efforts.

PAUL S. DeGREGORIO
ANN M. BARDGETT

ELECTION JUDGES' PAY RAISE

In April, the St. Louis County Board of Election Commissioners voted a pay raise for election judges beginning with the June 3, 1986, Supplemental Election. Under the new scale, judges' pay was increased from \$46.00 to \$50.00 per day with supervisors going from \$60.00 to \$63.00 per day.

POLLING PLACE LIST

The St. Louis County Election Board has just completed a revision of its list of polling places. In the August Primary, 16% of the County's residents will be voting at new locations. This change was necessary because of the different voting districts of candidates elected every two years to Federal and State offices.

In addition, some sites were dropped because they did not meet new Federal standards regarding handicapped accessibility, while others were changed to make them more convenient for the voter.

Since some of our voters will be casting their ballots at new locations this summer, special attention should be paid to the voter notification postcard reminders.

NEW BALLOT FOR PRIMARY ELECTION

Secretary of State Roy Blunt is going to allow the St. Louis County Board of Election Commissioners to use one vote recorder for the party nominations and issues in the August Primary Election. The change was requested due to the very high cost of having separate vote recorders throughout the County. New ballots will be used in the election which will not allow a person from one party vote for a candidate of the other in a primary election. In addition, the ballot pages will be clearly labeled for the party and the issues. The use of separate vote recorders in 1984 resulted in a shortage of vote recorders and long lines at several polling places.

AUGUST PRIMARY ELECTION

In the August Primary, held on the First Tuesday after the first Monday in August, we will nominate candidates to run in the November General Election for a U.S. Senate seat, Congressional Districts 1, 2 and 3, Missouri State Auditor, State Senate Districts 14, 24 and 26, St. Louis County State Representative Districts 71 through 102, St. Louis County Executive, Prosecuting Attorney and County Council Districts 1, 3, 5 and 7. In addition, 6 Republican and 4 Democratic Central Committee members will be elected to serve unexpired terms. Other issues on the St. Louis County ballot include 5 State Constitutional Amendments, 5 County bond issues and propositions from 12 municipalities, 5 school, 1 water and 4 fire districts.

AUGUST ELECTION DATES TO REMEMBER

- JUNE 24: Absentee voting opens for August election.
- JUNE 26: 40 day campaign finance reports due for August election.
- JULY 9: Closing date for registrations, transfers and name changes for August election.
- JULY 23: Voter registration books locked and sealed (viewing closed).
- JULY 29: 7 day campaign finance reports due for August election.
- JULY 30: Last day for requesting absentee ballots by mail.
- AUG 5: ELECTION DAY
- SEPT 4: 30 day after campaign finance reports due for August election.

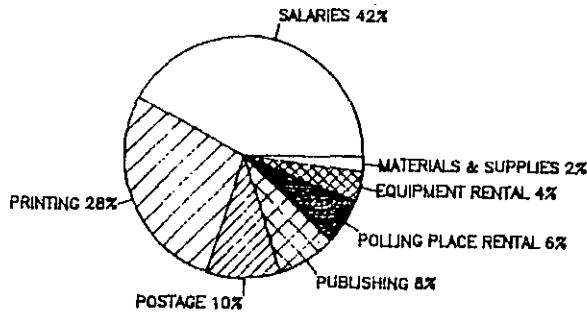
ELECTION DIRECTORS ON KMOX RADIO

On June 9th, Paul S. DeGregorio and Ann M. Bardgett, St. Louis County Directors of Elections, appeared on KMOX Radio's noon hour "Open Line" hosted by Bob Hardy. After some opening remarks by Mr. Hardy, the phone lines were opened and the Directors fielded a wide range of questions about the voting process in the County. Comments ranged from excessive talking by election judges at the polls to absentee ballots and voter registration.

ELECTION COSTS

The ever increasing expense of holding elections is only one of a number of good reasons why **everyone** should make an effort to get out and vote. Whether the turnout on election day is 20% or 80%, the price generally remains the same.

A countywide election will cost over \$500,000. By far the biggest item is the payroll expense covering judges, deputies, observers, temporary employees and overtime for our permanent staff. The printing of the ballot pages and signs is another 28%. The remaining 30% goes to postage for voter notification cards, legal notices in newspapers as required by State Statute, equipment and polling place rental and various supplies.



As you can see, democracy does not come cheaply, so please pass the word: **Government is your business - Register and Vote.**

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

In March, Missouri became one of a growing number of states to authorize a direct Presidential Primary that would allocate delegates pledged to a particular candidate for the Presidential nomination.

With the Presidential Preference Primary adopted by the legislature, this State's delegates would be allocated to candidates in proportion to the popular vote each received in the election. Provisions have been made in the law for a vote for uncommitted delegates, though no candidate would gain any delegates if he or she did not receive at least 15% of the votes cast.

The first primary will be held on Tuesday, March 8, 1988. The usual February Supplemental Election will not be held in 1988. If any local entities would schedule elections, they would be held in conjunction with the March Primary.

The April Municipal Election is still scheduled for April 5th, 1988, or just 28 days after the Presidential Primary. Because of the heavy burden this would place on the Election Board and the high cost (see "Election Costs", above) the Election Board has urged the Governor and Legislature to hold both elections the same day.

ABSENTEE VOTING

Beginning August 14, absence on election day from the city or entity where an individual lives will not entitle that voter to cast an absentee ballot. Under a new, broader interpretation of the word "jurisdiction", a person must now be out of St. Louis County on the date of the election to vote an absentee ballot. Other reasons provided for under Missouri Statutes for voting absentee still apply.



Board Employees Receiving Ballots

DID YOU KNOW that St. Louis County has 471 permanent registration locations, none of which is more than a five minutes drive from anyone's home? These locations include 25 municipal and County libraries, 61 city halls, the University of Missouri-St. Louis, 2 junior colleges, all public high schools and grade schools, all Special School District locations, 13 private high schools, 34 nursing homes, 5 hospitals, 25 churches, 14 banks, 4 union halls, the St. Louis County Housing Authority, 3 Department of Human Resources offices and various St. Louis County businesses including: McGraw-Edison, Emerson Electric Company, General Dynamics Corporation and Monsanto Company.

In addition, there are special provisions for registering people who are unable to go to one of these sites due to sickness or disability. For information on the voter registration location nearest you, please call 889-2540.

IN THE OFFICE—Chuck Teitelbaum, formerly in the EIS Department, has been promoted to Administrative Assistant/Personnel. Kathy Perkins and Sue DiFulvio have been advanced respectively to Accounting Clerk and Team 4 Judge/Clerk. Kim Peters has been appointed to the position of Accounting Supervisor and Lolita Sims moving up to Chief Clerk in that department. Bob Chamberlain, having been at our Westport Election Service Facility for the past four years, has returned to the Clayton office as Supervisor of Polling Places and Publications.

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REGISTER
VOTE ★