

## GO VOTE!

Tuesday November 4<sup>th</sup> is Election Day. I want to give you a few statistics on the voting in our county and precincts.

For the March Primary Election there were 871,916 registered voters. Of this 275,016 ballots were cast which was 31.54% of the registered voters. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the 2006 estimated population for Bexar County is 1,555,592. Also according the Census Bureau, 72% of the people in Bexar County are over 18. So that means that we should have 1,120,026 registered voters. Using the March primary numbers we have 77.85% of the County is registered and 24.55% of the County voted.

For the precincts in VJ here are our numbers:

Precinct	Registered	Ballots Cast	% Voting
3006	226	117	51.77%
3011	2305	1013	43.95%
3012	855	395	46.20%
3013	1873	718	38.33%
3071	2528	877	34.69%
3112	2305	745	32.32%

I could not find the census numbers for people by precinct. But if we look at the big picture, then consider that approximately 25% of the county voted. If you voted, good job. If you did not, then I want you to feel that you may not be doing your part and this November I want you to vote. I believe that many people may feel that their vote does not really matter. It does, because the people that run for office are looking at the numbers above and creating their strategies. All the talk during the election has been about change. I believe that change can only come from you. People need to change their habits and start voting. This is the first step, because when our elected officials see that we the people are serious about what happens in government. They will start to listen better.

Voting is not easy. It requires that you do some homework. I do not believe that sound bites gathered from the news or from commercials are informative. Go directly to the web site of the candidates and spend some time reviewing what they have written. When you see information and points that are important to you, print them or save them. Because when the candidate of your choice does not do what they said they would do. They should be held accountable. I believe that we are entering a time when the voting public will be able to hold our politicians more accountable for the choices that they are supposed to be making on our behalf. A small example of this is the work that VJ President Ted Trakas has done on the VJ web site. On the web site you will see documentation of VJ interactions with our local government. This information shows positions that VJ has taken and how our elected officials have performed. Consider what elected officials would do when every one of their constituents is watching and documenting their performance.

As I write this, there are less than 3 weeks left before the election. If you did not registered to vote by October 6, you cannot vote. I will publish the numbers from the November election in the January newsletter.

**Victor Camacho, President**  
**Colonies House**

Sources: [www.bexar.org](http://www.bexar.org) and [quickfacts.census.gov](http://quickfacts.census.gov)