

## Post-Election audit shows full confidence in election

The Post-Election audit of Switzerland County's General Election was held on Friday, November 22nd, in the Switzerland County Courthouse.

The audit was conducted by the Indiana Secretary of State's "Voting System Technical Oversight Program" — VSTOP.

Although the final report won't be available until mid-January, State VSTOP officials — Executive Director, Dr. Chad Kinsella, and Election Systems Audit Specialist, Matt Housley — created a preliminary document outlining the process and results. The audit covered all ballots cast in Switzerland County in the General Election — 4,315.

Randomly selected to be audited here were the results of the elections for: President of the United States, Governor of Indiana, and County Commissioner District 2.

### Overview

The audit began with a public post-election audit presentation given by Dr. Kinsella, and Housley, and gave an overview of VSTOP and explained the post-election audit process. A ballot-polling audit method was used. In a Ballot-Polling Audit, votes are hand counted until there is convincing evidence (91-99 percent confidence level) that the election outcome of the audit would match the election outcome of the tabulated results.

While the estimated sample for this audit was 43 ballots, a sample of 78 ballots were drawn should there be a need for additional ballots to be inspected. The sample was drawn in live-time using a random seed number generated by 20 rolls of a 10-sided die. VSTOP and Switzerland County Election Officials began to inspect ballots and record election choices for the three contests. This was continued until a confidence level of 91-99 percent was achieved for each contested election outcome.

### Results

#### • President of the United States:

Sampled ballots were hand counted for the initial sample of 43 ballots. The Audit Team entered the updated totals for each candidate into the Stark Audit

Tool to check for the desired confidence level of 91-99%. The initial sample of ballots achieved the desired confidence level range. This sample generated a greater than 99 percent confidence level.

The achieved risk limit was less than 1 percent, but the confidence level can be no greater 99.99 percent because a sample's confidence level can never equal 100 percent.

Rounded down to the nearest whole percentage, the audit concluded with 99 percent confidence this contest was properly tabulated resulting in a correctly reported election outcome.

#### • Governor of Indiana:

Sampled ballots were hand counted for the initial sample of 43 ballots. The Audit Team entered the updated totals for each candidate into the Stark Audit Tool to check for the desired confidence level of 91-99%. The initial sample of ballots achieved the desired confidence level range. This sample generated a greater than 99 percent confidence level.

The achieved risk limit was less than 1 percent, but the confidence level can be no greater 99.99 percent because a sample's confidence level can never equal 100 percent.

Rounded down to the nearest whole percentage, the audit concluded with 99 percent confidence this contest was properly tabulated resulting in a correctly reported election outcome.

#### • County Commissioner District 2:

Sampled ballots were hand counted for the initial sample of 43 ballots. The Audit Team entered the updated totals for each candidate into the Stark Audit Tool to check for the desired confidence level of 91-99%.

The initial sample of ballots did not achieve the desired confidence level range. An additional 19 ballots were inspected and hand counted. After hand counting 62 ballots, the desired confidence level range was met.

The audit concluded with 99 percent confidence this contest was properly tabulated resulting in a correctly reported election outcome.

For any questions regarding the post-election audit process in Indiana, this post-election audit specifically, or its results, please contact VSTOP's Election Systems Audit Specialist at [vstop@bsu.edu](mailto:vstop@bsu.edu).

## YMCA: programs for youth, teens

The Switzerland County YMCA provides a wide range of child development programs throughout the year.

From summer camp and after-school activities to

#### • Swim, Sports and Play

YMCA sports programs keep kids active, teaches friendly competition, and introduces healthy practices for life.

#### • Ongoing Activities

There is a wide variety of ongoing programs available, including: swim teams for ages 6-8 and 9-18; soccer academy; basketball clinics for children in kin-



## 'Adams Voice' returns for Christmas concert

"Adams Voice", a musical group from New Castle, Indiana with roots in Switzerland and Ohio counties, will be performing a special Christmas concert here.

The concert will be held at Olive Branch Baptist Church on Sunday morning, December 15th, beginning at 10 a.m.

"Adams Voice" was one of the groups that performed at this year's Swiss Wine Festival; and is eager to again share its talents in this community.

The family group has been able to communicate God's love through song across the United States for over 30 years. The focus of their ministry is to attest to the power of God through worship. Woven into their repertoire of the familiar, are original songs resonating with scripture, written from personal testimony inspired by real-life situations. Their music spans a wide range of styles, and everyone will clearly see throughout their music that God is still in control and changing lives.

Nashville Christian Recording Artists, "Adams Voice" consists of husband-and-wife team David and Charlene Adams and their four children, Emma, (20) twins, Johnny and Anna (18), and Luke (15). "Adams Voice" has released eight albums and a book by Charlene-titled, "Brazen Bravery." They have been honored to be featured vocalists at the Church of the Nazarene General Assemblies and Conferences, as well as, on Bill Gaither's Homecoming Tours and a John Hagee's Christian's United for Israel Event.

They have also made appearances on Gaither Homecoming videos as well as regularly performing the National Anthem at NFL, NBA, and Major League Baseball games.

There is no charge for the concert, but a love offering will be accepted. Everyone is invited to come and share this special Christmas season concert.

Olive Branch Baptist Church is located at 2250 Milton-Bear Branch Road. It is approximately two miles north of the Fairview Store off of State Road 250.