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Officials prompt voters to adopt water plan amendments

State officials and business leaders have initiated their campaign to get voters to pass the Texas Water Plan, one of the proposed constitutional amendments on the November ballot.

Headed by the top legislative leadership, the campaign plans to spend \$1.25 million selling the statewide water plan. Already it reports total pledges of \$300,000, including \$100,000 pledged by dynamic Dallas businessman, H. Ross Perot.

The campaign, the Water for Texas Future Committee, has former Texas Secretary of State John Fainter as treasurer. The top three Republican gubernatorial prospects, Bill Clements, Kent Hance and Tom Leffler, have all endorsed the plan.

So have top Democrats, Gov. Mark White, Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby and House Speaker Gib Lewis.

Still a question mark on endorsement are the environmentalist groups which have defeated past water plans. And right now many of them are disappointed with Gov. White.

Former roommate Last week White named his

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Lyndell Williams
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

old Baylor Law School roommate to the Texas Water Commission and the environmentalists immediately criticized his choice of a person with no background in water issues.

White picked John Houchins, a Houston lawyer, to the three-member commission. Houchins was touted as a neutral choice between environmentalists and water development proponents.

If anything, White has continued his trend of giving appointments to long-time friends whom he can trust on key votes.

But the choice did not placate the environmentalists and one key group, the 20,000-member Audubon Society, immediately announced its opposition to the water plan's passage because it

does not protect coastal bays and estuaries. And the Sierra Club said it was "back to square one" on whether to endorse the plan.

Defends choice White defended his choice, saying it "doesn't take a whole lot of experience to determine if water is dirty or clean." White said Houchins also does not bring any built-in enemies among competing environmentalists and water developers.

Houchins replaces Lee Riggart, whose term expired in August. Riggart, a Dallas attorney, was appointed by former Gov. Clements.

Since the statewide voter turnout is expected to be low, around 800,000, the strong op-

position of the environmentalists, if it materializes, could be enough to defeat the plan. In fact, Fainter believes some 30-40 percent of the total vote could come from Harris County, where the Houston mayor's race is hot enough to generate a higher turnout.

But White is from Houston, Hobby is from Houston, as is Fainter. And Houston has an interest in the water plan's provision to control flooding.

The top two mayoral candidates have endorsed the amendments, and if Houston is to again be the key, passage looks good.

Hughes fortune Texas ended its eight-year legal fight with California and the estate of reclusive billionaire Howard Hughes last week when the state received \$25 million, the second half of the \$50 million settlement negotiated last year.

Texas had pursued inheritance tax claims when Hughes died, and the case went to the U.S. supreme court three times.

The complicated case is "wrapped up," said Texas Attorney General Jim Mattox. Hughes was born in Texas,

and the state claimed that although he rented or borrowed residences in other states in his lifetime, he always was a Texan and his estate was subject to an 18 percent inheritance tax.

Hunting season The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department last week approved higher fees for use of state parks and shortened the duck-hunting season because of fewer birds.

Sen. Roy Blake, D-Nacogdoches, says he plans to introduce legislation in 1987 to repeal the mandatory seatbelt law. Blake says it is an infringement of individual rights.

REAL ESTATE DEEDS Deed, Ray Lindsay et al. to John J. Ramirez, et al. 1 acre, R. Maxwell Survey, 7-10-85.

Deed, Sue Wagonholt Briscoe to Gilford Hill & Company, Inc., 103.927 acres, James Nelson Lease; 8-28-85.

Deed, Evelyne Oshel Petach to Kasper Wilke, Lot 3, Block 3, Mexican School Addition, Town of Eagle Lake, 8-28-85.

Deed, Colorado Service Corporation to Loren G. Helmschick, et al., 21 acres, Pacer Pipeline Survey; 8-28-85.

Deed, Walidie Creed, et al., to Gregory Cook Landgreen, et al., 0.59 acre, W.B. Drennon Survey; 8-28-85.

Deed, Otto E. Kahlden Jr., trustee to Veterans Land Board of Texas, 10 acres, 16GNRR Co. Survey; 8-28-85.

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Deed, Linda June Davis to Dennis V. Jasechka, 4.13 acre, Henry Austin Five League Grant; 7-24-85.

Deed, Trendmark Builders, Inc., to Diane Scott, Lot No. 6 of the Glen Meadows Subdivision, Patrick Reels Survey; 8-28-85.

OIL, GAS LEASES E.J. Seifert, et al., to TXO Production Company, 30 acres, L.R. Chassey Survey; 7-15-85.

Greewood Wilson Jr., et al., to TXO Production Company, 11.15 acres, H. Austin Five League; 8-28-85.

Timothy Ray Kroeb, et al., to Mobil Producing Texas and New Mexico Inc., 207.56 acres, Alfred Kelo Survey; 8-10-85.

MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS David Allen McKinzie, 25, Ellinger, and Elizabeth Jane Michalsky, 27, Fayetteville; 8-22-85.

Mark Anthony Bertsch 24, and Tina Ann Jochsch, 18, both of Columbus; 8-23-85.

Clinton Edward Martz, 21, Weimar, and Monica Olivia Neuenendorf, 20, Columbus; 8-23-85.

Ronald Patrick Silva, 46, and Sue Winger Silva, 45, both of Dayton, Texas; 8-30-85.

Ralph Costa, 36, Pasadena, Texas, and Dorothy Louise Thomas, 27, Eagle Lake; 8-4-85.

Benito Leyra Rangel, 26, and Ester Cardenas Moreno, 31, both of Eagle Lake; 8-5-85.

Edwin Joe Anders, et al. to Ranger Resources, 51 acre, Alfred Kelo Survey, effective 8-28-85.

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County Courthouse Report

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Ugarte speaks at Pilot Club

Dr. Jose Ugarte was the guest speaker at the Pilot Club of Eagle Lake and Mrs. Ugarte a great. Dr. Ugarte spoke about the Patriotism. Her country is great because of our forefathers, he said and we will have to have the same determination to keep it strong. He spoke of the happenings in Cuba in the 1900's and said the same is happening in Nicaragua now. If something is not done now, he said, it will soon be spreading to Mexico and our own border gave nice compliments. At the program meeting August 28, she told the members, any damage to the brain, whether caused by defective development, injury or disease, may produce Cerebral Palsy. Chief among the causes is the insufficient amount of oxygen reaching the fetal or newborn brain. Measures of prevention are increasingly possible today. The club members raised

\$241 Saturday, August 24, to assist in the Cystic Fibrosis Fund. Thanks to the merchants around town for allowing the members to sell the balloons and ask for donations outside their stores. The members who dressed as clowns were Bobby Johnson, Gwen Paschall, Mary Lou Symons and Jean Albee. Barbara Harbort's daughter Sharon, dressed as a clown and helped also. Thank you Sharon. Thanks also to Glenda Blair and Mary Ann Kaluna's daughter who made the posters. The members who worked behind the scenes were Linda Phillips, Linda Lippert, Nancy Lang and Dorothy Kohlfeld. Thanks also to Eagle Lake Iron Works for furnishing the balloons. Lucille Lang, Lifeline chairman, is happy to report that Mrs. Ruth Pickens is back home and her Lifeline unit has been reinstalled. Anybody desiring applications for Lifeline unit, please call Lucille after 5 p.m. at 234-5426 or contact any Pilot Club member.

Heritage House News By Patricia Horndt
Too late for last week. Labor Day weekend was a wonderful weekend for family get-togethers and visiting loved ones. Residents reported a lovely family came to visit and loved seeing their children. We hope everyone had a safe and happy Labor Day holiday. Workshop services were held September 1 in the dining room of Heritage House by Rev. Albert Flatmann of Grace Lutheran Church. A wonderful sermon was given and residents attending gave nice compliments to the church service. Many thanks to Rev. Flatmann for visiting our home and our loved ones.

Grandparents Day was September 8. We hope family members visited or telephoned their loved ones at the Heritage House. A tea was served to family members on Sunday afternoon by our staff.

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