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...your vote can make a difference

The 'no-excuse' voting period runs through March 9

By Texas Secretary of State George Bayoud
How can one not be moved by recent global developments in which people throughout the world have literally put their lives on the line for the right to self-government?

Public education task force finds extra money

Next week the Texas Legislature will convene in special session to attempt to repair the state's unconstitutional system of funding public education.

The math assignment seems simple enough, but some lawmakers would like to raise taxes so that each child gets a bigger share.

To stop the pro-tax solons, Gov. Bill Clements scheduled the session just two weeks before the primary elections, when undecided voters are finally choosing a favorite candidate.

Politics has a rule of thumb which says the voters have a short memory - six months, at best.

Clements' lesson is obvious: Any legislator who wants to raise taxes had better be prepared to face immediate public reaction.

He assumes, like Texas conservatives do, that voters will punish lawmakers who raise taxes.

Texas liberals assume just the opposite: voters will reward lawmakers who spend money on them, especially new tax money.

Task Force OKs Plan
Who's right? Clements will likely win this session.

For one thing, sane lawmakers don't want to waste the last two weeks of a campaign in Austin discussing any issue, Period.

For another, the Governor's Task Force on Public Education said it has found the extra money to increase public school funding by \$230 million next year. By the 1996-97 year, when the plan would be fully implemented, the state would be spending \$1.6 billion more on schools than it is now.

State Rep. Jim Radd, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee and a member of the task force, said he believes the plan "is a double deal without a tax bill" the first year.

The odds are legislators will be back home before election day.

Dominant Issue
Public education - quality, spending levels, fairness - will be the last issue of the primaries, and some say education is already the key issue for the general election.

If they're right, look for a classic conservative-liberal battle on the campaign trail all summer with surprising lessons on both sides.

Polls show voters will raise taxes first for education, but they don't really need a poll on that emotional issue. You're talking about the voters' children, or the kids next door, or why the voter is a success because of his

State Capitol Highlights

By Lyndell Williams

her own schooling.

Some candidates are going to bet the ranch they'll get elected pledging new taxes for education. Need a barometer? Four years ago, Mark White was defeated for setting new records raising taxes, tuition and fees to finance HB 72.

Today, White's comeback bid is real and growing. He's the "education governor," and, in the TV debate, he said he'll raise taxes again, if necessary. You can bet he already thinks it is.

Campaign Sombre Note
Meanwhile, the GOP gubernatorial campaign switched from barbs to a somber note following the crash of a twin-engine plane owned by Clayton Williams which took the lives of four key business associates, raising questions about his campaign's future.

Williams canceled personal appearances and pulled all commercials off the air. But a spokesman said his campaign staff assumed the campaign would resume.

Reports filed last week showed Williams leading the gubernatorial spending field with \$5.7 million and Democrat Jim Mattox second with \$3.2 million.

In the GOP camp, Williams

Letters to Editor

Studying Texas' geography

Dear Readers,

The fourth grade social studies classes of Edgewood Elementary are studying the geography of Texas. To make this study come alive and have more meaning, please send us a picture postcard of geographical interest from your area of Texas. Address your postcard to: Edgewood Elementary, P.O. Box 67, Edgewood, Texas 75117.

Sincerely,
Evelyn Stewart, Edgewood Elementary Fourth Grade

student in Beijing confronting a tank sent to quell supporters of democracy? From Eastern Europe to Latin America, thousands of brave people have shown their willingness to stand up and fight for democracy. This privilege was fought for by our fathers, our grandfathers and their fathers before them. We must not forget their sacrifices.

It is my hope that these sweeping worldwide political changes will inspire more Texans to vote on March 13 in the Democratic and Republican party primaries. The time has come for all of us to demonstrate by example how democracy works. We enjoy the fruits of democracy and we should share it with a world hungry for freedom. It is a simple task to cast an Election Day ballot.

Hundreds of important decisions at all levels of government will be made in the upcoming primaries, but, if recent trends continue a disturbingly small number of Texans will make those decisions.

This year's primary election already is under way with the February 21 opening of the "extended" absentee voting period.

Those old excuses about being turned off by having to stand in long lines or taking time off from work on a weekday no longer are valid.

From February 21 until March 9, Texans, who are registered to vote, can appear at polling places across the state and cast absentee ballots - and they need no excuse to do so.

This "no-excuse" voting period, which the state Legislature approved in 1987, literally leaves Texans no excuse to stand on the sidelines and watch others decide who to nominate for governor and the many other statewide and local officials that will be filled in the November 6 general election.

Schindler announces candidacy for JP
I am Joe Schindler, but some of you may know me as "Jack", and I am seeking election of the office of Justice of the Peace of Precinct #1.

I have lived in this county all my life on the Ramsey Prairie until last February when we purchased a home in the Krukpa addition in Columbus.

I am a graduate of Eagle Lake High School and I am self-employed in ranching and farming and do some hot shot truck driving, so my time is much my own.

I served on the Board of Directors of Colorado County Farm Bureau during the 1950's and early 1960's and was an officer in the Colorado County ICA in the 1970's. My wife, Coy Dell and I served as delegates to the State ICA conventions for four years. I am now a member of the State ICA. I have been a member of Ber-

nardo VFD, involved with the Clean Air Colorado Organization and an active member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Columbus.

My wife, Coy Dell has been an employee of Gindler's Store in Columbus for twenty years. We have raised three fine sons, Joe Wayne, Allen and Gary, all of whom attended Bernardo school and later Columbus public schools. They are now married and reside in this county with their wives and our two granddaughters.

I would like to serve as your full time Justice of the Peace and your vote and support will be greatly appreciated.

Rev. Richard Douglas is the new pastor of First Baptist Church of Eagle Lake... Rice farmers got some timely tips on new varieties of rice, new farming practices on insect controls and the possibilities of raising soybeans at the rice and soybean meeting held Wednesday evening of last week. Farmers from Eagle Lake, Garwood, Nada, Columbus, Lissie and other adjoining areas attended the meeting... Mr. and Mrs. Verlin Argo are the happy parents of a son, Jeffrey Dean, born February 14 in Laughlin Hospital... Miss Susan Braden, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl L. Braden, was honored on her 15th birthday February 21 with a Topsy-Turvy party given on February 18. Those present enjoyed several Topsy Turvy games and a contest to see who was dressed the "topsy-turviest". Cynthia Anderson and Glenda Sunderman were the winners... A record number of entries, totaling more than 11,000 will fill the gigantic new Hous-

I am hopeful that the "extended" voting period combined with the aggressive, statewide voter registration/education campaign conducted by my office and the "get out the vote" efforts undertaken by the political parties and their candidates will make a difference in 1990.

If recent history repeats itself, however, less than 30 percent of the state's registered voters will turn out in the primary to nominate candidates for November. That's not a typographical error. In the two most recent gubernatorial election years, primary day turnout has not exceeded 26 percent.

In 1986 - the last time Texas elected a governor - only 21 percent of those who were registered turned out at the polls in the Democratic and Republican party primary elections. In the gubernatorial election of 1982, a 26 percent turnout rate for both political parties was recorded.

If the trends continue, it won't get much better in the November general election. In 1986, the general election turnout rate was 47.2 percent, while a turnout rate of 49.7 percent was registered in 1982.

The plain and simple truth is these election statistics are embarrassing. We must reverse these trends.

To put the turnout rate for gubernatorial election years in perspective, 66 percent of registered Texas voters cast ballots in the November 1988

presidential election. In the 1984 presidential election years, a 68 percent turnout rate was recorded.

It should not matter for which office we are selecting a candidate or what issues we are deciding. We have a fundamental responsibility to participate in our democratic process by voting each time an election is held.

The deadline to register for the March 13 primary is passed, but with so many candidates vying for so many offices, runoffs in many of the races are all but assured. Runoffs will be held April 10 and you have until March 11 to register to vote in the runoff.

As Texas' chief elections officer, it is my responsibility to encourage you to exercise your constitutional right. It is up to you to participate. Your vote can make a difference.

Absentee voting in Colorado Co.
By DARLENE HAYEK,
Colorado County Clerk

Persons voting absentee by personal appearance may vote at the County Clerk's office Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. now through March 9, 1990.

A person is eligible to vote a limited ballot by personal appearance or

(Continued on Page 3)

Let's Look Back... 24 & 48 Years Ago

February 24, 1966
Representatives of the Eagle Lake, Garwood, Rock Island and Sheridan School Districts met Monday evening to hear the advantages of a consolidated school district. Dr. Richard Strahan, University of Houston representative who is in charge of the evaluation of the Eagle Lake school district, presented four advantages - improved and diversified curriculum, improvement of special services, better quality education, and additional state and federal money would be available should the consolidated unit apply for status as an Area Vocational School. No decisions were made or committed.

February 27, 1942
Dan Cupid is busy playing his arrows throughout the length and breadth of this broad domain. The latest bit of marksmanship came in a message received by Mr. and Mrs. O.G. Kolberg Wednesday afternoon announcing the marriage of their daughter, Miss Winifred Kolberg and Lieutenant Rudolph A. Albright.

Final rites were held Friday afternoon for Mrs. Dunlavy from the McCreary Funeral Home at 2 o'clock. She is survived by two children, Mrs. Jo Pat Black of Houston and Clyde S. Dunlavy of Eagle Lake.

From the U.S. Naval Aviation Cadet Selection Board comes the information, with a photograph of Ensign Robert J. Ney, of his graduation in Aviation. Ensign Ney, known to his numerous friends as "Coggie Ney" received his "Wings" and commission on February 16, 1942... Eagle Lake paid tribute to one of her oldest and most revered citizens Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock when funeral services were held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F.T. Kollmann for Mrs. Mary Moebes, mother of Mrs. Kollmann, who passed her nineteenth birthday on February 10.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Adkins of Lissie are being welcomed as new residents in the community. They recently purchased from Hayes Properties the property known as the old Pipe's place... Donald Kolberg who volunteered his services to Uncle Sam Monday, is now in San Antonio awaiting assignment orders.

Day by day I am thrilled to see the beautiful flowers coming into their glory around town. Among these are the violets at our municipal square and the multi-colored pansies and other beauties at Harrison Park. I have noticed with much interest that the wildflowers are beginning to bloom in the field across from the Cassidy home on Laughlin Road. I feel that these beautiful flowers will be a memorial to our much respected and loved Allen Dale Cassidy.

I am always interested to read about various collections that interest people. The latest edition of The Luling Newsboy & Signal contained an article entitled "Collection of Picture Postcards Is One of Largest Hoobbies in the World." Before World War I thousands of people from various walks of life had postcard albums. Picture postcards could be mailed for one cent during the early 1900's and thereby became a medium for "opening windows" to the rest of the world. Not only were worldwide geographic scenes depicted, but so were scenes of local interest with many of the latter being sold at the local drugstores. Just about every state has large postcard clubs. If you have some of these valu-

able artifacts, take good care of them. Several Eagle Lake residents have been generous in lending or donating many of these to our museum. I shall plan to present a special exhibit of them soon. Let me know if you would like to contribute to the collection.

The Thrift Shop will be happy to accept your donations of linens and furniture among the many other saleable items. The next date for the shop to be open will be March 3 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

I was quite thrilled to receive a Valentine this past week from a former excellent student Jeannie Marcella Costley, who has a good job in Austin. Of course, I was pleased that she is a regular reader of my Prairie Edge Museum column.

The museum is open on Saturdays and Sundays from 2 to 5 p.m. Call Bill Harrison at 234-2662 or Elizabeth Boothe at 234-3361 if you would like a special tour.

Rice Raider Boosters making plans for Spring
On Monday, January 15, 1990, the Rice Raider Boosters met to outline plans for the Spring including fund raisers, projects and election of officers for 1990-91.

A Slam Dunk and Three Point Shooting Contest was discussed. It was decided to put a hold on these plans until the end of basketball season. This would enable all individuals who might like to participate to have the opportunity to do so.

A concession stand will be ready at the baseball field for baseball season and the Boosters will be operating it. The members present decided to look into asking local businesses to sponsor a baseball schedule of the games.

Our fund-raising activities will be expanded through the Wildflower Festival in Eagle Lake during the month of April. We will be calling on some of the members to help out with this project as that time approaches. This can be a very beneficial activity for the Boosters.

The members voted to make our first major purchase. Weight belts to



PRAIRIE EDGE MUSEUM

By Elizabeth Boothe, Museum Reporter

Many of you are probably looking forward to attending the presentation by the Prairie Edge Players of the drama *Night Must Fall* by Emlin Williams. Have you bought your tickets for the evenings of March 23 and 24? Jeanne Leopold has charge of the sales and you will need to see or call her at 234-3373 if you wish to purchase reserve seat tickets which is \$6.50. The other tickets are \$4.50 and may be purchased from her or from many board members. Remember, the curtain is due to rise on the first presentation in just about four weeks.

I well remember what a busy place Prairie Edge was all during April 1989, and I have a feeling that things will be moving along at even a faster pace this year. Call Victor Scott at 234-2792 if you would like to be a host or hostess at the museum which again will be the headquarters for the Wildflower Tour. Many wonderful plans are in the making for enjoyable activities.

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Grants for 'War on Drugs'

Governor Bill Clements announced his office is taking action to expedite disbursement of \$24 million in federal funding for the war on drugs.

The federal funds, appropriated under the Anti-Drug Abuse Act and announced by the Justice Department recently, will be used to hire additional law enforcement personnel and for the purpose of drug-fighting equipment.

"Texas is in the war on drugs to win and this federal funding will help propel us to that victory," Governor Clements said. "With this money, we will be able to assemble a formidable set of strike forces to expose and eliminate narcotics trafficking organizations."

"Make no mistake, we will leave no stone unturned in our quest to eradicate drugs from the Texas landscape. The future of our state and the legacy we endow our children depends on such an all-out assault," the

governor said.

The Texas Narcotics Control Program which is part of the Governor's office, will administer the federal dollars through the governor's Criminal Justice Division.

The money will be disbursed through a grant application procedure. Officials from the governor's office met with representatives from 49 Texas cities last week to inform them of the process. Texas has accelerated the procedure, allowing local funding to be authorized within 45 days of grant approval.

Texas is among the first ten states to receive federal anti-drug money. The state's allocation was based on the Statewide Strategy for Drug and Violent Crime, an approach designed after a number of public hearings held statewide last year by the Criminal Justice Division of the Governor's Office.

The strategy was submitted to the Justice Department in January.

Colorado County Courthouse Report

MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS
Wilfred Gustav Frenzel, 47, and Irene Marx Bennett, 48, both of Round Top. Anton Schmidt, 42, and Judy Gallaher Schmidt, 41, both of Alleyton. Johnny Lyne Barker, 20, and Roxanne Eileen Tesch, 16, both of Sheridan. Leroy Williams Cunningham, 27, and Gloria Denise Foster, 22, both of Alleyton. Juan Moreno Martinez, 20, and Maria Rodriguez, 22, both of Eagle Lake.

DIVORCES FILED
David Gene New vs. Ursula Maria Ozga New; filed 2-12-90.

Absentee voting
(Continued from Page 2)

by mail if:
1. The person would have been eligible to vote in the county of former residence on election day if still residing in that county.

2. The date of the election is not more than 90 days after the new residence was established.

3. A voter registration for the person in the county of new residence is not effective on or before election day.

A person voting a limited ballot may vote only on each office and proposition stating a measure to be voted on statewide or offices in the same district of his prior residence at his present district.

Qualifications for persons wishing to vote by ballot by mail:
1. 65 years of age or older.

2. Religious beliefs.

3. Confinement in jail.

4. Disability.

5. Expected absence from county on election day and during clerk's regular hours for the remainder of the absentee voting period.

Persons voting by mail must have had their application submitted on or before February 21. If applications are submitted after February 21, they must be submitted from outside the county and ballot must be mailed to an address out of the county. Application for ballot by mail must be received by County Clerk before close of regular business hours on March 6.

If you have any questions, please contact Darlene Hayek, County Clerk, at (409) 732-6561.

REAL ESTATE DEEDS
Deed: Guy R. Botard to Johnny Hobbs, Jr. and Beverly C. Hobbs, various lots and blocks, Sheridan; filed 2-2-90.

Deed: Crockett D. and Dorothy Leyendecker to Johnny Hobbs, Jr. and Beverly C. Hobbs, part of lot No. 1, in blk. No. 25, Sheridan; filed 2-5-90.

Deed: Herbert Schroeder, Sr. to Johnny Hobbs, Jr. and Beverly C. Hobbs, part of lot 1, in blk. 55, Sheridan; filed 2-5-90.

Deed: Weimar Lodge No. 423, A.F. and A.M. to Judy King and Heirs, tract being part of lot 482, Masonic Cemetery, Weimar; filed 2-7-90.

Deed: Dora R. Eaton to Bob Warren Eaton, 43.53 acres, I. & G.N.R.R. Co. survey, Section No. 14; filed 2-7-90.

Deed: Clyde Lucille Stewart to James R. Bell, und. int. in part of lots 1 and 2, blk. 80, Columbus; filed 2-7-90.

Deed: Joyce E. Johnson Frank to Juan Frank, subdivision lot 3, blk. 85, Columbus; filed 2-7-90.

Deed: Mary K. Bain and Thurmond B. West, Estate to Robert M. and Nancy D. Stiles, part of original lot No. 2 and all or original lot No. 3, in blk. No. 11, Columbus; filed 2-9-90.

Deed: Estate to Robert M. and Nancy D. Stiles, part of original lot No. 1 and 2, in blk. No. 11, Columbus; filed 2-9-90.

OIL & GAS LEASES
C.E. Ewitt and Betty Terrell Ewitt to Jim Ruita, Trustee, 105.59 acres, Mary Hawley Survey; filed 2-6-90.

Happy 25th Birthday

To Our Loving Wife & Mother
Becky

Friday, February 23
From Tony & Jeffery

ELECT

Robert Lee "Bobby" Richardson

Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1

In the Democratic Primary
March 13, 1990

A Vote For Bobby Is A Vote To Say No To Drugs!

A Friend of the People.

Experienced in the ways of life with good common sense.

Fair and honest.

Paid for by Robert Lee Richardson, Rt. 2, Box 1821, Columbus, Texas 78934.

COLORADO COUNTY FRIENDS OF MARK WHITE

INVITE YOU TO VISIT WITH GOVERNOR AND MRS. WHITE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD
AT THE STAFFORD OPERA HOUSE
COLUMBUS, TEXAS
4 o'clock until 6 o'clock
Refreshments Served

Sponsors:

Mr. & Mrs. Tyler T. Clark
Mrs. Laura Ann Rau
Mr. & Mrs. Werner Slavinotha
Mr. & Mrs. Willie L. Fitzgerald
Mr. & Mrs. Max Rogers
Mr. & Mrs. Daryl J. Hill
Mr. & Mrs. Fred R. Frnka
Mr. & Mrs. John H. Massey
Nancy & Jerry Scarbrough

(Paid for by the Colorado County Friends of Mark White, 310 Bonham, Columbus, Texas 78934)

ST. ANTHONY P.T.C.

LAS VEGAS NITE

Sunday, February 25

KC Hall, Columbus

Begins 2:00 P.M.

Auction... 6:00 P.M.

LET'S MOVE FORWARD TOGETHER YOU WILL HAVE A SAY

East Bernard ISD menu

All meals served with milk

Monday, February 26: Holiday

Tuesday, February 27: Breakfast, french toast, sausage, syrup or cereal, juice; Snackbar, hamburger, french fries, burger salad; Lunch, chicken fried steak, rice and gravy, peas or broccoli, fruit, hot roll.

Wednesday, February 28: Breakfast, pancakes, syrup or cereal, juice; Snackbar, sloppy joes, french fries, fruit; Lunch, fish-nuggets, green beans, french fries, fruit, batter bread.

Thursday, March 1: Breakfast, cinnamon roll or cereal, fruit; Snackbar, pig-a-blanket, french fries, fruit; Lunch, hot dog w/ chili and cheese, chips, ranch style beans, fruit.

Friday, March 2: Breakfast, peanut butter, jelly, toast or cereal, juice; Snackbar, burrito w/ chili and cheese, french fries, fruit, cornbread; Lunch, chilaquitas, corn, lettuce, tomato, cheese, chocolate chip cookie.

ELECT H.O. "BUTCH" STRUNK

COUNTY JUDGE, COLORADO COUNTY

Tuesday, March 13th Democratic Primary

Join Us Now; Together We Will Make A Difference in the 90's

(1) **Qualified, Enthusiastic Leadership** on a Full Time Basis

(2) **Impartial Treatment** and an **Open Door Policy** for all our Citizens

(3) **Accountability** to You, the People whom this public office serves

(4) **Integrity and Responsibility** that stands above personal goals and special interests

(5) **Unified Leadership** with a sound plan to maintain and expand our economic base

(6) **Serious Commitment** to the needs of our young people with positive leadership

(7) **Genuine Concern** for the protection and improvement of our quality of life while preserving our heritage