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More State officials leave office to join in upcoming election

Texas Secretary of State Tony Garza resigned from office last week to concentrate on his race for the Republican nomination for land commissioner.

Gov. George W. Bush, who appointed Garza in 1995, thanked Garza for "a job well done" but stopped short of a campaign endorsement. "Tony is a close friend and trusted adviser," Bush said, but added, "I said loud and early that I'm not going to be involved in primary elections, and so I'm not going to be."

Four-term Land Commissioner Garry Mauro, a Democrat, is running for governor, opposing Bush.

Also running for land commissioner on the GOP ticket are State Sen. Jerry Patterson of Pasadena and Houston businessmen David Dewhurst and Tim Turner.

State Rep. Richard Raymond of Benavides is the only announced contender for the Democratic nomination for land commissioner.

State Capitol Highlights

By Lyndell Williams
and Ed Sterling
Texas Press Association

Hopwood Ruling Sought

Four whites who could not enter the University of Texas law school because of a race-based admissions policy have been waiting since spring for a ruling on their \$5.5 million claim for damages.

Kenneth Elliot and David Rogers, two of the four plaintiffs in the 1992 case that resulted in the ending of affirmative action programs at Texas universities, have asked U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks for a status conference to learn why he has not ruled on their claim.

The U.S. Supreme Court let stand a federal appeals court ruling that ended affirmative action policies and

sent the case back to U.S. district court to decide damages.

Cheryl Hopwood, the lawsuit's lead plaintiff, is asking for the most compensation — \$2.8 million — for alleged economic and emotional harm.

Bullock Snubs Mauro

Texas' highest-ranking Democrat, Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock, cast aside party loyalty last week by endorsing Republican Gov. Bush for re-election.

In support of Bush, Bullock said: "It just does not make sense to retire a responsive and proven leader."

Though Democratic gubernatorial candidate Mauro said he was "personally disappointed" at Bullock's comments, he didn't exactly reel at the snub. "Texans don't care who endorses whom," Mauro said. "They make their own independent decisions."

Mauro has pledged to eliminate the state's motor vehicle tax and pay for the tax cut by doubling state taxes on liquor and cigarettes and by freez-

ing most state agencies' spending.

Gore Plan to Benefit AFB

During his visit to San Antonio last week to honor retiring U.S. Rep. Henry B. Gonzalez, Vice President Al Gore announced his offer of a \$35 million low-interest loan to upgrade Kelly Air Force base in hopes of making the facility more acceptable to aerospace companies.

Aerospace giant Boeing Company will announce in December whether it will move some of its operations to Kelly. The Air Force is scheduled to pull out of the base, which employs 15,000 civilians, in 2001.

The loan, from the Housing and Urban Development agency, would cover the estimated cost of upgrading the Air Force base's C-5 hangar, support shops and ramp.

Gonzalez, 81, announced in Sept. that he is retiring from the seat he has held since 1961 in the U.S. House of Representatives. Gore was in town for a \$150-a-plate fund-raiser to help es-

tablish the Henry B. Gonzalez Archival Library at St. Mary's University School of Law.

Lottery "Rip-Off" Alleged

A report by former Texas Lottery director Lawrence Littwin says the average payout for instant winners, now at 62% of sales, may have to be cut to as low as 42% of sales to meet legislative mandates, the *Houston Chronicle* reported.

Littwin said the lottery is hiding his report that shows scratch-off game players will be cheated next year. Littwin said he tried to release the report before the lottery commission fired him on Oct. 29, but agency officials threatened to sue him if he made any documents public.

Lottery officials said the report

was not released because GTECH Holdings Corp., the lottery's operating company, filed a lawsuit after Littwin's firing in an effort to halt the rebidding of its contract.

Interim lottery director Linda Cloud said she believes she can meet legislative mandates to lower prices while keeping payouts at 50% of sales.

Last week, in a move to stimulate instant-winner sales, Cloud asked truck dealers to furnish 50 customized, limited-edition pickup trucks as part of the prize for games to be offered next spring.

"Texans buy more trucks than do citizens of any other state. We believe that driving the 'Official Truck of the Texas Lottery' will add to the fun for our players," Cloud said.

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

Jan. 25, 1973

Citizens of the nation await with great anticipation the formal signing of the agreement to end the Indochina war with North Vietnam expected to take effect this Saturday at 6 p.m....

Bill and Evelyn Virnau, the owners of Main TV and Appliance and Main Auto Supply in Eagle Lake, announced that they plan to move soon into their beautiful, spacious new building at 807 E. Main...

Mr. & Mrs. Joe Wavra of Columbus and Conroe announced the engagement of their daughter, Theresa (Terry), to W. Kelly Wilburn, son of Mr. & Mrs. Warren Wilburn of Columbus. Kelly is a 1972 Rice Consolidated graduate and is employed at Greyhound in Houston. A March 3 wedding is planned at the First Baptist Church in Columbus...

Friday, Jan. 5, the First Baptist Church of Sheridan was the scene for the wedding of Rebecca Ashley and John Jahn Jr. Rebecca is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Buford Ashley of Sheridan. Mr. Jahn is the son of Mr. & Mrs. John Jahn Sr. of Edna...

Isaac Matthews, nephew of Willie Fitzgerald and a former student of Eagle Lake and Columbus schools and later a graduate of Bishop College in Dallas, is now assistant director of the Bryan Adam High School in Dallas. The band and drill team were among those marching in the Inaugural Parade in Washington, D.C. last Saturday...

Mr. & Mrs. L.J. Spanihel are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Cynthia Anne, to Edward E. Sunderman, son of Mrs. Leslie R. Sunderman and the late Leslie Sunderman. The wedding is planned for March 2 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church...

Oria Mason, 6 foot, 4 inch junior letterman center for the Rice Raiders, won the honor of being named Cager of the Week for the third time after an outstanding performance in the last two games...

Airman Reinhard H. Wied, son of Mr. & Mrs. R.H. Wied of Nada, has completed basic training at Lackland Air Force Base. He is a 1970 graduate of Garwood High and attended Wharton County Junior College...

S.R. Lloyd Whitfield of the U.S. Navy was home for a few days visiting with his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Whitfield of Eagle Lake, after completing nine weeks of training with the Navy at Orlando, Florida...

Friends will regret to learn of the tragic death of Howard E. Reed, 54, of Chambersburg, La., son of Mr. & Mrs. Burton Arnold of Eagle Lake. He was killed in a one-car accident last Saturday night, Jan. 20th...

The marriage of Miss Sandra

Kay Pfeffer, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Owen Pfeffer and Charles Gordon Barrett, was solemnized Saturday, Jan. 6, at Grace Lutheran Church in Eagle Lake.

Oct. 21, 1949

Rice prices here continue to be above average as Patna sold for \$8.82, \$8.77 and \$8.57 with some lots going slightly lower...

Fifteen members of the Lissie Boys Club will leave the square in Eagle Lake tomorrow morning for their trip to Texas A&M College, being given them by the Universal Supply Co. in recognition of work done by the boys during their past club year. Boys making the trip will be Dan Gertson, James Adkins, Lester Herman, Butch Herman, Victor Ray Corman, Allan Causey, Jimmy Bell, Harold Miller, Frank Gosney, Harold Anderson, Bill Reed, Harry Anderson, Everett Anderson, John Adkins and Claude Briggs...

Lee Reed Johnson, son of Mr. & Mrs. H. Lee Johnson of this city, is still a patient in Memorial Hospital in Houston following a truck-auto accident on the Beaumont highway Friday...

J.T. "Tommy" Pilkington is representing the Lakeside Irrigation Company this week at the Rice Exhibit at the State Fair in Dallas. Mr. Pilkington and J.F. Collier, manager of the Houston division of America Rice Growers Association, are on hand to answer questions of fair visitors about the growing of rice...

Mrs. Frank O'Neill of Monahans arrived Tuesday for a visit with Mrs. C.P. Hoyo, Mrs. J.H. McCreary and Mrs. G.E. Cook...

Judy Pendergrass celebrated her third birthday last Saturday, Oct. 15, at a party in which the Halloween theme was used. Judy Feik and Ben Reading won prizes in a pin the tail on the donkey game...

Shirley and Dennis Thornton, twin children of Mrs. Bob Thornton Jr., celebrated their 13th birthday on Oct. 12...

Pacing the SW Texas State Bobcat football squad is Melvin Selph, letterman from Eagle Lake. The hard charging Selph has chalked up two touchdowns for the Cats this season. Selph had his best night against Texas A&I, chalking up 75 yards in eight tries...

Miss Lou Ann Wright, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. J.C. Wright, has been selected as one of the 44 members of the Texas State College for Women Choir for 1949-50...

Judy Thomas celebrated her 12th birthday Monday, Oct. 17, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. with a Halloween party at the home of her parents, Mr. & Mrs. R.H. Thomas.

Garwood School honors veterans

On Nov. 11, Veterans Day, the Garwood School honored its local veterans.

Mr. Lanier, school principal, opened the ceremony by welcoming all in attendance.

He then stressed that it is our job to educate the students about the meaning of Veteran's Day and why it is important to honor those who risked their lives for us and our country.

Student Council President Tiffany Moore read a moving tribute to our veterans.

Under the direction of Keandra Sanford, the band played "The Star

Spangled Banner" while student council members raised the flags.

Mr. Lanier told the audience that we appreciate the sacrifices they made for us and thanked them for coming and allowing us to honor them.

Bible Verse of the Week

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord and to sing praises unto thy name." — Psalms 92:1

Submitted by Neddy Phillips

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