

THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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Gubernatorial Candidates Battle For Attention, Votes

AUSTIN — Little time separates today from election day (Tuesday, Nov. 7), so it wouldn't hurt to dig out that voter registration card and keep it where it's easy to find.

Many Texans, already settled on their favorite candidates, will choose to vote early. Dates for early voting: Oct. 23 to Nov. 3.

No newspaper is required to come out in favor of a candidate or slate of candidates, but some do. Like early voters, big city newspaper editorial boards have made up their collective minds and published endorsements.

The Dallas Morning News, the Austin American-Statesman and the San Antonio Express-News gave their nods to incumbent Republican Gov. Rick Perry. The Houston Chronicle, Fort Worth Star-Telegram and Corpus Christi Caller-Times ran editorials standing with Houston Democrat Chris Bell.

Bell, Perry and independent candidate / State Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn all spoke to the NAACP in hopes of picking up more votes from important constituencies. There was no such opportunity for entertainer Kinky Friedman of Medina, because of his documented use of the "n-word" in satiric or comedic routines.

Worth mentioning, Bell did something new in hopes of pointing the minds of more voters in his direction. In stump speeches and media appearances Bell suggested he is running against three Republicans, meaning Perry, Strayhorn and Friedman.

Strayhorn registered as an independent to get a spot on the ballot because the Republican convention predictably gave its blessing to the sitting governor. Traditional party labels don't stick to independent Friedman, but his friendliness toward President and Mrs. George W. Bush give him a GOP-tinged aura.

Ad blitz hits as election nears

A new wave of campaign commercials lurched into living rooms in mid-October and will keep coming until election day or until the money runs out, whichever comes first.

Perry ads appeal to his base, focusing on border security, jobs, power plants and his "trans-Texas" toll-road plan. Strayhorn's ads promise more pay for teachers, a real tax cut for property owners and better education for children. Bell's ads buoy Democrats and welcome disaffected voters to vote for him, calling for stronger fiscal responsibility and stressing the need for health and education improvements.

The way these commercials are stacked, it appears the heavily funded Perry, Bell and Strayhorn are engaged in a three-way donnybrook, and no one else is on the ballot.

But Friedman is out there, using his Web site and personal appearances to counter opponents' assertions that his plans for Texas are not as articulated and therefore don't carry as much weight as theirs.

Friedman laid out the planks of his platform, giving details of a state energy plan and most recently rolling out TexasCare, his plan to deliver health care to all Texans.

Governor must work with others

Of course, whoever ends up as governor will be, as Perry well knows, the chief executive of a "weak-governor state." It's the lieutenant governor, who presides over the Senate, and the speaker of the House, who are the gatekeepers. Through them all legislative bills, the vehicles of change or status quo, must pass.

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and House Speaker Tom Craddick of Midland, both Republicans, possess the power to make or break the best ideas of reformers. The two are up for re-election and expected to continue in their capacities for another term.

Dewhurst is on the statewide ballot and faces challengers Democrat Maria Luisa Alvarado, an Austin research analyst, and Libertarian Judy Baker of Houston. Craddick is running unopposed in his district. But as speaker, he is subject to challenge. Every regular session of the Legislature, one state representative is elected speaker of the House by his or her peers.

To obtain a free, non-partisan voter guide from The League of Women Voters of Texas, call 512-472-1100 or find it online at www.lwvtexas.org.

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital

HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

Oct. 28, 1982

A curfew of 8 p.m. has been set for Halloween night...

Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Wied of Garwood announced the birth of their first child, a son, **Blake Edward**, born Oct. 23 at Gulf Coast Medical Center in Wharton...

Nearly 100 co-workers and friends stopped by the CPL office to wish **Velma DeFour** happiness as she retired from the company after 30 years of service...

Becky Bengé was chosen Homecoming Queen...

Mr. and Mrs. **David Lobpries** of Port Arthur announced the birth of their first child, a daughter, **Kristi Sue**, born Oct. 12 at Mid-Jefferson County Hospital. Proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. **Harry Lobpries** of Garwood...

Funeral services were held for **Octavio Villarreal, Jr.**, 27, of Houston, son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. **Clyde Morales** of Eagle Lake who was killed in Houston...

Friends in the community regretted to learn that **Dr. Walter Moore** of Canada, brother of Mrs. **Ethel Balusek** of Eagle Lake passed away...

Fairest of the Fair winners at the recent Garwood Fair were **Beverly Rucka** of Eagle Lake, second runner-up; **Rachelle Hunt** of Garwood, queen; and **Roxanne Ripper**, of Eagle Lake, first runner-up...

Lynda Appelt, hostess of the Little Mr. and Miss Contest posed for a photo with **Kristen Stienke**, named Little Miss, and **Ryan Carpenter**, Little Mr. Others in the contest were **Alison Atkins**, **Crystal Atkins**, **Tiffany Cranek**, **Misty Cranek**, **Alexandra Schilling**, **Andrea Engstrom**, **Dana Leopold**, **Clint Krenek** and **Bryan Rees**...

Gardner Duncan, **Jim Clipson** and **Pappy Seaholm** took time to pose in their polo outfits of earlier days where the trio was a member of the an area wide team made up of mostly Eagle Lake residents. Other team members from the Eagle Lake area were **Rusty Thomas**, **Fulton Dromgoole**, **Ed Johnson**, **Simon White**, **Tomy Givings**, **Odes Pouncy** and **Bill Mendell**...

Kari Schilling was crowned Miss Columbus, U.S.A....

On Oct. 9 the Rice High School twirlers attended U.I. L. Twirlers attending were **Laura Appelt**, **Lisa Corman**, **Julia Rosprim** and **Kristine Carpenter**.

October 30, 1958

New pope to succeed the late Holy Father, Pope Pius XII. **Angelo Giuseppe Cardinal Roncalli**, 76-years old, of Venice, Italy, has chosen to be called **John XXIII**...

Guy Beane, Jr. wins corn contest with a 120 bushel yield per acre, the highest yield ever recorded...

Sandra Gertson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. **Vernon Gertson** was honored on her sixth birthday October 20th...

Losing their first district game and their first loss in seven games the Garwood Gars dropped a 19 to 14 heartbreaker to Flatonia...

Mr. and Mrs. **Fred Kubesch** of Garwood observed their 25th anniversary Saturday, October 25 and entertained about 70 guests in their home.

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Click on The Headlight

Now accepting Credit Cards!

Keep

GEORGE CASON

Justice of the Peace Pct. 4

- GRADUATE OF EAGLE LAKE HIGH SCHOOL, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AND SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE OF LAW
- FORMER VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE TEACHER
- CURRENT AND PAST EXPERIENCE AS A CITY ATTORNEY, PROSECUTOR AND MUNICIPAL JUDGE
- CURRENT JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PCT. 4

GEORGE CASON PROMISES:

- TO BE TOUGH ON CRIME AND CRIMINALS.
- NOT TO BE A RUBBER STAMP FOR ANY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP.
- TO LISTEN AND CONSIDER BOTH SIDES BEFORE MAKING A JUDGEMENT.
- TO BE A FAIR, HONEST AND IMPARTIAL JUDGE, WITH EQUAL JUSTICE FOR ALL.
- TO USE HIS EXPERIENCE AS A PARENT, TEACHER, LAWYER AND JUDGE TO OFFER A HELPING HAND TO YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES WHO NEED IT.

THE ONLY CANDIDATE WHO HAS TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE FOR THE JOB

- GEORGE AND WIFE, MARGIE, LIVE ON FAMILY FARM NEAR EAGLE LAKE.

Your Vote is Appreciated

On November 7, 2006

"THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR EXPERIENCE"

PAID FOR BY THE GEORGE CASON CAMPAIGN-MARGIE CASON, TREASURER

1327 STRICKLAND LN., EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS 77434

Barry 9/06

IT'S OFFICIAL—THE U.S. POPULATION IS NOW OVER 300 MILLION!!!

I THOUGHT IT WUZ GETTIN' A BIT CROWDED IN HERE...

TODAY'S SPECIAL MELTING POT SOUP

Saving YOU Money!

WISE INVESTMENT = KEEPING TAXES LOW

Since becoming your County Treasurer in 2003, Diane's wise investments have earned over

\$680,000

for the taxpayers of Colorado County.

This helps keep our tax rate low and our county moving forward.

"As your full-time County Treasurer and a Certified Investment Officer, I work hard to make sure that Colorado County's money works hard for us."

-Diane Matus

THE MATUS FAMILY

Dillon, Scott, Colton & Diane

RE-ELECT

Diane MATUS

COUNTY TREASURER

Pol. Adv. Paid for by the Diane Matus for Treasurer Campaign, Chris Stein, Treasurer