



Election Edition

Fredericksburg Conservative is happy to present this Election Edition of the paper, to give you a little more information about the personalities involved in the upcoming vote. We hope to provide you with something helpful in deciding for whom you will cast your ballot.

We tried to offer something from all 3 parties, either a statement, or an analysis of some of their candidates, or an ad.

A Libertarian friend of ours offered a statement about the Libertarian Party. Unfortunately, we ran out of room and could not fit it in. The Constitution Party has no candidates in this area, and chose not to offer a statement.

We invited George Keller, the chairman of the Gillespie County Democratic Party, to write something in this issue about the election, and we asked if he wanted to advertise any candidates in the paper, but we did not realize that he has had major surgery and was not able to respond. We wish him a quick recovery.

We still have copies of Free Market Foundation's voter's guide. If you would like us to bring you a copy, call us at 997-6110 or email us at sir david@kfc.com

Hank Gilbert's visit: Two Perspectives

Two of our writers covered Democratic candidate for Ag Commissioner Hank Gilbert's visit to Gillespie County. We thought you might like to see the different perspectives side by side.

First perspective: Nadine Starks

Hank Gilbert, candidate for Commissioner of Agriculture, spoke to a crowd of concerned citizens and students on Monday evening, October the 23rd about issues facing the agricultural and rural communities of Texas. Speaking about the National Animal Identification System, Mr. Gilbert, in the plainest words possible, explained its origins and implications. He stated that NAIS legislation was sponsored by big business meat packers and processors such as Cargill, Tyson and Swift. After the legislation passed it was given over to the USDA for implementation. NAIS requires that all livestock and most farm animals, even if it is only one, be tagged with a microchip and that your premises be identified in a state wide data system. The cost of current systems implemented in Australia and England, including all bureaucracy and microchips, range from \$39 to \$60 dollars per animal. Mr. Gilbert worries that this would leave very little profit for small farms and ranchers and in all likelihood would close them down, causing an economic crisis. There is no Federal mandate for the initiation of the NAIS in any state, yet our Texas legislature and governor decided it was right for our state without any consideration as to whether or not the farmers and ranchers would welcome this idea. Mr. Gilbert has no problem

with a trace back system, but he says there are already laws in place that just need to be enforced and that this new NAIS is unnecessary and intrusive. The 'Brand law' which has been around for a long time already requires that cattle have a brand and that the brand be registered in the county in which the cattle reside. Why is it necessary to track every animal when it is moved or escapes pasture or is traveling with its owner to an event? The real concern, Mr. Gilbert says, lies with animals and food that is not inspected when it crosses our border leaving us open to all kinds of security and health issues.

Mr. Gilbert also stands for a more responsive Agricultural Commission which will be ready to aid small farm and ranchers in the event of a natural disaster. He supports drought resistant crops and biodiversity measures to enhance

Can't on p. 4, Gilbert 1

Second perspective

Monday night, October 23, at the Fredericksburg Middle School cafeteria, Hank Gilbert, Democratic candidate for Agriculture Commissioner spoke to a small gathering about why he should be elected. Two issues were the theme of the night: the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) and the Trans Texas Corridor (TTC). Both he states he opposes. Mr. Gilbert opined that the NAIS legislation was done at the federal level to "control the beef industry" and a consequence of this was that a "net was thrown over you." He went on to say that the Texas State Legislature adopted it unanimously (which would include both Democrats and Republicans) without a federal mandate and it calls for registering every one animal per property with an issued GPS number on a tag in a "forever database." He also mentioned the

Can't on p. 6, Gilbert 2



Wal-Mart Rolls Out Red Carpet for Homosexual Marriage

Editor's note: we called the Fredericksburg Walmart, but the Manager, Mitchell Wagner, was not in the store. We spoke to Co-Manager Cheryl Nipper, who would not make any comments on the below article, but referred us to 1-800-walmart, which we called. After spending a fair amount of time in their automated telephone system, we spoke to a lady named Kiesha who took our statement condemning Wal-Mart's policy, and then she gave us Wal-Mart's official response. She said they have partnerships with many groups, they want to connect with all their customers, and they want all their customers to feel welcome.

We would like to point out that it is possible for Wal-Mart to make everyone in general feel welcome without reaching out specifically to those trapped in deviant and destructive lifestyles, promoting them in the process.

We urge the people of Gillespie

county to join the boycott against Wal-Mart. Look for alternative stores for the things you need. Super S and HEB offer groceries. Ink Hut on 517 S. Adams offers school, office, and computer supplies. Kramer's on 2369 N 87 offers sporting goods. Look in the yellow pages for other items. If you have ideas for other alternatives, please let us know.

by The American Family Association

When Wal-Mart announced their support for the homosexual agenda a few weeks ago, they meant what they said. You will remember that Wal-Mart asked for, and received, permission to join the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC). The company announced they were giving two large grants to NGLCC. The world's largest retailer was rewarded with a position

Can't on p. 5, Wal-Mart

Hallelujah Night! October 31

Shining Light on a Dark Night, to give glory to God rather than the forces of evil emphasized on Halloween. Joe and Sharon Grimes, owners of Kairos, who hosted the event called it "an opportunity for the body of Christ to come together in unity to celebrate and share the love and light of Christ on a night normally filled with mischief and wickedness."

The events occupied all three pavilions at Marketplatz with carnival type games, face painting, and a station to draw a picture or write an encouraging note to soldiers from the area. David, the Grimes' oldest son, gave an electrifying presentation of a poem he wrote depicting in a most dramatic fashion the battle between good and evil, Christ and Satan, redemption

and sin. His poem is featured in our Youth Speak section.

Giving thanks unto the Father, ...
Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:
In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:
Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:
For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:
Colossians 1:12-16

Events Calendar

(Thanks to Fbg PD, Ralph Poth, and Fbg C of C. For details visit C of C website: www.fredericksburg-texas.com)

- November
- 02 Elegant Elephant Sale & Silent Auction
- 03 Fbg Theater Co.'s Dracula
- 04 Glockenchor
- 04 Luckenbach's Hunter's Ball
- 05 German Chorale Concert: Harvestfest
- 07 Election Day
- 10 Die Kunstler Fine Arts Exhibit
- 10 2006 Contemporary Masters Invitational Art Show & Sale
- 10 Art Past Dark 2006
- 10 Artisans at Rocky Hill
- 11 F'burg Fall Antiques Show
- 11 Johnny Nicholas' Texas All-Star Big Band Bash
- 11 Nimitz' Veterans Day Ceremony
- 11 Art Guild "Before Dark" Show
- 11 Art Past Dark Gala
- 11 Hunks & Huggables 2007 Calendar Holiday Party
- 17 Fredericksburg Trade Days at Sunday Farms
- 17 Whistle Pik Galleries Christmas Miniature Show
- 24 Island Assault: 1944

Where To Find

Fredericksburg Conservative

Fredericksburg:

- HEB, the west entrance in the red, free rack by the business office, bottom shelf;
- Fritz Family Gas Station (Llano & Travis);
- Biedermann's Ace Hardware Store 1102 E. Main Street
- Super S Foods; 206 N. Milam
- Bobbi D's 701 E. Main
- Tejas Smoke Depot 1639 W. 290
- Fredericksburg Chamber of Commerce 302 E. Austin
- Town & Country gas station 2204 Hwy 16 S at Tivydale
- Gold Star Shell gas station 1001 Hwy 16S at Windcrest
- Greater Grace Christian Coffee House 311 E. San Antonio St.
- One Stop 290E at KOA Campground
- The Ink Hut 517 S. Adams
- other places that are not mentioned;

Harper:

- Longhorn Cafe 23624 US hwy 290
- Daunas 23401 US Hwy 290
- Waldo's 23682 US Hwy 290

Stonewall:

- Chevron/One Stop and Diner

Doss

- Doss Country Store

If the paper is missing from the above locations, please call us: 830-997-6110
Contact us if you would like us to leave you some extra copies.

Letters to the Editor

For the record:

There is a constant barrage of claims that Bush lied about weapons of mass destruction being in Iraq. Those claims are grotesque lies themselves! Iraq most definitely had WMDs! They used them on the Kurds and Iranians, killing tens of thousands of them. That is a fact! On top of that, since the war with Iraq started, over five hundred artillery warheads loaded with poison gas have been found in Iraq. (Strangely, that information only stayed around a day or two in the in the news media.) Poison gas is a weapon of mass destruction. Therefore, those who claim that Bush lied about WMDs, are lying themselves, or they are misinformed.

Besides lying about there being no WMDs in Iraq, the Demo leaders constantly come up with really ridiculous attempts to castigate and smear Republicans.

For example: The Demo leaders are now saying that by striking back at the terrorists for the 911 attacks, we made the terrorists mad! As a result, recruiting of young men by the terrorist has gone up, which makes winning the conflict even harder. Of course that's true. But it is a ridiculous argument! We no doubt caused the recruiting to go up in Japan when

we struck back after Pearl Harbor! If we had just ignored that attack, there would have been no need for them to recruit more men. All those people, both American and Japanese would not have died. We would now be speaking Japanese and pledging allegiance to the Divine Emperor Hirohito's successor. What beasts we were to declare war on Japan just because they bombed Pearl Harbor and killed thousands of our citizens!

Example two:

The Demo leaders have jumped all over the sorry episode of Republican Congressman Mark Foley for his sending suggestive emails to a seventeen year old male page. Foley resigned, as he should have. But that is not good enough for the highly moral Demo leaders. They want the Republican House leader to also resign. That is just a little too much to stomach, since they never demanded that Democratic Congressmen Gerry Studds or Democratic Congressman Barney Frank resign. I distinctly remember, back in the eighties, Studds, got into trouble for actually having an affair with a seventeen year old male page. Studds was reprimanded but continued in office for several years afterward. I also remember that several years ago, Barney Frank had a male lov-

er who lived with him. Barney and his lover operated a male prostitute ring out of Barney's house. To me, that is a problem and, I believe, is illegal, even in D.C. But for some reason, old Barney only got a knuckle rap from his Demo friends and is still in Congress today.

Example three:

The Demo leaders constantly berate Republicans for not caring about our environment and they regularly admonish us about befouling the environment by driving SUVs. However, these same Demo leaders fly around in twin engine personal jets and drive around in thirty foot limos. Most of them also own beach houses and/or mountain cabins. I'm pretty sure that those vehicles use large quantities of carbon based fuel and those second homes use lots of gas and coal generated power. According to none other than leading environmental expert Al Gore, using oil and coal and gas is really, really bad.

Example four:

Far left Democrat District Attorney Ronnie Earle, of Austin, Texas shopped around until he found a jury who would indict Republican Tom Delay on a trumped up charge of violating a campaign finance law that did not exist at the

time that Delay supposedly violated it.

Meanwhile, Harry Reed, the leader of the Senate Democrats made a profit of 1.2 million dollars on an investment of \$400,000.00. You might think that was just an example of good old Yankee capitalism, which makes it perfectly okay. The only thing wrong with that is the land had been federal property until someone pulled strings to buy it and get it rezoned. To top that, Mr. Reed actually sold the property to a friend for \$400,000.00 or just what he paid for it. Three years later, this friend then sold it for 1.2 million dollars and being a really good friend gave the profit to Reed. I may just be paranoid, but something sounds exceedingly strange about that deal. Do you suppose Harry Reed will call for an investigation of that deal?

All in all, these examples seem to show that both Republicans and Democrats have members who do crooked or immoral things. However these nouveaux Democrats just seem quicker to point the finger at others, are much better at glossing over their own digressions and are never contrite about it when they're caught.

Oh, just as an afterthought, have you noticed that the stock

market is at record levels and six million more people are employed than when Bush became President? Just for the record.

Keep your letter under 500 words. Longer pieces may be considered, but space is limited at this time.

If at all possible, please type your letters to avoid any confusion.

Mail your letter to:

LETTER TO THE EDITOR
1141 Metzger Road
Fredericksburg, Texas 78624

If you can, we prefer you send your letter by email to: sirdavid@kctc.com with the subject line:

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

market is at record levels and six million more people are employed than when Bush became President? Just for the record.

Jim Hays

John Kerry said...

Editor's Note: According to an email from Free Market Foundation, on Tuesday, Senator John Kerry told a group of Los Angeles college students, "You know education, if you make the most of it, and you study hard, and you do your homework and you make an effort to be smart, you can do well. If you don't, you get stuck in Iraq."

I think John Kerry's comment about our GIs was just a Freudian slip. He has always had great disdain for our servicemen and it's bound to come out, no matter how hard he tries to hide it. As a former GI, an apology from him is not wanted by me. I know that it would be insincere, to say the least.

Jim Hays

Editorials

David Van Os, Democratic Candidate for Atty. Gen. Visits Gillespie County

by Nadine Starks

On Thursday morning October 12, in front of the Gillespie County Courthouse, Mr. David Van Os and his wife Rachael stepped out to greet those present for a historic whistle stop tour. Gillespie county was the 248th stop on his 254 county tour of the State of Texas. With some counties not having seen a state candidate in 40 years and others experiencing their first one, he felt it important to reach out to the people. His message: bring the people back into the political process and make those who govern fall in line with the consent of the governed. On this muggy morning, those who attended this speech found more than just another politician. They found a man sincere in his conviction and on fire about becoming the next Attorney General for the great State of Texas. Under the

banner of the Democratic party, he made it clear that he was not only speaking to his party supporters but to all people. An avid supporter of the U.S. and Texas Constitutions, Van Os believes that the government belongs to all the people and that this whistle stop tour was a moral statement more than a political campaign. He expressed his concerns that party labels were being used to divide the people by separating us from our founding documents, and that we need to take those ideological and political labels and put them away in the corner in order that we may take a stand against what is happening to us as Texans and as peoples of these United States. He professed that he would do his best as Attorney General to protect the rights of the people of the State of Texas by using and following the Texas Constitution as the position deems so. (See Article 4, section 22, Texas Constitution)

During his speech, David Van Os, discussed not only reform within the position of Attorney General but within all offices of our state governing body. In specific

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terms, he touched on much needed reform in the child support and enforcement divisions. Believing that the system itself is so inundated with red tape that people captive within it have a difficult time resolving their problems. He would like to bring the personnel back into these personal issues.

On his website he states: "When I take office I will immediately establish an office of live ombudsmen with the responsibility to talk to the callers in person and to follow through with rapid investigation and resolution of complaints... If the Attorney General were doing his job the child support system would reunite more families, but instead they are ripped into further shreds and the emotional and financial damage caused by distressed relationships is further compounded."

He feels it is time to clean the system up and bring better under-

Con't on p. 5, Van Os

Advertising Rates

This paper will not succeed without advertisers, and we want to give advertisers incentive to advertise with us by offering great deals.

Given sufficient funds, we plan to print at least 8,000 copies of each edition, and distribute them throughout Gillespie County. With enough advertisers, we will print more.

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The Trans-Texas Corridor- Highway of Prosperity or Road to Hell?

by Nadine Starks

I wanted to write this editorial on the Trans-Texas Corridor because of its place in current events and because it is so important to understand why these road projects weigh so heavily in the political and ideological aspects of the State of Texas. When our legislature passed HB3588 and Governor Perry signed it, they ushered in the biggest and most expensive highway project in Texas history. Very few Texans had heard of the project which is why myself and many others are so bent out of shape about it. The thing that disheartens me the most is the total disregard our governing body has for the people it serves. Something this enormous which robs Texans

of thousands of acres of land and is estimated to cost \$180 Billion dollars should have been presented to us not hidden from us like a dirty little secret. Unfortunately, this corridor is not just a thorn in the side of Texans but is part of a greater project spanning from Mexico to Canada, sometimes called the Can-Mex or the NAFTA superhighway. Looking at the bigger picture it is relatively easy to see how these and other projects tie directly to the Security and Prosperity Partnership signed by President Bush in March of 2005. In the broadest terms, SPP is a business deal linking Mexico, the U.S. and Canada with overriding influence from planning groups set up by the Department of Commerce. This new 'partnership' has similarities to the European Union and so many are dubbing this the North American Union. That being a whole other topic let us just concentrate on the Trans-Texas Corridor for now. The first leg of the superhighway system. Taken from Wikipedia's online encyclopedia, here is a brief description of the TTC.

"The Trans-Texas Corridor (TTC) is a transportation network in the planning and early construction stages in the U.S. state of Texas. The super corridor, as planned, would use swaths of land up to 1,200 feet (365 m) wide to carry parallel links of expressways, rails, and utility lines. The expressway portion would be divided into two separate elements: truck lanes and lanes for passenger vehicles. Similarly, the rail lines in the corridor would be di-

Con't on p. 5, TTC

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Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances. First Amendment, US Constitution.

Youth Speak

The Graveyard

By David Grimes

I approached the graveyard
I tread on the bare path
the rock walls rose around me
like storm clouds filled with wrath
those storm clouds rose around the moon
that strove to light my way
but only made the shadows long
and longer away, the day

I walked now very carefully
my footsteps on the ground
echoed, echoed fearfully
with a gravelly, earthly sound
the sound of a growling monster
the sound of rising dread
but I kept up my resolve now
I set my feet like lead

I strode up to the graveyard
its iron gate was barred
its posts were cliffs of somber stone
but intricately carved
from one there rose a gargoyle
the other, a death bird
and on the threshold there was writ
a verse of warning words:
"Beware all ye who enter here
beware this place, I say.
For evils that abide here
will hold you in their sway.
If you dare to enter here
where love will never come
you will face eternal death
for this is Devil's Home."

I pondered the frieze on the gateposts
a picture of failure and strife
of frozen shame and the loss
of an innocent man and his wife
once their lives were perfect
and paradise was theirs
but then this graveyard came to them
their home became a lair
for something altogether wrong
that robbed them of their right
and cursed their children to live
in captivity, bound tight

Bracing myself, I stepped toward
that gloomy brooding gate
and through the bars I caught a glimpse
of stray sparks of hate
the evil was indeed in there
just as the warning said
but now was not the time to fail
but to forge ahead

So I stretched out my bleeding hand
the gate swung into black

the evil rushed to pull me in
there was no turning back
I stepped over the threshold
from shadow into night
the graveyard closed around me
and there was no more light

A black fog swirled over the ground
and wraiths rose eerily
they circled 'round about me now
and then, in ecstasy
of evilness, they danced and screamed
a dirge of dark delight:
"The poor sweet lamb has come to us
he came without a fight.
Did he really believe that
he would save the lost
by giving up his cursed life
upon that wondrous cross?
That lovely cross, that instrument
of anguish and of pain.
Its wood is dark and very red
with many a bloodstain
and then the tomb, oh yes, the cave
the place of death and rot
with that great stone to seal him in.
Oh, how we longed and fought
to be the ones to guard him there
to make sure he stayed down
and now he is down here with us
oh, make a joyful sound!"

As they danced, they drew me near
to that place called The Hole
where flames that rise up from down
burn red and yet are very cold
the goblins left me now and fled
I stood before a throne
it bore the crest of all evil
and now, with evil tone
"Come near, you stupid caring fool,"
a cruel voice to me hissed
"So that your failure will be full.
You liked my Judas kiss?"

The spectre showed himself to me
his shadow was a snake
he slithered and coiled and twisted
and then, again, he spake
"The Trinity is broken
and I, at last, have won.
The race is doomed to end right here;
right where they've sent their Son"

To him it seemed that this was true
that life was now no more
but I had overcome the world
with the burden I now bore
that was why, the reason I
had come here to this place
I was here to challenge him
to bring back the souls' grace

we were destined to battle
ever since the day
that he had risen in revolt
and so been cast away

Now then, we met once more to fight
in the graveyard on the edge
of the grim and deep abyss
with all souls poised over the ledge
I drew my sword that blazed like fire
he cracked his torture lash
he also drew a crimson blade
a knife with which to slash
"Let us begin but you will lose,"
he snickered, confident
this pride had fallen once before
when on rule it was bent
we circled 'round each other now
around the wailing pit
that belched its fire as if it knew
what else that had been writ

Suddenly the whip screeched out
as it ripped through the air
my sword sung out to meet it
and through it, sliced a tear
he cast the cloven cord aside
and drew a second blade
I attacked him fierce and strong
I knew he was afraid
the snake parried as I thrust
and I blocked his onslaught
it seemed that we were even matched
but I knew we were not
for, yes, there was another verse
upon the graveyard gate
the snake had blundered fatally
and now it was too late

This other was a prophecy:
"One will come and break
these chains that hold you sinners down
with sacrifice he makes
this One will love and he will teach
some of you how to love
but you will kill him just because
he teaches from above
that is the way that it must be
for you to live again
if you accept that he lives too
that he did die for sin"

The contest in the graveyard
raged on in spite of this
and nothing yet was showing him
the error he had missed
I swung fast at his ankles
he dodged then charged at me
we gave no quarter, gave no rest
but kept up the melee

I stumbled on the footrest

of the blackened throne
he saw his chance and with a snarl
struck, but just cleaved stone
with this he made himself exposed
and so I beset him
with a mass of wrathful blows
that drove him to the rim
of the fearsome chasm
that yawned to far below
we struggled on the very edge
enemy against foe

He ducked, I slipped and plunged into
that gnashing writhing cleft
but I now grasped the crumbling brink
with one hand, the left
he leaned over and smirked at me
enjoying my dire plight
the contest seemed to have been won
he had beaten the light

But suddenly a trumpet
sounded the third morn
and as he paused, astounded
I did not pause to warn
I pierced him once into the side
and once in either hand
and then before he could escape
I smote the feet that once had ran
from a battle much like this
but now would run no more
for the serpent had been beaten
at the graveyard's very core

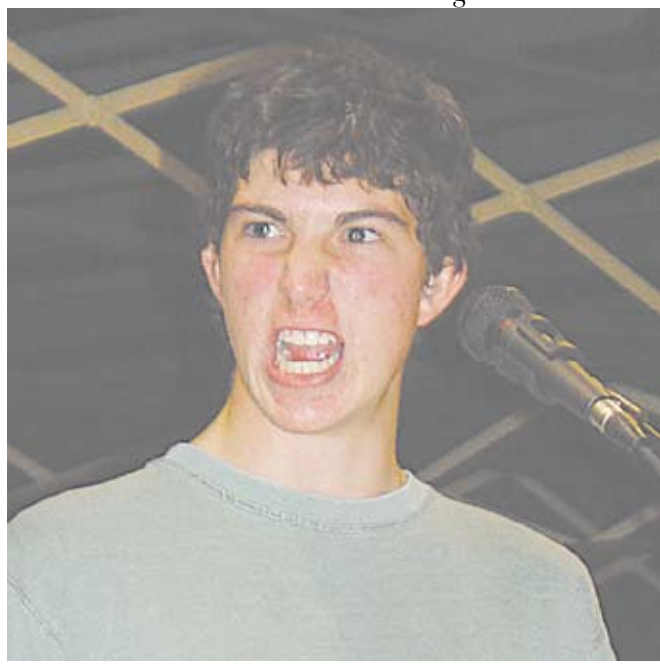
Great pillars now were falling
and idols showing rifts
the throne was rent and shattered
the ground began to shift
I stood among the tombstones
that stood for all decay
and one by one, with my own blood
I washed their words away

Demons scattered far and near
there was nowhere to hide
for by the Great Celestial Name
their power was denied
for now with hope they were no more
and all their plans for pain
had come to naught and so they knew
they're prince would never reign

Solemnly, I walked from there
the gate stood open wide
for the keys that kept it shut
had been taken from inside
the sun was rising in the east
and I had joy to bring
for those who followed faithfully
were now to have their King.

Candidates and Issues

Right, David Grimes performing the above poem during Hallelujah Night



Fredericksburg Conservative's Endorsements

While there are a number of good candidates on the ballot, which we suggest you support, we are only giving endorsements to two candidates. Please remember to vote.

State Representative, District 73 Nathan Macias (REP)
Member, State Board of Education, District 5: Ken Mercer (REP)

We would like to recommend AGAINST any Democratic or Independent candidate.

Governor Candidates

Texans for Life Committee

Abortions in Texas dropped to 72,441 in 2004, which is the lowest recorded number of abortions in Texas since 1978.

Chris Bell (D)

"Chris Bell not only says he's pro-choice, he voted pro-choice, even receiving a perfect, 100% rating from NARAL and Planned Parenthood Action Fund for his pro-choice votes." See the letter signed by leading abortion advocates here: http://www.chrisbell.com/blog/011106_pro-choice

Gubernatorial candidate Chris Bell said he supports embryonic stem cell research. The Democrat said he also wants to make Texas a leader in the field. <http://www.chrisbell.com/news/2006/8?from=60>

As a one-term Congressman, Rep. Bell voted not once, but twice against a partial birth abortion ban. (Vote 242, 6/4/03; Vote 530, 10/2/03). <http://thomas.loc.gov/home/rollcallvotes.html>

Kinky Friedman (I)

Q: How does Kinky feel about

abortion?

A: Kinky believes in a woman's right to choose.

Q: What is Kinky's position on stem cell research?

A: Kinky favors both state and federal funding of stem cell research.

Taken directly from the candidate's web site: <http://www.kinkyfriedman.com/issues/faq.html>

Rick Perry (R)

His campaign literature touts his "leadership in protecting unborn children, opposing procedures like partial birth abortion and promoting abstinence." As governor, he signed into law the Prenatal Protection Act, Women's Right to Know Act, Parental Consent, a ban on third trimester abortions and the Defense of Marriage Act.

"Gov. Rick Perry, a Republican, has been staunchly opposed to embryonic stem cell research. During a 2005 anti-abortion rally at the Capitol, Perry opposed any spending of state dollars on stem

cell research. 'As long as I am the governor of this great state, I will oppose any taxpayer dollars being used and spent on research that ends a human life,' Perry said. "http://blogs.chron.com/texaspolitics/archives/2006/08/chris_bell_asks_1.html

Carole Strayhorn (I)

"Carole Keeton Strayhorn's position on abortion has changed over her long career in politics. She favored abortion rights as a Democrat, opposed abortion as a Republican and has not taken a stance on policy as an independent. Members of the Houston Chronicle editorial board pressed the comptroller and gubernatorial candidate yesterday to make her position clear. Here is how the conversation went:

"After saying she supports more funds for family planning and embryonic stem cell research, Strayhorn was asked about abortion. 'I believe in the sanctity of life and I recognize that there are very, very difficult situations where heartbreaking decisions have to be made,' she said. Chronicle Managing Editor John Wilburn then asked pointedly, 'Do you believe individuals should be allowed to make those heart-breaking decisions without interference from government?' And she answered, 'Individuals and their doctors and their families must be the ones making those decisions.'" http://blogs.chron.com/texaspolitics/archives/2006/10/strayhorn_answe_1.html

Jack Finger's Endorsements

Jack Finger's Recommendations for this election
Jack Finger is a San Antonio resident and long time pro-life activist. As he is in San Antonio, he does not have any recommendations for candidates local to this area. He gave us his recommendations when we picketed an abortion clinic in San Antonio. He says "no choice" when he does not feel there is a candidate that 100% favors a conservative, pro-life position.

- United States Senator: no choice
- Governor: no choice
- Lieutenant Governor: David Dewhurst (REP)
- Attorney General: Greg Abbott (REP)
- Comptroller of Public Accounts: no choice
- Commissioner of the General Land Office: Jerry Patterson (REP)
- Commissioner of Agriculture: Todd Staples (REP)
- Railroad Commissioner: no choice
- Chief Justice, Supreme Court, Unexpired Term: Wallace Jefferson (REP)
- Justice, Supreme Ct, Place 2: Don Willett (REP)
- Justice, Supreme Ct, Place 4: David M. Medina (REP)
- Justice, Supreme Ct, Place 6: Nathan Hecht (REP)
- Justice, Supreme Ct, Place 8, Unexpired Term: Phil Johnson (REP)
- Judge, Ct of Crim Appeals, Place 7: Barbara Parker Hervey (REP)
- Judge, Ct of Criminal Appeals, Place 8: Charles Holcomb (REP)
- Member, State Board of Education, District 5: Ken Mercer (REP)
- Presiding Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals: Sharon Keller (REP)
- Justice, 4th Ct of Appeals District, Place 2: no choice
- Justice, 4th Ct of Appeals Dist, Place 3: Rebecca Simmons (REP)
- Justice, 4th Ct of Appeals District, Place 4: no choice
- Justice, 4th Ct of Appeals District, Place 5: Karen Angelini (REP)
- Justice, 4th Ct of Appeals District, Place 7: Phylis Speedin (REP)

Some not so well emphasized views of two candidates: Kinky Friedman, David Van Os

Kinky Friedman

We reviewed Kinky Friedman's web site to determine his views on issues important to us. As with most of the candidates, we found a mixed bag, but following are some of the more eyebrow-raising positions he holds.

Overall, he appears to favor bigger government and more spending.

He says our public school teachers are paid \$6000 less than the national average. Does that mean we will have a state mandated \$6000 increase for all public school teachers? Kinky's web site doesn't mention funding, so is that money going to come from increased property taxes?

Kinky says that only 1 in 5 children are insured, and plenty of adults are also uninsured, and he says it's the government's job to subsidize their insurance. Of course, that money comes from tax money. Friedman also supports subsidizing prescription drugs, and increasing funding for college and university student health care. Guess who pays for that?

Kinky advocates publicly funded campaigns for legislative and statewide offices--paid for by fees and surcharges on lobbyists.

Another miscellaneous tax increase: he favors a 1% oil and gas tax increase.

On other issues, Kinky wants to legalize casino gambling, he is pro-abortion, and he favors embryonic stem cell research.

Kinky Friedman is not conservative, and does not deserve your vote.

David Van Os

David Van Os uses terms like "the Constitution," "the Bill of Rights," "the people," etc, but what do these terms mean to him? Reading through his web site, it becomes clear that he does not hold a conservative position, but the typical, liberal Democratic agenda, perhaps with a variation here or there.

Studying the list of groups endorsing him reads like the Who's Who of the far left and liberals, including racial organizations, big labor unions, pro-abortion groups, a far left environmentalist political party, a homosexual agenda group, etc, some of which follow:

Austin Lesbian-Gay Political Caucus, Travis County Green Party, Texas State AFL-CIO, ACLU (he is a member, and was voted Civil Libertarian of the year), NAACP (he's a life member), Texas Women's Political Caucus (they gave him a Good Guy recognition), Labor Council for Latin American Advancement ("the official home of the Latino Labor Movement"), Southern Christian Leadership Conference, The Backbone Campaign, and others.

At his core, Van Os is not much different from his other Democratic colleagues, other than he knows how to use patriotic sounding terminology better than most of them.



Hank Gilbert Speaking in Gillespie County on NAIS and other issues.

Daniel Boone

Write-in candidate for House District 73

We heard about a write-in candidate running in our area, and we wanted to know his views. From our interview, Mr. Boone clearly is not a conservative,

Daniel Boone responded to a number of issues which should be of interest to our readers. Boone's response follows each issue we presented him. (The issues came mostly from a review of Kinky Friedman's web site.)

Daniel prefaced the interview by stating that as a representative, he will be required to represent the feelings of the district, even if they contradict his own. He said he will offer his own views, and then if the people of the district see differently, he will have to change how he votes.

Legalized casino gambling.

If there is an interest in that, he would favor it, were he given the opportunity to vote on it. He's not sure if it's a good idea, because where it's been instituted, it has been good only for the casino owners, but not for the community over all.

State mandated increase in teachers' salaries

He's very strongly supportive of that, which should be commensurate with training and education. He thinks there is the money in the state budget to do that without raising taxes.

How will you pay for it?

He thinks the money is already there, it just needs to be re-allocated. He doesn't see the need for a tax increase.

Are property taxes too high?

He says that's difficult to answer, it depends on what we want to accomplish. If we are talking about school taxes, we probably collect too much. He said we should be able to reduce school property taxes.

He cited the lottery as one area where money could be diverted away from the general fund and put into education, which it was originally promised to fund.

Gun control

He said the Constitution answers that, that there should not be gun control, that you should not have to register your gun. He added, however, that nobody needs a howitzer or 105 mm cannon, which he explained to mean semi-automatic rifles, such as AR-15s or AK-47s.

He said a convicted felon should not be allowed to own any weapons.

Con't from p. 1, Gilbert 1

the land to make Texas agriculture number one in the U.S. He believes in enforcing the weights and measure standards to certify Texans are getting what they pay for at the gas pump and the grocery store. At the heart of it all, lies the issue of private property, for which Mr. Gilbert strongly supports. He opposes the state taking land by eminent domain to build toll roads benefiting foreign companies

He said he was not sure if anyone should be allowed to own weapons with no purpose other than killing large numbers of people, meaning military style semi-automatic firearms. He said we should look closely at registering such guns, or even if we should be allowed to own them at all.

Concealed carry

He says he agrees with the idea that the Constitution gives us the right to own and bear arms, but we have to keep safety in mind--safety of the carrier, and safety of the public.

He has no problem with what the legislature has already done. He thinks concealed carry is especially appropriate with large amounts of money or diamonds and such, and he has no problem with a gun rack in the truck.

He says it's a complex issue that needs to be looked at in detail. If there is a legitimate, real need to carry a concealed weapon, he has no problem with that. He has doubts about what he called a "hip pocket" law which he described as a person putting a small caliber gun in their pocket and carrying it around.

Vermont-style concealed carry (no permit required)

He said you have to go back to his statement about 1. safety of the carrier, and 2. safety of the public. He said Vermont is a lot smaller state with a lot smaller population, and to give a general answer is impossible.

Gay marriage

He emphasized that his personal (emphasis his) belief is that marriage is between a man and a woman. That is the historical definition. He said that doesn't mean he's against people having a communal right to whatever relationship they want. We should have no government interference with relations between people.

He said that marriage is at least on two levels: the religious portion enacted by a religious institution, and the state's portion, which says that marriage is between two people as approved by the state.

He said the issue will be decided by the State Supreme Court. If he is required to vote on the matter, he will first canvass his district to see what the people want. He thinks the people of the district would be against gay marriage.

State insurance for uninsured children

This is one of Mr. Boone's hot buttons. He says we should fund

CHIPS completely. He says we have to take care of the children, not just from an "I love the children" position, but also with a view for how well they will do later in life--they won't do well later if they are not taken care of now. "Pay now or pay later," was his quote.

He said the new enrollment program for CHIPS is 3 pages of instructions, that have to be filled out two times a year. He says we don't use the old information, which would make it easier to continue enrollment of the children. He said the education level of many of those in the system is pretty low, and all the questions can seem complicated, and that he himself as a Ph.D. has a difficult time understanding what some of the question are asking.

He said about 25% of the children on the program, or about 200,000 have dropped off the program.

Perry's business tax

Mr. Boone wants to wait and see what happens with it. He says the tax may not affect most businesses, we have to be careful not to overburden most businesses, and we must be fair to everyone.

Abortion

First of all, he said, we are all pro-life. He would like to see zero abortions. He said we need to have uniform abortion laws in this country.

First, we need to cover the issue from the pro-family and pro-life perspective, which is to strengthen homes and families. Church and religious leaders need to instruct people on what is right. Then, we need to support parents so they can stay home, including single parents, to care for and instruct their teenaged children.

Also, he says we need to go back to the Constitution on this issue.

He says we need to separate the family aspects from the decision of a woman's right to make health decisions for herself.

Embryonic stem cell research

Boone says we are turning a scientific issue into a political football, and he doesn't think the Texas legislature will have to deal with the issue.

He says it is appropriate to discuss what to do with what will be thrown into the garbage, and if we can put them to good use.

Education vouchers/tuition tax credits

Mr. Boone brought up this issue, stating that where ever it has been tried--Wisconsin, Florida, Washington DC--it has failed. He said vouchers and tax credits take away money from schools. He said the solution is to fix troubled schools, not to throw out the whole system.

san issue. That no matter who we usually support, we should educate ourselves on whether the people we have elected to office are doing the job we sent them to do. If they are not, he remarked, then send them home and give others a try.

And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. Galatians 5:24

Classifieds

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Our Perspective on the Issues

Taking care of the children

Politicians want to take away our money via direct and indirect taxes, and then give us back a small portion of it if we jump through all their hoops, and subject ourselves and our children to whatever requirements are set up by their bureaucracy

As we have seen in Canada, socialized medicine is a failure and destroys the quality of medical care. You have to wait long periods of time to receive your medical care, and it may not be as good as in places like the U.S. where the health care system is not as socialized as in other countries.

Third party insurance tends to drive the cost of health care up, putting it out of reach of many people, forcing many to go without, or forcing them to accept government welfare like CHIPS to pay for it, or pay exorbitant out of pocket prices for the health care they do receive.

The bottom line is, I don't want government (ie, taxpayers) money. Please quit wrecking the health care system, driving up the prices, and taking away my money so I can't afford to take my wife and children to the doctor.

Gay marriage

Homosexuality is an abnormal, aberrant condition brought on by sexual abuse, abnormal develop-

ment early in youth, or from other detrimental causes. It is destructive to the individuals practicing it, and to the society as a whole that tolerates it. Which is not to say those individuals should be abused or their rights should be abridged. However, their destructive practices should not be given any privileges or rewards, and should be curbed, or at least officially disapproved as much as is practical without violating their civil liberties. I would refer you to the excellent work by Dr. Jeffrey Satinover on the matter, and even more so to the Bible which refers to homosexual practices as an abomination. (Lev 18:22-30; Lev 20:13, De 22:5; De 23:17; Ro 1:18-32; I Cor 6:9-10; Gal 5:19-21; Rev 20:12-15; Rev 21:8).

Gun control

As the NRA used to say during the Clinton Administration, the Second Amendment is not about duck hunting. It is about maintaining an armed populace as a guard against invasion, insurrection, and tyrannical government, and as a complement of and check to a standing army. To those ends, the ownership and proficiency with the very best firearms should be encouraged, including those resembling military arms.

Furthermore, gun control schemes such as registration, background checks, and licensing only

empower corrupt governments to tax, restrict, and eventually confiscate weapons, as has happened in a number of countries, and is happening on a limited scale in places like Chicago. If you read the previous edition of our paper, we gave a quote from Texas historian Dwight Yoakum in 1855: "Any government that would attempt to disarm its people is despotic; and any people that would submit to it deserves to be slaves!"

As for "cannons," please recall that the primary objective of the British in marching to seize the militia weapons at Lexington and Concord (which started the American Revolution) was primarily cannons--the small arms were a secondary target. A cannon was also the objective of the Mexican troops marching to Gonzales, which started the Texas Revolution.

Last, contrary to the media's continual efforts to vilify the word, "militia" is enshrined in our Constitution, and, at least according to that document, the militia is "necessary to the security of a free state."

Concealed carry

Restrictions on carrying place individuals at the mercy of predators. In places like schools, restaurants and shopping malls, hospitals, etc., carry restrictions produce large numbers of helpless, attrac-

tive targets for the worst predators in our society, be they George Henard (Luby's in Texas), Harris and Klebold (Columbine), or Charles Roberts (Amish school).

Abortion

As we have come to understand in the years since 1973, those little fellows and gals playing, swimming, somersaulting, and sucking their thumbs in the womb are little human beings. This is scientifically and medically proven. The problem a great deal of money is at stake, people don't want to be inconvenienced by the needs of another human being, and I think at the heart of it, we as a society no longer accept the proposition that God is the taker of life, not us.

As a government official if you don't protect innocent human life, no matter how it came into existence, you have failed your first and foremost duty. I would also like to remind you that the phrase "right...to life" is from the Declaration of Independence, which also says that "Governments are instituted" "to secure those rights," foremostly including, the right to "life." Naturally the Constitution does not contradict the Declaration of Independence on this key point.

Embryonic stem cell research

Embryonic stem cell research follows closely on the heels of abortion. All we need to ask, do we

have the right to kill some people for the possible, future, potential benefit of others? Our duty is to value and defend all innocent human life, not just those of our choosing.

Are property taxes too high?

So you think you own your property? Try not paying your yearly government rental fee (property tax) and see what happens. It seems obscene to have to pay every year for something you supposedly own, or else you will lose it. And in your lifetime you may end up paying more in taxes than you paid for the property. People in this county have been forced to sell the land that had been in the family for generations because they could not pay the property tax. That is absolutely wrong.

In the short term, we need to cut property taxes. In the long term we need to find another way to finance government.

Sure, we can always squeeze a little more efficiency out of various programs, but for a lasting solution, we need to minimize the services government provides, because spending is the heart of taxes, and spending on programs not within the proper domain of government are the chiefest cause of too much spending.

Con't from p. 2, TTC

vided among freight, commuter, and high-speed rail. Services expected to be carried in the utility corridor include water, electricity, natural gas, petroleum, fiber optic lines, and other telecommunications services. There are two initial TTC corridors under consideration: One would parallel Interstate 35, from Gainesville to Laredo and passing Dallas, Austin and San Antonio. The other would be an extension of Interstate 69, from Texarkana past Houston to either Laredo or the Rio Grande Valley.

The system has been criticized for a number of reasons. Among the most significant is the fact that the TTC will be extremely expensive. Additionally the system will require about 9,000 square miles (23,300 km²) of land to be purchased or acquired through the state's assertion of eminent domain. Environmentalists are concerned about the effects of such wide corridors, and private land owners have expressed disgust at the idea that their land may be seized and in turn be sold in exclusive agreements to other developers in order to help pay for the transit links."

The 'other developers' not mentioned in Wikipedia are ones such as the Spanish company, Cintra, and Zachry Construction who are the backers and planners of the TTC, awarded the contract by TxDOT. Cintra will own a lease to the toll roads recouping its venture capital by the taxation of U. S. citizens (tolls). What of the rest of the initial cost? According to the TTC website, keptexasmoving.org, it will be financed with tolls, bonds, lim-

ited state funds and other revenue sources. Maybe the other revenue sources are the hotel, gas, restaurant and utilities bidding for a place on the thoroughfare.

When the Houston Chronicle and other newspapers requested to view this 'TTC deal' they were refused the information. A lawsuit was filed with the Attorney General in which he rendered that the documents were public records and should be released for public review. Cintra/Zachry and TxDOT filed a counter lawsuit against the Attorney General to keep it a secret. Why are they so eager to keep this a secret and why is TxDOT working against Texans on the side of a foreign entity? If all were for better transportation for Texans, as they like to advertise, why the cat and mouse games? What monsters are lurking out there which we must fight blindfolded and betrayed by our own governing body?

This is a battle between the conscious forces of right action and just rule against the unconscious forces, the 'giant' systems of corporate hegemony and political tyranny. Looking at these two entities we can ask how it has come to be that any corporation or government body is mixing and dealing in direct violation to the Texas and US Constitutions. There has been a debate going on for years as to the pros and cons of government vs. private sector control over projects. Most people would think it better to have private sector companies in charge of many of the things our government runs, because there is no denying how wasteful our government is. Private sector business's are more efficient because their bottom line is generally a profit margin, not the pockets of the duped tax

payer. But looking at the other side of the coin, business's are not good government, they are not interested in the rights of the people as enumerated in the Bill of Rights. They are not interested in sovereignty of nations, states or individuals. They are interested in the profit margin and many are motivated to seek the highest profit margin at the least cost to them. Why not, it just makes good business sense. However, we as people of the State of Texas and the United States were given protections against such actions which would destroy those rights which our government was established to protect. In that frame of mind, how is a state road which is supposed to be for Texans able to run rough shod over the law of the land decimating the right to life, liberty and property. Those thousands of acres needed for this project will be taking peoples land, homes and livelihoods. HB3588 must be repealed and action must be taken by the Attorney General against those who perpetrated this business deal. Perhaps all of those who pushed this through should be gone. Remember, we have a campaign to keep Texas clean and to keep the trash off of our highways. As Texans if we don't stand together against this, their won't be a Texas in our future to stand for. It will become no more than a fast track to global commerce. Let us think when we go to the polls this November at just who and what is behind this transportation deal. Did those in our legislature or our Governor have the best interest of the people in mind? Maybe Texas needs some new blood at the state capital. Vote for Texas, the future and good government. Sources available on request.

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Con't from p. 1, Wal-Mart

on the board of NGLCC. Wal-Mart also announced they would give preference to homosexual-owned businesses in purchasing products.

Justin Nelson, president of NGLCC, said he expects Wal-Mart to use its influence to pressure suppliers like P&G, Johnson & Johnson, and Gillette to give homosexual businesses preferential treatment. Wal-Mart is also working on a plan to provide domestic-partnership benefits to homosexual employee "partners." The NGLCC is a leading promoter of homo-

sexual marriage.

According to Missionaries to the Pre-Born, based in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Wal-Mart also supports Planned Parenthood, the largest abortion provider in the United States.

Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!
Isa 5:20

Con't from p. 2, Van Os

standing to the idea of personal responsibility. He also wishes to work against the monopolization of insurance, oil and gas companies to usher in a free market where goods and services would be more readily available to the majority of Texans.

Mr. Van Os emphasized that one of the greatest issues facing Texas today is that of the Trans-Texas Corridor. He feels it is an incursion of private corporations and foreign nations into the sovereignty of the State of Texas, and is in direct violation to the U.S. Constitution Article 1 Section 10, which prohibits any State (those who govern) from entering into any Treaty, Alliance, or Confederation and further expresses that without the Consent of Congress, no State shall enter into any Agreement or Compact with another State, or with a foreign Power. With the Trans-Texas Corridor, the loss of farm and ranchland will be severe, destroying an already struggling entity. There are also concerns for the environment and historical preservation of Texas. Every county that Mr. Van Os visited in Texas he filed a affidavit enumerating actions which he will legally take as Attorney General to

fight this incursion which threatens the character and sovereignty of Texas. He also expressed his understanding that this corridor was just the first leg of what will be a NAFTA super highway (Can-Mex) stretching from Mexico to Canada of which the customs point of entry will be in Kansas City, MO., leaving out any state controlled checks on imports. Because the Trans-Texas Corridor abrogates our rights of life, liberty and property solely for economic concerns Mr. Van Os says that he is on solid legal ground to work as our Attorney General against the continued progress of the corridor.

In closing and in the most succinct terms possible, Mr. Van Os expressed again that the Attorney Generals' highest duty, as decided by the framers of the Texas Constitution, is to be the first line of defense against runaway greed. Most simply put to protect us from those who would consciously or unconsciously destroy life, liberty and private property.

If you would like more information on David Van Os for Attorney General please visit his website at <http://www.vanosfortexasag.com/> or you may call on his campaign at 210-225-1955. Mr. Van Os owns a law firm in San Antonio where he champions constitutional law.



David Van Os at the Gillespie County Courthouse

Con't from p. 1, Gilbert 1

criminal penalties that individuals would face for not complying. One question that drew some chuckles was, "How do you ear tag a chicken?" Answering that this question is asked at every meeting, he explained that it would most likely be a leg or wing band. Talking about what he advocates, Hank Gilbert stated that he would like to create some programs. More specifically, he said that he wanted to create "voluntary incentive programs with no criminal penalties." He briefly mentioned admiring the EuroGAP certification, a global "field to fork" rigorous inspection and certification process, and would like to implement something similar. He did not mention how this would be funded or how it would be better or different than NAIS. (we're trying to find just how intrusive this program is, but are not having any success). Concerning the TTC, Mr. Gilbert says, it is the taking of "millions of acres to facilitate NAFTA" which he earlier described as a "one way gate for Mexico and Canada." He says that a study on expanding existing highway easements was not done and that he has already proposed a plan regarding transportation problems to Governor Perry. No details were given. Answering the question of what do we do to stop this (TTC), Mr. Gilbert said, "Whatever we have to." concluding that a civil uprising may be necessary and is already in progress. Toward the end of the meeting, he reminisced about the policy that he as a boy was taught by his father and that he likes to live by: "if you didn't have money for it, you didn't need it." and pointed out to the handful of high school students in the audience that there was a \$32,000 debt that everyone owed to the government, including them. Concluding, Hank Gilbert said that it is up to us to look after them, the children, and to change things. Hank Gilbert's website is www.hankgilbert.com. His Republican opponent, Todd Staples' website is www.toddstaples.com

NOTES:

On Gilbert's website he advocates removing the cap or increasing the sporting goods tax to fund the Texas Rail System and chides Governor Perry and current ag commissioner, Susan Combs for not doing enough to help ranchers after the big wildfires. He implies that more government spending was needed even though the governor declared a federal emergency (Doesn't this contradict his father's policy. ...and add to the \$32,000 everyone owes?)

**Nathan Macias
Candidate Profile:**

Born and raised 3rd Generation Texan
Graduate of Texas A&M: Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering
Two Masters Degrees: Business and Public Administration (Environmental Management & Public Policy)
Retired Lt Col, USAF - 20 Year Civil Engineer Officer/Commander
Small Business Leader
Married to the former Susan Kleypas of San Antonio for 22 years, 7 children

Five Principles of Legislation:

- 1) Less Government
- 2) Lower Taxes
- 3) Increased Personal Responsibility
- 4) Greater Individual Freedom
- 5) Empower Families

On November 7th Vote Nathan Macias!

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Right photos: Our oldest daughter Hannah found this fat little critter in the garden. He was put in a jar, and seemed quite unhappy for a number of days until Hannah figured out that the worm needed a place to burrow. She added some leaves to the jar, the worm burrowed and pupated, which unfortunately, we were not able to photograph. Apparently what happens in this process is that the worm sheds its outer layer including legs and what not, and the layer underneath is the cocoon. We'll keep him until he emerges, and show you the pictures if we can capture it. This might be a tomato horn worm.



Nathan Macias is a proven leader who will stand up for our conservative values.

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