

The FORUM



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Escapes Mail Service Newsletter
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Political Edition

Upcoming Political Forum

Escapes RV Club will host its Political Forum on February 5, 2008, from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m. in the Rainbow's End Activity Center in Livingston, TX. All local, state, and federal candidates running in Precinct 1, District 18, have been invited.

Primary Election

The Primary Election will be held March 4, 2008. There are two different ballots for the Primary Election. **You must choose your ballot for the Primary on your application request:**

- Ballot for Republican Party Primary **or**
- Ballot for Democratic Party Primary

After the winners are determined from both Primaries, all candidates (Republican, Democratic, etc.) will be listed on one ballot for the November 4, 2008, General Election.

Early Voting By Mail

The last day to register to vote, to be eligible for the March 4 Primaries is February 4, 2008. When you apply for a ballot by mail, you must first request an application. Applications for voting by mail will be accepted January 4 through February 26 (received, not postmarked). Once your application is received by the County Clerk, a ballot will then be mailed to you. The ballot must be mailed to an address outside of Polk County unless you are 65 (or older) or disabled (no proof necessary); however, you must indicate your reason for applying for an absentee ballot, i.e. disabled, away traveling, etc.

This special box is for Escapes members who will be away traveling and do not have a secure temporary mailing address that they are comfortable using. Escapes mail service agents will forward these ballots on to you, but it is important to recognize that this can cause an additional time delay. It is always best to have your applications and ballots sent directly to you if at all possible.

Remember, the window of time is slim. You must request your application first, send it back to the County Clerk, receive your ballot, and mail it back to the County Clerk (see address below for returning ballots), all before the March 4, 2008, election deadline!

Mail application requests and return ballots to:

Early Voting Clerk
PO Box 2119
Livingston, TX 77351-9401

The following have filed for candidacy in their respective party Primaries:

Republican Candidates

President: Hugh Cort, Rudy Giuliani, Mike Huckabee, Duncan Hunter, Alan Keyes, John McCain, Ron Paul, Mitt Romney, Fred Thompson and Hoa Tran

U.S. Senator: John Cornyn, Larry Kilgore

US Representative, District 8: Kevin Brady

Railroad Commissioner: Michael L. Williams

Chief Justice, Supreme Court: Wallace B. Jefferson

Escapes Mail Service members who will be traveling out of state may have their ballots sent to the following address:

Your Name
c/o Escapes RV Club
PO Box 1578
Shepherd, TX 77371

Chief Justice Ninth Court of Appeals: Jay Wright,
Steve McKeithen
Justice, Supreme Court Place 7: Dale Wainwright
Justice, Supreme Court, Place 8: Phil Johnson
Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals Place 3: Tom Price,
Bill White
Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals Place 4: Robert Francis,
Paul Womack
Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals Place 9: Cathy Cochran
State Board of Education, District 8: Barbara Cargill
State Representative, District 18: John Otto
County Chairman: Benny Fogleman
Precinct #1 Chairman: Shirley Cain
Sheriff: Kenneth Hammack
Tax Assessor-Collector: Bid Smith
County Commissioner, Precinct 1: Sydney Murphy,
Bob Willis
County Constable: Charles Clack

Democrat Candidates

President: Joe Biden, Hillary Clinton, Chris Dodd,
John Edwards, Barack Obama, Bill Richardson
U.S. Senator: Gene Kelly, Ray McMurrey, Rick Noriega,
Rhett Smith
U. S. Representative, District 8: Kent Hargett
Railroad Commissioner: Art Hall, Dale Henry,
Mark Thompson
Chief Justice, Supreme Court: Jim Jordan
Justice, Supreme Court, Place 7: Baltasar Cruz,
Sam Houston
Justice, Supreme Court, Place 8: Susan Criss,
Linda Reyna Yanez
Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals Place 3: Susan Strawn
Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 4: J.R. Molina
State Representative, District 18: Arlan Foster
Sheriff: Gary McClendon

Libertarian Candidates

U.S. Senator: Scott Jameson, Jon Roland,
Yvonne Adams Schick
U.S. Representative, District 8: Brian Stevens
Railroad Commissioner: David Floyd
Chief Justice, Texas Supreme Court: Tom Oxford
Justice, Supreme Court, Place 7: David G. Smith
Justice, Supreme Court, Place 8: Drew Shirley
Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 9: William Bryan
Strange, III
Member, State Board of Education, District 8:
Kim Stroman

Independent Candidates

U.S. Senator: W. Leon Smith, Michael Powell, Robert Belt,
James Devine

Green Party Candidates

President/Vice-President: Jesse Johnson, Cynthia McKinney,
Ken Philip Mesplay, Kat Swift, Howie Hawkins
U.S. Senator: David Collins, Tom Davis
Railroad Commissioner: Art Browning
Chief Justice, Supreme Court: Charles Waterbury

In the event there is no clear winner in the respective Primary Elections, runoffs will be held on April 8, 2008. Winners in the Primary Election will run in next November's General Election.

Additional Candidate Resource Information

Local Candidate Announcement information viewable at:
www.easttexasnews.com

Voter Resources

Polk County ballot applications fax..... 936-327-6874
Polk County Clerk's Office..... 936-327-6804
.....or 936-327-6805
Polk County Republican Party..... 936-327-8683
Polk County Democratic Party..... 936-327-5910

Online Resources

Escapees voter info: www.escapees.com/voterinfo.asp
Texas voter info: www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter
Democrats: www.txdemocrats.org
Republicans: www.texasgop.org
Polk Co. Republicans: www.polkcountygop.org
Libertarians: www.tx.lp.org

Important Phone Numbers

Applications Fax line..... 936-327-6874
County Clerk/Voting Info..... 936-327-6804
..... or 936-327-6805

Note: Early voting by personal appearance is Feb. 19-29.