

Donkey Talk

October 2010

Meyerland Area Democrats Club: www.meydems.org



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The Meyerland Area Democrats Club is primarily composed of residents of the Meyerland-area election precincts. We are dedicated to the election of Democratic candidates and the promotion of issues of concern to Democrats.

The Club meets the third Monday of every month at Fadi's Mediterranean Grill, 4738 Beechnut across from Meyerland Plaza. Members meet at 6:30 p.m. to eat. The meeting and formal program begin at 7 p.m.

Meyerland Area Democrats Club
P.O. Box 35777
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www.meydems.org
Find "Meyerland Democrats" on Facebook and "like" us to get regular FB updates.
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We Need YOUR Help! Vote Democrat: Vote Early Oct. 18 - 29 or on Nov. 2

Absentee voting will be even more important this year as Harris County is working to overcome a possible shortage of voting machines at polling places.

Nearly all eSlate electronic voting machines owned by Harris County were destroyed in an Aug. 27 warehouse fire. The County Clerk has secured loaner machines from counties all across the state (and Colorado), and has assured voters a "normal election environment."

However, the big advantage of early voting is that you can vote at ANY of the county's 37 early-voting sites, no matter where you live or are registered to vote. On Election Day, you may ONLY vote at your assigned polling place.

Go to <http://www.hcdp.org/election-info/early-vote-locations/> (or see the enclosed flyer) for info about the locations and hours for early voting, which is Monday, Oct. 18 through Friday, Oct. 29.

Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 2, and polls will be open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

In addition, voters who will be 65 or older and who are disabled or will be out of town on Election Day can also apply for a ballot by mail. Harris County residents can download an application at <http://www.harrisvotes.com/docs/app4ballotbymail.pdf>

For a sample of the full ballot, go to http://www.hcdp.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/SampleBallot_ENG.pdf

We are asking you to **cast a straight Democratic vote** (see sample at right).

With a strong lineup of candidates from gubernatorial candidate Bill White down to state representatives, district judges, county judge candidate Gordon Quan, family district judges, county criminal and probate



Meyerland Dems block-walk for Rep. Ellen Cohen on Oct. 2.

judges, District Clerk Loren Jackson and candidates for County Tax Assessor and Treasurer – it's just smarter and easier to click "Democratic Party" this year.

This is a crucial election! A strong Democratic turnout is the key to electing officials who will lower our insurance rates and college tuition costs, and who will keep the state from gutting programs that help the poorest and most vulnerable Texans. Please EARLY VOTE and vote DEMOCRATIC! We need you!

President Alan Guttman

BALLOT - GENERAL ELECTION HARRIS COUNTY NOVEMBER 02, 2010

(top of the ballot)

Straight Party

- Republican Party
- Democratic Party**
- Libertarian Party
- Green Party

Coming Home: An Argument from a Member of the “Professional Left”

Editorial by Art Pronin

I will admit, I have been a very upset Democrat.

Now I'm proud we have accomplished many things: reformed health insurance and expanded access to health care; passed a stimulus bill that halted a potential Depression; and passed a Wall Street reform bill that came out stronger than most thought.

However, like many in the base, I am highly upset that the public option for health care was not passed. The public option is something we must get done to really lower insurance rates and give people a way out of the horrid insurance industry.

I'm disappointed the stimulus bill was not larger – Krugman and others said from day one we would need a much larger bill to knock unemployment down to 5 percent or less.

My friends, I am upset Democrats did not or could not do more bold things. However I think those of us who felt we could have done more must put our angst aside and go all in to save our party from losing power.

Why? Because for 30 years the conservative trickle-down economics have destroyed our economic well-being. We need more than two years in power to set this nation on the right path.

We need to keep control of the Congress in order to reform the filibuster in January. This will allow us to finally pass many things essential to the nation. We must pass the elimination of tax breaks for the rich; end “don't ask, don't tell”; hit back at Citizens United with DISCLOSE Act (to force companies to disclose what ads they are paying for) and the Fair Elections Act (to

move us to public finance of campaigns). And of course immigration reform and the DREAM Act both await new action.

I could say, “Hey Dems, teach certain folks high-up in the leadership who ridiculed the ‘professional left’ by staying home this election.” But that is not the progressive way. We must never give up and never give in.

In Texas we have the best chance since Richards to throw out our GOP gov. Rick Perry has failed the people of Texas. For 10 years what does he

Staying home means we empower Rick Perry. Empower the Tea Party. Empower Sarah Palin. Empower McCain and others who filibustered “Don't Ask, Don't Tell,” the DREAM Act, the public option and much more. By ceding the vote you cede power to the radical-right players.

have to show for his governance? \$21 billion in debt partly due to schemes like trying to privatize the management of our welfare system, and giving tax cuts that proved to be gimmicks.

And of course, who can forget Perry is suing the Congress because he doesn't want to spend \$800 million given to Texas from Congress specifically to save teacher jobs? Instead he wants to use the money for other things. Enough is enough.

Bill White is a smart Democrat who is running a simple campaign based on ending the deregulation of the electric industry and higher education so we can afford our bills; improving access and affordability of healthcare; and ending “teaching the test” mania destroying our public education system. And it's time to end the unfettered rise of tuition that is pricing a generation out of its future.

Representatives and candidates need us to work hard and urge our friends

to join us in this historic chance for change in Texas.

Ellen Cohen is in a tough race. She is the top champion of women's rights in Texas. We cannot let her down because of any anger with the President or certain members of Congress. We cannot let down



Top to bottom: Bill White, Ellen Cohen, Kristi Thibaut, Gordon Quan and Ann Bennett.

Kristi Thibaut in a heck of a race to keep her seat. And there are so many others.

We have history to be made here in Harris County government. We could sweep 103 posts, including Harris County Judge **Gordon Quan**, Tax Assessor **Dianne Trautman**, County Clerk **Ann Bennett**, and many judgeships.

In fact, sweeping Harris County will shatter glass ceilings unlike anything seen in America. A majority of our candidates are women and minorities whose time has come.

(continued on back page)

Perry Technology Fund Aided Firms with Ties to Donors, Says Dallas Paper

More than \$16 million from Texas' Emerging Technology Fund has been awarded to companies with investors or officers who are large campaign donors to Gov. Rick Perry.

An investigation by *The Dallas Morning News* (DMN) found tech-fund money has been awarded to companies where at least eight **significant** donors are affiliated.

"The governor's office administers the tech fund," says DMN, "and the governor must approve each award – a system that most other states with tech funds avoid to guard against political influence."

While Perry claims he doesn't know if his campaign supporters have financial interests in these companies, a Perry spokesperson said applicants must provide full financial disclosure, including the names of investors.

Here's the worst of the DMN list:

- \$2.75 million to Terrabon Inc., of Houston. Its backers have included Phil Adams, a college bud of Perry's who has given his campaign **\$314,000**.

- \$1.75 million to Gradalis Inc., among whose investors is Dr. James R. Leininger, who contributed more than **\$264,000** to Perry's campaigns.
- \$1.5 million to ThromboVision Inc., a Houston company. One investor was Charles W. Tate, who has donated more than **\$424,000** to Perry.
- \$4.5 million to Convergen Lifesciences Inc., whose founder David G. Nance is a former Perry appointee who has given the governor **\$80,000**.
- \$975,000 to Carbon Nanotechnologies Inc. of Houston. One investor was William A. McMinn, who has contributed **\$152,000** to Perry.

For the detailed DMN article, go to <http://www.dallasnews.com/shared-content/dws/dn/latestnews/stories/100310dntextfmain.2981294.html>

Gubernatorial candidate **Bill White** responded: "After 25 years in political



Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin endorsed Texas Gov. Rick Perry in the March 2 Republican primary race. There's talk about a Perry/Palin ticket for the 2012 presidential election.

office, Perry has demonstrated a pattern of abusing taxpayer trust. He handed out \$16 million in taxpayer dollars to his top campaign contributors.

"Rick Perry takes care of his friends because they take care of him. He's put the governor's office up for sale and the only way to stop this corruption is to elect a new governor," said White.

Bill White's Effective New TV Ad and Great Chance to WIN!

Click to <http://bit.ly/bB845Q> (shortened link) for the Burnt Orange Report with White's new TV ad and why the Belo (Channel 11) poll is so misleading. Phillip Martin says White is "within striking distance" to win the governor's race!



Top 10 Rick Perry Failures

- 1 "What recession?"
- 2 Perry: A bad prescription for children's health
- 3 Perry's political cover-up compromises Texas criminal justice system
- 4 Perry education report card: F
- 5 Perry's stimulus hypocrisy costs Texans
- 6 Perry prices Texans out of a college education
- 7 Perry taking a toll on Texans
- 8 Utility rates out of control
- 9 Homeowners insurance rates skyrocket during Perry's tenure
- 10 Health insurance premiums increase 91.6 percent

Source: <http://www.txdemocrats.org/2009/10/05/top-ten-rick-perry-failures/>

Texas has done well despite Rick Perry, whose calculated political pandering has divided Texans, threatened our progress, and kept Texas from fulfilling its true potential as a national leader.

Texans have paid the price for the "Pay to Play" politics that profits Perry's special-interest cronies, including "Perry Payments" to foreign toll-road operators, a failed deregulation experiment that leaves Texans paying the highest utility rates in the nation and insurance companies that have doubled the price of premiums since Perry took office.

Vote for Bill White for Governor!



Johnson ♦ Rayburn ♦ Richards Dinner

The chief fundraiser for the Harris County Democratic Party, the annual Johnson-Rayburn-Richards Dinner, was held this year on Oct. 8. Speakers included Bill White, candidate for Governor; Gordon Quan, candidate for Harris County Judge; Harris County Commissioner Sylvia Garcia; and Jeff Weems, candidate for Texas Railroad Commissioner. Gov. Tim Kaine, Democratic National Committee Chair, gave enthusiastic keynote remarks. The Meyerland Area Democrats had two tables at the event!



Above photo, l-r, standing: George Atkinson, C.J. Yeoman, Roy Cohen, Rep. Scott Hochberg, Bobby Cohen, Alan Guttman, Jerry Wald. Seated, l-r: Marilyn Litt, Tom Vinson, Sherry Vinson, Diane Scott and William Scott.

Far left photo, l-r: Debby Kerner and Marilyn Litt. Left photo, l-r: Herman Litt and Mark Lee.



Coming Home: Vote Democratic *(continued)*

So we must do the progressive thing here: take out ultra-conservative Rick Perry, elect the 100+ good Democrats in Harris County, save great advocates for the people like Ellen Cohen, Scott Hochberg, Kristi Thibaut, and put in the State House Kendra Yarbrough and many others!

Perry and his friends plan to slash programs for the poor again. Gut food stamps. Slash Medicaid and CHIP. And worse.

Let's save Texas. If you have time, help the Meyerland Area Democrats make calls to help Bill White and the Texas/Harris County ticket. Also, you

can help Organizing For America and Democracy For America make calls to voters in key U.S. Senate and House races we must win to keep the Tea Party out of power.

Too much rides on this election to sit it out. Too much.



Vote a straight Democratic ticket for an excellent slate of statewide candidates:

Governor - Bill White
Lieutenant Governor
 Linda Chavez-Thompson
Attorney General
 Barbara Ann Radnofsky
Commissioner of the General Land Office - Hector Uribe
Commissioner of Agriculture
 Hank Gilbert
Railroad Commissioner - Jeff Weems
Supreme Court Justices
Place 3 - Jim Sharp
Place 5 - Bill Moody
Place 9 - Blake Bailey
Court of Criminal Appeals
Place 6 - Keith Hampton

Did You Know: Texans pay THE HIGHEST homeowners insurance rates in the nation!

Homeowners insurance companies have little oversight in Texas. And until we elect a governor who will fight for Texans – rather than insurance companies – that won't change.

A bill passed in 2003 removed the rate approval requirement by the insurance commissioner. The bottom line is that consumers are now paying more money for less coverage.

To read a story about our high rates click to <http://www.ellen.cohen.org/2010/10/septemberoctober-2010/>

We received this e-mail invitation: "Join former Speaker of the House Tom Craddick and Sarah Davis for lunch:

Tom Craddick
 State Representative, District 82
 invites you to a luncheon honoring

Sarah Davis
 Republican Nominee, State Representative, District 134
Thursday, October 7th, 11:30 a.m.
 La Griglia
 2002 West Grey ★ Houston, Texas"

Who's Next? Tom DeLay?

**Vote for Ellen
 Cohen!**

November 2, 2010 General and Special Elections Early Voting Schedule

Horario para Votar Temprano en las Elecciones General y Especial del 2 de noviembre de 2010

Lịch Trình Bỏ Phiếu Sớm Cuộc Tổng Tuyển Cử và Bầu Cử Đặc Biệt Ngày 2 Tháng 11 Năm 2010

City of Baytown, City of Houston, City of Nassau Bay, City of Spring Valley Village, Channelview Independent School District, Crosby Independent School District, Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District, Houston Independent School District, Huffman Independent School District, Katy Independent School District, Klein Independent School District, North Forest Independent School District, Sheldon Independent School District, Spring Independent School District, Tomball Independent School District, Beechnut Municipal Utility District and Waller-Harris Emergency Services District No. 200

Ciudad de Baytown, Ciudad de Houston, Ciudad de Nassau Bay, Ciudad de Spring Valley Village, Distrito Escolar Independiente de Channelview, Distrito Escolar Independiente de Crosby, Distrito Escolar Independiente de Cypress-Fairbanks, Distrito Escolar Independiente de Houston, Distrito Escolar Independiente de Huffman, Distrito Escolar Independiente de Katy, Distrito Escolar Independiente de Klein, Distrito Escolar Independiente de North Forest, Distrito Escolar Independiente de Sheldon, Distrito Escolar Independiente de Spring, Distrito Escolar Independiente de Tomball, Distrito Municipal de Servicios de Beechnut y Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia del Condado de Waller-Harris Num. 200

Thành Phố Baytown, Thành Phố Houston, Thành Phố Nassau Bay, Thành Phố Spring Valley Village, Khu Học Chánh Channelview, Khu Học Chánh Crosby, Khu Học Chánh Cypress-Fairbanks, Khu Học Chánh Houston, Khu Học Chánh Huffman, Khu Học Chánh Katy, Khu Học Chánh Klein, Khu Học Chánh North Forest, Khu Học Chánh Sheldon, Khu Học Chánh Spring, Khu Học Chánh Tomball, Khu Vực Đô Thị Tiện Ích Công Cộng Beechnut và Khu Vực Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp Waller-Harris số 200

Early Voting Hours of Operation:

October 18th - October 22nd: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 October 23rd: 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
 October 24th: 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
 October 25th - October 29th: 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Horas de Funcionamiento:

18 de octubre - 22 de octubre: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 23 de octubre: 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
 24 de octubre: 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
 25 de octubre - 29 de octubre: 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Giờ Mở Cửa Bỏ Phiếu Sớm:

Ngày 18 Tháng 10 - Ngày 22 Tháng 10: 8:00 sáng - 4:30 chiều
 Ngày 23 Tháng 10: 7:00 sáng - 7:00 tối
 Ngày 24 Tháng 10: 1:00 chiều - 6:00 tối
 Ngày 25 Tháng 10 - Ngày 29 Tháng 10: 7:00 sáng - 7:00 tối

Inside Loop 610 - Adentro del Autopista 610 - Trong Vòng Đại 610

1. Main Office: **Harris County Administration Bldg.**
1001 Preston, 1st Floor, 77002
2. Moody Park: **Moody Park Community Center**
3725 Fulton, 77009
3. Kashmere: **Kashmere Multi-Service Center**
4802 Lockwood Dr., 77026
4. Downtown-East: **Ripley House**
4410 Navigation Blvd., 77011
5. Southeast Houston: **H.C.C.S. Southeast College, Learning Hub**
6815 Rustic, 77087
6. Palm Center: **Justice of the Peace/Constable Entry**
5300 Griggs Road, 77021
7. Astrodome Area: **Fiesta Mart, Inc.**
8130 Kirby Drive, 77054
8. Neartown: **Metropolitan Mutli-Service Center**
1475 W. Gray, 77019

Outside Loop 610 - Afuera del Autopista 610 - Ngoài Vòng Đại 610

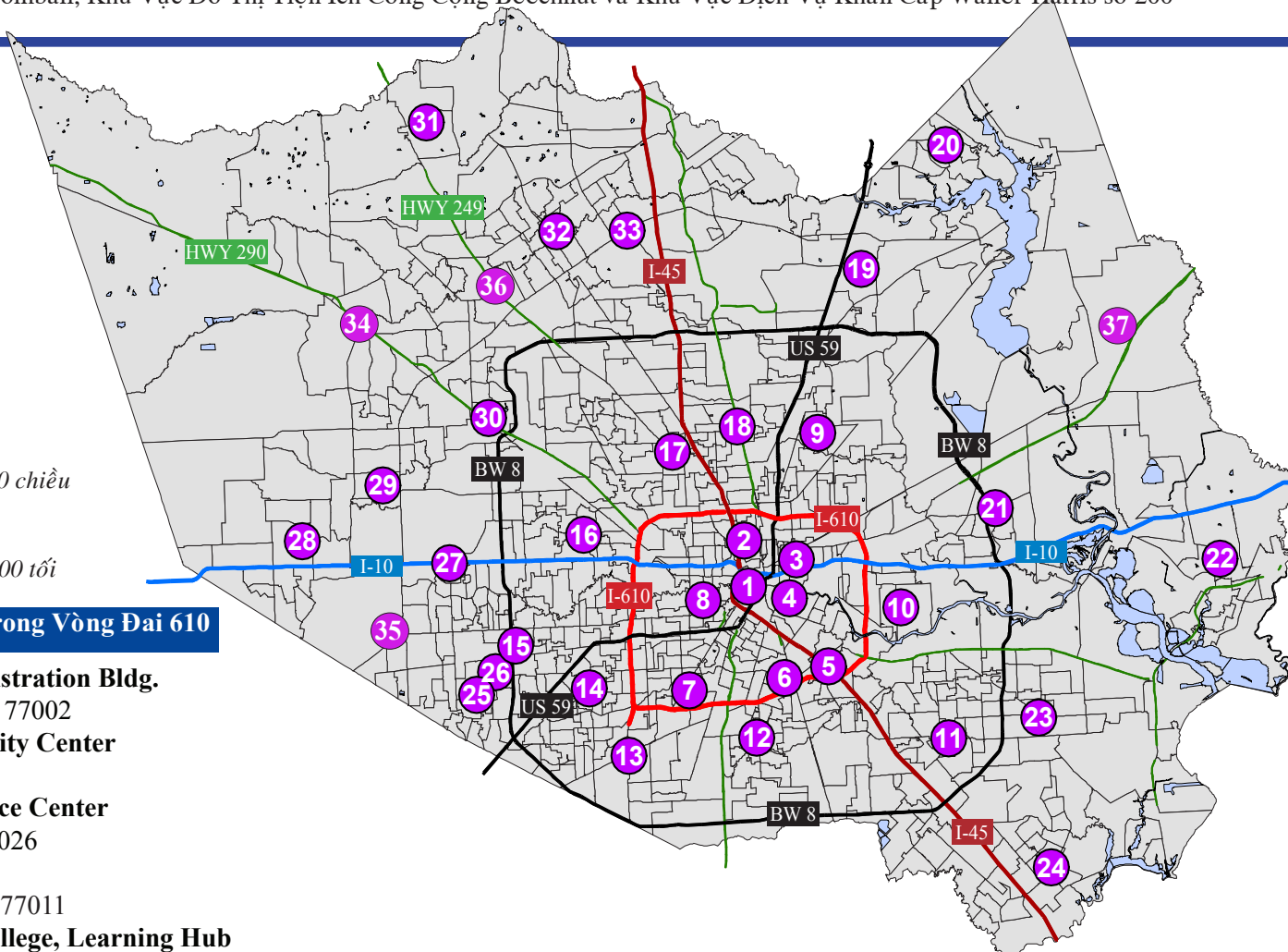
9. Northeast Houston: **Northeast Multi-Service Center**
9720 Spaulding, 77016
10. Galena Park: **Galena Park Branch Library**
1500 Keene Street, Galena Park, 77547
11. Hobby Area: **I.B.E.W. Hall #66**
4345 Allen Genoa Road, Pasadena, 77504
12. Sunnyside: **Sunnyside Multi-Purpose Center**
4605 Wilmington, 77051
13. S. Houston Area: **Townwood Park**
3403 Simsbrook, 77045
14. SW. Houston: **Bayland Park Community Center**
6400 Bissonnet (near Hillcroft), 77074
15. Near West Side: **Tracy Gee Community Center**
3599 Westcenter Drive, 77042
(One block East of Sam Houston Tollway)
16. Spring Branch: **Trini Mendenhall Sosa Comm. Center**
1414 Wirt Road, 77055
17. Acres Homes: **Acres Homes Multi-Service Center**
6719 W. Montgomery Road, 77091
18. North: **Hardy Senior Center**
11901 West Hardy Road, 77076

Outside Beltway 8 - Afuera de la carretera 8 - Ngoài Beltway 8

19. Humble: **Octavia Fields Branch Library**
1503 South Houston Ave., Humble, 77338
20. * Kingwood: **Kingwood Branch Library**
4400 Bens View Lane, Kingwood, 77345
21. Wallisville Road: **North Channel Branch Library**
15741 Wallisville Road, 77049

Outside Beltway 8 - Afuera de la carretera 8 - Ngoài Beltway 8

22. Baytown: **Baytown Community Center**
2407 Market Street, Baytown, 77520
23. Pasadena: **Harris County Courthouse Annex #25**
7330 Spencer Highway, Pasadena, 77505
24. Clear Lake: **Freeman Branch Library**
16616 Diana Lane, 77062
25. Alief: **Henington-Alief Regional Library**
7979 South Kirkwood, 77072
26. West Houston: **Lac Hong Square**
6628 Wilcrest Dr., 77072
27. Far W. Houston: **Nottingham Park**
926 Country Place Dr., 77079
28. Far West/Katy: **Franz Road Storefront**
19818 Franz Road, Katy, 77449
29. Bear Creek: **Bear Creek Park Community Center**
3055 Bear Creek Dr. at Patterson Rd., 77084
30. Jersey Village: **City of Jersey Village-City Hall**
16327 Lakeview Drive, Jersey Village, 77040
31. Tomball: **Tomball Public Works Building**
501 B James St., Tomball, 77375
32. Cypress Creek: **Champion Forest Baptist Church Multi-Purpose Building**
4840 Strack Road, 77069
33. Far North: **Ponderosa Fire Station No. 1**
17061 Rolling Creek Drive, 77090
34. Cypress: **Cypress Top Park**
26026 Hempstead Highway, Cypress, 77429
35. George Bush Park: **Glen Cheek Education Building**
16002 Westheimer Parkway, 77082
36. Lone Star College: **University Park - Visitors Center**
20515 State Hwy 249, 77070
37. Crosby: **Crosby ISD Administration Building**
706 Runneburg Road, Crosby, 77532



* Indicates Change in Location - Indica localidad cambiada
 Đánh dấu sự thay đổi về địa điểm



Beverly B. Kaufman
 Harris County Clerk - Secretaria del Condado de Harris - Thứ Ký Quận Harris

For more information - Para mas información - Để biết thêm chi tiết:
www.harrisvotes.com - 713 - 755 - 6965