

The Houston ^{new} Post

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ADA CASES WOUND GREG ABBOTT

Disabled Attorney General fought against protections — [Christy Hoppe, The Dallas Morning News](#)

Attorney General Greg Abbott, who has said he supports the Americans with Disabilities Act, has tenaciously battled to block the courthouse door to disabled Texans who sue the state. In a series of legal cases in his three terms, Abbott's office has fought a blind pharmacy professor in Amarillo who wanted reflective tape on the stairs to her office; two deaf defendants in Laredo who asked for a qualified sign language interpreter in their courtroom; and a woman with an amputated leg. In that case, the state argued she was not disabled because she had a prosthetic limb.

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HARRIS COUNTY DISTRICT CLERK'S RACE GETS HEATED

GOP primary candidates spar over donations— [Kiah Collier, Houston Chronicle](#)

In a meeting with the Houston Chronicle editorial board on Monday, Harris County District Clerk Chris Daniel's Republican primary opponent, Court Koenning, lambasted the incumbent for donating to the campaign of embattled family court judge Denise Pratt. Pratt's latest campaign finance report, shows Daniel gave her \$400. It is the only contribution listed on the report.

Last fall, after allegations arose that Pratt had backdated court documents, Daniel launched an investigation that led to the resignation of Pratt's lead clerk, a long-time employee of the District Clerk's office.

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ABBOTT TO APPEAR WITH TED NUGENT, FACES BLOWBACK

Nugent has a history of controversy— [Peggy Fikac, San Antonio Express-News](#)

Democrats fired Monday on Attorney General Greg Abbott's decision to have Ted Nugent at campaign events, with some calling on the Republican candidate for governor to cancel the appearances. The pair is expected in Denton and Wichita Falls on Tuesday.

Critics are showcasing incendiary comments the rocker and gun-rights advocate has made about President Barack Obama and women officeholders including Hillary Clinton, and his startling proposals for immigrants who come here illegally.

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GREG ENOS FILES HIS THIRD COMPLAINT AGAINST PRATT

Judge accused of backdating orders— [Kiah Collier, Houston Chronicle](#)

With just days before early voting begins in the GOP primary, Webster family lawyer Greg Enos has filed a third criminal complaint against embattled family court Judge Denise Pratt with the Harris County District Attorney's office.

The complaint, which details one of the 631 cases Pratt dismissed on Dec. 30 and Dec. 31, accuses the freshman Republican judge — who is seeking a second term this year — of backdating an order in open court. It includes sworn affidavits from a couple who say Pratt informed them that she was “backdating this order” and screenshots indicating Pratt signed the order at an April 25 hearing, but dated it March 5.

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DELCO APPOINTED BY LT GOV TO THE ETHICS COMMISSION

Former State Rep is a Democrat—[San Antonio Express-News](#)

Former state Rep. Wilhelmina Delco, a pioneering African-American political figure in Travis County, is the newest member of the Texas Ethics Commission. Delco, who previously served a stint on the ethics commission, was recently tapped by Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst to fill a vacant Democratic appointment on the eight-member panel tasked with policing the state's campaign finance and lobby system.

Dewhurst had been due to replace Paula Mendoza, who left the commission in October to become a regent at the University of Houston System. His office said she was formally appointed about two weeks ago, and Delco made her first appearance on the commission at hearings this week.

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HARRIS COUNTY GOP CHAIR'S RACE DRAWS BIG FIREWORKS

Woodfill challenged by Paul Simpson—[Kiah Collier, Houston Chronicle](#)

The race to head the Harris County Republican Party is about as far down the ballot as you can get. As such, it typically generates neither news nor drama. This time around, however, the contest to decide who will run the largest county Republican Party in the nation has garnered high-profile endorsements, big-money donations and attention in Austin.

The outcome, some say, will indicate where the GOP is headed locally and statewide in both ideology and management style. The intra-party showdown pits 12-year chairman Jared Woodfill, a 45-year-old lawyer born and raised in Clear Lake, against Paul Simpson, 58, who is challenging the incumbent for the third time. Political newcomer Wendy McPherson Berry, 43, also is in the race.

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COMMUNITY PROTESTS SOME HISD TENTATIVE CLOSURES

Quannel X leads the charge—[Kate Morris, Houston Chronicle](#)

Protesters gathered outside the home of the Houston ISD superintendent Sunday to criticize his plan to close five campuses at the end of the school year. About two dozen angry people carried signs and chanted "Terry Grier has got to go," outside the Galleria-area condominium high rise where the superintendent lives.

"He's outlived his usefulness here in Houston," said activist Quannel X, who organized the protest. "Houston no longer has a need for a superintendent like Terry Grier who does not have the best interest of the district's children at heart." The proposal to close the campuses was triggered by declining enrollment and changing demographics in the neighborhoods around Dodson Elementary, Nathaniel Q. Henderson Elementary, Port Houston Elementary, Fleming Middle and Jones High.

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THE DAMNED THIRD PAGE

^{new}
The Houston Post

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH FRACKING?

Lets examine the subject a little closer—Jason Stanford, Austin American-Statesman

The Houston New Post is an exclusive service of We've all seen the clip from the documentary about hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking" in which a guy in *Texpatriate* (www.texpate.com). We strive to bring Parker County ignited the methane coming out of his garden hose. Boy howdy, does that look bad. Surely we you the biggest news, from around the State, every can all agree that anything that turns our drinking water into something you don't want our kids playing with business day. Articles are property of the individualis a bad thing, right?

author and publication, not of the Post. Any opinions

expressed are similarly those of only the author. There's just one problem. The flaming hose trick, like so many of the accusations made against fracking,

While *Texpatriate* will offer editorials and does not hold up to scrutiny. A Parker County judge found that the hose was attached to a gas line, not a

endorsements, the Post will never take sides in an water spigot, "to provide local and national news media a deceptive video, calculated to alarm the public into ongoing dispute or take political positions. believing the water was burning." Opposition to hydraulic fracking has become an act of faith and not reason,

distracting us from the real fight we need to have.

Presented by: *Sophia Arena, Olivia Arena, George Bailey, Luis Fayad, Noah M. Horwitz and Andrew Scott Romo*

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BEST OF THE BLOGS!

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DOS CENTAVOS

["Abbott and Pé"](#)

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["The turnout issue"](#)

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THE EDITOR'S RANT

Noah M. Horwitz

THE PEANUT GALLERY

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Upper limit of 200 words, all submissions will be published!