



QUALIFYING BEGINS TOMORROW

Packed ballots expected across the state

The signup period for candidates who want to be on the November ballot begins tomorrow and ends Friday. Here are a few things to watch for..

- **HIGGINS WILL GET A CHALLENGE:** When every member of your congressional delegation is an incumbent, competitive races are few and far between. Congressman **Clay Higgins**, however, may have a race on his hands. Fellow Republican **Holden Hoggatt** of Lafayette, an assistant district attorney in the 15th JDC, will qualify for the 3rd District race tomorrow. He has assembled a team of seasoned consultants and together they are developing a permission system for Republicans to look elsewhere for leadership. Hoggatt knows his way around the business lobby in Baton Rouge, he's a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association and (much like Higgins did when he was first elected) the prosecutor will run partly on an anti-crime message that he can back up with real world experiences. The incumbent's record on storm recovery will quickly become an issue for the challenger. As for Higgins, the delegation's most modest fundraiser, he has about \$250,000 in the bank — and the power of incumbency. Keep an eye on Acadiana. This race will probably be anything but boring.

- **MAYORAL POLITICS:** Some of the hottest races this fall will involve local mayorships. A big one kicks off today with a planned announcement by Sen. **Greg Tarver** at his Shreveport funeral home, where “once in a while” the senator likes to sleep in a casket, he told KEEL radio in 2019. “A casket is just as comfortable as a bed,” Tarver said. Also running will be former police officer **Tracy Mendels**; incumbent Mayor **Adrian Perkins**; and **Darryl Ware II**, the first African American to graduate from Cornell University with a master’s degree in public health. To the south in Alexandria, another barnburner is building. Former Alexandria Mayor **Jacques Roy** wants his old job back — and will be on the fall ballot. Peabody Magnet High School teacher **Harry Hayes** has announced as well. Incumbent Mayor **Jeff Hall**, a former state representative, decided recently he will seek re-election. You may also want to keep tabs on Rep. **Mike Huval**, who remains undecided on the race for Breaux Bridge mayor and may (or may not) qualify this week.
- **#LaLEGE SPECIAL ELECTIONS:** As noted above, we’ll have to track the legislative seats held by Tarver and Huval during the qualifying period. Additionally, as reported last week, Speaker Pro Tem **Tanner Magee** is running for a Court of Appeals post. Two other special elections this fall for the Senate in New Orleans and Maringouin will likewise pull in a number of candidates from the House, including Reps. **Royce Duplessis**, **Mandie Landry** and **Jeremy LaCombe**. Will any other legislators make the fall ballot? We’ll have to wait and see, but already there could be as many as five special legislative elections emerging from the fall cycle.

Of course, there’s much more to qualifying this week. There’s a U.S. Senate race; several judgeships up for grabs, including a seat on the state Supreme Court; two PSC posts are on the ballot; additional elections for mayor are slated; and there will be several constitutional amendments. To get the real scoop on this cycle, subscribe to www.LaPoliticsWeekly.com.

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A HISTORY OF HOPE

Part II: Seeking True Sovereignty

Throughout the history of the Coushatta people, our citizenship and nationhood have experienced frequent threats, acts of war, violence, oppression and discrimination.

Finally, after three centuries of displacement, we waited for our lands (*KOM-IHANNI WA-CHIUL-KA-TO*). By 1875, more than 250 members of the tribe moved for the last time (*STOH-YA HAA-LA-HIL-KAA-HIK OMMI-TO*) to settle at Indian Village near present-day Kinder, Louisiana. Once established there, the tribe's attention shifted towards establishing lasting sovereignty and prosperity for its people.

In the years following the move to Kinder, we survived hard times (*ACHIH-BAN THO-POH-HILI-TO*). Throughout the early 1900s, the tribe's leaders repeatedly requested that the United States honor its treaties and promises to us. However, in 1953, Congress began terminating all treaties with Indian tribes.

Our tribe was illegally "terminated" without any legislation. So, we started our journey towards re-recognition to cement our place as a sovereign nation with self-governance, regulation and respect for our culture and lands. Once again facing abject poverty, community members came together to form the Coushatta Indians of Allen Parish in 1965 and create a trading post to sell their traditional and highly collectible rivercane and pine-needle baskets.

Coushatta tribal leaders continued to build political alliances and petition the Indian Health Service to reinstate healthcare services for tribal members. We continued to fight for re-recognition and sovereignty into the 1970s.

TO BE CONTINUED...

POLITICAL CHATTER

- **FOLLOWUP STORY:** Last week's issue of www.LaPoliticsWeekly.com focused heavily on next term's races for House speaker and Senate president, and the possibility of an internal election this term for

speaker pro tem. While several candidates were interviewed, there are two new names to add to the mix. Find out who else is in later this week. If you're not a subscriber, [sign up today!](#)

- **IN COURT:** Judge **Donald Johnson** of the 19th JDC has asked for new filings this morning from both sides of the case involving Louisiana's trigger ban on abortions. Some observers expect the judge to issue a ruling this morning on the extension of a temporary restraining order.
- **IDA UPDATE:** Via **@ShannonHeckt**: "We are nearing a year since Hurricane Ida and GOHSEP says there are still 4,500 people in the state trailer program and about 3,800 in the FEMA trailers. There's about 1,700 in FEMA trailers from Laura two years ago."
- **FUNDRAISER:** Sen. **Cleo Fields** has a fundraiser Monday at 6 pm hosted by **Collis Temple** and **Britney Temple** at their home in Zachary.
- **WEDNESDAY CAPITOL MEETINGS:** Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority at 9:30 am in Room 5, Legislative Audit Advisory Council at 1 pm in Room E and Judicial Structure Task Force at 1:30 pm in Room 1...
- **THURSDAY CAPITOL MEETINGS:** Water Sector Commission at 8:30 am in Room 5, Interim Emergency Board at 9:45 am in Room E, Gaming Control Board at 10 am in Room 1, State Bond Commission at 10 am in Room A-B and Commission on Perinatal Care & Prevention of Infant Mortality at 1 pm (no room assigned yet)...
- **APPLICATIONS OPEN:** Louisiana Women Lead is inviting "center and right-of-center women" interested in pursuing elected or appointed office to apply for upcoming fall training. Lead's fall training will take place on Saturday, Oct. 15, from 8 am to 5 pm in Baton Rouge. The deadline for applications is Wednesday, Aug. 31, and accepted trainees will be announced on Monday, Sept. 19. Daycare will be provided for those who may need it. Scholarships and payment plans are available. Apply today by visiting: <https://www.louisianawomenlead.org/apply>.

HEADLINES & BYLINES

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- [The Advocate](#): Gov. **John Bel Edwards** uninvited as honored guest for Belgian event due to his abortion stance
 - [The Washington Post](#): Louisiana judge temporarily extends order blocking abortion ban
 - [Illuminator](#): Peterson pushed Edwards campaign, Democratic Party to work with firms in fraud scheme
 - [CNN](#): Last inmate recaptured after 6 escape from Louisiana juvenile correction center
 - [Plaquemine Post-South](#): Disaster response remains big challenge for Louisiana, Homeland Security director says
 - [The Advocate](#): **Gary Chambers** warns of unsafe abortions in post-Roe America in graphic new online ad
 - [KPLC](#): Louisiana Rural Water Association holds conference in Lake Charles
 - [Shreveport Times](#): Louisiana state senator to kick off Shreveport mayoral campaign from funeral home Tuesday
 - [The Advocate](#): LNG exports shoot up in Louisiana, US in 2022 amid booming demand
 - [AP](#): Louisiana Bailout Fund to Borrow \$600M to Pay Insurer Claims

WHAT YOU MISSED IN LW

Here's what you missed in the latest issue of LaPolitics Weekly, published last week...

- **THE NEXT SPEAKER**: With qualifying for another legislative cycle roughly one year away, and a potential race for pro tem expected in the coming months, jockeying is ongoing — and intensifying — to determine who will become speaker of the House next term...

- **PRO TEM EXPECTATIONS:** Should Speaker Pro Tem **Tanner Magee** win his bid this fall for the Court of Appeals, there are already at least a half dozen candidates in the lower chamber preparing to run for his job in the House leadership — and nearly all of them are first-termers...
- **ELECTION CHATTER:** New names floated for legislative seats in Alexandria and Houma... Campaign manager announcements... A closer look at the money in the U.S. Senate race...
- **LaPOLITICS Q&A:** "Like any fiscal session, we must look at ways to improve our tax structure and make Louisiana's business environment more competitive and conducive for growth," Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association President **Tommy Faucheux** said in last week's Q&A feature. "As our member companies look to invest in new and existing energy technologies, they need to know that there is a fair, predictable business climate in Louisiana. This previous session showed Louisiana's willingness to welcome the future of energy, now we need to turn that willingness into fiscal policy that will encourage companies to invest capital and create jobs."
- **HISTORY:** You probably know about "Every Man A King," the song that brought to life the campaign slogan of **Huey Long**, and you've no doubt heard several renditions of "You Are My Sunshine," which brought fame to **Jimmie Davis**. But what about other campaign songs that were used by former Louisiana governors?
- **THEY SAID IT:** "U.S. Senator Butch Cassidy first robbed the Trump Train and now he's running off with law abiding citizens' 2nd Amendment constitutional rights." —Rep. **Blake Miguez**, on KPEL

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[Our History \(Circa 1812\)](#)

Jefferson, Madison & Louisiana's 1st U.S. Senators

For the first four months after it entered statehood, Louisiana didn't have any representation in the U.S. Senate in Washington. But that changed with the election of **Jean Noel Destréhan** and **Allan B. Magruder**.

Both men took office on Sept. 3, 1812. (That, of course, means we are quickly approaching the 210th anniversary of Louisiana sending representatives to the nation's upper chamber.)

Destréhan, however, actually wanted to be the governor, not a U.S. senator, as Louisiana gained statehood. He even mounted a campaign against our first governor, **C.C. Claiborne**, but placed a distant third.

Eager to be back in Louisiana and obsessed with the governorship, Destréhan served just one month in office before resigning his U.S. Senate seat. That in turn created the state's first ever vacancy in the U.S. Senate, which lasted just seven days before a replacement was appointed.

After abandoning one of the highest offices in the United States, Destréhan chose to become a member of the state Senate and served there for five years while preparing to once again run for governor. He made his second and final bid for the premier post in 1820 — and performed worse on the ballot than he did during his first run.

But his name lives on today. The city of Destrehan, as you may have guessed, was named in honor of his family.

Then there's Magruder. Born in Kentucky, he was likewise a member of the state Legislature, in the House, and practiced law in Opelousas, where he eventually died.

While in Kentucky, Magruder was a celebrated writer and poet. His work was carried by newspapers in the state. In Kentucky, he was also regarded as a historian.

Both Magruder and Destréhan were members of the Democratic-Republican party, which was created by **Thomas Jefferson** and **James Madison**.

Destréhan was actually close with the two American legends and received high-profile appointments during his political career from each.

Magruder's life intersected with the founding fathers as well. While in Kentucky, he wrote an essay entitled "The Character of Thomas Jefferson." Originally published in 1800, the essay was incredibly popular and was reprinted by various outlets until 1803. Jefferson took notice and eventually appointed Magruder as commissioner of lands in the Orleans Territory.

This history feature was made possible by the office of Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin.

SOCIALLY YOURS

ANNIVERSARIES

Sen. **Sharon Hewitt** and **Stan Hewitt** toasted to 40 years together over the weekend... **Kerry Carter** and Rep. **Robby Carter** celebrated 29 years together last week... Rep. **Dodie Horton** and **Gary Horton** did as well, notching 46 years...

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, TRACKERS!

- Tuesday, July 19: Former Congressman **Jerry Huckaby, Andrew Bautsch, David Tatman, Ron Faucheux, Rachel Farmer, Keith Gates** and **Katelin Walker**
- Wednesday, July 20: Late consultant **Norman Jane Sabiston** and **Craig Taffaro**
- Thursday, July 21: **Caroline Roemer**
- Friday, July 22: **JT Hannan, Billy McGoey** and **Clay Fourrier**
- Saturday, July 23: Judge **Fred Jones** and **Kayla Briggs**
- Sunday, July 24: Sen. **Katrina Jackson, Deborah Randolph, Camille Ivy** and **Silas Lee**

- Monday, July 25: **Jenn Ocken, Shala Carlson and Tammy Dupuy Langlois**

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