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**OBITUARIES**

**Catherine Kay Rygiewicz**

**HALTOM CITY** — Catherine Kay Rygiewicz, 53, loving wife of Frank Sr. and loving mother of Frank Jr., passed away on Saturday, Feb. 6, 2010.

**GRAVESIDE SERVICE:** 10 a.m. Tuesday in Bluebonnet Hills Memorial Park, 5725 Colleyville Blvd. Visitation: 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Catherine was born Nov. 13, 1956.

**SURVIVORS:** Sisters, Elaine Chrissikos, Nancy Kindrick; brothers, Gary, Jerry and Lee Weimer; sisters-in-law, Joan and Betty; brothers-in-law, Fred and Floyd Rygiewicz; and numerous other family members.

Bluebonnet Hills Funeral Home  
Colleyville, 817-498-5894

View and sign guestbook at  
[www.star-telegram.com/obituaries](http://www.star-telegram.com/obituaries)

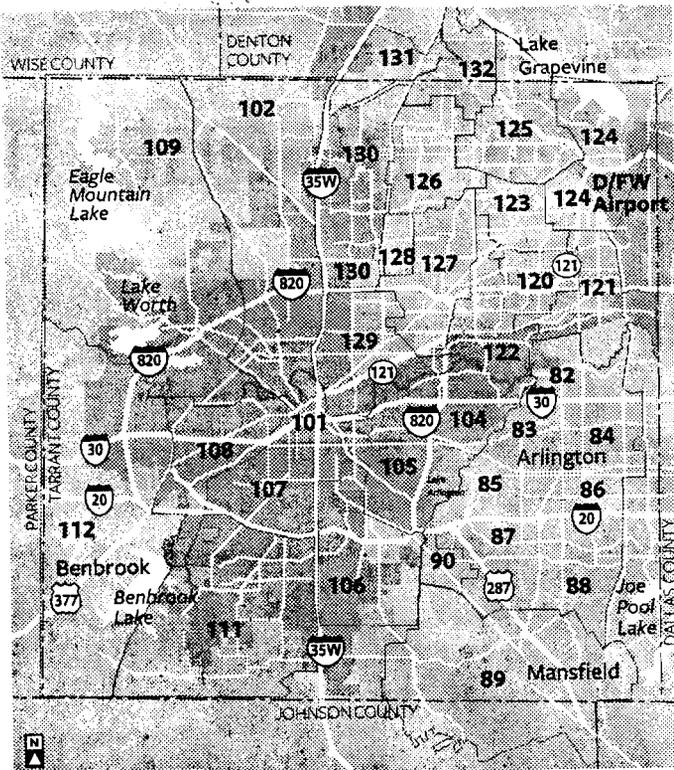
Cathy was a twelve year employee of the City of Euless.

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Map #	Area	Sales	Percent change from year ago	Median price	Percent change from year ago
82	NE Arlington	10	-17	\$186,000	4
83	Central west Arlington	20	-17	\$112,260	-1
84	Central east Arlington	19	59	\$63,790	28
85	Arlington, Dalworthington Gardens, Pantego	24	71	\$134,500	19
86	SE Arlington	9	-10	\$86,200	3
87	Far SW Arlington	19	-32	\$129,000	-9
88	Far SE Arlington	53	-15	\$118,280	12
89	Mansfield	50	22	\$162,000	-6
90	Kennedale	4	300	\$137,500	-61
101	Downtown FW	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
102	Saginaw/north side	61	-10	\$124,750	7
104	East Fort Worth	26	-24	\$82,900	-7
105	SE Fort Worth (Rosedale)	20	25	\$19,750	-3
106	South Fort Worth (Everman/Forest Hill)	18	0	\$42,050	-37
107	Central west and SW FW (TCU)	23	-21	\$82,500	-58
108	Central west FW	31	-6	\$207,250	24
109	FW NW (Eagle Mtn. Lake/River Oaks/Azle)	58	-13	\$118,280	6
111	FW south of I-20 / Crowley	84	25	\$108,870	0
112	Far west FW (Benbrook /White Settlement)	33	-21	\$105,320	5
120	Bedford	18	29	\$164,000	6
121	Euless	13	-28	\$165,300	5
122	Hurst	20	-26	\$108,000	-9
123	Colleyville	18	125	\$437,500	-10
124	Grapevine	20	11	\$250,000	22
125	Southlake	30	88	\$592,500	8
126	Keller	37	37	\$284,000	-1
127	N. Richland Hills/ Richland Hills	39	-9	\$120,000	-11
128	Watauga	16	0	\$101,500	3
129	Haltom City/ Riverside	26	24	\$48,500	-20
130	FW Summerfield/ Park Glen	63	-16	\$142,000	1
131	Roanoke	8	-11	\$159,000	20
132	Trophy Club/ Westlake	11	83	\$313,980	28

January home sales



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## HOUSE DISTRICT 92

# GOP race centers on voter ID bill

**A voice mail that Smith left the Tarrant party chairwoman was leaked to a Web site.**

By AMAN BATHEJA  
abatheja@star-telegram.com

The Republican primary race between state Rep. Todd Smith of Euless and former Bedford Councilman Jeff Cason has turned into a statewide argument over one issue: Smith's failed effort to pass a voter ID bill last year.

As head of the House Elections Committee, Smith took a lead role in maneuvering a bill through the House requiring voters to show photo identification before they cast a ballot. Critics, however, have charged that he worked with Democrats to block a bill from ever coming up for a vote.

The race took an unusual turn Tuesday as a Houston-based news Web site posted a voice mail Smith left on Tarrant County Republican Chairwoman Stephanie Klick's cellphone during last year's legislative session.

The voice mail concerned statements that Klick had made publicly, including on Facebook, regarding the voter ID bill.

Smith told Klick in the message that he was upset she was saying publicly that Smith might allow a provision so that voters could register on the same day they cast ballots. Klick was urging Republicans to contact Smith and oppose that provision.

Smith said Klick's efforts were misinforming Republicans and made it more difficult to pass a bill. He also told her he was following the direction of Republican leaders in Austin.

The message ends with Smith saying, "This is the governor and the lieutenant governor's work, and I'm doing the work of the league of the Republican women,

## District 92 race

District 92 covers Hurst, Euless, Bedford and parts of Arlington, Grand Prairie and Fort Worth. The winner of the Republican primary will face Democrat John Schleiter in November.

## Todd Smith, incumbent



**Age:** 46

**Residence:** Euless

**Occupation:** Head of the Todd Smith Law Firm in Bedford, specializing in civil litigation and personal injury law

**Background:** Smith has represented District 92 since 1997, making him the most senior Republican

in the Tarrant County delegation in the House. He is chairman of the House Elections Committee and serves on the Redistricting and Transportation committees. Before joining the Legislature, Smith was a Euless councilman from 1991 to 1996. He earned a B.A. in political science from Southern Methodist University in 1985 and graduated from the University Of Texas Law School in 1988. He is also on the board of directors of the Hurst-Euless-Bedford Chamber of Commerce.

**How to contact:** www.toddsmithrep.com, 817-684-9400, info@toddsmithrep.com

## Jeff Cason



**Age:** 56

**Residence:** Bedford

**Occupation:** Working in energy sales.

**Background:** Cason served on the Bedford City Council from 2006 to 2009. He has spent most of his career working in sales and marketing and plans to start an energy sales company. In 1976, he

worked for a year as a reserve police officer in Claycomo, Mo.

**How to contact:** www.jeffcason.com, 817-235-7393, jeffcason.com

some of whom are too stupid to realize it and it's pissing me off, so bye."

Klick said she did not know how a reporter with TexasWatchdog.org got the voice mail, though she said she had sent it to some people last year.

When asked whether she was endorsing Cason, Klick said, "I think that his temperament might be a better choice in this particular race."

Traditionally, party chairs remain neutral during primaries. Klick previously endorsed incumbent Kent Grusendorf over chal-

lenger Diane Patrick in the GOP primary for an Arlington state House race in 2004. Patrick beat Grusendorf with 58 percent of the vote.

Smith made no apologies for the voice mail or his approach to voter ID last year.

"When I ran for this office, I didn't promise my constituents that I would never get angry," Smith said. "I promised them I would work hard to do what is right and tell the truth, and I've done that."

Cason condemned Smith's remarks in an e-mail to supporters

Tuesday.

"Now there is another issue that distinguishes us — the decency of debate and respect for Republican women," Cason wrote.

In his e-mail, Cason misquotes Smith's voice mail. Smith accused him of intentionally doing so to make it seem like he had called all Republican women "stupid" when he was only referring to a few activists who were misinforming other Republicans.

Cason said the misquote was an accident.

"It doesn't change the fact that it was not a good thing to say," Cason said.

The House was split last year between 76 Republicans and 74 Democrats, and at least three Republicans were not expected to provide a "yes" vote for a voter ID bill. That meant the bill needed at least some Democratic backing to pass, though most had decided any voter ID measure as disenfranchising voters.

Smith said he was trying to craft a bill that could have garnered the bipartisan support needed to pass. In that effort, he supported delaying implementation of the requirement by up to four years to educate voters about the change.

"It's just insane for anybody to insinuate that I did anything but spend every waking moment of that legislative session trying to pass the best voter ID bill that I could," Smith said.

Cason said Smith's support for a delay was a ploy to give Democrats time to get the bill repealed before it went into effect. "To delay its implementation by four years or even two years is not logical or reasonable," Cason said.

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## THE ECONOMY

# Sales tax revenue falls a bit in Tarrant

## December sales tax revenue

City	Percent change
Arlington	-1.42%
Bedford	-0.95%
Benbrook	-16.61%
Blue Mound	69.91%
Colleyville	-3.11%
Crowley	-10.15%
Dalworthington Gardens	14.48%
Edgecliff Village	6.41%
Euless	-8.10%
Everman	-19.24%
Forest Hill	-0.85%
Fort Worth	-0.24%
Grand Prairie	21.41%
Grapevine	10.32%
Haltom City	-8.96%
Haslet	-20.09%
Hurst	-7.07%
Keller	-9.31%
Kennedale	-27.34%
Lake Worth	-5.35%
Lakeside	16.64%
Mansfield	-5.85%
North Richland Hills	-6.28%
Pantego	-22.41%
Pelican Bay	160.40%
Richland Hills	-21.57%
River Oaks	-7.36%
Saginaw	-11.95%
Sansom Park	-7.15%
Southlake	8.58%
Watauga	-1.41%
Westlake	-28.41%
Westworth Village	-0.64%
White Settlement	-41.29%
<b>County total</b>	<b>-0.63%</b>

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## MARKET WATCH

Feb. 11, 2010

# CompUSA(R) Opening Three New Stores Featuring "Retail 2.0"

**Retail Chain Expands into New Markets with Rich Customer Experience**



**COMPUSA**

MIAMI, Feb 11, 2010 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- CompUSA(R) today announced the opening of three new retail stores: Houston, TX, Newark, DE, and Euless, TX. These new openings make a total of 32 CompUSA stores in the United States and Puerto Rico, each complete with "Retail 2.0(R)," CompUSA's powerful new shopping method.

"CompUSA is thrilled to be opening new stores in these markets," said Gilbert Fiorentino, Chief Executive of the Systemax Technology Products Group, which includes CompUSA. "We look forward to providing shoppers not only with great deals on computers, HDTVs, components, and other consumer electronics, but offering them the chance to experience a completely new approach to retail shopping with Retail 2.0."

All three stores are fully integrated with Retail 2.0, CompUSA's pioneering concept which empowers shoppers by placing the internet at arms' reach on nearly 300 screens throughout the store, from laptops to desktops to HDTVs. With a single touch, consumers can access full product information including image galleries, product manuals, customer reviews, price comparisons, compatible products available in-store, and even video demonstrations. Customers are also free to browse competitor sites and comparison shop as if they were in the comfort of their own home or office.

The Houston, TX CompUSA is open for business at 9714 Katy Freeway, Bunker Hill, TX 77055.

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The Newark, DE store is located at 106 Geoffery Drive, Newark, Delaware 19713 and will be opening in mid February.

The store in Euless, TX is at the Shops at Vineyard Village at State Highway 121 North, Euless, TX 76039 and will also open in the next few weeks.

Visit <http://www.CompUSA.com> for more information.

### About CompUSA

The CompUSA companies (<http://www.compUSA.com>) serve the needs of both personal and business computer users, selling consumer electronics, computers, digital media technology and peripherals via retail stores, business-to-business and Internet channels. The CompUSA companies are subsidiaries of Systemax Inc. /quotes/comstock/13\*!syx/quotes/nls/syx (SYX 17.07, +0.29, +1.73%).

### About Systemax Inc.

Systemax Inc. (<http://www.systemax.com>), a Fortune 1000 company, sells personal computers, computer supplies, consumer electronics and industrial products through a system of branded ecommerce web sites, direct mail catalogs, relationship marketers and retail stores in North America and Europe. The primary brands are TigerDirect, CompUSA, Circuit City, Misco, WStore and Global Industrial.

SOURCE: Systemax Inc.

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#### INTERNATIONAL BRIEFS

##### Cyclone slams into Tonga

**TONGA** — Northern and central Tonga are being slammed by Cyclone Rene today, with powerful winds ripping off roofs, tearing down trees and power lines, and cutting communications with the capital. "We don't know the extent of the damage right now, though there are no reports of serious damage or injuries," said Mali'u Takai, deputy director of the National Disaster Office. The storm missed both American Samoa, a U.S. territory, and the neighboring island nation of Samoa on Saturday.

— The Associated Press

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## BRIEFS

### Couple found shot to death

**EULESS** — A man and a woman were found shot to death Sunday afternoon in their apartment in a case that investigators are describing as a murder-suicide, police said. The couple, who were not identified pending notification of relatives, were found by a neighbor, police said. The bodies were found at about 5 p.m. in the 1000 bloc<sup>t</sup> of East Ash Lane. When officers arrived, the couple appeared to have died of gunshot wounds, police said. Autopsies are scheduled by the Tarrant County medical examiner's office to determine an exact cause of death. Investigators remained at the scene Sunday night, continuing their investigation.

— Domingo Ramirez Jr.

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 Magazine  
 American Way



# Identity Crisis

What's in a nickname? A lot, apparently. Tourism professionals are paying big bucks for slogans they hope will draw new visitors, residents, and industry to their cities.  
 By Ken Parish Perkins

PEOPLE TEND TO ACT JUST A LITTLE, well, *freer* than usual when they visit Las Vegas. That phenomenon may be due in part to the brilliant work of a few ad professionals at R&R Partners, who coined Las Vegas's oft-repeated slogan, "What Happens Here, Stays Here," in 2001. Whether or not there's much truth behind the city's catchphrase, it was credited with giving Vegas's tourism industry a badly needed boost.

Whether you're "Always Turned On" when you visit Atlantic City or you really do believe that "Cleveland Rocks!" city slogans help identify or even create what's unique about a city in order to lure in tourists, industry, and new residents, as well as to garner press,

like in the case of Las Vegas, which used its slogan to obliterate the family-friendly image it pushed throughout the 1990s. Slogans have become so vital to the branding effort of cities that want to set themselves apart that big money is being sunk into developing identities and making emotional connections, according to Eric Swartz, president of Tagline Guru, a branding firm based in San Mateo, California. Not every campaign, however, is as successful as Las Vegas's. Baltimore, for example, forked over half a million dollars to a San Francisco firm to come up with "Get In On It." But some advertising executives criticized it, saying it could too easily be misread as "Get It On." Washington state's "SayWA" campaign cost \$200,000 to develop, only to be scrapped after it received overwhelmingly negative feedback from Washington residents. In-

dianapolis had hoped to play off the city's Indy 500 race with "Restart Your Engines"; alas, the state of Indiana had already used it. Instead, the city settled on "Raising the Game." The price tag: \$400,000.

Smaller cities have spent up to \$100,000 on consultants, focus groups, trademark research, and prototyping to come up with something cool and snazzy. That number can soar even higher with the implementation of a brand campaign that covers everything from street banners and government vehicles all the way down to letterheads and stationery.

And it's all worth it, claims Swartz, who has been a branding strategist for 30 years. An effective slogan, he says, is like urban renewal but without the headache of having to push through a pricey, often divisive bond measure.

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 MAGAZINE American Way

"Good ones won't build your brand overnight, but they will get you attention," he says. "It's all a matter of how you're perceived."

The problem is, of course, that not all slogans cut into popular culture as well as Las Vegas's managed to do. For every "What Happens Here, Stays Here," half a dozen others hit with a rather loud thud. Seems that it's harder than you think to come up with clever, clear, sensible slogans that also connect to a city's core identity.

Don McEachern, CEO of North Star Destination Strategies, a company that contracts with cities to conduct identity campaigns, says municipalities large and small struggle to find effective ways to market themselves, because a message that attracts tourists might not be the best way to attract new residents, which, in turn, might not be the best way to lure business.

"Cities are complex in that they often have to serve a number of masters," McEachern says. "There's economic development wanting companies to set up shop; the tourism and convention people wanting to book hotel rooms; and the mayor, who wants to put his own stamp on the city. But it's marketing, not a popularity contest. You have to create something, knowing that not everyone will applaud. That's why most of [the campaigns] aren't very good or very effective. Or, they're outdated."

When tiny Wenatchee, Washington, began losing its apple orchards, the city dumped "Apple Capital of the World" for "Wenatchee. Meeting Rivers. Meeting Friends. Meeting Needs." One perturbed resident complained in a local newspaper survey that it sounded "more like an outreach program than a city."

"You want something indicative of who you are, not what someone else is," Swartz says. "The worst, ineffective slogans play off common themes. Effective ones have depth and dimension. The Las Vegas slogan is good because it has double meaning and a sense of irony. It's funny. It has edge, an attitude. An appealing slogan tells a story while promising an experience that can't be duplicated anywhere else."

Swartz praises Gulfport, Mississippi's "Where Your Ship Comes In" because it says exactly what the city is known for. He also likes Havre, Montana's "Get 'Er Done"

for its use of vernacular and its expression of a unified work ethic. Omaha, Nebraska's former slogan, "Rare. Well Done," which paid homage to the city's meatpacking industry, was another of his favorites.

Swartz says ho-hum slogans are the ones that make you ask "and?" He points to Louisville, Kentucky's "We've Got It" (got what?); Lyons, Kansas's "The Unexpected Pleasure" (which is?); and Wichita, Kansas's "We Got the Goods" (and which goods would that be?).

Slogans can also help boost civic pride by teaching residents history lessons or reminding them about the great things that lie in their own backyard. Some slogans express the frustrations of a city that has long been underappreciated or feels compelled to divert attention from a single identifier, such as Roswell, New Mexico's slogan, "The Aliens Aren't the Only Reason to Visit."

There are fun ones (Montreal, Quebec's "The More You Kiss, the Frencher It Gets"), cute ones (Walla Walla, Washington's "The Town So Nice They Named It Twice"), and clever ones (Euless, Texas's "Simply FabEuless").

Another pet peeve of Swartz's is when cities want to be known as the "capital" of something. Salem, Oregon, is "The Cherry City," and Castroville, California, is the "Artichoke Center of the World." Sumner, Washington, is "Rhubarb Pie Capital of the World," while Knik, Alaska, claims to be "The Dog Mushing Center of the World." Colville, Washington, couldn't claim its honor globally, so instead it went with "The Wild Turkey Capital of the Pacific Northwest."

Hereford, Texas, stakes a claim of a different, more hygienic sort. Its "Town Without a Toothache" slogan touts the city's low rate of dental decay, which is attributed to natural fluorides in the water. Some cities find that their slogans outlive their usefulness, which explains why St. Louis, Missouri, dumped "There's More Than Meets the Arch" for "St. Lou Is All Within Reach." The switch was part of a \$600,000 campaign to unify a metro area that often finds the city and county at odds with each other.

Others give up on the slogan idea entirely. Houston, Texas, for example, discarded a number of slogans — "Houston Proud" was too ho-hum; "Houston Hot" emphasized the city's uncomfortable humidity; and the play off its Space Center component, "Space City: A Space of Infinite Possibilities," didn't fly, either — before city officials coughed up \$3 million for the "My Houston" media campaign, which features celebrity natives like Beyoncé Knowles and former President George H. W. Bush delivering earnest testimonials of how great the city is.

Fortunate cities like Las Vegas may never have to worry about running out of aspects to play off of. In 2007, tourism officials there added to its "What Happens Here, Stays Here" line another zinger that manages to remain true to the city's racy roots: "Your Vegas Is Showing." It's just what Swartz likes in a slogan: It's succinct. It's edgy. And, in this case, it's undeniably Vegas. <sup>AW</sup>

KEN PARISH PERKINS is a writer based in Arlington, Texas.

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EULESS | CRIME

## Murder-suicide likely in deaths

**A woman and her boyfriend were found dead in their apartment on Valentine's Day.**

**By DOMINGO RAMIREZ JR.**  
ramirez@star-telegram.com

EULESS — K'Lynn Low hinted on her Facebook page about a problem with her boyfriend.

On Dec. 30, Low, who identified herself as K'Lynn Tucker, wrote: "Y is it my bf can get mad at me and act like an a----- but I can't."

On Valentine's Day, the 31-

year-old nurse and her boyfriend, Jeffrey Meekins, 34, were found dead in their Euleless apartment in what police described as a murder-suicide.

Low was shot in the head, and her death was a homicide, the Tarrant County medical examiner's office's Web site reported Monday. The office had not ruled on Meekins' death, authorities said.

A small handgun was found in the apartment in the 1000 block of East Ash Lane, but no

note was found, Euleless police Lt. John Williams said Monday.

Meekins' and Low's bodies were found on the living room floor, and the two were pronounced dead at 5:05 p.m. Sunday, according to the medical examiner's Web site.

Officers had never been called to the apartment before, Williams said.

On her Facebook and MySpace pages, Low sounded happy in recent days.

On Wednesday, she wrote on her Facebook page: "All my friends have been so good 2 me.:). U Rock! All of U."

The next day during the record snowfall, Low wrote: "Thank u Jesus for this beautiful snow. Pls help the Dallasians to drive in it."

Meekins indicated that he liked her statement about the snow and Dallas drivers.

Euleless police said people heard from the couple Saturday, and Low wrote on her MySpace page Sunday.

The bodies were found by a neighbor's child who had come to the apartment to play with one of Low's children, Williams said. Low had two children, but they were away for the weekend, police said.

"The boy found them and contacted management, who called us," Williams said.

Police canvassed the neighborhood, but they didn't find anyone who had heard anything.

**DOMINGO RAMIREZ JR.,**  
817-390-7763

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DAYTIME TV

# Daily buzz

By DAVID MARTINDALE  
Special to the Star-Telegram

Kimberly Matula was just a kid growing up in Bedford when she caught the acting bug.

"I was 11 or 12," she says. "Acting was something I had never really thought about. But my best friend at the time had a video camera. One day she said, 'Hey, wanna make a movie?'"

So they did it. They wrote a script, filmed it themselves, acting all the parts — and they enjoyed themselves so much that, for several years to come, they kept making little movies.

"These were really dumb movies," Matula says. "Like *Titanic: The Christmas Musical*. I'm not kidding! We wrote our own songs, all to the tunes of Christmas songs. Really silly stuff."

But from that titanic filmmaking disaster, a budding show-business career was born.

"It became something I got so attached to and loved so much," Matula says. "I was like, 'This is what I want to do with my life.'"

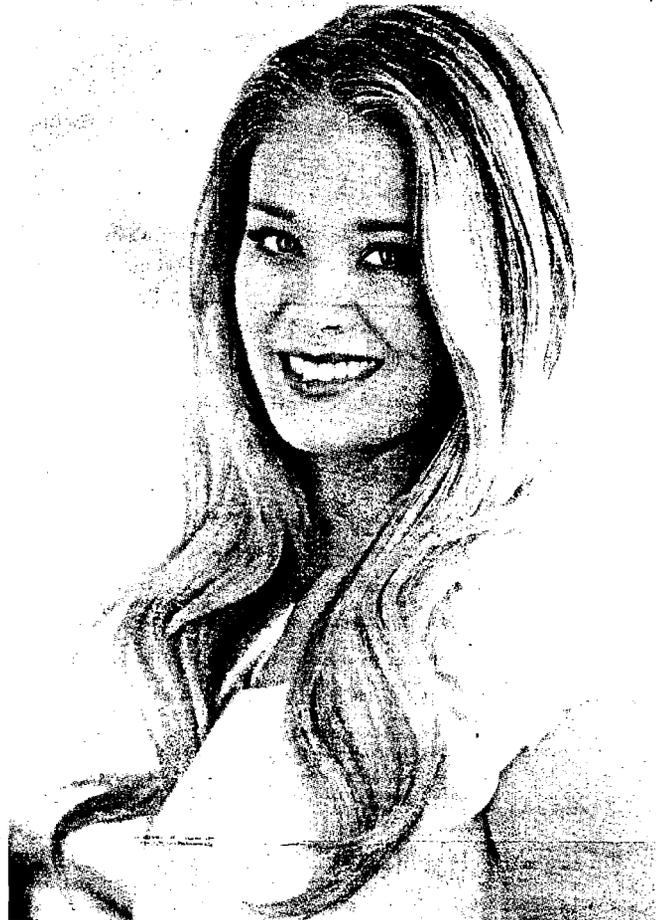
And on Monday, Jan. 11, a few minutes after 12:30 p.m. Central Standard Time, during a telecast of CBS' *The Bold and the Beautiful*, it was proclaimed to the world that she had indeed made it:

"The role of Hope Logan is now being played by Kimberly Matula," the show's announcer said.

Twelve momentous words in the life of a young actress.

"I got a lot of text messages

Kimberly Matula's  
'Bold' move west has  
paid off handsomely —  
and rather quickly



Kimberly Matula worked for the Kim Dawson Agency and attended UTA.

Kim was an employee of the Raven's Grille at Texas Star prior to going to Hollywood.

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from friends and family that day," she says. "Most of them saying just that: 'The role of Hope Logan is now being played by Kimberly Matula.' It was so exciting."

Matula — born in Fort Worth, raised in Bedford since age 8 and a 2006 graduate of Euless Trinity High School — is playing the 17-year-old daughter of Brooke (original cast member Katherine Kelly Lang).

The funny thing about playing Hope as a teenager is that the character was born in a 2002 episode and, in the blink of an eye, aged more than 10 years.

"So basically a little girl in ringlets goes up the stairs and about a year later she comes back down as me," Matula says. "They have a term for it in soap operas: SORAS. It means Soap Opera Rapid Aging Syndrome. I'm not kidding. It's so funny. It's a storytelling technique that is totally accepted by viewers."

Because Hope is a teenage girl, she hasn't been thrown into any steamy romance scenes opposite 30-something co-stars. "At least not right away," says Matula, who's 21. "We're taking it slow." But she is signed on for three years, so there's no telling what kind of shenanigans she might eventually get into.

"I've already got some fun story lines, and I can't wait for people to see it," she says. "And as far as the next few years go, I am so excited to see what they throw at me. I'm sure it's going to be great."

It certainly tops what she was do-

ing before she hooked up with *B&B*, as she calls the show.

"I was so happy when I booked this," Matula says, "because it meant I wouldn't have to wait tables anymore."

Not that she can justifiably complain much about the requisite struggling-actor period of her life. Compared to many of her peers, those who toiled for years before getting their big breaks, as well as those who still are hoping to break through, Matula qualifies as an overnight success.

Actually, it took her 10 months.

She moved to Los Angeles at the end of January 2009, invited by a friend who was looking for a roommate, and her first day of taping on *The Bold and the Beautiful* was Nov. 19.

"It was surprisingly pretty easy, only a two-audition process," she says. "I had actually auditioned for *The Young and the Restless* just a couple of weeks before auditioning for *The Bold and the Beautiful*. For *Y&R*, it was like five or six auditions, a very long process. So I went in for *B&B* and it was only two auditions and, when I had it, I was like, 'Wow, that was much easier than I expected!'"

What wasn't easy was the long wait that followed taping Matula's first couple of episodes. Nearly eight weeks passed before her *B&B* debut made it onto the airwaves.

Truth be told, though, that was harder on her family and friends. Her parents are David and Karin Matula

of Bedford. He has his own business, a backyard water-design contracting company called Waterfalls Over Texas; she works for the Gladney Center for Adoption.

"Everyone kept telling me, 'I'm watching the show now, I'm watching the show,'" Matula says. "They

were getting just a little impatient maybe. But at least it gave them the chance to figure out who the characters were and what they were like before I got on. So I guess that was a good thing."

Matula, meanwhile, was getting impatient for a different reason.

"My first episode filmed right before Thanksgiving," she says. "I worked at the very end of the week. Then we had two weeks off for Thanksgiving. So I got to work and then immediately had to stop. Then we went back for two weeks and then three weeks off for Christmas. So I kept getting so antsy, because I was kept having vacation time when I desperately wanted to be working."

Before Matula took that leap of faith and moved to L.A. last year, she was with the Kim Dawson Agency in Dallas, booking various Texas-based acting jobs while half-heartedly attending classes at the University of Texas-Arlington.

"I had taken three semesters at UTA," she says, "and they kept failing me. Weird, right? But it was because I kept booking jobs. So I wasn't going to class."

Eventually, she knew it was time to go west, time to take a chance.

"I had been thinking about coming to L.A. for about a year before I actually moved," Matula says. "Finally, I decided, 'If I don't do it now, my only reason is that I'm just too scared,' which isn't a good reason. So I did it. And it was the best decision I ever made. Now I'm doing what I love to do every day."



On *The Bold and the Beautiful* set, from left, Ronn Moss, Katherine Kelly Lang and Kimberly Matula

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Of her role as Hope Logan on *The Bold and the Beautiful*, Kimberly Matula says, "I've already got some fun story lines, and I can't wait for people to see it."

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## OBITUARIES

### Scott Alan Hadley



**COLLEYVILLE** — Scott Hadley went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2010.

**FUNERAL:** 2 p.m. Saturday at First United Methodist Church of Colleyville. Interment: Bear Creek Cemetery. Visitation: 6 to 8 p.m. Friday at Lucas Funeral Home, Hurst.

**MEMORIALS:** In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Memorial College Fund of Julianne and Paul Hadley, at Wells Fargo in Colleyville.

Scott was born May 20, 1961, to Jean and Ron Hadley in El Paso. He graduated from Texas Tech in 1986 in the School of Architecture; this is where Scott met the "love of his life," his wife of 23 years, Kathy. Scott worked as an architect for 23 years and enjoyed hobbies of volunteering with Paul's Cub Scout troop and spending time with his family. He was a loving husband, dedicated father, son, brother and friend.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Russell Hadley; and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. George Schalkhauser.

**SURVIVORS:** Loving wife, Kathy Hadley; daughter, Julianne Hadley; son, Paul Hadley; mother, Jean Hadley; father and stepmother, Ron and Peggy Hadley; brother, Ross Hadley; half sister, Stephanie Ramos; stepbrother, Lance McGuire; and several nieces and nephews.

Lucas Funeral Home  
 Hurst, 817-284-7271

View and sign guestbook at  
[www.star-telegram.com/obituaries](http://www.star-telegram.com/obituaries)

Scott worked with Byron Folsie on projects here in Euless.

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## Opinion

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY | HURST-EULESS-BEDFORD

# GETTING ELECTED TRUMPS TRUTH AND A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

**A Texas House hopeful from Bedford attacks Rep. Todd Smith's character and betrays his own.**

Jeff Cason's view of what a legislator does is black and white: "You're either working for the Republicans or you're working for the Democrats. There is no in-between."

That makes it easy. Everybody shows up in Austin with either an R or a D stamped on their forehead. If the Rs have an elected majority, they win every vote. Same for the Ds. The only exceptions would be if the elected majority party has only a slim margin and some of its members aren't present when a vote is taken.

There's no bipartisan action, no individual initiative. There's even no need for any individual legislator to know what he or she is doing.

On the details of every issue that Cason claims as his own, he admits he knows nothing.



MIKE NORMAN  
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He pushes hot-button issues but plans to figure them out later.

"Once elected, the books will be open and I will be able to see them," he told me. As if it is too much for voters to expect that he would have looked into the issues enough to have some clue as to how to approach them.

Cason, 56, wants to unseat seven-term incumbent Todd Smith of Eules in the Repub-

lican primary for Texas House District 92. The winner will face Democrat John Schleiter in the Nov. 2 general election.

Cason served three years on the Bedford City Council, where us-and-them politics reigns supreme. He did not seek re-election last year. He also served a one-year stint as a reserve police officer in Claycomo, Mo.

As overwhelming as his lack of depth is, it's not the most disturbing thing about his campaign. Worse is his concerted attack on Smith's honor and integrity. It goes beyond mud-slinging politics, beyond negative campaigning. It's a deliberate plan to eviscerate a long-serving Republican officeholder and toss the carcass aside.

"Todd Smith betrayed Texas," says Cason's campaign literature about his opponent's work on a voter ID bill last

year. That's not a statement of disagreement on public policy or political philosophy. It's not even saying that Smith failed to do the right thing. It's calling Smith a knowing traitor to the state he was elected to serve.

It's just one example of Cason's character assassination campaign.

As chairman of the Elections Committee, Smith had the task of shepherding a voter ID bill through a House divided 76-74 between Republicans and Democrats. Most Republicans strongly favored it, most Democrats strongly opposed it, so its fate rested with moderates in both parties.

The bill did not become law. Anyone is entitled to blame Smith for that. He says he worked exhaustively to craft a bill that moderates would support. Near the end of the session, Democrats engaged in never-before-used

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tactics to block House consideration of voter ID.

"Todd's stalling tactics worked," says Cason's literature. Cason expounded in an interview, "He stalled it intentionally."

"I can't say that," says Rep. Betty Brown, R-Terrell, a member of the Elections Committee and perhaps the staunchest voter ID advocate in the House. "He certainly handled it in the worst way possible."

Being wrong is not the same as being a traitor.

So how would Cason handle it? A strict photo ID required before anyone can vote, he says. Even Brown has backed away from that, as did the Senate. They would allow voting on the basis of two non-photo forms of ID.

Cason also wants:

■ "Meaningful property tax decreases" and a 5 percent or even 3 percent cap on apprais-

al increases. How? "A lot more work has to go into that."

■ "Greater efficiency in government." What to cut? See above.

■ "Truth in budgeting," meaning end the diversion of transportation funds. Where else to get the \$1.1 billion that supports the Department of Public Safety? Not sure.

■ End the "margins tax" on businesses. That leaves an \$8.7 billion hole in the budget. How to fill it? Figure it out later.

A candidate who is willing to say anything for votes and can't back promises with concrete plans is not an asset to good government.

He's just an opportunist and a panderer.

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