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# H BIG SPRING HERALD

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2016



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## Candidates: Go slow on new Court nominee

**By STEVE REAGAN**  
 Staff Writer

Candidates for the Texas District 19 House of Representatives have put their support behind Republican efforts to impede President Obama from quickly naming a new Supreme Court justice.

The recent death of Justice Antonin Scalia during an election year has made the matter of naming some-

one to the High Court a hot-button issue. The president has said he plans to nominate a replacement in short order, while Senate Republicans, led by Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, have vowed to block or at least impede any Obama nominee prior to the November general election.

Replacing Scalia, a noted conservative and

See **COURT**, Page 3



Arrington      Starr



**Lubbock Mayor Glen Robertson, Republican candidate for the Texas District 19 congressional seat being vacated by Randy Neugebauer, addresses the Kiwanis Club of Big Spring during its weekly meeting Thursday.**

## Challenger files for District 5 council race

Deadline to declare for city, ISD, college elections is 5 p.m. today, officials say

**By STEVE REAGAN**  
 Staff Writer

Big Spring's municipal elections this year will feature a full slate of contested races.

On the eve of the candidate filing deadline, the final uncontested city

race gained a challenger.

Becky Winters, a local business owner, filed her candidacy Thursday to challenge incumbent Raul Benavides for the District 5 seat on the Big Spring City Council, said Tami Davis, assistant city secretary.

In the other municipal race, voters will decide between incumbent Larry McLellan and Shannon Thomason in the mayoral election.

Persons interested in running for either of the two city posts have until 5 p.m. today to file the necessary

paperwork. Candidacy papers can be obtained in Davis' office at city hall. Both positions are for three-year terms. Candidates must be Big Spring residents, although persons running

See **RACE**, Page 3

## Official out after Planned Parenthood study

The Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — A top Texas health official is stepping down after co-authoring a study that drew strong backlash from Republican leaders for suggesting that cuts to Planned Parenthood are restricting access to women's health care statewide.

Rick Allgeyer, director of research at the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, was facing possible discipline for the study published this month in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. He was eligible for retirement and will leave in March, agency spokesman Bryan Black said Thursday.

Black said that Allgeyer — who has worked in Texas government for more than 20 years — broke policy by working on the study on taxpayer time. Other co-authors included one of Allgeyer's subordinates at the health commission, University of Texas researchers and an Austin attorney who represented Planned Parenthood in lawsuits over being excluded from the program the study examined.

*Republicans who were behind Planned Parenthood's ouster rebuked the study and have demanded that Texas Health Commissioner Chris Traylor explain why Allgeyer and another state employee were involved.*

should have never been putting in time on this study during the normal business day, he was paid to perform state business," Black said in an email.

Published in one of the nation's most prominent medical journals, the study found that fewer women in Texas have obtained long-acting birth control, such as intrauterine devices, after the GOP-controlled Legislature barred the nation's largest abortion provider from a state women's health program in 2013. Births paid for under Medicaid also increased among some women.

Republicans who were behind Planned Parenthood's ouster rebuked the study and have demanded that Texas Health Commissioner

Chris Traylor explain why Allgeyer and another state employee were involved. Black did not address the status of Imelda Flores-Vazquez, a program specialist, who worked under Allgeyer and joined the agency in 2014. Black said neither state employee told superiors they were working on the study, which Black has said was a violation at the 55,000-person agency.

Allgeyer did not immediately return a phone message seeking comment.

Leading the backlash to the study is Republican state Sen. Jane Nelson, a powerful state budget-writer and architect of Texas' current women's health program. She dismissed the findings as biased and invalid, in part because the research was funded by the nonprofit Susan T. Buffet Foundation, which is a major supporter of Planned Parenthood and other abortion rights groups.

Nelson has said the study ignored other state health services for women and says more Texas women filed claims for long-acting contraceptives in 2014 than 2012, when Planned Parenthood was still part of the state program. She wrote a letter to Traylor last week that ordered his agency to review the study and provide an analysis on Medicaid births.

## C-City park events geared toward youth

**By JULIE BASS**  
 Staff Writer

COLORADO CITY — Lake Colorado City State Park will be very busy for the next two weekends for children and their families.

On Saturday, the park will host an animal tracking class called Track and Sign in the morning and that evening will be All Around the Campfire.

The Track and Sign class will take place from 10 a.m. until noon and will teach children what animals are in the area and how to spot their tracks.

All Around the Campfire will be filled with campfire games and songs. Park rangers will tell stories, educate, and entertain from 6-8 p.m.

"If you would like to cook s'mores or hot-dogs while we tell stories, you can bring your own," stated a press release from Lake Colorado City State Park.

There will be history about gathering around a fire, learning about different ways to cook on a campfire and Kent Ivey will talk about how to make an adobe cowboy camp stove.

"Kent teaches some great ways how early pioneers used basic things to create

See **PARK**, Page 3



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## Obituaries

## Stella Pherigo

Stella Gene Stephens Pherigo, 85, of Big Spring, died Monday, Feb. 15, 2016 in a Midland hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, 2016 at Mt. Olive Memorial Park Chapel with Rev. Alan Matthies officiating.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

She was born June 13, 1930 in Big Spring, Texas and married Floyd E. Stephens June 11, 1949 in Big Spring, Texas. He preceded her in death March 21, 1990.

Genie was a lifelong resident of Big Spring and was a homemaker. She loved being around her family and playing bingo.

## Faith Davila

Faith Roxanne Davila, infant daughter of Alena and Trevor Davila, died Thursday, Feb. 11, 2016, in Dallas. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Pastor Michael Willard, officiating. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

She was born Jan. 12, 2016 in Odessa.

Survivors include one son, Robert Stephens and wife, Cindy of Richardson; five grandchildren, Shannon Stuteville and husband, Tony of Big Spring, E. D. and wife, Stephanie Barnett-Harro of Oregon City, Oregon, Sarah Wait and husband, Kevin of Wylie, Ryan Stephens and wife, Ro of Buda and Jeremy Stephens and fiancé Callie Pruet, of Dallas; and six great grandchildren, Haylea and Garrett Stuteville, Landon Wait, and Adelle, Amelia and Ava Stephens.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, Robert H. Turk and Birtie Lee Petty Turk; and a daughter, Kay Barnett.

The family suggests memorials to the donor's favorite charity.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences may be made at: www.npwelch.com.

Paid Obituary

In addition to her parents, she is survived by her sister: Zenovia Davila of Big Spring; grandparents: Linda Perez of Big Spring and Oscar and Joann Davila of Big Spring; great-grandparents: Thomas and Zenovia Garibay of Arizona and Jose and Sara Davila of Big Spring; and several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com.

## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

• **ANTHONY RAY GARZA**, 31, of 1202 E. 15<sup>th</sup> St. was arrested on warrants for expired registration, two counts of failure to appear and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

• **TERELL HOUSTON**, 23, of 2609 Hunter Dr. was arrested on a charge of manufacture/deliver a controlled substance, more than 4 grams but less than 200 grams.

• **JOHN HENRY GRAYSON JR.**, 51, of 1303 Marijo Ave. was arrested on a warrant from another agency.

• **KENNETH WILLIAM RAWLS**, 24, of 5100 Sterling Rd. was arrested on a charge of assault – family violence, threat or offensive touch.

• **TOM PAUL BOYD**, 42, of 2222 Norwich Ave, Lubbock was arrested on two warrants from other agencies.

• **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 2000 block of S. Main St. and the 5100 block of Sterling Rd.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 2500 block of S. Gregg St. and the 4300 block of N. FM 820.

• **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported at the intersection of 15<sup>th</sup> St. and Birdwell Lane and the intersection of 20<sup>th</sup> St. and Main St.

• **MAJOR ACCIDENT** was reported at the intersection of 24<sup>th</sup> St. and Goliad St.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 100 block of Merrick.

• **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 1000 block of Bluebonnet.

## Sheriff

The Howard County Sheriff's Department reported the following activity:

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 72 inmates at the time of this report.

• **TOM PAUL BOYD**, 42, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for capias – possession of a controlled substance, less than 1 gram and parole violation.

• **ANTHONY RAY GARZA**, 31, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for failure to maintain financial responsibility, expired registration and two counts of failure to appear.

• **JOHN HENRY GRAYSON JR.**, 51, was booked

by the BSPD on a warrant for parole violation.

• **STEVEN GLEN HILDEBRAND**, 47, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of criminal trespassing.

• **TERRELL DEVON HOUSTON**, 23, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of manufacture/deliver a controlled substance, more than 4 grams but less than 200 grams.

• **BEN LOPEZ OLIVO**, 41, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for motion to revoke probation – criminal mischief, more than \$50 but less than \$500.

• **KENNETH W. RAWLS**, 24, was booked by the HCSO on a charge of assault – family violence.

## Support Groups

## SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

## SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m. until 8 p.m.

## MONDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, As Bill Sees it, 615 Settles, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7-8 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

• Reformers Unanimous International is a faith-based addictions program helping people find freedom from addiction. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Mondays at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Enter at the main entrance of the church.

## TUESDAY

• Big Spring and Snyder Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month.

This is a group for all Parkinson's disease patients, spouses and caregivers.

For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-0942

• VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; newcomers meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY

• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy) a chronic pain disease, a support and informative group, meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

## THURSDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Newcomers' meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

• Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. until noon and again at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

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## Alonzo Luera

Alonzo Luera, 74, of Big Spring died Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016, at Midland Memorial Hospital. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Ray Menges

Ray J. Menges, 88, of Big Spring, died Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 at his residence. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory.

## Local 5-Day Forecast

Sat 2/20	Sun 2/21	Mon 2/22	Tue 2/23	Wed 2/24
<b>83/53</b> Mostly cloudy skies early, then partly cloudy in the afternoon. High 83F. Winds SW at 5 to 10 mph.	<b>65/44</b> Slight chance of a t-storm. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the mid 40s.	<b>62/38</b> Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	<b>67/34</b> Abundant sunshine. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the mid 30s.	<b>61/37</b> Mainly sunny. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 30s.
Sunrise: 7:24 AM Sunset: 6:35 PM	Sunrise: 7:23 AM Sunset: 6:36 PM	Sunrise: 7:22 AM Sunset: 6:37 PM	Sunrise: 7:20 AM Sunset: 6:38 PM	Sunrise: 7:19 AM Sunset: 6:39 PM

## Texas at a Glance



## Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	84	58	Sunny	Kingsville	83	60	Cloudy
Amarillo	77	46	P Cloudy	Livingston	79	58	Sunny
Austin	81	62	Cloudy	Longview	79	58	M Sunny
Beaumont	76	60	Sunny	Lubbock	82	48	P Cloudy
Brownsville	80	63	P Cloudy	Lufkin	78	57	Sunny
Brownwood	84	57	Cloudy	Midland	88	55	Sunny
Corpus Christi	79	61	M Sunny	Raymondville	85	63	P Cloudy
Corsicana	79	60	Cloudy	Rosenberg	80	60	M Sunny
Dallas	79	61	P Cloudy	San Antonio	85	62	Cloudy
Del Rio	83	61	Cloudy	San Marcos	83	60	Cloudy
El Paso	83	55	P Cloudy	Sulphur Springs	75	60	M Cloudy
Fort Stockton	87	57	Sunny	Sweetwater	84	58	Sunny
Gainesville	80	58	Sunny	Tyler	79	60	Cloudy
Greenville	77	59	M Cloudy	Weatherford	82	59	Sunny
Houston	81	60	M Sunny	Wichita Falls	83	60	Sunny

## National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	65	46	Sunny	Miami	72	64	M Cloudy
Boston	41	32	Sunny	Minneapolis	47	33	Cloudy
Chicago	55	40	Cloudy/Wind	New York	40	36	P Cloudy
Dallas	79	61	P Cloudy	Phoenix	83	56	M Cloudy
Denver	67	34	Clear	San Francisco	61	47	M Cloudy
Houston	81	60	M Sunny	Seattle	51	40	Rain
Los Angeles	69	49	Clear	Saint Louis	71	44	Cloudy/Wind

## Moon Phases

<b>First</b> Feb 15	<b>Full</b> Feb 22	<b>Last</b> Mar 1	<b>New</b> Mar 9

## Lottery

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) \_ These Texas lotteries were drawn Thursday:

4-5-6-4, Sum It Up: 19

Daily 4 Evening

4-6-0-2

All or Nothing Day

01-02-03-10-11-12-14-15-

16-22-23-24

Daily 4 Morning

3-3-9-9

All or Nothing

Evening

02-04-06-08-09-10-11-14-

15-16-17-22

Daily 4 Night

0-5-3-1, Sum It Up: 9

Pick 3 Day

6-7-2, Sum It Up: 15

All or Nothing

Morning

01-02-03-04-09-10-12-15-

20-22-23-24

Pick 3 Evening

5-5-1

All or Nothing Night

03-05-08-10-11-12-13-14-

15-16-23-24

Pick 3 Morning

5-5-8

Cash 5

06-13-20-23-30

Pick 3 Night

9-1-6, Sum It Up: 16

Daily 4 Day

Powerball

Estimated jackpot:

\$212 million

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PARK

Continued from Page 1

easy portable stoves and ovens with limited supplies," said the press release.

On Saturday, Feb. 27, the state park will host Junior Ranger Day, an event geared for children between ages of 6 and 12.

Participants will learn about wildlife, tracking and how to take care of state parks.

In addition, a ranger will take the group hiking, listen to and watch animals, and a chance to look at the stars through a telescope.

"We encourage the families to spend the night at one of our campsites so they can enjoy a full day of activities and enjoy the stars with us," said Tracey Mellard, LCCSP Park Host. "This is a great chance for kids to get out in nature and learn about animals, camping and stars."

For the Junior Ranger Day, it is recommended that children bring binoculars, food and bottled water.

"We will provide marshmallows for the group," said Mellard.

All of the programs are free, but do require adult accompaniment.

Children 12 and under will be admitted to the park for free and adult passes are \$4 per person. Camping fees are \$20 per night.

Lake Colorado City State Park is located at 4582 FM 2836 in Colorado City.

For more information contact park headquarters at 325-728-3931.

Contact Staff Writer Julie Bass at 432-263-7331, ext 232, or email life@bigspringherald.com

College music dept. hosts Sunday recital

By AMANDA ELSTON  
Managing Editor

Howard College's department of music will its first event of the spring semester Sunday with guest artists Javier Betancourt on cello and Sara Doan accompanying on piano. Both Betancourt and Doan are frequent guests and visitors to the Howard College Music Department and have both per-

formed in many productions both at Howard College and around the community.

"Javi (Betancourt) has been a frequent guest of the music program for many years giving recitals, masterclasses, lessons, and has played principal cellist for the past three years in First United Methodist's 'Living Christmas Tree,'" said Ethan Willis, assistant pro-

fessor and director of choral studies at Howard College. "Sara has also been a frequent visitor performing in recitals for both professors Dan Kiley and (myself), She is currently finishing up a doctorate at the University of North Texas." The cello recital will be held at the Hall Center for the Arts on the Howard College campus at 3 p.m. on Sunday Feb. 21

and is being sponsored by the First United Methodist Church of Big Spring.

"This is sure to be one of our greatest performances this year with two very talented artists," the Howard College Music Department Facebook said. "We thank First United Methodist Church of Big Spring for their sponsorship of this concert."

Take note

• Anyone in 6th - 11th grade interested in trying out for cheerleading is welcome to sign up for a prep class hosted by the BSHS Cheerleaders.

They will work on stretches, jump techniques, motion techniques and hold mock try-outs. Classes will be Monday Feb. 29, Tuesday March 1 and Thursday March 3 from 6 - 8 p.m. each night.

Cost is \$60 per child. If you have any questions please email Ashley Phinney at aphinney@bsisd.esc18.net. You may also call the front office of the high school and leave a message.

• American Legion Post 506 will hold a fish fry Sat. Feb. 20. Delivery is from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., serving line is 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Plates are \$12 each. Call 263-2084.

• Mt. Bethel Baptist Church invites the community to join them on Feb. 21 at 10:15 a.m. for the Annual Founder's Day Celebration.

The morning will start with church service, sharing in fellowship, old memories and fun. There will be a dedication of the Fellowship Hall as it is renamed. The morning events will finish up with a covered dish lunch. Mt. Bethel Baptist Church is located at 630 Sgt. Paredez St. in Big Spring.

• The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will conduct the multi-county Permian Basin Cotton Conference

from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. March 1 at the G.C. Broughton Jr. Ag Complex in Big Spring.

The complex is located at 2411 Echols Drive on the Howard College campus. Counties involved with the conference and its accompanying trade show include Howard, Martin, Midland, Glasscock, Upton and Reagan.

Individual preregistration is \$15 by Feb. 26 and \$25 thereafter. The fee includes the noon meal.

To RSVP, contact the AgriLife Extension office in Howard County at 432-264-2236.

• Texas congressional candidate for District 19 Dr. Donald May will host a meet and greet on Feb. 22 in the Dora Roberts Community Center (Lakeside Room) from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The community center is located in Comanche Trail Park by the lake.

Meetings

• The Big Spring Art Association meets every third Tuesday, September through May at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library. Everyone is welcome to attend. Memberships are available. The annual dues are \$20.

• The Big Spring Symphony Board of Directors meets every first Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the symphony office, 808 Scurry Street.

RACE

Continued from Page 1

for the council post do not have to live in District 5, Davis said.

While both municipal races will be challenged,

the story is exactly opposite at Big Spring ISD, which has not attracted any candidates other than incumbents so far.

Julie Harris (District 3), Chad Wash (District 5), Jeff Brorman (District 6) and Fabian Serrano (District 7) have

formally announced their bids to seek new terms on the school board.

All the positions have three-year terms, except for District 3, which is for the final two years of Ken McIntosh's unexpired term (McIntosh

resigned in 2015, and Harris was subsequently appointed to fill his position).

Unlike the municipal race requirements, candidates must live in the district they seek to represent, said Debbie Green, chief financial

officer for the school district.

Filing deadline for the BSISD races also is 5 p.m. today, she added.

Area races that are drawing a lot of candidate attention are in the Howard College Board of Trustee elections, in

which three candidates are vying for two vacant at-large seats, while the Precinct 1 and Precinct 2 races each have two candidates.

All three elections are scheduled for May 7 at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

COURT

Continued from Page 1

originalist interpreter of the Constitution, with a justice more liberal in outlook could significantly change the ideological balance of on the Court, and District 19 Republican candidates were quick to throw their support behind their GOP brethren in the Senate.

Lubbock Mayor Glen Robertson, who addressed the Kiwanis Club in Big Spring Thursday, decried how quickly Scalia's death turned into a political battle of wills.

"Both sides have a very legitimate argument," Robertson said. "The president ... does have the right to put a nominee forward, but ... Majority Leader McConnell has the right to not allow that to come to the

floor, and the Senate has the right not to approve the nominee. My only concern is that they started this fight literally hours after Justice Scalia died. I believe it would have been much more appropriate to mourn for two or three days, then start the political battles."

Once the "political battles" are joined, however, Robertson said he will support Senate Republicans.

"I do hope the Senate will stand up to the president," he said. "I think it's critical the Senate do its job, stand up to the president and, if his nomination is not, at least, moderate or right of moderate, to battle that nomination and stall the process."

Retired Air Force Col. Michael Bob Starr of Abilene also expressed support for Republican efforts.

"My thoughts and

prayers are with (Justice Scalia's) family and our nation as we mourn the loss of a conservative stalwart," Starr posted on his campaign's Facebook page. "In his honor, Republicans in Congress must band together to fight President Obama in the nominating process so that we can elect a Republican president who can appoint a Justice with the same values as the ones Justice Scalia so firmly held."

Former Texas Tech University Vice Chancellor Jodey Arrington of Lubbock said it was his "sincere hope" that the Senate delay confirmation of a new Court justice until after a new president is elected in November.

"Regardless of whom the president nominates to fill the vacancy left by Scalia's passing, it is up to the Senate to first, decide if they will hold

confirmation hearings and if they do, decide if they will accept the president's nominee," Arrington said in an email to the Herald.

"We know the President will nominate a person who will further his agenda by ignoring the Constitution, supporting lawless actions by the federal government, and weakening our fundamental rights," Arrington added. "My sincere hope is that the Senate will not confirm such a nominee and will instead let the voice of the American people be heard as they choose a new president."

In a letter to three U.S. senators, candidate DeRenda Warren of Smyer urged Republicans to block any Obama nominee.

"With the sudden and

unexpected death of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, President Obama is poised to gain yet another appointment to the nation's highest court," Warren's letter states. "This would threaten the ideological balance of the Court, and jeopardize liberty and the rule of law for a generation to come. As a citizen of Texas and candidate for the U.S. Congress, I implore you to exercise your constitutional power to vote against the confirmation of any Supreme Court nominee made by (Obama) for the remainder of his term as president."

Early voting in the Dist. 19 and other primary races is ongoing at the office of Howard County Elections Administrator Sandra Bloom. As of Thursday

evening, 428 voters had cast early ballots for March 1 election.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

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<b>Deadpool (R)</b> Fri.: 2:15 5:00 7:45 10:30 Sat.: 2:15 5:00 7:45 10:30	<b>How To Be Single (R)</b> Fri.: 2:00 4:45 7:30 10:15 Sat.: 2:00 4:45 7:30 10:15
<b>Risen (PG-13)</b> Fri.: 1:20 4:10 7:00 9:50 Sat.: 1:20 4:10 7:00 9:50	<b>Zoolander (PG-13)</b> Fri.: 2:05 4:40 7:15 9:50 Sat.: 2:05 4:40 7:15 9:50

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Faith Davila, infant, died Thursday. Funeral services will be at 2:00 PM Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Danya Atkinson, 37, died Saturday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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# Opinion

## Ted Cruz's Supreme Court folly

*"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."*

-FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the writers and not those of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

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The death of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia shocked Ted Cruz into a sudden realization: It's even more important than before that Ted Cruz be our next president.

Because of the vacancy, he says, "the Second Amendment, life, marriage, religious liberty, every one of those hangs in the balance." He warns that "we cannot trust Donald Trump" with this responsibility.

We don't know what sort of person Trump would like for the court. But we do know what sort of person Cruz likes. And based on that knowledge, we can't trust Cruz — by Cruz's own standards.

Consider two justices who have elicited strong opinions from him. The first one is someone whose appointment he regards as "a mistake," who in one landmark case "changed the law in order to force that failed law on millions of Americans for a political outcome." The second is a "principled conservative" known for "faithfully applying the Constitution and legal precedent."

You may conclude that the Texas senator has a sharp eye for the right kind of justice and the wrong kind. Not quite. Both his praise and his condemnation were in reference to the same person: John Roberts.

When Roberts was nominated in 2005, Cruz gushed over him. Today, he regards the chief justice, who had the gall to uphold Obamacare, as part of "an out-of-control court." Either Cruz was wrong before, or he's wrong now.

It could be that Cruz is not very good at detecting which Supreme Court prospects are principled conservatives. Or it could mean that he is good at picking them out — but clueless on what

their approach will produce.

Maybe Roberts is not a conservative, or maybe a conservative path doesn't always lead where Cruz wants to go. However, it's hard to make the case that he's not a conservative: During the court's last term, Roberts voted the same way as Scalia 90 percent of the time — almost exactly as often as Clarence Thomas did.

When Roberts voted to uphold Obamacare, it's possible he was being faithful to his principles, at the price of offending his usual allies. That would be in keeping with what Scalia once said: "Very often, if you're a good judge, you don't really like the result you're reaching."

Republicans often act as though there is a clear, simple, conservative approach to judging — which is to apply the words of the Constitution according to their original meaning.

*...keeping with what Scalia once said: "Every so often, if you're a good judge, you don't really like the result you're reaching."*

That's the mode of judging (known as originalism or textualism) that Scalia championed. But his approach never won over even most of his Republican-appointed colleagues.

Roberts, Samuel Alito and Anthony Kennedy, notes University of Chicago law professor Eric Posner in Slate, "are not originalists." They don't go strictly by what the text was understood to mean when it was written but "decide cases the way justices always have: by using whatever materials at hand — historical sources, yes, but also (and mainly) judicial precedents, common sense, general principles, political values and so on."

Nor does originalism necessarily tilt rightward. Liberals like Yale's Akhil Reed Amar and Jack Balkin embrace it. So did

Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black, a hero of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Scalia himself didn't even practice it all the time. He voted to strike down a law against burning the American flag, which he saw as a violation of the First Amendment right to free speech. But flag-burning is not speech — only a form of communication — and the opinion joined by Scalia made no attempt to prove the framers thought it was.

The more important fact, though, is that even staunch conservatives can reach drastically different answers to fundamental questions. Scalia wrote the decisions interpreting the Second Amendment to protect an individual right to own guns.

But Appeals Court J. Harvie Wilkinson III — an undisputed conservative appointed by Ronald Reagan — said it was wrong to "read an ambiguous constitutional provision as creating a substantive right that the court had never acknowledged in the more than 200 years since the amendment's enactment."

Cruz promises that any justice he chooses "will faithfully follow the law." But all justices think they do that. Roberts is a villain in Cruz's eyes only because he ruled in a way different from what Cruz wanted.

It would be a terrible justice, though, who would slavishly implement the desires of the president who made the appointment. If Cruz wants a justice who will always rule the way he prefers, he's chasing the wrong job.

*Steve Chapman blogs at news-blogs.chicagotribune.com/steve\_chapman. Follow him on Twitter @SteveChapman13 or Facebook.com/stevechapman13. To find out more about Steve Chapman, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.*

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## Put puppy-whistle politics on a leash

In politics, the "dog whistle" is coded language designed to delight a targeted subgroup and pass over the heads of everyone else. Other terms, such as "establishment," "Washington insider" and "free trade," are not quite full-grown dog whistles. Let's call them puppy whistles.

These are expressions whose meanings remain vague. For the puppy whistle, the vaguer the better.

Both Donald Trump and Bernie Sanders rail against "the establishment." This is a way of saying that they are not favored by the traditional leaders of their parties — the leaders said to have let us down.

"Establishment" is hard to define, and when you do, it's sometimes carries positive feelings. Who among us wouldn't be impressed by a plumber's ad reading, "The Wrench Brothers, Established in 1971"?

On the left, "the establishment" is itself a highly established term. It gained steam in the 1960s as a designation for the adults who messed things up for us kids. Sanders uses it as pure pejorative.

When Planned Parenthood and the Human Rights Fund endorsed Hillary Clinton, Sanders responded, "Hillary Clinton has been around there for a very, very long time, and some of these groups are, in fact, part of the establishment."

Clinton's unfortunate comeback was that no one would be less establishment than the first woman president.

Harvard political scientist

Danielle Allen then wrote a piece in The Washington Post titled, "Sorry, Hillary: You are the establishment." She never explains why, uh, Hillary should be sorry for that — or more basically, why being part of the establishment is necessarily bad. The National Audubon Society has been around for 111 years. Is that any reason to hold it in low regard?

Allen offers this line: "Bernie Sanders is right that Clinton's long list of endorsements represents her muscle within the Democratic Party." That may be so, but if President Obama had that kind of muscle, we'd probably now have a government-

*Both Donald Trump and Bernie Sanders rail against "the establishment". This is a way of saying that they are not favored by the traditional leaders of their parties- the leaders said to have let us down.*

run public option on the federal health insurance marketplace.

"Washington insider" is a puppy whistle favored by populists across the spectrum.

It's No. 2 on the right's list of condemnations (after liberal).

The coded meaning is that long-time Washington politicians become servants of lobbyists. It really shouldn't matter how long a politician has worked in Washington but rather what the politician has (START ITAL) done in Washington.

"Free trade" has long held negative meaning for populists

in both parties. The left continues to use NAFTA — the North American Free Trade Agreement — as almost a curse word, as the cause of devastating losses among our manufacturing workers. But how many sweatshirts in your closet were made in Mexico? Go into Home Depot and see where the hammers, screws and lighting fixtures come from.

On the Republican side, Trump rails against Chinese imports. At least he knows where most of those jobs have gone.

The consensus among economists is that NAFTA provided modest benefits for the U.S., as well as for Mexico and Canada. Some American jobs did move to Mexico, but many would have otherwise gone to Asia. The remedy for victims of globalization is not to stop the unstoppable but to strengthen their social safety net.

The Trans-Pacific Partnership is the new trade boogeyman. Its purpose is to strengthen America's hand in dealing with China, but that gets lost in the political discourse.

Trade agreements tend to be a mixed bag in terms of who benefits. They are not inherently evil. Likewise, so-called political establishments and Washington insiders should be judged by what they do, rather than what they are. But gray is an unpopular color in campaign season.

*Follow Froma Harrop on Twitter @FromaHarrop. She can be reached at fharrop@gmail.com. To find out more about Froma Harrop and read features by other Creators writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Web page at www.creators.com.*

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Amen.



STEVE CHAPMAN



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1 John 4:18

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*Love has no fear because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of judgment, and this shows that his love has not been perfected in us.*  
1 John 4:18

The Lord says, "I will rescue those who love me. I will protect those who trust in my name. When they call on me, I will answer; I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue them and honor them. I will satisfy them with a long life and give them my salvation."  
**Psalm 91: 14-16**

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Matthew 4:23

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*Rejoice, you people of Jerusalem! Rejoice in the Lord your God! For the rains he sends are an expression of his grace. Once more the autumn rains will come, as well as the rains of spring.*  
(Joel 2:23)

*God's love supply is never empty. "For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth."*  
(Psalm 103:11)

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# Did you ever wonder: laws and ordinances

The first five tenets of God's Covenant which pertain to our relationship to Him are pretty cut and dry;

either you want to be one of His children or you don't.

Interactions between people seem to bring up many facets to a situation. You have to really be committed to see everything as black and white without shades of gray in between.

Some people really want to be one of God's children, but in their heart they also want to run and play in the mud...

just the shallow mud so that they can still clean up for church on Sunday.

Now that the Israelites have agreed to follow God's Covenant and to be His People, in Exo 21:1 God begins to give them some clear-cut rules to live

by. They have set up courts to decide on disputes between the people. God knows that some people will love money too much. They will want to bend the rules to their benefit.

Sometimes life gets very hard. During times of drought a man with a small farm may not be able to grow enough to feed his family. His neighbor down the road may own land with some natural springs on it. He has food to sell, but the small farmer has no money to buy food.

In those times the poor man could not work for the rich man and get paid by the hour. And if the rich man was not a kind and honest man to work for, the hired man could not just find another job.

So, God set specific laws and ordinances for the court justices to follow if a dispute arose.

In ancient times the economic system was based on a system of slaves bought and sold or captured in battle.

But a free man could sell his services for a seven year period. He was called a bondsman because he was under a contract for seven years, but he was paid wages so that his family would be fed during that time.

God made specific laws limiting beatings or punishment if the rich man was not satisfied with the poor man's work.

If the man was not married when he became a bondsman, the master might give him a slave woman to live with him and bear children. But when the bondsman's time was up and he left, the slave woman and her children remained the property of the master.

If the bondsman said, "I love my master, my wife, and my children - I shall not go free," they went before the court to make legal arrangements. He was then stood next to the doorpost and an awl was pierced through the lobe of his ear. This

showed that he was not a slave, but he was a servant to his master forever.

Such a servant was usually given responsibility and much authority in running the house and holdings of the master. This could be the context of Abraham's servant Eleiser who chose not to leave him. Eleiser was the one entrusted to find a wife for Isaac.

This is the first of God's ordinances. Although this scenario seems to us to be barbaric, Jesus and His apostles referred to this scripture several times when they tried to explain a person's commitment to serve God.

*Eunice Filler, author of "Rachael: Porch Swings and Spearmint Tea," is a former school teacher with ties to the Big Spring community. She has returned to enjoy her retirement as a Big Spring resident. Questions? Fillereunice@yahoo.com.*



EUNICE  
FILLER

## Church News

### Mt. Bethel Baptist Church

The community is invited to the Founder's Day service Sunday.

Service begins at 10:15 a.m. Music will consist of traditional hymns and contemporary praise.

There will be a Dedication Service renaming our Fellowship Hall after two long time members: Bro. Glen and Sis. Essie Person (membership over 60 years). Soul food will be served at the covered dish lunch after service as members dress in their ole' fashion attire.

Every one is invited as we thank God for our seniors and historical pioneers.

Mt. Bethel Church is located at 630 Sgt. Paradez St. Find them on facebook .com/mtbethelbig-spring.

### First United Methodist Church

The 9 a.m. traditions service on Sunday morning features our pipe organ, the Celebration Choir led by Gershom Garcia, and the classic hymns of the faith. The Bridge at 11 a.m. is led by our worship band and includes contemporary, upbeat music. Worship at The Bridge is led by Gershom Garcia, Adrian Calvio and many others. The Bridge at 11 a.m. is broadcast live each Sunday on radio station KXCS-105.5 FM.

Last Sunday, Pastor Bill Ivins launched a new message series entitled "Bona Fide: Faith According to James." The Lenten message series explores the meaning of discipleship in the Letter of James. To help the congregation develop the daily habit of spending time alone with God, a daily Bible Reading Guide that follows the message series was distributed at both morning worship services. If you'd like a copy of the Guide, please phone our church office at 432-267-6394 and we'll be glad to send you a copy free of charge.

Sunday's message is entitled "The Anatomy of Temptation" and comes from James 1:13-18. Wednesday Noon Bible Study is currently on hold as the congregation participates in the Lenten Lunch Series with other churches in Big Spring. Wednesday Noon Bible study will resume on March 16.

On Wednesday, First Baptist Church will host the second of the Lenten Lunch Series. The series will then move to the Salvation Army on March 2, and First Presbyterian Church on March 9.

Our Children's Ministry began working on an Easter Musical entitled "Crown Him with Many Crowns" on Wednesday, Feb. 3 at 6 p.m. Children

who are age four through fifth grade are invited to participate. The musical will be presented on Sunday, April 3 during the 11 a.m. contemporary worship service.

We're also gearing up for this year's confirmation class. We'll launch the class with a retreat for Junior High students who haven't been confirmed on April 8, 9, and 10. The retreat will take place at Camp Butman. During the retreat, students will focus on the problem of sin and Christ as the answer to that problem. This year's retreat theme is "Cross Training". If your Junior High student has not been confirmed, please phone Pastor Bill in the church office.

First United Methodist Church is located just off Greg Street at the corner of 4<sup>th</sup> and Scurry in downtown Big Spring.

For more information on any activity, please visit our website at [www.fumcbs.com](http://www.fumcbs.com) or phone the church office at 267-6394.

### East Side Baptist Church

"The Cure" is our message title for this Sunday. If you do not have a Church Home, please give us a try.

We have classes for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Worship service is at 10:45 a.m. while children 10 and under can attend Children's church where they will have their own class.

At 1:45 p.m. there is an informal service teaching and studying God's Word together.

"The Dartts" are coming March 29 at 7 p.m.

East Side Baptist Church is located at 1108 E. 6<sup>th</sup> St. The phone number is 432-267-1915.

### Family Faith Center

FFC has a place for all ages to receive training to rule and reign in life as they learn to know our Lord better. Sweet Lil' Angels Nursery is for ages newborn to 18 months. Tots Sweet Stop welcomes tots 19 months to four years. Kingdom Builders Ministry is for children grades K through four. These departments are available every service.

Church service in English begins with praise and worship in the main auditorium at 10:30. A service in Spanish follows at 12:15.

Studio 56 preteen ministry is for grades five and six and is available every Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. Elevate student center youth outreach is for students seventh through twelfth grade and meets every Wednesday night at 7:01 p.m.

The men's ministry of FFC meets each Wednesday

morning in the annex building dining hall from 7 - 7:45 a.m.

Sunday School at FFC begins at 9:45 a.m. in the Annex Building. Classes include:

Kingdom Builders Class, Studio 56 and Elevate Youth Class, Ladies Bible Study, Health & Healing Prayer Class, New Believers Class, Young Life Class, and Men's Bible Study. Child care and nursery are provided.

Family Faith Center is located at 810 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Place.

### First Christian Church

We begin our Sunday mornings with Fellowship at 9:15 a.m. where we enjoy coffee, donuts and pleasant conversation with our friends.

Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. and worship begins at 10:50 a.m.

This week our Guest Minister Dan Miracle will be preaching on Luke 13:31 - 35. Jesus is approached by some Pharisees who tell him Herod wants him dead so he better scam. Jesus in so many words says, 'you know what, I'm a little busy here. Today is not good and tomorrow isn't looking any better either. It takes a lot of work to heal the sick and cast out demons'... stop by and listen to what Dan has to tell us on this Scripture.

Tara Trowbridge is our Music Director and our accompanist is Lawrence Thibeault. Together they make beautiful music selections such as 'Jesus, Keep me Near the Cross' and 'O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee'.

Our Liturgist for this week will be Shirley Burgess and serving at our Table will be Shirley Lee and Erma Dunne.

Lenten Luncheons began this week at First United Methodist Church. The next luncheon will be Wednesday at First Baptist Church. Please don't miss out on these luncheons, you will have a great time.

If you have any questions regarding our services, Isaiah 58 or if you just need someone to pray with you, please call Monday through Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. 432-517-4821.

First Christian Church is located at 911 Goliad St.

### Birdwell Lane Church of Christ

Our goal is to be the true worshipers that the Father is seeking. Those who worship in spirit and in truth (John 4:23-24)

Sunday:

Bible study - 9 a.m.

Worship - 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Wednesday:

Ladies Class - 9:30 am

Bible study and devotional - 7 p.m.

Birdwell Lane Church of Christ is located at the southwest corner of 11<sup>th</sup> Place and Birdwell Lane.

### Cornerstone Covenant Church

Cornerstone Covenant Church invites you to join us Sunday, at 10:30 a.m. for a time of great fellowship, praise and worship, and the Word of God.

Wednesday at 7 p.m. join us for our mid-week Worship service in the Main Sanctuary as we worship, fellowship and spend time in the word and in prayer.

Wednesday, March 2 join us from 7 a.m.- 7 p.m. for our church wide fast as we take that day to pray and fast.

Saturday, March 26 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. we will be having our "spring cleaning work day." If you have any questions contact the front office at 432-264-0015.

If you would like to get ready for Tax season early, be sure to get your request in for you giving records. Contact the Front Office at 432-264-0015.

Cornerstone Covenant Church (CCC) is a unified, spirit-led, purpose-driven church that cultivates an atmosphere of faith so lives can be transformed by Jesus Christ. Join us every Sunday at 10:30 a.m for worship.

CCC is located at 706 E. 12<sup>th</sup> St. For office hours or other question about the ministry contact our



Courtesy Photo

"He ain't heavy, he's my...". Area youth demonstrate God's desire and ability to carry our burdens through life's journey at a recent teen event held at First Baptist Church."



# One faith

In Ephesians 4:5, the Apostle Paul states that there is only one faith. However, in the world today there are many different beliefs. Even among those who claim to follow Jesus there are differences in what we believe and teach.

Another problem today is relativism which says, "I'll believe what I want to believe and you believe what you want to believe." There is a current pop song that plays on the radio (I hear it almost every time I workout at the gym) that embodies this philosophy. The song is "Stand By You" by Rachel Platten. I think



GREG SURLES

it's the second verse when she says, "Truth - I guess truth is what you believe in."

That is exactly the kind of relativistic morality that our culture has embraced and it is absolutely ungodly! Can you imagine what would be said of the Apostle Paul in the American media today? He would be called insensitive, intolerant, a bigot, and evil.

Something isn't true just because you want it to be. Something isn't true just because you "feel" that it is right. John 17:17 tells us what the Lord, Jesus himself, said about truth, *Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth* (ESV). God's word is the standard, not what I think or feel!

When Paul states that there is only one faith, what does he mean? The Bible refers to a person's faith many times but that is not what Paul is

talking about. As stated before there are a multitude of personal faiths or beliefs, definitely not just one. Paul is referring to a system of faith - the one, true belief system.

Here are some other New Testament passages which refer to faith (the faith) in terms of what followers of Christ are to believe. Acts 6:7, *And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.* Acts 14:22, *strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.* Philippians 1:27, *Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I*

*may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel.* In order to save some space, please also reference Acts 16:5; 1 Corinthians 16:13; 2 Corinthians 13:5; Colossians 1:27; 2:7; 1 Timothy 4:6; 2 Timothy 4:7; and Jude 3.

If we are to be the one body which Paul referred to in Ephesians 4:4, then we must be united under one Lord and master. The body of Christ is made up of those who submit to his will and to his law. That is the one faith! We don't get to choose what we can believe or not believe. We must believe what the Scriptures teach.

"In doctrine, unity. In opinion, liberty. In all things, charity."

*Greg Surles is the preacher for Birdwell Lane Church of Christ.*

## CHURCH NEWS

Continued from page 6

administrative office at 432-264-0015. You can also find us at facebook .com/cccbigspring or visit us at www.cccbispring.org.

### Alive in Christ Lutheran Church

"Celebrating and Sharing God's Love and Grace in our lives".

Sunday Service begins at 9 a.m. with Bible study and Sunday school at 10:15 a.m. If you are new to the area or haven't been to church before or in a while, please accept this as an invitation to join us this Sunday.

George von Hassell will present the scripture readings this week.

Our Wednesday night bible study will be studying 1 John. A meal is served from 5:30-6:30 p.m. and class is from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Please feel free to join us once again. Confirmation Class is from 6:30 - 8 p.m. every Wednesday evening and is held in the Education Building.

Our Lenten Services will be held for the next 4 weeks on Sunday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

We will have a Seder Meal on Thursday, March 24, 2016, with Maundy Thursday service to follow. Our Good Friday Service will be held on March 25, 2016 at 7 p.m.

For our Easter Services we will have a Sunrise Service at 8 a.m., followed by a Pancake Breakfast and the Celebration Service will take place at 10 a.m.

Tune in to KBYG every morning for a devotional sponsored in part by the Lutheran Hour. Tune in to 106.3 FM or 1400 AM between 6:45 and 6:50 each morning: "Morning Meditation Thoughts".

We are located at 2805 Lynn Drive in the Kentwood Neighborhood in Big Spring. To connect with us call 432-264-7818, or e-mail us at aliveinchristtx@gmail.com.

### Forsan Baptist Church

This Sunday morning we will begin a new message series called, "The Heart of a Child." We will be looking first at the Battle of Jericho. Our message is called, "The Hero at Jericho." The message comes from Joshua 6.

Our new Sunday evening study at 6 p.m. is called "Does This Mean Me?" It will deal with discerning which passages in the Bible are descriptive stories, which are instructions for us in the modern day, and which are exemplary to apply to our lives.

Regular youth and children's activities continue on Wednesday afternoons beginning at 4 p.m. Youth and children's meal will be served at 5:30, and age-appropriate classes will begin at 6 p.m. We will be offering CHAOS for youth, GA's for girls, RA's for boys, and Heroes in Training for kids age 3-5. We also have a Bible study geared toward adults.

Our church is located at 201 Main in Forsan. Sunday school begins at 9:50 a.m., with worship

services at 10:50 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday services begin at 6 p.m. Rides for all youth activities are available if arranged ahead of time. Call the church at 432-457-2342 or Pastor Darren Weaver at 432-213-2348.

### Big Spring Baptist Church

"Let us rejoice and be glad and give the LORD glory!" is the cry of Revelation 19:7. Gather with us Sunday at 10:50 a.m. as we honor God with our worship and praise. Pastor Mark Lindsey continues the sermon series "Everlasting Love", in which we are drawn to marvel at the depth, breadth, and certainty of God's love as evidenced by the life of Christ, from His birth to His Resurrection. The Adult Worship Choir will offer the music special

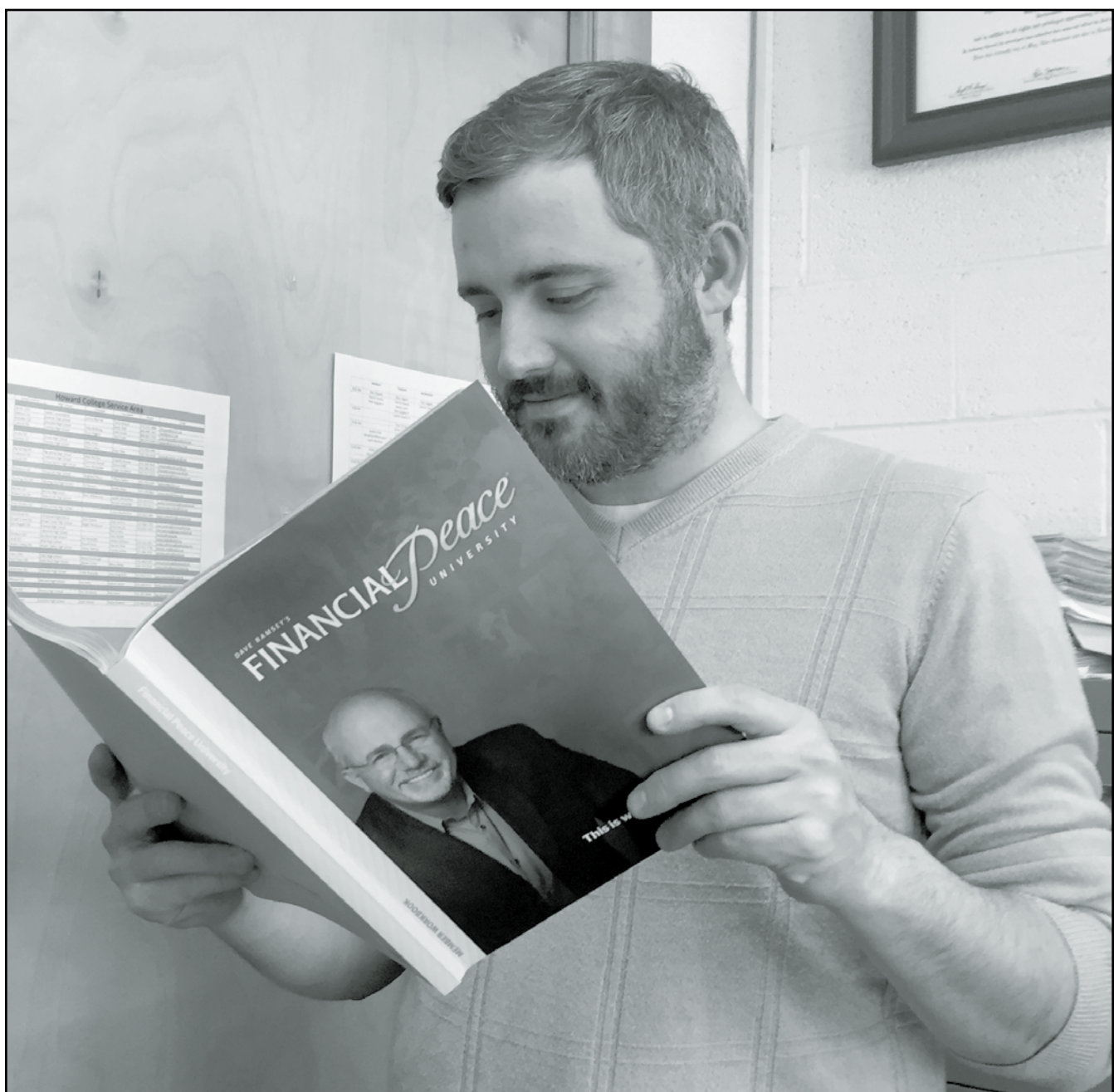
"Then Will the Very Rocks Cry Out".

At 9:30 Sunday school classes meet throughout the building, with children assembling in the Good News Garage on the first floor, and youth, college students, and adults meeting in second floor classrooms. Greeters are happy to assist you in finding your class. Come early for fellowship and coffee.

All area children are invited to participate in 'Kids' Connection' at 5:30 p.m.; this is a fun time of Bible based games, songs, and activities. There is no fee to attend.

At 6 p.m., youth will come together at the Raffini's home for a time of fellowship, Bible study, and refreshments. Transportation is available; contact Youth Pastor Jonathan Raffini at 270-8332

See **CHURCH NEWS** page 8



Courtesy Photo

Dan Kiley looks over course materials for Financial Peace University (FPU) at First United Methodist Church. FPU kicked off on Thursday, Feb. 18 at 6 p.m. The cost is \$109 for individuals and couples. To register, please phone the church office at 432-267-6394.

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# Reflections: Creation, the Big Bang and eternity

Scientists are ecstatic over the discovery of gravitational waves in the universe. Last week, on Feb. 11, scientists documented their existence for the first time. According to the reports, scientists may be able to “look into” or “listen to” the history of the universe as far back as one second after the “Big Bang,” approximately 14 billion years ago.

But what happened before that split second in time?

One of the foundational elements of theology is the idea that God is eternal. He has no beginning and no end. If that is the case, we have to ask, “What was before the ‘Big Bang?’” After all, if God is eternal, 14 billion years are less than a blip on His screen. The Bible says, “*With the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.*” (2

Peter 3:8).

We don’t know what happened before the Big Bang or Creation. Nor do we know what happens after the universe comes to an end, another fact science recently confirmed. In August of last year scientists discovered that the universe is winding down and will cease to exist. The universe definitely has a beginning and an end.

What we do know is that the universe exists now. We know that a fragile planet, delicately rotating on its axis around an insignificant star in a remote corner of a minor galaxy somehow spawned the mystery of life as we know it. How can this possibly be?

We have one of two conclusions. Either the mystery and majesty of life on Earth is a random accident,

or, it is an extravagant miracle produced by the mind of God. Einstein, who predicted gravitational waves one hundred years ago, once said, “There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.”

I choose the latter. It makes more sense to me. Every morning when we wake to the rising sun and behold the beauty of the earth, we behold the miraculous. Einstein is also credited with the observation, ““The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and all science. He to whom this emotion is a stranger, who can no longer pause to wonder and stand rapt in awe, is as good as dead: his eyes are closed.”

Perhaps the poet-king David

expresses it best, “*When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained; what is man that you thought of him, and the son of man that you care for him? Yet you have made him a little lower than God, and you crown him with glory and majesty! You make him to rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the heavens and the fish of the sea, whatever passes through the paths of the seas. O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!*” (Psalm 8:3-9).

Bill Tinsley reflects on current events and life experience from a faith perspective. Visit [www.tinsleycenter.com](http://www.tinsleycenter.com). Email [bill@tinsleycenter.com](mailto:bill@tinsleycenter.com).

## CHURCH NEWS

Continued from page 7

for details.

Evening worship starts at 6 p.m., and is a great way to equip our spirits for the week ahead. Pastor Lindsey continues to bring the messages focusing on the life of Jesus, as related by His disciple Matthew. Come and be blessed.

Wednesday, FBC will be the site of the Lenten Community Luncheon. Bring a friend and join us at noon in the Family Life Center as we gather with our brothers and sisters in Christ in preparation for the celebration of Easter.

Upward Basketball is winding down, and on Feb 27 from 6 - 8 p.m., ‘Kidz Blitz’ will mark the end of the season with a spectacular event and award ceremony. All area children are encouraged to come; you do not have to have been involved in Upward Basketball to attend.

Wednesday evening begins with a meal served from 5-6 p.m. in the Family Life Center, followed by activities for all ages. Call 267-8223 or go to [fbcbigspring.org](http://fbcbigspring.org) for details. Join us Feb. 24 for Mexican Stack-Up.

FBC is located at 705 W. FM 700.

If you are unable to attend, we invite you to worship with us through the live stream on our website at: [fbcbigspring.org](http://fbcbigspring.org).

## Spring Creek Fellowship

“Connection Groups” are meeting now on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. “Community Groups” meet Wednesday nights at various locations. Go to our website or call the church office for more info.

Chronic Pain Management group meets Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. at the church.

“Sowing Seeds of Hope” fiber crafts and prayer shawl ministry meets at the church Saturdays at 10:00 am. If you are interested in learning a fiber craft (crochet, knitting, weaving, felting, etc.) or have projects you would like to share or just to have some fellowship while crafting, come join us!!!

If you are a musician or singer and would be interested in being a part of our Worship Team, contact Klint Bratcher. We need your talents.

Weekly Happenings:

Sunday-

8:15 a.m. - Classical Worship Service - More traditional music, etc. than our current Worship Service

9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. - Sunday school/connection groups

10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. - “Holy Grounds Café” is open with snacks and fellowship.

10:45 a.m. - Noon - Worship Service

Tuesday-

Noon - 2 p.m. - Prayer team

Noon - Narcotics anonymous

6 p.m. - Pain management group

Friday-

7 p.m. - 8 p.m. - Narcotics anonymous

Saturday-

7:30 a.m. - Weekly men’s prayer breakfast and fel-



Courtesy Photo

On Valentines Day, First United Methodist Church celebrated marriage with a Sweetheart Banquet at six o’clock. The banquet was designed to promote strong, vital marriages within the congregation. The fun evening included a delicious meal catered by the Blue Ribbon Cafe, dinner music played by Mr. Clay Allen at piano, and entertainment by magician Ben Nabors of Canyon, Texas. Three couples also participated in a spoof of the “Newlywed Game” called “The Not So Newlywed Game.” The evening was capped off when Pastor Bill Ivins presented each couple with a book entitled “Love and Respect” by Dr. Emerson Eggerichs.

lowship

10 a.m. - “Sowing Seeds of Hope” crafting fellowship

Sunday

4 p.m. - “Grief Share”

If you would like any further information regarding any of our ministries or events, please contact the church office or visit our website.

Spring Creek Fellowship meets at the Spring Town Plaza at 1801 E. FM 700. Contact us at 432-714-4584 or visit our website at [www.springcreekfellowship.org](http://www.springcreekfellowship.org).

## Blessed Hands Deaf Church

Please join us Sunday at 10:50 a.m. or 2 p.m. as we gather to worship our Risen Savior Jesus Christ.

Pastor Jim Walterhouse, and wife Debbie, invite

you to be a part of this growing congregation and come together with them to praise God and study His Word. Currently, BHDC meets inside First Baptist Church at 705 W. FM 700. For detailed information about Blessed Hands Deaf Church, including Wednesday evening schedule and activities, contact Pastor Jim at: [jwalterhouse@gmail.com](mailto:jwalterhouse@gmail.com).

Courtesy Photo

Area young people gather at First Baptist Church during the retreat ‘Discipleship Now’, which featured Bible based instruction for practical life application for modern teens.

The Discipleship Now youth retreat was co-sponsored by College Baptist Church, FBC-Stanton, and FBC- Big Spring.

Cordially Invite You to Attend our Services

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	Evangelistic Service.....6:00 p.m.
	Wednesday Service.....7:00 p.m.



Randy Cotton  
Pastor



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March 23:  
**Good Scout Award Luncheon:**  
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Honoring Jerry Worthy. RSVP Zachary Mullins at **432-212-3577** or [zack.mullins@scouting.org](mailto:zack.mullins@scouting.org) RSVP by **March 16, 2016**

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### Lady Hawks fall to Odessa, playoff chance takes big hit

By DREW WILLIAMS

Sports Editor

The Howard Lady Hawks' (17-11, 7-6) playoff chances look a little slimmer after a 46-40 loss to the Odessa Lady Wranglers (18-8, 7-5) Thursday night.

A rough start had the Hawks down 19-8 after the first quarter. They had trouble getting anything going in their half-court offense, and 6'3" Odessa center Lorena Hubbard was a matchup nightmare for them. They battled back after being down 10-2 to start the game, but three travels and turnovers in the paint gave Odessa the 11-point lead after one. They were also having trouble finding their open teammates, which led to the majority of their shots being contested and then missed.

The Lady Hawks didn't see any improvement offensively in the second quarter, and by halftime, had only scored seven points and trailed 31-15.

The offense was still stagnant through the third quarter, but their defense got them back to the game. Howard held Odessa to 2-for-16 from the floor and outscored the Lady Wranglers 12-7 to cut the lead back to 11 after three.

The Lady Wranglers made a basket early, but Howard guard Ashlyn Hoover answered with a 3-pointer to make Odessa's lead 40-30. Camille Hoover followed with a fade away the next possession to get the Hawks within single digits at 40-32 with 5:40

left on the clock.

Just when it looked like the Lady Hawks had gained some momentum, Odessa's Shelby Richards drained a three to get their lead back to eleven. The Lady Hawks played well and got within four at 43-39, but with only 42 seconds left, it was too little, too late. Richards iced the game with two late free throws and the Lady Wranglers held on for the 46-40 win.

Richards was on fire from the floor in the first half with 14 points on 6-of-8 shooting, but fell silent in the second until her big 3-pointer and free throws. She led all scorers with 19 points and had a high seven rebounds.

Ashlyn Hoover paved the way for the Lady Hawks with nine points, while Marie Tsoungui, Aubrie Elliot and Camille Hoover added six points each in the loss.

The loss puts Howard a half game back of Odessa, who moved into third place in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference. The Lady Hawks are now tied with South Plains College (19-10, 7-6) for the fourth and final playoff spot. Each team has one conference game remaining, but Howard's game will be much more of a challenge. They take on New Mexico Junior College (25-2, 12-0) at 5 p.m. Monday, while South Plains will play Western Texas College (17-10, 4-8).

Contact Sports Editor Drew Williams at 432-263-7331 ext 237.



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Lady Hawks guard Camille Hoover drives the ball to the basket.

### Hawks lose to Odessa College, 76-60

By DREW WILLIAMS

Sports Editor

The Odessa Wranglers' (22-5, 11-3) size was too much for the Howard

Hawks (15-13, 5-9) Thursday night as their inside game and rebounding led the Wranglers to a 76-60 win.

Odessa's starting forward and tall-

est player, Traylin Farris, injured himself in pregame warmups, but forward Devin Davis picked up the slack by getting a double-double

with 31 points and 10 rebounds. He finished the first half with 17 points and seven rebounds and the Wranglers led 35-27 at the break.

Hawks forward Shaquille Preston, who is the only player on the team who could match Odessa's size, got in foul trouble early and only played seven minutes in the first half. Guard Reggie Oliver kept Howard in the game with 12 points in 19 minutes played on 5-of-7 shooting.

The Hawks started the second half on fire, and an eight-point halftime deficit became a 42-40 lead after a 15-5 run with 15:18 left. Odessa then called a timeout and changed their game plan to put an emphasis on pounding the ball inside, and Howard's lead evaporated quickly while Davis and Wranglers forward Tyree Robinson did just that.

Odessa followed the Hawks run with a 19-6 run of their own for a 59-48 lead. Winston Morgan answered back with a 3-pointer, but a technical foul on Hawks head coach Scott Raines for telling the referee, "Shame on you," put the lead back to 10 after two free throws, and Odessa kept possession.

"We got that lead and

they just answered right back," Raines said.

The Wranglers never looked back as the run turned into a 30-11 run and a 70-53 lead with 6:07 remaining. They ran the clock on their remaining possessions to hold on for the 76-60 win.

The Wranglers had five players in double figures, including two off the bench in guard Louis Adams and forward Elijah Davis. That hurt the Hawks as they only got six points out of their bench, but the dagger was the second half shooting. The Hawks shot 28 percent from the field and 25 percent from deep, while Odessa had a second half shooting percentage of 54.

"We're not going to beat these top teams unless we have a decent night shooting the ball," Raines said after the game.

The Hawks had to use their quickness to stay in the game to compensate for their lack of height, and the fatigue that set in could have played a big part in the dropping shooting percentage.

"We didn't have quite the same pep in our step as we did last week," Raines said. "But we made that really good run there and we started creating some turnovers, and we probably ran out of gas a little bit."

In the end though, Davis was just too much for Howard. He took over the game the same way he's taken over countless games for Odessa. He's third in the conference in points per 40 minutes with 35.8, and Raines gave him credit for the game he had.

"I think the game tonight was just more about Odessa and 15 (Davis), what a good player he is," he said.

Oliver finished as the leading scorer for the Hawks with 21 points, and Shaquille Preston added 15 in the loss.

The Hawks take on New Mexico Military Institute (9-18, 1-13) next at 7 p.m. Monday at Howard College.



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Hawks forward Shaquille Preston lays in the bucket against OC.

### With cap set to soar, NBA trade deadline brought caution

By TIM REYNOLDS

AP Basketball Writer

MIAMI (AP) — In past years, a team like the Toronto Raptors almost certainly would have been looking to add some help for the stretch run. They're holding down second place in the Eastern Conference, have been one of the league's hottest teams for the last month and seem poised to make a significant playoff push.

Yet on this trade-deadline day, they did nothing.

They weren't alone. For the most part, Thursday's deadline came and went with most NBA teams seeming cautious, with the huge rise in the salary cap for next season — and the uncertainty of how the free-agent market will react to that over the summer — deterring clubs from making moves that might adversely affect their flexibility going forward.

"Yes, we are in a different situation from last year," Raptors general manager

Masai Ujiri said.

He was talking about his team. He may as well have been talking about the league, where there's a clear wait-and-see approach about how the massive cap jumps that are coming will inevitably change the way teams go about their business. This season's cap was a record \$70 million. That seems like pocket change when compared to how next season will likely top \$90 million, and a cap of \$110 million or more for 2017-

18 is possible.

"The spike is something we're all aware of ... as we're thinking about things and trying to create more financial opportunities in the coming summer, for us to grow and get better," Atlanta coach Mike Budenholzer said. "I'm sure every team is similar."

There were several deals Thursday, but no blockbuster.

Cleveland landed Channing Frye and the Los Angeles Clippers got Jeff Green for

perhaps the two biggest player moves among contending teams, while Miami got under the luxury-tax threshold and Orlando opened up about \$45 million in a pair of key accomplishments with an eye toward the future.

Besides, with Golden State off to a 48-4 start, there probably aren't that many teams thinking they have a legitimate chance of winning it all this year anyway.



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HERALD





**Pisces Solar Transit**

Psychologists, coaches

HOLIDAY and spiritual gurus

and speak of controlling the "inner experience," and yet there are a fair number for whom this concept seems so foreign that the experts may as well be asking us to sprout wings out our backs and fly. Poets and artists are especially feral inside, as pointed out by the sun crossing into Pisces.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). When there aren't a lot of features in a situation, each detail is all the more precious. This is a main tenant of minimalism -- fewer things to concentrate on will encourage a deeper appreciation of each one.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). The experienced warriors know that there are times when it's best to cross the bridge and burn it behind you so the enemy can't follow. But you only strike the match when you're sure you

never want to get back to a place. **GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Your friendships need tending to as you move forward: a little refresher here, mending a small tear there, adding new bonding and fresh influences. Just don't let anything get stale. These are treasures in need of polish.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). You may temporarily lose track of the joy, the passion, the reason ... but don't lose track of your persistence. Keep going, one foot in front of the other. The joy will come back; then the passion; then the reason.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You need to be needed. You love to be loved. You want to be wanted. This is precisely what makes you such a perfect candidate for exciting adventures in love today.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). In all ventures, Virgos are craving a counterpart -- an equal with complementary skills. Singles may still be debating whether a romantic candidate is strong enough to be the kind of partner that is needed at this

**Tomorrow's Horoscope**

conjunction. **LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Though you certainly deserve it, you don't always have cheerleaders around you. It really benefits all if you're able to do this for yourself without feeling weird about it. Pump up your self-belief. You can do this!

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). If you hang back and talk about it, you'll only talk yourself out of it. Stop socializing, agonizing and analyzing. There's no point, considering you already know what to do. Jump in and scramble through.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You can avoid criticism by avoiding production, creation and expression. But what's the fun in that? When you're not producing, you're not being yourself. The most expedient thing would be to stop caring what "they" think.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You don't have to choose between two extremes. Examine your choices more carefully. They probably have more to

do with applying the resources you have toward being an effective human being. **AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There is nothing mundane to the eye that chooses to see it as mesmerizing instead. You have such an eye. You'll use your talent to help others appreciate the environment better.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). The trick is to get your imagination and eyes to focus on the same thing in approximately the same way. This will never happen completely, but you can come close and get these two working

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Feb. 19). Your talent and genius won't be rewarded until your persistence is -- that will be a glorious day indeed! You'll be working toward it for the next 10 weeks; then at the start of May there will be a celebration involving many you know and new faces, too, promoting you and launching you into a new stratosphere. Cancer and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 30, 5, 28 and 11.

**WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST:** ARIES: "Keep calm and carry on" works to advance your relationship. TAURUS: The partner who helps you see your life more objectively is invaluable. GEMINI: Having a few regrets at the end of this weekend will only prove that you were living fully. CANCER: The one who seems to have it all together needs you more than you could ever know. LEO: Someone is hanging by the phone, waiting for you to make it ring. VIRGO: You're so down-to-earth; you almost long to be mentally led astray by someone distracting enough to throw you for that kind of loop. LIBRA: A big part of a special relationship is all the other people this person carries into your life -- people you wouldn't know otherwise. SCORPIO: You may be jealous of how friends can drift in and out of one another's realm with ease, whereas there's an expectation for romantic partners to be much more connected. SAGITTARIUS: Basic

"roommate" type considerations will have a bearing on relationships. CAPRICORN: You're ready to share more of yourself, and so is the other person. AQUARIUS: Two special dates will occupy you, giving you much to compare and contrast. PISCES: You're ready to live, laugh and love your way through the weekend, but don't be surprised if rest and relaxation are at the top of your partner's list.

**COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND:** The Leo moon and the Pisces sun intensify the energy flying between these two signs. Leo likes to assume leadership of this duo but actually possesses only a tenuous illusion of power that Pisces has woven for the purpose of make-believe. Leo loves the fairytale fantasy of their story and will be delighted to play in this realm for as long as Pisces keeps the adoration flowing.

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**HERALD**

**Dear Annie:** My ex-son-in-law has temporary custody of my granddaughter, "Cathy," who is 8. Every time I buy her something, she wants to leave it at my house. I couldn't understand why so I asked her father. He said it was because Cathy had overheard him talking to his ex (my daughter), fussing that Cathy would lose things they bought her, or she would forget to bring the item back to the parent's house where it belonged when she stayed overnight with the other parent.

I think the problem is that Cathy has her mom and three sets of grandparents who buy her things, and Dad now has a stepdaughter who doesn't get much (if anything) from her father or grandparents. She is 3 years older than Cathy.

I don't think Cathy needs to be punished because her step-sister doesn't have much of a relationship with her family. Any help would be appreciated. -- Sad Nana

**Dear Nana:** You have no cause to be sad. Cathy isn't being "punished." Your ex-son-in-law is trying to be kind to his stepdaughter.

It must be terribly hurtful for her to see how much Cathy is indulged when she is neglected. You should absolutely get on board with this. Tell Cathy you think it's a great idea for her to keep those gifts in your house so she can use them when she visits. Put a positive spin on it. Make those presents special "Grandma" things. Your job is to provide a place of stability and calm for Cathy, not to undermine her father's decision to limit how many presents are at his house, whatever the reason.

**Dear Annie:** I recently stopped at my husband's office and needed to use the bathroom. I was so angry when I noticed a calendar that had half-naked women on it. My husband thinks the calendar is OK, but now I feel as though I'm not good enough or pretty enough for him.

There are only men who work in this office, and he says the calendar belongs to everyone. He's the boss. I want it down! Am I being silly? -- Outraged in Pennsylvania

**Dear Outraged:** You're not being silly, but you are totally out of line. This is not

**Annie's Mailbox**

your office. You don't work there. If there were female employees, then your husband would be wise to remove the calendar lest he be sued for creating a hostile work environment. Or, if it were common practice for female clients to stop by and use the restroom where they would see the calendar and become upset, it would be smart to get rid of it. But since only men work there and women don't generally visit, this is none of your business.

Girlie calendars have been around forever. We agree that they are sopho-

moric, but guys have always liked to look. It has nothing to do with your husband not finding you "pretty enough." Please put your insecurities away and stop telling him how to run his office. It will only lead to trouble. For you.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to [anniesmailbox@creators.com](mailto:anniesmailbox@creators.com), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. You can also find Annie on Facebook at [Facebook.com/AskAnnies](https://www.facebook.com/AskAnnies). To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers

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**sudoku**

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

		3	4			9	1	
4						5		3
	5			2				4
	3				2	7		
			5		1			
		6	9				3	
8				6			9	
3		9						2
	1	7			3	8		

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**MAKE TIME FOR FAMILY READING**



By Steve Becker  
**Bidding Quiz**

You are South, both sides vulnerable. The bidding has been:  
North East South West  
1♣ 1♠ Pass Pass  
Dble Pass ?

What would you bid now with each of the following four hands?  
1. ♠9764♥87542♦86♣73  
2. ♠752♥Q86543♦96♣K9  
3. ♠KJ982♥762♦K743♣10  
4. ♠8♥K964♦K9875♣J106

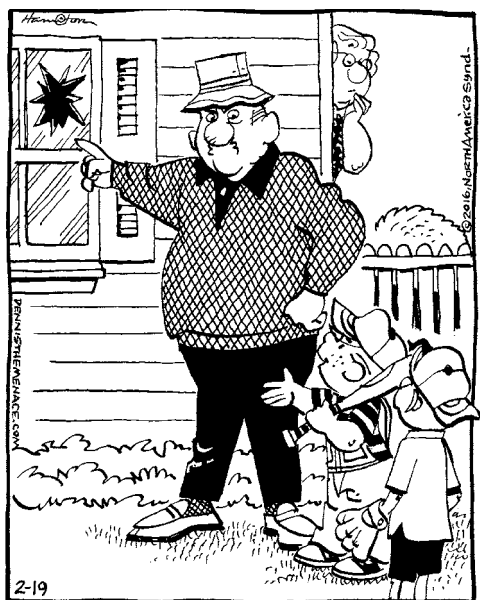
1. **Two hearts.** Normally when you pick up a hand like this, the best you can do is prepare to meet your Maker, but here you have a reasonable chance to come out alive. Partner's double of one spade is for takeout, not penalties. He is asking you politely to bid, and you must respond. Your response does not promise values, because you are simply following orders. Hands where your partner would want to double one spade for penalties are much too rare for the double in this sequence to be treated as a penalty double. If partner wanted to defend against one spade, he would pass. He would also pass with a minimum opening bid — especially one with three or more spades — having spoken his piece when he said one club. With a one-suited hand he would rebid his clubs, while with a two-suited hand he would bid his other suit. It follows that for his dou-

ble, he must have support for all three suits aside from spades, making two hearts a tolerable resting place.  
2. **Three hearts.** This is a much more promising hand, so it should be bid differently. Three hearts tells partner that, despite your previous pass, there is a chance for game. Partner might have a hand such as: ♠6♥KJ92♦A53♣AQ872, and will happily carry on to four.  
3. **Pass.** Partner has asked you to bid, but it is your prerogative to convert his intended takeout double into a penalty double when your hand merits it. In this instance it is hard to imagine a better contract for your side than one spade doubled played by East, so you pass.  
4. **Two spades.** You don't have much in the way of high cards, but your hand may very well produce a game on the bidding. These glad tidings can best be conveyed by cuebidding the opponents' suit, thus asking partner to bid a new suit or rebid his clubs. Partner won't play you for a big hand since you passed one spade on the previous round and thus showed limited values. If you play "negative" doubles over opposing overcalls, you had just enough to double one spade at your first turn; in that case, partner could then take control of the bidding from that point on, depending on the nature of his hand.



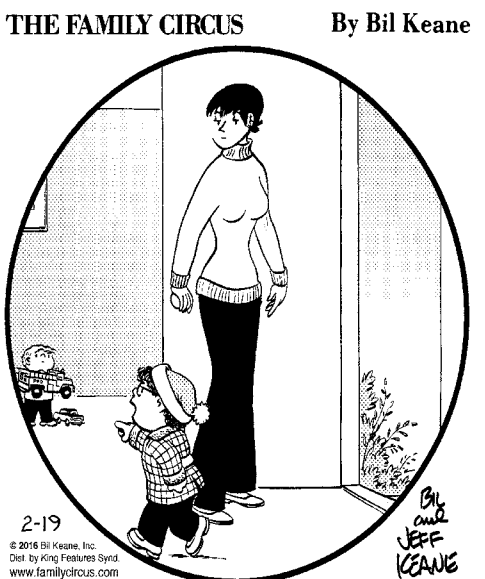
Table with 30 columns (KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLE, KWES, KMLM, KPBT, KWWT, KWES, WTBS, TNT, ESPN, ESPN2, FSN, USA, A&E, DISC) and 24 rows of TV listings.

DENNIS THE MENACE



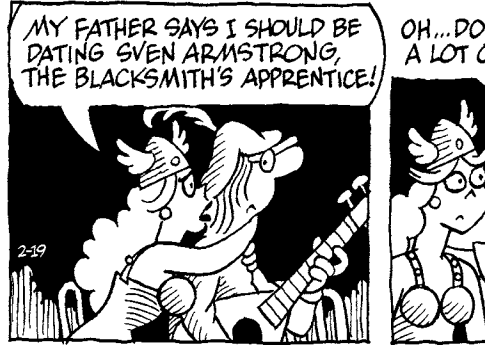
TELL YOU WHAT, MR. WILSON... WE'LL LET YOU HOLD ONTO THAT BALL. IT'LL LOOK GOOD IN YOUR COLLECTION.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

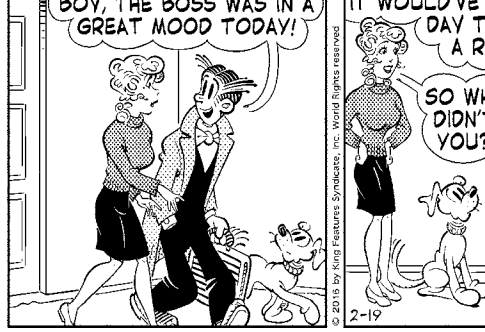


Well, since Billy's not home, I'll settle for playing with Jeffy instead.

HAGAR



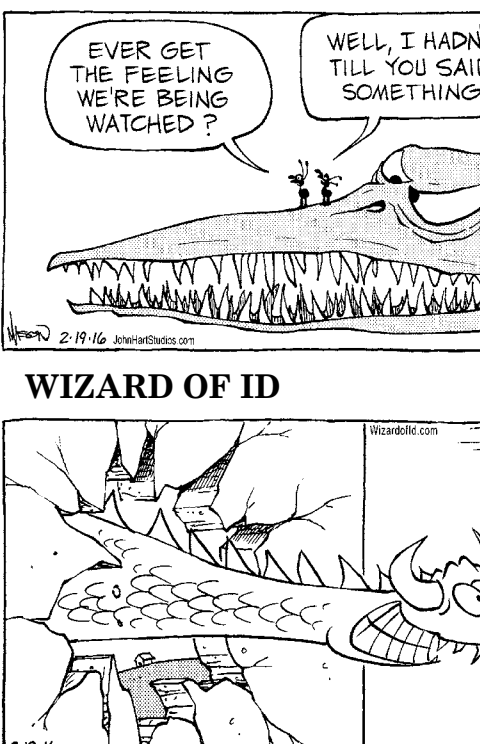
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WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



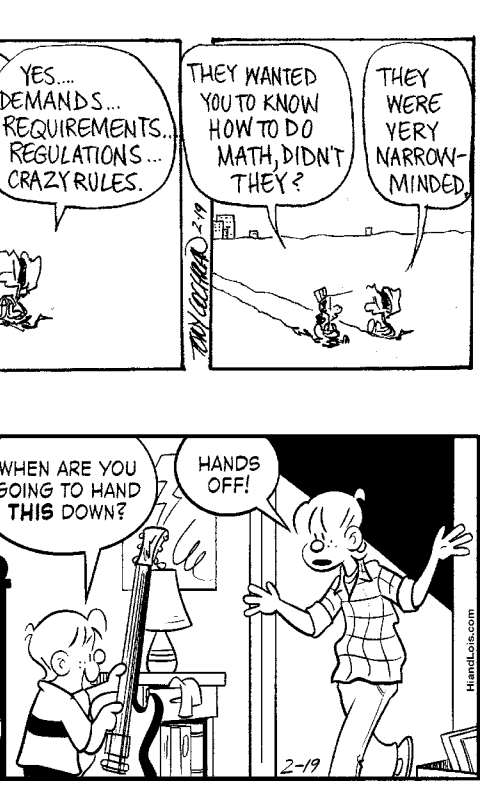
HI AND LOIS



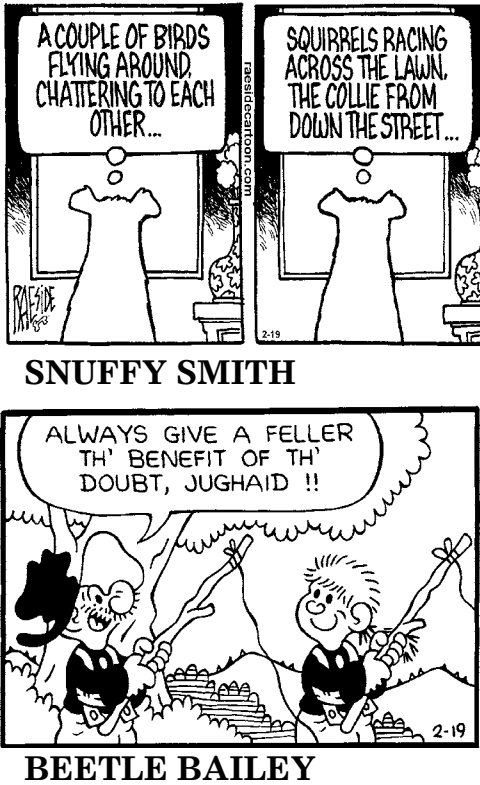
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



This Date In History

Today is Friday, Feb. 19, the 50th day of 2016. There are 316 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Feb. 19, 1986, the U.S. Senate approved, 83-11, the Genocide Convention...

for the U.S. military to relocate and intern people of Japanese ancestry (including U.S.-born citizens) during World War II. In 1945, Operation Detachment began during World War II...

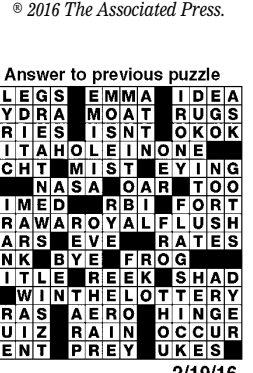
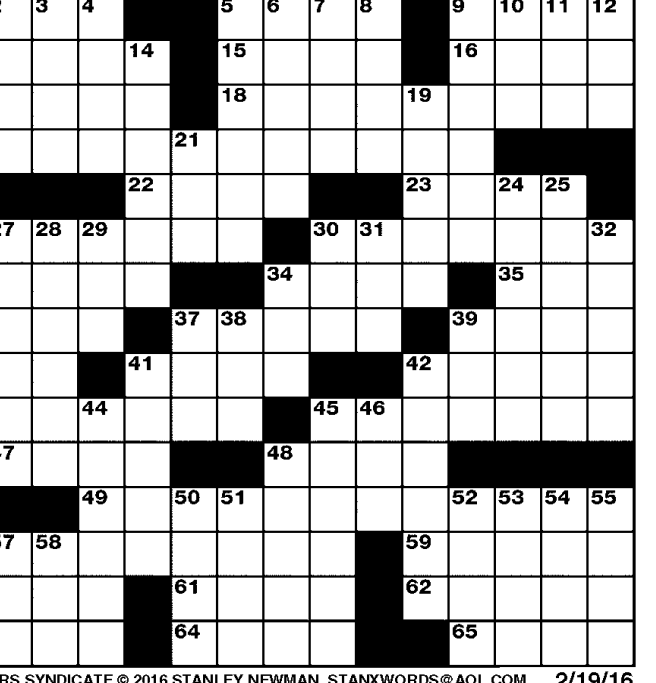
resigned the Cuban presidency after nearly a half-century in power; his brother Raul was later named to succeed him. Ten years ago: A gas explosion in northern Mexico killed 65 miners...

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS 1 Incomplete Wikipedia article 5 Auditor's work 9 Back across utility vehicle 13 Lowlifes 15 Subject of a Genesis question 16 Shade of gray 17 Enhancement 18 Natural result 20 Start of a quote 22 Foot specialist? 23 The IOC's Athlete of the Century 26 Middle of quote 30 Unshakable 33 Clumsy mistake 34 Covered (in) 35 Concern of a global WHO program 36 Defense installation 37 With 45 Across, source of quote 39 One way to say "Now!" 40 Call for passage 41 Court order 42 Engineering data 43 Erstwhile readers' chain 45 See 37 Across 47 Depreciate 48 Done, in Verdun 49 End of quote 56 Hot stuff 59 Perform at a luau, perhaps 60 Oil Market report producer 61 Fifth Roman emperor

BALANCING ACT

- 14 Take quickly 19 Any fat-soluble vitamin 21 ATM inputs 24 Crane, at times 25 Tie up 26 Long-running Britcom 27 Insurer of Springsteen's voice 28 World's largest cosmetics company 29 Little bit 30 Just like 31 Contemptuous comment 32 Bold 34 Call out 37 Medical specialty prefix 38 Deep-dish pizza holder 39 Letters on some ocean lotions 41 Cutting edge enhancer 42 Squeal 44 Extreme folly 45 Big name in basketballs 46 \_\_\_ little bit 48 Botanical study 50 Bills getting redone in 2020 51 One more time 52 Vocalized 53 Brief record 54 Either of two credits on the True Grit remake 55 Culminates 56 Paragon of patience 57 Financial Literacy Mo. 58 Green land



2/19/16



# Clippers overwhelm Spurs in 4th quarter for 105-86 victory

By **BETH HARRIS**

AP Sports Writer  
LOS ANGELES (AP) — Chris Paul poured all his emotion from a long, difficult day into his night job, willing his team to victory while playing a game-high 37 minutes.

Paul had 28 points and 12 assists hours after attending a funeral in Oklahoma, and the Los Angeles Clippers led all the way to beat San Antonio 105-86 on Thursday night, snapping the Spurs' six-game winning streak coming out of the All-Star break.

About two hours before tipoff, Paul returned from Oklahoma City where he attended the funeral of Ingrid Williams, wife of Thunder assistant coach Monty Williams, whom he knows from his days playing in New Orleans. She was killed in a car accident at age 44.

"It really put a lot of stuff in perspective," Paul said. "At the end of the day, it is just basketball."

Clippers coach Doc Rivers and his son Austin, along with Spurs coach Gregg Popovich, Tim Duncan and David West also traveled to the funeral.

Reserve Jamal Crawford added 19 points and J.J. Redick had 17 points for the Clippers, who saw their 20-point lead whittled to five

in the fourth quarter before they exploded offensively.

Paul scored 18 points in the quarter when he also set up some nifty assists on a 3-pointer by Crawford and a monster dunk by DeAndre Jordan, who also played 37 minutes.

"Chris' leadership has been through the roof," Crawford said. "Everybody stepped up."

Tony Parker scored 14 points and West had 12 for the Spurs, whose 45-9 record is second-best in the NBA. Duncan had two points on 1-of-6 shooting and grabbed six rebounds in 20 minutes.

"The group did not play at a high enough level to win a road game," West said. "We were not solid enough, and obviously we shot the ball like crap in the first half. We just could not execute enough to keep pace with them."

The Spurs made a big run late in the third, rallying from 20 points down to within nine. West scored seven points in their 21-10 spurt. He had three of their first four points in the fourth to get to 72-67.

That's when Paul got his team going. He found Crawford alone in the left corner for a 3, then Paul scored five straight points before Jordan slammed down his alley-oop



Los Angeles Clippers guard Chris Paul, right, shoots as San Antonio Spurs forward David West defends during the second half Thursday's game. (AP photo)

pass. Paul got fouled attempting a 3-pointer and made all three free throws for an 85-73 lead.

Paul kept scoring before sitting down for good and turning over the offense to Crawford in the final minutes.

The Clippers opened their 20-point lead by outscoring the Spurs 20-8 to start the third. Redick had eight points and Paul added seven while they combined to hit three 3-pointers.

**TIP-INS**  
Spurs: F Kawhi Leonard sat out because of tightness in his left calf. ... Their 34 points in the first half were a season-

low. ... It was the fourth time this season that the Spurs didn't lead in the first half.

... Parker had four points on 2-of-7 shooting and Duncan shot 1 of 4 for two points in the first half. ... They fell to 17-9 on the road.

Clippers: F Blake Griffin and assistant equipment manager Matias Testi rejoined the team for the first time since Griffin punched his friend in the face on Jan. 23 in Toronto. Griffin is recovering from a broken hand and won't play until sometime next month.

... G Austin Rivers said he expects to return in 10 days to two weeks from a hairline

fracture in his left hand. "It's healing really fast," he said.

**GREEN TRADE**

The Clippers sent guard Lance Stephenson to Memphis for forward Jeff Green and a future protected first-round draft pick. Rivers said he told his front office staff to make the deal just as the funeral was starting in Oklahoma City.

"I really didn't know if the trade was done because I didn't want to look at my phone," he said.

Rivers said the Clippers would have kept Stephenson if they hadn't been able to get Green's length.

## TRADES

Continued from Page 9

Hence, wait 'til next year — or at least 'til next summer — might have been the most prudent policy.

"We've been on the other side of it not too long ago when you never knew if you were one piece away or one move away or how a trade could impact a season either positively or negatively," Warriors guard and reigning MVP Stephen Curry said.

Detroit was the most notable exception at trade time, with the Pistons adding Tobias Harris (his contract that runs through 2018-19), plus taking a chance on Donatas Motiejunas. He'll be a restricted free agent, so Detroit will have a chance to keep him if it so chooses.

"I don't think anybody in the NBA knows exactly what the market is going to look like for guys this summer," Pistons coach Stan Van Gundy told the team's website. "You gauge it the best you can. ... We weren't going to give away assets for unrestricted free agents and so we feel good about it."

Most of the deals that were bandied about in

recent weeks never happened.

Dwight Howard, Al Horford and Kevin Love — all big names who got trade attention — stayed put.

"Certainly the cap changes are going to make players under contract more valuable," Cleveland general manager David Griffin said. "But I think in some cases people who had a big expiring contract weren't getting the value they hoped to get because the guy was most likely going to walk."

That's likely why Howard is still with Houston.

It would have taken a strong combination of players and draft picks to get the Rockets to move him anyway, which some teams seemed willing to consider. But with Howard holding a \$23 million player option for next season, he could — and by all indications, will

— opt to become a free agent instead. So landing him would have come at a huge cost for some team who likely would have seen him leave July 1 anyway, and no deal got struck.

"There's no question that the new cap impacted not only the fundamentals of this trade period, but maybe even more the psychology of it as well," Utah Jazz general manager Dennis Lindsey said.

Minnesota GM Milt Newton understood why teams were hesitant.

"Why bring someone into the fold that might take away some of your cap space when you're not necessarily sold?" Newton said. "It may make your team better if you're a playoff team for this year, but how will it affect you next year?"

The NBA will know that answer in a few months.



Not traded at the deadline, center Dwight Howard could be the top free agent this offseason. (AP photo/Carlos Osorio)



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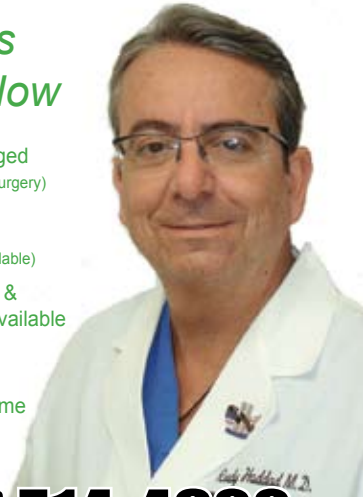
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## News in brief

### Pope shines spotlight on GOP minority challenges

SPARTANBURG, S.C. (AP) — The Republican Party's tug-of-war over its relationship with black and Hispanic voters was under way long before Pope Francis decided to answer a question about Donald Trump.

On one side, Marco Rubio and others insist the GOP must attract more minorities to win the presidency. On the other, leading rivals Trump and Ted Cruz embrace fiery rhetoric designed to motivate angry white conservatives. Complicating it all is immigration, the issue the party's pragmatic professionals can't square with the passions of their most faithful voters.

Pope Francis on Thursday shined an international spotlight on the intra-party debate when, asked about Trump's call to build a massive wall on the U.S.-Mexican border, he said those who seek to build walls instead of bridges are not Christian.

It's a high-stakes clash that could determine much more than South Carolina's Republican primary election on Saturday, but also whether the GOP nominee succeeds in November's general election.

"I don't think conservatism has ethnic boundaries," Rubio told The Associated Press on Thursday as he campaigned alongside South Carolina's Indian-American Gov. Nikki Haley and African-American Sen. Tim Scott.

### Big tech companies are joining Apple in its encryption fight

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The tech industry is starting to line up with Apple in its fight against the federal government over the encryption it uses to keep iPhones secure.

Earlier this week, a U.S. magistrate ordered Apple to help investigators break into an iPhone used by one of the San Bernardino mass shooters. Apple has until next Tuesday to challenge that ruling, setting the stage for a legal clash that could determine whether tech companies or government authorities get the final say on just how secure devices like smartphones can be.

CEO Tim Cook decried the order on Tuesday, saying it would degrade iPhone security and make users more vulnerable to spies and cyber thieves. Increasingly, other prominent tech companies agree.

"We stand with @tim\_cook and Apple (and thank him for his leadership)!" Twitter chief executive Jack Dorsey wrote in a tweet Thursday afternoon.

In a statement late Thursday, Facebook said it condemns terrorism and also appreciates the essential work of law enforcement in keeping people safe. But it said it will "fight aggressively" against requirements for companies to weaken the security of their systems.

### Mourners to pay respects Friday to late Justice Scalia

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a day of ceremony and tribute, the casket carrying Justice Antonin Scalia will lie in repose at the Supreme Court where he spent nearly three decades as one of its most influential members.

Thousands of mourners — from the president and members of Congress to former justices and tourists — will pay their respects Friday as the casket rests in the court's Great Hall.

The justice's former law clerks will take turns standing vigil by their former boss throughout the day and night in a tradition most recently observed

after the 2005 death of former Chief Justice William Rehnquist.

Court officials said Scalia's casket will arrive Friday morning.

Supreme Court police will carry it up the court steps, with former clerks following as honorary pallbearers.

The casket will be placed in the court's Great Hall on the Lincoln Catafalque, the platform on which President Abraham Lincoln's coffin rested in the Capitol rotunda in 1865.

A 2007 portrait of Scalia by artist Nelson Shanks will be displayed nearby.

### Report: Turkey presses ahead with cross-border shelling

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Turkey's state-run news agency says the Turkish military is pushing ahead with its cross-border artillery shelling campaign against U.S.-backed Syrian Kurdish militia positions in Syria.

Anadolu Agency reported late on Thursday that artillery shells had "intermittently" targeted militia positions near the town of Azaz.

The report came as Turkey blamed the Syrian militia group as well as Turkey's own Kurdish rebels for Wednesday's bomb attack in Ankara that killed 28 people.

It also called on its allies to cut off support to the militia group.

The Kurdish militia, however, has been most effective in the fight against the Islamic State group in Syria.

Ankara appears increasingly uneasy over the group's recent gains across its border and has continued to shell the militia despite international calls for it to stop.

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