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# BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2016



VOLUME 111, NUMBER 147      COPYRIGHT 2016      50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

## Balloon launch to focus attention on child abuse prevention

**What:** Child abuse awareness program  
**Where:** Scenic Mountain Medical Center's front lawn  
**When:** 6 p.m. Thursday, April 14, 2016

**Special to the Herald**  
 April is Child Abuse Awareness Prevention Month and, in recognition, Scenic Mountain Medical Center and other local agencies have joined together to put on the third annual Child Abuse Awareness Prevention Ceremony.

A balloon release ceremony will take place at 6 p.m. Thursday on the front lawn of Scenic Mountain Medical Center.  
 This year, the event is co-sponsored by CASA of West Texas, High Sky Children's Ranch, Bikers Against Child Abuse (BACA), Child Protective Services, Howard County

Child Welfare Board, Department of Family Services, Midland Rape Crisis & Children's Advocacy Center, Victim's Services and SMMC.  
 "Over the past couple of years we have been able to see a decrease in child abuse cases, but the number is still too high," said Kathy Harmon, CASA marketing specialist.

"Until we can get rid of child abuse completely, that is one to many children affected."  
 This is the third year for the event and it continues to grow.  
 Once again, live music will be provided by Loco Motives. The SMMC Auxillary Group  
 See **ABUSE**, Page 3

## Let's be careful out there



File photo

The Russ McEwen Family Aquatic Center will open for the summer when the annual Splash-In is held June 4.

## Fun and safety to go hand in hand when aquatic center opens this summer, city officials promise

**By STEVE REAGAN**  
 Staff Writer  
 With summer rapidly approaching, many area families are looking forward to fun afternoons at the Russ McEwen Aquatic Center, and city officials want to assure those people that fun and safety will be provided in equal measure.  
 During their Tuesday meeting, Big Spring City Council members engaged in a lengthy discussion on how to reassure visitors to the aquatic centers that officials are taking all necessary steps to ensure accidents or injuries will be minimized, if not altogether eliminated.

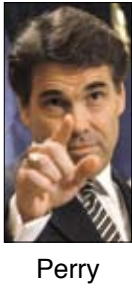
In the course of approving the city's annual contract with the YMCA to provide lifeguards this summer at the aquatic center, council members expressed a desire that the people tasked with watching over young swimmers are as well-versed as possible on proper safety and health procedures.  
 Lifeguards certified under the YMCA program are trained to deal with a variety of emergency conditions, but city officials expressed a desire for the city to expand that training further.  
 "A lot of things we do here (in council meetings) might appear to be inconsequential, but this is

vital for the safety of children and patrons (at the center)," District 6 Councilmember Jim DePauw said.  
 "We will have a bunch of teenaged lifeguards out there this summer, and for a lot of them, it'll be their first job, so I propose we have an orientation program for those folks that focuses on safety ... Wouldn't it be a nice feather in our cap if we were able to say at the end of the summer that no one got injured at the aquatic center?"  
 "I think an orientation is a great way to jump-start this," Mayor Larry McLellan added. "From our  
 See **COUNCIL**, Page 3

## Former governor endorses Arrington

**By AMANDA ELSTON**  
 Managing Editor

Jody Arrington's campaign can now boast the endorsement of someone all Texans will recognize, former Texas Gov. Rick Perry.  
 "There is a very important runoff election in the 19th Congressional District to select who can best represent the energy, agriculture, and national security interests of West Texas and the Big Country," said Perry. "I want y'all to know I am standing firmly with Jodey Arrington."  
 Arrington's campaign announced the endorsement Monday morning with Perry appearing with Arrington on the radio show West Texas Drive on 580 FM Monday afternoon.




Perry

"We need leaders who get real results," said Perry. "That's why I'm so strongly supporting Jodey Arrington and joined him on the campaign trail in Lubbock this week."  
 Along with the radio show, Arrington hosted a reception Monday night with Perry.  
 "Well first of all, it's a tremendous honor for me personally," Arrington said of the endorsement on West Texas Drive. "The governor has been a stalwart of conservative leaders for our great state, longest-serving governor in the history of Texas and under his leadership has made Texas, quite frankly, the exemplar for freedom and opportunity among the states in the Union."  
 Arrington is facing Lubbock Mayor Glen Robertson in the May 24 runoff election. Robertson recently received the endorsement of former District 19 candidate Dr. Donald May.  
 Early voting for the election is the week of May 16-20 with Election Day May 24.

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**To reach us:**  
 Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

## Chamber's candidate forum set for Monday

**By STEVE REAGAN**  
 Staff Writer  
 Voters will get the chance to hear municipal and college board candidates address the issues at a public forum set for Monday.  
 The candidate forum, sponsored by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, is set



ValVerde

for 6 p.m. in the Hall Center for the Arts on the Howard College Campus, 1001 Birdwell Lane.  
 "The chamber is encouraging everyone to come out and meet each

of the candidates in the mayoral, city council and Howard College board of trustee races," Chamber Executive Director Debbye ValVerde said.  
 "We will allow each candidate to speak for 10 minutes," ValVerde added. "This will not  
 See **FORUM**, Page 3

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## Obituaries

### Verona Ida Riegel

Verona "Ronnie" Riegel passed away.

She was born on May 3, 1920 in Pittsylvania County, Va. and died on April 10, 2016 in Prescott, Ariz. She moved there in 2012 to be near her son Phillip.

"Ronnie" had a lifelong career in nursing, having been trained as an U.S. Army nurse. She served in World War II then got her BS in nursing from the University of Virginia. She also

served in the Korean War and then continued as a RN in the Veteran's Administration until her retirement as Chief of Nursing at the Big Spring VA in 1977. She lived in Big Spring from 1974 until 2012 having made some very close friends who have missed her greatly since moving.

Ronnie enjoyed working in her yard and taking drives on the farm roads of West Texas. She will be buried at Trinity Memorial Park later this year. Verona was a devoted nurse and mother, but mostly a beautiful person. She is survived by her son, Phillip Riegel of Prescott, Ariz., and daughter, Lenda Issel of Santa Rosa, Calif.

*Paid obituary*

### Marie Lillian Johnke

Marie Lillian Johnke, 84, of Lubbock formerly of Big Spring died Friday, April 1, 2016 in Lubbock. No services are planned.

She was born March 21, 1932 to Virgil Hort and Claude Majors in Big Spring. She was raised on a farm north of Big Spring and raised her children there as well. She married Marvin E.

Johnke and he preceded her in death. She moved to Lubbock 15 years ago. She was a Baptist.

She is survived by one son, Marlin Johnke and wife Maria of Lubbock; one daughter, Barbara Ballard; and two granddaughters. In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her son in law, Bill Ballard and one granddaughter, Adrianna Johnke.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com).

## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **MICHAEL ANTHONY ESCANUELA**, 23, of 2311 Roberts Drive was arrested on warrants for failure to appear, disregarding a stop sign, expired registration, failure to maintain financial responsibility, and theft, greater than \$500 but less than \$1,500 from buildings.
- **JUAN FRANCISCO GARCIA JR**, 24, of 1402 Mt Vernon Avenue was arrested on charges of duty on striking unattended vehicle and theft of service, greater than \$500 but less than \$1,500.
- **NOEL GARCIA, III**, 34, of 2301 Alabama was arrested on a warrant for driving with invalid

license.

- **QUENTIN REID GASTON**, 18, of 1805 Old Colorado City was arrested on warrants for public intoxication and a warrant from another agency.
- **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported in the 2000 block of Alabama.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 3600 block of W Hwy 80, the 1000 block of S Scurry, and the 2000 block of S Gregg Street.
- **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1800 block of N Birdwell Lane.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 2600 block of Fairchild Lane and the 3600 block of W Hwy 80.

## Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 75 inmates at the time of this report.

- **ALVIN PHILLIP ALLEN**, 52, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for failure to identify with fugitive intent.
- **JEFFREY PAUL CARTER**, 51, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for burglary of building, unauthorized use of a vehicle, and criminal mischief, greater than \$750 but less than \$2,500.
- **MICHAEL ANTHONY ESCANUELA**, 23, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for theft of property, greater than \$500 but less than \$1,500, violation of promise to appear, disregarding a stop sign, expired registration, and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- **JUAN FRANCISCO GARCIA, JR**, 24, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for theft of services, greater than \$500 but less than \$1,500, and a charge of duty on striking unattended vehicle.

• **NOEL GARICA, III**, 34, as booked by the BSPD on a warrant for driving while license invalid.

- **QUENTIN REID GASTON**, 18, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for failure to maintain financial responsibility and public intoxication.
- **JACKIE TRUETT HOLMES, III**, 34, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for MTR/possession of a controlled substance, less than one gram.
- **LLOYDELL ARMSEY IRONROPE**, 38, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for assault - physical contact and failure to identify.
- **NGOC ELM NGUYEN**, 60, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for possession of gambling device/equipment, keeping a gambling place, and gambling promotion.
- **VICTOR PEREZ-ORNELAS**, 33, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for driving while intoxicated.
- **AARON BERTON VICARS**, 23, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for bail jumping and failure to appear.

## Support groups

### 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.

• A Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing Center.

### FRIDAY

• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

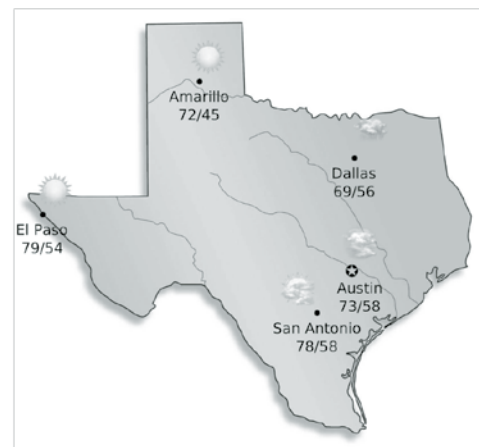
### SATURDAY

• 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.

### Local 5-Day Forecast

Thu 4/14	Fri 4/15	Sat 4/16	Sun 4/17	Mon 4/18
<b>79/55</b> Sunny skies. High 79F. Winds SSE at 10 to 20 mph.	<b>81/59</b> Windy with a mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 50s.	<b>75/53</b> Showers and t-storms late. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 50s.	<b>72/48</b> T-storms. Potential for heavy rainfall. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the upper 40s.	<b>73/53</b> Partly cloudy with a stray storm. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 50s.
Sunrise: 7:17 AM Sunset: 8:15 PM	Sunrise: 7:16 AM Sunset: 8:16 PM	Sunrise: 7:15 AM Sunset: 8:16 PM	Sunrise: 7:13 AM Sunset: 8:17 PM	Sunrise: 7:12 AM Sunset: 8:18 PM

### Texas at a Glance



### Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	67	51	Cloudy	Kingsville	80	62	Cloudy
Amarillo	72	45	Sunny	Livingston	72	60	M Cloudy
Austin	73	58	Showers	Longview	73	53	M Cloudy
Beaumont	76	62	Cloudy	Lubbock	72	49	M Cloudy
Brownsville	79	66	Cloudy	Lufkin	72	56	Few Showers
Brownwood	69	51	Cloudy	Midland	76	52	M Cloudy
Corpus Christi	81	64	Cloudy	Raymondville	81	66	Sct T-Storms
Corsicana	69	57	Cloudy	Rosenberg	74	61	M Cloudy
Dallas	69	56	Showers	San Antonio	78	58	Cloudy
Del Rio	82	60	M Cloudy	San Marcos	75	56	Few Showers
El Paso	79	54	Sunny	Sulphur Springs	67	53	Showers
Fort Stockton	77	54	Sunny	Sweetwater	69	51	M Cloudy
Gainesville	66	52	Showers	Tyler	69	54	M Cloudy
Greenville	67	53	Showers	Weatherford	69	53	Showers
Houston	75	62	Cloudy	Wichita Falls	68	51	Few Showers

### National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	67	53	Cloudy	Miami	82	71	Sunny
Boston	49	38	Sunny	Minneapolis	66	47	Sunny
Chicago	52	40	P Cloudy	New York	56	42	Sunny
Dallas	69	56	Showers	Phoenix	85	62	Sunny
Denver	75	45	Sunny	San Francisco	61	51	M Cloudy
Houston	75	62	Cloudy	Seattle	60	45	M Cloudy
Los Angeles	71	54	Cloudy	Saint Louis	65	41	Sunny

### Moon Phases

<b>First</b> Apr 14	<b>Full</b> Apr 22	<b>Last</b> Apr 30	<b>New</b> May 6

### UV Index

Thu 4/14	Fri 4/15	Sat 4/16	Sun 4/17	Mon 4/18
9	9	9	9	9
Very High	Very High	Very High	Very High	Very High

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection.

0 11

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### 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.

## BIG SPRING HERALD

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## Take Note

• Photographs of area military personnel — currently on the job or veterans — going about their daily life are currently being sought by the July 3 Pops in the Park committee to be used in a military tribute during the event.

The candid photos will be used during the photographic military salute portion of the Independence Day celebration.

Any wishing to provide photographs for the tribute can e-mail digital copies in a jpeg format to [popsinthepark2016@yahoo.com](mailto:popsinthepark2016@yahoo.com). Submissions must be sent by June 15. Also, photographs can be dropped off at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, 215 West Third St. to be scanned in during normal business hours. The person must leave a name and contact number with each submission.

• Dora Roberts Community Center is hosting a clinic on May 2nd, 2016 at 100 Whipkey Drive for Big Spring and Howard County residents to learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes, and other chronic, serious condition with affordable screenings by Life Line Screening. Screenings are affordable, convenient, and accessible for wheelchairs and those with trouble walking. Packages start at \$149, but consultants will work with you to create a package that is right for you based on your age and risk factors. Call 1-877-237-1287 for more information.

• The Howard County A&M Club is accepting applications from high school students who are graduating this May and have been accepted at Texas A&M University for the Fall 2016 semester. Students must be Howard county residents and will enroll for at least 12 hours. Application deadline is April 15. Application deadline for current A&M students is June 1. More information and the application can be found of the club website: [www.westexags.com](http://www.westexags.com)

• Seniors and mature adults are invited to a dance on the first, third and fifth Friday of each month at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

Dances are from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live bands. No alcohol or smoking permitted. There will be a pot luck as well so bring a dish if you want to eat. Cost is \$8 per person.

## Texas news in brief

### Texas 'affluenza' teen heads to adult court

DALLAS (AP) — A Texas teenager who used an "affluenza" defense in a fatal drunken-driving wreck will appear Wednesday in adult court for the first time.

Ethan Couch, who turned 19 on Monday, will appear before a Fort Worth judge who could order more jail time as part of the terms of Couch's adult probation. Prosecutors and court officials declined to confirm the nature of the hearing, saying the judge has issued a gag order.

Couch got 10 years' probation in juvenile court for a June 2013 wreck that left four dead and two severely injured. He landed in jail after he fled with his mother, Tonya, to Mexico when a video surfaced online showing Couch apparently at a party where alcohol was being served. Drinking alcohol is a violation of Couch's probation. The two were apprehended in Mexico in December and brought back to Texas in January.

### Surgery separates infant conjoined twins

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (AP) — Surgery at a South Texas hospital has separated two 10-month-old sisters born conjoined below the waist.

Driscoll Children's Hospital spokesman Jeff Salzgeber says the hourslong operation began Tuesday morning.

Ximena (huh-MEE-nuh) and Scarlett Hernandez-Torres shared a colon and bladders that will be reconstructed. Their identical triplet sister, Catalina, was born without serious health issues.

The hospital staff has cared for the conjoined girls since they were transferred to the Corpus Christi facility hours after birth.

Dr. Haroon Patel says a team of specialists had been working for months to prepare for the surgery, which lasted about 15 hours.

A hospital statement says doctors have a positive outlook for the children's recovery. The girls will require additional surgeries as they grow.

### Worker killed in trash compactor accident near San Antonio

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A 26-year-old worker has died after getting caught in a trash compactor in an accident near San Antonio.

Bexar (bayr) County Sheriff's Office spokeswom-

an Rosanne Hughes said that the man, who worked for Metro Waste Systems, became trapped in the back of a garbage collection truck Tuesday.

Hughes identified the victim as 26-year-old Benjamin Garza.

The sheriff's office is investigating the death as an accident.

### San Antonio area hit with hail, rain during overnight storms

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Hail as big as grapefruits has left behind broken windows and other storm damage in parts of South Texas.

The National Weather Service says the San Antonio area has a chance for additional thunderstorms through Wednesday.

Hail fell over much of north Bexar (bayr) County on Tuesday night, with forecasters saying an area near Helotes (hel-OH'-tis) recorded hail the size of grapefruits. San Antonio International Airport received more than an inch of rain.

Authorities had no immediate reports of anyone hurt. Bexar County sheriff's spokesman James Keith says at least nine law enforcement vehicles sustained hail damage.

Scattered street flooding was reported in San Antonio.

Forecasters say the Houston area also faced lingering thunderstorms through Wednesday and some high-water road issues following overnight rain.

### 2 die in Houston-area hit-and-run wreck during street racing

HOUSTON (AP) — Investigators are seeking the driver of a pickup truck blamed for a Houston-area hit-and-run street racing accident that left two people dead.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office says the wreck happened Tuesday night and the male driver ran from the scene.

Authorities say the fugitive's truck slammed into a car that was not involved in the racing between stoplights on a feeder road along a parkway. A man and a woman in the car died at the scene.

Investigators say two men were in another vehicle that allegedly was racing with the truck. Authorities say those two men checked on the victims but then drove away. They're also being sought.

Names of the victims weren't immediately released.

## ABUSE

Continued from Page 1

has once again donated teddy bears to be used in the Teddy Bear Clinic and the agencies involved will provide dif-

ferent activities for the children to take part in. This year, the Howard County Child Welfare Board will provide a karaoke corner.

"This has been an event that has continued to evolve over the years, which is a great

thing because it shows that more people are becoming aware of the issue," aid Amanda Duforat, SMMC marketing manager. "This year, we were able to make it more child friendly. We want this to be something for the entire fam-

ily. Child abuse is something that effects the entire community and we need to make sure that the awareness is raised at all age levels."

In addition to the balloon release, informational booths will be set up by the supporting

agencies.

"Child abuse is a topic that most would like to ignore, but it's time to stop hiding and stop ignoring the facts. Child abuse is an issue in our community and the more awareness we can bring to it, the closer we

are to stopping it," Harmon said. "This event is geared toward raising that awareness, but doing so in a way that the entire family can get involved."

For more information about this event, contact Duforat at 432-268-4699.

## COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1

standpoint, it's important people go through orientations so they're aware of things that might occur and what is expected of them as employees of the city."

City Manager Todd

Darden noted that graduates of the YMCA lifeguard program already are trained to deal with a variety of potential situations, and are routinely briefed by city personnel over rules and procedures. However, he added extra orientation could be very helpful.

"We have our orienta-

tion and the Y has their orientation," Darden said. "It is incumbent upon us to give new people an orientation and go through our expectations for people who will be working for the city, whether on a part-time or full-time basis."

Darden was quick to add, however, that lifeguards provided by

the YMCA have always proved to be up for the tasks given them.

"We are talking about a group of 16 -and-17-year-olds who have some of the same basic responsibilities as firefighters," Darden said. "I think they have always lived up to our expectations as far as saving lives and keeping

people safe."

In other business Tuesday, council approved:

• The city's annual financial report and the audit of the Economic Development Corp.

• Renaming Royal Coast Lane in the Highland South subdivision

to Holland Grace.

• A resolution providing healthcare insurance to qualified retirees and their families.

• The purchase of a new police vehicle.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at [reporter@bigspringherald.com](mailto:reporter@bigspringherald.com)

## FORUM

Continued from Page 1

be a question-and-answer forum. The audience will be able to meet one on one with the candidates prior to or after the forum."

Letters have gone out to all candidates. Candidates who have not responded or received a letter are urged to contact ValVerde today.

In the race for City Council District 5, Becky Winters, a local business owner, is challenging incumbent

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

The Howard College Board of Trustees race drew an unusual amount of interest from the community this year. In the Precinct 1 race, long-time trustee Michael Flores is running against Steve Escanelas. Precinct 2 also drew two candidates, Mark Morgan and Greg Moore. Both men are attempting to win their

first term on the board. The two at-large positions up for election drew three candidates — Adriel Saldivar and Ryan Williams, who were appointed to the board last fall to fill vacancies, and long-time educator Patricia Bennett.

Early voting in the municipal and school elections begins April 25 and runs through May 3. Election day is May 7.

"The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce does not endorse candidates," said ValVerde.

"But we do support our members and hope that the candidates look at what issues our local businesses, education, agriculture and other entities are faced with at this time and what will they see for the future."

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Marie Lillian Johnke, 84, died Friday, April 1, 2016 in Lubbock. No services are planned.

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# Opinion

*“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

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## Fracking has reduced greenhouse gases

The U.S. Department of Energy published data last week with some amazing revelations — so amazing that most Americans will find them hard to believe. As a nation, the United States reduced its carbon emissions by 2 percent from last year. Over the past 14 years, our carbon emissions are down more than 10 percent. On a per-unit-of-GDP basis, U.S. carbon emissions are down by closer to 20 percent.



STEPHEN MOORE

Even more stunning: We've reduced our carbon emissions more than virtually any other nation in the world, including most of Europe.

How can this be? The answer isn't that the EPA has regulated CO2 out of the economy. With strict emission standards, the EPA surely has started to strangle our domestic industries, such as coal, and our electric utilities. But that's not the big story here.

The primary reason carbon emissions are falling is because of hydraulic fracturing — or fracking. Fracking technology for shale oil and gas drilling is supposed to be evil. Some states have outlawed it. Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders have come out against it in recent weeks. Schoolchildren have been bombarded with green propaganda about all the catastrophic conse-

quences of fracking.

They are mostly lies. Fracking is simply a new way to get at America's vast storehouse of tens of trillions of dollars worth of shale oil and gas that lies beneath us, coast to coast — from California to upstate New York. Fracking produces massive amounts of natural gas, and, as a consequence, natural gas prices have fallen in the past decade from above \$8 per million BTUs to closer to \$2 this year — a 75 percent reduction — due to the spike in domestic supplies.

This free fall in prices means that America is using far more natural gas for heating and electricity and much less coal. Here is how the International Energy Agency put it: “In the United States, (carbon) emissions declined by 2 percent, as a large switch from coal to natural gas use in electricity generation took place.” It also observes that the decline “was offset by increasing emissions in most other Asian developing economies and the Middle East, and also a moderate increase in Europe.” We are growing faster than they are and reducing emissions more than they are, yet these are the nations that lecture us on polluting. Go figure.

Here at home, this market-driven transition has caused a pro-natural gas celebration by the green groups, right?

Hardly.

Groups like the Sierra Club and their billionaire disciples have bet the farm on wind and solar power. They've launched anti-fracking campaigns and

“beyond natural gas” advertising campaigns. But wind and solar are hopelessly uncompetitive when natural gas is so plentiful and so cheap. So are electric cars.

The media also have gotten this story completely wrong. Last week The New York Times celebrated the DOE's emissions findings as evidence that governmental iron-fist policies are working to stop global warming. For the first time “since the start of the Industrial Revolution,” the Times argued, “GDP growth and carbon emissions have been decoupled.”

The Times pretends that this development is because of green energy, but that's a fantasy. Wind and solar still account for only 3 percent of U.S. energy.

So here is the real story in a flash: Thanks to fracking and horizontal drilling technologies, we are producing more natural gas than ever before. Natural gas is a wonder fuel: It is cheap. It is abundant. America has more of it than anyone else — enough to last several hundred years. And it is clean-burning. Even Nancy Pelosi inadvertently admitted this several years ago before someone had to whisper in her ear that, um, natural gas is a fossil fuel.

Meanwhile, the left has declared war on a technology that has done more to reduce carbon emissions and real pollution programs ever invented. Maybe the reason is that they aren't so much against pollution as they are against progress.



**Brian** San Diego Union-Tribune  
CREATORS.COM  
APOLOGIES TO B.W.

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- Letters should be e-mailed to [editor@bigspringherald.com](mailto:editor@bigspringherald.com) or mailed to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

## DAILY PRAYER

May we communicate with You, Lord,  
in the morning and watch for wonderful  
things to happen. Amen.

## No safe space to shoot up

Larry Campbell, a former cop and former mayor of Vancouver, British Columbia, was appalled as he came to San Francisco to advocate a bill that would allow California cities to open safe injection centers like the one in his city for intravenous drug users. He'd “never seen the number of people sleeping on the street,” he told the San Francisco Chronicle editorial board, that he saw as he walked a few blocks from his Market Street hotel. He saw open drug dealing. “There's nobody hiding here.”



DEBRA SAUNDERS

I asked Campbell whether he thought he should have seen some arrests. “Yes,” he responded. “I think you need to get control.” Campbell says he saw only two police officers. In Vancouver, you'd see many more police, and they'd direct addicts to Insite, he said.

No other North American city has opened a “supervised injection site” since Insite opened its doors in 2003, but that may be about to change. Ottawa is looking at opening similar facilities. Ditto Ithaca, New York. California Assemblywoman Susan Talamantes Eggman has introduced a bill to allow California cities to open up such facilities, even though drugs such as heroin and other injected controlled substances will remain illegal under

federal law.

“I can tell you bluntly, there is no downside,” Campbell, now a Canadian senator, told the Chronicle. Crime did not rise in the blocks closest to Insite. Needle litter is down. Users enter the clinic with their own illegally obtained drugs, avail themselves of clean syringes and other paraphernalia, and then shoot up in a safe, clean environment away from the streets. Users have access to a detox center and treatment referrals. There have been 2 million injections since Insite opened, but not a single overdose death.

Why should San Francisco follow suit as Supervisor David Campos proposes? (Mayor Ed Lee is opposed.) Campbell asked rhetorically, “Can it get any worse?” Over the phone, Campos said the same thing.

California Assemblywoman Melissa Melendez opposes the Eggman bill for a host of reasons. She sees the notion as “enabling” and can't believe anyone wants to use tax dollars “to pay medical personnel to watch people shoot up.” Surely, there are better uses of tax dollars — such as rehabilitation programs.

I worry about how programs keep moving the bar to accommodate increasingly self-destructive behavior.

In 1997, I visited a San Francisco needle exchange center in the Mission and was impressed by what I saw. Users brought carefully bundled used needles — 1,615 of them — and thus showed they cared enough to take care of themselves. The mantra of

social workers, which Eggman repeated to me over the phone, is essential: “Every life matters.” In exchange for showing up and responsibly disposing of their needles, users received clean syringes and the chance to have a volunteer treat an abscess and give them vitamins and a medical or treatment referral. The San Francisco AIDS Foundation credited the program with helping to prevent pediatric AIDS cases in the city in 1995 and 1996.

Over time, San Francisco's needle exchange program morphed into a needle access program, as users no longer had to produce a dirty syringe to get the first 20 clean needles. With heroin use up across the nation, these days you see dirty needles everywhere. They are a public safety hazard for the non-using public.

Campbell lauded Insite for providing clean paraphernalia and access to treatment and medical care. The needle exchange centers of the 1990s provided all that. Needle exchange became needle access not to improve care but to accommodate users who couldn't get it together enough to return their used needles. The needle, if you will, has kept moving to make dysfunction easier for self-destructive people.

“If it doesn't work, shut her down,” Campbell said when questioned about the probable success of a proposed San Francisco injection center. Nice try, but hitting the brakes is not a skill in which City Hall is practiced.



# Check this out: What's at the library

For those of you who enjoy our large print books, we have acquired quite a few fiction books for your reading pleasure.

"The Spy Who Jumped Off the Screen" by Thomas Caplan (F CAP T) tells the story of Ty Hunter, a former covert operative, who has become the number-one film star in the world. Recruited on a clandestine mission to prevent the transfer of nuclear warheads into rogue hands, he deploys every skill he has as an actor, soldier, and spy. This charming and fearless celebrity matches wits and muscle with two supremely urbane adversaries even as he falls in love with the entrancing young woman closest to both of them. Ty teams up with his old colleague from British intelligence and a group of international whiz-kid programmers to disrupt potentially catastrophic plans and takes on hired mercenaries and members of a ship's own crew in a race to locate and secure the stolen warheads.

"The First Order" by Jeff Abbott (LP F ABB J) brings us two brothers, one presumed dead and one forged into a top undercover agent. Sam Capra has reason to believe that his brother, Danny, may be alive and living a secret life. Sam's search for his brother leads him into the Russian elite inner circle, a group of ex-KGB billionaires who owe fealty to Russia's corrupt president, Morozov. One of these men wants Morozov dead, and Danny will be the one to kill him on American soil. Sam must stop Danny from killing Morozov to save his brother and save the world from certain war.

Alex Berenson's "The Wolves" (LP F BER A) is a John Wells novel. John Wells has managed to stop an operation designed to drive the United States and Iran into war, but the instigator has disappeared behind an impenetrable wall of security. Wells has made it his personal mission to make him pay but plenty of crosscurrents are at work: The White House doesn't want anybody stirring the pot; his old CIA bosses have their own agenda; other countries are starting to sniff around, sensing

something unusual. When Russia and China enter the mix, the whole affair is set to combust.

In "The Mountain Midwife" by Laurie Alice Eakes (LP F EAK L), women in Ashley Tolliver's family have practiced the art of midwifery in their mountain community for nearly two hundred years. Ashley wants to take her skills a step further, but attending medical school means abandoning the women she loves and the awakening of her heart. Is it commitment to her calling or fear of the unknown keeping Ashley's feet firmly planted? Or is it her growing feelings for Hunter McDermott that keep her from the world beyond the mountain?

"Keeper of the Stars" by Robin Lee Hatcher (LP F HAT R) is a Kings Meadow romance. Penny Cartwright was heartbroken when her mother died from pneumonia, but after burying her brother just 12 years later,

pected bond of understanding, support, and love when the world comes tumbling down around them.

In Georgette Heyer's book "These Old Shades" (LP F HEY G), Justin Alastair, Duke of Avon, has a reputation as a dangerous and debauched rake. The Duke stumbles on Leon, a red-headed urchin fleeing a beating at his brutal brother's hands, he buys the boy and makes him his page. When the grubby Leon turns out to be the enchanting Leonie, the Duke is not prepared for the tender emotions she awakens.

"Orphan X" by Gregg Hurwitz (LP F HUR G) is a story about a legendary figure who will do anything to protect and save the truly desperate and deserving. Evan Smoak, the Nowhere Man, is just a man with skills, resources, and a personal mission to help those with nowhere to turn. Chosen as a child, he was raised and trained as part of the off-

at bay.

"The Girls of Mischief Bay" by Susan Mallery (LP F MAL S) tells the story of how three very different women discover that friends can become family, and that life is richer with sisters at your side. Nicole Lord wants to be a good wife, but there's a difference between being supportive and supporting her husband. Sacrificing a personal life for her career, Shannon Rigg now wonders whether she made the right choice. Pam Eiland feels restless and wonders who a stay-at-home mom becomes after the kids are grown. Through romance and heartbreak, these women start new lives forever changed.

"Untamed" by Diana Palmer (LP F PAL D) finds Clarisse Carrington struggling to keep her distance from Stanton Rourke, a former playmate who has become a dangerous mercenary. When tragedy robbed Clarisse of her entire family, her life was changed forever. Danger is following Clarisse leaving her no choice but to rely on Rourke, even as the old wounds lying dormant between them flare up again.

"Along the Infinite Sea" by Beatriz Williams (LP F WIL B) has Pepper Schuyler fixing up a rare vintage Mercedes to sell at an auction to take care of herself and the baby she carries. The new car owner turns out to have secrets of her own, and takes pregnant Pepper under her wing. The startling provenance of this car comes to light: a Nazi

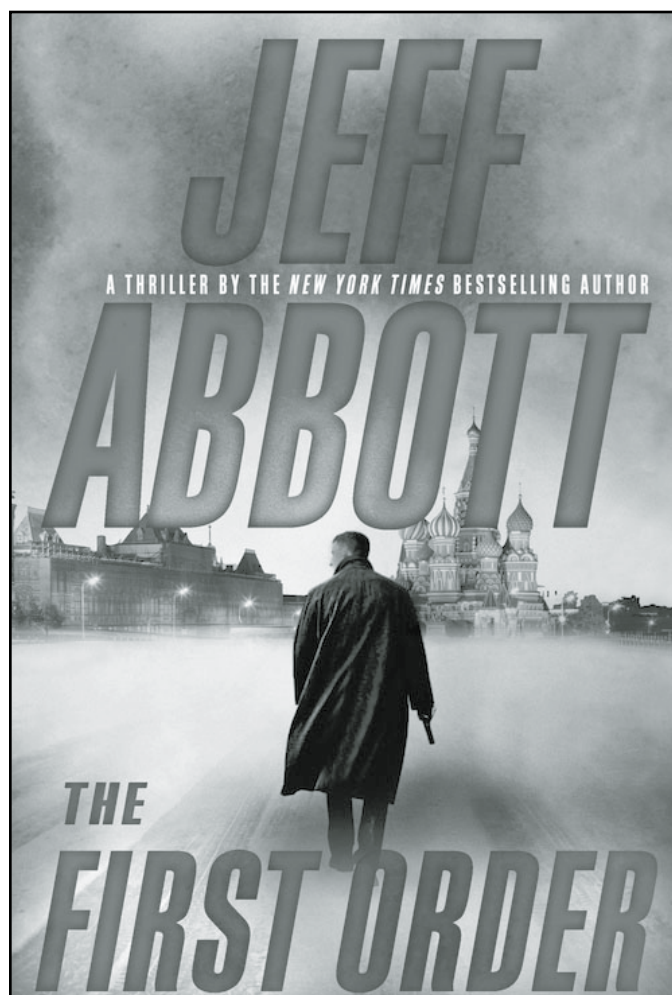
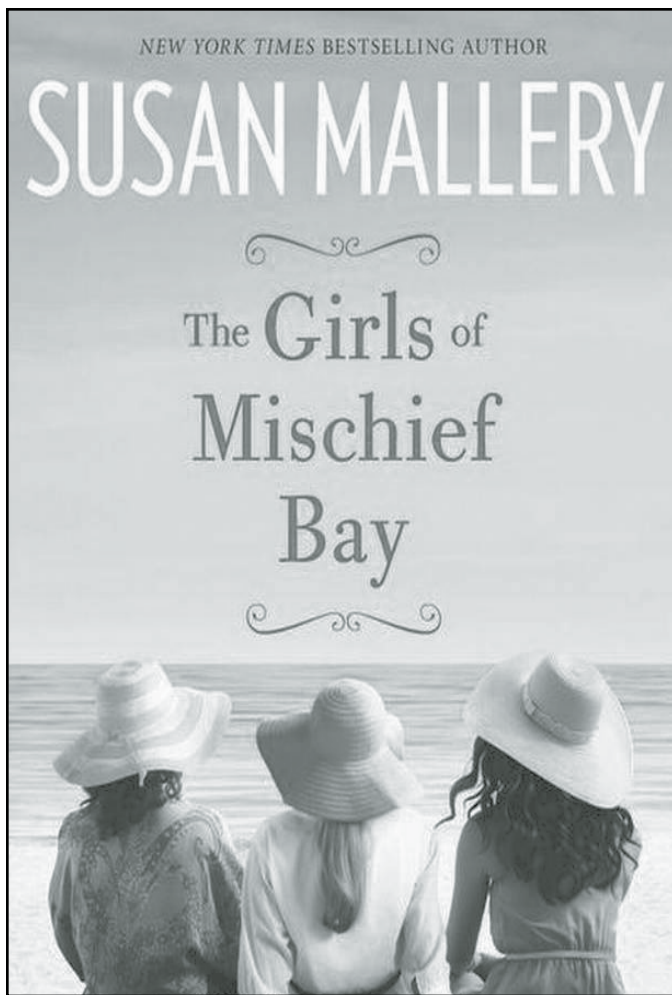
husband, a Jewish lover, a flight from Europe, and a love so profound it transcends decades.

These books and many more will be hitting the shelves soon, so make some time to come check out a book. I leave you with a quote from S.I. Hayakawa: "It is not true that we have only one life to live; if we can read, we can live as many more lives and as many kinds of lives as we wish."

*The library is no longer opened on Saturdays. We are open Monday to Friday, 9 am to 6 pm; the internet/video room closes at 5:30. You may reach us at (432) 264-2260 and our fax number is (432) 264-2263. Our website is howard-county.ploud.net.*



MONICA MARTINEZ



she is devastated. Penny's mind is clouded with anger, guilt, and sorrow, and she is reminded of her pain when Trevor Reynolds comes to town. Her brother was Trevor's drummer and died in an accident while on the road. Trevor wasn't behind the wheel, but he blames himself and so does Penny.

"Luther and Katharina" by Jody Hedlund (LP F HED J) is a novel of love and rebellion. Katharina was a nun of noble birth and Luther an outlaw of the Holy Roman Empire. His sweeping Catholic Church reformation awakened her desire for everything she had been forbidden including Martin Luther himself. They couldn't be more different, but these unlikely allies forge an unex-

pected bond of understanding, support, and love when the world comes tumbling down around them.

In "Wildfire in His Arms" by Johanna Lindsey (LP F LIN J), Degan Grant has to apprehend three outlaws on the marshal's list and turn them over to the law. Maxine will try anything to escape the handsome, enigmatic gunfighter who intends to turn her over to a corrupt sheriff who will hang her instead of putting her on trial. Saddled with a sassy young woman who insists she is innocent, Degan must hunt down a vicious killer and keep an old enemy

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# Cruz: Trump 'threatening delegates'

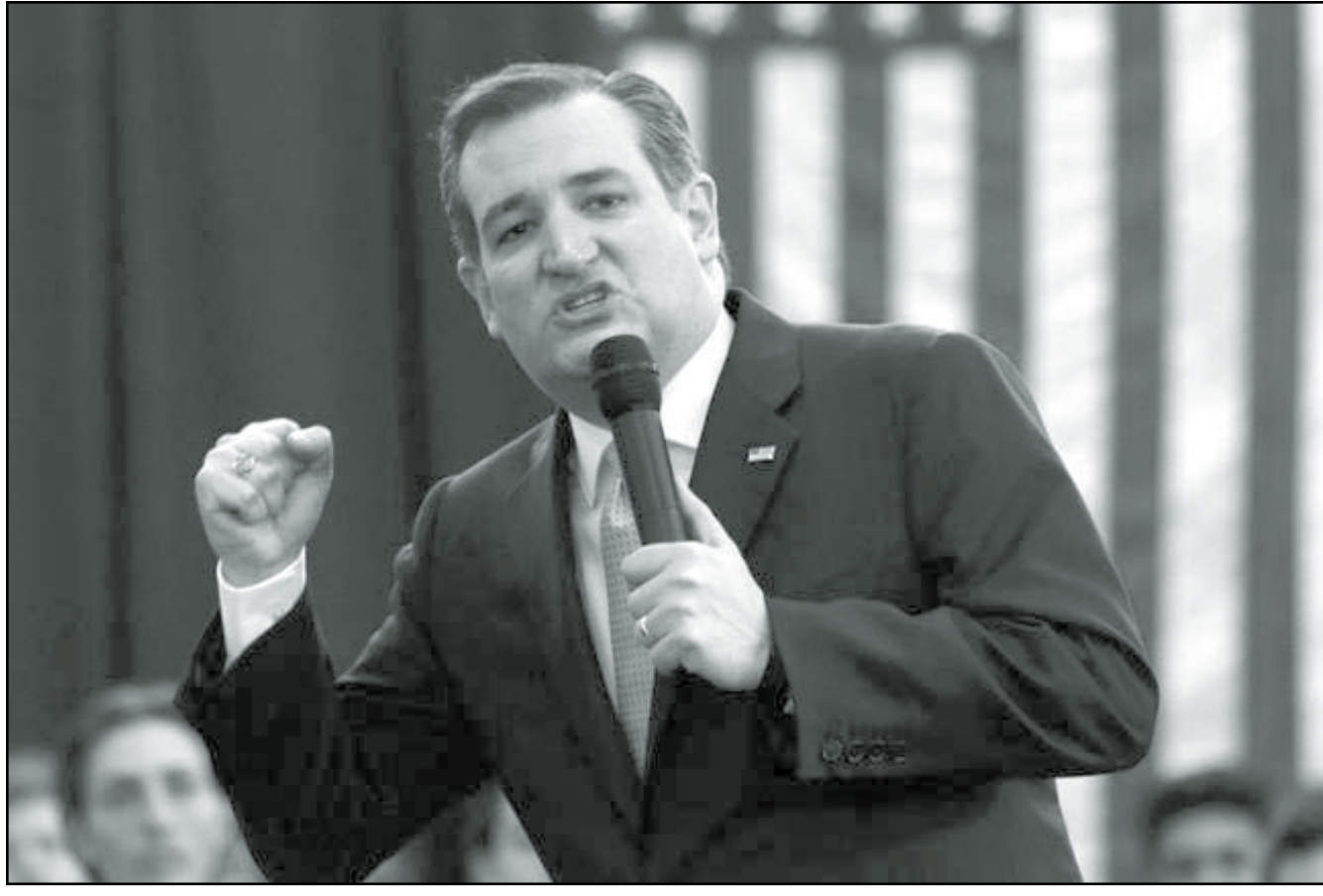
MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Texas Sen. Ted Cruz blasted rival Donald Trump in a radio interview Tuesday, using some of the harshest rhetoric of the campaign to date, accusing the Republican front-runner of being a bully, inciting violence and using dirty tricks to intimidate voters and delegates.

He also said that the billionaire is a bad businessman who has been surrounded by sycophants his entire career.

"Donald's whole pitch is he's a great businessman," Cruz said in the wide-ranging interview on the Glenn Beck radio show, adding that given how he runs his campaign, "it appears he can't run a lemonade stand."

The interview came a day after Cruz hosted a pair of rallies in California before heading back east to Pennsylvania and New York. It also comes as both campaigns work tirelessly behind the scenes to secure delegates who will back them at the Republican Party convention this summer in Cleveland.

Cruz conceded that Trump will do well in



AP file photo

Texas Sen. Ted Cruz speaks at a recent campaign rally.

upcoming primaries, including in Trump's home state of New York, which votes next week.

"He ought to win his home state convincingly," Cruz said, setting expectations high for Trump. "If Donald isn't substantially above 50 percent in New York, it will be a big loss for him."

Cruz said he will fare better when the race shifts back west to Indiana, Nebraska, South Dakota and Montana, before finishing in California on June 7.

"If and when the people of California vote against Donald Trump, he's going to scream that they're stealing the election," Cruz said.

"Apparently when anyone votes against him it's an act of theft."

Cruz predicted a "grassroots tsunami" will send him on to victory at the Republican convention.

Cruz unloaded on Trump over reports that his supporters were publishing the home addresses of delegates in

Colorado and threatening to make public the hotel room numbers of delegates at the convention this summer.

"That is the tactic of union thugs," Cruz said. "That is violence. It is oppressive. The idea that Donald is threatening delegates, we're seeing that pattern over and over again."

Cruz even compared Trump to the lead character from the famous Godfather films about organized crime.

"Donald needs to understand he's not Michael Corleone," Cruz said. "Donald needs to stop threatening the voters. He needs to stop threatening the delegates."

Cruz also discounted the seriousness of the Trump candidacy, saying "there was a real chance this was a lark, this was 'let's get some publicity, let's have some fun.' And I think he was surprised as anybody." But he's doing so poorly in securing delegates to the convention, if Trump were on his own reality show 'The Apprentice,' he would have to fire himself, Cruz said.

Cruz even got in a jab at New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, who has endorsed Trump after dropping out of the race.

"Chris Christie right now is trapped in his own private hell," Cruz said. "When Chris was standing behind Donald holding his jacket, the look in his eyes. You could see the screaming."

## Poll: GOP not itching for convention fight

WASHINGTON (AP) — Most Republican voters think the candidate with the most delegates heading into the party's convention in July should ultimately emerge as the GOP's presidential nominee, regardless of whether he holds the majority of all delegates needed to secure the nomination, according to a new Associated Press-GfK poll.

The survey finds Republicans are more likely to think of Donald Trump as a possible general election winner than either of his current GOP rivals.

Here are some things to know about opinions on a contested convention and which Republican candidates could win a general election from the latest AP-GfK poll:

### NOT LOOKING FOR ALTERNATIVES

According to the new poll, nearly 6 in 10 Republican voters — 58 percent — think the candidate with the most delegates after all the state contests are finished should be the nominee, even if he doesn't have a clear majority.

Just 40 percent think it would be acceptable

for the delegates to pick a different candidate.

That's true even though slightly fewer have a favorable opinion of Trump, who will likely go into the convention with more delegates than any other candidate. Just 53 percent of Republican voters have a favorable opinion of Trump, while 46 percent have an unfavorable opinion.

### DIVIDED OVER TRUMP

Within the Republican Party, opinions of Trump draw a dramatic divide in terms of how the convention should work out.

Eight in 10 Republican voters who have a favorable opinion of Trump think the party should nominate the ultimate delegate leader.

But among Republican voters with an unfavorable opinion of Trump, two-thirds think it would be acceptable for the delegates to choose someone else.

Another third of those who don't like Trump nonetheless think the party should nominate the delegate leader in the end.

### AMERICA DIVIDED

Among all Americans,

nearly half think it would be acceptable for the delegates at the GOP convention to choose a different nominee, while about as many think the candidate in the lead should be the nominee.

Democratic voters think by a 63 percent to 35 percent margin that it would be acceptable for the Republican delegates to nominate another candidate if the leader doesn't have a majority of delegates.

### PICKING A WINNER?

Although some Republican leaders have expressed concern that a Trump nomination would lead to a loss in November, that's not a concern most Republican voters share. Eighty-one percent think Trump could possibly win a general election, versus those who say so of Texas Sen. Ted Cruz (66 percent) or Ohio Gov. John Kasich (just 41 percent).

But the poll suggests both of the top GOP candidates would in fact be hard sells in a general election, with 63 percent of registered voters saying they would definitely not vote for Trump and 55 percent

that they wouldn't consider voting for Cruz. Forty-four percent say they wouldn't consider voting for Kasich.

By contrast, 51 percent say they wouldn't consider voting for former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in a general election and 38 percent wouldn't consider voting for Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders.

Still, even among Americans as a whole, about 6 in 10 think Trump could potentially win a general election, just under half think Cruz could and only a third think Kasich could. Kasich is still largely unknown to the American people, with 34 percent, including 26 percent of Republican voters, unable to say if they have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of him.

*The AP-GfK Poll of 1,076 adults was conducted online March 31-April 4, using a sample drawn from GfK's probability-based KnowledgePanel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 3.3 percentage points.*

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## Missouri certifies wins for Trump, Clinton

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — Republican businessman Donald Trump and former Democratic Secretary of State Hillary Clinton were certified Tuesday as the winners of Missouri's presidential primaries, though a re-

count remains a possibility.

The official results of the March 15 primaries show that Trump and Clinton both prevailed over their challengers by a mere fraction of a percent.

Trump led Texas Sen.

Ted Cruz by 1,965 votes out of more than 939,000 cast in the Republican primary — a margin of about one-fifth of a percentage point.

Clinton led Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders by 1,574 votes out of more than 629,000 cast.

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# Lady Steers honor seniors

By DREW WILLIAMS

Sports Editor

The Big Spring Lady Steers (15-4-1, 6-1) had an impressive 15-0 win against Estacado Monday night, giving the seniors much to celebrate on Senior Night.

"We've got a really good senior class this year, and they've provided excellent leadership for the team during the offseason, the beginning of the season and through the season," Big Spring head coach Howell Martin said. "We rely on them for a lot and we've been really lucky to have such a good class."

Martin started all of his seniors in the game, something he hasn't done all season, in order to honor his four-year players.

"They've set the framework for success and a good program for years to come because of what they've done," he said.

Martin said there's nothing for certain as far as any of the Lady Steers going on to play at the collegiate level, but did say some of the players have been in touch with schools. He had high praise for catcher Mia Oliva regarding her future.

"Mia certainly has the ability, without question, to play. I feel like she could probably step into a Division 1 school if she were given the opportunity," he said.

Concerning the game,



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

**Lady Steers seniors, from left to right: Leah Burton, Mia Oliva, Mary Gomez, Makenzie Roberts, Kiowa Lesser and Hannah Alsbrooks.**

Martin said it was a great win and a great way to end Senior Night.

"It was everything we needed to do. We got a really good pitching performance from Mariah. She pounded the strike zone and made them put the ball in play, and we played good defense behind here," he said. "And we

hit the ball really well, so just all around an excellent game setting us up for the last three games of the season, and they're all going to be big ones."

The Lady Steers will travel to Levelland on Friday to take on the Lobettes at 5 p.m.

The Steers (8-14, 3-3) weren't as fortunate on the baseball diamond

Monday night, losing to Estacado 18-2.

The bats fell silent as Estacado held the Steers to just four hits in 24 at-bats. Bryson Burt was 2-for-3 with two singles and an RBI, and Preston Alexander had Big Spring's only extra-base hit with an RBI triple in the bottom of the first inning. The second inning started with the score

3-2 in favor of Estacado, and the rest of the game was dominated by the Matadors.

The pitching and defense also let the Steers down as only 12 of the 18 runs were earned. Starting pitcher Matthew Tarrats gave up five hits, two walks and hit three batters en route to giving up six earned runs in 2.1 innings. Mat-

thew Wood followed in relief, pitching 3.2 innings and not giving up an earned run. Tristan Myrion pitched the final inning, and combined to give up six earned runs.

The Steers will try to get back over .500 in district when they travel to Levelland to take on the Lobos at 7 p.m. Friday night.



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

**KBST Radio's Gentry "Ace" Little, left, lists as Big Spring Mayor Larry McLellan reads a proclamation honoring Little having covered more than 1,200 sporting events in his 34 years as a broadcaster. The presentation was made during Tuesday's meeting of the Big Spring City Council.**

## Beltre has 5 RBIs; Holland, Rangers beat Mariners 8-0

SEATTLE (AP) — Derek Holland didn't want to take credit Tuesday night. He deflected praise to Texas' defense once, twice, three times, and didn't stop there.

It wasn't just a pitcher giving dues to his teammates. On a night when Holland shut down Seattle's lineup and Adrian Beltre drove in five runs, the Rangers defense came away with one impressive play after another in an 8-0 victory over the Mariners.

"I definitely owe it to them," Holland said.

Nomar Mazara, three games into his major league career, led the way with a pair of incredible catches in right field. The first was a diving grab in the corner to rob Chris Iannetta in the second inning on a ball that might have scored a runner from first if it dropped. Mazara's

encore came the next inning when he sprinted to right-center to glove a flyball at the last second at the wall.

"We saw solid-average defense in spring training, but we've seen better-than-average defense thus far in the outfield," Rangers manager Jeff Banister said. "What we've seen is his ability to read the ball well, terrific angles thus far when he's on the run."

With the defense making plays, Holland (1-0) gave up only four hits in 6 2/3 innings, three of which were of the infield variety and the other a broken-bat blooper. The left-hander also struck out four and walked two.

Beltre provided Holland some breathing room when he golfed a third-inning homer that barely cleared the fence in left field. That

made it 5-0, and Beltre added a two-run double in the seventh.

Mariners starter Wade Miley (0-1) gave up six earned runs on 10 hits and struck out seven in six innings.

The Mariners had only a pair of infield hits in the first four innings and finished with four hits for the game — all singles.

The Rangers duo of Andrew Faulkner and Phil Klein combined to pitch 2 2/3 scoreless innings out of the bullpen to back the strong start by Holland.

"We've got to find a way to get back on our game," Seattle manager Scott Servais said. "It's the same team that played five, six days ago. I'm pretty sure our roster hasn't changed. We have to pick ourselves

See **RANGERS**, Page 13

## Fiers' tough 1st inning dooms Astros in 3-2 loss

HOUSTON (AP) — A tough first inning by Mike Fiers and Houston's inability to capitalize on opportunities doomed the Astros on Tuesday night.

Lorenzo Cain hit a three-run homer in the first inning, and the Kansas City Royals held on for a 3-2 win over the Astros.

Alcides Escobar and Mike Moustakas hit consecutive singles to start the game before Cain connected on a full-count, 91-mph fastball off Fiers (0-1) to make it 3-0.

The Astros got within 1 in the bottom of the inning after an RBI double by Colby Rasmus followed by a run-scoring single by Tyler White.

"Those three runs were too much for us tonight," Fiers said. "I need to be

two runs better and need to pick my team up, but I fell one run short."

Kris Medlen (1-0) allowed six hits and two runs with seven strikeouts in five innings in his

2016 debut. Wade Davis walked two players with one out in the ninth before retiring Jose Altuve and George Springer for his third save.

Fiers settled down after

his tough first inning, allowing just three more hits and no runs in the next five innings before he was replaced by Will Harris for the seventh.

"Fiers settled in and starting using his pitches more effectively," manager A.J. Hinch said. "These guys are really aggressive in the zone. You have to be just around the zone to make them want to swing. But when you make mistakes they are usually swinging."

The early hole was too much to overcome on a night when the Astros went 2 for 10 with runners in scoring position.

"We played good baseball; we just fell short," Carlos Correa said. "We almost had it."

See **ASTROS**, Page 13



AP Photo/Pat Sullivan

**Houston Astros' Mike Fiers delivers a pitch against the Kansas City Royals during the first inning of a baseball game Tuesday, April 12, 2016, in Houston.**

## Sports Calendar

### TODAY

Baseball — Midland College at Howard College, 3 p.m.

### THURSDAY

Track and field — Big Spring at Snyder, district track meet, 10 a.m.

### FRIDAY

Baseball — Howard College at Western Texas College, 12 p.m.

Softball — Luna CC at Howard College, 1 p.m.

Softball — Big Spring at Levelland, 5 p.m.

Softball — Coahoma at Reagan County, 5 p.m.

Baseball — Coahoma at Reagan County, 6:30 p.m.

Baseball — Big Spring at Levelland, 7 p.m.

To submit a calendar item, please call 263-7331, ext. 235, or e-mail reporter@bigspringherald.com



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6 Roofers-Helpers. Temporary full time. 4/01/16 - 12/01/16. Palacios Roofing & Home Improvement in Big Spring, TX., needed to sweep and clean roofs to prepare them for the application of new roofing materials. Unload materials and tools from work trucks, and unroll roofing as directed. Set scaffolds, and hoists in place for taking tar, supplies and roofing materials to roofs using ropes and pulleys, or carry materials up ladders. Provide assistance to skilled roofers installing and repairing roofs, flashings, and surfaces, help to cover roofs with layers of roofing felt or asphalt strips before installing tile, slate, or composition materials and apply shingles, gravel, or asphalt over the top layer of tar to protect the roofing material. Climb and stoop carrying up to 75 lbs. is common \$12.17/hr, O/T varies at \$18.26/hr. 40hrs, 5-6 days/wk, 8am-5pm, hrs may fluctuate due to weather. No exp. or educ. nec., work in adverse weather conditions Single workweek used for computing wages. Pay received weekly. Shared housing may be available - if used, a \$37.50 deduction will be made. Employer will make all deductions from workers' paycheck required by law. Inbound transportation (including meals and to the extent necessary, lodging) to the place of employment reimbursed to workers. If the worker completes 50% of the work contract period, employer will reimburse the worker for transportation and subsistence from the place of recruitment to the place of work. Upon completion of the work contract or where the worker is dismissed earlier, employer will provide or pay for worker's reasonable costs of return transportation and subsistence back home or to the place the worker originally departed to work, except where the worker will not return due to subsequent employment with another employer. The amount of transportation payment or reimbursement will be equal to the most economical and reasonable common carrier for the distances involved. Daily subsistence will be provided at a rate of \$12.09 per day during travel to a maximum of \$51.00 per day with receipts. Transportation provided daily from main office to the various work locations within Howard, Glasscock, Midland and Scurry counties. All work tools, supplies & equipment provided at no cost. The employer guarantees to offer work for hours equal to at least 3/4's of the workdays in each 12-week period of the total employment period. Apply directly with the employer. Send resume to [Alvaro.Palacios@suddenlink.net](mailto:Alvaro.Palacios@suddenlink.net) and also apply at the nearest TX Workforce Agency at [www.twc.state.tx.us](http://www.twc.state.tx.us) and refer to Job Order No. TX6452261

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#9011 March 25 - April 14, 2016

**NOTICE OF UNSAFE BUILDINGS STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF HOWARD BAA MEETING APRIL 28, 2016**

**Hermerejildo (Herman) Orosco, 1011 N. Bell St., Big Spring, TX 79720, N/2 OF LTS 1-2 BK 38, of Bauer Addition, also known as 1011 N. Bell St.**

Dear Property owner(s):

Current Tax records of the City of Big Spring indicate

**Public Notice**

that you are the owner of the property at, the above street address. This structure is in violation of section 115.1 of the International Building Code and the following detailed report documents the condition which have rendered the structure unsafe, to wit: Dilapidate, sub-standard structure, plumbing and electrical do not meet the City Code of Ordinances. Windows missing or broken out. Building has been vandalized and poses a potential health hazard to the public. Structures cannot be secured to keep out transients or children.

Therefore, by the authority invested in my office by the Big Spring Code, I have declared this structure or portions thereof unsafe, dilapidated, substandard or unfit for human habitation, and have determined it or portions thereof poses a hazard to public health, safety, and welfare.

The International Building Code, Section 115.1 provides that all structures or existing equipment that are or hereafter become unsafe, insanitary or deficient because of inadequate means of egress facilities, inadequate light and ventilation, or which constitute a fire hazard, or are otherwise dangerous to human life or the public welfare, or that involve illegal or improper occupancy or inadequate maintenance, shall be deemed an unsafe condition. Unsafe structures shall be taken down and removed or made safe, as the building official deems necessary and as provided for in this section. A vacant structure that is not secured against entry shall be deemed unsafe.

**"You are hereby notified that a hearing will be held before the MEP Board of Adjustment and Appeals of the City of Big Spring, Texas, at 307 E. 4th on the 28th day of April, 2016 at 5:30 pm.** The purpose of this hearing is to make a final determination as to whether the structure described is in violation of the Structural Standards Code of the City of Big Spring, Texas. You may be present at the hearing and may be, but need not be, represented by legal counsel. You may present any relevant evidence and will be given full opportunity to cross-examine all witnesses testifying against you. You may request the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, documents or other things by filing an affidavit thereof with the MEP Board of Adjustment and Appeals. At the time of the hearing, you (whether you be the owner, lien holder, or mortgagee) will be required to submit at the hearing proof of the scope of any work that may be required to comply with the Code and the time it will take to reasonably perform the work. In the event you seek

**Public Notice**

to obtain more than thirty (30) days to complete the project, you will be required to reasonably establish that the work cannot be completed within thirty (30) days. In the event you seek to obtain more than ninety (90) days to complete the work, you will be required to submit a detailed plan and time schedule for the work at the hearing and establish that the work cannot be completed within ninety (90) days.

Following the hearing, the Board of Adjustment and Appeals may issue an order requiring the vacation, relocation of occupants, securing, repair (with or without vacation), removal, or demolition of the structure if the MEP Board of Adjustments and Appeals finds that any of the following conditions exist:

- (1) The structure in question is dilapidated, substandard, or unfit for human habitation; and a hazard to the public health, safety, and welfare;
- (2) The structure is unoccupied by its owners, or other invitees and is unsecured from unauthorized entry to the extent that is could be entered or used by vagrants or other uninvited persons as a place of harborage or could be entered or used by children;
- (3) If boarded up, fenced or otherwise secured in any manner, the building constitutes a danger even though secured from entry; or the means used to secure the building are inadequate to prevent unauthorized entry or use of the building in the manner described in subsection 2 above;
- (4) Following entry of the order, any person affected by the order may appeal the order to the State District Court for relief within thirty (30) days, and upon failure to do so within such period of time, the order shall become final.

Todd Darden  
Building Official  
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1	4	3	6	9	2	5	7	8
2	6	7	8	5	4	9	3	1
3	1	5	2	8	6	7	4	9
9	7	8	4	1	3	2	6	5
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403 Hillside. 3 bed, 2 bath. All appliances, very nice. \$1,500/month, \$1,500/dep. No pets/no smoking. References required. Call 432-213-2319.

520 Scott Dr. in Highland South. 3/2, nice yard. 432-267-2296

**Real Estate for Rent**

605 N. Main. 2 bed, 2 bath, very clean. \$1,000/month, \$1,000/dep. References required. Call 432-213-2319

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**Psychic Moon**

Henry Ford suggested, "A man cannot

HOLIDAY build a reputation on what he is going to do." Under the dreamy Cancer moon, reputation isn't everything. Psychic vibes are strong. People want to feel excited about the future. They're listening for the good buzz! Talk about your intentions and you'll make them more real to you and to others, too.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You're always nice to those who are older, younger or weaker than you in any way. The kindness you dole out today will make a bigger difference in someone's life than you might guess.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Unnecessary purchases go masquerading as necessary ones. How will you know the difference? Go without and see what happens. Later you'll have the money to invest in something that will bring real richness.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Are sensual cravings a gift from heaven or an enticement toward a lesser version of the self? It is not easy to manage the want for delight against the need for spiritual evolution, but you'll achieve a good balance today.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). You've a talent for getting to the source of the problem. When you speak to the core of a situation, confusing and unpleasant symptoms disappear.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Happiness leaves no scar. If only it did! There is so much joy to be had in recollection. Take a souvenir from today's happy experience. This sweetness must be remembered!

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The extra time and effort you put into your look is not something you do out of vanity; rather, it's in the spirit of altruism. Whatever you can do to make yourself a source of delight is a gift that you bring to the world.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Why struggle against worldly ambitions? You want what you want; there's a

**Tomorrow's Horoscope**

reason. Accept that some of the things you want don't seem like a spiritual ideal, but this is where you're at right now. What's to be learned from it?

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). When you're not sure if you should chime in or not, consider the very important role of silence. See if some well-spaced pauses might further your purposes.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You've the courage to try for your exciting goal; then again, a lot of people have that much courage. Do you also have the courage to try again? And then another time? That's the rare courage it will take to succeed.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). While doing work you love, you're compelled to put more time and thought into each step. This is why you'll wind up in a completely different place than the others who started out with you on this project.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). When good friends want to spend time with you, they won't care about the details that go with

it. The environment, food and entertainment involved doesn't matter much, so don't stress over it. What they want is you.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). If you're going to compare yourself to another person (not advised, but hey, it happens) at least be fair enough not to measure the other person's best result next to your work in progress.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (April 13). You'll put a fair amount of time into developing your inner world this year and it's a worthy effort; so much of your external life will follow your mind's echo. Reading, spiritual study and travel will all play into your enrichment.

You'll be tested in July, and your high score leads to a new responsibility in August. Leo and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 23, 19, 42 and 6.

**WHAT'S SO FUNNY?** What's funny might depend on cultural and socioeconomic factors, gender or special interests; it could even be just a mood. Or maybe it's written in the stars! Aries tends to laugh at

physical humor. This kinesthetic sign will guffaw at a good pratfall every time. Ruled by the throat, Taurus appreciates unique and funny-sounding voices. Gemini is the sign of quick wit and is impressed by zingers. Cancer likes humor that hits close to home, either because it's about domestic situations or because it's very specific to a certain group of people. Leo appreciates showmanship and resonates with classic theatrical tropes. Virgo thinks it's funny when a perfect plan goes disastrously wrong -- maybe because Virgo tries so hard to make sure things go right. Libra adores comedy duos and buddy films. Scorpio likes spicy humor and isn't easily offended. Sagittarius is a lover of different cultures and is charmed by foreign accents intended to tickle the funny bone. Capricorn laughs hard at role reversals and

instances where the weak become powerful or the tables turn unexpectedly in some other way. Aquarius is among the few to get oddball, outsider and surreal humor. Pisces giggles at a fish-out-of-water story.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Revered Founding Father, principle author of the Declaration of Independence and third American president Thomas Jefferson was born under a Sagittarius moon, which is the moon of exploration. One of Jefferson's many achievements was supporting Lewis and Clark's "Voyage of Discovery" to the Pacific Ocean. Mercury in dreamy Pisces indicates the ability to communicate a vision.

To write to Holiday Mathis, visit [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com) and click "Write the Author" on her page.

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**Annie's Mailbox**

**Dear Annie:** I just heard about your contest to write a poem for July 4 that is more balanced, and that mentions women, as well as men. Why would you print something like that in August, when school is out and kids can't participate? It would have been an excellent project for my classroom.

Could you please rerun the original request and extend the deadline? Maybe a few of my middle school kids could write something special that merits being printed in your column. Thanks. -- Teacher in Florida

**Dear Teacher:** It didn't occur to us at the time that the contest request would run during summer break. You are right that it is perfect for the classroom, as well as would-be poets, so we will extend our deadline until June 1. (That's absolutely the latest, folks.) Here is the original letter:

**Dear Annie:** I appreciate the patriotic intent of your July 4 column, but what would my daughter and seven nieces make of the mention of 27 men but just two women? The author overlooked Sa-

cagawea, Harriet Tubman, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and the myriad other female contributors to our nation's progress.

Maybe next year you could share someone's writing that does a better job of recognizing the meaningful roles many courageous and capable women have played and continue to play in shaping our nation. All credit to Ginger Rogers' high heels, but Sacagawea did everything Lewis and Clark did, but she did it post-partum and carrying a newborn on her back.

If no one has written anything more balanced since Mr. Whitaker's piece appeared in 1955, consider the gauntlet tossed. -- A Loyal Reader

**Dear Loyal Reader:** We agree that an updated version is long overdue. Several readers suggested a writing contest and we love this idea. So readers, put your creative caps on and send us a poem or essay that expresses the contributions men and women have made to our country's history. This also might be a good project for teachers to give their students.

Send your efforts to Annie's Mailbox at [creators.com](http://creators.com) or Facebook. [creators.com/AskAnnies](http://creators.com/AskAnnies). We will print the best one on July 4, along with your name.

**Dear Annie:** I'm puzzled by the apostrophe in "Annie's Mailbox" combined with a photo of two women. If both of you are named Annie, then the apostrophe should be after the "s" ("Annie's Mailbox"). If only one is Annie, why are two women pictured? -- Your Fan, the Grammar Cop in Sarasota, Florida

**Dear Grammar Cop:** We love these questions. They are so unexpected. For the record, there are two of us, and neither of us is named "Annie." One of us is Kathy and the other is Marcy. (This should be noted at the bottom of the column.) The Mailbox was named in honor of Ann Landers, with whom we both worked for many years. Hence it is "Annie's Mailbox" with an apostrophe. Hope that clears it up. After all, there can be only one Ann Landers. We simply do the best we can to honor her legacy.

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](http://facebook.com/AskAnnies). To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).  
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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.

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

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**Contract Bridge**

By Steve Becker  
**A Coup En Passant**

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
 ♠ A K 7 3  
 ♥ 9 7 4 2  
 ♦ A 6 3  
 ♣ 9 5

**WEST**  
 ♠ Q 10 8 2  
 ♥ A K J 6  
 ♦ K J 10 7 2  
 ♣

**EAST**  
 ♠ 9 6 5  
 ♥ 10 8 3  
 ♦ 9 5 4  
 ♣ Q J 10 8

**SOUTH**  
 ♠ J 4  
 ♥ Q 5  
 ♦ Q 8  
 ♣ A K 7 6 4 3 2

The bidding:  
 South 1♣ West Dble Pass East 2♣  
 1♣ Dble 3♣  
 2♣ Pass 3♣

Opening lead — king of hearts.

**The coup en passant** is a simple play by which an apparently certain loser is made to disappear. But as with many other so-called advanced plays, the term used to describe it is more off-putting than the genuine article itself.

Let's say you're South and reach three clubs as shown. The contract seems easy to make when dummy comes down. But after West leads the K-A and a low heart, which you ruff,

and you then play the ace of clubs, on which West shows out, the outlook changes drastically. It now seems that you must go down one, losing two hearts, a diamond and two clubs. But with careful play, you can save a trick and make the contract.

**You begin by leading a spade** to the king and ruff dummy's last heart. This is followed by a spade to the ace and a spade ruff. At this point, you've won six tricks, and your hand consists of the Q-8 of diamonds and K-7-6 of clubs.

**You next lead a diamond** to the ace and play dummy's last spade. If East discards, you ruff with the six and thus acquire your ninth trick. If East ruffs instead, you discard the queen of diamonds, thereby telescoping a diamond loser and a trump loser on the same trick to make the contract.

**The play of dummy's spade** to score an extra trump trick is called a coup en passant. You score the trick while "passing by" East, who is helpless in the matter.

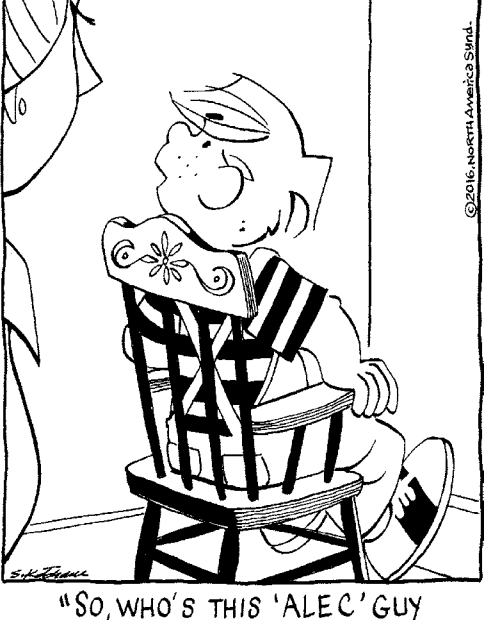
**All told**, you score the A-K of spades, ace of diamonds and six trump tricks — even though East has two natural trump tricks. Your sixth trump trick somehow emerges out of thin air.

**Tomorrow:** Pump and circumstance.  
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	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5:PM	Local 2 ABC	Hotel Notic.	Big Bang Cleveland	News CBS	Tele Noticiero	News News	With Scholars	Scully Business	Mama's Mama's	American American	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Castle (DVS)	SportsCenter	Around Pardon	Rangers	NCIS (DVS)	The First 48	Bering Sea Gold
5:30	ABC	Notic.	Big Bang Cleveland	News CBS	Tele Noticiero	News News	With Scholars	Scully Business	Mama's Mama's	American American	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Castle (DVS)	SportsCenter	Around Pardon	Rangers	NCIS (DVS)	The First 48	Bering Sea Gold
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Un Camino hacia el	Mod Fam ET	News ET	Caso Cerado	News News	Mani House	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Castle (DVS)	NBA Countdown	MLB Baseball: Teams TBA.	Stars In.	NCIS (DVS)	Wahlburg	Bering Sea Gold
6:30	Wheel	Sueño de Amor	Rosewood Survivor	¿Quién es quién?	The Voice	Upd Nature (DVS)	Nature (DVS)	Griffith Arrow	Big Bang Big Bang	Big Bang Big Bang	Castle (DVS)	NBA Basketball: Orlando Magic at Charlotte Hornets.	NBA Basketball: Spurs at Mavericks	NHL Hockey: Conference Quarterfinal: Teams TBA.	Wahlburgers	Bering Sea Gold	Bering Sea Gold	
7:PM	Mod Fam blackish	Pasión y poder	Empire (DVS)	Criminal Minds	Eva la Trailera (SS)	Strong Light of the Southwest	NOVA (DVS)	Hap.Days Laverne	Supernatural	Big Bang Big Bang	Castle (DVS)	NBA Basketball: Orlando Magic at Charlotte Hornets.	NBA Basketball: Spurs at Mavericks	NHL Hockey: Conference Quarterfinal: Teams TBA.	Wahlburgers	Bering Sea Gold	Bering Sea Gold	
8:PM	Nashville	El Hotel de los	News TMZ	Criminal Minds	El Señor de los	El Señor de los	Ride the Tiger	Heroes Heroes	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Big Bang Big Bang	Castle (DVS)	NBA Basketball: Orlando Magic at Charlotte Hornets.	NBA Basketball: Spurs at Mavericks	NHL Hockey: Conference Quarterfinal: Teams TBA.	Wahlburgers	Bering Sea Gold	Bering Sea Gold	
9:PM	Local 2 ABC	Impacto Noticiero	Broke Girl Mod Fam	News Late Show- Colbert	Tele Titulares	News Tonight Show	HaYesod M:25	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett Cougar	Conan	Castle (DVS)	NBA Basketball: Utah Jazz at Los Angeles Lakers.	NBA Basketball: Utah Jazz at Los Angeles Lakers.	NBA Basketball: Utah Jazz at Los Angeles Lakers.	NCIS: Los Angeles	Wahlburg	Bering Sea Gold	
10:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Contacto Deportivo	Two Men How I Met Cleveland	James Corden	Eva la Trailera (SS)	Seth Meyers	Chevalme McDonald	World T. Smiley (Off Air)	Raising Commu	Broke Girl Conan	CSI: NY	NBA Basketball: Utah Jazz at Los Angeles Lakers.	NBA Basketball: Utah Jazz at Los Angeles Lakers.	NBA Basketball: Utah Jazz at Los Angeles Lakers.	NCIS: Los Angeles	Wahlburg	Bering Sea Gold	
11:PM	Nightline	Extra	Corazón indomable	Friends	Insider	News	Zola Lev.	The Rockford Files	King	Cougar	CSI: NY	SportsCenter	NBA Basketball: Utah Jazz at Los Angeles Lakers.	NBA Basketball: Utah Jazz at Los Angeles Lakers.	NCIS: Los Angeles	Wahlburgers	Bering Sea Gold	
12:30	Paid	P. Luche Hotel	Law Order: CI	ET	Paid	Light of the Southwest	Light of the Southwest	Kojak	King	Cougar	CSI: NY	SportsCenter	NBA Basketball: Utah Jazz at Los Angeles Lakers.	NBA Basketball: Utah Jazz at Los Angeles Lakers.	NCIS: Los Angeles	Wahlburg	Bering Sea Gold	
1:AM	Paid	P. Luche Hotel	Law Order: CI	ET	Paid	Light of the Southwest	Light of the Southwest	Kojak	King	Cougar	CSI: NY	SportsCenter	NBA Basketball: Utah Jazz at Los Angeles Lakers.	NBA Basketball: Utah Jazz at Los Angeles Lakers.	NCIS: Los Angeles	Wahlburg	Bering Sea Gold	

**DENNIS THE MENACE**



"SO, WHO'S THIS 'ALEC' GUY THAT'S SO SMART?"

**THE FAMILY CIRCUS** By Bil Keane



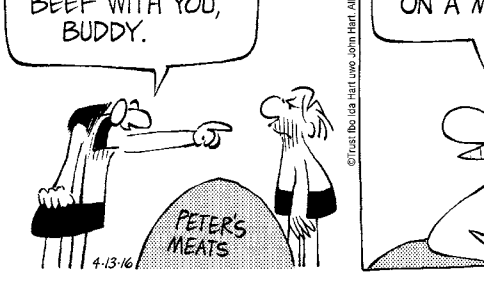
"No, there's nothing scary about him as long as he stays on his side of the window."

**HAGAR**



I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND IF I EAT THE BEARDED ONE - I HATE CANNED FOOD!

**BC**



WE'VE GOT A BEEF WITH YOU, BUDDY.

**WIZARD OF ID**



WELL, I CAN BOOK YOU FOR FRIDAY, BUT IT'S NOT A PAYING GIG

**AGNES**



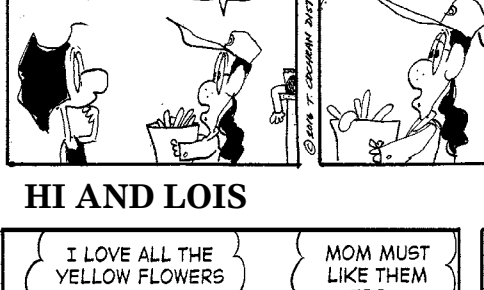
I NEED A SCIENCE PROJECT... STAT!

**HI AND LOIS**



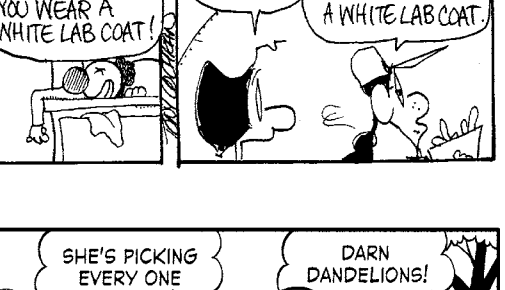
I LOVE ALL THE YELLOW FLOWERS IN THE YARD...

**THE OTHER COAST**



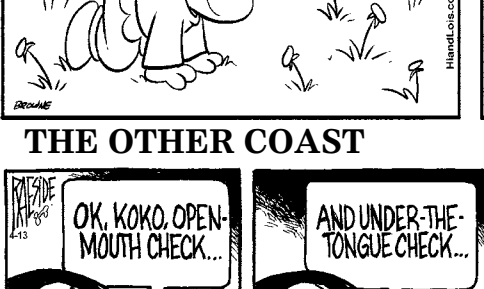
OK, KOKO. OPEN-MOUTH CHECK...

**SNUFFY SMITH**



THAT'S STILL A FEW PLACES THAT'LL GIVE YA A LOAN WIFOUT MAKIN' YA JUMP THROUGH HOOPS !!

**BEEBLE BAILEY**



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**BLONDIE**



WOW! HOW MANY APPS DO YOU HAVE NOW?

**THIS DATE IN HISTORY**

Washington D.C., on the 200th anniversary of the third American president's birth. In 1958, Van Cliburn of the United States won the first International Tchaikovsky Competition for piano in Moscow; Russian Valery Klimov won the violin competition. In 1964, Sidney Poitier became the first black performer in a leading role to win an Academy Award for his performance in "Lilies of the Field." In 1965, 16-year-old Lawrence Wallace Bradford, Jr. was appointed by New York Republican Jacob Javits to be the first black page of the U.S. Senate. In 1975, the President of Chad, Francois Tombalbaye (tahn-bahl-BAH'yeh), was killed in a military coup. In 1986, Pope John Paul II visited the Great Synagogue of Rome in the first recorded papal visit of its kind to a Jewish house of worship. In 1992, the Great Chicago Flood took place as the city's century-old tunnel system and adjacent basements filled with water from the Chicago River. Ten years ago: Confessed al-Qaida conspirator Zacarias Moussaoui (zak-uh-REE'uh moo-SOW'ee) expressed no remorse for his role in the 9/11 attacks as he took the stand for the second time in his death-penalty trial in Alexandria, Virginia.

**Thought for Today:**

"In the landscape of extinction, precision is next to godliness." Samuel Beckett Irish poet and playwright (born this date in 1906, died 1989).

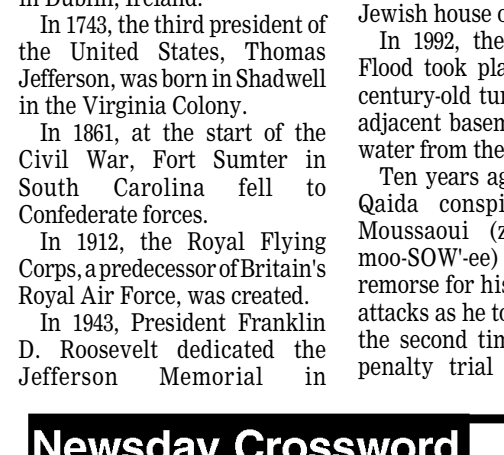
**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**

PERM	ESSIES	MISS
IDEA	MAUVE	ARIA
SINK	PRMEN	COST
ATTENTION	SPAN	
DAY	EAR	
FSTOP	TOP	NOVAS
AAH	ELEVEN	NINE
CROSSTHAT	BRIDGE	
EAST	RELACE	EEK
THERE	ESL	IDOLS
ELF	ONE	
TAKINGIT	STOLL	
ATOM	LEASH	ASIA
DINE	MAPLE	CLAW
DEER	STEER	HORN

**Newsday Crossword**

**I LOVE A PIANO** by Andy Ellis Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**  
1 Lofty  
5 Ways of walking  
10 Frozen rain  
14 Farmland measure  
15 Well-behaved child  
16 What's more  
17 Scam  
18 Mall tenant  
19 Law enforcers  
20 Raggedy doll  
21 Largo and West  
23 Let the water out of  
25 "Dr." of rap  
26 Didn't participate  
28 Small monasteries  
33 Adorations to  
34 Headed (for)  
35 Celebrity, for short  
36 Crying shame  
37 Carry along  
38 Fuss  
39 "\_\_\_ little confused..."  
40 Grinch creator  
41 Tense, informally  
42 Canned veggie brand  
44 "\_\_\_ playing our song"  
45 Likely  
46 Polo or tee  
47 Substitute player  
52 Poetic sphere  
55 Aroma  
56 Briny body
- DOWN**  
1 Sounds of laughter  
2 Reversed figure  
3 Bottom line  
4 Put a spell on  
5 Illuminated, as Victorian London  
6 Playwright Chekhov  
7 Fictional lab assistant  
8 Actress Hatcher  
9 Snow-day activity  
10 Electronic snoop  
11 Natural balm  
12 Kids' observation game  
13 Tax write-off  
21 Mythical goat-man  
22 Yankee star's nickname  
24 Golf pro McIlroy  
26 Palatable  
27 Stop on \_\_\_ (halt abruptly)  
28 Composure  
29 Does a marathon  
30 Enclave of impracticality  
31 Pillow filling  
32 Wedgwood rival  
34 Champagne designation  
37 Rocker material  
38 Layer  
40 Frosh, next year  
41 Spinning sound  
43 Software shortcuts  
44 Largest US union  
46 Clever  
47 Pro \_\_\_ (gratis)  
48 Biblical paradise  
49 Alaskan city  
50 Yearning  
51 Bona fide  
53 Vatican venue  
54 Huff and puff  
57 Tack on



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# Playoff preview: NHL's "Ironmen" ready to carry heavy load

By WILL GRAVES

AP Sports Writer

The real test of Kris Letang's relentless stamina doesn't come in the Pittsburgh Penguins dressing room after a long game. When he logs the kind of ice time that looks like a typo on the stat sheet, the big challenge comes the next morning, when his young son Alex hops into bed ready for dad to get up and play.

Try explaining to a 3-year-old that, sorry, but daddy played 35 minutes against the Sabres. So Letang doesn't even bother

"That doesn't cut it," Letang says with a laugh.

Besides, the truth is Letang's not really that tired. Really. If he's being honest, this is kind of where he always expected to be: playing the best hockey of his career (not to mention the most) for a team that heads into the post-season with its swagger and confidence restored thanks in large part to the smooth skating defenseman that plays with the engine of a Ferrari while getting the mileage of a Tesla.

Barely two years removed from a stroke that threatened to blunt the arc of his blossoming career, Letang is one of several ironmen whose tireless legs serve as part of the building blocks on which Stanley Cup dreams are made. The 28-year-old Letang

averaged 26:57 minutes of ice time, fourth in the league and nearly 7 minutes more than teammate Sidney Crosby, the biggest gap between first and second on any club in the NHL.

Ryan Suter in Minnesota, Drew Doughty in Los Angeles, Roman Josi and Shea Weber in Nashville and

Brent Burns in San Jose also finished in the top 10 in minutes, pillars at the blue line who have grown accustomed to carrying the heaviest burden. It's the same up front for Crosby, Patrick Kane in Chicago and Washington's Alexander Ovechkin. The offensive powerhouses all average more than 20 minutes a

night in a sport that plays as a marathon disguised in a series of sprints.

While their respective coaches monitor their workload, they don't get too caught up in watching the clock.

"Those guys who skate that way, that have those types of engines don't wear down, it's not an issue," San Jose

coach Peter DeBoer said. "And I think (Burns) actually thrives on it."

It's much the same for Letang, whose health scares over the years (including a series of concussions) left him wondering at times if he would ever reach the apex of his immense potential. It finally happened over the last four months, his breathtaking quickness combined with coach Mike Sullivan's arrival in mid-December propelling Letang into the league's elite.

"I mean, it was a way for me to step up and show what I'm capable of," said Letang, who finished with 16 goals and 51 assists in 71 games. "The coaching change was a big way to improve myself and prove what kind of player I'm capable of being."

Unlike some of the more defensive-minded players around Letang on the time-on-ice rankings, the Penguins defender does more than hover near the blue line on offense, directing traffic and throwing the occasional puck at net. Letang plays a full 200 feet, emboldened by Sullivan to use his creativity to take responsible chances.

"A lot of D-men that play big minutes play an efficient game," Penguins defenseman Ben Lovejoy said. "They're out there not playing a difficult style of hockey. They're being efficient."



AP photo/Ann Heisenfelt

Minnesota Wild defenseman Ryan Suter will take on the Dallas Stars in the first round of the NHL playoffs starting Thursday. He finished in the top 10 in total minutes on the season.



## RANGERS

Continued from Page 7

up. We have a lot of games left to play. It's a long season ahead."

### TRAINER'S ROOM

Mariners: Relief pitcher Joaquin Benoit is still listed as day to day with shoulder stiffness. He dealt with the same problem during spring training.

Rangers: The Rangers could miss starting catcher Robinson Chirinos for up to three months, but his fill-ins so far look just fine. Holaday was the latest to impress with a pair of runs on Tuesday.

### BAT FLIES INTO STANDS

Mariners first baseman Dae-Ho Lee shattered his bat on a fifth-inning single. The barrel, which sported a sharp end close to the handle, sailed into the stands over the third base dugout. No fans were injured.

### MILEY GETS INJURY SCARE

Miley stayed in the game despite colliding with catcher Chris Iannetta in

the third inning. Iannetta waved off Miley as both charged a bunt attempt in front of the plate. Miley continued to sprint toward the ball and Iannetta's spikes caught his left ankle. Miley limped in front of the mound as a trainer attended to him, but he was deemed healthy enough after a couple test pitches.

### TEXAS ROTATION ROLLING

The starters have a 2.05 ERA in the last five games for the Rangers with 27 strikeouts in 44 innings. The fantastic performances follow a tough first four games in which starters combined for a 6.31 ERA in 35 2/3 innings.

### UP NEXT

Mariners: Taijuan Walker starts the series finale against Texas on Wednesday. The RHP is searching for his first win this season after taking a no-decision his first time out in the 2016 campaign.

Rangers: A.J. Griffin tries to extend his successful return against the Mariners after sitting out two seasons due to Tommy John surgery. He won his first start this season.

Left: Texas Rangers' Adrian Beltre smiles in the dugout after he hit a three-run home run during the third inning of a baseball game against the Seattle Mariners, Tuesday, April 12, 2016, in Seattle. (AP photo/ Ted S. Warren)

## ASTROS

Continued from Page 7

Kansas City's bullpen was solid after Medlen's exit, with Luke Hochevar and Kelvin Herrera striking out two each in perfect innings before Joakim Soria took over in the eighth. He allowed one hit and walked one before he was relieved by Davis.

"Their bullpen is one of the best in the big leagues; everyone knows that," Correa said. "That's why they are so successful."

Houston designated hitter Evan Gattis went 0 for 4 with three strikeouts in his first game of the season after starting the year on the disabled

list after February surgery to repair a sports hernia.

"He had a tough night getting back in the swing of things against a tough pitcher," Hinch said. "He's going to need a few at-bats to get comfortable."

### PRESIDENTIAL PITCH

Former President George H.W. Bush threw out the ceremonial first pitch before Tuesday's game. The 91-year-old was pushed onto the field in a wheelchair and tossed the ball left-handed to Monday's starter Collin McHugh from about five feet in front of the plate. After McHugh grabbed the pitch, which was just a bit outside, Bush raised both of his fists in the

air and smiled.

### TRAINER'S ROOM

Astros: Right-hander Lance McCullers (right shoulder soreness) will make his second rehabilitation start for Double-A Corpus Christi on Saturday.

### UP NEXT

Royals: Yordano Ventura (0-0, 3.60) will make his second start of the season on Wednesday. Ventura didn't factor

into the decision in his first start after allowing two hits and two runs and tying a career high with six walks in a 4-3 win over the Twins.

Astros: Scott Feldman (0-1, 9.00) will pitch for Houston on Wednesday. It will be his second start this season after he allowed five hits and four runs in four innings of a 6-4 loss to Milwaukee.

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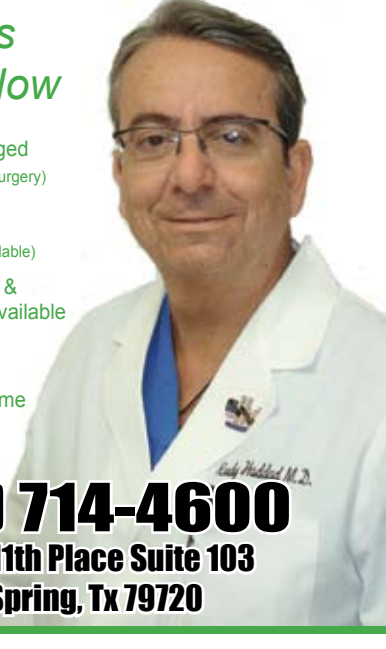
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## News in brief

### Public wants Senate action on court, but interest is modest

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearly 2 in 3 Americans back Democrats' demands that the Republican-run Senate hold hearings and a vote on President Barack Obama's pick for the Supreme Court. But an Associated Press-GfK poll also suggests that GOP defiance considering the nominee may not hurt the party much because, to many people, the election-year fight is simply not a big deal.

Just 1 in 5 in the survey released Wednesday said they've been following the battle over Obama's nomination of federal judge Merrick Garland extremely or very closely.

That included just 26 percent of Democrats and 22 percent of Republicans expressing intense interest, along with a scant 8 percent of independents. That aligns with the political reading of the issue by many Republicans that while it motivates each side's most committed partisans, people in the middle consider it a yawner — making the fight essentially a wash.

Another clue that voters not dedicated to either party find the court fight tiresome: While just over half of Democrats and Republicans said the issue is extremely or very important, only around a third of independents — and half of Americans overall — said so.

About 8 in 10 said that about the economy and about 7 in 10 took the same stance about health care and the threat posed by the Islamic State group. Immigration and the U.S. role in world affairs both attracted slightly more intensity of interest than the court battle.

### Paul Ryan is not running for president — or passing a budget

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Speaker Paul Ryan's national stature is such that he had to call a news conference to deny he wants to be president. Back on Capitol Hill, he's about to blow through a statutory deadline to pass an annual budget, a major embarrassment for him and House Republicans.

Under the government's arcane budget law, the House is supposed to produce a budget by this Friday, April 15. But a tea party revolt over Ryan's embrace of last year's bipartisan deal with President Barack Obama to increase spending has left him well short of the votes he needs.

"It would appear that we're not going to have a budget," the No. 2 House Democrat, Steny Hoyer of Maryland, told reporters Tuesday. "They made it a big deal. Hypocrisy is part of it," he added. "They're in deep disarray."

House Republicans met the budget deadline each of the five years they controlled the House under the leadership of John Boehner, who was ousted as speaker last fall under conservative pressure. Ryan himself, his party's 2012 vice presidential nominee, chaired the House Budget Committee for much of that time and guided the "Ryan Budget" that slashed entitlement spending. But he also cut a deal with Senate Democrats and the White House that enhanced his profile as a charismatic, policy-focused conservative.

The Wisconsin Republican has repeatedly lambasted Democrats when they didn't get budgets done while in congressional control, even backing a law that would have cut off the paychecks of lawmakers if they failed to pass a budget.

### Judge rules against couple in China's 1st same-sex case

CHANGSHA, China (AP) — A judge ruled against a gay couple in China's first same-sex marriage case that attracted several hundred supporters to the courthouse Wednesday in a landmark moment for the country's emerging LGBT rights movement.

The court in the central city of Changsha dismissed the suit brought against the local civil affairs bureau for refusing to issue the couple a mar-

riage registration certificate.

The couple's lawyer Shi Fulong said he expected the judge would rule against them but not so soon — within just a few hours. "It goes against the spirit of the laws of the people's republic of China," Shi said.

Plaintiff Sun Wenlin said he would appeal until he exhausts all legal options.

The lawsuit comes amid growing awareness of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues in China, where society and the government have generally frowned on non-traditional expressions of gender and sexuality.

### Syrians begin voting for new parliament in government areas

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — Syrians in government-controlled areas headed to polling stations Wednesday to elect a new 250-member parliament that is expected to serve as a rubber stamp for President Bashar Assad.

Voters began turning up shortly after the stations opened at 7 a.m. (0400 GMT). Around 3,500 government-approved candidates are competing after more than 7,000 others dropped out.

Early Wednesday, Assad and his wife, Asma, cast their ballots at the Assad Library in Damascus. The president did not make any comments.

The country's foreign minister, Walid al-Moallem, told reporters after voting: "We in Syria always say that the Syrian people decide their destiny and today they are proving practically the accuracy of this saying."

Parliamentary elections in Syria are held every four years, and Damascus says the vote is constitutional and separate from the peace talks in Geneva aimed at ending the five-year war.

### Lebanon shocked over sex trafficking of young Syrian women

BEIRUT (AP) — Back in Syria, the young women were told they would get well-paid jobs at restaurants and hotels in Lebanon. But when they arrived, their belongings and mobile phones were taken away, and the women were locked up in two hotels north of Beirut and forced into prostitution.

What followed was an ordeal of beatings, torture and abuse — until Lebanese security forces raided the hotels and dismantled the operation in late March.

The discovery of the sex trafficking ring and the rescue of the women deeply shocked tiny Lebanon, a Mediterranean Arab nation already overwhelmed by the influx of more than a million Syrian refugees who have fled the civil war, and prompted calls for investigation.

The case, which involves 75 female victims, is considered the worst sex trafficking scandal in Lebanon in decades and has raised questions about who might have shielded and enabled such a vast network.

When they were found in the Chez Maurice and Silver Hotel in the town of Maamelteine, 20 kilometers (12 miles) north of the Lebanese capital, the women were said to have been in miserable condition.

The three-story Chez Maurice looked more like a jail than a hotel when it was recently visited by an Associated Press crew, with bars on balconies and

windows.

### Gangs declare war on police as El Salvador violence rages

SOYAPANGO, El Salvador (AP) — As police Inspector Alba Guevara Lopez's officers fanned out through the narrow alleys of a gang-controlled neighborhood in this San Salvador suburb, half had their faces hidden by black ski masks.

"Those who live a little closer are scared that they might be identified and later face reprisals when they're off duty," said the 20-year veteran cop, her face visible behind a pair of sunglasses. "In your free time you become more vulnerable."

There is reason to be afraid. Hyper-violent gangs declared open-season on police in this Central American nation in response to a government crackdown that began last year. Killings of officers nearly doubled to more than 60 in 2015, and so far this year 15 officers have been slain, including two Tuesday. In some cases they are targeted while they're off duty and relaxing with family members, who also become victims.

Analysts say the growing attacks are a sign El Salvador's conflict is spiraling out of control and threatening to explode into open warfare.

"The gangs have managed to provoke a psychosis and paranoia within the police," damaging the force's already low morale, said Jeannette Aguilar, an expert on gangs who is director of the University Institute of Public Opinion at Central American University in San Salvador.

### Country artists condemn LGBT laws, but labels silent

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Several country music artists and songwriters have condemned proposed laws that critics say discriminate against LGBT people, but anyone looking for reaction from the record labels and production companies on Nashville's Music Row has heard only the sound of silence.

New laws in North Carolina and Mississippi have drawn the ire of businesses and celebrities alike, with Bruce Springsteen and Bryan Adams canceling shows in those states. Legislation dealing with the treatment of gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender people was vetoed by Georgia's governor, but bills are still being considered in Tennessee and South Carolina.

Numerous artists with ties to Nashville have denounced the proposals here, which would ban transgender people from using restrooms that don't conform to their sex at birth and would allow counselors to refuse services to LGBT people on religious grounds. Among them: Emmylou Harris, Billy Ray Cyrus and his pop star daughter Miley Cyrus, and actor Chris Carmack of ABC's "Nashville."

Gretchen Peters, a singer songwriter who has written hits like Martina McBride's "Independence Day," said the bills being considered in Tennessee are deeply personal to her as the mother of a 31-year-old transgender man.

"The people who are at risk are people like my son who would really be called out publicly, and anyone who is a trans person knows that can escalate into a really dangerous situation," she said. "I live in fear of that as a mother."

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