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# HERALD

**BIG SPRING** WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 2017



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## Arrington stops by Howard County on District 19 tour

By **LYNDEL MOODY**  
 Staff Writer



Arrington

U.S. Congressman Jodey Arrington was back in West Texas this past Memorial Day weekend on a tour of six of the 29 counties encompassing District 19 before heading back to Washington, D.C. "I am energized by being back home. I get to update folks, and they get to help

inform me on their feelings about the things we are working on," Arrington said. "A lot of them watch the national media, read, or see cable news, and I like to give them my per-

spective. It's not always how it's portrayed on cable news. I think that's part of my job, to not only say 'Here's what we are doing and working on, but here is why I voted this way'; why I think it's the best course for our country and the best interest for West Texas."

He sat down with the Herald Tuesday afternoon to discuss

what's happening with some of the critical issues impacting West Texans.

### Veterans' healthcare

In his first bill as a congressman, Arrington authored The VET Protection Act, a bill that would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to track the time employees are conducting

union business while on the job. It would prohibit anyone with direct patient care from spending any of their work time on union activities and limit any VA employee from spending more than 25 percent of their on-the-job work time on union activities.

Currently, Arrington is See **ARRINGTON**, Page 3

## Local greenhouse up and running



HERALD photo/Robert Barlow

**Terri and Carl Johansen stand between some of their flowers in the recently built greenhouse that replaced their former one, which was severely damaged when a vehicle drove through it last year.**

By **ROBERT BARLOW**  
 Staff Writer

Johansen Landscape and Nursery's recently finished greenhouse is now up and running after a vehicle collision put the greenhouse out of commission last summer.

Almost a year ago on July 4, 2016, a vehicle veered off of Highway 87 and drove through the Johansen Nursery's greenhouse, causing a severe amount of damage. The results rendered the greenhouse useless, but no one was seriously hurt in the accident. "This was a hard deal for

us, but it could have been a tragedy," said Terri Johansen, owner of the nursery.

"He went all the way into the greenhouse," said Terri. "Plants went flying everywhere. There were some hanging from the rafters."

The driver didn't have insurance and so the burden of replacing the facility fell onto the nursery. Rebuilding the greenhouse cost around sixty thousand dollars.

"Carl and I have been in business out here for forty years, and it's amazing how something can hap-

pen and turn everything on a dime," Terri said. "It puts everything in perspective."

But thankfully, the Johansens had the help of family and their landscape crew turned construction crew to get the job done.

"Because we were operating on a limited budget, we had to figure out a way to financially come out of this thing," Terri said. "Our landscape crew became our construction guys. They welded, they drilled, they put screws in."

After a year's worth of anticipation and construc-

tion efforts, the greenhouse finally became operational around March of this year. The new greenhouse is fabricated from some used greenhouses in Plains, Texas that had recently been retired by the previous owners.

Johansen's landscape crew then took on the role of a construction crew and helped put the disassembled pieces back together again at the location. However, because there weren't enough parts for three greenhouses, the

See **JOHANSEN**, Page 3

## HC breaks almost even on state funding

By **LYNDEL MOODY**  
 Staff Writer

After years of severe cutbacks in state funding, the Howard College district is seeing a little sunlight.

The Howard College Big Spring and San Angelo campuses will receive a little less state funding over the next

two years, while the SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf (SWCID) will receive more than \$1 million in allocation dollars.

In all, Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks said this year's legislative session was a good one for Howard College and community colleges as a whole.

The 85th Texas State Legislative session officially wrapped up Monday, and lawmakers approved the budget for the coming two years, the one issue they are mandated to accomplish.

Now the bill sits on the desk of Governor Gregg Abbott to sign into law.

With figures in hand, Howard College announced Tuesday in a press release "Howard College (Big Spring area and San Angelo campuses) will be facing a 0.66 percent decrease resulting in \$84,517 fewer dollars for the biennium or \$42,259 per year."

However, SWCID, which is funded as a special item in the Howard College district's allocation, will receive a \$1,350,220 increase for the biennium or \$675,110 for the year.

Sparks said this increase will now allow the district to "focus on some operational and infrastructure issues that have been looming for several years." SWCID is heavily dependent on state funding since it does not receive local taxpayer dollars and students who are residents of Texas have their tuition comped.

"We have had several things we need to address on our SWCID campus but have been unable to over the last several years due to budget limitations," Sparks stated. "We are excited about the show of support for this campus through the allocation of additional dollars and we will begin our work to address the issues in the most fiscally prudent way possible."

The funding for community colleges is based on three components - core

See **HC**, Page 3

## Official says Trump expected to pull US from Paris deal

By **JULIE PACE**  
 Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is expected to pull the United

States from a landmark global climate agreement, a White House official said Wednesday, though there could be "caveats in the language" announcing a withdrawal, leaving open the possibility that his decision isn't final.

Exiting the deal would be certain to anger allies that spent years negoti-

ating the accord to reduce carbon emissions.

The official insisted on anonymity in order to discuss the decision before the official announcement.

Trump tweeted on Wednesday morning: "I will be announcing my decision on the Paris Accord over the next few days. MAKE AMERICA GREAT

AGAIN!"

While Trump currently favors an exit from the agreement, he has been known to change his thinking on major decisions and tends to seek counsel from a range of inside and outside advisers, many with differing agendas, until the last minute.



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## Obituaries

### Carmen Florence Kennemur

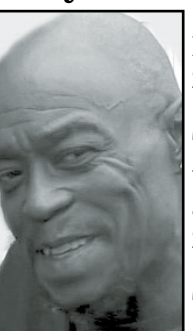


Carmen Florence Kennemur, 88, of Aledo passed away May 28, 2017, at her home, surrounded by loved ones.

She was born July 30, 1928, to Benjamin and Mattie (Schafer) Watson in Seminole, Okla. Carmen attended school in Westbrook. She was a member of Oak Street Baptist Church in Colorado City, Texas. She was preceded in death by her husband, David Wesley

Kennemur.

### Ray Carl "Pete" McGee Sr.



Ray Carl "Pete" McGee Sr., 61, of Big Spring, died Sunday, May 27, 2017, at his home.

The family will receive friends Thursday, June 1, 2017, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Myers and Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Friday, June 2, 2017, at Oak Grove Baptist Church in Hamlin, Texas, with Pastor Tommie Hale of Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church of Midland officiating. Burial will be at Hamlin Memorial Cemetery in Hamlin, Texas.

Ray was born July 20, 1955, in Stamford, Texas, to Arthelia and Armstead McGee. He grew up in Hamlin and was a member of the Oak Grove Bap-

Survivors include her son, Danney Wayne Kennemur of Aledo; grandchildren, Debra Kay Kennemur of Aledo and Stacy Wayne Kennemur of Springtown; sisters, Betty Lou Watson and Susie Marie Bartel of Wichita, Kan.; brother, Fred Lee Watson of Tucson, Ariz.; and numerous nieces, nephews, and friends.

Visitation will be 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday evening at Galbreath-Pickard Hilltop Chapel. Funeral services are at 2 p.m., Thursday, June 1, 2017, at Galbreath-Pickard Hilltop Chapel. Burial will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Sardis Cemetery in Comanche County.

*Paid obituary*

tist Church. He lived in Big Spring for 40 years. Ray had worked at the Abilene State School, Hamlin Compress, and Denny's in Big Spring.

Ray is survived by one son, Ray Carl "Ray Ray" McGee Jr. of Big Spring; four daughters, Alisha McGee and her boyfriend Ernest of Pecos, April Franks and her husband David, Angela McGee, and Dawntavia Ghant, all of Big Spring; two sisters, Gloria Cork and her husband James of Midland, and Katherine McGee of Big Spring; 12 grandchildren; two great grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Faye McGee; three sisters; two brothers; and one grandson.

Arrangements are by Myers and Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersand-smith.com](http://www.myersand-smith.com).

## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **LORI ANN GARCIA**, 45, of 1612 Bluebird St. was arrested on two warrants for driving with an invalid license.
- **MARK STEVEN ROMINE**, 44, of 1401 N. Highway 87 Apt. #1204 was arrested on charges of driving while intoxicated (third or more) and evading arrest or

detention using a vehicle.

- **BURGLARY OF A BUILDING** was reported in the 700 block of East 11th Place.
- **STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported in the 1900 block of Apron Drive.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 1600 block of South Lancaster Street, the 500 block of South Birdwell Lane, and the 300 block of South Owens Street.

• **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported in the 100 block of East Leatherwood.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 700 block of East 11th Place.

• **HARASSMENT** was reported in the 3600 block of West Highway 80.

• **MAJOR ACCIDENT** was reported in the 3100 block of West Highway 80.

## Take Note

• Today is the final day of Dr. David Ward's pet supply drive. Dr. Ward is looking to accept toys, dog food, shampoo, sheets, monetary donations, and anything else to help. Bring all donations to Dr. Ward's office located at 1500 Scurry Street. All proceeds will benefit the Big Spring Humane Society. When donating, make sure to enter for a chance to win a \$50 WalMart gift card. The drawing will be held today.

• The Big Spring Salvation Army and the Big Spring Center for Skilled Care are holding a fan drive to collect and distribute electric fans to those 55 and older in Howard County. Those wishing to donate can take new or gently used box or pedestal fans to the Salvation Army headquarters at 811 W. Fifth St. Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.; or to the Center for Skilled Care at 3701 Wasson Rd. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Seniors 55 and older who need a fan should call the Salvation Army at 432-267-8239 or the Center for Skilled Care at 432-606-5012 to register and receive the distribution date.

• The Howard County A&M Club is accepting applications from current A&M students. Students must be Howard County residents and will enroll for at least 12 hours. For more information and to find the application, visit <https://westexags.com/>. Deadline for applications for current A&M students is June 1, 2017.

• Food 2 Kids Big Spring needs you! It is time to start sacking food for Big Spring elementary students who do not receive adequate food over the weekends. Members of the community can be a part by volunteering to sack the food. It just takes a couple hours of your time and the work is very rewarding. To volunteer, just show up at the time and dates listed. For more information, call, 432-935-3998.

If you want additional information about getting your child on this program please contact your child's school.

• Each week Kindred offers free health checks from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Corner House Coffee Shop, 1701 Scurry St.

• 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 has dropped to \$5 per person thanks to a

sponsor Marcy House, 2301 Wasson Road.

• The Big Spring Art Association meets the third Tuesday of each month a 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library.

• Big Spring Centennial Lion's Club meets twice a month at the Big Spring TA Truck Stop. They meet on the first Tuesday of the month at noon and the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. Visitors are welcome.

• The Christensen-Tucker Post-2013 Veterans of Foreign Wars meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 pm at 500 Driver Road. For more information, contact David Leonard, Post Commander, at 432-816-6004. All combat veterans of foreign wars are invited to come.

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

• Order of the Eastern Star Big Spring Chapter 67 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 219 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Lodge meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Jimmy Ruth at 271-2176.

• Staked Plains Masonic Lodge No. 598 meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. (dinner is at 6 p.m.) at 219 1/2 Main St. All Masons are welcome.

• Membership to the Big Spring Native American Association is open to the public. People interested in Native American culture are encouraged to find out more about the organization by calling Richard "Indio" Lesser at 432-935-0125,

• Scenic Mountain Medical Center Auxiliary Group is looking to expand. Positions are available for the Auxiliary group and the Teen Volunteer program. Must be 15 years of age to take part in the teen volunteer program. If you would like to volunteer please contact Heath White at 268-4850.

• Home Hospice is in need of volunteers of all ages. The organization is requesting volunteers to visit patients. Volunteers set their own hours. For more information, contact Beverly Grant at 264-7599 or 432-967-0901.

• Mobile meals is in need of volunteer delivery drivers. If you would like to donate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Maria at 816-6474.

• Crossroads Hospice needs volunteers for patient care. Contact Eva at 263-5300.

### Magdaleno "Eleno" Paredez



FORT WORTH – Magdaleno "Eleno" Paredez, 81, a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, went to be with his heavenly father on Friday, May 12, 2017.

Eleno was born on May 29, 1935, in Big Spring. He loved the game of golf, spending time with his family, and his 1991 Red Ford pickup truck. He was preceded in death by his parents, Eusebio and Aurora Paredez; and his brother, Johnny Paredez.

Survivors include his devoted wife of 59 years, Vidala M. Paredez; three sons; two daughters; nine grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; five sisters; one brother; and many nephews and nieces.

*Paid obituary*

## Sheriff

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 87 inmates at the time of this report.

• **KIMBERLY KAY CARSON**, 31, was booked by HCSO on a warrant for firearm smuggling (3 or more firearms).

• **LORI ANN GARCIA**, 45, was booked by BSPD on a capias warrant for driving with an invalid license; and on a warrant for driving with an invalid license.

• **MARTIN KING NORWOOD**, 34, was booked by HCSO on a warrant for theft of property.

• **MARK STEVEN ROMINE**, 44, was booked by BSPD on charges of driving while intoxicated (third or more), and evading arrest or detention with a vehicle.

## Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

• **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the 3100 block of West Highway 80. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 800 block of South Aylesford. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1400 block of North Highway 87. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

## Support Groups

### WEDNESDAY

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

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

### THURSDAY

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

• 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.

### SUNDAY

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

## HERALD

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# ARRINGTON

Continued from Page 1

whipping up support to bring the bill to the House floor. He hopes the House votes on his bill before the August recess.

"You have to educate other members on what it's doing and what it is not doing. Some people said they thought it was doing away with unions and that is not the intention of the bill. That would come out of different jurisdiction," he said. "My purpose is to make sure people spending time on union activity is done in a responsible way and is consistent with the law. The law says you can do it, but it has to meet the standard of reasonable, necessary, and in the best interest of the public.

"Somebody that was hired to serve these veterans and some of them in direct patient care like physicians, nurses, etc., they can't be spending 100 percent of the time in union activity and comply with reasonable, necessary, and in the best interest of the public," he continued. "It infuriates me that there is a report by the Governmental Accountability Office that showed that hundreds of VA employees were abusing what they call 'official time' which is time spent on union activities. So we need to rein that in and we need to have a method of reported that to Congress."

With his bill coupled with a bill authored by Congressman Phil Roe, chairman of the House's Veterans Affairs Committee, The VA Accountability Act, Arrington said he hopes to tear down some of the bureaucratic barriers to making the system work efficiently for veterans.

The VA Accountability Act gives the VA secretary authority to fire, demote, or suspend employees based on their performance, although employees can still appeal the measure.

"Over the last 10 years, the United States taxpayers have spent 154 percent more on serving our veterans. That's tens of billions of dollars. I convinced we are not getting our money's worth and in some ways we are throwing good money after bad," he said. "I think the biggest issue with the VA is the bureaucracy. Too often the bureaucracy serves itself and it exists to protect itself and its employees instead of serving the veterans."

In the private sector, employees who do not perform up to standard are replaced, Arrington said.

"It's not so in the fantasy world of the federal government," he said. "I think the two key pieces of legislation is the one I'm carrying and the one Phil Roe is carrying because if you can change the culture of the VA and make it focus on service instead of itself and if you can make things more efficient, hold folks accountable, and not let the unions run it off the track of service to the veterans, I think you can get actually do right by our veterans."

## American Health Care Act

A report by the Congress Budget Office says the Republican bill — The American Health Care Act — to replace the Affordable Health Care law would cause 14 million people to lose their current insurance by 2018 and 24 million people would be without insurance within a decade.

Although the bill is not perfect, Arrington said, he stands behind it.

"I am motivated by bending the cost curve of healthcare because just what we've experience with Obamacare is people having a health insurance card but with no real access to the care because the cost of care has risen to a point that it is out of reach to middle-class families and working-class families," he said. "Since Obamacare, in the last seven years, premiums in Texas have gone up over 80 percent, so we learned that just having a health care card or insurance card does not necessary equate to having access to care.

"I believe that we have to create a market, and we have to create competition for our business as consumers as patients and give patients real choice," he continued. "Not choice from a list, a menu of government developed and designed products or government mandated products that conform to some 'essential' health benefits that were written in by some bureaucrat in Washington but where the free markets are developing products that we need and can actually afford. To me, that coupled with giving states the maximum flexibility with block grants for Medicaid instead of having a one side fits all which doesn't work for anything."

Arrington said he does support keeping in safeguards in place for patients with pre-existing conditions.

"We need to go away from this government care to more of a market driven patient centered care but maintaining a role for government where there are pre-existing condi-

tions for high risk individuals," he said. "I've always maintain that the government has a limited role for those folks whose premiums would be so expensive because of their health condition that they couldn't afford it. That's where government ought to play. I support it and still support because it has those safe guards."

Now the bill has passed the House, Arrington urges the Senate to take up and pass the issue.

"In about just about 100 days we took a major piece of legislation and one of the top issues and promises made by candidates all over the county including the President is that we would repeal Obamacare and begin repairing and reforming our health care system," he said. "We did that in the form of the American Health Care Act and now the Senate has to have the same sense of urgency that we have. We can't pass an '18 budget because this health care bill is actually part of the '17 budget. If we can't get healthcare passed, we will not get tax reform. And I'd say there is a lot riding on what the Senate is going to do. I'm please that we put it in play with the Senate ,but I'm not going to be satisfied until the president signs it."

## President Trump's proposed 2018 budget

President Trump's proposed 2018 balanced budget would place spending on par with last year, but does call for deep cuts in many areas including social programs while increasing military spending, homeland security, and a slight increase for veterans health care.

Although Arrington applauds the president's conservative budget, he said in some areas of cuts he parts ways.

"I think since the president has been in office, regardless whether I agree how he has communicated things or his style, I have supported his policy and his decision because I believe him and I believe he is doing everything he promised to do...I've been very supportive of our president and still am, but I part with him on the budget."

Arrington said he disagrees with the deep cuts to crop insurance and protecting the American agriculture system is necessary for the security of the county.

"That's every bit as important as energy independence, energy security," he said. "The president cut really deep into crop insurance which is

part of the Farm Bill. I have a problem with that. We have experienced the steepest decline in farm income since the Great Depression almost over 50 percent in the last three to four years. The budget of the farm program and the impact of the federal budget is .26 of 1 percent.

"That .26 of 1 percent represents a safety net that allows for millions of jobs to agriculture... the whole agriculture ecosystem is effected by the farmer and without the safety net the farmer can't stay in business because the competition is just too great," he continued.

Arrington said the American farmer is playing on uneven field where it comes to international competition.

"The uneven competition is such with China and India and others, they don't have the same cost structure, the regularity cost, tax structure, so they are competing on a different playing field," he said. "If you just go to the lowest cost producer, you are going to put the American farmer out of business.

"You might argue for in the near term you get cheaper food but once you've outsourced all your food, they've got ya," he continued. "If you think Valdimir Putin and other people in this world wouldn't love to have us begging for food, they wouldn't turn the knobs on us, that's why it is an issue of national security. I want to make sure we get in front of the president and explain and get him to really appreciate how rural America is the backbone of this county and rural America represents the food and fiber producers. Rural America represents the energy producers both wind and fossil energy."

Arrington added the "good news is that presidents have never been able to dictate the budget of the United States."

"That's the job of Congress so the good news is I am the only Republican from Texas on the budget committee and I am trying to defend and promote the things for West Texas and the country," he said. "I think we are going to do better than what the president put out there. I am disappointed in that but I think he (the president) doesn't fully appreciate agriculture and ag policy that supports our farmers, so that we have this parity from an international market stance."

# JOHANSEN

Continued from Page 1

crew came up with the idea to combine the two greenhouses into one building.

"When we had these new greenhouses torn apart, we decided to take our oldest greenhouse down," Terri said. "So we have actually constructed a whole new greenhouse, instead of two greenhouses we have one connected greenhouse."

Once construction finished on the greenhouse, they wasted no time populating the roughly six thousand square foot space with a variety of plants and produce for the residents of Big Spring and the surrounding areas. The double wide greenhouse has been designed better to withstand the elements of West Texas and gave an upgrade to the nursery.

"The outcome is that we have a beautiful facility," said Terri.

Terri said despite the setbacks, she has an optimistic view of the future for the business. At the end of it all, they ended up with a greenhouse that was even better than before and they're beginning to get things back to normal at the nursery.

"That's one reason we rebuild we wanted something good for our town," Terri said. "We wanted to be a bright spot in our town."

# HC

Continued from Page 1

operations, contact hour generation, and success points. All colleges received an increase in the core operations in this session but the contact hour generation and student success points will vary among the colleges resulting in overall decreases/increases for each college, the release said.

"With our local budgeting process which allocates the contact hour funding where the hours are generated, we will see a shift in funds show-

ing an increase at our San Angelo campus and a decrease on our Big Spring campus," Sparks stated. "We still have a significant amount of work to do in order to determine the final impact on each campus budget, taking into account the overall reductions as well as the cost of benefits for employees."

The community college systems are responsible for 50 percent of the costs of benefits for employees and must use local funds to cover that obligation, the release said.

Overall the appropriation for the

50 community college districts in the state increased by \$19 million as compared to the last biennium.

"This was a significant statement of support for the mission of community colleges and the impact they have on the state economy," added Sparks.

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Katrina Williams, 56, died Sunday. Funeral service will be at 2:00 PM today at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Coahoma Cemetery.

Ray Carl "Pete" McGee Sr., 61, died Sunday. The family will receive friends Thursday from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be 2:00 PM Friday at Oak Grove Baptist Church in Hamlin, Texas. Burial will be at Hamlin Memorial Cemetery in Hamlin, Texas.

*Celebrating Our 69th Season*

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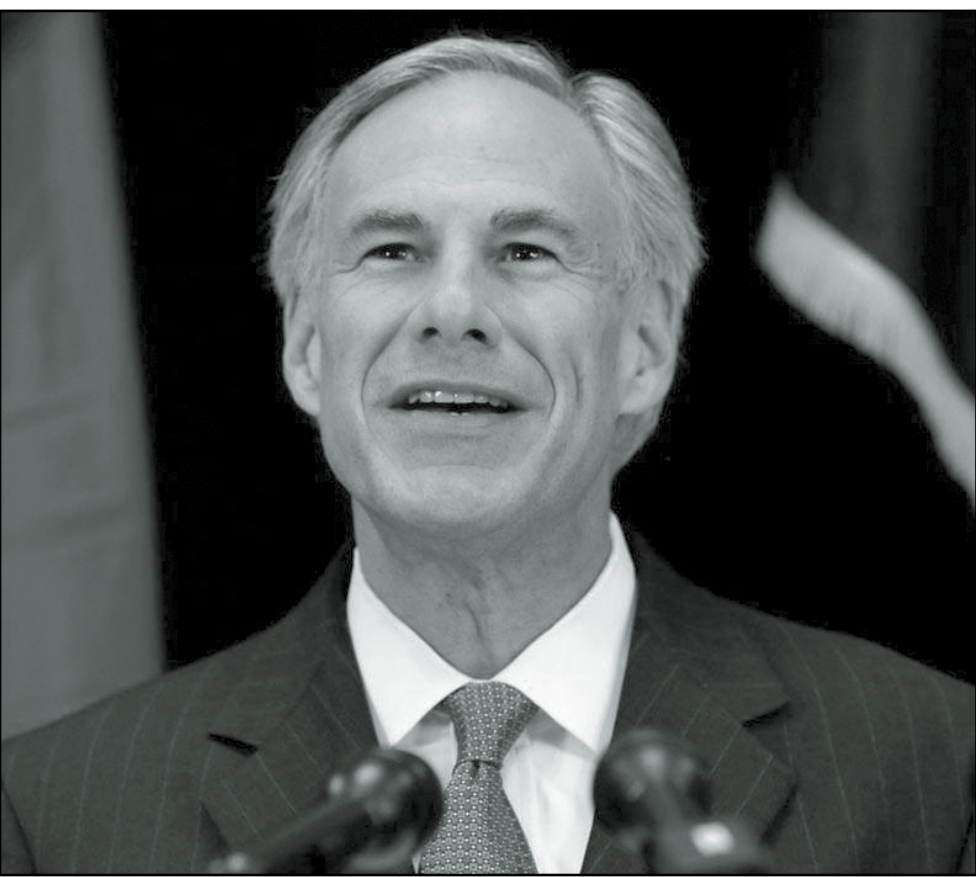
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## Texas 'bathroom bill' fading as legislative session wraps up



AP photo

### Texas Governor Greg Abbott.

By WILL WEISSERT and MEREDITH HOFFMAN

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Texas' legislative session was winding down Sunday, with an all but dead "bathroom bill" targeting transgender people caught in a clash between mainstream Republicans and the most conservative wing of the party that dominates politics in the nation's second-largest state.

Lawmakers were resolving last-minute issues ahead of Monday's final adjournment — but their focus was already shifting to whether Gov. Greg Abbott would order them back to work if a law, like the one that caused national uproar and costly boycotts when it was approved last year in North Carolina, doesn't pass in Texas.

"I think it's dead for the regular session between now and tomorrow," said Rep. Ron Simmons, a Republican from Carrollton in suburban Dallas who pushed a version of the bathroom bill in the Texas House.

A Democrat hasn't won statewide office since 1994 in Texas, the longest political losing streak in the nation, and the state so relishes small government that its Legislature only convenes every other year.

That means state lawmakers won't meet again until 2019, unless Abbott calls a special session, which lasts 30 days and can cover any issue the governor chooses.

Abbott has said previously he's hesitant to drag legislators back to work over any issue, but he's also bucked

other GOP governors in supporting legislation that could impose transgender restroom restrictions.

Abbott spokesman John Wittman declined comment Sunday, referring queries to a statement he released Friday night saying: "The taxpayers deserve to have the Legislature finish their work on time."

Tensions between the state Senate and House — both Republican-controlled — have been building for months but boiled over during the final weekend.

The more conservative Senate passed a comprehensive law months ago compelling transgender Texans to use public restrooms corresponding to the gender on their birth certificates.

The House last weekend approved a scaled-back measure applying only to public schools, which educate roughly 5.3 million students, more than any other state except California. It bars transgender students from choosing the bathroom they use, but allows schools to direct them to separate, single occupancy facilities.

The Senate rejected the House version as too watered down. But Republican House Speaker Joe Straus, who has long opposed the bathroom bill as potentially bad for Texas' economy, said his chamber would go no further.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, a former radio talk show host who oversees the Senate and loves picking conservative fights, responded by imploring Abbott to call a special session.

Adding to the tensions was a Saturday letter from Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg,

Apple CEO Tim Cook and a dozen other tech industry giants. They urged abandoning the bathroom bill. The NFL and NBA have hinted that approving it could cost Texas future top sporting events — even though Houston successfully hosted the Super Bowl in February. Leading businesses and lobbyists have also rejected the would-be law, and top Hollywood and music stars have hinted at state boycotts should it pass.

While the bathroom bill cast the longest shadow over the session's final hours, it may be more mundane legislation on state agencies that ultimately looms largest.

Routine procedural proposals to extend the life of five Texas agencies — including medical oversight — previously stalled in the Texas House, after some of the chamber's most conservative members killed every item on a legislative calendar that was supposed to be non-controversial.

Patrick has deliberately not moved Senate versions since then, and says it could mean Texas might not be able to fully license physicians and other medical personnel after September, when previous laws expire.

He says Abbott will have to call a special session to resolve that issue — thus letting him add the bathroom bill and other top conservative priorities, like deep property tax cuts, to the agenda.

"We'll pass it in the special," Patrick said Sunday of the oversight legislation. So far, though, Abbott has given no indication he'll comply.

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For our audiobook fans, I'm listing the new audiobooks we just processed.

- My Wicked Little Lies by Victoria Alexander (AUCD F ALE V)
- Devil's Garden by Ace Atkins (AUCD F ATK A)
- Wicked City by Ace Atkins (AUCD F ATK A)
- Deal Breaker by Harlan Coben (AUCD F COB H)
- Drop Shot by Harlan Coben (AUCD F COB H)
- Hold Tight by Harlan Coben (AUCD F COB H)
- The Innocent by Harlan Coben (AUCD F COB H)
- Outlaw by Ted Dekker (AUCD F DEK T)
- A Deeper Darkness by J. T. Ellison (AUCD F ELL J)
- Edge of Black by J. T. Ellison (AUCD F ELL J)
- The Divide by Nicolas Evans (AUCD F EVAN)
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- Agatha H & The Clockwork Princess by Phil Foglio (AUCD F FOG P)
- Agatha H & The Voice of the Castle by Phil Foglio (AUCD F FOG P)
- Night Road by Kirstin Hannah (AUCD F HAN K)
- The Conspiracy Club by Jonathan Kellerman (AUCD F KEL J)
- Blue Labyrinth by Douglas Preston (AUCD F PRE D)
- The Messenger by Daniel Silva (AUCD F SIL D)



MONICA MARTINEZ

Now, I'll tell you about the new western books. "Travis" by T. T. Flynn (LP W FLY T) is a western duo. In "When a Gunman Steals a War," Tom Fortune is paroled because of his bravery during a penitentiary fire and doubts about the flimsy evidence that convicted him in the first place. He must return to Sundown, take up ranching again, and stay out of trouble, or he will be forced to serve the remaining seventeen years of his sentence. Fortune returns to the XO

Ranch, of which he was half owner, only to find that Sheriff Bent Hooker and his two brothers now own the XO and are fast taking over everywhere.

"Travis" tells the story about how Roger Travis returns from Central America where he had nearly died. He tries to draw money against a certificate of deposit, only to learn that his account has been cleaned out by someone calling himself Roger Travis. The banker is convinced that the real Roger Travis is a fraud and wants him arrested, but Travis escapes. He intends to give pursuit, but the usurper has won himself stature in the community, half ownership of a ranch, and has a number of unscrupulous men working for him. This Roger Travis believed the real Roger Travis was dead. When he finds out the truth, he knows there is only one way to deal with the problem if he is to keep all he has gained.

"Monahan's Massacre" by William W. Johnstone with J. A. Johnstone (LP W JOH W) finds accidental gunslinger Dooley Monahan settled down to a farmer's life. When the itch for adventure gets too strong, he packs up and rides west. Along with his horse and dog, Dooley rides for the Black Hills to strike it rich in the gold fields of Dakota territory. Unfortunately, fate has other ideas. When the trigger-happy Dobbs-Handley gang holds up the Omaha bank, Dooley is mistaken for one of the robbers, and a price is plastered on his head. With every lawman in the territory hot on his trail, Dooley has no choice but to join up with the murderous outlaws. If the hangman doesn't get him, his new friends will, but Dooley won't turn back until he makes his fortune.

"Justice, My Brother" by James Keene (LP W KEE J) is a study in family loyalties, heightened by the paradox of a man surrendering one brother to the law that he may save him from another. It is the subtle probing of forces which drive a man outside the ways of security that makes this one of the most appealing psychological tales to emerge from

See LIBRARY, Page 6

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# Suspect in Portland light rail slayings to appear in court

By **STEVEN DUBOIS**  
and **MARTHA BELLISLE**

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — The man police say fatally stabbed two other men who tried to shield young women from an anti-Muslim tirade on a Portland, Oregon, light-rail train makes his initial court appearance Tuesday and the city's mayor says he hopes the slayings will inspire "changes in the political dialogue in this country."

Jeremy Joseph Christian, 35, faces two counts of felony aggravated murder and other charges.

The attack happened Friday, the first day of Ramadan, the holiest time of the year for Muslims. Authorities say Christian started verbally abusing two young women, including one wearing a hijab. Three other men on the train intervened before police say Christian attacked them, killing two and wounding one.

President Donald Trump condemned the stabbings, writing Monday on Twitter: "The violent attacks in Portland on Friday are unacceptable. The victims were standing up to hate and intolerance. Our prayers are w/ them."

Mayor Ted Wheeler said he appreciated Trump's words but stressed the need for action. Wheeler urged organizers to cancel a "Trump Free Speech Rally" at a downtown park in Portland next weekend, saying they are inappropriate and could be dangerous because he fears they will attract right-wing protesters.

Portland requires permits for rallies when they will be held on public property and

could affect traffic and Wheeler said the city would not issue a permit for the event planned for Sunday.

"I hope we rise to the memory of these two gentlemen who lost their lives," the mayor told reporters. "Let's do them honor by standing with them and carrying on their legacy of standing up to hate and bigotry and violence."

Mat Dos Santos, the legal director for the American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon, said on Twitter that "our hearts are broken" over the stabbings but that it was wrong and unconstitutional for Wheeler to try to stop the demonstrations based on the viewpoint of the organizers.

A Facebook page for the event says there would be speakers and live music. It says it will feature Kyle Chapman, who describes himself as an American nationalist and ardent supporter of Trump.

Chapman was arrested at a March 4 protest in Berkeley, California. Wheeler's call for the rally to be cancelled comes amid a wider debate in the U.S. about the First Amendment, often in liberal cities like Portland and Berkeley and on college campuses, where violent protests between far-right and far-left protesters have derailed appearances by contentious figures.

During Friday's attacks Taliesin Myrddin Namkai Meche, 23, and Ricky John Best, 53, were killed as they tried to stop the harassment.

Christian's social media postings indicate an affinity for Nazis and political violence. He is accused of aggravated murder, intimidation — the state equivalent of a



**Coco Douglas, 8, leaves a handmade sign and rocks she painted at a memorial in Portland, Ore., on Saturday, May 27, 2017, for two bystanders who were stabbed to death Friday while trying to stop a man who was yelling anti-Muslim slurs and acting aggressively toward two young women. From left are Coco's brother, Desmond Douglas; her father, Christopher Douglas; and her stepmother, Angel Sauls.**

AP photo

hate crime — and being a felon in possession of a weapon.

Christian served prison time after holding up employees at a convenience store with a gun in 2002, court records show. Telephone messages left at the home of Christian's mother Sunday and Monday were not returned. It was not clear if he had a lawyer yet.

The mother of one of the targets of the rant said she was overwhelmed with gratitude and sadness for the strangers who died defending her

daughter, 16-year-old Destinee Mangum.

Mangum told news station KPTV that she and her 17-year-old friend were riding the train when Christian started yelling at them. She said her friend is Muslim, but she's not.

"He told us to go back to Saudi Arabia, and he told us we shouldn't be here, to get out of his country," Mangum said. "He was just telling us that we basically weren't anything and that we should kill ourselves."

The teens moved toward the back of the train, preparing to get off at the next stop.

"And then we turned around while they were fighting, and he just started stabbing people, and it was just blood everywhere, and we just started running for our lives," Mangum said.

Micah David-Cole Fletcher, 21, was stabbed in the neck. His girlfriend, Miranda Helm, told The Oregonian/OregonLive that he was recovering his strength in the hospital.

## Miss. teen: He 'loved me enough to take some bullets for me'

By **EMILY WAGSTER**  
**PETTUS**

Associated Press

BROOKHAVEN, Miss. (AP) — It was after midnight when a gunman burst into the living room of a southern Mississippi home where young people were playing video games.

Caleb Edwards, 15, said the man — whom he knows as Corey Godbolt — demanded to know where his cousin's parents were. Jordan Blackwell, 18, said they were gone to another town.

At that, Godbolt "just started shooting," Caleb said.

As people scrambled to hide inside the Brookhaven home, Blackwell used his own body to shield his cousin Caleb from the gunfire.

With his mother standing by his side Monday, Caleb spoke calmly as he recounted to The Associated Press how he felt the force of the impact as Blackwell was shot Sunday.

"He loved me enough to take some bullets for me," Caleb said.

Caleb's 11-year-old brother, Austin Edwards, was also shot to death in that living room early Sunday. They were among the eight people killed in three houses in a rampage that started late Saturday after law enforcement officers were called about a domestic dispute. A deputy sheriff was among those killed. The other seven were all relatives or acquaintances of the man accused of the shooting.

Investigators said Willie Corey Godbolt, 35, will be charged with one count of capital murder and seven counts of first degree murder. Mississippi Bureau of Investigation spokesman Warren Strain said the charges could change as the investigation continues.

Godbolt had been hospitalized for a gunshot wound and was released Tuesday; it wasn't clear who shot him, but investigators say it wasn't the police.

See **BULLETS**, Page 6

## Virginia man who joined Islamic State now facing trial in US

By **MATTHEW**  
**BARAKAT**

Associated Press

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — To the Kurdish peshmerga forces patrolling northern Iraq in March 2016, Mohamad Khweis looked for all the world like an Islamic State suicide bomber. They certainly didn't peg him as a bus driver from the wealthy suburbs of Washington, D.C.

As they saw him approach from the stretch of no-man's land separating the Islamic State from Kurdish-controlled sections of Iraq, they fired warning shots in the air. They ordered him to strip to his underwear. They confiscated his cash and his canned fish, thinking it might be a bomb.

They were surprised to find out he was an American, carrying a Virginia driver's license. U.S. offi-

cialists were surprised as well — they had no idea Khweis had left Virginia to travel to the Islamic State.

Now Khweis, 27, is scheduled to go on trial Tuesday in federal court in Alexandria, Virginia, for providing material support to a terrorist organization.

While more than 100 Americans have been charged with terror-related offenses connected to the Islamic State, most have been charged in sting operations, where the defendant only thought he had made a connection to the Islamic State.

Khweis is among a small number of Americans who actually made it to the Islamic State, and then fled after realizing they had made a mistake.

Khweis told Kurdish television that life in Mosul was difficult and "I found it very, very hard to live

there." He noted that there was no smoking and compulsory religion classes.

Khweis grew up in northern Virginia and graduated from Edison High School in Fairfax County in 2007. According to court records, he served as a bus driver for the region's Metro system.

In 2015, he left the U.S. for Europe. After stops in London and the Netherlands, he arrived in Turkey, and Islamic State facilitators smuggled him across the Syrian border to Raqqa, prosecutors say.

In Raqqa, the Islamic State's capital, prosecutors say Khweis went through a formal intake process, in which he indicated his willingness to serve as a suicide bomber, prosecutors say. He was then sent to live in Mosul, where he spent several weeks taking lengthy

See **TRIAL**, Page 6

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AP photo

People embrace Sunday, May 28, 2017, outside a Bogue Chitto, Miss., house where several people were fatally shot during a house-to-house shooting rampage Saturday in Lincoln County, Miss. A man was arrested Sunday in the shooting rampage that left several people dead, including a sheriff's deputy.

## BULLETS

Continued from Page 5

She was waiting for an initial court appearance to be scheduled.

The Mississippi Bureau of Investigation identified some of the slain as Barbara Mitchell, 55; Brenda May, 53; Tocarra May, 35; Ferral Buraque, 45; Shelia Buraque, 46; and Deputy William Durr, 36. The parents of Austin Edwards and Jordan Blackwell identified their sons as the other victims.

Funeral services for the victims have been scheduled over several days starting Thursday.

Brookhaven is a south Mississippi city surrounded by

pine trees and rolling green pastures.

The outbreak of violence has shaken the county of 34,500 residents.

More than a dozen people stood in the driveway of Edwards' and Blackwell's grandparents Monday afternoon and joined hands for prayer.

"We need you, oh God, to be with this family in their grief," said Richard Thomas, pastor of New Home Church of Christ Holiness.

Jordan Blackwell played linebacker for the Brookhaven High football team. As he prepared for his senior year, two universities and a nearby community college had already expressed interest in him, said his mother, Tiffany Blackwell. She and her hus-

band, Shon, described their son as cheerful and unselfish. She said Jordan dreamed of getting a Camaro for high school graduation.

Tears rolled down one cheek Monday as Tiffany Blackwell described coming home and finding her son dead.

"When I walked in the house and saw my child lying there, I just thought he was sleeping," she said. "I told him to wake up. I told him to get up, but he wouldn't move."

Caleb described his younger brother, Austin, as "a happy kid" who liked to play and cook.

Caleb said after his brother was shot, "I thought I was going to die."

Godbolt showed up at Vincent Mitchell's Bogue Chitto



AP photo

Officers arrest suspect Willie Corey Godbolt on Sunday, May 28, 2017, following several fatal shootings Saturday in Lincoln County, Miss., officials said.

home before midnight Saturday to demand that his estranged wife give up their two children. She and the children had been staying with them for about three weeks, Mitchell told AP.

"He'd come to get his kids. The deputy was called," and asked him to leave, and it seemed like Godbolt would comply at first, Mitchell said.

"He acted like, motioned like, he was fixing to go. Then he reached in his back pocket and grabbed a gun," Mitchell said. "He just started shooting everything."

Mitchell said he escaped along with Godbolt's wife, but Mitchell's wife, her sister and one of the wife's daughters were killed. Authorities said Godbolt fled and killed four more people at two other homes.

At least seven hours elapsed between the first shootings and Godbolt's arrest near the final crime scene, in a subdivision of ranch houses.

The deputy had worked in Christian ministry before going into law enforcement and liked doing puppet shows to deliver uplifting messages to children.

Durr was married and had an 11-year-old son. His mother spoke briefly with the AP, saying the family is still in distress.

"He was a good Christian man," Debbie Durr said.

Godbolt told The Clarion-Ledger (<http://on.thecl.com/2rbQIq5>) that he hadn't planned to be captured alive.

"My intentions was to have God kill me. I ran out of bullets," he said. "Suicide by cop was my intention."

## TRIAL

Continued from Page 5

classes in Islamic law.

He spent three months in the Islamic State, and Khweis' lawyers say he tried several times to escape.

Finally, he was able to escape after an all-night hike from the Iraqi town of Tal Afar.

He walked for miles before reaching a Kurdish military checkpoint near Sinjar mountain.

The Kurdish captain who arrested Khweis testified at a pretrial hearing about the arrest.

"We thought he might be a suicide bomber," the peshmerga official testified through an interpreter. "Anyone before who approached us would blow themselves up."

Many details of Khweis' case emerged in a pretrial hearing in which his defense lawyers sought unsuccessfully to have his confession tossed out of court.

The defense lawyers argued that U.S. authorities abused a common practice

in interrogating terrorism suspects.

Authorities will often conduct separate interrogations, beginning with intelligence interviews.

The subject's right to remain silent is not explained to him.

After those interviews are concluded, a second "clean team" of interrogators will re-question the suspect, reading him his rights and intending to use the information in a criminal prosecution.

The defense contended that the intelligence interrogators deliberately molded Khweis' answers into something that could be exploited by the clean team.

At one point, the intelligence interrogator wrote in an email that Khweis was "lined up perfectly for the clean team."

Defense lawyer John Zwerling said Khweis was desperate to return to the U.S. after spending

weeks in a Kurdish prison, even if it meant facing criminal charges in the U.S.

He said the FBI interrogators exploited that, suggesting that Khweis needed to incriminate himself sufficiently so that prosecutors would bring charges and seek his extradition.

Prosecutors acknowledged that the emails discussing Khweis being lined up for a criminal interrogation are unfortunate, but said Khweis was eager to talk.

In the pressure of a terror investigation "sometimes

you don't say things with a queen's English precision," prosecutor Dennis Fitzpatrick said.

Ultimately, prosecutors say, Khweis was more than willing to talk about joining the Islamic State and agreed to be interviewed even after being informed that his family had hired a lawyer for him.

"This is a defendant who simply wanted to talk," said prosecutor Raj Parekh. "He wants his story to get out there. He wants his time with ISIS to be known."

## LIBRARY

Continued from Page 4

the late frontier period.

I have run out of time so until next week I leave you with a quote from Carlos Ruiz Zafon:

"Few things leave a deeper mark on the reader, than the first book that finds its way to his heart."

*We are open Monday to Friday, 9 am to 6 pm; the internet/video room closes at 5:30.*

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## S. Korea's new leader orders probe of US missile launchers

By **HYUNG-JIN KIM**

Associated Press  
SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Calling it a "very shocking" incident, South Korea's new president on Tuesday demanded an investigation into why his office wasn't told by defense officials about the arrival of several additional launchers for a contentious U.S. missile defense system meant to cope with North Korea's nuclear threat.

Before taking office on May 10, Moon Jae-in vowed to review the deployment of a system that has infuriated both North Korea and China, which consider its powerful radar a security threat.

Many of Moon's supporters don't want the system, which U.S. President Donald Trump suggested Seoul should pay for.

On Tuesday, senior presidential adviser Yoon Young-chan said Moon has discovered that four additional launchers for the Terminal High-Altitude

Area Defense, or THAAD, system have arrived in South Korea since the original two launchers were installed in April.

Yoon said senior Defense Ministry officials didn't report the arrival of the additional launchers when they gave Moon's policy advisory committee a briefing last Thursday.

"President Moon said it's 'very shocking' after receiving a report" on the incident from his national security director, Yoon said at a news conference.

Moon, a liberal, is now working with Cabinet members who were appointed by his conservative predecessor, Park Geun-hye, who was ousted from office in March over a corruption scandal.

Moon has nominated some of his own Cabinet members, but they haven't formally taken office.

Moon was sworn in as president right after winning a May 9 by-election, and hasn't had the usual two-month transition period.

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# Altuve, Astros top Twins 7-2 Tuesday night

By DAVE CAMPBELL  
AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — After a demotion to Houston's bullpen that never materialized, Mike Fiers pitched as though he still belongs in the rotation.

Jose Altuve had four hits and two RBIs, Fiers struck out eight over six innings, and the major league-leading Astros beat the Minnesota Twins 7-2 on Tuesday night for their season-high sixth straight victory.

"It was very vintage Fiers for when he's right," Houston manager A.J. Hinch said. "High fastballs and a curveball off that arm slot."

The Twins were no match for the refined curveball that Fiers offered, flailing at it several times out of the strike zone.

"Obviously his numbers aren't great this year, but he's capable," Minnesota manager Paul Molitor said, adding: "Don't let the speed deceive you. It works."

Alex Bregman homered and

drove in two runs, providing further support for Fiers (2-2) in his best of 10 starts this season.

Fiers was true to the bullpen last weekend to make room for Brad Peacock, until Charlie Morton landed on the disabled list. With Joe Murogrove joining Morton and Collin McHugh on the shelf Tuesday, the Astros have three absent starters and space anew for Fiers to stay in the starting five.

"You've got to earn your spot here, especially on a

first-place team," Fiers said, adding: "This team is special. It really is. No matter how they use me, I just want to be helpful to these guys."

Fiers fell behind 2-0 in the first when Eddie Rosario drew a bases-loaded walk and Byron Buxton followed with an infield single, but the Astros (37-16) hacked their way back against starter Jose Berrios (3-1).

Bregman batted ninth in this stacked batting order.

"We have to give credit to the back of the lineup," Al-

tuve said, "because everybody it seems like is getting hits and scoring runs."

Bregman hit a sacrifice fly in the third. Berrios loaded the bases with nobody out in the fourth, allowing only one run thanks to a double play. But in the fifth, Altuve smashed a line drive at third baseman Ehire Adrianza, who missed with a swipe of his glove as the ball landed in left field for a two-run single and a 4-2 lead.

See **ASTROS**, Page 13

# Texas Rangers beat Tampa Bay Rays 9-5

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Elvis Andrus tossed his bat like he knew he had just hit a tying three-run homer in the ninth.

Now that the longest-tenured Texas player — never known for going deep in eight previous seasons — is just one home run shy of his career high with four months left, maybe it's not a stretch to say he was eyeing that

Andrus had a career-high five RBIs, Jared Hoisinger hit a tiebreaking single that missed being a grand slam by about a foot and the Rangers scored seven runs in their final two innings to beat the Tampa Bay Rays 9-5 on Tuesday night.

"I was thinking about putting a good swing on it," Andrus said of his seventh homer.

The deep two-out drive by Andrus off Danny Farquhar, measured at 417 feet, ended a stretch of five scoreless innings from the Tampa Bay bullpen after Matt Andriese left in the second with a mild right groin strain.

Hoisinger's liner off the top of the wall in right came with one out in a four-run eighth against Chase Whitley (1-1), breaking a 5-5 tie. After a sacrifice fly from Shin-Soo Choo, Andrus' single to left scored two more.

"The things that we've gone through, some of the way we've lost through games," manager Jeff Banister said after just the third win for Texas in 10 games since a majors-best 10-game winning streak. "They run the gamut as far as how they compete every single night."

The Texas bullpen pitched 4 2/3 scoreless innings, starting with 2 2/3 by Dillon Gee in his Rangers debut

and followed by Keone Kela (2-1) in the eighth and closer Matt Bush with a perfect ninth in a non-save situation.

Corey Dickerson golfed a pitch after it bounced for a bloop double during a four-run third that gave the Rays a 4-2 lead. Daniel Robertson led off the inning with a homer, and Steven Souza Jr. had a two-run shot, his ninth.

Tampa Bay's Kevin Kiermaier tripled in the first and homered in the fifth.

### FAST START

Choo hit a leadoff homer for the Rangers. Nomar Mazara was the third straight batter to reach starting the game for Texas with an RBI single before Andriese retired the next five. The right-hander, who was 4-0 in May, left with the injured groin after striking out Ryan Rua.

### QUICK TURN

Chih-Wei Hu replaced Andriese and threw 2 1/3 hitless innings with three strikeouts and was in line for his first major league win before the Texas rally.

The 23-year-old rookie from Taiwan was recalled from Triple-A Durham earlier in the day. Hu said he got to the ballpark less than an hour before the game.

### SHORT HOPS

Tampa Bay recalled right-hander Hunter Wood from Double-A Montgomery, and he got the last out in the eighth to become the second Rays reliever this season to make his big



AP Photo/LM Otero

**Texas Rangers Elvis Andrus is doused by teammate Nomar Mazara after a baseball game against the Tampa Bay Rays in Arlington, Texas, Tuesday, May 30, 2017. The Rangers won 9-5.**

league debut bypassing Triple-A. Jose Alvarado did it against Miami on May 3. ... Texas star Adrian Beltre passed Frank Robinson for 34th place on the career hits list with a bouncing double past third baseman Evan Longoria in the sixth. Beltre has 2,944 hits.

### TRAINER'S ROOM

Rays: 2B Brad Miller (abdominal strain) will play on a rehab assignment for Class A Charlotte on Wednesday. ... OF Peter Bourjos went on the 10-day disabled list because of tennis elbow.

Rangers: RHP Tyson Ross will make at least one more rehab start, likely Saturday, in his recovery from surgery for thoracic outlet syndrome.

... 1B Mike Napoli missed a second straight start because of back stiffness.

### UP NEXT

Rays: RHP Chris Archer (4-3, 3.61 ERA) has at least 11 strikeouts in four of his five May starts and needs four more to set the club record for any month held by David Price (54 in June 2014).

Rangers: RHP Austin Bibens-Dirkx (0-0, 3.97 ERA) makes his first start two weeks after the 32-year-old rookie made his big league debut in relief. He has gone at least four innings twice in four appearances. Bibens-Dirkx is filling in for A.J. Griffin, who was forced out of his last start with a left intercostal strain.



AP photo

# 6 track athletes handed doping bans after Olympic retests

MONACO (AP) — Six Russian and Ukrainian track athletes were handed doping bans Wednesday after retests found they had doped at the 2008 and 2012 Olympics.

The IAAF said Russian sprinter Yulia Chermoshanskaya, who won 4x100-meter relay gold in 2008, was banned for two years.

Two Ukrainians, javelin silver medalist Oleksandr Pyatnytsya and pole vault bronze medalist Denys Yurchenko, were also banned

for two years.

They had already been stripped of their Olympic medals last year by the International Olympic Committee.

There were also two-year bans for Ukrainian athletes Vita Palamar, Marharyta Tverдохlib and Maksym Mazuryk, who competed at the Olympics but were not medalists.

The IAAF also announced an eight-year sanction for Natalia Lupu, who was the 800-meter European indoor champion in 2013.

# Sports briefly

### TIGER WOODS

More disturbing images of Tiger Woods emerged in the black-and-white details of police reports, depicting him sound asleep behind the wheel of a car parked awkwardly on the side of a six-lane Florida road with two flat tires, the engine still running and a blinker flashing.

When a police officer woke him, Woods was so disoriented that he initially said he had just returned from playing golf in Los Angeles. Then, he said he didn't know where he was or how far away he was from his home in Jupiter Island.

He kept falling back asleep.

Eventually, he failed a sobriety test so badly that at one point officers moved toward him to ensure he didn't fall over.

There was no evidence of alcohol, however, confirming what Woods said Monday night when he issued a statement saying he had had an "unexpected reaction" to prescription medicine. Jupiter police said he took a breath test that showed no alcohol in his system. He later agreed to a urine test.

### BASEBALL

MIAMI (AP) — Jeb Bush has dropped out of the race for the Miami Marlins.

The ex-presidential candidate and former Florida governor is no longer interested in buying the Marlins and has ended his pursuit of the team, two people close to the negotiations said.

One of the people said former New York Yankees captain Derek Jeter, who had been part of Bush's camp, is still exploring a bid with other investors. The two people spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the parties involved aren't commenting publicly on the status of negotiations.

Jeter becomes the frontman for an investment group competing with a group led by businessman Tagg Romney, son of former Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney. The Romney group includes Hall of Fame pitcher Tom Glavine and former Arizona Diamondbacks general manager Dave Stewart.

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Giants reliever Hunter Strickland received a six-game suspension and

Washington's Bryce Harper was penalized four games for their roles in a benches-clearing brawl at AT&T Park a day earlier.

Each also was fined an undisclosed amount. Major League Baseball said both players planned to appeal, so they were eligible to play in Tuesday night's game between the clubs. Baseball Senior Vice President Joe Garagiola Jr. typically hears player appeals.

Strickland hit Harper in the hip with a pitch in the eighth inning and the Washington slugger charged the mound, wildly firing his helmet before trading punches to the head with Strickland during the Nationals' 3-0 win Monday at San Francisco.

MLB Chief Baseball Officer Joe Torre's explanation of the disciplinary decisions said Strickland intentionally hit "Harper with a pitch, inciting the bench-clearing incident and fighting" while Harper's suspension came "for charging the mound, throwing his helmet and fighting."

### TENNIS

PARIS (AP) — Andy Murray joined other current players in rejecting tennis great Margaret Court's recent public stance against same-sex marriage.

The topic has generated discussion at the French Open — including about whether the Australian Open stadium that honors Court should have its name changed. There was also talk about whether a protest of some sort could take place in connection with that Grand Slam tournament next year.

"I don't see why anyone has a problem with two people who love each other getting married. If it's two men, two women, that's great. I don't see why it should matter. It's not anyone else's business," the No. 1-ranked Murray said after winning his first-round match at Roland Garros. "Everyone should have, in my opinion ... the same rights."

Court is an Australian who won a record 24 Grand Slam singles titles in the 1960s and 1970s and is now a Christian pastor. In a letter published in the West Australian newspaper, Court wrote that she would stop flying Qantas "where possible" because the Australian airline "has become an active promoter for same-sex marriage."

The 74-year-old Court has been a critic of homosexuality for decades.



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#9403 May 24-June 9, 2017

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tions may be obtained from  
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2nd floor, 300 S Main St., Big  
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also visit our website at  
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Mark the envelope "Mineral  
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fice at 300 S Main St./ Room  
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You can also mail the sealed  
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Bids must be received by  
1:00 PM, June 8, 2017 in the  
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Commissioners will consider  
the bids on June 12, 2017 at  
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The Commissioners reserve  
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### Public Notice

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#9404 May 29, 30 & 31 2017

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6	7	4	9	2	8	1	3	5
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**HOLIDAY MATHIS**

**Busy-Bee Moon**

The bees land, take a little nectar and accidentally spread the pollen, probably never knowing that they are the reason the flowers bloom. Many will be like the bees today, unknowingly doing well in the world just by doing what comes naturally. This is the happy effect of the busy Virgo moon.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** At some point the barriers you erect to protect yourself become energy inefficient. They cost too much emotionally. They become exhausting to maintain. You'll drop the defense. Maybe you didn't need it in the first place.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** You'll create something today, and rather mindlessly at that. It's a gift to be able to float above your thoughts. Perhaps that's the best, purest way. There will be nothing to interfere with your process.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Once you become concerned with the result, your energy changes. If you're in a professional setting, the difference will be better. If you're in a social setting, the difference will be worse.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** There are those who like to dance and will do it no matter who is watching. You've been that person before, and you will be again. You're edging toward it, drawn to the music.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** It's not necessary to achieve anything beyond what you already have. Being alive is the gift. The rest is icing for the ego. Whatever you do to enjoy being alive today is good.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** You don't

**Tomorrow's Horoscope**

need to go anywhere for the beauty. The beauty is in how you see it. The truth you seek is the same. You'll find the truth and you'll find it right where you are.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** If you give your mind the chance, it will make things much more serious than they need to be. Employ your body. There's a wisdom there that will take over the situation once you get moving.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** If you want to know how a thing is, you have to forget about how you think it is. While you're at it, lose your ideas about how you want it to be. Look at a thing as though you were not the one looking.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** It takes no special level of devotion or goodness for the river to obey the natural laws affecting the earth. Without the least bit of effort, it flows home to the sea.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** You've followed many lines of reason, none

of them pointing to the answer you want. Perhaps what's needed is an unreasonable approach. Switch off your head and let your inner knowing have a go at this.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** Walk beside the one who knows the path and you, too, will know the path. Don't expect yourself to pick up the route in a day, though. Repetition will be key.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** Today's doubts will have a real limiting effect on what happens tomorrow. This isn't necessarily a bad thing, if the doubts are founded. But hope will leave you more options. So make sure you're not being overly pessimistic.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 31).** This year you'll cultivate the fine art of laughing in the face of trouble. Your courage will inspire others, and that's part of why you're so brave. You have to be! You know you're an example to someone. Exciting times in June will be followed by relaxing ones in July. A big bonus happens

in September and again in February. Leo and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 40, 3, 33 and 28.

**YOUR MOON SIGN (Part 3):** The moon is our closest luminary, and she changes more frequently than any other, transiting through the zodiac in about 28 days. You can find out what your moon sign is by consulting books on astrology or going to the computer and typing "moon sign" into a search engine. **CANCER MOON** people are not as resistant to feelings as the rest of the zodiac can be. When the moon is in Cancer, she's in her home territory. Just as people tend to be more comfortable and expressive in their own homes, Cancer people are very at home with the changing emotional landscape that is human nature. Cancer moon individuals are wonderful in a crisis and also can be quite patient working with children and others with a wide emotional range. **LEO MOON**

people have a knack for attracting attention, though not always while doing the things that would classically fall under the category of performance. The Leo moon endows her natives with a show-stopping glow and a stellar sense of timing. Leo moon people may insist that they don't want to be in front of the crowd, and yet they secretly feel at home there.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** She made it in Hollywood and snared one of Hollywood's most notorious bachelors, to boot. Unfazed by these challenges, elegant Annette Bening has the filmography and over 25 years of marriage to Warren Beatty to show for it. The mother of four innately understands the twin nature of her Gemini sun and how there are many people inside each person. We choose the roles and become them.

To write to Holiday Mathis, visit [www.creators.com/author/holiday-mathis](http://www.creators.com/author/holiday-mathis) and click "Contact." **COPYRIGHT 2017 CREATORS.COM**

**Louse of a Partner**

**Dear Annie:** I am 44 years old and have been dating a 48-year-old man for 2 1/2 years. I met him three weeks after he got out of a 16-year relationship.

There are some things I need help with. For most of the time we have been together, he has been talking to other women -- sometimes his ex-girlfriend -- on Facebook. He has told these other women that he loves them and misses them; he sends them heart and

kissing emoticons. He "likes" their pictures on Facebook and leaves comments -- for example, "Looking good!" -- along with heart emojis. The thing is that he barely ever says these things to me.

I see him only on weekends, and we have takeout and watch a movie. He barely ever holds my hand, and our sex life has all but stopped. He says he's too tired. He makes me feel as if I am the one in the wrong. He thinks it's perfectly acceptable to talk to all these women when he says about four words to me a day. He holds

actual conversations with others. I can't tell you how many times I have fallen asleep beside him crying, and either he doesn't notice or he doesn't care. I just can't handle this anymore. Should I just let him go and move on? If I did, I would most likely be alone. I am an amputee with not a lot of friends. I love him with all my heart, but I am tired of being walked all over. What should I do? -- Confused in Small Town in Pennsylvania

**Dear Confused:** You know exactly what you should do. But before we address the issue of leaving this louse, I want to encourage you to work on your self-esteem and make friends. Get involved in your com-

munity. Check Meet-up, a website that connects people through shared interests, to see what clubs are in your town, or even start your own!

Now, back to the louse. This man does not deserve the love and affection you've given him. I promise you that it feels much better to be single than to be with someone who doesn't love you back. With time, you will find another mate. And do not sell yourself short in that regard. There is someone out there who will make you fall asleep smiling instead of crying.

**Dear Annie:** This is in response to "Crybaby," who cries at everything. I have the opposite prob-

lem. I never cry. I feel things deeply, and I well up, but I never spill over. It might be an overestimate to say that I cry once a year. There have been times -- e.g., funerals and when a sad story is being told -- when tears have been the appropriate response and I have been the only one not visibly crying. It makes me feel as if I am perceived as cold and unfeeling, when that is not the case. It is just that I have a strongly developed resolve not to cry, for some unknown reason. "Crybaby's" problem embarrasses her, but my problem embarrasses me! -- Dry-Eyed but Not Unfeeling

**Dear Dry-Eyed:** I've received many

responses to the column with "Crybaby's" letter. But until yours, all of them had been from fellow criers who wanted to let her know she isn't alone. Your perspective may help those excessive criers to feel thankful for their tears. You might want to talk with an ophthalmologist about your problem, in case it has something to do with the functioning of your tear ducts.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to [dearannie@creators.com](mailto:dearannie@creators.com). To find out more about Annie Lane and read features by other Creators Syndicate columnists and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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**Contract Bridge**

By Steve Becker

**Swapping horses in midstream**

South dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ A Q 3  
♥ 7 5 3  
♦ K J 9 8 2  
♣ K 9

**WEST**  
♠ J 9 8 4  
♥ A 10 4  
♦ 6  
♣ Q J 8 7 5

**EAST**  
♠ 6 2  
♥ Q J 9 8  
♦ 5  
♣ A 10 6 4 3 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ K 10 7 5  
♥ K 6 2  
♦ A Q 10 7 4 3  
♣ —

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1♦ Pass 3♦ Pass  
5♦

Opening lead — queen of clubs.  
**Declarer can sometimes** turn what appears to be an unfriendly development to his own advantage. To do so, however, he must remain flexible at all times, lest the opportunity pass him by.  
**Consider this deal** where West led the club queen against five diamonds. South's only concern was the possibility of losing three heart tricks, and he could see two ways to hold his heart losers to two. One was that the jack of spades might fall when he cashed his three top spades, estab-

lishing the ten for a discard of one of dummy's hearts. Failing that, he could lead a heart from dummy and hope East had the ace.  
**Accordingly,** South ruffed the club lead, drew a round of trumps and cashed the A-Q-K of spades. When the jack did not appear, South crossed to dummy by ruffing the ten of spades and led a heart to the king. West won with the ace, and the defense cashed two more hearts for down one.  
**Declarer would have made** the contract had he revised his original plan after uncovering the actual spade division. That West still had the jack of spades served South's ultimate purpose just as well as a more favorable spade break.  
**After taking the A-Q-K of spades,** declarer should have led a trump to dummy, ruffed dummy's last club and then led the ten of spades. But instead of trumping West's jack, South would discard one of dummy's hearts.  
**This would leave West** in a hopeless predicament. If he led a heart, South would score the king, and if he led a club, declarer would discard a second heart from dummy while trumping in his hand. Dummy's last heart would be South's only other loser, and the contract would be assured.

**Tomorrow:** More about counting.  
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**sudoku**

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

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

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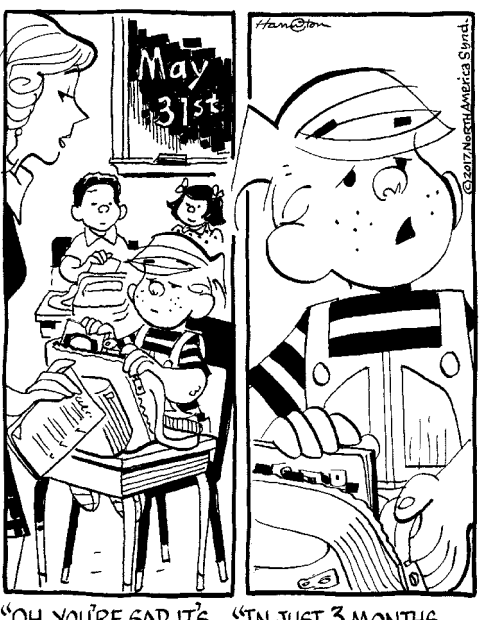
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	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Odessa	Odessa	Odessa	Midland	Atlanta	Atlanta	Sports	Sports	Sports	New York	New York	Discovery
5 :PM	Local 2 ABC	Hotel	The List	CBS 7	Tele	News	Inspired	Scully	Hap.Days	American	Seinfeld	Eagle Eye, Rosario Dawson	SportsCenter	Around Pardon	lights	Chrisley	The First 48	Alaskan Bush
5 :30	Noticiero	Mod Fam	CBS	Noticias	News	M. Rantz	Business	Griffith	American	Seinfeld			NBA Finals Preview	Baseball Tonight	UEFA Europa	Chrisley	Storage	Alaskan Bush
6 :PM	Jeopardy!	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7	Caso Cerrado	News	Shepherd's Heart	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld				Pregame	Chrisley	Storage	Alaskan Bush
6 :30	Wheel	La Reina de la	MasterChef	ET	NCIS: Los Angeles	El Capo (SS)	Little Big Shots	Nature (DVS)	Arrow	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld					Chrisley	Storage	Alaskan Bush
7 :PM	Gold	La Reina de la	MasterChef	NCIS: Los Angeles	El Capo (SS)	Little Big Shots	Nature (DVS)	Arrow	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld						Chrisley	Storage	Alaskan Bush
7 :30	Speech	La Reina de la	MasterChef	NCIS: Los Angeles	El Capo (SS)	Little Big Shots	Nature (DVS)	Arrow	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld						Chrisley	Storage	Alaskan Bush
8 :PM	Mod Fam blackish	Vida E Carrillo	The F Word	Criminal Minds	La Querida	Carmichi Carmichi	Light of Southwest	NOVA (DVS)	Mama's ALF	DC's Legends	Big Bang					Chrisley	Storage	Alaskan Bush
8 :30	Still Star-Crossed	La Piloto	News	Criminal Minds	La Querida	This Is Us	Light of Southwest	Food -- Delicious	Heroes	Seinfeld	Full					Chrisley	Storage	Alaskan Bush
9 :PM	Local 2 ABC	Impacto	Mod Fam	CBS 7	Tele	News	News	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett	King	Conan					Chrisley	Storage	Alaskan Bush
10 :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Noticiero	Two Men	Late Show-C Colbert	Titulares	Tonight Show	Dr. C.Stanley	Newsline	Perry Mason	King	Conan					Chrisley	Storage	Alaskan Bush
11 :PM	Nightline	Contacto Deportivo	How I Met	James Corden	La Querida	Seth Meyers	Messiah	T. Smiley	Tw. Zone	Rules	Conan					Chrisley	Storage	Alaskan Bush
11 :30	Extra	La Mujer del	Middle	Insider	Programa	(:08) Today	Light of Southwest	Mannix	Paed Pra.	Angie	Hawaii Five-0					Chrisley	Storage	Alaskan Bush
12 :30	Paid Prg.	Mi Adorable	Law Order: CI	ET	Programa	(:08) Today	Light of Southwest	Mannix	Paed Pra.	Angie	Hawaii Five-0					Chrisley	Storage	Alaskan Bush
1 :AM	Paid Prg.	Mi Adorable	Law Order: CI	ET	Programa	(:08) Today	Light of Southwest	Mannix	Paed Pra.	Angie	Hawaii Five-0					Chrisley	Storage	Alaskan Bush

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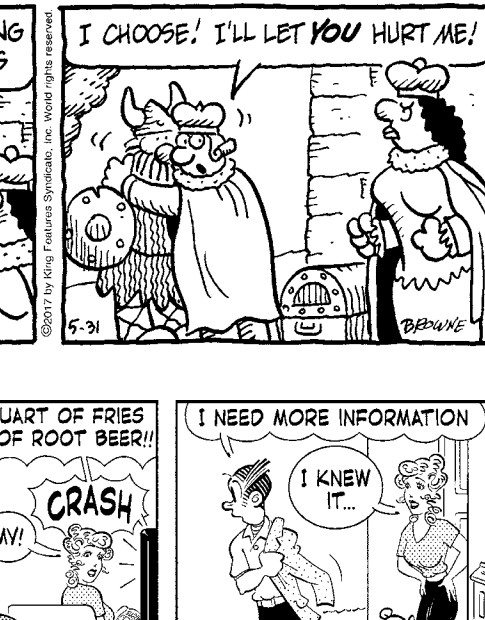
**THE FAMILY CIRCUS**



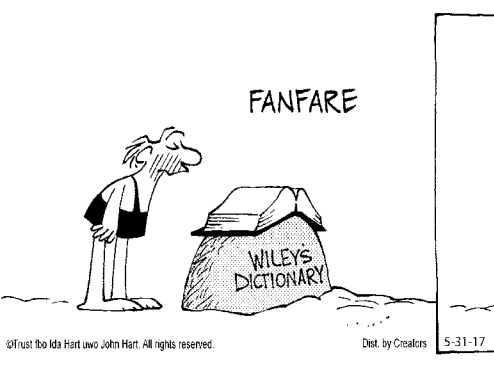
**HAGAR**



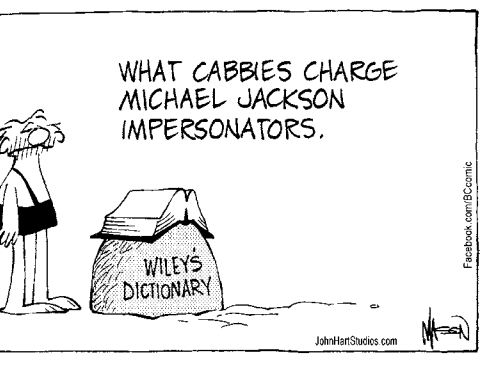
**BLONDIE**



**BC**



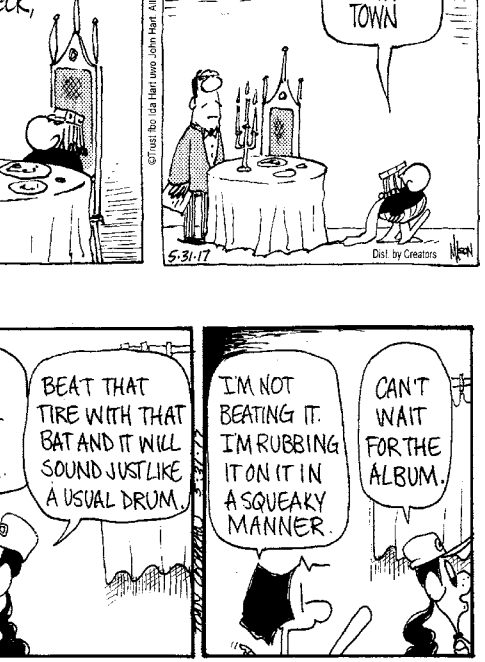
**WIZARD OF ID**



**AGNES**



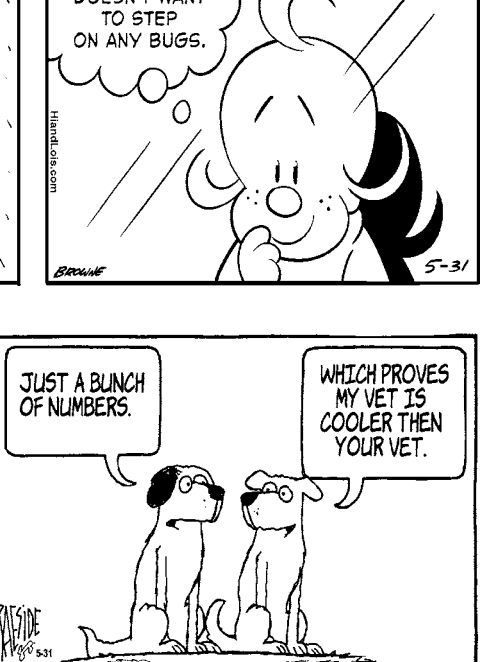
**HI AND LOIS**



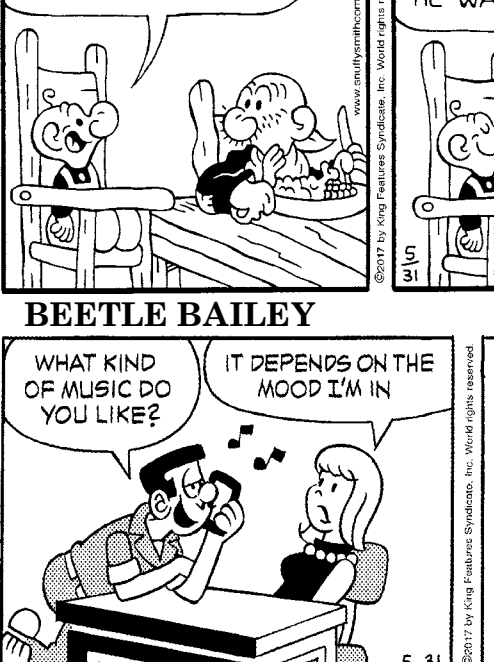
**THE OTHER COAST**



**SNUFFY SMITH**



**BEEBLE BAILEY**



**This Date In History**

Today is Wednesday, May 31, the 151st day of 2017. There are 214 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On May 31, 1977, the Trans-Alaska oil pipeline, three years in the making despite objections from environmentalists and Alaska Natives, was completed. (The first oil began flowing through the pipeline 20 days later; today the pipeline carries an average of 1.8 million barrels of oil a day, according to the Alaska Public Lands Information Centers website.)

On this date: In 1790, President George Washington signed into law the first U.S. copyright act.

In 1889, some 2,200 people in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, perished when the South Fork Dam collapsed, sending 20 million tons of water rushing through the town.

In 1910, the Union of South Africa was founded.

In 1916, during World War I, British and German fleets fought the naval Battle of Jutland off Denmark; there was no clear-cut victor, although the British suffered heavier losses.

In 1935, movie studio 20th Century Fox was created

**Newsday Crossword**

**LEND A HAND** by Charles Slack Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

**ACROSS**

1 L.A. winter clock setting

4 Argentine dance

9 Acknowledged applause

14 "Yoo-\_\_!"

15 Indifferent

16 Total agreement

17 Help out, as in football

20 Soprano's showcase

21 Visionaries

22 With a great view

25 Daily grind

30 Suffix for puppet

31 One of the Three Bears

34 Tourney rounds

35 Casablanca's country

38 Restaurant serving

39 Help out, as in westerns

41 Actor Pitt

43 Does a slow burn

44 Bottomless pit

46 Noticed

47 Sailor's affirmative

50 Interrupt, as a nap

53 Hole enlarger

55 Wrestling matches

58 Fast-food drink

59 Help out, as in factories

65 Spine-tingling

66 Wigwam relative

**DOWN**

1 Sentence excerpt

2 Origin

3 More stylish

4 Sunbather's shade

5 Hgt.

6 Negative responses

7 Clinton's vice president

8 Proposed purchase price

9 Pops, as balloons

10 Early afternoon

11 Carry the day

12 List-shortening abbr.

13 Pigment

18 Author Fleming

19 Important time

23 Digital music player

24 Is concerned

26 Romulus' twin

27 Solemn assent

28 Espionage org.

29 Immigrants' subj.

32 Model's stance

33 Feels sore

35 Central area

36 Dove shelter

37 "None of the above" choice

39 Sunbeams

40 Bit of heredity

41 Evil

42 Slugger's stat.

45 Group within a group

47 One-celled creature

48 Bellowed

49 Wiped clean

51 Fish eggs

52 Flat-topped elevation

54 Virtuoso

56 At that time

59 "That's amazing!"

60 Tyrannosaurus

61 Before, in verse

62 Make public

63 Tiny

64 Every other hurricane

Answer to previous puzzle

M	A	P	S	S	P	A	T	S	C	R	A	M
E	R	I	E	L	U	R	E	Q	U	E		
S	I	L	L	T	S	E	E	U	T	R	N	
H	A	L	F	A	C	H	A	N	C	E		
P	R	E	E	N								
A	O	K		I	D	A	H	O	S		A	S
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C	H	A	P	E	L							
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A	R	E	S	O								
T	O	N	E	R								
E	N	D	A	T								

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59	60	61	62					63	64			
65						66					67	
68							69					70



**ASTROS**  
Continued from Page 7

"Sometimes you don't have your best day or your best night, so you have to compete with what you have," Berrios said.

The AL Central-leading Twins have lost four of five games, falling to a league-worst 12-17 at home.

**WILD BERRIOS**

The Twins badly needed their budding star to go deep, after their relievers allowed 19 runs in 11 2/3 innings over the last two games. Berrios gave up five hits and four walks in five innings, his shortest start this year, but Molitor told him he was proud of the effort to minimize the damage.

"The guy just turned 23, and we just hope that he can round out our rotation and give us an opportunity to win," Molitor said. "I'm not going to put stopper along with Jose's name at this juncture."

**ON TARGET**

Altuve has a hit in all 13 games he's played at Target Field, going 28 for 57 for a .491 batting average. He has three or more hits in five of his last six games here.

**PROGRESS FOR PERKINS**

Twins reliever Glen Perkins faced batters for the first time in more than a year during an encouraging pregame session. The news wasn't as good for fellow veteran pitcher Phil Hughes, whose second opinion on his tight right shoulder revealed the potential of scar tissue buildup that could be causing the discomfort. He'll need further treatment before he can resume throwing.

**TRAINER'S ROOM**

Astros: Musgrove (right shoulder discomfort) was put on the 10-day DL, retroactive to Saturday. He's eligible to return on June 6 and could miss only one turn.

Twins: 3B Miguel Sano (stomach virus), the team leader in batting average, home runs, RBIs and walks, was scratched before the game and later sent home.

**UP NEXT**

Astros: RHP David Paulino was recalled from Triple-A Fresno to replace Musgrove and make his season debut on Wednesday afternoon. The 6-foot-7 Paulino, one of the organization's top prospects, made one start for the Astros last September.

Twins: RHP Hector Santiago (4-3, 4.07 ERA) will pitch the series finale, three days after an emergency 15th-inning appearance in relief when he gave up back-to-back homers in a defeat against Tampa Bay. He also took the loss on Friday against the Rays, in his previous start.

# Nicklaus willing to fit Memorial in the schedule puzzle

By **DOUG FERGUSON**  
AP Golf Writer

DUBLIN, Ohio (AP) — It's not as simple as shifting a couple of tournaments on the PGA Tour schedule.

The concept of moving the PGA Championship from August to May is gaining traction, even though there are so many other pieces of the puzzle that PGA Tour Commissioner Jay Monahan should be believed when he says that it's not a done deal.

The idea is for the PGA Tour to end its lucrative FedEx Cup before the NFL gets going, which the tour can only hope will give the season-ending Tour Championship more pop than a \$10 million prize couldn't.

For starters, that would mean moving The Players Championship from May back to March, and slotting the PGA Championship somewhere in May. That also means two other PGA Tour events would have to vacate their spot to allow for the Tour Championship to end around Labor Day.

But that's just the math. That doesn't take into account the squabbling that is sure to follow.

"That's sort of Jay's problem now," Jack Nicklaus said. "And I think Jay is wrestling with it. But I think they'll come up with a solution that nobody's going to agree with. But after you have it for a couple of years, you're going to see the reasons why they're doing what they're doing and what they're trying to do."

Nicklaus met with Monahan and other tour officials Tuesday morning, and Nicklaus seemed agreeable, even though his Memorial Tournament could be affected.

The Memorial began in 1976, the perfect date to commemorate legends of the game with a tournament that tries to imitate the pure standards of golf found at Augusta National and a golf course at Muirfield Village that is rarely anything but pure.

It traditionally is two weeks before the U.S. Open.

Move the PGA Championship to May — already a risky proposal that could rule out so many northern golf courses because of the weather — and suddenly the



Jack Nicklaus answers questions during a news conference a few days before the start of the Memorial golf tournament Tuesday, May 30, 2017, in Dublin, Ohio.

Memorial could be squeezed between the PGA Championship and the U.S. Open.

Nicklaus said he also has met with PGA of America chief Pete Bevacqua about a potential move.

And he thinks the Memorial being held on either side of a major would actually help his tournament.

"Because the Memorial Tournament would be the only tournament they (the PGA Tour) have to promote in there in the middle," Nicklaus said. "So it would probably be better for us."

By saying that, Nicklaus ignored the tournaments before and after his own — Colonial last week, which dates to 1946 and is a shrine to Ben Hogan; the FedEx St. Jude Classic, sponsored by the same company shelling out all that money for the FedEx Cup.

But who knows where any tournament is going to wind up?

The tour went through a miniature exercise in this futility a few years ago when it moved the Dell Technologies Match Play to Austin, Texas.

It used to be the anchor of the West Coast Swing. It was deposited on the schedule between the Arnold Palmer Invitational and the Houston

Open.

That left both tournaments irate.

Palmer worried that he would lose players to the 64-man field at a World Golf Championship, while Houston figured players would have a reason to skip its tournament ahead of the Masters.

Turns out that five players this year ended up skipping the Match Play.

It was March Madness in golf with so many top tournaments.

And now the PGA Tour is trying to find room for The Players Championship?

Nicklaus threw out one other scenario — moving the PGA Championship to Muirfield Village in an Olympic year.

That's unlikely, as it would require presenting sponsor Nationwide to sign off on it, and it would risk the Memorial losing some of its identity.

But it's an example of a complicated process that Monahan faces if the tour decides to go through with a revamped schedule.

The PGA Tour looked so much differently when the Memorial began in 1976. The season began in Tucson, Arizona, the first full week in January.

It ended the first full week in November with the Walt Disney World National Team Championship.

There were four majors. There were no World Golf Championships. There was no FedEx Cup.

Nicklaus won the money title that year with \$266,439. That's about \$3,000 less than what eighth place pays at the Memorial this week.

Even before Nicklaus spoke, there was more talk about the PGA Championship moving to May when Southern Hills in Tulsa, Oklahoma, was awarded another PGA sometime before 2030.

The temperatures hit triple digits the last time the PGA Championship was at Southern Hills in 2007.

More than the heat, Nicklaus thought a move to May would alleviate fatigue.

"I think that golf in August almost starts to get a little bit tired," Nicklaus said. "It's the end of the season — near the end of the season. And I think the FedEx Cup probably falls in that category, a little bit tired from a spectator thing."

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## Social media rushes to define Trump's 'covfefe' tweet

WASHINGTON (AP) — A midnight tweet from President Donald Trump has social media trying to find a meaning in the mysterious term "covfefe." Trump tweeted just after midnight on Wednesday: "Despite the constant negative press covfefe."

The tweet immediately went viral and became one of the president's more popular posts before it was taken down after nearly six hours online. Trump poked fun at the typo, tweeting around 6 a.m., "Who can figure out the true meaning of 'covfefe' ??? Enjoy!"

The term became a top trending item on Twitter, with many users supplying tongue-in-cheek meanings. One user joked that "covfefe" is already a popular name for babies in states that voted for Trump. Silicon Valley executive Andrew Crow went as far to change his last name on Twitter to "Covfefe." Jimmy Kimmel lamented that he'll never write anything funnier than the term.

Dictionary publisher Merriam-Webster checked in with an eye-rolling tweet about people looking up "covfefe" on its website. Dozens of definitions have been submitted the Urban Dictionary website, which crowdsources meanings for slang terms.

The president returned to his normal Twitter routine later in the morning by slamming Democrats over the probe into Russia's meddling in the 2016 election.

## UK police search property in Manchester attack investigation

LONDON (AP) — British police have asked the public to stay out of area in southern Manchester while a property is searched for clues about the concert bombing that killed 22 people and wounded dozens of others.

Police said Wednesday a cordon has been placed around a property south of central Manchester.

There are 11 men in custody for possible connection to Britain's worst extremist attack in more than a decade. Suicide bomber Salman Abedi, a British-born man with Libyan descent, detonated a device minutes after the conclusion of an Ariana Grande concert at Manchester Arena on May 22.

Five other people, including a woman, have been questioned and released without facing charges.

The arrested suspects haven't been identified or charged.

## S. Korea's new leader orders probe of US missile launchers

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Calling it a "very shocking" incident, South Korea's new president on Tuesday demanded an investigation into why his office wasn't told by defense officials about the arrival of several additional launchers for a contentious U.S. missile defense system meant to cope with North Korea's nuclear threat.

Before taking office on May 10, Moon Jae-in vowed to review the deployment of a system that has infuriated both North Korea and China, which consider its powerful radar a security threat. Many of Moon's supporters don't want the system, which U.S. President Donald Trump suggested Seoul should pay for.

On Tuesday, senior presidential adviser Yoon Young-chan said Moon has discovered that four additional launchers for the Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, system have arrived in South Korea since the original two launchers were installed in April.

Yoon said senior Defense Ministry officials didn't report the arrival of the additional launchers when they gave Moon's policy advisory committee a briefing last Thursday.

"President Moon said it's 'very shocking' after receiving a report" on the incident from his national security director, Yoon said at a news conference.

Moon, a liberal, is now working with Cabinet members who are appointed by his conservative predecessor, Park Geun-hye, who was ousted from office in March over a corruption scandal. Moon has nominated some of his own Cabinet members, but they haven't formally taken office. Moon was



In this May 2, 2017, file photo, a U.S. missile defense system called Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, is installed on a golf course in Seongju, South Korea.

sworn in as president right after winning a May 9 by-election, and hasn't had the usual two-month transition period.

Yonhap news agency cited an unidentified Defense Ministry official as saying the ministry told Moon's national security director about the four launchers the day after the policy briefing. But Yonhap said the presidential Blue House denied that.

Both the Defense Ministry and the Blue House said they couldn't immediately confirm the report.

A THAAD battery consists of six truck-mounted launchers that can fire up to 48 interceptor missiles, fire control and communication equipment, and a powerful X-band radar officially known as AN/TPY-2. The THAAD system was installed in the southeastern town of Seongju.

It's unclear if Moon will go ahead with his campaign pledge to re-examine the THAAD deployment because a request for the withdrawal of the system's components could severely undermine ties with Washington, Seoul's most important ally, analysts say.

The United States stations about 28,500 troops in South Korea as deterrence against potential aggression from North Korea.

After facing conservative attacks on his security views during the election campaign, Moon toned down his THAAD criticism, saying the deployment would be inevitable if North Korea continued provocations.

Since Moon's inauguration, North Korea has test-fired three ballistic missiles in an apparent demonstration of its resolve to bolster its nuclear and missile arsenals to deal with what it calls U.S. military threats. Moon has said he will employ both dialogue and pressure to resolve the North Korean nuclear standoff.

## Dealership owner: 2 killed may have been bounty hunters

GREENVILLE, Texas (AP) — The owner of a Texas car dealership where a shootout left three men dead says two of the men initially represented themselves as federal agents but may have been bounty hunters.

Police say gunfire was reported just after 7 p.m. Tuesday at a Nissan dealership in Greenville, a city about 50 miles (80 kilometers) northeast of Dallas. Arriving officers found the three men dead.

Dealership owner Rick Ford says the first two men to arrive waited several hours for the third man to show up. Ford says gunfight erupted when

the first two men tried to apprehend the third man, as horrified employees and customers ducked for cover.

Nobody else was hurt in the shootings. No identities have been released.

## Pennsylvania man arrested after calling 911 for conversation

ALLENTOWN, Pa. (AP) — Police say a Pennsylvania man repeatedly called 911 while intoxicated because he was seeking conversation.

Pennsylvania State Police say 51-year-old Larry Keiser first called around 10:30 p.m. Friday because he wanted to speak with a police officer. He said there was no emergency.

Keiser called five more times, leading police to show up at his home in North Whitehall Township after midnight.

The man told officers he drank several beers because he was upset about a family situation. Troopers told Keiser not to call 911 again unless there was an emergency, and he said he wouldn't call again.

Troopers say he called 911 the minute after officers left.

Keiser has been arrested and is facing charges that include intentionally calling 911 for other than emergency purposes.

## US mission in Saudi Arabia warns citizens of school shooting

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — The U.S. mission in Saudi Arabia said Wednesday there was a shooting at a private school in the capital, Riyadh, but that no children were present at the time.

The official Twitter account for American Citizen Services in Saudi Arabia advised U.S. citizens to avoid the area around the Kingdom School in Riyadh. No U.S. citizens immediately appear to have been caught up in the shooting.

The school's website said it is part of the GEMS global network of schools and is owned and operated by a company of billionaire Prince Alwaleed bin Talal. It is a girls' and boys' school from kindergarten through grade 12. In Saudi Arabia, males and females are segregated by grade 4.

The Saudi Interior Ministry did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The school was expected to issue a statement later Wednesday.

State-linked Saudi newspaper Okaz reported that the shooter was an Iraqi teacher who had been fired from the school.

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- No photo copies, faxes or emails of the ballot will be accepted.
- Ballots must be received by 5 pm, June 12th.