

# The Houston <sup>new</sup> Post

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## MAYOR PARKER TIES THE KNOT

*Annise Parker weds longtime partner Kathy Hubbard in California— Mike Morris, Houston Chronicle*

Mayor Annise Parker married her life partner of 23 years, Kathy Hubbard, on Thursday in Palm Springs, Calif. The ceremony, held at sunset at a private home, was attended by a small group of family and friends of the couple, including Parker's mother and Hubbard's sister, according to a statement from Parker's office.

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### NEW CRIMINAL COMPLAINTS FILED AGAINST JUDGE PRATT

*Accused of improperly dismissing cases— Kiah Collier, Houston Chronicle*

Embattled family court Judge Denise Pratt is the subject of another criminal complaint by Webster family lawyer Greg Enos, who is alleging that the freshman judge broke the law when she signed orders saying she had given prior notice to lawyers before dismissing hundreds of cases last month.

Judges are required under rules of civil procedure to schedule hearings and warn parties involved in pending litigation of their intent to dismiss cases, but numerous lawyers, including Enos, have told the Houston Chronicle they only learned their cases had been dismissed after the fact.

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### US SENATE PASSES SPENDING BILL FOR REST OF THE YEAR

*76 -23 vote; nays from Cruz, Cornyn— Lori Montgomery, The Washington Post*

Congress gave final approval Thursday to a \$1.1 trillion spending bill that eases the sharp budget cuts known as the sequester and guarantees that the nation will not endure another government shutdown until at least Oct. 1.

After three years of politically bruising and economically damaging battles over the budget, the bipartisan agreement to fund federal agencies through the rest of the fiscal year passed with little fanfare.

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# HISD VOTES TO BAN OFFENSIVE MASCOTS, SUCH AS ‘REDSKINS’ VAN DE PUTTE LEAPS TO HELP DISTRESSED WOMAN AT EVENT

*Policy includes three other schools– [Ericka Mellon, Houston Chronicle](#)*

*Jumps off stage after County Trustee faints–[Jayme Fraser, Houston Chronicle](#)*

Four HISD campuses will have to adopt new mascots after the school board gave final approval Thursday to a policy banning certain nicknames, such as the Redskins.

The proposal from Superintendent Terry Grier drew some debate among students, alumni and community members, but the change puts the school district in line with others nationwide that have retired mascots tied to Native Americans. Specifically, the new Houston Independent School District policy bans nicknames deemed offensive or culturally insensitive

Gubernatorial candidate and state Sen. Wendy Davis switched to short, punchy sentences, bringing the energy to a peak for her final call to action at a gathering of more than 400 Harris County Democrats Thursday night. Mid sentence, her running mate, Sen. Leticia Van de Putte, left the stage.

“Is anyone a doctor or a nurse?” Davis asked calmly, the photo-ready smile gone.

As sometimes happens at crowded political events with supporters standing long hours under hot stage lights, a woman had fainted..

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## JOAQUIN CASTRO RECALLS HIS FIRST YEAR IN THE US HOUSE

*In his own words--[Joaquin Castro, Texas Monthly](#)*

One year ago I was sworn in as a United States congressman. Representing Texas’s Twentieth District, I was the successor to a South Texas legacy and part of the most diverse freshman class in American history. We came to Washington to change things, certain that we could do better than the do-nothing Congress that preceded us. We would take on big issues and finally find agreement on things like immigration reform, which had been stuck in partisan gridlock for a generation. It hasn’t exactly worked out that way. By the end of the year, the 113th Congress was one of the most unpopular in history. But through the frenzy of tough votes, committee hearings, media hoopla, policy stalemates, and lots and lots of talking, I learned a great deal about our legislative branch.

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## STEVE STOCKMAN REMOVES HIS CAMPAIGN TREASURER

*Joe Pickett raises the most –[Will Tucker, Houston Chronicle](#)*

The campaign committee Rep. Steve Stockman used before his surprise run for Senate has a new treasurer, according to Federal Election Commission filings posted Wednesday. Latest filings show the committee has \$32,000 in cash on hand and \$160,000 in debt.

Jason Posey, who was fired from Stockman’s House office in October after revelations that he had illegally donated money to Stockman’s reelection campaign last February, no longer serves as treasurer of Friends of Congressman Steve Stockman. His replacement, Jon Noltie, served a brief stint as treasurer of the campaign in 2012.

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