

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

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## ABBOTT EXPANDS HIS LEAD TO 11

*More bad news for Democrats; LVDP has 11 point deficit against Dewhurst— Ross Ramsey, The Texas Tribune*

After what are shaping up to be easy primary wins in March for the leading gubernatorial candidates, Republican Greg Abbott starts the general election race for governor with an 11-point lead over Democrat Wendy Davis, according to the latest University of Texas/Texas Tribune Poll. Meanwhile, several statewide races on the Republican primary ballot — for lieutenant governor, attorney general and comptroller — appear headed for May runoffs.

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## DAVIS BEATS BACK IN RECENT CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORT

*She raises 2.85 Million dollars— Christy Hoppe, The Dallas Morning News*

Democrat Wendy Davis reported that she outstripped Republican Greg Abbott in fundraising, bringing in \$2.85 million over a 29-day period. His totals were reported here. Davis has \$11.3 million tucked away looking ahead to the general election. Her overall bank account still lags well behind Abbott's \$30 million.

The Republican attorney general has seen his campaign boosted in the past seven months by about two dozen benefactors capable of writing him large checks totaling more than \$100,000.

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## DEMOCRATIC GROUPS BEGIN MOBILIZATION ACROSS TEXAS

*Steve Mostyn leads efforts— Peggy Fikac, Houston Chronicle*

igh-powered Democrats from Texas and California have joined with national labor unions in an effort to mobilize out-of-state donors and raise millions of dollars to build a progressive majority in the Lone Star State that could change state policy and national elections.

The Texas Future Project - that also will seek to convince Texas Democrats to donate here - wants to direct funding to groups that it has identified as working to effect change, from Battleground Texas to Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas.

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# ABBOTT WANTS TO MOVE PAST ANDRADE ISSUE CONTINUES TO THE TED NUGENT BROUHAHA HIT DAN PATRICK QUITE HARD

*Cites Nugent's apology—Gromer Jeffers, The Dallas Morning News*

Greg Abbott on Monday, without admitting he made a mistake, said he's moving past the uproar over inviting controversial rocker Ted Nugent to a voter turnout rally.

And Abbott compared getting beyond the Nugent affair with the way he dealt with recovering from injuries that put him in a wheelchair. He was hit by a tree while running.

Nugent, dubbed the Motor City Madman, introduced Abbott last week at an event in Denton. He has been heavily criticized for calling Barack Obama, the nation's first black president, a "subhuman mongrel."

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## HFD PROTESTS RECENT CUTS, SAYS SERVICES ARE AFFECTED

*Follows Council committee action—Ryan Korsgard, KPRC*

After a move to save money in the Houston Fire Department, there are now accusations from the firefighters' union that the changes are disrupting emergency service and putting lives in danger.

When 14-month-old Miranda was choking and turning blue Sunday night, her grandma said she ran across the street to Houston Fire Station Number 12 on Alber in north Houston.

"They were awesome. They took good care of my granddaughter," said Valerie Davila, Miranda's grandmother.

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*Patrick denies writing letter on immigrant—Patti Hart, Houston Chronicle*

Houston Sen. Dan Patrick, now in a hotly contested race for lieutenant governor, denied Monday that he wrote a letter on behalf a former employee who entered the country illegally in the mid 1980s. Since Patrick has made his opposition to amnesty for foreign born workers in the country illegally a cornerstone of his campaign for lieutenant governor, one of his opponents — Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson — says the letter is proof of Patrick's hypocrisy.

Patterson made no secret last week that he hired a private investigator to check out rumors that Patrick employed non-citizens in his sports bar, Dan and Nick's Sports Market, in the 1980s

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## STOCKMAN DISTANCES SELF FROM "GOP NEWS" MAILER

*Bears a resemblance to previous stunts—Aman Batheja, The Texas Tribune*

A spokesman for U.S. Rep. Steve Stockman's campaign for U.S. Senate denied multiple allegations Sunday from rivals that it is engaging in misleading or illegal efforts to sway Republican voters.

Stockman, of Friendswood, is one of seven Republicans hoping to unseat U.S. Sen. John Cornyn in the March 4 primary.

Over the weekend, some Texas voters received a 16-page campaign mailer made to look like a newspaper titled "The Conservative News." The publication was from an organization called Center for the American Future, and is also available on the group's website. Every page of the publication is devoted to criticizing Cornyn or praising Stockman.

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# THE DAMNED THIRD PAGE

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

## TEXAS DEMS SUPPORTIVE OF GAY RIGHTS

*It's the new normal—Noah M. Horwitz, [The Daily Texan](#)*

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Presented by: *Sophia Arena, Olivia Arena, George Bailey, Luis Fayad, Noah M. Horwitz and Andrew Scott Romo*

Over the past few weeks, state Sen. Wendy Davis, the likely Democratic nominee for governor, has clarified her position on a number of issues, including the question of same-sex marriage. Almost nonchalantly, Davis lent her full support to the issue on Feb. 13. “It’s my strong belief that when people love each other and are desirous of creating a committed relationship with each other that they should be allowed to marry, regardless of their sexual orientation,” Davis told the editorial board of the San Antonio Express-News. Immediately, Davis’ liberal supporters celebrated her endorsement, the Post will never take sides in an ongoing dispute or take political positions.

However, what is far more impressive than Davis’ support itself is how normal it all seems. In this day and age, the only Democratic officials who still oppose same-sex marriage are holdover Dixiecrats with fiercely conservative social views, such as Sens. Mark Pryor (D-AK) or Joe Manchin (D-WV).

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## BEST OF THE BLOGS!

### BIG JOLLY POLITICS

[“Who’s on 1st? What’s on 2nd?”](#)

### BRAINS & EGGS

[“In re Kesha Rogers”](#)

### BURNT ORANGE REPORT

[“Davis outraises Abbott again”](#)

### DOS CENTAVOS

[“Early voting thoughts”](#)

### EYE ON WILLIAMSON

[“TPA Roundup”](#)

### OFF THE KUFF

[“Leave Greg Abbott alone”](#)

### RHYMES WITH RIGHT

[“Coming soon to a polling place”](#)

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### TEXAS LEFTIST

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## EDITOR'S RANTINGS

*Noah M. Horwitz*

N/A

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Upper limit of 200 words, all submissions will be published!