

News**World** cont'd from pg 9

cause they were not authorized to publicly discuss the matter before the White House announcement.

Researchers fear Zika causes microcephaly, a serious birth defect in which a baby's head is too small, as well as posing other threats to the children of pregnant women infected with it.

President Barack Obama has asked for about \$1.9 billion in emergency money to fight Zika but the request has stalled in the GOP-controlled Congress.

Battle Between Religious Issues and Gay Rights Splits GOP States

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — Republican lawmakers upset about the Supreme Court decision legalizing gay marriage have advanced measures in about a dozen states this year that could strengthen protections for those who refuse on religious grounds to provide services to same-sex couples.

The bills could benefit court clerks, photographers, florists, bakers, wedding-hall operators and others who say gay matrimony goes against their beliefs.

For a party already being torn apart by the presidential contest, the state legislative efforts have exposed deep rifts between the GOP's social conservatives and its pro-business wing. Business leaders worry that such measures will allow discrimination and scare away companies and major events.

So far, only a few proposals have become law. Those include narrowly tailored protections shielding Florida clergy from having to perform same-sex weddings and college religious organizations in Kansas from losing aid.

A far more sweeping one was signed into law Tuesday by Mississippi Gov. Phil Bryant, despite objections from some major corporations. It creates a

religious shield from government penalties for an array of people and organizations, including marriage-license clerks, adoption agencies, counselors and more than a dozen categories of businesses that provide wedding-related services. It applies not only to those with religious beliefs about gay marriage, but also to those who believe that sex outside marriage is wrong and that sexual identity is determined at birth.

Life Story, Movie Star Father Lift Poe in Philippines' Race

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Her life story could have come straight out of a soap opera. As a newborn, Grace Poe was abandoned in a Catholic church and adopted by movie star parents, giving her a powerful narrative and name that have helped catapult her to front-runner in the Philippine presidential race.

A political newcomer, elected to the Senate just three years ago, Poe has promised to cut taxes, fight crime and offer free kindergarten-to-college education for the poor. But it is the popularity of her late father, regarded as the king of Philippine movies, and her humble beginnings that appeal to the masses in this country where presidents have traditionally come from the landed gentry and political elite.

The 47-year-old candidate's campaign speeches are peppered with dialogues from the movies of her late father Fernando Poe Jr., popularly known as FPJ, who often played roles of an underdog battling powerful opponents to champion the poor and oppressed. He too ran for president in 2004 but lost amid allegations he was cheated in an election many viewed as marked by fraud. He died months later, unable to carry out his battles off the screen.

OBITUARY: Edward Lee Holmes

May 12, 1949 - March 28, 2016

Edward Lee Holmes, loving husband, respected business owner, died peacefully in the early morning hours on Monday, March 28, 2016 at his Gresham, OR home, surrounded by family.

Ed was born May 12, 1949 in Shreveport, LA to James Holmes and Eunice Holmes né

Caldwell. He was the 7th child, with 6 older brothers and 2 sisters. He leaves behind his loving wife Joy Ann Holmes né Millhime, four children, 10 grandchildren, and one great grandchild on the way.

Edward graduated from Union High School in Shreveport, LA in 1967 enlisting in the Army the following year, spending most of 1969 as a gunner on a Medical Evacuation Unit in Vietnam. He flew more than 25 aerial missions over hostile territory and was presented the Air Medal of Honor.

After passing through the Pacific Northwest on his journey home from the war, he moved his family to Portland, Ore. where he ultimately found work in the steel fabrication industry.

Over the course of 25 years he would work his way up from laborer through the management ranks. He then decided it was time to own his own business.

Ebony Iron Works, Inc. employed as many as 30 craftsmen and women from all walks of life. His business model included creating opportunities to employ people transitioning from difficult circumstances. He did not shy away from hiring those experiencing past prison time, addiction, health concerns and other life struggles.

Ebony Iron Works, Inc. was a place where success was guaranteed through job training, living wages, and the unwavering support of Ed Holmes. He had a belief in every in-



Edward Lee Holmes

dividual's ability to succeed and used his business as a way to support that belief. Ed took great pride in creating opportunities for African Americans and other minorities.

Ebony Iron Works, Inc was a multimillion dollar, Black owned,

award winning steel fabrication company. As President and CEO, Ed brought in projects that include the Rose Quarter, Mariners and Seahawks Stadiums, PGE Park, Portland International Airport Terminal Expansion, Bonneville Power Administration, and the Flood Walls for the City of Portland that kept the Willamette River within its banks during the 1996 floods.

Ed was once called the "Man of Steel" in a local newspaper article in which he was quoted as saying, "...we can shape our future as we wish it to be." He shaped not only the success of his own life but the success of countless others.

Ed retired from the steel business in 2008 after purchasing the building that housed it. Through this endeavor he continues the legacy of a self-made, savvy businessman, allowing his children and grandchildren continued prosperity.

Ed's story is one of success brought about by hard work, perseverance, dedication, leadership, and his genuine generosity of spirit. He will be lovingly remember as a loving husband, loyal friend, consummate businessman, dedicated father, outstanding grandfather (Papa), and a fearless leader in the community. His legacy lives on in all who had the good fortune of knowing him.

Following an initial private service, a memorial/celebration of life will be held at a future date. In lieu of flowers, send donations to Kaiser Permanente Hospice Program.



Prayer and Bible Study

Every 3rd Thursday of the month @ 7pm

**Oak Acres Mobile Home Park
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