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Stanley Poteet

Minister cites reasons for church resignation

DALLAS (AP) — A Methodist minister whose wife was nearly choked to death surrendered his church credentials Wednesday, citing increasing stress from the attack and its investigation.

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Walker Railey voluntarily withdrew as a minister of the United Methodist Church, Bishop John Russell said in a prepared statement.

Railey has refused to cooperate with police but has denied any knowledge of the April 22 attack that left his wife, Margaret, in a coma. Police have filed no charges, but have questioned Railey's account of his whereabouts on the night his wife was attacked at the couple's Dallas home.

Railey said in a statement released with Russell's that he resigned because of stress.

'For the last four months, the burdens upon me have been tremendous as have the complexities and confusion of the situation surrounding my life," he said.

Railey has said he was working late the night of the attack and returned to find his wife near death. Eight days after the attack he took an overdose of pills on the morning police wanted to question him. He wron

note saying he felt besieged by demons. He entered a Dallas psychiatric hospital son a but was later released. He and his attorney, he Mulder, have said he has taken three lie detector to and will take more if needed.

Railey had previously stepped down as pastor of Dallas church and officials are looking for a succe Some Methodist clergymen had asked Russell to on an investigation into Railey's morals, but Russell

Russell was out of the office Wednesday, his to

tary said,
"It is my hope he shall have a fulfilling life in wi ever decision or profession he seeks," Russell saidin

"I am deeply saddened concerning all the in events surrounding the Railey family," Russell s "The whole church shall continue to pray for all m

the ground up, learned how to and crochet, built up a good die

and she's been here ever since."

Right after she went into bus

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er estate

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Lanier joined the Business and

fessional Women's Club in Te

kana, Ark., and still is a member

day, as is Dixon. The two attend

bimonthly meetings together.

"Her hearing's not as goods tused to be, and she doesn't like talk very much anymore, but it

She even has my exercise bigo

her shop and rides it regular, loguess I'll be getting it back."

About the only time Lanier is

slow her pace in her 92 years when she had to go to a hospit ter she turned 90, her daughter

She since has had eye surgery

That was the first time in he

the last time this summer,

she had ever been in a hospi patient," Dixon says. "She

been able to crochet lately becau

92-year-old craftswoman still oversees rug, yarn shop

TEXARKANA (AP) — One of Juanita Lanier's neighbors found three hungry puppies discarded in a small paper sack by uncaring owners

one morning six yéars ago.

One of the puppies, later named Prince, found its way into Lanier's home and today weighs 85 pounds. Its sidekick, Shay, a white poodle of the same age who arrived at about the same time as a gift to Lanier,

weighs 4 pounds.

Lanier, 92, who never had previously owned a dog, enjoys the pets who help protect her 45-year-old knitting and yarn shop.

Old friends and customers still

Old friends and customers still visit the tiny Lanier Yarn and Hooked Rug Shop, which faces the Highland Park Baptist Church, where Lanier has attended for 55

They come, as they always have, to buy knitting needles, buttons or thread — or to glance through any of the dozens of knitting and crocheting magazines Lanier keeps on hand, some of which are collectors' items dating back 40 years or more.

But mostly they come for the congenial atmosphere and small talk that has always been the hallmark of the little shop. Like men talking around the cracker barrel, the women sit around a coffee table in stuffed sofa and spin yarns as suc-cinctly as their hooked needles work on the merchandise, and that was it.

"Her hearing's not as good as it used to be, and she doesn't like to talk very much anymore, but she's still as active as ever. She even has my exercise bicycle in her shop and rides it regular. I don't guess I'll be getting it back."

— Dorothy Dixon, one of Lanier's two daughters

the wool in their laps into artful cro-

Dorothy Dixon, one of Lanier's two daughters, says, "For years and years, this was the only shop of its kind. Women would come in droves, and mother would teach them how to knit or crochet.

ence and no knowledge of how to

knit or crochet. 'All she had was a lot of guts," she says. "A store downtown closed out straight-back chairs or on the old, its knitting and wool thread depart-

her eyes, but she'll be back a soon as she recovers a little mor Dixon says her mother started the business with no money, no experigets her new glasse Lanier is doubly thankful to

her eyesight intact. She needs eyes to knit and crochet, yes most of all she needs them to see offspring, three grandchildren five great-grandchildren. They are her reason for his

West Texans prepare for surge of scorpions brought by heavy rains

El PASO (AP) — West Texans are stepping carefully following recent heavy rains that have lured scor-pions out of the Franklin mountains and into people's front yards and

bedrooms.

"We're across the street from the mountains," said El Paso resident Lola Baldwin, whose 10-month-old daughter was stung recently inside the house. "I've been killing them all over the place outside. I'm afraid to

Parts of west El Paso and southern New Mexico received 3 to 7 inches of rain early last week, though less than an inch fell at the airport, where official amounts are recorded. El Paso normally gets 7.77 inches of rain a

In addition to swamping fields and flooding a few neighborhoods, the rain lured the scorpions from the mountains, Dr. John Haynes, El Paso Poison Control Center director, said Tuesday

Some of the sinister-looking stinging creatures are washed downhill, but many chase the insects they feed on, which descend in the rain, Haynes said. "They're all over the city, probably everywhere," he said. "They're just more common close to the mountains.

Baldwin's daughter, Stacey, was stung on the hand, but suffered little more than redness, swelling and

A scorpion sting usually results in sharp pain followed by swelling and numbness. Sometimes the entire limb that was stung will be numb for six to 12 hours

Haynes said, "We usually tell all of our callers to make sure their tetanus shot is up to date. To ease the pain, we recommend putting some ice in a Baggie, wrapping it in a cloth and putting it on the bite."

The armored-looking arthropods

like to burrow in wood piles, bedding, clothes and shoes. One encounter with a scorpion usually is enough to remind a victim to always check bed sheets and shake out boots before getting into them.

The stinger is at the tip of the scorpion's segmented tail, which arches over its back. All scorpion stings are poisonous, but in varying degrees, said Phil Glogoza, entomologist with the state Extension Service in El Paso. Like bee stings, they can kill people who are allergic to the poisonous bites.

But two species in the Southwest can be deadly to non-allergic people, Glogoza said. One deadly species can be found in El Paso and the most dangerous is found in Arizona.

"Any scorpion is potentially poisonous to humans," he said. "But we particularly worry about young children or older adults or adults who are in poor health."

American will match

fare cuts

FORT WORTH (AP) -Ame ican Airlines announced Wedne day that they will match fared recently adopted by Eastern Texas Air Corp.

'The price range will vary h we will match their fares in co petitive markets," American A lines spokesman Steve McGree

McGregor said the only difference is that American will ple exclusive R more restrictive time limits their deepest-discounted Me

saver tickets. American will match the Es band John ern two-day advance purche discounts, but the American to ets must be purchased seven de in advance, McGregor said.

On Eastern's seven-day a vance purchase discounts, Ame can will match with a 14-day vance purchase requirement

"Customers in the north, soul and east of the Mississippi will affected by the fare changes, cause these are our most competitive markets," McGregor said.

About 900 markets will be a volved, McGregor said.

On Monday, Texas Air Control of the contr

announced it would keep its d count fares nationwide and Ea ern followed, implementing a duction program on its MaxSar tickets in its markets east of Mississippi, cutting them down!

to \$25 on one-way fares.

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