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# Chapel

Sundays  
 9:00 p.m.  
 new time

All Faiths  
 Chapel

sponsored by compass college ministries

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 BRIEF EXPLANATORY STATEMENTS OF  
 PROPOSED  
**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**  
 Special Election  
 NOVEMBER 2, 1999

**PROPOSITION NO. 1  
 ON THE BALLOT**

HJR 44 - HJR 44 proposes a constitutional amendment that would ensure a clear succession in event of vacancies in the offices of Governor and Lieutenant Governor. Specifically, the amendment would provide that if after qualifying for the office, the Governor is temporarily unable to serve, the Lieutenant Governor shall act as Governor until the Governor is able to serve; but if the Governor is permanently unable to serve, the Lieutenant Governor shall become the Governor for the remainder of the unexpired term. The amendment would require a Lieutenant Governor who becomes Governor to forfeit the office of Lieutenant Governor. The amendment would also provide similar succession procedures when a vacancy occurs in the office of Governor before the newly elected Governor qualifies for office, and when the newly elected Governor is temporarily unable to take office. The amendment also would provide that if there is a temporary vacancy in the office of Lieutenant Governor, the President pro tempore of the Senate will fill the position; but if there is a permanent vacancy in the office of Lieutenant Governor, the President pro tempore of the Senate shall serve as Lieutenant Governor only until such time as the whole senate can convene to elect one of its members to perform the duties of Lieutenant Governor. Finally, the amendment would provide that if the Lieutenant Governor, while temporarily exercising the powers of the Governor, becomes temporarily disabled or unable to serve, the President pro tempore of the senate shall exercise the powers and authority of the office of the Governor until such time as the Governor or Lieutenant Governor resumes those powers and duties.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to revise the provisions for the filling of a vacancy in the office of governor or lieutenant governor."

**PROPOSITION NO. 2  
 ON THE BALLOT**

SJR 12 - SJR 12 proposes a constitutional amendment that would resolve conflicts between the Texas Constitution and federal law relating to the definition, rules, and procedures of reverse mortgages. The amendment would define "reverse mortgage" in part as an extension of credit made against the homestead of a person who is 62 years or older, or whose spouse is 62 years or older. It would expand the list of circumstances under which payment of principal and interest become due and the procedures involved in foreclosure, and would require certain advances to be made according to specific terms in loan documents, including advances by the lender, on behalf of the borrower for payments necessary to protect the lender's interest. Finally, the amendment would require the Texas Supreme Court to promulgate rules of civil procedure expediting court-ordered foreclosures of reverse mortgage liens.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment relating to the making of advances under a reverse mortgage and payment of a reverse mortgage."

**PROPOSITION NO. 3  
 ON THE BALLOT**

HJR 62 - HJR 62 proposes a constitutional

## Antarctic argument

Sale of ill-fated explorer's items angers family, historians

LONDON (AP) — The relics, now under glass at Christie's auction house, serve as a poignant reminder of Britain's golden era of Arctic exploration and the epic tales that made icons of both Capt. Robert Scott and Sir Ernest Shackleton. Many of the objects, including the sled flag Scott flew at the South Pole when in 1912, were recovered from the tent where the bodies of Scott and two colleagues were discovered, frozen in their sleeping bags. Scott was the second person to reach the South Pole. Christie's plan to auction the belongings of Scott and Shackleton, who failed in a quest to be first to the South Pole, has divided family members and upset historians. "It's all very sad," David Wil-

son, whose great-uncle, Edward Wilson, froze to death with Scott, said. "It's a tragic twist in the tragic tale of Captain Scott."

**"It's all very sad. It's a tragic twist in the tragic tale of Captain Scott."**

— David Wilson  
 Descendant of Scott companion

Friday's auction was announced only last week, angering British museums and historical societies,

which have launched fund-raising campaigns to compete in bidding. "With items of national significance, you would think institutions would be given the option of securing them for the nation instead of them being popped into the auction," Richard Ormond, director of the National Maritime Museum, said. John Heap, chair of Britain's Antarctic Heritage Trust, said he feared many of the items in Friday's sale will end up in the United States, where a Shackleton revival of sorts is under way. The Christie's auction is expected to raise about \$804,000 for the owners of the memorabilia: Scott's grandson, R. Falcon Scott; Shackleton's family trust; and relatives of Shackleton's oldest son, Raymond.

## Israeli smoking lawsuit rejected

Jerusalem court throws out case against cigarette manufacturer

JERUSALEM (AP) — A judge rejected a health insurance company's lawsuit against a local cigarette manufacturer yesterday, ruling that a successful suit would subject just about any product to sanctions. The Kupat Holim Maccabi health fund demanded the Dubek cigarette company assume responsibility for the smoking-related deaths or sickness of hundreds of thousands of Maccabi clients. But Tel Aviv District Court Judge Adi Azar ridiculed the suit, saying that accepting the claim would make it impossible to sell anything but lettuce and tomatoes in Israel, the local army radio reported. In his written decision, Azar reasoned that if cigarette manufacturers could be found liable for illness, automakers could be held responsible for traffic accidents and hamburger cooks for obesity. Azar not only threw out the lawsuit, but also or-

dered the health fund to pay the cigarette makers \$7,000 in court costs. Alon Gellert, a lawyer for Maccabi, dismissed the army radio's interpretation of Azar's ruling, saying the judge had rejected the suit on technicalities, not on principle. Gellert said the lack of a specific figure in the suit was one of the main reasons Azar rejected the suit. "The judge didn't close the door, far from it," Gellert told the Associated Press. "He only said that the suit can't be filed this way." Gellert said the health fund would resubmit the case, naming a damage claim for hundreds of millions of dollars. Health ministry figures show 28 percent of Israelis smoke, and 5,000 of Israel's 6.1 million citizens die of smoking-related illnesses each year.

That is also a

proposed amendment would clarify current law by specifically allowing home equity loans on all or part of urban homesteads of up to ten acres and subject such loans to the same requirement that the refinanced or new loan not overburden the homestead.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment increasing the maximum size of an urban homestead to 10 acres, prescribing permissible uses of urban homesteads, and preventing the overburdening of a homestead."

**PROPOSITION NO. 7  
 ON THE BALLOT**

HJR 16 - HJR 16 proposes a constitutional amendment that would provide that if an employee is delinquent in paying court-ordered spousal maintenance, a portion of that employee's wages may be withheld to pay the spousal maintenance. Current law allows such withholding, or garnishment, only for payment of delinquent court-ordered child support.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing garnishment of wages for the enforcement of court-ordered spousal maintenance."

**PROPOSITION NO. 8  
 ON THE BALLOT**

HJR 95 - HJR 95 proposes a constitutional amendment that would provide that the adjutant general, who is appointed by the Governor and who serves as the governing officer of the state military forces, serves as long as the Governor wishes the appointed person to serve in that capacity rather than serving a specific two-year term set by the legislature.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to provide that the adjutant general serves at the pleasure of the governor."

**PROPOSITION NO. 9  
 ON THE BALLOT**

SJR 10 - SJR 10 proposes a constitutional amendment that would authorize the legislature to create a judicial compensation committee to make recommendations for salaries for the justices and judges of the Supreme Court, the Court of Criminal Appeals, the Courts of Appeals, and the District Courts. The amendment would mandate that the recommendations become law if neither the Senate nor the House of Representatives rejects them by majority vote.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to create a judicial compensation commission."

**PROPOSITION NO. 10  
 ON THE BALLOT**

HJR 74 - HJR 74 proposes a constitutional amendment that would provide that the commissioner of health and human services, who is appointed by the Governor, serves as long as the Governor wishes the appointed person to serve in that capacity rather than serving a specific two-year term set by the legislature.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to provide that the commissioner of health and human services serves at the pleasure of the governor."

**PROPOSITION NO. 11  
 ON THE BALLOT**

HJR 69 - HJR 69 proposes a constitutional amendment that would authorize a county, city, town, or other political subdivision to

spend public funds or extend credit to purchase nonassessable property or casualty insurance from a mutual insurance company authorized to do business in Texas. Under current law, a political subdivision is generally prohibited from spending public funds or extending credit to become a stockholder in a corporation but is permitted to purchase nonassessable life, health or accident insurance policies from a mutual insurance company authorized to do business in Texas. This amendment would authorize a political subdivision to also obtain non-assessable property and casualty insurance from such a company.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment permitting a political subdivision to purchase nonassessable property and casualty insurance from an authorized mutual insurance company in the same manner that the political subdivision purchases life, health, and accident insurance."

**PROPOSITION NO. 12  
 ON THE BALLOT**

SJR 21 - SJR 21 proposes a constitutional amendment that would exempt from ad valorem taxation a leased motor vehicle that is not used by the lessee primarily to produce income. The amendment would provide that the legislature also may limit the ability of a political subdivision to subject such a vehicle to taxation.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation leased motor vehicles not held by the lessee primarily to produce income."

**PROPOSITION NO. 13  
 ON THE BALLOT**

SJR 16 - SJR 16 proposes a constitutional amendment that would authorize the legislature to allow the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to issue and sell general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$400 million in order to finance educational loans to students. The amendment also would authorize the Legislature to limit the amount of interest the bonds can bear and establish procedures for the investment of the bond proceeds. The proposed amendment would specify the method of repaying the bonds.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for the issuance of \$400 million in general obligation bonds to finance educational loans to students."

**PROPOSITION NO. 14  
 ON THE BALLOT**

HJR 29 - HJR 29 proposes a constitutional amendment which would authorize the Legislature to require the board of regents of the state university and boards of trustees or managers of the educational, charitable, and penal institutions of the state, whose members serve six year terms, to be composed of an odd number of three or more board members (for example, 5, 7, or 9 members). The proposed amendment would allow approximately one-third of members of boards whose membership is not evenly divisible by three to be elected or appointed every two years. The amendment also would allow the Legislature to set the composition of constitutionally required boards, whose members serve for a term of six years, to a number divisible by three so that exactly one-third of the board members may be elected or appointed every two years.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide that a state board, commission, or other agency shall be governed by a board composed of an odd number of three or more

members."

**PROPOSITION NO. 15  
 ON THE BALLOT**

HJR 36 - HJR 36 proposes a constitutional amendment that would allow spouses, by an agreement in writing, to convert all or part of their separate property into community property. Separate property is primarily the property owned or claimed by the spouse before marriage and the property acquired by the spouse during the marriage by gift or inheritance. Community property consists of the property, other than separate property, acquired by either spouse during marriage.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment permitting spouses to agree to convert separate property to community property."

**PROPOSITION NO. 16  
 ON THE BALLOT**

HJR 71 - HJR 71 proposes a constitutional amendment that would allow a county with a population of 50,000 or more, rather than 30,000 or more, to be divided into four to eight justice of the peace and constable precincts. The amendment also would allow a county with a population between 18,000 and 50,000 to have two to eight justice of the peace and constable precincts, rather than the current maximum of five precincts. Furthermore, the amendment would limit Randall County to not less than two and not more than six precincts. Finally, the amendment would set a minimum of four precincts for any county that as of November 2, 1999, is divided into four or more precincts.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to provide that certain counties shall be divided into a specific number of precincts."

**PROPOSITION NO. 17  
 ON THE BALLOT**

HJR 58 - HJR 58 proposes a constitutional amendment which would require the board of regents of the University of Texas System to manage investments of the permanent university fund (PUF) according to the standards of a prudent investor. Generally, earnings from the PUF are distributed to the available university fund (AUF) and then ultimately distributed to the public university systems of Texas. Under the amendment, the amount distributed to the AUF would consist of distributions, as determined by the University of Texas System board of regents, from the total return on all investment assets of the PUF, instead of consisting only of the dividends, interest, and other income of the PUF minus administrative expenses. The amendment also would provide guidelines for minimum and maximum amounts to be distributed to the AUF, and require that the board of regents manage distributions to the AUF in a manner that will provide the AUF with a stable and predictable stream of annual distributions and maintain the purchasing power of the PUF investments and annual distributions to the AUF.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment relating to the investment of the permanent university fund and the distribution from the permanent university fund to the available university fund."

Estos son los informes explicatorios sobre las enmiendas propuestas a la constitución que aparecerán en la boleta el 2 de noviembre de 1999. Si usted no ha recibido una copia de los informes en español, podrá obtener una gratis por llama al 1/800/252/8683 or por escribir al Secretario de Estado, P.O. Box 12060, Austin, TX 78711.

Published by Secretary of State Elton Bomer

## Russians to abandon Mir station

MOSCOW (AP) — The space station will be abandoned next year as planned and will switch to contributing international projects in exploration, a top space official said yesterday. Russia can no longer maintain Mir. The station's last full-time crew will be launched in August, and the station will be used only briefly by another crew next year to prepare the Mir for its final descent. Most of the station's work as it reenters the atmosphere and some remnants will be dumped into the Pacific Ocean. "We have already made our choice," Yuri Koptev, head of the Russian Aerospace Agency, said at a news conference yesterday. According to the ITAR-TASS news agency, "We have entered into national cooperation," Koptev said. Russian space experts said the long delayed decision is an abandonment of the 13-year-old station and a symbol of the country's declining role in space. However, an official source of national pride said that Russia will continue to be a "seductive" major space project of the week. Even after the decision was made, Russian officials said the station's final day in orbit next year, hoping for an expected source of funding. Peated efforts to attract investors have failed. Koptev's comments appear to be putting the hopes for the station's fate in the hands of the market. That is also a

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 Bible Class 9:00 a.m.  
 Worship 10:00 a.m.  
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"CHILL FACTOR" (R)	11:30 1:55 4:40 7:25 10:05	THE SIXTH SENSE (R)	11:45 2:35 5:30 8:20
THE 13TH WARRIOR (R)	11:30 1:55 4:40 7:25 10:05	RUNAWAY BRIDE (R)	11:30 1:55 4:40 7:25 10:05
AN IDEAL HUSBAND (PG-13)	12:20 2:50 5:25 8:00 10:20 12:30	AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)	11:30 1:55 4:40 7:25 10:05
BOWLING PINS (R)	11:30 1:55 4:40 7:25 10:05	BROKING DOWN (R)	11:30 1:55 4:40 7:25 10:05
DEEP BLUE SEA (R)	8:10 10:25 12:35	DUDLEY DOPE (R)	11:45 2:35 5:30 8:20
IN TOO DEEP (R)	7:50 10:15 12:35	INSPECTOR GABB (R)	11:30 1:55 4:40 7:25 10:05
MICKY BLUE EYES (PG-13)	11:30 2:00 4:35 7:10 9:45 12:20	LOVE STRIKE (R)	12:25 2:45 4:45 7:05 9:25 11:45
STIGMATA (R)	11:40 2:10 4:45 7:20 9:55 12:30	THE ASTROLOGER (R)	11:45 2:35 5:30 8:20
THE BLAIR WITCH PROJECT (R)	12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 9:55 12:15	STRIP TEASE (R)	12:10 2:35 5:05 7:35 9:55 12:15
THE IRON GIANT (PG)	12:15 2:30 4:20 6:15	THOMAS CRUISE (R)	11:45 2:15 5:00 7:45 10:15

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