yet been enforced.

But Scalia, in his best finger-jab-in-the-chest style, extolled state sovereignty, haranguing to the days when states could exclude “obnoxious aliens” at will. Of course, that was long before Congress passed comprehensive laws that basically occupy the field on such things as immigrant registration and deportation decisions, limiting what even frustrated states can do.

It’s striking how stridently Scalia opposes the Obama administration’s use of discretion in enforcing immigration law, dragging the president’s recent policy announcement into a case that didn’t directly involve it.

argument, but it’s based on his personal disagreement, not on legal justification.

He’s quite alarmist in saying the federal government refuses to enforce immigration laws, thus leaving the states unprotected.

It surely surprised no one that Rush Limbaugh called Scalia’s comments “right on the money.”

What’s more interesting is that Judge Richard Posner writes on slate.com that Scalia engaged in “fighting words” and made claims without backing them up.

Posner’s a Ronald Reagan appointee to the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago and a longtime Republican icon, but he’s than the illegal immigrants in other states, but one would like to see some evidence of that.”

Immigration is a highly emotional topic that evokes strong reactions from many sides.

But if Justice Scalia wants to fight with the president over policy decisions and how to deploy federal resources, maybe he should consider running for Congress. Arizona might elect him.

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letters to the editor  TH@LETTERS@WCINET.COM

Lies, lies and more lies — and omissions

From Don Stark
9187 Illinois 84 North, Galena, Ill.

When I was growing up, my parents and teachers taught me that it was not OK to tell lies. That lesson is no longer valid in this country.

In the T.H on June 29, I found the following examples of lies that are acceptable:

It’s acceptable to lie about receiving the Medal of Honor (page 6A) because it is freedom of speech and claiming acts of heroism to get elected to public office is protected by the First Amendment.

It’s acceptable for the attorney general to lie to Congress about Fast and Furious because he is the first black attorney general — at least I assume that’s the reason — because “African-American lawmakers lead the walkout... to protest the action against Holder” (Page 6A).

Holder then accuses Congress of “merely a politically motivated act in an election year,” failing to mention that the investigation started in 2009 and his failure to respond to the subpoenas for two years has resulted in the action taken by Congress in this election year.

Then there are the lies by omission. There are three articles about the Affordable Care Act and only one mention of the administration’s position that the mandate was not a tax, and no mention of the chief justice’s decision to uphold the law because it is a tax and not a mandate in accordance with the interstate commerce clause. Also, no mention that this tax will be the largest tax increase in history.

Iowa needs to raise standards for direct care

From Fran Manci
2115 Elm St., Hazel Green, Wis.

At a June 20 public forum in Dubuque on the Direct Care Workforce Initiative, stakeholders from different perspectives shared why standard training and credentials for direct care professionals are needed.

As a certified nursing assistant and mentor at Stonehill Franciscan Services, I served on a panel with the CEO of a provider organization, another direct care professional and Iowa Sen. Pam Jochum. We all discussed how this initiative, through education standards and a board to issue credentials, will help ensure quality care for aging Iowans and people with disabilities.

Direct care professionals include CNAs like me, home health aides, supported community living professionals and many others.

At the forum, I emphasized that adequate direct care training and professional recognition are critical to retaining good workers. Iowans deserve to know that the people caring for their loved ones are qualified and skilled, and caregivers deserve recognition as professionals doing important work. The standard training and credentials proposed in this Iowa Department of Public Health project will accomplish that.

I appreciate the Telegraph Herald’s coverage, and I want to reiterate the focus of the forum and this initiative. Continued funding from the Iowa Legislature is needed and appreciated.

But the key message is that Iowa needs standard training and credentials for direct care professionals, and lawmakers must pass legislation establishing a board of direct care professionals as the first step to make it happen.

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