



# ON TO THE SEMIS

Jerome girls roll in first-round win, Sports 1



JOBLESSNESS JUMPS IN JANUARY >>> Employers slash most jobs in 35 years, BUSINESS 1

FRIDAY  
February 20, 2009

# TIMES-NEWS

75 CENTS

MagicValley.com

## Church gets seminary site

### LDS building will be next to new high school

By Ben Botkin  
Times-News writer

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will have a seminary for students of Canyon Ridge High School.

The church intends to begin construction this spring and to open the building when Canyon Ridge takes students in the fall, said Mark Holmstead, president of the church's Twin Falls West Stake.

"As local leaders, we're planning on the seminary to be completed so local LDS kids can attend," Holmstead said. "That was why that property was acquired."

Holmstead anticipates that about 90 of Canyon Ridge's roughly 900 students will take religious instruction courses at the seminary during release time periods.

The building will be west of the new school at the southeast corner of Park View Drive and Cheney Drive, which is still under construction.

The land in the past was owned by the Twin Falls School District, but was transferred to the church through a series of transactions that also involved the city of Twin Falls.

In September 2007, the 1.37-acre property, valued at about \$103,000, was transferred to the city along with a couple unrelated parcels.

The district also agreed to construct the east half of the street, curb, gutter and sidewalk along Park View Drive adjacent to the land, at the cost of \$77,250.

The district's other properties that the city received were two acres along Hankins Road, valued at \$120,000, and 11 acres on the south end of the city valued at \$137,500, according to a written agreement approved by the school board and city council.



Ethan Hunt, center, a senior at Twin Falls High School, talks with his seminary teacher, Rob Wallace, Thursday while Tabitha Wicker looks on at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints seminary in Twin Falls High School.

ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News



part of North College Road or other street improvements for Washington Street North and Cheney Drive near the new school.

The city also waived a requirement that the district pay a share of the cost of a traffic signal at the intersection of North College Road and Washington Street North.

The total value of all the waivers was \$443,854, compared with \$437,750 that the school district gave the city in land and improvements.

In exchange, the city waived all building permit fees for Canyon Ridge and did not require the district to pay for reconstruction of

"We traded value for value," said Mitch Humble, community development director for Twin Falls. "The school board looked at this

agreement and the City Council looked at it and approved it."

Last September, the city purchased the LDS Softball Complex located south of Highland Park, trading the land near the new high school and paying the church about \$259,000, Humble said.

The future seminary property was decided to church in November. Humble said his understanding is the city didn't need to go through a public bidding process because the deal involved a trade for other property.

Ben Botkin may be reached at 208-735-3238 or bbotkin@magicvalley.com.

## Bliss High teacher accused of having sex with student

By Andrea Jackson  
Times-News writer

A Bliss High School teacher allegedly had sex with a 16-year-old student, including once at a shop in the school, according to Gooding County court records.

Anna M. Bettencourt, 39, of Wendell, is charged with two counts of felony sexual battery of a minor. Police interviewed and arrested Bettencourt Tuesday, and she was arraigned Wednesday in Gooding County 5th District Court.

She was suspended with pay this week from her social studies teaching post, pending the resolution of the case against her, said Bliss School District Clerk Michelle Elliot.

Bettencourt and the male student allegedly had intercourse twice between Aug. 15 and Sept. 30 — once on the floor of the school's agriculture shop on a Sunday, and again in the boy's pickup truck after they met up at the school, according to court records filed Wednesday. According to court records, both the boy and the teacher admitted they had sex twice.

The boy "told some people about it, and it became very difficult for her (Bettencourt) to teach," court

See **TEACHER**, Main 2



Bettencourt

**BREAKING NEWS**  
**MAGICVALLEY.COM**

You saw this story first online.

## Investigator: Plane that crashed in Elmore Co. likely broke up in air

### Wings and tail apparently tore off Comanche

BOISE (AP) — A small plane that crashed earlier this week in southern Idaho apparently broke up in flight, an investigator with the National Transportation Safety Board says.

Another pilot flying a sec-

ond aircraft said the pilot who crashed reported he was cold because the door was not fully latched, and was considering landing in Mountain Home to close it.

NTSB investigator Tom Little said the wings and tail appear to have broken off the 1965 Piper Aircraft PA-24 Comanche in the air.

"It happens if a plane is overstressed," Little said Thursday, declining to elaborate.

Little said weather did not

appear to be a factor in the crash late Sunday that killed Craig Jewett, 41, of Centerville, Utah.

Jewett had recently bought the plane from a southwestern Idaho man and was flying it back to Utah.

He and another pilot, Warren Kenner, flew to Idaho on Sunday in Kenner's single-engine Cherokee to pick up Jewett's plane.

See **PLANE**, Main 2



NATE POPPINO/Times-News

Workers add to a liquid-waste lagoon at the Dry Creek Dairy on Thursday, as seen from 3000 North Road.

## Twin Falls County examines waste lagoon at Murtaugh dairy

By Nate Poppino  
Times-News writer

MURTAUGH — Twin Falls County officials say they are investigating a dairy southwest of Murtaugh for its attempt to deal with excess animal waste.

Dry Creek Dairy, owned by Luis Bettencourt, appears to be expanding its liquid-waste lagoon beyond what's allowed in its special-use permit, Planning and Zoning Administrator Rick Dunn said Thursday.

Confined-animal feeding operations are allowed to repair or modify existing lagoons as needed, he said.

But adjustments the size of Dry Creek's — as much as 50 acres of new lagoon in an area slated for composting — have to go through the permitting process.

The county received a complaint on Feb. 9 and has since asked Bettencourt for more information about what he's doing, as well as notified the Idaho State Department of Agriculture.

Several construction vehicles could be seen pushing dirt around north of the dairy's main buildings on Thursday. But Joe Brasil, who oversees cows and waste management for Bettencourt's facilities south

of the Snake River, said the work isn't a new lagoon so much as a safety precaution.

The dairy was a little behind in emptying its holding ponds before winter set in, he said. About four feet of snowfall in late December coincided with the facility's digester breaking down, leading to full holding ponds and runoff issues. To avoid any more problems, he said, workers are adding to a banked area to control it.

Brasil emphasized that the dairy will be more careful this fall.

See **DAIRY**, Main 2

## Day of Remembrance commemorates unjust Japanese detentions in WWII

By Jesse Washington  
Associated Press writer

Kristine Minami was in college before she learned that her father, grandmother and uncle had been essentially jailed by the U.S. government for the crime of being Japanese.

The detention of 120,000 Japanese-Americans during World War II was not dis-

cussed in Minami's household. She learned about it in the 1980s through the National Day of Remembrance, which was observed around the country Thursday.

There was no ceremony, however, at the site of the Minidoka Relocation Center in Jerome County, where more than 10,000 Japanese-Americans were interned.

Minami's discovery led to a greater understanding of her culture — and herself. Many hope the Day of Remembrance will also lead to greater understanding that Americans come in all types of packages.

"It got me more interested in my history and my roots," said Minami, who grew up in

See **CAMPS**, Main 2



Comics .....Classifieds 12  
Commodities ....Business 2  
Community .....Business 3

Crossword ....Classifieds 2  
Dear Abby .....Classifieds 4  
Movies ....Entertainment 2

Obituaries .....Business 5  
Opinion .....Main 6  
Sudoku .....Classifieds 6

**AFTERNOON WITH A DANCING QUEEN**  
Instructor shares passion > **Entertainment 1**

# MORNING BRIEFING



## Pat's Picks ... Pat Marcantonio

Three things to do today

- The Community School presents "Clarence Darrow," a play about the famous lawyer, today through Saturday at the nexStage Theatre, 120 S. Main St., Ketchum. Tickets are \$5, and the show starts at 7:30 p.m. Reservations: 622-3960, ext. 164.
- Tony-nominated singer and actress Emily Skinner performs as part of the Mini-

Cassia Community Concerts season at 7:30 p.m. at the King Fine Arts Center, 2100 Parke Ave., Burley. No individual tickets are sold at the door. Season membership prices are \$40 for adults, \$20 for students and \$110 for families. Information: 678-1798 or 678-7447.

- And you can dance, dance, dance at the Disabled

American Veterans Auxiliary's public dance at 8 p.m. at the DAV Hall, 459 Shoup Ave., Twin Falls. A \$2 donation is requested.

*Have your own pick you want to share? Something that is unique to the area and that may take people by surprise? E-mail me at patm@magicvalley.com.*

## TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

### ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

"Clarence Darrow," based on Irving Stone's "Clarence Darrow for the Defense" presented by The Community School, 7 p.m., nexStage Theatre, 120 S. Main St., Ketchum, tickets: \$20 for adults and \$5 for youth, proceeds to benefit nexStage, 726-4857.

**Emily Skinner in performance**, third event of Mini-Cassia Community Concerts season, 7:30 p.m., King Fine Arts Center, 2100 Parke Ave., Burley, admission by season membership: \$40 for adults, \$20 for students and \$110 for families; individual concert tickets: \$20, 678-1798 or 678-7447.



**Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary public dance**, 8 p.m., DAV Hall, 459 Shoup Ave., Twin Falls, \$2 donation, 734-5208.

**Educator Night for "Souvenir: A Fantasia on the Life of Florence Foster Jenkins"** by Stephen Temperley presented by Company of Fools and Barksdale Theatre, 8 p.m., Liberty Theatre, 110 N. Main St., Hailey, tickets: \$10 for currently employed educators and school administrators (limit two per person), 578-9122.

### CHURCH EVENT

"Parenting Families from Me to We," a three-week, free parenting workshop hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church for anyone who works or lives with children; other dates: Feb. 27, March 6, 6:30 p.m., at the church, 909 Eighth St., Rupert, no cost, refreshments provided, 436-3413 to register.

### CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

**Burley Lions Club**, noon, Morey's Steakhouse, 219 E. Third St. N., 878-7235.

**Members of the Twin Falls High School graduating class of 1947 no-host lunch**, open to all 1947 classmates, 1 p.m., Jaker's, 1598 Blue Lakes Blvd. N., Twin Falls, 733-7410 or 420-9435.

### EDUCATION/SPORTS

**Soccer Association E-License Course**, includes systems of play, laws and restarts, more games and exercises for practices, more tactical ideas, including the tactics of "2 versus 1 situations" and more on goalkeeping, 5 to 9 p.m., Twin Falls High School, \$65 IYSA members and \$95 non-members, 208-316-7005 or twinfallsrapids@yahoo.

### EXHIBITS

"Domestic Life" exhibition, multidisciplinary project on the financial and time investments spent on homes, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun Valley Center for the Arts, 191 Fifth St. E., Ketchum, no cost, sunvalleycenter.org or 726-9491.

"June," an installation by Wood River Valley artist Pamela DeTunco, noon to 5 p.m., The Center, 314 S. Second Ave., Hailey, no cost, sunvalleycenter.org or 726-9491.

**New work by Twin Falls sculptor Yvonne Jacques**, noon to 5 p.m., Magic Valley Arts Council's La Galeria Pequena, 132 Main Ave. S., Main Street Plaza, Twin Falls, free admission, 734-2787 or Magicvalleyartscouncil.org.

**Photographs and art by Carl Pulsifer and Joyce Deford**, noon to 5 p.m., The Eighth Street Center, 200 N. Eighth St., Buhl, no cost, 543-5417.

### GOVERNMENT

**Twin Falls County commissioners**, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068.

### HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**SilverSneakers Fitness Program at Curves of Twin Falls**, complete cardio and circuit training with resistance, state-of-the-art equipment and "Curves Smart" personalized coaching, 5:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Twin Falls Curves, 690 Blue Lakes Blvd. N., no cost for Humana Gold-insured or AARP provided by Secure Horizons, 734-7300.

**College of Southern Idaho's Over 60 and Getting Fit** programs, a guided walking workout with stretching and gentle resistance training, 9 to 10 a.m. at several Magic Valley loca-

tions: Blaine County Campus gym, CSI gym, Gooding ISDB gym, Jerome Rec Center, Rupert Civic gym and Shoshone High School (old gym); and 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at CSI Burley Outreach Center gym, no cost, 732-6475.

**Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class**, 10 to 11 a.m., Blaine County Senior Connection, 721 S. Third Ave., Hailey, no cost, 737-5988.

**Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class**, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Ageless Senior Citizens, Inc., 310 Main St. N., Kimberly, no cost, 737-5988.

**SilverSneakers Fitness Program**, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Jerome Senior Center, 212 First Ave. E. no cost for Humana Gold Choice members, \$1 for non-Humana members, 324-5642.

**Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class**, 11 to 11:45 a.m., Oakley Fire Station, 315 E. Main St., Oakley, no cost, 737-5988.

**Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class**, 1:30 p.m., front lounge, Woodstone Assisted Living Facility, 491 Caswell Ave. W., Twin Falls, no cost, 737-5988.

**Celebrate Recovery**, based on the 12 steps and eight biblical principles, 7 p.m., Cafe Agape, Lighthouse Christian Fellowship, 960 Eastland Dr., Twin Falls, 737-4667.

**Celebrate Recovery**, a place to learn life-affirming, healthy behaviors, 7 p.m., Fireside Room of the Nazarene Fellowship Hall at Yakima and Main streets, Filer, 734-0557.

**Al-Anon/Alateen** family groups, to help friends and families of alcoholics, hot-line: 1-866-592-3198.

### HOME AND GARDEN

**Southern Idaho Home and Garden Show**, features over 100 home-improvement booths including new home construction, remodeling, spas, gardens and landscaping; also financing professionals, food court and special Kimberly Nursery showcase on sustainable "Green Products," 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Eldon Evans Expo Center, College of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls, admission: \$3 for adults and no cost for children under age 12, 208-737-6008 or 208-737-6004.

### LIBRARY

**Burley Public Library Storytime**, with stories, rhyme, song and a small craft for toddlers, preschoolers and their caregiver, 10:30 a.m., Burley Public Library, 1300 Miller Ave., no cost, 878-7708.

**Family Storytime**, 11 a.m., Jerome Public Library, 208-324-5427.

### MUSEUMS AND PARKS

**Faulkner Planetarium "Bad Astronomy: Myths and Misconceptions"** at 7 p.m., Herrett Center, \$4.50 for adults, \$3.50 for senior citizens, \$2.50 for students, no cost for children under age 2 and a special price package for families with five children or less; and **Rock Entertainment Show: "Led Zeppelin: Maximum Volume 1"** at 8:15 p.m., Herrett Center for Arts and Science, north end of the College of Southern Idaho campus, Twin Falls, \$4.50, 732-6655.

### TODAY'S DEADLINES

**Fasting reminder for Feb. 21 Health fair**, free blood-pressure readings and reasonably priced lab tests (\$6.50 for basic cholesterol/triglyceride test; \$7 for complete metabolic profile of the blood and \$10 for TSH test and for PSA test for men), 7 to 10 a.m., Holy Trinity Episcopal Parish Hall, 909 Maple St., Buhl, 12-hour fast recommended for accurate lab results; complimentary coffee, juice and muffins available after blood draw, 543-4995.

**Deadline for submission of completed permission and health form for Feb. 28 Bereavement Day Camp**, age-appropriate activities led by trained counselors and mentors hosted by Kids Count, Too, Inc.; for any child between age six and 16 who has experienced loss of a loved one, 8:45 a.m. to 5 p.m., Boys & Girls Club, Frontier Road, Twin Falls, no cost with lunch and snacks provided, 736-0900, 316-0358 or 404-3210.

**To have an event listed**, please submit the name of the event, a brief description, time, place, cost and contact number to Suzanne Browne by e-mail at sbrowne@magicvalley.com; by fax, 734-5538; or by mail, Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548. Deadline is noon, four days in advance of the event.

## WHAT'S NEW AT MAGICVALLEY.COM



**WATCH:** See a rehearsal from JuMP Co.'s newest production, "Kokonut Kapers." And check out a slideshow on a day in the life of dance instructor Trina Ciocca.



**School closures**  
Find out which schools are closed for weather online at [Magicvalley.com](http://Magicvalley.com)



**Snowpack levels**  
SEASONAL PERCENTAGE  

Watershed	% of Avg.	peak
Salmon	80%	58%
Big Wood	72%	54%
Little Wood	79%	58%
Big Lost	77%	54%
Little Lost	82%	56%
Henrys Fork/Teton	80%	59%
Upper Snake Basin	91%	66%
Oakley	84%	64%
Salmon Falls	97%	73%

 As of Feb. 19

Go to [Magicvalley.com](http://Magicvalley.com) to find a ski report at the Snow Center.

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**PUBLISHER**  
Brad Hurd ..... 735-3345

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Editor James G. Wright ..... 735-3255  
News tips before 5 p.m. .... 735-3246  
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# Dairyman files second Twin Falls appeal

## Machado seeks review of dairy expansion denial

By Nate Poppino  
Times-News writer

A man seeking to expand his western Twin Falls County dairy will again plead his case to the county commissioners, they confirmed Tuesday.

Mal Machado, whose Providence Dairy sits within a one-mile setback along Salmon Falls Creek Canyon southwest of Buhl, applied last year for a variance to expand

the operation but was turned down by the county Planning and Zoning Commission in June. County commissioners found in November that the P&Z likely voted without a quorum and sent the matter back for another hearing. But Machado was again turned down in January, as before by just one vote.

Now, he's again appealed the decision to the county commissioners, who serve as

the appeal board for P&Z decisions.

The dairyman currently leases the six-acre facility, but has agreements to buy it and join it with 154 acres of farmland next door. In the process, he would expand from 200 milking cows to 420 and bring 60 dry cows and 467 heifers already associated with the dairy onto the site. The changes likely wouldn't happen for two years.

It's not clear what reasoning Machado will argue this time around. His attorney, John Lothspeich, declined comment on his pending filing on Wednesday. But the dairyman's new appeal could end

up being similar to his first one, only one piece of which dealt with the quorum issue.

Lothspeich also argued then that the P&Z didn't follow its own standards of review for granting variances — writing among other issues that the variance is in line with the county's comprehensive plan and that denying it will affect the dairy's current operations, contrary to the P&Z's opinion.

Commissioners stopped short of addressing those issues in the previous appeal, declaring them moot after ruling on the lack of a quorum.

January's discussion touched on the same issues. In

fact, most people present — including P&Z members and the general public — seemed to agree with one of Lothspeich's arguments, that denying the variance would cause the dairy's demise several years down the road. County staff and the four P&Z members opposing the variance said, however, that the facility wouldn't suffer "undue hardship," in part because Machado doesn't own the land.

County commissioners won't hear the appeal for several weeks. They voted Tuesday to extend the filing deadline for Machado and the Planning and Zoning Department, giving them more time to compile the transcript of the hearing and file their briefs.

Nate Poppino may be reached at 208-735-3237 or [npoppino@magicvalley.com](mailto:npoppino@magicvalley.com).

## You don't say

Steve Crump



## She's sexy, redheaded and will (soon) be back on basic cable

The good news is that Twin Falls' most famous *femme fatale*, Christina Hendricks, will return on basic cable this summer ... The bad news is that nobody's sure you'll even recognize her series, "Mad Men."

That's because that while AMC has announced the drama series about a Scotch-soaked, libidinous New York City advertising agency in the 1960s will come back for a third 13-week season, its creator, Matt Weiner, hasn't signed a contract yet ...

Weiner, one of the creative forces behind "The Sopranos," talked AMC into taking a flier on "Mad Men" in 2007 ... It became a critical hit, winning three Golden Globes and six Emmys ... Hendricks was nominated for a Golden Globe Award last year ...

A 33-year-old Virginia native who lived in Twin Falls from third grade through junior high school, Hendricks has a hard-to-ignore role in "Mad Men:" Joan Holloway, the fiery red-haired office manager at Sterling Cooper, a Madison Avenue ad agency ...

As head of the secretarial pool, Joan mentors the office's secretaries ... She had a long-term affair with Roger Sterling until two heart attacks caused him to abandon adultery ... Hendricks' character is now engaged by a jealous, physically abusive doctor ...

In fewer than 10 years in Hollywood, the former Junior Musical Playhouse starlet ("Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat") has appeared on "E.R.," "Cold Case," "Without a Trace," "The Court," "Life," "Beggars and Choosers" and "Las Vegas," among other credits ...

Before that, she was an international model in New York City and London, with his face and form appearing in *Elle*, *Harper's Bazaar* and *People* ...

It's a living ...

## Stand and deliver

If it's odd, poignant, weird, sad or funny and it happens in south-central Idaho, I want to hear about it. Call me at 735-3223, or write [scrump@magicvalley.com](mailto:scrump@magicvalley.com).

RODNEY ATKINS will open the Twin Falls County Fair this summer on Wednesday, Sept. 2, in Filer, and the fair board has added a second arena concert for Sunday, Sept. 6, featuring Idaho's Reckless Kelly ...

Atkins, a 39-year-old Tennessean who performed in Twin Falls in 2007, is best known for the country ballads "Honesty," "If You're Going Through Hell," "Watching You," "These Are My People" and "Cleaning This Gun" ...

Reckless Kelly consists of two of Muzzie Braun's sons, Cody and Willy, along with guitarist Casey Pollock, bassist Chris Schelske and drummer Jay Nazz ... Now based in Austin, the band has become something of a Texas-roots institution ...

Before that, of course, there was Muzzie Braun and the Boys, a family country swing act that traveled the West in a Champion Motor Coach ...

Steve Crump is the Times-News Opinion editor.

## N. Idaho lawmaker wants state gov. checkbook online

By Jared S. Hopkins  
Times-News writer

BOISE — A north Idaho legislator wants to put Idaho's state government expenses on an online searchable database modeled after the federal program set up by President Obama when he was a U.S. senator.

Rep. Phil Hart, R-Athol, introduced "The Taxpayer Transparency Act" on Thursday to the House State Affairs Committee to create a database of all state government spending, including advisory commissions. It would be administered by the state controller's office and would add more openness to government, he said. It would not lead to the release of private information like state worker personnel records.

"It would be the radar," Hart said. "It would create more visibility."

Hart said the legislation is essentially two parts, and the \$250,000 estimated to purchase software and pay staff wouldn't be spent unless the state found the money.

He said the amount could be less but conceded he hasn't consulted with state budget writers.

Still, Hart said the bill could lead to long-term savings and said a similar mechanism in Texas yielded around \$4.8 million in savings.

Hart said 18 states currently post their "checkbooks" online, and five are in the process of passing leg-

## See it today

Reporter Jared S. Hopkins will be on Idaho Public television tonight at 8 p.m. for a legislative forum.

islation to do so.

Democrats, all of whom voted against introducing the measure, said they liked the idea but were concerned about its funding in the current economic climate.

"This is a great bill but it scares me to death," said Rep. Anne Pasley-Stuart, D-Boise said. "That's a lot of money and we don't have it."

Republicans echoed similar concerns but voted to print the bill with the hope that more information will be available at a hearing.

"The more transparency we have in state government the better," said Rep. Raul Labrador, R-Eagle.

## Myron & Sandy Schroeder



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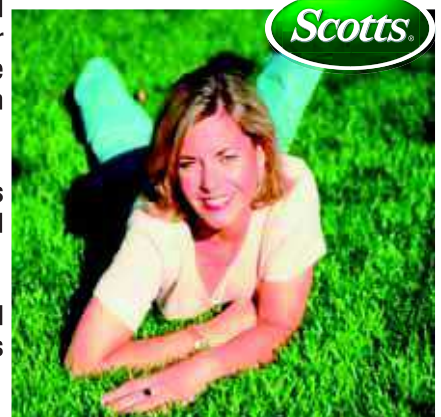
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## Business Highlight

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Saturday, February 21st 10:00am-8:00pm  
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# Blaine County officials hear from expert on airport governance

By Ariel Hansen  
Times-News writer

KETCHUM — Though a new airport to replace Friedman Memorial in Hailey is likely still a long way off, elected officials in Blaine County are already planning for that future.

On Wednesday, representatives from the cities and the county met in Ketchum to hear from a lawyer who specializes in airport governance, to gather information about possible ways to structure a governance board for the replacement airport.

Daniel Reimer, of Colorado-based Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell, was

“You may end up throwing a very expensive party that no one wants to attend.”

— Jay Hagenbuch, co-owner of a charter jet, about the possibility of the county driving away high-end airport users

brought to the meeting by the Friedman Airport Authority.

He didn't make any specific recommendations, but the elected officials said the background he provided will be invaluable.

Among the issues they discussed was who should be represented on a governance board. Friedman does — and presumably the replacement airport will — have commercial flights as well as general

aviation flights, which are unscheduled. The officials recognize that input from both user groups will be needed.

Jay Hagenbuch, who co-owns a charter jet, said there also needs to be representation for high-end users who own their own planes but want to remain low-profile. These users may choose rival resort towns if it becomes too difficult to get to the Sun Valley area, he warned.

“You may end up throwing a very expensive party that no one wants to attend,” Hagenbuch said.

Ketchum City Councilman Charles Conn said that while he agrees that votes on the governance board shouldn't be based on money, the economic engines that drive the north county are critical to the vitality of the county as a whole.

“We have to figure out what we can do to not make

ourselves less attractive,” he said.

Many of his constituents say they haven't heard good arguments for why the current airport can't be improved, or why its replacement can't be located closer to the north end of the county, he said. “Those things haven't been well enough

understood by critical people up here for us to steamroll into any decisions.”

The blue ribbon commission on airport governance is scheduled to meet again on March 4 in Hailey.

Ariel Hansen may be reached at 208-788-3475 or ahansen@magicvalley.com.

## AROUND THE VALLEY

### Big Sky Farms appeal moves ahead

A judicial appeal of a Jerome County confined-animal feeding operation's permit is moving along, with a March 16 hearing planned to settle the record of the county's decision.

Meanwhile, one of the groups that brought the challenge, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, issued a statement Thursday listing the issues it says the site still faces on the 67th anniversary of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's decision to send thousands of Japanese Americans to internment camps — including the Hunt Camp, just more than one mile from the CAFO's location.

The camp has been on the trust's list of 11 most-endangered historic places since 2007.

The statement listed the CAFO as a major concern, along with a lack of visitor services currently at the site. Congress acted last year to expand the Minidoka National Historic Site.

### Idaho Power begins replacing power meters

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission has approved a plan to upgrade Idaho Power Co.'s power meters throughout southern Idaho.

The PUC announced Tuesday that it sent “an urgent directive” to the company about the three-year project, which will install automated meters with advanced options at all customer locations. They will be able to be read remotely and should give customers more information about their power usage.

Idaho Power has estimated the cost of the project at \$71 million and will absorb any costs above that, according to the PUC release. Rates will gradually increase over

the three years to cover the cost as the meters come online.

Installation is set to begin this year in the Boise area and will reach the Magic Valley in 2011.

### State to receive \$4M in homelessness funds

Idaho will receive more than \$4 million this year from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for housing and support services for the homeless.

Grants from the federal agency will provide \$926,135 for the Boise area, while the rest of the state will share about \$3.1 million in both Continuum of Care and Emergency Shelter grants.

The money will fund programs for both families and individuals in Twin Falls, Pocatello, Idaho Falls and other communities.

Among other recipients, Magic Valley Transitional Housing will get roughly \$49,500, and Twin Falls Transitional Housing will get

about \$44,200.

A press release quoted HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan as saying the grants represent “a critical lifeline” for victims of home foreclosures or job layoffs.

— Staff reports

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# Idaho universities look to get stimulus dollars

BOISE (AP) — Idaho colleges that want a piece of the \$1 billion economic stimulus money headed Idaho's way will have to submit proposals to the state's Division of Financial Management by noon on March 4.

The agency will review those proposals and, by March 19, make recommendations to an Executive Stimulus Committee appointed by Gov. C.L.

"Butch" Otter.

Potential campus projects will be identified by a 15-member task force created by Idaho State University. Task force members, who were recently notified of their selection, include university vice presidents, students, faculty members and staff, with each assigned to review a certain portion of the stimulus bill.

"A lot of people have some

stiff homework assignments," said James Fletcher, ISU's vice president of finance and administration.

Fletcher noted that stimulus projects must spur job creation, and that Otter has requested that the proposals not result in a future financial burden to the state.

"ISU will spare no effort, and we'll turn over every rock to make sure we maximize all of the benefits of this bill,

both for the university and for the state of Idaho," Fletcher said.

Making a trip through northern Idaho, Rep. Walt Minnick, D-Idaho, said he would work to make sure the University of Idaho receives money from the stimulus package that he voted against.

"I told them I will do anything I can to facilitate that, and when they get their list

together make sure they receive fair consideration by the granting agencies," he said.

Minnick said the state should rely on existing agencies, such as the State Board of Education, to distribute the money.

"We don't want to spend six months developing procedures, and another six months appointing commissions," he said. "It's to be

spent, not studied."

Boise State University spokesman Frank Zang said the school has an administrative council that regularly discusses the economic situation and how the school can deal with budget challenges.

"We will work with state officials to determine where we have viable projects that meet the qualifications of the stimulus package," he said.

## JFAC plans meetings on stimulus next week

BOISE (AP) — Idaho budget writers will review the potential effect of the \$787 billion federal stimulus package on Idaho most of next week.

Sen. Dean Cameron, Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee co-chairman, plans an overview of the massive, 1,100-page stimulus bill on Monday, followed by meetings focusing on education and universities Tuesday, the Department of Health and Welfare Thursday, and the Department of Transportation on Friday.

Gov. Otter has said he'll take until at least late March to review the stimulus package and its booty for Idaho, which could be up to \$1 billion over a couple years.

Next week, Idaho lawmakers also plan to review how changes made by the stimulus package to the federal tax code will affect filings in Idaho, including a possible loss of some revenue as the state conforms its laws to the federal government's.

## Decision to privatize prison rests with board

BOISE (AP) — The head of Idaho's Department of Correction says the three-member Board of Correction could have the final say over whether to privatize the prison at Orofino.

Brent Reinke says Idaho's Constitution delegates the power to privatize state-run prisons to the board, and doesn't require the approval of the Idaho Legislature.

His comments came Thursday in response to a question from Sen. Joyce Broadsword, R-Sagle, during a meeting of the Senate's Health and Welfare Committee.

The Correction Department, under the direction of Gov. Otter, is researching the possibility of privatizing the state-run Idaho Correctional Institution at Orofino as a way to save money if the budget picture in 2011 and 2012 doesn't improve.

Otter is a proponent of private prisons; in 2008 the Legislature rebuffed an effort to build a new private prison. However, lawmakers did agree to add 600 more beds to what is currently the only private prison within state borders — the Correction Corp. of America-run Idaho Correction Center south of Boise.

Some lawmakers have voiced concern over any plan that would lead to privatizing the Orofino prison, fearing that state employees there could lose jobs or be forced to work for lower pay and benefits if the facility is handed over to a private company.

Reinke said the department was keeping the Orofino employees well-informed about the process, and said at this point it is still just research — not a request for bids. Still, he said, it would all come down to the budget.



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# OPINION

## QUOTABLE

"This started as a mortgage crisis but it's become a jobs crisis."  
—Housing Secretary Shaun Donovan on the importance of making sure the new home foreclosure initiative succeeds

### EDITORIAL

# How did Jason Smith fall through the cracks?

Imagine you're a parent of small children who picks up the *Terre Haute, Ind., Tribune-Star* this morning and learns that your neighbor is Jason Carrol Smith.

Convicted three times for sexual assault of a minor, this former Twin Falls resident is the type of criminal who violent sexual predator lists were designed to identify.

Indiana authorities know Smith is a sexual criminal, but until Wednesday they believed he had been convicted of statutory rape — a sex crime, to be sure, but one based on the age of a consensual victim.

That's when *Times-News* reporter Andrea Jackson connected the dots for them.

Smith, 33, managed to scrub most of his record by moving to a small central Indiana town in 2007, two years after he was released from prison in Idaho. He registered as a sex offender in Indiana, but that state's public Web site doesn't mention two of the three criminal convictions that earned him a classification as a Violent Sexual Predator in Idaho. That status was dropped last week following an Idaho Supreme Court ruling.

Here's Smith rap sheet:

- In 1990 at the age of 14, Smith raped a 5-year-old Twin Falls boy he was babysitting. He was convicted as a juvenile and put in a three-month sex offender program that took him six months to complete because of his behavior.
- Three years later, Smith admitted to raping another boy. After 30 days in jail he was remanded to state custody until he was 21. Smith's cousin, Pam Henstock, said he raped her son and killed a dog in front of him as a way to frighten the child into keeping the rape secret.
- In 1998, Smith pleaded guilty to raping a 15-year-old girl and went to prison.
- When he was released from prison in 2005, Smith told authorities he raped another boy who was only 5 or 6 years old sometime before 1990. That confession came during a polygraph test, but did not result in criminal charges.

If Jason Smith isn't a dangerous sexual predator, he'll do until the real thing comes along.

In June 2007, Smith informed the state he was moving to Brazil, Ind. According to the Indiana sex offender site, he's now living in Terre Haute.

The sheriff there, who is responsible for adding Smith to his state's Web site, says he doesn't have the staff to do much more than repeat what the new offender in town tells them about his past.

Idaho officials won't say what they told Indiana about Smith. It's up to the receiving state to ask for details.

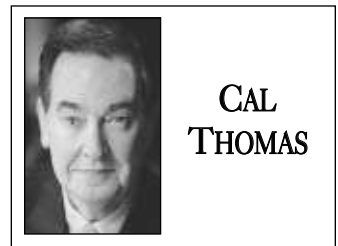
Smith hasn't been arrested for anything in Indiana, but those who know him best — including his own family — say they fear he will attack again.

We sincerely hope children around Terre Haute aren't forced to pay the price for interstate bureaucratic blind spots.

**Our view:** Kids in Indiana could be at risk from a violent former Idaho sexual predator because the system designed to warn their parents failed.

# Time to say goodbye to GM and Chrysler

General Motors made my first car. It was a 1955 two-tone Chevrolet with stick shift and black tires. It had an AM radio and air conditioning, if I hand-cranked the window down in summer. It came with bench seats, the better to have your date close to you. I bought it used (this was before cars were "pre-owned") in 1961. My Dad co-signed the \$750 note, which I paid.



CAL THOMAS

Those were the days when you could fill up for pocket change. Somewhere I have old Esso receipts that show a full tank of regular gas cost me \$3.

Chevrolet, Buick, Pontiac and Cadillac were the mainstays of GM, as Fairlane, Crestline Skyliner, Falcon and later Galaxie were for Ford, some of which I would own as an adult. I would also own some Chrysler products, so I have contributed to the profits of all the "Big Three."

Ford is fending for itself without a bailout from Washington, but GM and Chrysler have filed their restructuring proposals with the government in order to receive additional billions to keep them solvent. On Tuesday, GM received the final \$4 billion on a \$13.4 billion federal commitment. Chrysler, also getting \$4 billion, has already requested an additional \$3 billion. The money is conditioned on GM and Chrysler coming up with comprehensive restructuring plans that will prove to the government that they have made "aggressive" progress since they pleaded with lawmakers last



December for financial aid. Members of Congress told the company CEOs that everyone had to make sacrifices, including management, unions, suppliers, investors and bondholders.

Here's a better idea: Let them die a slow death, with the emphasis on slow. Tell workers (management always seems to land on its feet) that they have a fixed amount of time to look for new jobs. Government will help them with training and education, but government cannot prop up companies that no longer make products people want to buy in large enough numbers for them to remain profitable.

There are many reasons the car companies are in trouble, all of which have been reported in the major media, but that is the past and it is way too late in the game to do much about guaranteed pensions and health care that ended up crippling GM, even after the company successfully negotiated with UAW members to decrease retirement benefits, which, honestly, is a little like quitting smoking after being diagnosed with lung cancer.

Some of the cars of my childhood are no more. Kaiser-Frazier was the biggest postwar challenger to the Big Three. Models included the 1949 Kaiser Custom Vagabond, the 1948 Frazer Manhattan four-door sedan, the Dragon sedans and Henry J coupes. In 1970, Kaiser, then known as the Kaiser Jeep Corporation, was sold to American Motors Corporation.

Other auto companies either went out of business or were bought. These included Packard ("ask the man who owns one"), Studebaker ("first by far with a postwar car"), and Hudson, which began making cars in 1909 and, like other automobile companies, in early 1942 was ordered by the U.S. government to stop making passenger cars and concentrate exclusively on fulfilling war contracts. In 1954, Hudson eventually merged with Nash-Kelvinator to become American Motors, a company that lasted in one form or another until 1987 when Chrysler gobbled it up.

None of these companies (and many more before

them and after with names such as Tucker, DeLorean and Duesenberg) received government bailouts. If they couldn't sell their products at a profit, they either sold out, or went bust. People who worked for them found other jobs. No one starved to death.

Americans have benefited from capitalism. Our government should not be undermining an economic system that has produced more prosperity for its citizens than any nation on Earth. It cannot forever prop up companies that make products not enough people wish to buy. If a growing number of people prefer cars not produced by GM and Chrysler, how will a government rescue plan make them more likely to buy them?

The "going out of business sale" sign should go up now. Taxpayers should not be expected to underwrite dying companies, unless we get a free car for our money. But that only happens on "Oprah."

Syndicated columnist Cal Thomas can be reached at [tmseeditors@tribune.com](mailto:tmseeditors@tribune.com).

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Lawmakers need Bill of Rights lesson

Isn't it amazing that once people get into politics they forget what we all learned in grammar school?

"Congress shall pass no laws infringing on the freedom of speech," is a portion of the Bill of Rights to be enjoyed by every citizen. Simple and straightforward, unless, of course, you are a legislator.

Perhaps we should require them all to take a course in common sense and reading. KENT CRAMER  
Twin Falls

### Despite differences, office holders deserve respect

To those letter-to-the-editor writers who like to use gutter language to try to express their contempt for members of our govern-

### Tell us what you think

**ON PAPER:** The *Times-News* welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Please limit letters to 300 words. Include your signature, mailing address and phone number. Writers who sign letters with false names will be permanently barred from publication. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls office; mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to [letters@magicvalley.com](mailto:letters@magicvalley.com).

ment, I'd just like to say that we owe our national leaders more respect than that.

Words like "stupid" and "idiots" have no place in reference to those who are in charge of our country. And, though the name-callers won't admit it, not everyone that disagrees with their beliefs is an idiot!

I am not a backer of Mr. Obama, but I respect the office he has been given. I don't think he and his party are on the right track with the bailout, and there are a lot of well-educated, well-

informed economists that have their doubts, also. But I pray every day that what they are doing will save our country.

To the *Times-News* staff: Thank you for printing both liberal and conservative articles. I appreciate being able to read both sides each day.

And last, to Steve Crump: No, you're not Pat McManus, but don't let that stop you. I enjoy your humor columns.

JOHN LEARD  
Kimberly

### A toll road could help pay for highway repairs

I agree with your Feb. 9 editorial that now is always a good time to fix our highways if possible.

However, the increased gas tax of 5 cents might be a real problem for many of us right now with the huge, unnecessary depression facing us.

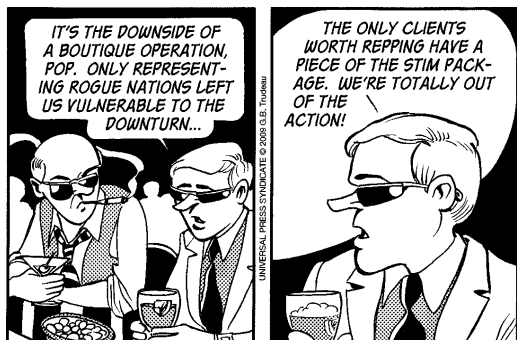
A possible workable solution might be a 2 or 3 cent tax now, and then begin fast work to make I-90 and I-84 into toll roads since they are used by so many from other states.

Many states in the East have tolls on their interstates, and I actually enjoy using them. They are usually well-maintained and the cost is worth it.

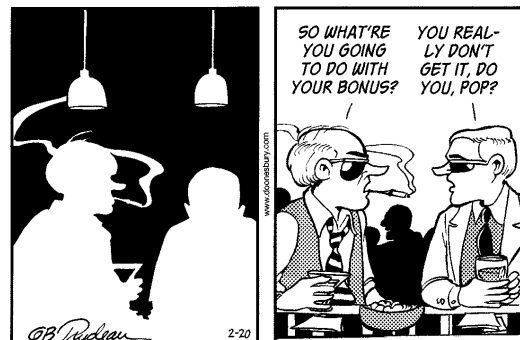
Just an idea.  
LINDA PITTMAN  
Twin Falls

## THE LIGHTER SIDE OF POLITICS

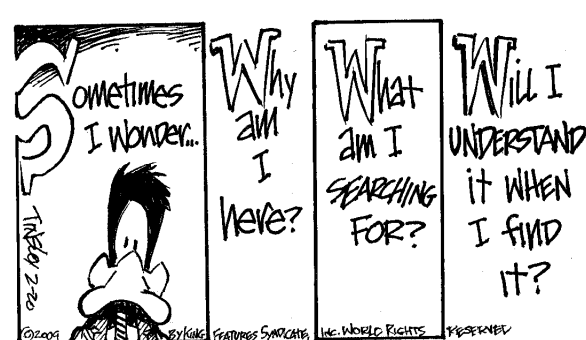
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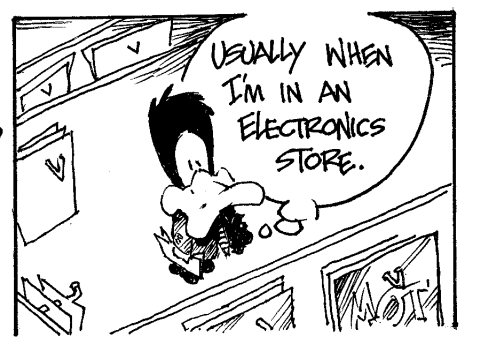
By Garry Trudeau



### Mallard Fillmore



By Bruce Tinsley



## TIMES-NEWS

Brad Hurd . . . publisher Steve Crump . . . Opinion editor

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brad Hurd, James G. Wright, Steve Crump, Bill Bitzenburg and Ruth S. Pierce.

# There's frugal, and then there's crazy

Hard times produce neurotic behavior. There's nothing neurotic, of course, about the brute fear that consumes parents with three children who have both lost their jobs. There is nothing neurotic about trading down from meat to SpaghettiOs for dinner, or staging a family vacation in the backyard. Nothing neurotic, in short, about doing what you have to do to get by.

But there is something neurotic about people who are not in extremis eating lentils and roadside greens to prove some point.

People living comfortably who suddenly embrace the current fad of eating little, spending less, and crow about it. What we have here is a calorie race to the bottom. What we have here is overreaction.

The party was over last year, but it became official in January, when the strange and famous clothing designer Karl Lagerfeld famously announced to the BBC, "Bling is over."

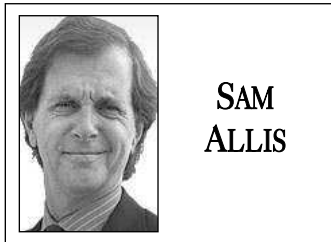
It's time, he said, for modesty. I'm all for modesty. I have no choice because I don't have the dough to live otherwise.

But the gap between modesty and extremism is huge.

The new hyperfrugality we read and hear about is the new Botox. It's a trend that will be hot until something else comes along, as collagen did for all those women who wanted clown lips. Maybe driving at 7 miles an hour will become hip, who knows?

Whenever this crisis ends, prepare to watch a disturbing number of people return at warp speed to Angus beef and yellow fin tuna.

There lurks a dark joy among simple-life true believers, who planned ahead for hard times and were ridiculed for doing so. They have no time now for those who couldn't be both.



SAM ALLIS

They watch with wry amusement as the rest of us face collapse.

I have a friend who has lived a very simple life for decades. Much of what he ate he grew. He's always scoffed at large consumption. He was on an austere energy program long before it was cool — no running water while doing the dishes, things like that.

I remember him telling me back in the late '70s that he wouldn't mind a crash. Americans must experience it, he said, before they can find balance in their lives.

Speaking of extremist behavior, an article in *The New York Times* last week caught my eye. It was about lunatic people who have unplugged their refrigerators in the name of energy efficiency.

As best as I can get it, they survive with a small freezer in the basement and a steady rotation of ice water bottles from said basement freezer toted up into the dead refrigerator in the kitchen to keep it cool enough to preserve some foods. Meat for hungry mouths? Try Wendy's.

This whole thing is nuts. It has far less to do with survival in hard times than it does in trumpeting extremism in the name of energy savings. I know a lot of serious environmentalists who would blanch at the thought of losing their refrigerators. Think of a family of five eating two or three meals a day sans refrigerator. Powdered milk, anyone?

Other suggestions I've stumbled on include: using 20-watt bulbs at your desk

(I'd go blind.) Use cold water in the washing machine. (Sometimes.) Cook small items in the microwave instead of the oven. (Like a veal chop?)

I'm also reading that you can cut your electric bill significantly if you unplug in the morning all of the passive energy eaters — TV, computer, toaster, microwave, coffee machine — and plug them back in the evening when you need them. Are most Americans going to unplug and replug all of them every day? What part of "no" don't you understand?

It goes on. A guy named Jeff Yeager, whom Matt Lauer called "The Ultimate Cheapskate" on "The Today Show," is riding high, wide, and handsome these days. He has been living insanely close to the bone for years, and now, proud as punch, stands as a guru to the herd of neophyte Scrooges. His diet is based on massive consumption of lentils, which he calls "the perfect food." Rock on, Jeff.

I have a friend who frequents a boot exchange.

He can easily afford new hiking boots but checks out the used men's hiking boots because he's cheap.

I actually harbor some sympathy for the well heeled who have taken the big fall. They've developed a brave new vocabulary to explain their new plight. To wit: "It feels great to be living in only one house again." And: "There's nothing wrong with public school for the kids."

And: "We never used the third car anyway."

Look, we all need to cut consumption and live moderate lives. People have been ready to change for ages. But we shouldn't lurch from one extreme to the other either. That's called crazy.

Sam Allis is a columnist for the *Boston Globe*. Write to him at [allis@globe.com](mailto:allis@globe.com).

# ACORN and Obama are together again

Fresh off the trillion-dollar porkulus bill signing in Denver, President Obama immediately launched into his next New Raw Deal expansion: a massive mortgage entitlement program forcing lenders to refinance at an initial cost of \$50 billion to \$100 billion. That's in addition to the bipartisan-supported \$50 billion in the "stimulus" bill to bail out homeowners underwater on their mortgages and the \$2 billion in "neighborhood stabilization" funds to alleviate the foreclosure crisis.

In tandem with the White House Bad Borrowers Bailout, Obama's old friends at the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN) are launching a new campaign of their own: the "Home Savers" campaign. What a coinky-dinky, huh? As with most of the bully tactics of the radical left-wing group, it ain't gonna be pretty. They are the shock troops on the streets doing the dirty work while the Community Organizer-in-Chief keeps his delicate hands clean.

Trumpets ACORN: "On Feb. 19, ACORN members will launch a new tactic in fighting foreclosures: civil disobedience. Participants in the ACORN Home Savers campaign nationwide will simply refuse to move out of foreclosed homes, or in some cases, will move back in. ACORN homesteaders intend to squat in their homes until a comprehensive, federal solution for people facing foreclosure is put in place."

ACORN's foot soldiers,



MICHELLE MALKIN

funded with your tax dollars, will scream, pound their fists, chain themselves to buildings, padlock the doors and engage in illegal behavior until they get what they want. It's a recipe for anarchy. Threatens Baltimore ACORN's Louis Beverly, who calls himself a "Foreclosure Fighter": "After you've used all your legal options, your last resort is civil disobedience. We're talking about families who have been in their homes 20 or 30 years. People who are assets in the community, who look out for the elderly, who have community associations, and these are the people being kicked out of the community."

We can all sympathize with good folks who can't pay their bills. But as I've said repeatedly in my criticism of the mortgage entitlement mentality embraced by both parties in Washington, home ownership is not a civil right — and neither is home retention. Artificially propping up the housing market will only result in more of the same costly borrow-spend-panic-repeat cycles that got us into this mess in the first place. Failing corporations need to fail. So do failing home borrowers. This is borrowing from frugal renter Peter to pay profligate Paul's home loan.

Now that's the kind of theft that should be the subject of civil disobedience.

Instead, ACORN offices, funded with your tax dollars, are training teams of "Home Savers" — described as "people ready and willing to mobilize on short notice to defend the homesteaders against attempts to evict them." Ready, willing and able to mobilize on short notice because they are either unemployed or employed full time as ACORN shake-down artists.

Guess who's encouraging them to defy the law. Democratic Rep. Marcy Kaptur of Ohio, who told them: "Stay in your homes. If the American people, anybody out there is being foreclosed, don't leave." The housing bullies will be assisted by left-wing propaganda documentarians at the Brave New Foundation, headed up by Hollywood lib Robert Greenwald, who will disseminate sob stories to crank up pressure while Obama pushes his housing entitlement plan.

ACORN has waited three decades for this moment in the sun. And as Obama promised ACORN members at a forum in December 2007, "We're going to be calling all of you in to help us shape the agenda. We're gonna be having meetings all across the country ... so that you have input into the agenda." The moment is nigh. Prepare for lawlessness.

Syndicated columnist Michelle Malkin can be reached at [writemalkin@gmail.com](mailto:writemalkin@gmail.com).

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Hartgen should be praised for Internet legislation

I was offended by the sarcastic and hateful letter by Max D. Hatfield of Dallas, Texas. His letter defamed Rep. Stephen Hartgen for introducing legislation that would make it illegal in Idaho to "use the Internet to annoy, terrify, threaten, intimidate, harass or offend." It is already illegal to do these by telephone, and this bill adds the Internet and email to the prohibition.

Mr. Hatfield obviously thinks that a person has a right to send any kind of hateful, obscene or libelous material to anyone as long as it is done electronically. Material placed on a Web site can spread embarrassing, false and hurtful text and photos to thousands of people in a matter of minutes.

I encourage Mr. Hatfield and everyone else to read the article, "Keyboard Cowards" on Page 61 of the December 2008 edition of *Reader's Digest*. This kind of material is not funny or amusing; it is extremely harmful and can ruin lives.

Mr. Hartgen is to be commended for attempting to protect the citizens of Idaho from this kind of garbage. I will encourage my Idaho representatives to support House Bill 82.

JOHN ELLIS  
Twin Falls

### It's not the time to raise gas tax, registration fees

With Idaho paying unemployment to more than 39,000 people who are out of work, why would you raise the tax on gas and the cost of vehicle registrations?

Compared to a lot of other states, Idaho is low on the vehicle registrations, but we are also low on wages. Did you ever think that maybe the people of Idaho have to eat? How can they look for jobs or do anything else if the taxes in this state keep going up? How about the people who have jobs but have taken cuts in pay to keep their

jobs? They also have to buy gas and groceries. If you haven't noticed, the cost of groceries has not gone down, and with the raise in gas, groceries will probably go up again.

If our state is short on money, maybe it is because our government hasn't taken care of spending wisely. Also, if the state is short of money, what do you think the people of Idaho are, rich?

It seems that only our politicians are rich. Since we pay their gas bills and subsidize the governor's rent (\$4,500 monthly), they have no worries.

JOANNA EHRMANTRAUT  
Twin Falls

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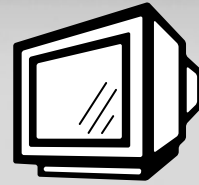
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President Barack Obama and Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper hold a joint news conference Thursday on Parliament Hill in Ottawa, Canada.



AP photo

## Short trip, long agenda

### Obama discusses Afghanistan, trade while in Canada

OTTAWA (AP) — President Barack Obama courted warmer relations with America's snowy northern neighbor Thursday, declining to ask war-weary Canada to do more in Afghanistan, promising he won't allow a protectionist creep into U.S. trade policy and talking reassuringly around thorny energy issues.

Obama-happy crowds cheered Obama's seven-hour visit, his first outside U.S. borders as president, and he returned the compliment with a quick stop at an indoor market where he delighted shopkeepers by picking up pastries and souvenirs for his daughters.

"I love this country and think that we could not have a better friend and ally," Obama said as he appeared side-by-side with Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper at gothic Parliament Hill. He later slipped slightly as he walked to his plane and joked that the weather reminded him of Chicago.

Harper in turn rolled out the red carpet for the new U.S. president. The Conservative leader had been close to President George W. Bush, personally and on policy. But he made clear with subtle jabs backward that he was casting his and his country's lot now with the vastly more popular Obama.

"As we all know, one of President Obama's big mis-

sions is to continue world leadership by the United States of America, but in a way that is more collaborative," Harper said, an apparent reference to Bush's go-it-alone diplomatic style.

Still, rhetorical niceties aside, there are some sharp differences between the U.S. and its largest trading partner and biggest supplier of oil. On several topics, where Obama came armed with reassurances, Harper offered mini-lectures, albeit gently delivered.

On the 7-year-old Afghanistan war, for instance, the Canadian leader said that NATO and U.S. forces fighting a resurgent Taliban insurgency are not "through our own efforts going to establish peace and security in Afghanistan." With Obama's administration undertaking a broad review of the U.S. strategy there, Harper suggested that any new policy "have the idea of an end date, of a transition to Afghan responsibility for security, and to greater Western partnership for economic development."

On Canada's massive oil-rich tar sands, Harper suggested that the kind of emissions regulations that environmentalists would like Obama to support would be unfair, making a comparison to the U.S. coal industry. "It's very hard to have a tough regulatory system here when we are competing with an unregulated economy south of the border," Harper said.

On trade, Obama stuck to his pledge to eventually seek changes in the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement to increase enforcement of labor and

environmental standards — but said he intended to do so in a way "that is not disruptive to the extraordinarily important trade relationships that exist between the United States and Canada."

## Judge orders release of Spitzer wiretap documents

NEW YORK (AP) — The government must release sealed documents that could reveal new details about the origins and scope of the prostitution investigation that brought down former New York Gov. Eliot Spitzer, a judge ordered Thursday.

U.S. District Judge Jed S. Rakoff wrote in federal court in Manhattan that the documents, which were FBI applications for wiretaps, should be unsealed "given the strong and obvious public interest in disclosure." He ordered them released by Tuesday.

Prosecutors, who can appeal the decision, had no immediate comment.

*The New York Times* sued late last year to get access to the documents, which name the 67 people besides Spitzer who were clients of Emperor's Club VIP, a high-end prostitute service. The Times has agreed to allow the government to withhold the names of the customers in the documents.

None of those customers except Spitzer has ever been identified and no client was ever charged.

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Business

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2009

BUSINESS EDITOR JOSHUA PALMER: (208)735-3231 JPALMER@MAGICVALLEY.COM

## 627K new jobless claims; continuing claims near 5 million

### Employers slash highest number of jobs since 1974

By Martin Crutsinger  
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — The number of laid-off workers receiving unemployment benefits has jumped to an all-time high near 5 million while new jobless claims remain well above 600,000. Both figures were worse than expected and new projections from the Federal

Reserve show unemployment rising for the rest of this year.

The Labor Department reported Thursday that the number of people receiving regular unemployment benefits rose 170,000 to 4.99 million for the week ending Feb. 7, marking the fourth straight week those receiving benefits have been at a record level on data going back to 1967.

The continuing claims figure also was significantly above the year-ago level of 2.77 million and underscored the difficulty people are having in this recession

finding another job once they are laid off.

An additional 1.5 million people are receiving benefits under an extended unemployment compensation program approved by Congress last year, bringing the total number of people receiving unemployment benefits to 6.54 million for the week ending Feb. 7.

"The labor market is in disarray," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Economy.com. It's possible that job losses for all of February could total

between 700,000 and 750,000 based on what weekly claims

have done so far this month, he added.

Employers slashed a net total of 598,000 jobs in January, the most since 1974.

In other economic news, wholesale inflation surged unexpectedly in January, according to the Labor Department. Wholesale prices jumped 0.8 percent last month, the biggest gain since July and well above the 0.2 percent increase that economists expected.

The acceleration was led by a 3.7 percent surge in energy prices with gasoline prices jumping 15 percent, the biggest gain in 14

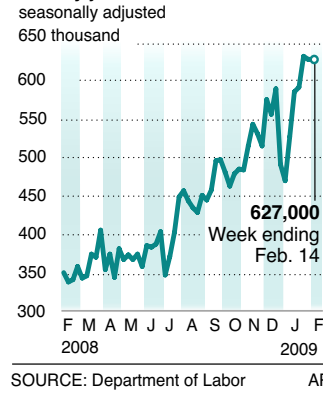
months. Even outside the volatile food and energy sectors, wholesale prices showed a bigger-than-expected increase, rising by 0.4 percent.

The New York-based Conference Board said its January index of leading economic indicators rose 0.4 percent, the second straight monthly gain. Economists expected no change in the index, which forecasts economic activity for the next three to six months based on 10 economic components, including stock prices, building permits and initial claims for unemployment benefits.

### Jobless claims

Initial claims for unemployment benefits remain above 600,000 for the second week of February.

### Weekly jobless claims



## ENSURING HEALTH CARE COVERAGE

### Idaho advocacy group seeks changes to health insurance for small businesses

By Blair Koch  
Times-News correspondent

FILER — At Wayment Manufacturing, Ray Waters has found steady employment and an opportunity to increase specialty skills as a fabricator at the plant that makes everything from prosthetic arm parts to rear-view mirror brackets for old Chevrolet pickup trucks.

The 38-year-old Filer resident enjoys his job but would feel more at ease if he and his family had health insurance coverage.

"My wife has epilepsy and takes prescription medication...which costs \$350 a month. That is all we pay if nothing else goes wrong," he said.

Throw in the occasional doctor or hospital visit, an MRI imaging or blood test and those costs easily result in thousands of dollars in bills. Wayment Manufacturing covered employees' and spouses' health insurance up to about a year ago but had to drop the plan when costs became a burden too great to bear.

"Even with the insurance it helped out a little bit but we didn't have vision or dental coverage. My son had a broken tooth and got braces and to pay for that we got a credit card, \$5,000, and it's maxed out," Waters said. "We pay on that every month, at 19 percent interest."

His boss, Larry Wayment would like to offer his small workforce health benefits, and once did, but the cost made a plan unattainable.

"The costs just outweighed the bene-

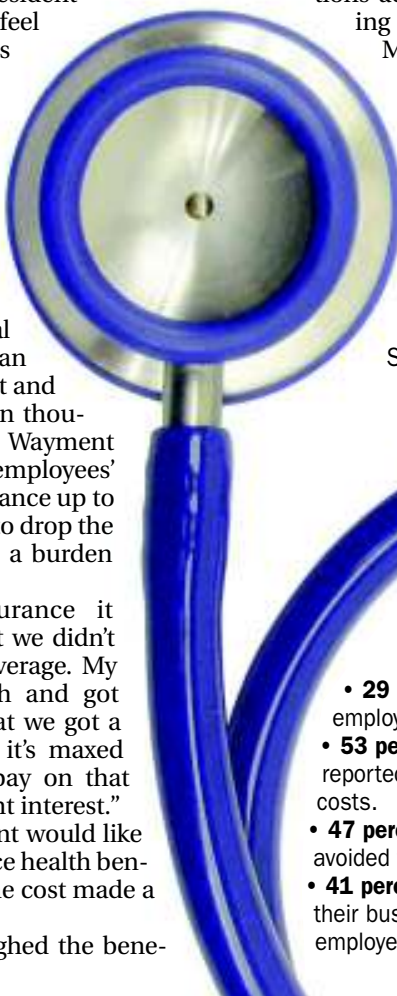
fits. For three employees and two wives I was paying \$1,100 a month. When it was going to cost even more I just couldn't do it anymore," Wayment said.

Wayment's position is far from unique and instead of sitting back he's joined the Idaho Main Street Alliance Small Business Coalition to try and find a solution to the nation's growing health care crisis. The Main Street Alliance has such state coalitions across the country including Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Montana, New Jersey, New York, Oregon and Washington.

The Idaho coalition has picked up over 200 Idaho member businesses since it was organized in September 2008.

Twin Falls' Furniture

See **COVERAGE**, Business 2



### Idaho Main Street Alliance Survey results at a glance:

- **29 percent** of small employers offered coverage to employees.
- **53 percent** of businesses with current or recent coverage reported switching to insurance with higher out-of-pocket costs.
- **47 percent** said they or their employees had delayed or avoided treatment because of health care or insurance costs.
- **41 percent** of businesses without health insurance said their businesses would be more productive if they and their employees were covered.

## T-N parent company Lee Enterprises refinances debt to 2012

### Amends bank principal payments to weather recession

Times-News

DAVENPORT, Iowa — Lee Enterprises, the parent company of the *Times-News* and 48 other daily newspapers, announced Thursday that it concluded agreements with lenders to refinance \$306 million of debt for its subsidiary St. Louis Post-Dispatch LLC and to restructure future payments under its \$1.1 billion bank financing arrangements.

Lee also redeemed 5 percent interest of its minority partner in St. Louis.

The agreements were

made in order to strengthen the company's financial position during the recession.

Lee repaid \$120 million of the principal amount of its \$306 million Pulitzer Notes for St. Louis Post-Dispatch LLC debt due in April using a portion of its restricted cash.

The remaining debt balance of \$186 million has been refinanced by the existing lenders until April 2012.

Under the agreement, \$9 million of restricted cash was retained to facilitate the liquidity of the operations of Pulitzer Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Lee, and its subsidiaries.

Key changes to the bank credit agreement will include restructuring the timing of

See **LEE**, Business 2

## Oil prices surge on report of falling inventories

By Mark Williams  
Associated Press writer

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Oil prices jumped Thursday as new government data showed oil inventories fell unexpectedly and that consumption of gasoline and other petroleum products may be starting to edge higher.

Light, sweet crude for April delivery rose \$1.85 to \$39.26 on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The vast majority of trades have shifted to the April contract with the March contract expiring Friday.

Benchmark crude for March delivery surged 8.4

percent, or \$2.91, to \$37.53.

The Energy Information Administration said crude stocks decreased 200,000 barrels to 350.6 million barrels for the week ended Friday. Analysts had expected stock to grow by 3.5 million barrels, according to Platts, the energy information arm of McGraw-Hill Cos. Inventories have risen more than 30 million barrels in the prior six weeks.

Even with the decline, crude supplies remain ample and U.S. oil storage sites, including the main depot in Cushing, Okla., are brimming

See **OIL**, Business 2

## Small businesses shouldn't skimp on insurance coverage

Insurance coverage is an expense that many small business owners might be tempted to cut back on or even forgo as they try to cut costs during the recession. They're making a bet that they won't need the coverage, but it's a bet they could lose.

Spring floods aren't too far off in the future, to be followed inevitably by tornadoes and the hurricane season. And there are the more mundane disasters that can also threaten a business — fire, theft, power outages, even someone being injured



SMALL TALK  
Joyce M. Rosenberg

on the premises.

Loretta Worters, vice president for communications of the Insurance Information Institute, a New York-based trade group, said insurance may seem like a lower financial priority for some small business owners right now.

"They're facing all these challenges today: rents are rising, financing hard to get," she said. "Things are daunting to them, but one thing they have to think of is the whole issue of being underinsured."

An underinsured business doesn't have adequate coverage for disasters or incidents like fires, thefts or accidents. But even companies that aren't cutting back their coverage might be unwittingly uninsured. Worters noted that a business might have made improvements to its

building or bought new equipment, and if an insurance policy isn't adjusted upward, payments could fall well short of the replacement costs.

At the same time, she noted, real estate values have fallen and so it might make sense for some companies to reduce coverage.

Still, an owner uneasy in this economy might decide to play the odds and either cancel a policy or cut it back too far. Or, make a mistake out of ignorance, by buying insurance to cover damage

from forces such as wind, rain, hail and fire, and not checking to see what isn't covered. For example, damage from flooding or earthquakes isn't covered in such policies. That coverage has to be purchased separately.

Some owners might also decide against business interruption insurance, which is available in what's known as a business owner's policy, or BOP, which also includes property coverage. Business interruption insurance makes the coverage more expensive, but it can

mean a company's survival when it can't operate because of a disaster; this type of policy covers a company's expenses and lost profits.

Many workers who have been downsized over the last year have decided to start businesses out of their homes, and many are likely to be underinsured because they mistakenly assume their homeowners coverage will protect them. The same can apply in the case of a vehicle

See **SMALL TALK**, Business 2

## STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Con Agra	16.24	▲	.17	Dell Inc.	8.12	▼	.53	Idacorp	24.39	▼	1.24
Lithia Mo.	2.80	▼	.38	Micron	3.00	▼	.20	Supervalu	17.59	▼	.12

## COMMODITIES

For more see Business 2

Live cattle	81.20	▲	1.28	March oil	38.93	▲	4.31
Feb. gold	973.3	▼	4.4	March silver	13.96	▼	.34



# COMMUNITY

## Twin Falls

Covering the communities of Buhl, Castletford, Filer, Hansen, Hollister, Kimberly, Murtaugh, Rogerson, Twin Falls.

### COMMUNITY NEWS

#### Buhl holds Dr. Seuss birthday celebration

Buhl Public Library invites the public to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. March 2 at the Buhl Public Library, 215 Broadway Ave., Buhl.

There will be stories, skits, prizes and snacks. There is no charge for the event.

Information: 543-6500

#### Xavier holds new parent meeting

A new parent information meeting for Xavier Charter School will be held at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at Shilo Inn in Twin Falls. Topics to be discussed include information on the school and enrollment procedures.

Information: 933-9287 or www.xaviercharter.org.

#### T.F. Republicans hold banquet

A Twin Falls County Republican Lincoln Day Banquet will be held at 7 p.m. Feb. 27 at the Turf Club in Twin Falls. Social hour will begin at 6 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7 p.m.

Special guests include,

Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter, U.S. Sen. Jim Risch, U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo and U.S. Rep. Mike Simpson. Chairwoman of the event is Linda Culver.

Information: Linda, 308-2244.

#### Dental sealants at Harrison Elementary

Beginning Wednesday, Harrison Elementary School second and third graders can receive free dental sealants to help prevent cavities. Dental sealants fill the deep grooves of a child's back teeth, where 90 percent of children's cavities occur. The sealants are painless to apply and can last several years or more.

Delta Dental of Idaho provides sealants on-site at schools serving low-income families as part of its Community Outreach program. The Delta Dental Sealant Clinic will be held through March 5 at the school. To receive this free cavity-prevention treatment, children must have a parent or guardian sign a health history and permission form. Additional permission forms are available at the school. Information: 208-489-3550.

— staff reports

## JUNIOR CLUB DONATES



The Junior Club of Magic Valley presented a check recently to Ronald McDonald House in the amount of \$2,920.03. The proceeds were generated from the Bite of Magic Valley. Pictured are executive director of the Ronald McDonald House Mindy Plumlee, left, and Mary Rios from the Junior Club.

### A NEW LOOK



Courtesy photo

The Magic Valley Eagles all-star senior cheerleading team sang Christmas carols to residents of Heritage Retirement Home on Dec. 19. The girls also painted the nails of several of the ladies at the home. The Eagles train at Radio Rondevo in Twin Falls.

## HANSEN HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

Hansen High School announced students who achieved superior academic standing for the first semester.

#### Academic excellence award

(4.0 grade-point average)

Blake Harris, Heidi Funk, Kelly McNurlin, Alex McNurlin.

#### Honor roll (3.5)

Mickenlie Baxter, Sariah Bjornn, Luis Cervantes, Samantha Coulter, Riana Cummings, Brannon Cummings, Ryan Funk, Alejandro Garcia, Crystal Guerrero, Kaleb Gunnell, Taylor Harris, Dakota Marovich, Baxter Morse, Cambrea Parker, Blanca Ramirez, Jay Ratto, Traci Spencer, Kaden Stimpson, Kathrin Stuhler, Christina Westlake, Miguel Zambran.

#### Principal's list (3.0)

Reylene Abbott, Gabriela Arevalo, Derek Bates, Cheynee Bennett, Ashley Bosma, Cody Brown, Rylee Brown, Jovany Cervantes, Samantha Corle, Andrew Corle, Destiny Nina Day, Nadine Giardina, Nathan Grigsby, Citlali Guerrero, Shelby Hancock, Shawnie Higgins, Brandi Huizar, Connilyn Hursh, Anthony Jenkins, Koltin Kenney, Hailey Leazer, Caleb Lehmann, Robert Leiser, Scheri McClain, Talitha Morrison, Ashley Nail, Brett Neal, Alexander Neria, Emma Okarma, Alec Perry, Robert Perryman, Gerrit Peters, Gabriel Quintero, Jill Ratto, Kevin Robison, Katherine Sanchez, Anne Schulthies, Anni Thomson, Kendra Urena, Blake Urie, Dayana Vega, Christian Wirth.

## Kimberly library has new materials

New materials at the Kimberly Public Library for January include:

#### Adult fiction

"Plum Spooky" by Janet Evanovich, "Chances" by Nora Robert, "Dead or Alive" by Michael McGarrity, "Three Weeks to Say Goodbye" by C. J. Box, "Fire and Ice" by Julie Garwood, "Eclipse" by Richard North Patterson, "Blood Sins" by Kay Hooper, "Deadly Gift" by Heather Graham, "Show no Fear" by Perri O'Shaughnessy, "Perfect Victim" by Jay Bonansinga, "The Hiding Place" by Karen Harper, "Coyote's Wife" by Aimee and David Thurlo, "Married in Seattle" by Debbie Macomber, "Drifting South" by Charles Davis, "Running Hot" by Jayne Ann Krentz, "Private Patient" by P. D. James, "By the Sword" by F. Paul Wilson, "When Will There Be Good News?" by Kate Atkinson,

"Snake Dreams" by James D. Doss.

#### Christian fiction

"The Convenient Groom" by Denise Hunter, "Where Love Dwells" and "Refining Emma" by Delia Parr, "Brittan", "Lorna" and "Heather" by Debra White Smith, "The Bride Bargain" by Kelly Eileen Hake, "Every Now and Then" by Karen Kingsbury, "The Apothecary's Daughter" by Julie Klassen.

#### Adult nonfiction

"Mortal Danger: And Other True Cases" by Ann Rule, "Marley and Me" by John Grogan, "Into the Wild" by Jon Krakauer, "The Complete Dog Owner's Manual" by Amy Marder.

#### Juvenile fiction

"The Diamond of Darkhold" by Jeanne DuPrau, "Long Shadows" by Erin Hunter, "Ariel's Journey" by Doug Kane, "Found" by Margaret

Peterson Haddix, "The Curse of the Cheese Pyramid", "Cat and Mouse in a Haunted House" and "Lost Treasure of the Emerald Eye" by Geronimo Stilton, "Stink: The Incredible Shrinking Kid" by Megan McDonald, "Horrible Harry and the Locked Closet" by Suzy Kline, "Arthur's Heart Mix-up" by Marc Tolon Brown, "I Need a Valentine!" by Harriet Ziefert, "Don't Forget I Love You" by Miriam Moss, "Wendell Wandered" by Laura Lee Wren.

#### Juvenile nonfiction

"Look for Lisa" by Anthony Tallarico, "A Girl's Guide to Life" by Katie Meier, "Tiger Woods" by Michael E. Goodman, "Lee Vs. Grant" by Ruth Ashby.

#### DVDs

"Indiana Jones and the Kingdom Of The Crystal Skull," "Space Chimps,"

"Star Wars: The Clone Wars," "The Dance," "Save the Last Dance," "House of Sand and Fog," "High Crimes," "Follow the River," "Matrix Revolutions," "The Radical," "My Fair Lady," "Dream Girls," "True Women," "Stop Bulling Now!," "Mulan," "Tinker Bell."

#### Videos

"FX," "FX2," "Frantic," "Under Siege," "The Santa Clause," "A Man Called Horse," "Hope Floats," "The Odd Couple," "The Forgotten," "Runaway Jury," "It's a Wonderful Life," "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea," "In Search of the Castaways," "Medicine Man," "Tom and Huck," "Prayer Bear: Time To Pray," "Care Bears: Music Video," "Buzz Lightyear of Star Command: The Adventure Begins," "The Return of Jafar," "The Rugrats Movie," "Bear in the Big Blue House: Sharing With Friends."



## INVENTORY HELPERS

Combined Mutual groups and leaders of the LDS church joined the Mini-Cassia Reading Foundation Jan. 21 at the Heyburn Elementary School gym. The group helped inventory the foundation's books, handouts and support material. Pictured seated in the front row are Foundation President Carolee Moncur, left, and Helen Almanza, right. Mini-Cassia Reading Foundation information: 878-8803.

Courtesy photo

# Herniated disc difficult but not impossible to treat

DEAR DR. GOTT: My mother was diagnosed with a herniated disc last year. She was in pain but able to walk. She tried physical therapy, which did not help, and also steroid injections into her back. The first shot helped only a little, and the second did nothing at all. Her legs are now much weaker, and the pain is more intense, and she has to use a wheelchair because of it. Surgery is not an option because of her diabetes, high blood pressure, a partially blocked carotid artery and autoimmune hepatitis. Is there any way to treat her



ASK DR. GOTT  
Dr. Peter Gott

pain and weakness?

DEAR READER: Your mother certainly has some serious health conditions that would likely disqualify her for surgery because of the high risk of complications. That being said, there are still several treatment options she hasn't tried.

A herniated disc is often difficult to treat and can be quite disabling. This is a condition in which one or more of the intervertebral discs of the spine bulges or breaks open. When this occurs, the disc often pushes on sensitive nerves in the spinal cord, causing pain, leg and lower-extremity weakness, fecal and/or urinary incontinence and more. Most sufferers respond well to physical therapy that increases back-muscle strength, which then holds the discs in proper alignment. When this fails to provide adequate relief, physicians move on to pre-

scription pain medications, steroids (to reduce inflammation), pain clinics and even surgery to surgically replace or remove the disc(s).

Chiropractic manipulation is also a viable choice. While many physicians do not recommend this and do not even consider chiropractors part of the medical community, I believe chiropractors can be extremely helpful for certain conditions. These specialists can physically manipulate the muscles, discs and vertebrae of the spine. It may take several weeks or months before results are noticeable, but for

many, relief can be experienced within just a few visits.

Exercise is important to keep the muscles strong and well-toned. Water aerobics and strength-building classes under the close supervision of her instructors may help because of the ease of moving in water.

Other options include acupuncture or acupuncture. If she pursues this option, she should do her homework. It is important to find an experienced, certified professional who uses clean, sterile instruments.

Relaxation techniques such as deep breathing exer-

cises or yoga may help. Even simple pilates exercises could improve muscle function.

And finally, a pain clinic may be useful. In this instance, doctors, nurses and other medical professionals work with people who suffer from chronic pain in order to find the best treatments. Hospital-run programs are your best bet for getting a wide variety of choices and disciplines.

Peter Gott is a retired physician and the author of the book "Dr. Gott's No Flour, No Sugar Diet."

# SOMEBODY NEEDS YOU

**Volunteers** — Long Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteers to visit residents in skilled nursing and residential care facilities. Volunteers can be advocates for residents and improve elderly care. Training and mentoring will be provided. Information: Mary or Laurene at Office of Aging, 736-2122.  
**Volunteers** — Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers needs volunteers to provide transportation, homemaker services, respite and perform other tasks. Must have own car, primary insurance and current driver's license. Mileage reimbursement is available. Information: Shirley or Verna at 733-6333.  
**Foster parents** — Magic Valley

Youth and Adult Services needs foster parents for local foster children who need temporary homes. Many children in south-central Idaho are in foster care due to neglect, abuse or abandonment. More children, 10 and younger, are in foster care, but less foster homes are available for those 11 and older. Information: 734-4435 or Idaho Care Line at 211.  
**Mentors** — The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program needs volunteers, age 55 and older, in Jerome and Twin Falls counties to mentor children of prisoners. Volunteers must undergo a complete background check and be willing to mentor a child for a minimum of one hour each week for

one year. Information: Ken, 736-2122, ext. 2394 or kwhiting@ooa.csi.edu.  
**Donations/Volunteers** — The College of Southern Idaho Refugee Center needs household items including microwaves, end tables, televisions, vacuums, washers and dryers. The center also needs volunteers to work with refugees in a variety of areas (English as a Second Language tutoring and transportation for grocery shopping). Donated items can be taken to the center, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (closed noon to 1 p.m.), Monday through Friday, at 1526 Highland Ave. E. in Twin Falls. Information: Michelle, 736-2166.

**Volunteers** — Twin Falls County Board of Guardians need volunteers to be court-appointed guardians and conservators for incapacitated individuals. Background checks are required and will be completed by the Twin Falls County commissioners office. Information: 736-4068.  
**Volunteers** — St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center needs volunteers for all areas of the hospital including shuttle drivers. Help people and meet people in a caring environment. Information: Kim at 737-2006 or kimpa@mvrnc.org.  
**Drivers** — Retired and Senior Volunteer Program needs volunteer drivers, age 55 and older, in

the Mini-Cassia area to take senior citizens to doctor appointments and for grocery shopping. Volunteers are reimbursed mileage and are covered by excess insurance. Information: Kitty at 677-4872, ext. 2.  
**Donations** — New Hope Transition Center needs several items to help through the winter, including noodles, canned vegetables, stews and soups, fresh vegetables, large garbage bags, paper towels, toilet paper, liquid dish soap, laundry soap and cleaning supplies. Donated items can be taken to the center, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, at 425 Second Ave. N. in Twin Falls. Information: 733-0823.

**Want to help?**  
 This public service column is designed to match needs in the Magic Valley with volunteer help. If you need a volunteer, contact the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) at 736-4764, before noon Wednesday for Friday publication. RSVP is a United Way-sponsored agency at the College of Southern Idaho.

# ADOPT A PET!

• People for Pets ~ MVHS, Inc.  
 • Twin Falls Shelter 736-2299 • Burley Shelter 878-2258

A Twin Falls City license is more than a requirement it can ensure and expedite your pets' opportunity to get home... 2009 city licenses are up for renewal now. Visit the Twin Falls Animal Shelter for your 2009 city dog license.

February is National Spay/Neuter month. Do your part in preventing unwanted litters of animals from overcrowding animal shelters. The number of cats and dogs entering animal shelters a year is 6-8 million. On an average, cats can have as many as 3 litters in a year and dogs can have 2 litters a year. Spay or neuter surgery carries a one-time cost that is relatively small when you consider the benefits. Spaying and neutering your pet makes them a better companion, less likely to bite or be aggressive, and keeps them from wandering from home. Contact your veterinarian to have your animals spayed or neutered today!

Mark your calendar for our "Furr Ball Fundraiser" March 7, 2009 from 7pm-midnight at the Turf Club. Cost is \$20 per person or \$35 a couple and tickets can be purchased at the animal shelter or at the door. Appetizers, no host bar, raffles, and live band. We encourage our community to join us for this fun event to help our areas homeless pets.



**Purpose**

Is a 10 week old long hair spayed female kitten left at the door of the shelter to find her new purpose for life.



**Flap**

Is a 1 year old neutered male Chihuahua about 10 lbs., small but mighty; good with any age person.

**PAK'S LAW OFFICE**  
  
**HYONG PAK**  
 Serving Idaho  
**FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION**  
 Former Deputy Prosecutor and Public Defender  
**736-2072**  
 601 Addison Avenue, Twin Falls, ID



**Frantz**

Is a 6 year old Brown tabby declawed spayed female interested in finding a home where she can lounge around inside all day long.



**Ken and Jill support the Animal Shelter and want to help find good homes for animals.**



**Betty & Wilma**

Are spayed female 9 week old tabby/white kittens that can be adopted separately but together you double your pleasure.

**ACE PRINTING**  
 is pleased to be a sponsor of this pet.

208-733-8623  
 Fax 208-733-8628

250 Main Ave. N.  
 Twin Falls



**Tuffie**

Is a 9week old neutered male Tabby/white kitten that has a whole litter of siblings waiting for a human to rescue.

This space donated in memory of Sunny, a pound pup who made our lives sunny. She died from cancer at age four because she wasn't spayed soon enough.



**Rooney**

Is a sleek coated 14 week old black Hound/Lab cross whose eyes will tell you that he will be your most loyal friend for life.

**Russ Lively Architect Chartered**

We proudly support the local animal shelter to find these animals a loving home.

2068 Addison Ave. East  
 Twin Falls, Idaho 83301  
 (208) 734-4303  
 FAX (208) 734-4368



**Mac**

Is a neutered male 2 year old Irish Red and white Setter cross, leash and house trained, very calm, handsome, and obedient.



is delighted to support this irresistible face & People for Pets Shelter.



**Kimberly**

Is a spayed female beautiful calico young adult that is brilliant colored, has a gentle temperament, and likes to be held.

**The Kimberly Middle School BULLDOGS wag their tails for Wanda!**



**Big Momma**

Is a very large spayed female Mastiff/Elkhound cross who is strong, but friendly and needs an experienced dog handler due to her size.

Making pet care affordable  
 Charles W. Schabacker, DVM  
 James L. Green, DVM  
 Jed B. Steele, DVM  
  
**Sawtooth**  
 VETERINARY SERVICES  
 988 W. Main • Jerome • 324-5151

# ADOPT-A-SHELTER-ANIMAL



This older yellow lab has a great personality. He has love and energy to share with your family.

What a cute little girl! She is a daschund and pug mix, and is very loving!



You can find these and other pets waiting for adoption at the Burley Animal Shelter.

There are also many pets available for adoption at the Minidoka County Animal Control Facility. Are your pet's vaccinations current? Schedule your appointment today.



**Boulder**

Is a 3 month old spayed female Setter/Border Collie cross pup that is ready to going with her spring training so she can be ready for summer adventure with you.

**Four Paws**  
 BED & BATH  
 "You Leave 'Em ~ We Love 'Em"  
**Boarding • Day Care**  
**Gift Shop • Grooming**  
**Self-Serve Pet Wash**  
 370 West 200 South • Rupert  
 (208) 438-4444  
 Cell: (208) 431-0248



**Lyca**

Is a gray tabby 4 month old spayed female that only wants a shoulder to lean on and someone with a soft touch to love her.

Sponsored by **Steve & Anita**  
**Henna**  
 and "Charlie"  
 a proud alumni of the Twin Falls Animal Shelter.



**Sammy**

Is a 4 month old neutered male Pointer cross pup best suited for home without other dogs and no small children — a little timid.

**KIMBERLY VETERINARY HOSPITAL**  
 Office Hours by Appointment  
**DAVID CLARK, D.V.M.**  
**JERRY JACKSON, D.V.M.**  
**JENNI LANTING, D.V.M.**  
 Small Animal and Equine Care  
 22340 Kimberly Rd.  
 Kimberly, ID 83341  
**(208) 423-6860**



**Mimosa**

Is a 5 year old beautiful calico spayed female adult who will be a refreshing addition to your life.

**Four Paws**  
 Adopt this loving animal at:  
**420 Victory Avenue**  
**Twin Falls • 736-2299**  
 www.magiclinc.com/web/petsonline



**Angel**

Is a spayed female 7 month old Ivory Lab/Retriever cross who was an undisciplined child and she was rescued from that situation and needs a consistent loving home.

**Green Acres Pet Center**  
 Affordable Pet Care at its Finest!  
  
 Adopt this pet & bring it to us for a free exam!  
**M-F 7:30-6 SAT 9-3**  
**868 Green Acres Dr., Twin Falls**  
 Located 1 block N. of Falls Ave. off Blue Lake Blvd. N.  
**734-2711**



TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Sunny and comfortable. Highs upper 40s.
Tonight: Mostly clear nighttime skies. Lows low to middle 20s.
Tomorrow: Partly sunny and pleasant. Highs middle to upper 40s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Cool sunshine expected. Highs upper 30s to near 40.
Tonight: Mostly clear with areas of patchy fog possible. Lows upper teens.
Tomorrow: Partly sunny and mostly dry. Highs upper 30s to low 40s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. Mostly dry and comfortable winter temperatures will finish out the week and continue on Saturday. A slow change in the weather will start taking shape on Sunday.
BOISE Mild and mostly dry today and Saturday. Increasingly cloudy on Sunday, but continued pleasant. Showers return on Monday.
NORTHERN UTAH Partly to mostly sunny, dry and pleasant today and Saturday. Cloud cover is expected to increase on Sunday.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Today Sunny and comfortable High 47
Tonight Mostly clear Low 24
Saturday Partly sunny 46 / 25
Sunday Increasing clouds 44 / 30
Monday Chance of showers 43 / 31
Tuesday Clouds more likely than showers 43 / 29

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Temperature Yesterday's High 46, Yesterday's Low 29, Normal High/Low 44 / 26, Record High 58 in 1983, Record Low 2 in 2006
Precipitation Yesterday 0.00", Month to Date 0.25", Normal Month to Date 0.64", Year to Date 4.14", Normal Year to Date 4.99"
Humidity Yesterday's Maximum 66%, Yesterday's Minimum 38%, Today's Maximum 78%, Today's Minimum 51%
Barometric Pressure Today 6 pm barometer 30.28 in, Yesterday 30.28 in
Sunrise and Sunset Today Sunrise: 7:27 AM, Sunset: 6:17 PM
Moon Phases Feb 25 New Moon, Mar 4 First Qtr., Mar 11 Full Moon, Mar 18 Last Qtr.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with columns for City, Today, Tomorrow, Sunday. Lists cities like Boise, Bonners Ferry, Burley, Challis, Coeur d'Alene, Elko, Eugene, OR, Gooding, Grace, Hagerman, Hailey, Idaho Falls, Kalispell, MT, Jackpot, Jerome, Lewiston, Malad City, Malta, McCall, Missoula, MT, Pocatello, Portland, OR, Rupert, Rexburg, Richland, WA, Rogerson, Salmon, Salt Lake City, UT, Spokane, WA, Stanley, Sun Valley, Yellowstone, MT.

CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with columns for City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like Calgary, Cranbrook, Edmonton, Kelowna, Lethbridge, Regina, Saskatoon, Toronto, Vancouver, Victoria, Winnipeg.

GREGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY
'The difference between great people and everyone else is that great people create their lives actively, while everyone else is created by their lives, passively waiting to see where life takes them next.'
Michael E. Gerber

Texas may let hunters shoot pigs from choppers

By Paul J. Weber Associated Press writer



AP photos

Kyle Lange searches for feral pigs near Mertzson, Texas, on Wednesday. Under legislation proposed by a Fort Worth lawmaker, recreational sportsmen would be allowed to join professional hunters like Lange to aerial-hunt feral hogs to help thin out their relentlessly multiplying and destructive ranks from the perch of a helicopter.



A feral pig runs across desert scrub on a ranch near Mertzson, Texas, on Wednesday.

MERTZON, Texas — Millions of wild pigs weighing up to 300 pounds have been tearing up crops, trampling fences and eating just about anything in their path in Texas. But now they had better watch their hairy backs.
A state lawmaker is proposing to allow ordinary Texans with rifles and shotguns to shoot the voracious, tusked animals from helicopters.
For years, ranchers in the Lone Star State have hired professional hunters in choppers to thin the hogs' fast-multiplying ranks. Now state Rep. Sid Miller of the Fort Worth area wants to bring more firepower to the task by issuing permits to sportsmen.
'I've had numerous calls and complaints that someone needs to do something,' Miller said. 'We're losing ground on this problem.'
If approved, it could be the first program of its kind in the nation. Some other states, like Gov. Sarah Palin's Alaska, allow aerial hunting, but only to control predators, such as bears and wolves.
Some Texans worry about collateral damage.
'If they're going to open up to where you can do this and anybody who's got a helicopter can go off to an old boy's place and hunt, that's going to be bad,' said Jay Smith, owner of Smith Helicopters in Cotulla. Some people 'may get confused and shoot the rancher's dog or a calf.'
Miller gave assurances the hunting would be closely regulated, though details on such things as how many hunters would be allowed to take part, and how many hogs they would be permitted to kill, have yet to be

worked out.
'You're not going to have some bubba up there going, 'Pass me a beer and ammo' and hunting some hogs,' the legislator said. 'We certainly want to do it right.'
Many hunters and landowners will probably leave the carcasses in the field, just as they do now. Wild hogs that are gunned down cannot be sold for meat under U.S. agriculture regulations. (Moreover, wild boar is said by some to be tough and gamey.)
An estimated 2 million wild hogs are causing \$52 million a year in crop damage in Texas, according to agricultural experts. Pigs that they are, they eat just about anything, including the carcasses of their own brethren. They trample crops, dig up plants with their snouts and steal animal feed. Entire peanut farms have been stripped.
And the pasture-wrecking porkers are causing trouble well beyond farms. Authorities in Texas are reporting an increase in collisions between hogs and cars, while golf courses and suburbs are increasingly finding turf uprooted by hogs.
The animals are descended from hogs introduced into Texas by Spanish explorers more than 300 years ago. But their numbers began booming in the 1980s.

Facebook removes 5,500 sex offenders since May

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Facebook has removed more than 5,500 convicted sex offenders from its social networking Web site since May, Connecticut's attorney general said Thursday.
Richard Blumenthal said the world's largest social networking site, which claims to have more than 175 million active members, reported to his office that 5,585 convicted sex offenders were found on the Web site and removed between May 1, 2008, and Jan. 31, 2009.
'The message in this number is Facebook has an equal stake in solving this problem of protecting children,' said Blumenthal, who along with North Carolina Attorney General Roy Cooper has led an effort to remove sex offenders from the social networking Web sites.
'They have an equal stake in the predator problem and its solution.'
Earlier this month, rival networking site MySpace announced it had removed 90,000 sex offenders in a two-year period.
Last year, the attorneys general got both sites to implement dozens of safeguards, including finding better ways to verify users' ages and putting limits on older users' ability to search the profiles of members under 18.

Teen arrested in 9 arsons in fire-ravaged Pa. town

COATESVILLE, Pa. (AP) — A 19-year-old described as a pyromaniac who liked to watch things burn was charged Thursday with setting nine fires in an arson-plagued steel town, including a block-long blaze that displaced dozens of people last month.
Roger Leon Barlow Jr., of nearby Downingtown, was

charged with arson, aggravated assault and related counts. He was arraigned Thursday afternoon and his bail was set at \$9 million.
Barlow is a pyromaniac who liked to watch things burn, Chester County District Attorney Joseph Carroll told The Associated Press. The teen told investigators on Wednesday that he set the fires, all of them since Jan. 2, according to a police affidavit.
Carroll would not discuss a motive for the blazes at a news conference Thursday. He said he does not believe the fires were gang-related, hate crimes or targeted at specific individuals.
Coatesville, about 35 miles west of Philadelphia, has tallied 18 arsons this year.

REPORT CARD Name: 2 Cent Dealer
GRADING PERIOD 1 2 3 4
Reading/Literacy A
Written Communication A
Mathematics A
Science/Health A
Social Studies/History A
Art A
Government/Civics A
Nutrition/Fitness A
Grade Average A
These Businesses get an A+
The Times-News thanks the following businesses for donating 2¢ from every newspaper they sell to Newspaper In Education.
Twin Stop Kimberly Road
Twin Stop Poleline Road
Twin Stop
Oasis Stop N Go #8
Oasis Stop N Go #2
Oasis Stop N Go #14
Oasis Stop N Go #4
Oasis Stop N Go #7
Oasis Stop N Go #3
Oasis Stop N Go #10
Oasis Stop N Go #6
Oasis Stop N Go #13
Oasis Stop N Go #11
Oasis Stop N Go #9
Oasis Stop N Go #5
Oasis Stop N Go #15
Southside Market in Glens Ferry
Svenmart-Addison
Winco
Mr. Gas #2
Mr. Gas #5
Mr. Gas #1
Mr. Gas #7
Mr. Gas #12
Mr. Gas #4
United Oil - Kimberly Road
Seven Eleven
Corner Mart - Buhl
Kwik Service - Jerome
Steve's Quick Stop - Gooding
Cooks Food Center - Gooding
Swensen's - Paul
Atkinson's - Hailey
Swensen's - Washington St.
Kerb's Oil
Sav-Mor Drug - Buhl
Creekside



# An afternoon with the dancing queen



Photos by ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Trina Ciocca, owner of Uptown Dance Studio in Wendell, teaches a jazz dance to the 'High School Musical 3' soundtrack Feb. 10. Ciocca choreographs all of the dances for each of her 12 classes, plus solo performances.

**By Melissa Davlin**  
Times-News writer

**W**ENDELL — Outside, the Wendell streets were cold and blustery, but Uptown Dance Studio was alive with laughter and song.

Music from the "Mamma Mia!" soundtrack spilled out of the studio and into the waiting room, where chatty mothers watched their daughters through a window.

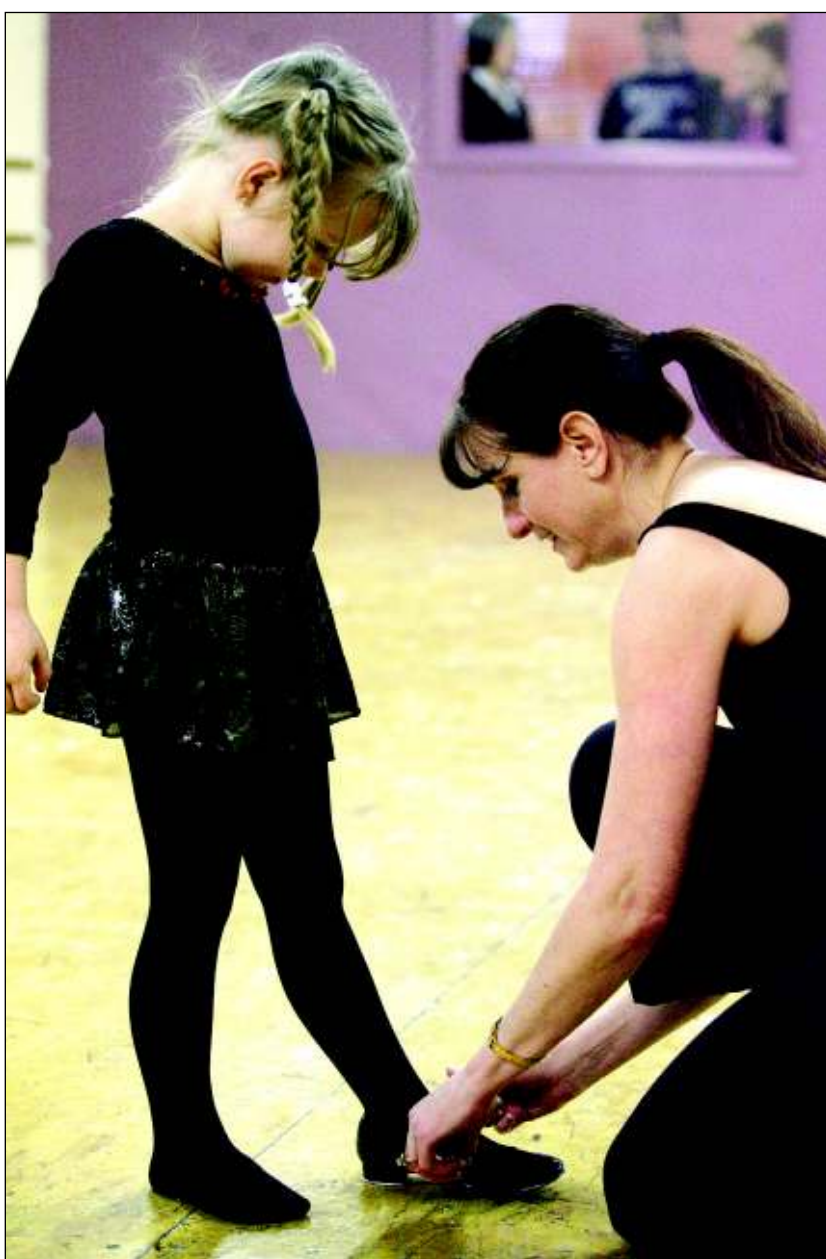
This is how dance instructor Trina Ciocca spends many of her afternoons: sharing her passion for dance with her small students.

Ciocca's 10-year-old daughter, Brooke, helped the girls warm up Feb. 10. The two share a passion for dance, although Ciocca encourages Brooke to try other things. Recently, Brooke decided to give basketball a shot, although she still talks about going to college for dance.

After the warm-up, Ciocca switched the music to "Now or Never" from the "High School Musical 3" soundtrack. The girls practiced their cheerleading-inspired routine, and though some seemed more enthralled with their new pompoms than their performance, they slowly got better and better. Ciocca offered suggestions along the way — "Straight legs!" "Point that toe." "Your arms are down!" — and walked through the moves with unending patience, repeating steps as many times as needed for the girls to get them perfect.

Ciocca choreographs all of the dances for each of her 12 classes, plus performances for solo acts. "I forget from class to class" who is doing which dance, she said, but as soon as she sees the girls go through it and hears the music, she remembers right away.

When these girls showed they had memorized the routine, she told them to pretend they were per-



Trina Ciocca ties the dance shoe of Skyler Ferris, 5, at the Uptown Dance Studio during class.

[Magicvalley.com](http://Magicvalley.com)

Watch a slide show with more photos and sounds from Trina Ciocca's day.

forming at a recital.

"You have an audience," she said. "What does it mean when you have an audience?"

"Smile," they answered in unison.

Managing the dance studio is a part-time gig for Ciocca, and it's definitely not about the money. She

loves dance, she loves kids, she loves teaching.

Her passions tie into her day job, too. Ciocca teaches physical education, health and dance at Wendell Middle School.

Ciocca gets to school by 7:30 a.m. and stays until 3:30 p.m. On Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, she goes straight to



Students practice tap dancing during class.



Our seven-day series, which started Sunday, takes you inside the lives and jobs of your southern Idaho neighbors. Our reporters and photographers shadowed each subject for a day. Rounding out the series will be Saturday's story on a Jerome monk. Did you miss any of the "In Their Shoes" stories and slide shows earlier this week? Catch them on [Magicvalley.com](http://Magicvalley.com).

her downtown dance studio, where classes start at 3:45 and end as late as 8 p.m. Brooke often comes along — sometimes for her own dance lessons, sometimes to help with the younger children.

While one class left and another started filing in, Brooke tried to negotiate for a ride home before Ciocca's trip to an evening basketball game, where one of her middle school dance classes would perform at halftime. Ciocca didn't have time to stop by home first, so Brooke would have to come along. "It won't kill you to watch a basketball game," Ciocca said. Brooke



**Meet Trina Ciocca**

**Age:** 41  
**Town:** Wendell  
**Business:** Uptown Dance Studio  
**Education:** College of Southern Idaho and Boise State University  
**Day job:** Physical education teacher, Wendell Middle School  
**Favorite dance style:** Ballet  
**Best part of job:** Playing with the kids all day.  
**Worst part of job:** Juggling everything that goes wrong with the building. Ciocca owns the property where Uptown Dance Studio is located, so she has to handle all of the maintenance. "There's always an issue," she said.  
**Scariest moment:** One of her students had a bad knee that sometimes went out of place in class. She would do a leap, fall on the floor and start screaming, Ciocca said.

conceded, then helped the next class with its stretches. It's tough to fit everything into a day, Ciocca said.

When she's not at school or the dance studio, Ciocca might be on



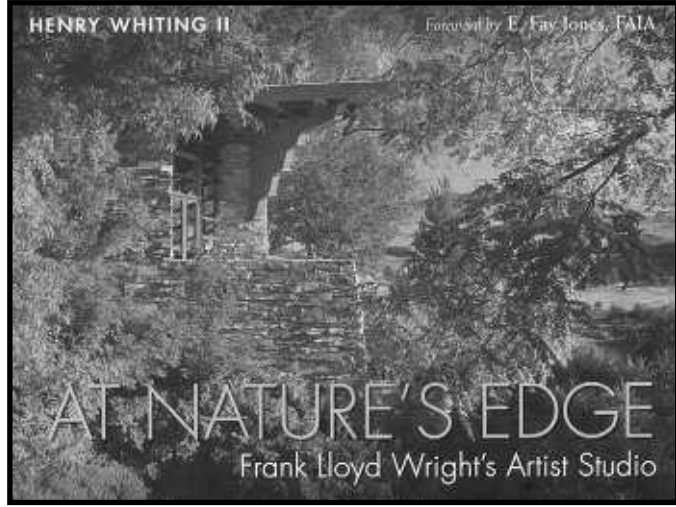
# Brown Bag Lecture features architectural writer

Times-News

Henry Whiting II will speak on "Frank Lloyd Wright in Idaho" for the second installment in the Magic Valley Arts Council's 2009 Brown Bag Lecture Series, set for noon Feb. 27 at the Twin Falls Public Library.

Wright's only artist studio, perched high on a cliff above the Snake River near Hagerman, stands testament to the architect's mastery of his craft — a building he described as "shaken from my sleeve."

While Wright's stature as an architect is usually measured by his masterpieces, such as Fallingwater, the Johnson Wax Building and the Guggenheim Museum, another assessment of his genius can be seen in the



depth of his most humble buildings, Whiting says. The simple, one-room studio he designed for Archie and Patricia Teater in 1952 overlooking the Snake River is a sophisticated, complex work of art.

Whiting has owned the studio for more than 25 years and completed two comprehensive restorations — the first to stabilize the structure, the second to adapt it for full-time residency.

Whiting has also written two books about the studio: "Teater's Knoll: Frank Lloyd Wright's Idaho Legacy" (Northwood Institute Press, 1987) and "At Nature's Edge: Frank Lloyd Wright's Artist Studio" (University of Utah Press, 2007), winner of the Idaho Library Association's Idaho Book of the Year Award for 2007. Whiting graduated with a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He has written extensively about organic architecture and lives with his wife, sculptor Lynn Fawcett Whiting, in the Archie Teater studio.

The free lecture is open to the public. Bring a brown bag lunch, or pre-order a box lunch by Friday afternoon at 734-2787.

# Broadway artist plays Burley tonight

By Coreen Hart  
Times-News correspondent

BURLEY — The Community Concert series will present singer and actress Emily Skinner, a Tony-nominated veteran of Broadway. Tonight's performance is one of 11 appearances Skinner will make this season before returning home.

"I'm so delighted to do it," Skinner said from New Orleans by telephone. "I am seeing places I've never seen before."

Her concert will be informal; she'll talk about the songs, an eclectic group of Broadway classics from the golden age of theater and some contemporary pieces.

"I tend to lean toward the old stuff," she said. "Those songs were straightforward and simple. I suppose the evening will be kind of like a musical theater master class. I don't mean it will be dull. It will be fun for people."

She enjoys giving background on the music and explaining what makes each song unique, bringing some of the glamour and excitement of the Great White Way to distant audiences.

"The cost of producing a show is so high now, producers are reluctant to invest in an unknown quantity, so that's why you see so many new shows patterned after movies, or remakes of classics. The cost of a seat is about \$125 now, so the only people who can afford them are people with money, and those tend to be the older, retired people," Skinner said. "As a result, audiences are dwindling and an entire generation of young people are missing out. They are not creating a new audience. I don't want to think of musical theater as getting smaller and smaller. But it is happening. For 25 years that has been happening."

The Community Concert program will be spontaneous, Skinner said.

"I have a wonderful pianist, Jeff Biering, and I hope that

GOT TICKETS?

Emily Skinner performs at 7:30 p.m. tonight at Burley's King Fine Arts Center, 2100 Parke Ave. Admission is by season membership, or purchase a single ticket for \$20 at the door. Season memberships are always available at the door for \$40 (adult), \$20 (student) or \$110 (family). Two more concerts remain this season:

- **Crystal Harmony**, a trio of three Russian musicians playing instruments made of glass, 7:30 p.m. March 13.

- **Bar J Wranglers'** return appearance, 7:30 p.m. May 1. The series' most popular act, they combine cowboy humor and sweet harmonies. For those who buy season tickets by April for the 2009-10 season, the Bar J Wranglers concert is an early bonus.

people will come with open hearts and minds," she said. "I want people to feel the closeness, as if they are in my living room."

She has performed in such productions as "The Full Monty," "Dinner At Eight" and "A Tree Grows In Brooklyn."

In "Sideshow" she played half of a set of Siamese twins. For that role she received critical acclaim and a Tony nomination. She played Daisy, and Alice Ripley played Violet, and the two were co-nominated for Best Actress.

It was a challenging experience learning to walk and dance together as a conjoined person. Together they sang the show's biggest numbers, including "Who Will Love Me As I Am?" and "I Will Never Leave You."

"It was work," Skinner said. "It is an unnatural way of moving and dancing."

Coreen Hart may be reached at 208-436-1186.

# Oakley singers headline Burley gala

## Organizers plan talent lineup

By Judy Albertson  
Times-News writer

BURLEY — Mount Harrison Heritage Foundation will present its 11th annual Gala in celebration of the King Fine Arts Center's anniversary. With entertainment from local and visiting performers, it's set for 7:30 p.m. March 2 at King Fine Arts, 2100 Park Ave. in Burley.

Tickets are \$8 for sections I, II and III, and \$5 for sections IV, V and VI, available at Book Plaza and Welch Music in Burley, at The Book Store in Rupert and at the door.

Performing this year are David and Lisa Koziol. Lisa, an Oakley native, met David while working as a nanny in Connecticut. He had performed in a Connecticut rock band and took opera lessons to keep his voice toned. When the band broke up he continued singing in the opera company.

"We met in church. David was in the opera company. I was singing and he heard me and we started dating, then later we started singing together," Lisa said.

Lisa began filling in at the opera company if someone did not show up for a performance, thus earning a part in an opera. "They were impressed that I could sight read. I guess I had a good, clean, clear voice so they gave me the part when she didn't show up," Lisa said.

When the Koziols moved to Oakley 5 1/2 years ago, they immediately got involved in the Oakley Valley Arts Council. She will

appear in her second play in March, and David has been involved in five shows in some capacity. If he isn't performing, he works on sound. He makes slight changes in recorded music to fit the plays, and runs the sound board during performances.

"When someone from the King Fine Arts Center heard us singing at an event at the Wilson Theatre in Rupert, they asked us to sing at this event," Lisa Koziol said. The couple will sing "The Prayer," a popular song recorded by Andrea Bocelli, Celine Dion, Josh Groban and Charlotte Church.

"David has a hard time singing quiet ... he sings heavy rock or opera and is a high lyric tenor. So I have to sing alto. Often we write our own parts. You might even hear a bit of Italian," Lisa said.

Rick Bollar will host the event.

Also performing: Adam Tilley on violin, playing the "Schindler's List" theme; Clay Handy and Barbara Sorensen singing "Do You Love Me"; Kyle Jenks and Felicia Horsley Potet singing "Now I Have Everything"; a piano duet by Mayna McGill and Jeff Rasmussen; Zach Harman with two selections, "Impossible Dream" and "You're Still You"; a violin duet by Elise Anderson and Emily Pilling; Rob Newman with selections from "Brigadoon"; selections from "Fiddler on the Roof" production; and the Jennifer Sager dancers.

"We want the gala to be special every year," said Roberta Christiansen, one of the organizers. "I think people will be pleased with this year's program."

Check out what's new online at [magicvalley.com](http://magicvalley.com)



Lisa and David Koziol

# CSI offers new class in American Indian flutemaking

Times-News

The American Indian flute is not only a magnificent instrument, but also a spiritual one that carries a part of each of its creators as well as the rekindled spirit of the tree it came from, say organizers of an upcoming class.

The College of Southern Idaho's Community Education Center will offer the workshop "Native American Flutemaking."

Whether you're inexperienced or skilled in wood-working, under the instruction of veteran flute maker Mike Wamego, you'll craft a handmade, six-holed, pentatonic flute. Learn more about Wamego and the flutes he makes at [myweb.cableone.net/shamansdream](http://myweb.cableone.net/shamansdream).

The three-day workshop will be 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 14, 6-9 p.m. March

18, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 21 in the Canyon Building woodshop, room 133. Cost is \$149, plus a \$25 materials fee paid to the instructor.

Register: 732-6442 or [communityed.csi.edu](http://communityed.csi.edu).



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# Compassion to action

## College thespians present narratives of human rights

By Blair Koch  
Times-News correspondent

The College of Southern Idaho Theater Department's upcoming production will surely transcend entertainment. Instead of escapism the audience will come face to face with atrocities rarely impacting the lives of Americans.

Audiences won't leave the theater after "Speak Truth to Power: Voices from Beyond the Dark" feeling giddy. They may feel slapped around, worn down after an hour of narratives that chronicle the struggles and survival of prominent human rights activists like the Dalai Lama, Vaclav Havel, Desmond Tutu and Elie Wiesel, to name a few.

Theatergoers may feel angry and uncomfortable with the stories, ranging from female genital mutilation to war crimes, torture and decades of imprisonment — and that's OK, said director Tony Mannen.

"We are so comfortable in the USA ... we bitch about the snow or the price of a gallon of gas, but these people, these are stories of survival. These atrocities still happen, every day," Mannen said. "At the end of the day nobody really cares. We offer lip service and say 'oh, how horrible,' but we do nothing."

Cast member Katy Braman hopes the onstage art will move people from complacency to action. The 22-year-old plays The Man in the show.

"The Man embodies all the

### COURAGE AND ADVERSITY

- **What:** "Speak Truth to Power: Voices from Beyond the Dark," presented by College of Southern Idaho's theater department
- **When:** 8 p.m. Feb. 25-28 and March 4-7.
- **Tickets:** \$8 for adults and \$6 for students and seniors. No young children, please. Tickets available at the door, the CSI Fine Arts Box Office, 732-6288 or tickets.csi.edu.
- **Information on "Speak Truth to Power":** www.speak-truth.org

negative ugliness inside everyone. He causes doubt, speaks ridicule and gets people to see the bad in themselves and others," Braman said. "The hardest part in presenting this character was for me to identify with The Man inside of myself."

Braman said The Man will speak as a reflection of everyone sitting in the audience.

"I'm hoping that when they leave and go home they will realize that everyone has this ugliness and it's up to them to do something to face that. It starts with an awareness and people can take it from there," Braman said.

Amber Wagner, who plays several characters, said she now has more appreciation for her freedoms and comforts.

Instead of feeling as though they can't change the world, Wagner hopes audience



BLAIR KOCH/For the Times-News

College of Southern Idaho theater students Wendy Duran, left, and Christa Frazier rehearse monologues about living with female circumcision, or vaginal mutilation, as practiced in some countries. The narratives are in the college's production of 'Speak Truth to Power: Voices from Beyond the Dark,' a one-act play by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright and novelist Ariel Dorfman. The cast hopes the show impacts people's indifference to violence around the globe.

members look for small ways to better the world around them.

"I see all the opportunities I have and have more kindness and empathy for those around me. It just starts with small bits of kindness ... and that will lead to having the want and desire to do more," she said.

Wagner and Lynnaya Luttrell said they were most touched with the story of Sister Helen Prejean, a leading advocate for abolition of the U.S. death penalty. Prejean's autobiography was made into the acclaimed movie "Dead Man Walking."

The pair narrate Prejean's story together. Their favorite quotation: "Yet I believe if we bring people to their own best hearts they will respond."

If people respond to these stories of atrocity, "Speak Truth to Power" won't be in vain.

### CAST LIST

Jose Aguilar  
David Beach  
Katy Braman  
Troy Cooper  
Rachel Dawson  
Ryan D. Downs  
Wendy Duran  
Christa Frazier  
Dustin Hobdey  
Zach Lloyd  
Lynnaya Luttrell  
Kevin Markkola  
Keisha Uhl  
Amber Wagner

"Individually, I've learned options to how we can make a difference. I look for opportunities for how I can help," said cast member Zach Lloyd. "People should come to this with an attitude of learning something ... that people do suffer."

Blair Koch may be reached at 208-316-2607 or blairkoch@gmail.com.

— Director Tony Mannen

# INSTANT Critic



Theater: 'Fiddler on the Roof' by Mount Harrison Heritage Foundation

Seen Feb. 6 at King Fine Arts Center in Burley

I watched the show from backstage while reporting on another story. From what I saw between the curtains and props, the actors were fantastic. Great vocals, fun choreography, and now I have "Matchmaker" stuck in my head. What a great debut for director Christine Horsley.

— Melissa Davlin, Times-News features reporter

Jazz: Vocalist Sophie Milman

Seen Feb. 14 at College of Southern Idaho

Arts on Tour touted Milman as "sophisticated and torchy." Right on! Silky vocals — and great riffs on piano, percussion, bass, woodwinds — put smiles on our faces and toe-tapping in our souls. The performance was filled with passion, bringing to life the jazz of days gone by. A romantic evening.

— Shawn Barigar of Twin Falls

Send us your own 50-word review about local arts and entertainment. Include a basic description of the performance or artwork, such as location, date, title, author or artist, then 50 of your own words letting us know what you thought. Also, your name and a phone number where we can reach you during the day. No objectionable language, please, or your review will be deleted. Weekly deadline for submissions is noon Mondays, to virginia.hutchins@lee.net.

## Take better pictures with CSI class

Times-News

Mystified by photography? Take better pictures by learning to use the right tools — meters, lenses and filters — in the College of Southern Idaho Community Education class "You Can Take Better Pictures."

You'll learn how to make the right exposures and choose the proper composition. Practice and critiques will help you understand the basics of great photography.

Participants should be familiar with their cameras' operations and understand basic photography concepts. A DSLR (digital single lens reflex) camera is required. A USB flash drive will also be necessary so that your work can be displayed by a projector.

Class will be from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursdays, March 19 to April 16, in Shields 204. Cost is \$55, and Rod Mathis instructs. Register: 732-6442 or communityed.csi.edu.



ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Trina Ciocca talks with dance students during class. Managing the studio is a part-time job for Ciocca, who also teaches physical education, health and dance at Wendell Middle School.

## Dance

Continued from Entertainment 1

the tennis courts, where she competes with the Magic Valley Tennis Association.

She also acts as president of the Wendell Education Association (although she doesn't always make it to monthly meetings because of dance practice).

Her love, though, has always been for dance. She started taking private lessons when she was 6, and stuck with it all the way through high school. The southern Idaho native couldn't afford to attend an out-of-state dance program, so she stuck with College of Southern Idaho and Boise State University, where she earned a master's degree in education.

This afternoon class was much smaller than the first class. Three girls, ages 5 and 6, practiced a simple jazz routine to a song about Minnie Mouse, then jumped rope and hula hooped.

Some parents say their young daughters can handle more complicated moves, but Ciocca says the classes aren't about that. She just wants to keep the girls moving and having fun. In her 12 years of operating the studio, none of her students have gone on to pursue dancing seriously, although some have taken

college classes. They know how hard it is to make it big, especially coming from a small town, Ciocca said.

And that's just fine with Ciocca — producing Broadway stars wasn't her goal. As the class twirled the hula hoops, she put on more "Mamma Mia!" music and skipped to the storage closet to retrieve the tumbling mats.

Who said the kids are the only ones having fun?

Melissa Davlin may be reached at 208-735-3234 or melissa.davlin@lee.net.

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# Happening in the Hub City

## Wendell celebrates centennial with dinner

By Blair Koch  
Times-News correspondent

Kathleen Smith has a way with music.

With extensive musical background and training, and teaching her own 12 children how to read music and play instruments, Smith can churn out original pieces in a day.

Smith's latest piece, "I Was Raised in a Little Town," took a little longer to write.

"It is our gift to Wendell ... for its centennial," Smith said. "It was a tough one, more of a struggle to put everything I wanted to, something for everyone."

The song's elements take Wendell through its past 100 years, with musical elements through the ages.

"I Was Raised in a Little Town" will be unveiled by the Smith Family Singers — Smith, her husband, Steve, and their children — during

**PLAN TO GO**

City of Wendell Centennial Dinner starts with a no-host bar at 6 p.m., and 7 p.m. dinner and entertainment, on Feb. 28 at the Magic Valley Portuguese Hall, 625 E. Ave. F in Wendell. Cost is \$25 per person, \$45 per couple or \$180 for a table of eight.

For tickets, call Sharon Cheney at 934-5135, Ilene Rounsefell at 536-5366, Sally's at 934-4412 or Package Shoppe at 536-1711.

the Gooding County Historical Society's annual fundraiser dinner Feb. 28 at the Magic Valley Portuguese Hall.

Smith Family Singers will perform a variety of styles and popular songs from the past century as the dinner

helps the city celebrate its centennial year.

"There will be a PowerPoint presentation with a lot of pictures and advertisements from Wendell's past," said Jan Gooding, Wendell Chamber of Commerce centennial chairwoman.

Ilene Rounsefell, historical society president, said money raised through the dinner will go toward completion of a new Gooding County history museum being built in Gooding. Construction hit a snag when heavy snows took down the unfinished roof last year.

"Hopefully, all that is behind us," she said.

The dinner menu includes prime rib, mashed potatoes, string beans, tossed salad, hot rolls and peach cobbler.

Blair Koch may be reached at 208-316-2607 or blairkoch@gmail.com.

# Deadline today for Oscar contest

Bring us your entries today for our Academy Awards Prediction Contest. If you correctly guess the most categories, you'll win a \$25 gift certificate to Best Buy and be featured in an Entertainment story.

Drop off this form at our office at 132 Fairfield St. W. in Twin Falls. Entries must include your name and telephone numbers, and won't be accepted after today. The winner will be notified by Tuesday.

**Best Actor**

- Richard Jenkins, "The Visitor"
- Frank Langella, "Frost/Nixon"
- Sean Penn, "Milk"
- Brad Pitt, "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button"
- Mickey Rourke, "The Wrestler"

- "Frost/Nixon," screenplay by Peter Morgan
- "The Reader," screenplay by David Hare
- "Slumdog Millionaire," screenplay by Simon Beaufoy

- "In Bruges," written by Martin McDonagh
- "Milk," written by Dustin Lance Black
- "WALL-E," screenplay by Andrew Stanton, Jim Reardon; original story by Andrew Stanton, Pete Docter

**Best Original Screenplay**

- "Frozen River," written by Courtney Hunt
- "Happy-Go-Lucky," written by Mike Leigh

**Best Actress**

- Anne Hathaway, "Rachel Getting Married"
- Angelina Jolie, "Changeling"
- Melissa Leo, "Frozen River"
- Meryl Streep, "Doubt"
- Kate Winslet, "The Reader"

**Best Supporting Actor**

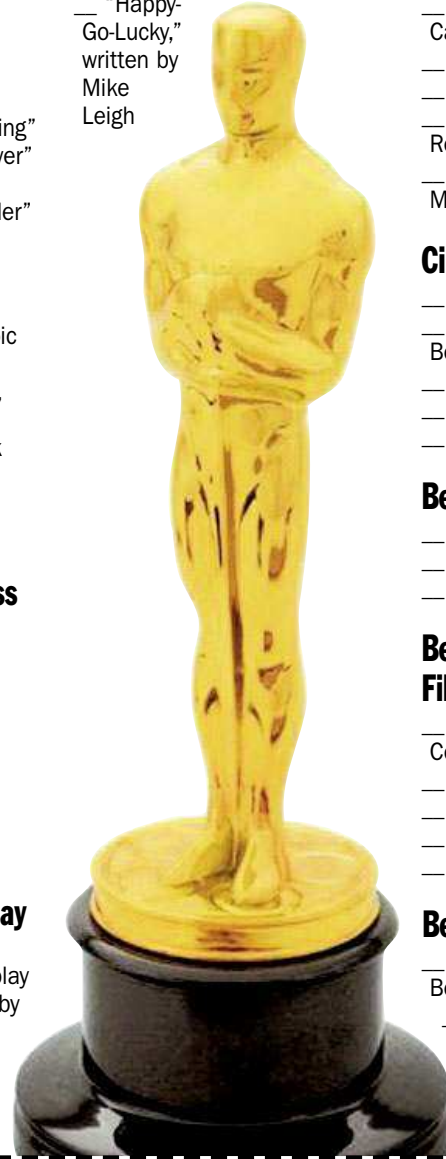
- Josh Brolin, "Milk"
- Robert Downey Jr., "Tropic Thunder"
- Philip Seymour Hoffman, "Doubt"
- Heath Ledger, "The Dark Knight"
- Michael Shannon, "Revolutionary Road"

**Best Supporting Actress**

- Amy Adams, "Doubt"
- Penelope Cruz, "Vicky Cristina Barcelona"
- Viola Davis, "Doubt"
- Taraji P. Henson, "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button"
- Marisa Tomei, "The Wrestler"

**Best Adapted Screenplay**

- "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button," screenplay by Eric Roth, screen story by Eric Roth and Robin Swicord
- "Doubt," written by John Patrick Shanley



**Best Director**

- David Fincher, "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button"
- Ron Howard, "Frost/Nixon"
- Gus Van Sant, "Milk"
- Stephen Daldry, "The Reader"
- Danny Boyle, "Slumdog Millionaire"

**Cinematography**

- "Changeling"
- "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button"
- "The Dark Knight"
- "The Reader"
- "Slumdog Millionaire"

**Best Animated Feature**

- "Bolt"
- "Kung Fu Panda"
- "WALL-E"

**Best Foreign Language Film**

- "The Baader Meinhof Complex," Germany
- "The Class," France
- "Departures," Japan
- "Revanche," Austria
- "Waltz with Bashir," Israel

**Best Picture**

- "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button"
- "Frost/Nixon"
- "Milk"
- "The Reader"
- "Slumdog Millionaire"



Photo courtesy of Sun Valley Center for the Arts

# Let the kids spend spring-break mornings at Hailey art camp

Times-News

Staying near Hailey over spring break? Make it fun for the kids with a week of art camp at the Sun Valley Center for the Arts' Hailey classroom.

Artist Matt Connor will lead elementary school students in gallery-based activities that explore the basic elements of art — line, shape, color and texture — with an emphasis on developing visual literacy and fine motor skills. Young

artists will explore a variety of two- and three-dimensional techniques including drawing, painting, textiles and collage. The class will also talk about how contemporary artists interpret our world. Each session will focus on new projects leading up to a group mural that students will design and construct.

Camp meets from 9 a.m. to noon March 16-20.

Connor, the center's events manager, is a practicing artist

who attended Luther College and the Minneapolis School of Advertising, Design and Interactive Studies.

"Give Me a Break! Spring Break Art Camp," for grades two through five, meets at the center in Hailey at the corner of Second and Pine streets. Cost is \$50 for Sun Valley Center for the Arts members and \$65 for non-members. Registration deadline is March 2: www.sunvalleycenter.org or 726-9491, ext. 10.

# Arts council hosts La Mascarade fundraiser

Times-News

Magic Valley Arts Council's annual fundraiser dinner dance and fine art auction, La Mascarade New York-New York, will be at 7 p.m. March 7 at The Ballroom in downtown Twin Falls.

The evening of dance and fine food features live entertainment by The Canyonside Orchestra, Tony Farrell, Ballroom dancers and others.

Tickets are \$40 (tax-deductible) in advance and \$50 at the door. Raffle tickets are \$10 each or 12 for \$100, for a chance to win a case of wine from the arts council board, a helicopter ride over the Snake River Canyon courtesy of Reeder Flying Service, or a pair of 14-karat white gold hoop earrings from Randy's Jewelry. Raffle winners need not be present to win.

Proceeds help fund Magic Valley Arts Council operations and are critical in continuing programs such as Kids Art in the Park, Missoula Children's Theatre, Arts on Tour and the Brown Bag Lecture Series.

Tickets: Magic Valley Arts Council office, 132 Main Ave. S. in Twin Falls. Information: 734-2787.

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# 'Bad Astronomy' shows at Faulkner Planetarium

Times-News

The Apollo moon landing of 1969 was actually staged in Hollywood. Aliens have visited the earth in UFOs. Astrology predicts and influences the important events in my life. The "Bad Astronomer" himself, Phil Plait, makes humorous and engaging appearances on these and other topics in the planetarium show that bears the name of his famous book.

"Bad Astronomy: Myths and Misconceptions" is the newest show at the Faulkner Planetarium in the Herrett Center for Arts and Science.

Plait describes himself as an astronomer, teacher, author and space junkie. Although he is delighted by the curiosity people always show about astronomy, he is frequently amazed at the myths and misconceptions in which so many believe. Hence, his book and subsequent planetarium show.

Much of what people think they know, says Plait in the show narration, they've seen on TV or in movies. Science has been a big part of movie storytelling. However, the portrayal has been pretty uneven over the years. Some films, such as "2001: A Space Odyssey," portray science pretty accurately. But many others are fiction.

Still, Plait takes a light-hearted view of not only what works and what doesn't in real science, but also how boring many of our favorite space movies would be if they adhered to strict principles of science.

"Bad Astronomy" shows at 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays at the Faulkner Planetarium. Admission is \$4.50 for adults, \$3.50 for seniors and \$2.50 for students.

Information: 732-6655 or [www.csi.edu/herrett](http://www.csi.edu/herrett).

# Public radio commentator to speak in Twin Falls

Times-News

Bob Edwards, host of National Public Radio's "Morning Edition" for more than 30 years, will speak in Twin Falls from noon to 1:30 p.m. Sunday at the CSI Fine Arts Auditorium. His appearance is hosted by The Boise State Radio Network.

During his years with NPR, Edwards conducted more than 25,000 interviews with guests ranging from celebrities to politicians and authors. In this 90-minute presentation, he will share behind-the-scenes tales from a life of broadcasting and answer audience questions.

Edwards won the DuPont-Columbia Award for radio journalism. In 1999, he and "Morning Edition" received a Peabody Award for excellence in broadcasting. Edwards also received the Edward R. Murrow Award from the Corporation of Public Broadcasting for outstanding contributions to public radio.

In 2004, he left NPR to work as a host for XM Satellite Radio and continues to host Bob Edwards Weekend for public radio which features conversation, performance and the occasional documentary with entertainers, newsmakers, writers and regular folks.

Tickets are \$25, available at the door, online at [radio.boisestate.edu](http://radio.boisestate.edu) or at 1-888-859-5278, ext. 663. Information on Boise State's radio network, including KBSW 91.7 which serves southern Idaho: [radio.boisestate.edu](http://radio.boisestate.edu).

# Some of the best French songs, in an intimate setting

By Karen Bossick  
Times-News correspondent

SUN VALLEY — Paula Rasmussen is an attorney. But when she appears in the Sun Valley Club next weekend she'll present love songs, not a law brief.

Rasmussen, you see, is also an opera singer. And she'll offer an evening of French-inspired pop and opera favorites with tenor George Dyer for Sun Valley Opera's "I Love Paris."

The concerts will be held two evenings at the new Sun Valley Club.

"Because I have a second career as an attorney, I only choose to sing a few concerts and concert versions of opera a year. I am just too busy to be on the road for too long," Rasmussen said. "Sun Valley is perfect because the concerts are close together, and working with the producers and promoters is very easy-going."

The mezzo-soprano, who has sung twice for Sun Valley Opera, was touted as a rising star when she broke onto the opera scene in 1990.

"She has such an intoxicating velvet soprano voice you don't want her to end," said Sun Valley Opera co-founder Frank Meyer. "When she sang 'Don't Cry for Me, Argentina' a few years ago, she brought the house down."

As word about Rasmussen's talents spread, she began spending 11 months a year on the road — "a different country a month," she said.

She found traveling grueling, missing everyday things like attending friends' birthday parties and reading the daily paper. So she enrolled in Golden Gate University in San Francisco in pursuit of a law degree. She has since worked in family court, with the San Francisco District Attorney and in U.S. Magistrate Court.

"I like family and criminal law because it affords me the opportunity to have an immediate impact on someone's life," said Rasmussen, whose husband — professional singer Don Sherrill — is now also pursuing a law degree.

Rasmussen plans to



Dyer



Rasmussen

sing "A Vie En Rose" by Edith Piaf, Schonberg's "I Dreamed a Dream" from "Les Miserables," some "Werther" by Massenet and some of Bizet's "Carmen."

"I wish I had more time to learn the entire collection of Piaf because the more I listen to it the more I love it," she said. "There is so much great French music that it is hard to choose which songs to do. But I love our program and think there is something in it for everyone — a few opera favorites, some French art song, pop and jazz songs by Cole Porter and Piaf. And we may throw in some American musical, as well."

Rasmussen, who has sung in major opera houses around the world, including Opera National de Paris, is looking forward to singing with Dyer again, as well.

Dyer is a singing actor who has been a Mormon Tabernacle Choir guest soloist. He received critical acclaim for his role in "H.M.S. Pinafore" with New York City Opera at the Lincoln Center. He is currently performing the lead role in "Abduction from the Seraglio" with Hawaii Opera Theatre.

Meyer said the fireside salon concert at the Sun Valley Club will offer music lovers the chance to listen to some of the greatest French songs ever written "in a setting as intimate as a private French villa."

"I just think it's going to be wonderful," said opera fan Mary Helmeke of Hailey. "I love love songs, and this is an opportunity to be up close and personal with the singers."

Karen Bossick may be reached at [kbossick@cox-inter-net.com](mailto:kbossick@cox-inter-net.com) or 208-578-2111.



## INTIMATE OPERA

- **What:** Sun Valley Opera's "I Love Paris"
- **When:** 6:30 p.m. Feb. 27 and 8 p.m. Feb. 28
- **Where:** Sun Valley Club on Trail Creek Road
- **Tickets:** \$35 for the Feb. 28 performance in the dining room. The Feb. 27 performance will include a Diva Party and cocktail buffet in front of the fireplace; tickets are \$125 to \$1,000. Tickets available online at [www.sunvalleyopera.com](http://www.sunvalleyopera.com), at Chapter One Bookstore in Ketchum or at 726-0991.



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# EVENTS CALENDAR

## 20 FRIDAY

**Planetarium/Twin Falls**  
**Faulkner Planetarium** at College of Southern Idaho's Herrett Center for Arts and Science presents **"Bad Astronomy: Myths and Misconceptions"** at 7 p.m.; and **"Led Zeppelin: Maximum Volume 1"** at 8:15 p.m. Education-show tickets are \$4.50 for adults, \$3.50 for seniors and \$2.50 for students. Tickets for the 8:15 p.m. entertainment show are \$4.50 for all ages.

**Arts class/Twin Falls**  
**Fab Fridays "Creative Arts"** class for ages 10 to adults, in two sessions, 2-3:30 p.m. or 3:45-5:15 p.m. at Twin Falls Creative Arts Center, 249 Main Ave. W. Learn different art media (painting, drawing and sculpting) plus home arts (candle making, knitting, candy making and counted cross stitch). \$45 per month. 737-9111.

**Dance/Twin Falls**  
**Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary's public dance**, 8 p.m. at the DAV Hall, 459 Shoup Ave.; \$2 donations requested.

**Acoustic/Twin Falls**  
 Guitarist and vocalist **Rick Kuhn** performs light rock, 8:30-10:30 p.m. at Canyon Crest Dining and Event Center, 330 Canyon Crest Drive. No cover.

**Country, rock/Twin Falls**  
**Mixed Emotions**, 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at Montana Steakhouse, 1826 Canyon Crest Drive. No cover.

**Jazz/Twin Falls**  
**Great Riff Jazz combo**, 7-10 p.m. at Pandora's restaurant, 516 Hansen St. No cover.

**Music/Burley**  
**Emily Skinner** performs the third event of the Mini-Cassia Community Concerts season, 7:30 p.m. at the King Fine Arts Center, 2100 Parke Ave. Tony-nominated singer and actress Skinner's "Broadway, Her Way" is a tribute to music and performers that have graced the Great White Way's stages. Admission is by season membership: \$40 for adults, \$20 for students and \$110 for families. Individual concert tickets are \$20. 678-1798 or 678-7447.



**Theater/Hailey**  
**Company of Fools and Barksdale Theatre** present the funny biographical play **"Souvenir: A Fantasia on the Life of Florence Foster Jenkins"** by Stephen Temperley, for Educator Night, 8 p.m. at Liberty Theatre, 110 N. Main St. Tickets are \$10 for currently employed educators and school administrators. Limit two per person. Tickets available at Liberty Theatre (9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday) or 578-9122.

**Theater/Ketchum**  
**The Community School** presents **"Clarence Darrow,"** 7 p.m. at nexStage Theatre, 120 S. Main St. Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French Inc. and written by David W. Rintels, based on Irving Stone's "Clarence Darrow for the Defense." Actor Terry Croghan portrays trial lawyer Darrow remi-



ERIN MATHSON/For the Times-News

**magicvalley.com**  
 See a video of rehearsal for Jump Co.'s upcoming production — "Kokonut Kapers," a musical comedy full of high jinks.

Part of the cast from Jump Co.'s musical comedy **'Kokonut Kapers':** from left, **McKenzie Manning, Ashton Meeks, Traci Otto, Amy Belnap, Megan Choate, Delaney Bergen and Tyler Ridgeway.** The show opens Thursday at Twin Falls' Roper Auditorium. Its message: **If anything can go wrong, it probably will.**

niscing about his personal life, the famous and the infamous people he defended in court, and his 50-year career. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$5 for youth, at 726-4TKS. Proceeds benefit nexStage.

**Music/Sun Valley**  
 Pianist **Larry Harshbarger**, 6-9 p.m. at Ram Restaurant at Sun Valley Inn. No cover. Restaurant reservations: 622-2800.

**Dance/Utah**  
**Single adults dance** for ages 30 and older, 8:30-11:30 p.m. at Weber State University Ballroom in the Shepard Student Union Building, 3750 Harrison Blvd. in Ogden. Free dance lesson: 7:30-8:30 p.m. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$5 for students. (801) 773-7464.

## 21 SATURDAY

**Dinner, lecture/Twin Falls**  
**College of Southern Idaho's Black Student Alliance** presents **Soul Food Dinner and Lecture** at 7 p.m. in the Herrett Center's Rick Allen Community Room. Dinner begins at 6 p.m., followed by the lecture at 7 p.m. Keynote speaker is the Rev. Leonard Lovett, whose ministries and college association with Martin Luther King Jr. have featured him at churches and campuses around the country. Lovett is author of several books, including "Kingdom Beyond Color" and "Close Your Back Door." Also features music selections from Delores Burgess of Boise and Marla Garrett and Ethan Tucker of Twin Falls. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for students and \$8 for children under 12, at the Student Activities office of CSI's Student Union Building or at the door. 732-6221.

**Planetarium/Twin Falls**  
 The **Faulkner Planetarium** at College of Southern Idaho's Herrett Center for Arts and Science presents **"Planet Patrol: Solar System Stakeout"** at 2 p.m.; **"Journey to the Edge of Space and Time"** at 4 p.m.; **"Bad Astronomy: Myths and Misconceptions"** at 7 p.m.; and **"Lynyrd Skynyrd: Fly On Free Bird"** at 8:15 p.m. Education-show tickets are \$4.50 for adults, \$3.50 for seniors and \$2.50 for students. Tickets for the 8:15 p.m. entertainment show are \$4.50 for all ages.

**Flute circle/Twin Falls**  
**Twin Diamond Native American Flute Circle**, noon to 2 p.m. at Episcopal Church of the Ascension, 371 Eastland Drive N. Beginner to advanced players, promoting and preserving the American Indian flute. Open to the

public to listen or to learn to play the flute. Free admission. Information: Mike or Marsha, 944-0742.

**Music/Twin Falls**  
 Pianist **Linda Schoepp**, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., and **Heartnote** performs light rock, 8:30-10:30 p.m., at Canyon Crest Dining and Event Center, 330 Canyon Crest Drive. No cover.

**Country, rock/Twin Falls**  
**Mixed Emotions**, 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at Montana Steakhouse, 1826 Canyon Crest Drive. No cover.

**Jazz/Twin Falls**  
**Great Riff Jazz combo**, 7-10 p.m. at Pandora's restaurant, 516 Hansen St. No cover.

**Fundraiser/Buhl**  
**West End Senior Citizen Center** hosts a **Mardi Gras fundraiser** at the center, 1010 Main St. Dinner at 6 p.m. (jambalaya, Cajun corn, salad, fruit, king cake and beverage); dinner cost is \$7.50. Bingo at 7-8:30 p.m.; four cards for \$1. 543-4577.

**Country/Declo**  
**The Fugitives**, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Shakers, 826 Idaho Highway 81. No cover.

**Theater/Hailey**  
**Company of Fools and Barksdale Theatre** present the funny biographical play **"Souvenir: A Fantasia on the Life of Florence Foster Jenkins"** by Stephen Temperley, at 8 p.m. at Liberty Theatre, 110 N. Main St. Jenkins was a deluded songbird, a rich matron self-financing her operatic dreams late in life, hiring a concert pianist, and designing her own florid costumes. As news of her terrible singing spread, so did her celebrity, leading to a sold-out performance at Carnegie Hall. Directed by John Glenn, and starring Debra Wagoner as "Flo-Jo" and R.L. Rowsey as accompanist Cosme McMoon. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$18 for seniors (62 and older) and \$15 for children (18 and younger). Tickets at Liberty Theatre (9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday), 578-9122 or at the box office one hour before the show.

**Theater/Ketchum**  
**The Community School** presents David W. Rintels' **"Clarence Darrow,"** 7 p.m. at nexStage Theatre, 120 S. Main St. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$5 for youth, at 726-4TKS. Proceeds benefit nexStage.

**Concert series/Ketchum**  
**Webb Winter Concert Series**, 3-7 p.m. at Irving's Red Hots Hill (corner of Fourth and Main streets). Concerts continue through March with a different musical act every Saturday. Food and beverages for sale from local restaurants. Free admission; open to all ages.

**Music/Ketchum**  
**Live music**, 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Papa Hemi's Hideaway, 310 S. Main St. No cover.

**Music/Sun Valley**  
 Accordionist **Tim Eriksen**, 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Roundhouse restaurant at Sun Valley Resort, and during dinner hours at Trail Creek Cabin. No cover.

**Bluegrass/Sun Valley**  
**Damphools**, 2:30-4:30 p.m. at River Run Lodge's Apres Ski. No cover.

**Country/Sun Valley**  
**Doo Wah Riders**, 2:30-4:30 p.m. at Warm Springs Lodge's Apres Ski. No cover.

578-9122 or at the box office one hour before the show.

**Music/Sun Valley**  
**Forever Plaid**, 7:30 p.m. in the Boiler Room at Sun Valley Village. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12, at 622-2135 or at the door.

**Jazz/Sun Valley**  
**Bruce Innes**, 2:30-4:30 p.m. at River Run Lodge's Apres Ski. No cover.

**Music/Sun Valley**  
 Pianist and singer **Leana Leach**, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. during Sunday brunch in the Lodge Dining Room at Sun Valley Resort. No cover. Restaurant reservations: 622-2800.

**Jazz/Sun Valley**  
**Cheryl Morrell** and **Alan Pennay**, 5-8:30 p.m., and **Leana Leach Trio**, 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at Duchin Lounge at Sun Valley Lodge. No cover. 622-2145.

**Country/Sun Valley**  
**Doo Wah Riders**, 2:30-4:30 p.m. at Warm Springs Lodge's Apres Ski. No cover.

**Pop/Salt Lake City**  
**Celine Dion**, 8 p.m. at EnergySolutions Arena, 301 W. South Temple. Tickets are \$45 to \$125, at ticketmaster.com.

## 23 MONDAY

**Film/Twin Falls**  
**Latin American Film Night**, Noche de Cine Latino, at 7 p.m. in Room 106 of College of Southern Idaho's Canyon building. Presented by CSI's Department of English, Languages and Philosophy and CSI Community Education. "El Norte" (U.S., Guatemala, 1983) is a story of hope and survival, with brother and sister Enrique and Rosa fleeing persecution at home in Guatemala and journeying north, through Mexico and on to the U.S., with the dream of starting a new life. The movie is considered a groundbreaking view of immigrants' dangers and travails. Film is in Spanish with English subtitles. Discussion follows. Free and open to the public; chips and homemade salsa provided.

**Arts class/Twin Falls**  
**"Creative Arts"** class for ages 12 to adult, 6:30-8 p.m. Mondays at Twin Falls Creative Arts Center, 249 Main Ave. W. Learn a variety of art media, including painting, drawing, sculpting and other creative arts. Beginners, intermediate and advanced students welcome. \$45 per month. 737-9111.

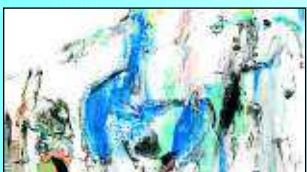
**Jazz/Sun Valley**  
**Cheryl Morrell** and **Alan Pennay**, 5-8:30 p.m., and **Bruce Innes**, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Duchin Lounge at Sun Valley Lodge. No cover. 622-2145.

Calendar continued on Entertainment 7

## 22 SUNDAY

**Theater/Hailey**  
**Company of Fools and Barksdale Theatre** present the funny biographical play **"Souvenir: A Fantasia on the Life of Florence Foster Jenkins"** at 3 p.m. at Liberty Theatre, 110 N. Main St. Starring Debra Wagoner as "Flo-Jo" and R.L. Rowsey as accompanist Cosme McMoon. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$18 for senior citizens (62 and older) and \$15 for children (18 and younger). Tickets at Liberty Theatre (9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday),

**Art/Pocatello**  
**Idaho State University Department of Art and Architecture** spring senior exhibition, featuring work of senior artists **Seth Clark of Oakley**, and **Amberlee Holman, Nancy Cox and Sterling Mennear** of Pocatello, opens Monday and continues through MARCH 4 in the John B. Davis Gallery at ISU's Fine Arts Building. Opening reception for the artists: 6-8 p.m. Monday. Clark, an Oakley High School graduate, will receive a bachelor's degree from Department of Art and Pre-Architecture this spring. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Information: Amy Jo Popa at 282-3341.



ONGOING EXHIBITIONS

**Art/Ketchum**  
**"Cantabile,"** featuring the work of Chinese artist **Andrew Lui**, on display through FEB. 28 at Gallery DeNovo, 320 First Ave. N., Suite 101. "Cantabile" refers to the melodic movement or tempo from which the painting is staged. Lui depicts the melancholy and exhilaration of voyagers. Works of Chinese painter Nie Jian Bing on display in the upstairs annex gallery, with classic portraits of European nobility and Renaissance-era images superimposed by a grid of acupuncture meridians. Hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Free admission. Gallerydenovo.com or 726-8180.

**Art, photographs/Buhl**  
 Works by **Carl Pulsifer** and his wife, **Joyce Deford**, on display through April 30 at The Eighth Street Center, 200 N. Eighth St. Pulsifer has photographs; Deford has oil paintings. Hours: noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Free admission. 543-5417.

**Visual arts/Ketchum**  
**"Domestic Life"** exhibition on display through MARCH 21



## 21

This origami centerpiece will be used at Saturday's Soul Food Dinner organized by the Black Student Alliance at the College of Southern Idaho. The Rev. Leonard Lovett — who calls himself a Martin Luther King Jr. celebrant speaker — will give an address at the dinner, and Idaho musicians will perform.

ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News



# String-band quintet builds on bluegrass passion



Times-News

Tickets are now available for Bearfoot, Arts on Tour's fifth performance of the season.

It's 7:30 p.m. March 4 in the College of Southern Idaho's Fine Arts Auditorium, sponsored by the *Times-News*. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$13 for students and children. (Arts on Tour offers no senior discount on individual event tickets.)

Bearfoot calls its music deeply American, showcasing a breadth of traditional and original songs. The band won the Telluride Bluegrass band contest in 2001, and — much like previous winners The Dixie Chicks and Nickel Creek — the five

artists have taken the chops honed by bluegrass into a freer form of acoustic music.

Bearfoot musicians got together as students at music camps in Alaska, when the youngest was 14. Soon, they were touring during summer breaks, as well as promoting and teaching music camps. They became crowd favorites at festivals including Wintergrass, Grey Fox, Strawberry Festival and six consecutive years at RockyGrass.

Now, the Alaska natives have released their third album, "Follow Me," and launched a U.S. tour, and they plan a new studio recording for release in fall 2009.

The more traditional songs on "Follow Me" are freshly arranged

and accompanied by blues laments, lilting original acoustic-pop songs, and old-time breakdowns touched with jazz stomps — the whole fused with a signature sexy bluegrass passion. As well as adept instrumental playing on guitar, bass, mandolin and fiddles — all the band members are multi-instrumentalists — everyone shares vocal duties, both solo and three-part harmony. The band also has original five-part-harmony a cappella songs.

Check out Bearfoot's Web site at [bearfootbluegrass.com](http://bearfootbluegrass.com).

Buy tickets at the CSI Fine Arts Box Office from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, online at [csi.edu/artstour](http://csi.edu/artstour), or at 732-6288.

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Shaq, Amare and Vince not dealt as NBA trading deadline passes.

See **SPORTS 4**

## IDAHO HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS: DAY 1

# SAILING INTO SEMIS

## Jerome makes quick work of Mountain Home

By David Bashore  
Times-News writer

MERIDIAN — One hurdle cleared, two to go.

Aubree Callen scored 14 and pulled down eight rebounds, Tinley Garey added 13 points and the Jerome girls basketball team went on a 24-0 run over 10 first-half minutes to beat Mountain Home 52-36 in the Class 4A state quarterfinals at Mountain View High School on Thursday.

Jerome (21-4) switched to a 2-3 zone defense midway through the first quarter, to great effect. Mountain Home (12-12) didn't score another point until there were less than three minutes left in the half.

"That zone really threw them off guard, I think. The biggest thing was our defensive intensity," said Jerome head coach Brent Clark. "It helped that we were able to run on them a little, and get some transition points. It was a great job from the girls."

Garey scored most of her points on the same move, a pick-and-roll from the high post. It seemed to be there no matter the player, be it Garey, Allison Bruckner (six points), Baylie Smith (five) or Jordann Hollifield (two).

Garey and Smith both hit 3-pointers to beat a buzzer, Garey's coming at the end of the third and Smith's at halftime.

"That's huge for Tinley, in her first state game and she has near her season high in points. What a time to have it," said Clark.

The first half was something to behold from a Jerome perspective, as a swarming extended defense and fast-break offense combined to vex Mountain Home



STAN BREWSTER/For the Times-News

Jerome's Carrie Thibault (12) drives against Mountain Home's Francesca Hale (22) for a layup Thursday at Mountain View High School in Meridian.

See **JEROME**, Sports 2

## Jerome boys secure spot in GBW title game

By Ryan Howe  
Times-News writer

JEROME — It's turning out to be a banner winter season for the Jerome boys in District IV.

Jerome has won Great Basin Conference championships in girls basketball and wrestling. Now the boys hoops team is in position to make it a clean sweep.

Minico hung around with No. 1 seeded Jerome for three quarters Thursday, but once the Tigers got into crunch time, they proved to be the more poised group on the floor as they pulled away 55-45.

### INSIDE

Bruin boys top Highland in OT.

See **Sports 3**

The win places Jerome (20-2) in Monday's championship game of the District IV Great Basin Conference West tournament. Meanwhile, Minico (9-13) will host Burley in an elimination game Saturday, with the winner advancing to face Jerome on Monday.

Burley has won the past four conference titles, and Jerome coach Joe Messick said the Tigers haven't reached the state tournament since 1998.

"Burley has been running the show the last few years, now it's Jerome's turn," said Jerome point guard Logan Parker, who scored 10 points. "We haven't lost this year on our floor and that's our mentality."

Four Tigers reached double-figure scoring, led by Kameron Pearce with 15 points and five assists. Gus Callen chipped in with 10 points and Kevin Williams earned a double-double with 11 points and 11 boards.

"That's a senior-led ballclub that's been through the wars," Minico coach Mike Graefe said of Jerome. "They made one or two more plays than we did."

Jerome led by as many as 12 in the first half. Minico rallied, and Bronson Miller brought the Spartans to within one on his four-point play to open the fourth quarter.

However, Jerome was able to hang on without making a field goal in the game's final seven minutes. Jerome was also out-rebounded 43-30 for the game and kept the door open for a Minico rally by converting just 6 of 11 free throws in the final 2:33.

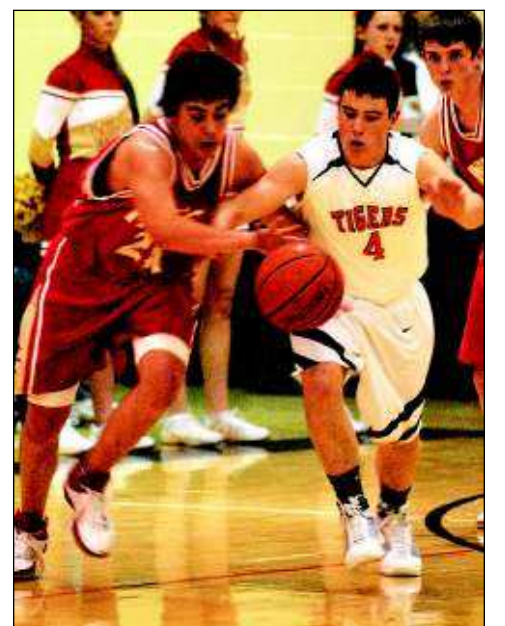
Despite those let-downs, Jerome never looked frazzled.

"There were times when we didn't play our best basketball tonight and we just gutted it out and found a way to win at the end," said Jerome coach Joe Messick.

Coltin Johnson had 14 points and eight rebounds to lead Minico.

"Minico played some good ball tonight," Parker said. "Our ball movement could

See **DISTRICT IV**, Sports 3



RYAN HOWE/Times-News

Jerome's Cameron Stauffer (4) and Minico's Bronson Miller fight for a loose ball during the Tigers' 55-45 win Thursday at Jerome High School.

### STATE SCORES



#### Class 4A

Jerome 52, Mountain Home 26

#### Class 3A

Teton 49, Kimberly 44  
Wendell 44, Bonners Ferry 38

#### Class 2A

Valley 54, Melba 48

#### Class 1A Div. I

Raft River 51, Kendrick 50

#### Class 1A Div. II

Richfield 51, North Gem 33  
Dietrich 57, Garden Valley 56  
Carey 44, Summit Academy 39

## Kimberly falls; Wendell advances in 3A ranks

By John Derr  
Times-News writer

NAMPA — A second-half rally wasn't quite enough for Kimberly as the Bulldogs fell 49-44 to Teton in the quarterfinals of the Class 3A girls state basketball tournament Thursday night at Skyview High School.

"In the first half we kind of psyched ourselves out. In the second half we did what we wanted, we just fell a little bit short," said junior guard Alex Pfefferle, who finished with a team-high 15 points.

Kimberly will take of the loser of the Wendell/Bonners Ferry game today at 3:15 pm., today.

It was a rough first half for Kimberly, which turned the ball over 10 times while the Redskins shots 67 percent from the field. Kimberly went 7-for-19 from the field before intermission.

Teton's top player, 6-foot senior post Laurel Kearsley, caused problems early as Kimberly trailed 7-0 midway through the first.



STEVE CONNER/For the Times-News

Kimberly junior Alex Pfefferle walks off the court showing her disappointment as Teton celebrates its upset win in the quarterfinals of the Class 3A girls state tournament in Nampa.

Nellie Makings, who finished with 13 points, came off the bench to score four and keep the Bulldogs within striking distance. Pfefferle and Megan Crist each

connected inside while Makings added a 3-pointer to cut the deficit to five at the half.

See **3A**, Sports 3

MORE COVERAGE INSIDE: Raft River, Valley advance to semifinals; full roundup of 1A and 2A >> Sports 2

## Buhl wins District IV wrestling title

By Bradley Guire  
Times-News writer

WENDELL — The Buhl Indians won their second straight District IV wrestling team title Thursday with three grapplers claiming championship medals at Wendell High School.

The Indians finished with 180 team points, just 13 more than runner-up Filer.

The top four from each class qualified for next week's

state tournament. Filer led with 14 qualifiers, Buhl had a dozen, Wendell will send 10 and Gooding and Kimberly will have nine state participants apiece.

Blake Finney was one of Buhl's three champions, winning his third district title. The junior pinned Wendell's Ryan Slade in the 160-pound championship match.

"It feels good to win another district title," he said. He claimed the 140-pound

title as a freshman and the 145 as a sophomore.

It was the first district title for many wrestlers, including Kimberly's Allen Hunt (171 pounds) and Gooding's Calvin Walgamott (215). Hunt, a senior, said it was also his first year to qualify for state. He scored a pinfall over Filer's Jacob Bogner.

"He was hard to hold down," Hunt said. "He's super strong."

Walgamott's victory has

earned him a third trip to state, although he said he almost let the championship match get away from him.

"I had to cool down," he said. "I went in antsy, and it almost got me pinned. I took some deep breaths and listened to my coaches. It all worked out."

For Filer junior Nick Flenor, this second district championship was a

See **WRESTLING**, Sports 3



MEAGAN THOMPSON/Times-News

Buhl's Blake Finney pins Kimberly's Braxton Altom Thursday during the Class 3A wrestling District IV meet at Wendell High School.









# NFL SCOUTING COMBINE SIZE DOESN'T MEAN EVERYTHING FOR O-LINEMEN

## Alabama's Smith one of top rated players in draft

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Andre Smith has the highest profile among offensive linemen at this week's NFL's annual scouting combine.

Herman Johnson still carries more weight.

Smith, the tackle, and Johnson, the guard, are two of the top rated players at their respective positions and could plug major holes for teams in need of pass protection and run blocking — if they can answer some big questions this week.

For Smith, projected by some to be the top pick in April's draft, it comes down to the subtleties of playing right tackle or left.

For Johnson, it's all about the pounds.

"I've lost more than 20 pounds since the Senior Bowl," Johnson said after weighing in at 364 on Thursday. "Some people said to drop some weight and show them what I could do."

Johnson has done his part.

But showing off isn't a normal activity at the combine, where many top prospects skip the workouts and opt instead to showcase their skills on college campuses.

Smith may be the exception because he hasn't yet decided whether to participate in Saturday's drills, something that could help scouts determine where he should play.

The distinction could be huge.

Right now, Smith is projected by some to be the No. 1 pick in April's draft, but the money and higher draft picks are usually spent on the coveted left tackles, who protect a right-handed quarterback's blindside. So if they determine Smith is a better fit on the right side, his draft stock could slip and his childhood dreams may take a hit.

"It's true, I asked my dad when I was in 6th grade, going into seventh grade, what was the highest paid position in the NFL," Smith said. "He told me."

Smith then grew to be 6-foot-4, 332 pounds and honed his skills into those needed to be an elite NFL tackle.



Alabama offensive lineman Andre Smith talks about his football draft prospects during a press conference at the NFL Scouting Combine in Indianapolis, Thursday. AP photo

"I've lost more than 20 pounds since the Senior Bowl. Some people said to drop some weight and show them what I could do."

— Herman Johnson, former LSU guard who weighed in at 364 pounds Thursday

Scouts may now have another question to ponder.

Smith was suspended from Alabama's bowl game after it was reported he had dealings with an agent. That is a violation of NCAA rules and could have ended his college eligibility though coach Nick Saban said he would have welcomed Smith back for his senior season.

On Thursday, Smith, for the first time, denied the suspension was related to an agent, saying instead he hadn't chosen Alvin Keels to represent him until two weeks ago.

"It was just a bad decision," he said. "I went to talk

## Panthers' Peppers gets franchise tag

The Associated Press

Julius Peppers was slapped with the franchise player tag by Carolina on Thursday, making it more difficult for the star defensive end to get his wish and leave the Panthers.

The tag was applied after the Panthers agreed on a new contract with left tackle Jordan Gross. That cleared the way for Carolina to use the team's only franchise tag on Peppers, who had 14½ sacks last season but expressed his desire to leave the Panthers and their 4-3

to Coach Saban about it, and he thought it was best to protect the team. I hurt, I cried, I shed some tears, I talked to my teammates about it. But it had nothing to do with an agent."

Smith wouldn't elaborate on what the indiscretion was.

Johnson is an intriguing prospect for another reason: Sheer size.

At 6-foot-8, 364 pounds, he is easily the largest linemen

scheme for a team that plays a 3-4 defense.

The move came on the final day for teams to apply a franchise designation, which keeps a player under the control of his current team for an average salary of the top five players at his position. Overall, 14 of the NFL's 32 teams protected players with the franchise tag.

In addition to Peppers, among those tagged on Thursday were cornerback Dunta Robinson of Houston; tight end Bo Scaife of Tennessee; line-

backer Leroy Hill of Seattle; and offensive tackle Max Starks of Pittsburgh.

Meanwhile, All-Pro cornerback Nnamdi Asomugha re-signed with Oakland, avoiding the franchise tag he had last season by agreeing to a three-year contract that's thought to be the richest ever given to a defensive back. Its value is estimated at \$30 million.

But the most intriguing move involves Peppers, the second overall pick in the 2002 draft. His big season followed a 2007 in which he had just 2½ sacks.

in the draft, about 30 pounds heavier than any of the other roughly 330 players at the combine. That could give teams a formidable interior presence to block the increasingly bulky group of defensive tackles that stuff the run.

But 364 is paltry compared to his freshman reporting weight at LSU, 411.

So Johnson is accustomed to the stares, questions and even the weighty nicknames

such as "The House," given to him by former LSU teammate Marcus Spears because, well, Spears thought he was as big as a house.

Apparently, it's in the genes.

His birth weight, 15 pounds, 14 ounces, is considered the Louisiana record and the doctor who delivered Johnson still calls on his birthday to remind him that mark has not been broken.

## Rodriguez ducks follow-up questions on drug use

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Alex Rodriguez ducked follow-up questions about his drug use, refusing to address a report identifying the cousin the Yankees star claims injected him with a banned substance.

"I'm not talking about it anymore," Rodriguez said Thursday.

The slugger also wouldn't discuss Major League Baseball's attempt to interview him about his tainted past.

"I'd rather not get into that," he said.

The three-time AL MVP met with Yankees owner George Steinbrenner and worked out on the main field at New York's spring training camp. Fans applauded and shouted encouragement, and critical shouts were at a minimum.

"The relief was just putting the uniform back on and running out there with my teammates," Rodriguez said. "No matter what happens and what has occurred in my life, the baseball field is where I feel most comfortable."

During his news conference

Tuesday, he said a cousin injected him with "boli," a drug obtained in the Dominican Republic that Rodriguez believes led to a positive steroids test in baseball's anonymous 2003 survey.

Rodriguez wouldn't identify the cousin, reported by ESPN.com to be Yuri Sucart of Miami.

Property records show Sucart lives in Miami. At the house listed as his residence, a man and woman drove onto the grounds just after noon and quickly closed the gate behind them.

The man rolled down his window and did not answer questions, saying only "we have dogs." A small cocker spaniel could be seen and heard barking on the property.

The man was at the house about 15 minutes before driving off alone in the vehicle to avoid reporters waiting outside. Earlier, a woman walking on the property refused to answer questions or identify herself behind the gate when asked by The Associated Press.

## 'Lefty' comes to life at Riviera

LOS ANGELES — With a flop shot that was amazing even by his standards, Phil Mickelson took a step toward shaking off his West Coast doldrums Thursday with his best round ever at Riviera.

From 40 yards behind the 10th green, his ball buried in the rough and his landing area no bigger than a hub cap, Mickelson's barely cleared the bunker and settled 6 feet from the hole to start his day with a birdie.

It sent him to an 8-under 63 and a one-shot lead at the Northern Trust Open, a round Mickelson desperately needed after one of the worst starts to his career.

"It was one of the better shots I've hit this year," Mickelson said.

Scott McCarron, so intimidated by Riviera when he played at UCLA that he wondered if he could ever break 70, birdied his last hole for a 64 to give himself another chance at a tournament where he has twice played in the final group without winning.

The group at 66 included



Defending champion Phil Mickelson drives on the No. 2 tee during the first round of the Northern Trust Open golf tournament at Riviera Country Club in the Pacific Palisades area of Los Angeles Thursday. AP photo

Pebble Beach winner Dustin Johnson, Jim Furyk, K.J. Choi and Luke Donald.

### WOODS TO RETURN NEXT WEEK AT MATCH PLAY

LOS ANGELES — Eight months after winning the U.S. Open on one good leg, a healthy Tiger Woods is returning to golf.

Woods said on his Web site Thursday that he will defend his title next week in the Accenture Match Play

Championship, believing his reconstructed left knee and his game are good enough to win.

"I'm now ready to play again," Woods said.

The Match Play Championship in Tucson, Ariz., begins Wednesday.

Players whom Woods has beaten so often while compiling 65 victories were happy to hear he was coming back.

— The Associated Press

## Shaq, other big names stay put at trade deadline

The Associated Press

Shaquille O'Neal and all the other big names stayed put on trade deadline day, with owners perhaps scared of making moves that added salary in an uncertain economic climate.

The Cleveland Cavaliers were among the suitors that reportedly reached out to Phoenix to inquire about O'Neal, but they couldn't close a deal for him or any other big man they sought to battle defending NBA champion Boston.

Amare Stoudemire and Vince Carter headlined the stars who had space on the rumor mill in recent weeks but went nowhere, with teams having to balance a player's impact on the court with his effect on the wallet.

"If anybody hasn't figured out that the economy is hitting every company in the country and in the world, they're not very bright," Dallas owner Mark Cuban said Wednesday. "Of course it's hitting everybody and everybody has to be considerate of it."

The Suns were believed to be one of the teams considering financial-based moves during a disappointing season. But after Phoenix fired Terry Porter on Monday and scored 140 points in consecutive wins under new coach Alvin Gentry, owner Robert Sarver gave the go-ahead to keep the team together.

"We could have made moves to save money and, given the economy and our payroll, that would have been understandable," general manager Steve Kerr said, "but he stepped up and allowed us to move forward with what we have."

The only top contender to make an upgrade was Orlando, which landed Rafer Alston from Houston in a three-team deal that also included Memphis. The Magic needed a point guard to replace All-Star Jameer Nelson, who they announced had season-ending shoulder injury Thursday.



Alston

Also:

- The Chicago Bulls traded unhappy guard Larry Hughes to the New York Knicks for Tim Thomas, Jerome James and Anthony Roberson. Chicago also traded guard Thabo Sefolosha to the Oklahoma City Thunder for a 2009 first-round draft pick.

- The Knicks also acquired Chris Wilcox from Oklahoma City for Malik Rose and cash considerations in a swap of forwards with expiring contracts.

- The Minnesota Timberwolves shipped Rashad McCants and center Calvin Booth to Sacramento for forward Shelden Williams and point guard Bobby Brown.

- The Boston Celtics traded center Patrick O'Bryant to Toronto as part of a three-team trade also involving Sacramento. The Celtics acquired a future conditional second-round draft pick from the Kings, who received guard Will Solomon from Toronto and cash considerations from Boston.

The Kings also waived Mikki Moore after continuing their salary cap purge with their third trade in a week. Sacramento sent Brad Miller and John Salmons to the Bulls on Wednesday for Andres Nocioni, Drew Gooden, Michael Ruffin and Cedric Simmons. The Kings immediately sent Ruffin to Portland for Ike Diogu and cash.

# NATION & WORLD

## FBI tracks down financier in fraud case

WASHINGTON (AP) — Texas financier R. Allen Stanford was tracked down Thursday in Virginia, where FBI agents served him with legal papers in a multibillion-dollar fraud case.

FBI agents, acting at the request of the Securities and Exchange Commission, served Stanford court orders and other documents, the FBI and the SEC said.

Stanford is not under arrest and is not in custody. In a civil complaint



Stanford

Tuesday, the SEC accused Stanford, two other executives and three of his companies with committing an \$8 billion fraud that lured investors with promises of improbable and unsubstantiated high returns on certificates of deposit and other investments. It's not

clear how much of the \$8 billion was lost and how much investors might recover.

Until regulators got help Thursday from the FBI, the SEC had not been able to find Stanford.

A law enforcement official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the billionaire was served Thursday afternoon by an agent who had staked out a location in Fredericksburg, Va.

Around 1:45 p.m., the agent spotted Stanford in a

car driven by Stanford's girlfriend. The agent spoke to Stanford, who was riding in the passenger side, the official said. The agent handed Stanford the SEC complaint, a federal court order freezing Stanford's assets and another order naming a receiver.

Stanford told the agent he understood and would make arrangements to surrender his passport, the official said.

Stanford has not been charged with any crime,

though federal agents continue to investigate the case.

The fallout from the fraud case is already rattling around the global financial system.

Venezuela on Thursday seized a failed bank controlled by Stanford after a run on deposits there, while clients were prevented from withdrawing their money from Stanford International Bank and its affiliates in a half-dozen other countries.

## Mexico: Exodus of migrants declines

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Migration from Mexico, mainly to the United States, has fallen dramatically as fewer Mexicans leave their country to look for work abroad amid a global economic downturn, the government said Thursday.

The net outflow of Mexicans — both legal and illegal — declined by over 50 percent in the 12 months ending in August 2008, compared the same period a year earlier, said the Eduardo Sojo, president of the board of Mexico's National Statistics, Geography and Information Institute.

Sojo attributed the net drop in migration to tough economic conditions abroad motivating Mexicans to stay at home, rather than Mexicans in other countries returning to their homeland.

"There is declining tendency of people going abroad, but we have not detected, up to now, any increase in people returning to the country," Sojo said.

Sojo also said a recent survey of "leading indicators" suggests that the number of Mexicans planning to emigrate in the future is also dropping. He did not provide details of that survey.

He said the net outflow of Mexicans — those leaving the country minus those returning from abroad — dropped to 204,000 people between August 2007 and August 2008. That was down from 455,000 for the year ending in August 2007.

The number of returning Mexicans was roughly the same over the two periods, declining slightly to 450,000 by late 2008, from 478,000 in the 2007 period.

## Parliament wants U.S. to vacate air base

BISHKEK, Kyrgyzstan (AP) — Kyrgyzstan's parliament voted Thursday to close a key U.S. air base in the country — a move that could hamper President Barack Obama's efforts to increase the number of U.S. forces in Afghanistan.

Deputies voted 78-1 with two abstentions for the government-backed bill to cancel the lease agreement on the Manas air base, a transit point for 15,000 troops and 500 tons of cargo each month to and from Afghanistan. The move follows Russia's offer of \$2.15 billion in aid and loans to the impoverished Central Asian country.

U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates, in Poland for NATO talks, said the United States would consider paying more rent to continue using the strategic base. Speaking after the parliament vote in Kyrgyzstan, Gates said he considers talks still open over the future of the base.

Russia has denied pushing Kyrgyzstan to shut the base, but U.S. officials were skeptical.

— The Associated Press

## Strains threaten military readiness

WASHINGTON (AP) — For the third consecutive year, a classified Pentagon assessment has concluded there's a significant risk that the U.S. military could not respond quickly and fully to any new crisis, The Associated Press has learned.

The latest risk assessment, drawn up by Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, comes despite recent security gains in Iraq and plans for troop cuts there.

The assessment finds that the U.S. continues to face persistent terrorist threats, and the military is still stretched and strained from long and repeated tours to the warfront.

Senior military officials spoke about the report on condition of anonymity because it is a classified document. Prepared every year, and routinely delivered to Congress with the budget, the risk assessment paints a broad picture of the security threats and hotspots around the world and the U.S. military's ability to deal with them. Mullen has delivered it to Defense Secretary Robert Gates.

Gates will send an accompanying report to Congress outlining what the military is doing to address the risks.

This year's assessment finds many of the same global security issues as previous years — ranging from terrorist organizations and unstable governments to the potential for high-tech cyber attacks.

It also reflects the Pentagon's ongoing struggle to maintain a military that can respond to threats from other countries, while honing newer counterinsurgency techniques to battle more unconventional dangers, such as suicide bombers and lethal roadside bombs.

# Unusual attraction

## Chimpanzee had bond with owner

By John Christoffersen  
Associated Press writer

STAMFORD, Conn. — Travis the chimpanzee's relationship with his owner was closer than those of some married couples.

Sandra Herold gave him the finest food, and wine in long-stemmed glasses. They took baths together and cuddled in the bed they shared. Travis brushed the lonely widow's hair each night and pined for her when she was away.

If she left the house alone, Travis would give her a kiss.

"If I left with someone Travis would get upset," Herold said Wednesday.

Experts say the unusually human relationship would have been confusing for any animal. It may have also played a role in Travis' savage attack Monday on Herold's friend, 55-year-old Charla Nash of Stamford.

"This is a crazy relationship," said Stephen Rene Tello, executive director of Primarily Primates, a sanctuary for chimps in Texas. "He was probably very bonded with her. I can kind of see it in his eyes this is his surrogate mother."

And chimps like 14-year-old Travis, who was shot and killed by police, protect their mates and turf.

"If there is another person entering his space, he might consider it a threat to his territory, or even his mate," Tello said.

Police say Travis attacked Nash when she arrived at the house to help lure the chimp back into Herold's house. Herold speculated that Travis was being protective of her and attacked Nash because she had a different hairstyle, was driving a different car and held a stuffed toy in front of her face to get the chimp's attention.

Nash suffered massive injuries to her face and



AP photos

In this Oct. 20, 2003, photo, Travis, a 10-year-old chimpanzee, sits in the corner of his playroom at the home of Sandy and Jerome Herold in Stamford, Conn.



Sandra Herold, owner of Travis the chimpanzee, speaks to reporters in Stamford, Conn., on Wednesday.

hands, requiring more than seven hours of surgery by four teams of doctors to stabilize her. She was transferred in critical condition Thursday to the Cleveland Clinic, which two months ago performed the nation's first successful face transplant.

Hospital officials say Nash is being treated for her injuries and it's unknown if she will be a candidate for a face transplant.

Monday's attack was not the first time Travis bit someone, a former Stamford resident now living in Atlanta said Thursday.

Leslie Mostel Paul told The Associated Press the chimp grabbed her hand and bit it hard enough to draw blood in 1996, while the animal was sitting in Herold's car in a Stamford office parking lot. Paul said she had tried to shake Travis' hand after

## AROUND THE NATION

### ILLINOIS Black pastors to ask Burris to resign

CHICAGO — A Chicago minister tells The Associated Press he and other black pastors who previously supported U.S. Sen. Roland Burris now plan to ask him to resign.

The minister spoke Thursday on condition of anonymity because a meeting with Burris hadn't yet been scheduled.

Many of the city's black pastors supported seating Burris because of his scandal-free reputation — even though he was appointed by then-Gov. Rod Blagojevich after the governor was arrested.

But revelations that Burris attempted to raise money for Blagojevich while seeking the Senate job have eroded some of his support.

Blagojevich is accused of trying to sell the Senate appointment.

A Burris spokeswoman didn't immediately return a phone message.

### CALIFORNIA Schwarzenegger to sign budget legislation

SACRAMENTO — California lawmakers passed a massive tax increase Thursday along with making billions in spending cuts, ending a grueling week of negotiations over closing the state's \$42 billion budget deficit.

The package of bills was sent to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger after the early-morning votes in the Assembly and Senate, and the Republican governor was scheduled to sign it Friday.

Schwarzenegger called the Legislature's work coura-

geous, noting that Democrats compromised on their opposition to deep spending cuts and some Republican lawmakers set aside their opposition to tax increases.

"Now, instead of worrying every day only about IOUs and about red ink, we can start moving California forward once again," he said. "This action to solve our \$42 billion deficit was difficult but courageous and just

what California needs."

Both houses of the Legislature got the bare minimum of votes to reach the two-thirds requirement needed to pass the package, which includes \$12.8 billion in tax hikes, \$15.1 billion in cuts, billions in borrowing and measures intended to stimulate the state's economy.

If the economy doesn't worsen considerably, the plan is intended to balance

the state's budget through June 2010. The Senate began debating before dawn Thursday after a moderate Republican, Sen. Abel Maldonado of Santa Maria, agreed to provide the final vote.



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## 2009 MAZDA B-SERIES PICKUP TRUCK

# RUGGED & READY:

RoadWorthy!  
By Ken Chester, Jr.  
Motor News Media Corporation

Featuring ample power and strong towing capacity, the Mazda B-Series is built to handle the toughest off-highway terrain. Yet, this rugged truck boasts a comfortable and refined cabin and looks just as good on the city's paved paths.

Full hybrids achieve their greatest improvement in fuel economy during stop-and-go driving. This is when the electric motor is most efficient. In fact the Mariner Hybrid delivers approximately 80 percent better fuel economy in city driving than the conventional V6 Mariner, and can travel more than 500 miles in city driving on a single tank of gasoline.

Based on the reliable Ford Ranger pickup truck, the B-Series is available as a two-door Regular Cab or four-door, four-seat Cab Plus and two- or four-wheel drive systems. Power for the Mazda pickup is generated by a choice of a 2.3L four-cylinder or 4.0L V6 engines. Torque is communicated to the ground through the standard five-speed manual gearbox. A sophisticated and smooth-shifting five-speed automatic transmission is an available option.

The Regular cab is only offered with the 2.3L engine and the 4x4 is only offered as a Cab Plus and offered with the 4.0L engine. To better meet customer demands, the high-end B4000 Cab Plus SE model was discontinued in the U.S. market for 2009.

All 4x4 B-Series trucks feature low-range gearing and automatic-locking front hubs for tackling steep hills and low traction situations like deep mud or snow, or slippery boat



Motor News Media Corporation/Photo

loading ramps. Functionality is always at the forefront as all B-Series models are superbly practical, offering standard cargo-bed tie-down hooks, and a wide range of options such as a cargo-bed extender, retractable tie-down hooks, tie-down loops and a soft tonneau cover.

In keeping with the automaker's fun-to-drive mantra for all of its models, the B-Series trucks are fitted with an independent double-wishbone front suspension which allows a great amount of wheel-travel for tough off-

highway operation without sacrificing on-road feel or performance. A leaf-spring set-up for the rear is tuned to provide a comfortable ride and great road handling without compromising the truck's core ability as a load carrier.

Power-assisted rack-and-pinion steering, gas-filled shock absorbers and a front stabilizer bar are fitted on all models for sure on-road drivability and response as well as great off-highway durability.

In addition, all B-Series trucks feature power-assisted front ventilated disc brakes with rear drums. Four-wheel anti-lock brakes are fitted as standard across the range to prevent wheel lockup and reduce stopping distances in certain conditions.

Inside the passenger cabin, storage space is abundant and clever. Bins within the center console, center armrest and front doors are spacious, and a pair of cupholders are also positioned to be driver-friendly.

Inside, a spacious 60/40 split-bench front seat is standard on all B-Series trucks. Base models have manual windows, door locks and an AM/FM two-speaker audio system. Cab Plus four-door models add extra storage in the rear doors and a pair of cupholders for rear passengers.

### 2009 Mazda B-Series Pickup Truck By The Numbers

#### PRICING

The base Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) for the 2009 Mazda B-Series pickup truck starts from \$16,060 for the regular cab and \$22,150 for the Cab Plus 4. Destination charges add \$720.

#### DIMENSIONS & SPECIFICATIONS

##### B-Series Regular cab

Wheelbase: 111.6; overall length: 187.5; width: 69.4; height: 64.9.

##### B-Series Cab Plus 4 (crew cab)

Wheelbase: 125.9; overall length: 202.9; width: 70.3; height: 67.5. All vehicle measurements are in inches.

Engine: 2.3L four-cylinder - 143 hp at 5,250 rpm and 154 lbs-ft of torque at 3,750 rpm; 4.0L V6 - 207 hp at 5,250 rpm and 238 lbs-ft of torque at 3,000 rpm.

Transmission: five-speed manual or five-speed automatic.

EPA fuel economy: 2.3L four-cylinder - 21 city/26 hwy. (manual), 19 city/24 hwy. (automatic); 4.0L V6 - 15 city/19 hwy. (manual), 14 city/18 hwy. (automatic).

Payload capacity: 1,260 lbs. Towing capacity: 5,600 lbs.

#### SAFETY FEATURES

Dual front airbags, side-impact door beams, four-wheel anti-lock brakes and tire pressure monitoring system. Cab Plus 4 adds engine immobilizer. Optional safety features include fog lights.

#### WARRANTY

Basic: 3-year/36,000 mile, bumper-to-bumper. Powertrain: 5-year/60,000 mile. Corrosion: 5-year/unlimited. Roadside assistance: 3-year/36,000 mile, 24-hour.

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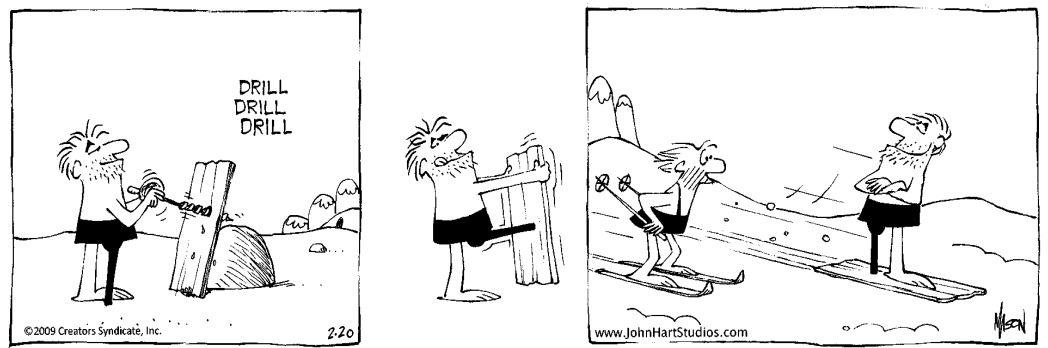








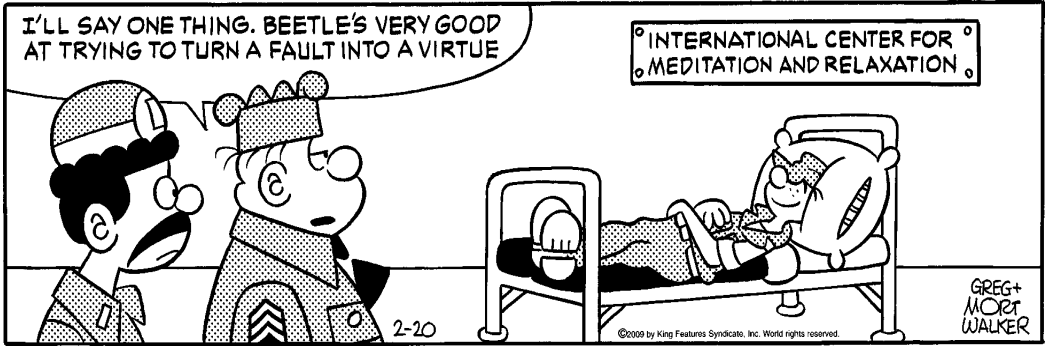
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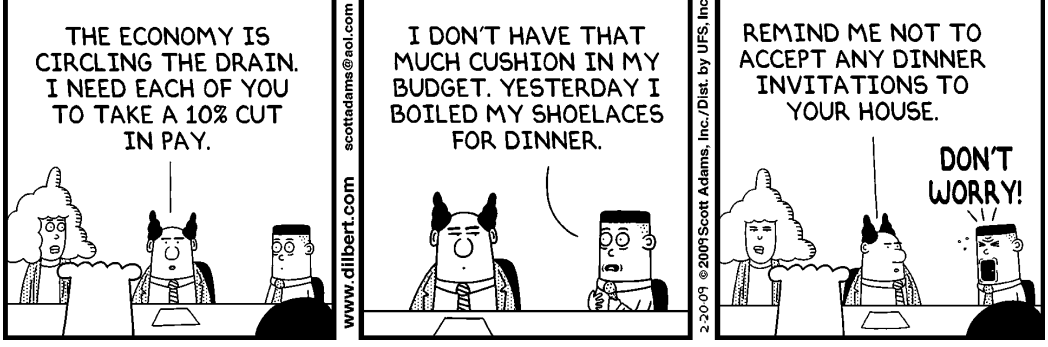
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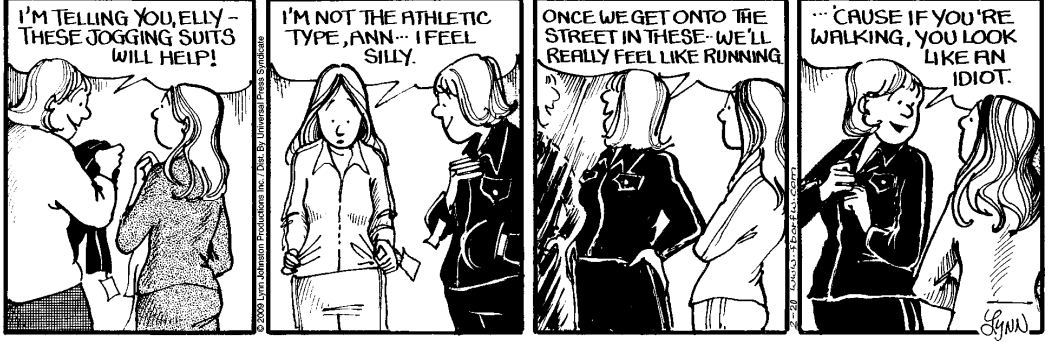
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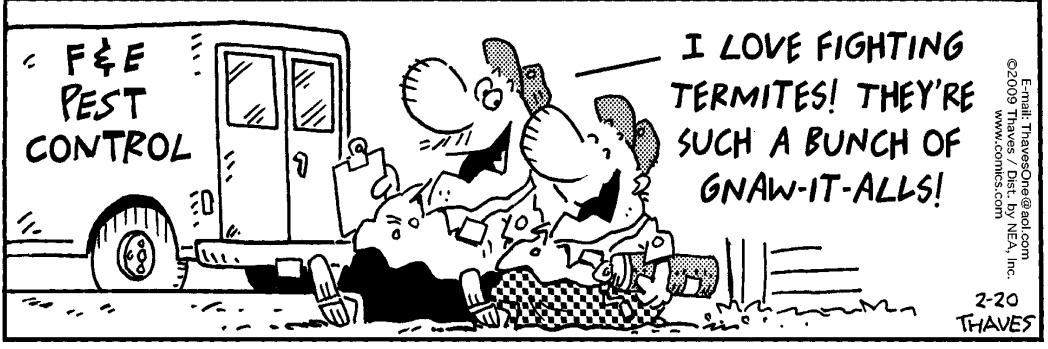
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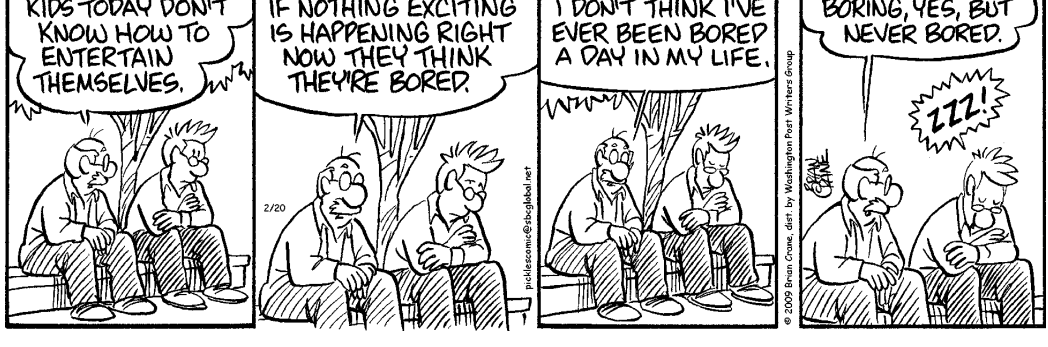
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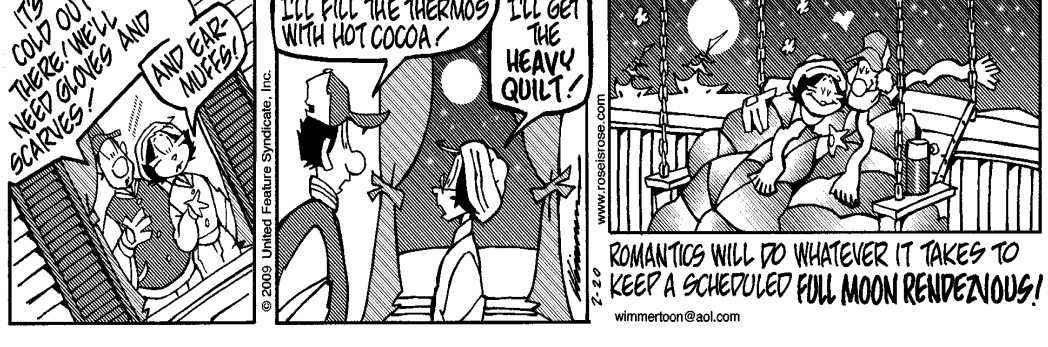
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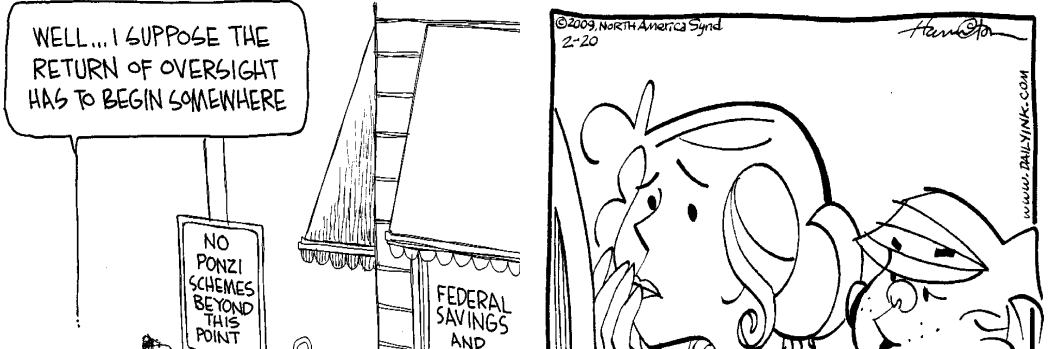
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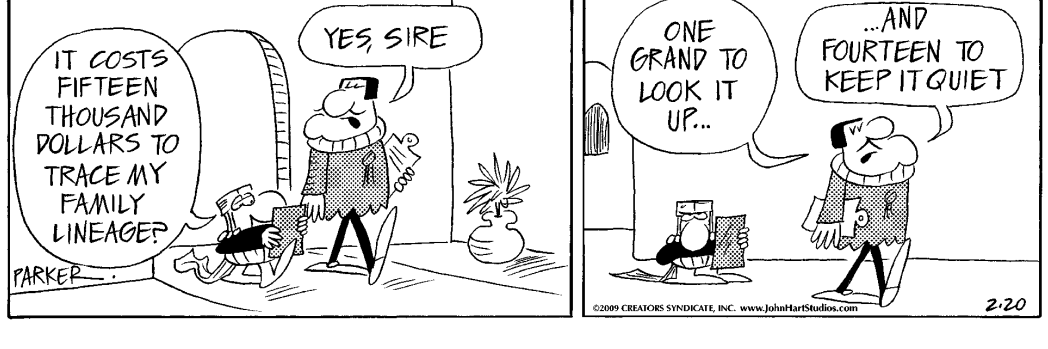
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