



SUNDAY  
May 24, 2009

# TIMES-NEWS

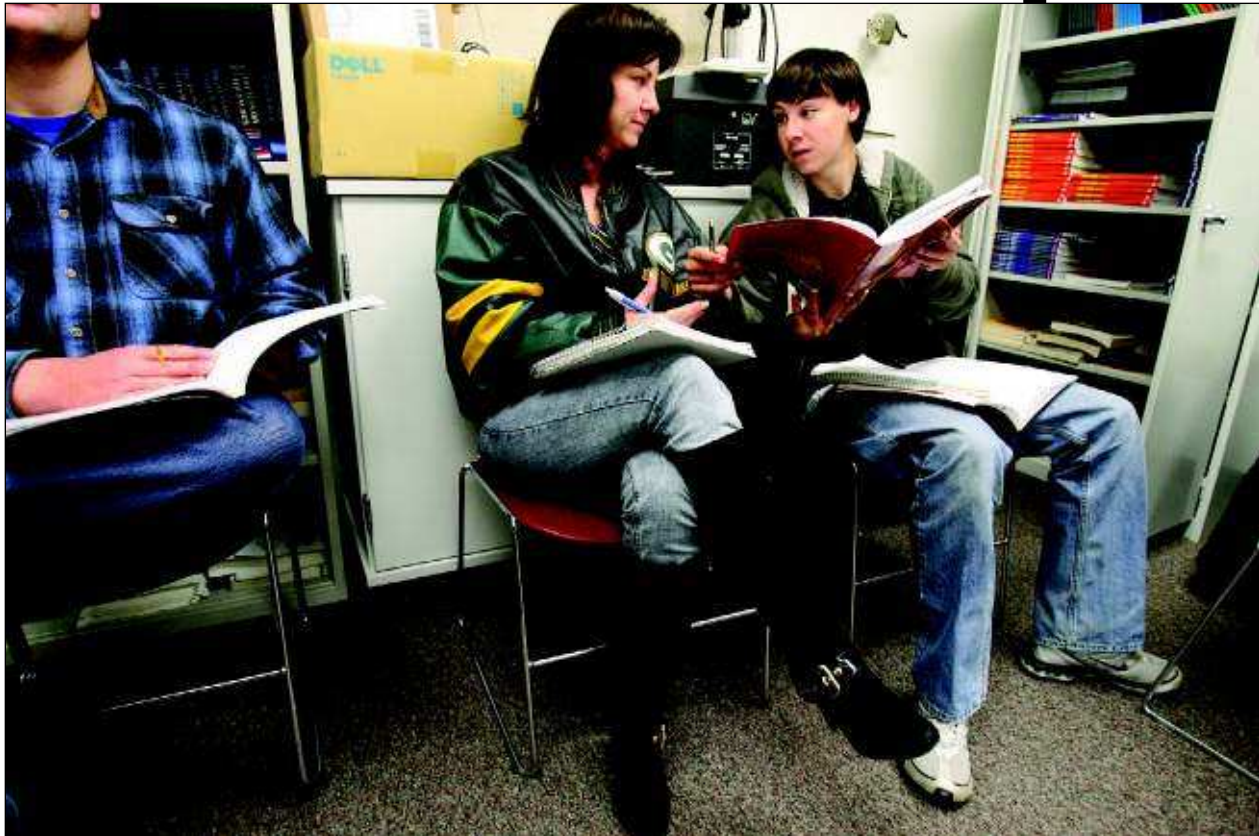
\$1.50

MagicValley.com

## Path to a diploma

Schools striving to keep students off the dropout list

By Ben Botkin • Times-News writer



MEAGAN THOMPSON/Times-News

Elaine Tompkins, 41, and her 16-year-old son James Goible discuss a math problem May 4 during class at the Academic Development Center at the College of Southern Idaho. Both ran into road blocks early in their educational careers and dropped out of school in the eighth grade. They are now working together to obtain their GEDs. 'He was having problems in school and I figured I'd get this with him 'cause I don't have mine,' said Tompkins.

## A dropout's story

By Ben Botkin  
Times-News writer

Melvin O'Dell of Twin Falls gave up on school early in life.

Growing up in the Treasure Valley, he struggled to read. In school, he attended special education classes before dropping out of school in seventh grade.

The decision led O'Dell, 41, on a journey of nearly three decades. That path included leaving home at 13, three trips to prison, drug and alcohol abuse

"I didn't ever think I would be able to read," he said. "I thought I was born stupid."

First, he started smoking marijuana. Marijuana eventually gave way to methamphetamine use.

"It was more or less medicating myself into not being able to feel anything," O'Dell said. "Finally, that drug catches onto you and you're just a wreck."

Sitting in a prison cell about nine years ago, O'Dell



Melvin O'Dell, 41, works one of his 12-hour shifts at a local car wash May 12. O'Dell recently obtained his GED on May 16 from the College of Southern Idaho's Academic Development Center. 'We usually do about 100, 150 cars a day so I'm on a dead run up and down this thing,' said O'Dell. He said getting his GED was something he wanted so bad that he made time to study after his long days on the job.

had plenty of time on his hands - and a Bible to read.

"One day, I asked the Lord to help me," he said. "That gave me the courage to do the things I couldn't do."

For months, he read from the Bible, sounding out words one by one whether he understood them or not.

His reading gradually improved and instead of just

reading words, O'Dell was reading entire sentences.

Now, O'Dell is on a work release program and

See **STORY**, Main 4

### A state issue

The Idaho State Department of Education is forming a task force on dropout prevention that will include input from across Idaho that includes local school districts, legislators, and others dealing with the issue such as officials with the juvenile justice system.

The task force, which already exists within the state agency, will gain other external members and likely begin meeting this summer, said Matt McCarter, state safe and drug free schools coordinator.

Goals include looking at dropout data to paint an accurate picture of the problem, and discussing ways to reduce the dropout rate, McCarter said.

Examples of issues that dovetail with dropping out of school include truancy and attendance policies, he said.

In 2003-2004, the

See **DIPLOMA**, Main 4

## State court slams door on murder convict's appeal

Alisha Ann Murphy serving life sentence for husband's murder

By Andrea Jackson  
Times-News writer

A woman doing life in prison for allegedly killing her husband by smacking him with a frying pan and then shooting him more than 13 years ago in Twin Falls County is still fighting for her freedom.

Alisha Ann Murphy, 40, maintains her innocence, saying her husband James Murphy committed suicide on Dec. 18, 1995, by shooting himself in their kitchen. She is serving a life sentence for first-degree murder at the Pocatello Women's Correctional Center, where almost two weeks ago she crafted another appeal, this time for the Idaho Supreme Court.

Murphy claims her lawyer was deficient, and a court appointed forensic examiner agreed in 2007 that Murphy's sentence may have been different if her lawyer brought a forensic expert into the trial.



Murphy

See **APPEAL**, Main 2

## Ex-South Korean leader Roh commits suicide at 62

By Jean H. Lee  
Associated Press writer

SEOUL, South Korea - Former President Roh Moo-hyun, embroiled in a penetrating corruption investigation, leaped to his death Saturday - a shocking end for a man whose rags-to-riches rise took him from rural poverty to Seoul's presidential Blue House. He was 62.

Roh, a self-taught lawyer who never attended college and didn't have the elite background typical of Seoul politicians, had prided himself on being a "clean" leader immune to South Korea's traditional web of corruption.

Allegations that Roh, president from 2003-08, accepted \$6 million

See **ROH**, Main 2



Magicvalley.com

WATCH a video about a dropout's journey to a diploma • Search a database with a 12-year history of dropout rates of all area school dis-

## Sharing the cost As economy worsens, neighbors buy and share gear

By Caryn Rousseau  
Associated Press writer

CHICAGO - Twice a year, in the spring and again in the autumn, six families on Vicki Matranga's tree-lined Oak Park block go to one neighbor's garage and bring out the \$1,200 woodchipper they all pitched in to buy. Then they gather around and feed it dead

branches gathered from their yards.

"We chip up our branches and make our own mulch out of it," Matranga said. "There are a couple of passionate gardeners on our block. Many of us who contributed to this machine, we've lived on this street together for 20 years."

See **NEIGHBORS**, Main 2



Neighbors, from left, Steve and Dana Nasralla, Lee and Connie Coleman, Will Young and Vicki Matranga pose on Tuesday in Oak Park, Ill. for a photo around the \$1,200 woodchipper they all pitched in to buy by pooling their money for a big-ticket item that none would use regularly but all still needed yearly.

AP photo



Crossword .....Classifieds 7  
Dear Abby .....Classifieds 5  
Horoscope .....Classifieds 5

Kids Only .....Family Life 6  
Jumble .....Classifieds 3  
Movies .....Opinion 7

Obituaries .....Business 6-7  
Sudoku .....Classifieds 4  
Your Business ....Business 2

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE EXPECTED TO RISE**  
Officials hope to rein in the costs > **Business 1**



## Moscow hospital could sell home-health and hospice

MOSCOW (AP) — The home-health and hospice services of a northern Idaho medical center are expected to be sold to a private company based in Eastern Washington.

Directors of Gritman Medical Center in Moscow meet Wednesday and are expected to approve the proposed sale to Family Home Care of Spokane, said B.J. Swanson, chairwoman of the board of directors.

Gritman, a not-for-profit medical center, has been losing money on its home-health and hospice services. Hospice care is provided to terminally ill patients with short life expectancies.

"We certainly don't want to close our doors, but the losses have been significant, to the point that Gritman can no longer subsidize the losses," Swanson told the Lewiston Tribune.

Family Home Care purchased Whitman Home Health and Hospice in Colfax, Wash., nearly three years ago, Swanson said.

"We're pleased with the reputation they have," Swanson said. "Our commitment is to continue to provide home health and hospice services in the community, even though Gritman is no longer able to do it."

Gritman Home Health and Hospice employees will have the opportunity to work for Family Home Care, Swanson said.

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

# Hagerman Fossil Days revived

By Kimberly Williams-Brackett  
Times-News correspondent

HAGERMAN — The Hagerman Fossil Days Renaissance in the Park was a fitting theme considering it was near extinction.

The parade kicked off Saturday honoring the American veterans and the military. Hagerman Christian Center's Pastor Isaac Tellez said all veterans attending the parade were the Grand Marshalls. The 34 members of the U.S. Air Force stopped and saluted veterans along the parade route.

The American Legion Department of Idaho, the U.S. Air Force, the U.S. Marine Corps, and a World War II submarine veteran were a highlight of the festivities.

It ended with a 21-gun salute in Coltharp Park. Tellez organized the parade in conjunction with

## PARADE WINNERS

Winners of the Hagerman Fossil Days parade include:

- Marching bands — Magic Valley Mall Regional High School Marching Band
- Walking groups — Hagerman High School cheerleaders
- Auto truck pre-1950 — Roger Howarth with an '03 Harley Deuce
- Auto truck post-1950 — Roger and Lori Fox with a 1956 Chevy 210 Sedan
- Motorcycles — Motorcycle Club for Vets
- Floats — Hagerman Christian Center
- Equestrians — Charro Association Rancho Seco
- Wagons — Hagerman High School Class of 1959.

the Hagerman Chamber of Commerce.

"There were 50 entries

with about 400 participants," Tellez said.

"The Hagerman Events Committee did a great job" reviving Fossil Days.

Last year, Fossil Days consisted only of the parade. With the help of 80 sponsors this year, the committee brought 50 vendors to the park, along with a carnival.

Tellez said he had 30 to 35 volunteers from the Hagerman Christian Center help. "I have a wonderful team," he said.

An estimated 3,000 to 4,000 people participated in Fossil Days.

Hagerman's Chief of Police Loren Miller said the final numbers wouldn't be available until the close of activities at 6 p.m. today.

A thousand miniature American flags were distributed and businesses lining State Street raised their flags to honor

American veterans. Tellez said they will continue to use a patriotic theme next year.

Councilman Douglas Wickham said, "It's the first event for people that want to get out and do something."

Steve Crump is on vacation. His column will return next week.



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**All trash services will be delayed by one day.**

**The regular schedule will begin Monday, June 1.**

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- Herniated Disc

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- DOVETAIL DRAWERS
- METAL DRAWER GLIDES
- 15 HAND RUBBED FINISHES
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- NO PRODUCTS FROM CHINA
- NO PARTICLEBOARD
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30" X 60" \$129	36" X 60" \$149
30" X 72" \$159	36" X 72" \$179

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**\$420**      **\$485**

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**Chests of Drawers**

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**10 Drawer Dresser**  
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**9 Drawer Dresser**  
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**\$545**

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# Diploma

Continued from Main 1

state's dropout rate was 3.1 percent, which was lower than the national rate of 3.9 percent, according to the National Center for Education Statistics, a branch of the U.S. Department of Education.

The odds do not favor dropouts. Dropouts earn less than those who finish high school and earn a college degree.

Of Idaho's prison inmates in fiscal year 2006, 31 percent didn't complete a high school education prior to incarceration, according to the Idaho Department of Correction.

"One of the things that makes our state unique in that respect is oftentimes the rural nature of the state," McCarter said. "There's not a lot of educational options for people in that it's either one option or none, and that can be a challenge."

The task force is a long-term effort, McCarter said.

"When we talk about dropouts, that's game over," he said. "We lose our opportunity to impact students in a positive way."

## Twin Falls' approach

For Twin Falls School District, the dropout rates have improved in recent years, yet remain higher than the state average. In the 2007-2008 school year, the dropout rate among ninth- through 12th-grade students was 2.78 percent, compared with a state average of 1.96 percent. The bottom line: 58 students dropped out of school that year.

In prior years, Twin Falls fared worse. In 1996-1997, for example, the district reported 210 dropouts, or 7.36 percent — a 12-year high for the district.

"Every dropout is likely to be unsuccessful in their life," said Superintendent Wiley Dobbs. "If you look at the odds, the odds are stacked heavily against a person who drops out. Knowing that, knowing how serious that is, we're trying to pull out all the stops."

Dobbs said that a combination of efforts — not one single thing — have helped the district address the dropout rate in recent years.

The programs include all-day kindergarten, summer school, and Gear Up, a federal grant program at Robert Stuart Junior High School aimed at making disadvantaged students more aware of college opportunities and providing scholarships.

While the district's dropout rate is higher than the state average, Dobbs noted that the district accepts additional students from other districts into Magic Valley High School, its alternative school.

If those students drop out, it's factored into Twin Falls School District's dropout rate, he said.

"By including kids from other districts, we take the chance that if students drop out it will count against our dropout rate," Dobbs said. "Our board has made the decision long ago we're going to help those kids if we can."

Dropout prevention needs to begin well before high school, Dobbs said.

For example, the district is expanding all-day kindergarten at all elementary schools this fall for students needing extra preparation for first grade. The district also has programs including summer school, and credit recovery that provides night school for students who fall behind.

This fall, ninth-graders begin attending Twin Falls High School and Canyon Ridge High School instead of junior highs. For ninth-graders, the district is developing a transition course called Touchstones 21 in which students will prepare a six-year plan for their education, including high school and the two years after graduation.

## Mini-Cassia solutions

Minidoka County School



Four-year-old David Tompkins is too excited to sleep though his mother tried to put him to bed so she and son James Goible could study for their early morning test May 5 at their Buhl home. The mother and son are working to get their GEDs. 'I want us to graduate together if at all possible,' says Tompkins. They are hoping to be done with the program by the end of the summer.

Photos by MEAGAN THOMPSON/Times-News

## Dropout rates of area 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students

	Statewide	Twin Falls	Cassia	Jerome	Minidoka	Blaine
2007-08	1.96%	2.78%	1.27%	3.67%	4.76%	2.65%
2006-07	2.62%	3.50%	1.43%	3.89%	2.48%	1.86%
2005-06	2.66%	3.94%	1.74%	2.62%	6.55%	2.78%
2004-05	3.04%	4.46%	3.03%	5.68%	3.44%	2.88%
2003-04	3.12%	2.41%	3.53%	2.81%	6.80%	4.05%
2002-03	3.88%	4.78%	3.49%	6.30%	4.78%	3.89%
2001-02	3.83%	4.51%	3.10%	6.01%	5.11%	5.13%
2000-01	5.09%	4.45%	3.65%	8.31%	4.58%	4.07%
1999-00	5.00%	2.91%	2.62%	8.88%	5.60%	4.12%
1998-99	5.72%	3.91%	3.73%	6.65%	7.72%	5.90%
1997-98	5.67%	5.45%	4.83%	3.40%	9.01%	7.72%
1996-97	6.21%	7.36%	4.22%	5.48%	7.33%	6.96%

SANDY SALAS/Times-News

District had a dropout rate of 4.76 percent, or 71 students, for 2007-2008, making it the highest rate in the Magic Valley last year.

While many dropouts are age 16 or older, Minidoka County wants to deal with the dropout issue from ninth through 12th grade, said Superintendent Scott Rogers.

Rogers acknowledges that dropouts are a challenge for the district, but also says the rate can be high because of how students are tracked. For example, migrant students returning to Mexico can be coded as dropouts if the district doesn't know where they went — even if they are attending a school elsewhere, Rogers said.

In Minidoka County, 30.2 percent of the population is Hispanic, according to the Idaho Department of Labor. Among youth, the figure is even higher. Among children under 15, 44.8 percent of the county's population is Hispanic, according to department data.

Statewide, just 16.1 percent of children under 15 are Hispanic.

An active role is needed to

keep students in school, said John Kontos, principal of Mount Harrison Jr./Sr. High, the district's alternative school. For Kontos, that means he'll make phone calls when a student's attendance goes down.

While he normally doesn't have time for home visits, he'll drop by the homes of students who haven't been in school if he's in the area.

"It's the hands-on phone calls, home visits, things of that nature," said Kontos.

Kontos contacts students who have dropped out in the past and try to get them re-enrolled.

The school's higher Hispanic population follows a national trend of Hispanic males quitting school early so they can go to work, Kontos said.

The principal wants his students to see opportunities beyond minimum wage jobs and is working with local businesses that will visit students in career classes.

"These are things that we just continue to work with," he said. "If we can hang onto them long enough, that's the big thing."

Minico High School in Rupert uses an arsenal of tools that includes a plan for students to make up lost days, vocational programs, after-school programs, and contacting parents of students who leave.

The school is looking into stepping up its efforts with advisory teachers who identify and meet with ninth-grade students to develop a plan for success, said Dan Rogers, principal of the high school. Part of that will require giving teachers more tools and training, he said.

Cassia County School District's dropout rate has been lower than the state average in recent years.

Roland Bott, principal of Declo High School, said the 301-student school's size makes it easy to keep track of students.

"We know the kids," he said. "Our parents are very involved. We have very good parent support. We cannot begin to overstate how important that is."

Jodie Mills, principal of Burley High School, said that dropout prevention happens when students are connected to their school. Burley has an advisory program in which teachers meet with students and talk about their grades and get to know them, she said.

Another part of that goal is student groups that focus on their strengths, such as vocational or outdoor activities.

Bott said the school has the same challenges as any other: motivating students.

"We're not perfect and I wouldn't begin to say that," Bott said.

## Rural districts

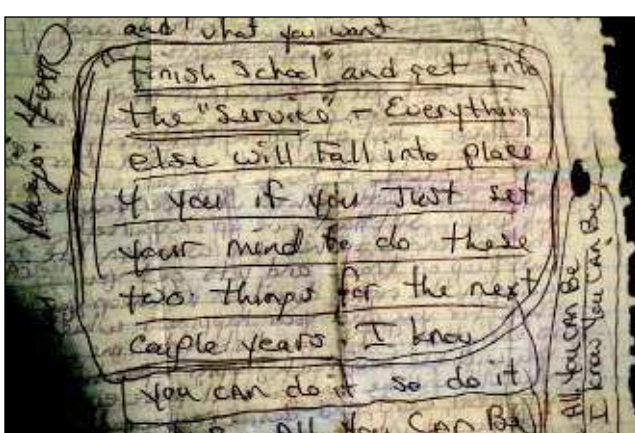
Rural school districts tend to fare better in the Magic Valley with dropout

rates often lower than those of larger districts and the state average.

At Shoshone School District, there have been no dropouts in the last seven school years, with the exception of one year when three students dropped out. Richfield School District has similar numbers, with just three students dropping out between 2001 and 2008.

Shoshone Superintendent Mel Wiseman said the district has ramped up its professional and technical classes to give hands-on opportunities to students who are not inclined toward a four-year college degree after school.

Barbara Thronson, superintendent of Richfield School District, said the school's small atmosphere teaches students leadership skills and community service. The district's kindergarten through 12th-grade students are in one building and older students mentor the younger students, she said.



A weathered note Elaine Tompkins wrote to her son James Goible about four years ago pleads with him to get his education. Tompkins said administrators at his school in Buhl were going to hold James back — an impossible option for James who is already several years older than the normal eighth-grader — for missing too many days. 'They called me a failure,' said James, who is now working to get his GED. James said he thinks he missed about 20 days because he was helping his mother while she was ill. 'I was on my last week of Hepatitis C treatments and I needed his help,' Tompkins said.

# Story

Continued from Main 1

manages a car wash bay in Twin Falls with eight employees that clean 150 cars on a busy day. He recently took his final General Educational Development (GED) test through the College of Southern Idaho's program.

He's one of 358 people who completed GED testing this year at CSI's Academic Development Center. Those testing at the center include dropouts as well as immigrants and home-schooled students needing a diploma. They vary in age, but many have faced difficulties early in life.

James Goible, 16, of Buhl, dropped out of eighth grade last year after being told he'd have to go through the grade again.

His mother, Elaine Tompkins, 41, also dropped out in eighth grade and never got around to getting a GED. In Tompkins' case, her family moved around a lot when she was young, making school a challenge.

Now, she and her son are studying together for their GED diplomas and taking classes at CSI.

"We're not quitting now," she said.

Tompkins wants to continue her studies and become a registered nurse, while her son hopes to become a heavy equipment operator.

O'Dell looks forward in life, rather than back, but knows that dropping out changed things.

"My life would have been totally different," he said.

Though he's washing cars now, he hopes to eventually work as a mechanic. For O'Dell, getting his GED is more than something to frame and hang on the wall.

"All that stuff isn't just paperwork," he said. "That is a huge accomplishment."

Ben Botkin may be reached at [bbotkin@magicvalley.com](mailto:bbotkin@magicvalley.com) or 208-735-3238.

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# Blaine Co. schools gear up for facilities levy

By Karen Bossick  
Times-News correspondent

HAILEY — The Blaine County School District will likely ask voters to pass a new plant facility levy next fall to cover building needs for the next 10 years.

The goal is not to increase taxes over what taxpayers already pay on a levy that's about to expire, said Mike Chatterton, the district's director of finances.

Money from a new levy would include a new elementary school to be built in 2013 or 2014, and an eight-room classroom expansion at Wood River Middle School that would delay the need to build a new middle school.

The school district has property for an elementary school in Croy Canyon but not everyone is convinced it's the best site, Chatterton said. "We're talking with Quigley developers about a parcel for the next elementary school. We also have a site south of Bellevue."

Levy revenue would also provide students with the latest in technology, said Trustee Mari Beth Matthews.

The funds would enhance safety and security measures at schools, giving school administrators the ability to lock down an entire school by pressing a single button

and giving police the ability to monitor schools from outside the perimeter.

And they would help the district make schools more environmentally friendly with more energy-efficient windows, solar technology and a biomass plan facility that would heat several buildings.

Chatterton said that the school district has hired an engineer firm to determine how the district can save restroom water and electricity through such measures as motion-detector lights.

"The community has told us we need to do better in this capacity," said Chatterton.

Voters last approved a plant facilities levy in 2000. The \$40 million levy included \$25 million for the new Wood River High School, \$5.5 million for a new Carey High School, \$9.9 million for the new Woodside Elementary and additional money for a new bus maintenance facility, Hemingway childcare facility, improvements at Bellevue and Hailey elementary schools and an addition to the Wood River Middle School.

The high school would have cost about \$60 million if it were being built with today's dollars, Chatterton added.

Valerie Seamons, an accountant, noted that the levy would be a continua-

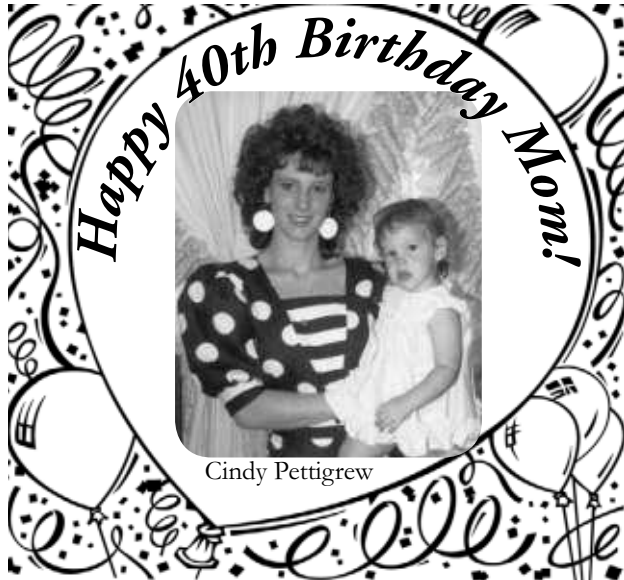
tion of what taxpayers have already been paying, not an increase.

"That's important because when you have a constant levy you can meet needs as they arise, rather than have to wait. If a boiler goes out, we can take care of it immediately," she said.

Chatterton said there will be public meetings after a levy committee formulates its recommendations.

er goes out, we can take care of it immediately," she said.

Chatterton said there will be public meetings after a levy committee formulates its recommendations.



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

## Woodruff 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

Nadine Woodruff (Messley) of Buhl will celebrate her 90th birthday with a family gathering. Cards and well-wishes may be sent to her at 910 Moon Glo Rd, Sp #48, Buhl 83316. Nadine was born May 24, 1919, the oldest of six children born to Gladys and Walter Messley.



She married Earl Woodruff on August 9, 1941, in Buhl. They raised three children: Denny Woodruff, Aletha Day and Anita Svancara. From these children they added more special people to their family: Carolyn (Barrus), Nick Day, Tom Svancara and Phil Blick. Nadine is always ready with suitcase in hand to go on a new adventure.

Attending worship at First Christian Church and spending time with friends are very important parts of her life. She has been blessed with a large family of grandchildren, great grandchildren, siblings, nieces and nephews.

Thanks, Mom, for being there for all of us in your own special way. We love you. **Happy 90th!**

**OPEN MONDAY 10-5**

### COMING UP

This fall the school district wants to:

- Hire a college counselor for a pilot high school program that would encourage more students to go to college.
- Hire a vice principal for Wood River High School who would oversee Silver Creek Alternative School, another alternative school for students who have been suspended or expelled and the school's construction, theater, culinary and other academies.
- Start a full-day kindergarten pilot program that would help children get up to grade level.
- Provide 25 classrooms with Promethean ActiveBoards, which make learning more interactive. Each board costs \$10,000.

## Correction

The Bunk Beds in the Friday, May 22. Wilson-Bates ad were priced incorrectly. The correct prices are:

**Full-over-full Bunk Bed \$299**

**Wooden Twin Bunk Bed \$499**

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

-The Wilson-Bates Staff

**LG Electronics**  
**42" 720p Plasma HDTV**

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- Dual XD Engine
- 600 Hz Sub Field Driving

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**LG Electronics**  
**50" 720p Plasma HDTV**

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- 3 HDMI Inputs
- Intelligent Sensor Mode

**\$999**

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**32" LCD HDTV**

- 1200:1 Contrast Ratio
- Built-In NTSC/ATSC Tuner
- Front Audio Speakers

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**SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS**  
**26" 720p LCD HDTV**

- 3 HDMI Inputs
- 30,000:1 Dynamic Contrast Ratio
- SRS TruSurround HD

**\$529**

**SONY**  
**HandyCam DVD/Memory Stick Camcorder**

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**Blu Ray Player**

- Viera-Cast
- Viera-Link
- BD Live

**\$279**

## Twin Falls Western Days Parade

will be held  
**Saturday, May 30, 2009 at 10:00 am**

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- All entries must be pre-registered. **Your entry must be postmarked no later than May 25, 2009.** We will accept no entries after this date. There will be no exceptions.
- **Line-up begins at 7:00am.** Please come to the sign-up table, which will be located at the corner of Falls and Frontier, on the lawn of the Fire Station, to pick up your entry number. **All entries must be in place and decorated by 8:30am.** The parade will start promptly at 10:00am.
- If you are interested in participating in the Twin Falls Western Days Parade, please **contact MaryAnn at 543-4911**, or entry forms may be picked up at the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce Office.

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# Facing investigation by AG's office, mortgage modification company closes

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — A company that advertised help for distressed homeowners and became the target of an Idaho attorney general's office investigation has closed, leaving behind unpaid employees and up to \$1 million in civil claims.

Attorney General Lawrence Wasden filed a lawsuit against Apply 2 Save Inc. last month in Kootenai County, alleging violations of state consumer protection laws.

The complaint says Apply 2 Save, which opened about a year ago in northern Idaho, advertised mortgage loan modification services and instead exploited the trust of desperate consumers nationwide.

The attorney general's office had fielded 176 com-

plaints from consumers in states such as Colorado, Nevada, Maryland and Texas who made advance payments of as much \$1,500 to the company and received little or no services.

The complaint says some clients fell into foreclosure after the company told them their homes could be saved and the lawsuit sought to halt Apply 2 Save Inc. operations, revoke its business license and impose penalties.

The company shut down earlier this week.

Deputy Attorney General Stephanie Guyon said Apply 2 Save had not responded to the April 20 complaint, which has since been amended to include more consumers, and the attorney general's office is unsure of the whereabouts

of company president Derek Oberholtzer, who is named in the complaint.

Attorney Marc Lyons said the May 20 deadline for Apply 2 Save to respond to the lawsuit has been extended because of the additional consumer complaints.

The company had between 250 to 300 contracts, worth \$1,000 each, that brought in about \$250,000 weekly, said Phillip Graham, of Hayden, who worked in management for Apply 2 Save and tracked daily sales.

"We would like to know where the money went," Graham told the Coeur d'Alene Press.

For weeks, employees said they complained their paychecks were bouncing and Oberholtzer gave

excuses for the problems.

"They kept promising there were new investors," said former employee Daniel Small, who quit and moved to Baltimore after his paychecks were late for two months. "I knew something was going on."

Small was among negotiators Apply 2 Save hired to work with lenders to modify loans and help homeowners re-negotiate the terms of their mortgages.

"They called us negotiators, but we didn't really negotiate," he said.

# 3-year-old boy found dead in Portland, Ore., river

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — The body of a 3-year-old boy was pulled from the Willamette River hours before daybreak Saturday and an injured 7-year-old girl was rescued nearby after residents heard screams on the water.

As police continued to search the broad river that runs through Portland, officials were releasing few details about what they were finding in their investigation.

Police said the boy's death was suspicious, but did not say how he died.

Police didn't identify the children, or provide information on the girl's condition.

Officers were called to the Sellwood Bridge area around 1:20 a.m. Saturday after screams were reported by residents.

Upon arrival, officers also heard screams on the river but could not locate their source because of the early morning darkness, said Officer Greg Pashley of the Portland Police Bureau.

The U.S. Coast Guard sent a helicopter to assist in the search.

# Canyon Co. prosecutor fields barrage of complaints on teen's murder charge

CALDWELL (AP) — An Idaho prosecutor says dozens of people have called, faxed or e-mailed his office to protest the first-degree murder charge filed against a 14-year-old in the shooting death of his father.

Canyon County Prosecutor John Bujak said the protests — more than 50 people contacted his office Friday — have also centered on the eighth grader being charged as an adult and held at the county jail.

Zachary Neagle remains in protective custody, separate from adult inmates at the Canyon County Jail and he can have visitors, said Bujak, adding that he is personally handling the case to ensure the boy's rights are protected.

Magistrate Judge Robert Taisey has set bail at \$300,000.

"I would like people to understand that this is not an easy case," Bujak told the Press-Tribune.

The boy, one of three children at the home when the shooting occurred, was arrested on Tuesday and arraigned on the murder charge Wednesday in 3rd District Court.

Police say his father, 33-year-old Jason Neagle, was shot and killed Saturday of a single gunshot wound while sleeping on a couch at his Caldwell home in southwest Idaho.

Bujak said the shooting appears to be a premeditated act but he does not plan to seek the death penalty, and he could amend the charge if there was justifiable reason for the shooting.

An online petition urging people to contact the prosecutor and urge leniency for the teenager has 70 signatures, many from countries including Germany, Korea and the United Kingdom.

Authorities are still pro-



Idaho Press-Tribune/AP photo

Zachary Neagle, 14, makes his first appearance in court on a charge of first degree murder, Wednesday at the Canyon County courthouse in Caldwell.

cessing evidence collected at the home after the May 16 shooting and have not outlined a possible motive in the murder.

Computers removed from the home included pornographic material involving young children, the Nampa newspaper reports.

John Carey, a former stepfather to the boy, said Zachary Neagle was the oldest of three children and took responsibility for his younger siblings and his mother, who was often sick and hospitalized a couple weeks ago.

"This boy took on a lot of burden for his mother and put up with a lot from his father," Carey told the Idaho Statesman. "He had a lot on his shoulders."

Investigators describe Zachary Neagle as a loner who lacked friends at school. The teenager did not have much time or opportunity to socialize with other kids and enjoyed playing video games and riding his scooter, Carey said.

A preliminary hearing in

the case has been scheduled on June 2.

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### 5TH DISTRICT COURT NEWS

**CITY OF TWIN FALLS MISDEMEANOR SENTENCINGS**  
 Danielle T. Wicklund, 19, Twin Falls; one count minor possession; \$500 fine, \$300 suspended; \$75.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; driving privileges suspended 90 days; 12 months probation; no alcohol; one count possession of a controlled substance; \$500 fine, \$400 suspended; \$398.06 civil judgment; 90 days jail, 70 suspended, credit for two days served, 18 days house

arrest; 12 months probation; obtain substance abuse evaluation; one count possession of drug paraphernalia dismissed.  
 Janet G. Thompson, 76, Twin Falls; driving on wrong side of highway; \$75 fine.  
 Bobby D. Tunstall, 31, Twin Falls; littering, failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; costs waived; 10 days jail, credit for time served; two months probation.  
 Brent L. Howard, 24, Twin Falls; two counts failure to purchase/invalid dri-

ver's license; costs waived; 10 days jail, credit for time served; no insurance; \$116.50 costs.  
 Aron K. Curley, 26, Kimberly; one count possession of a controlled substance; \$500 fine, \$300 suspended; \$85.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 90 days jail, 90 suspended; two days community service; 12 months probation; no alcohol; one count disturbing the peace/disorderly conduct dismissed.  
 Trey D. Briggs, 22, Twin Falls; no insur-

ance; \$500 fine, \$300 suspended; \$75.50 costs; 10 days jail, 10 suspended; one day community service; six months probation.  
 Maygyul A. Aliteva, 26, Twin Falls; flee or attempt to elude a police officer; \$500 fine, \$300 suspended; \$75.50 costs; two days community service; 90 days jail, 90 suspended; 12 months probation.  
 Christopher L. Fivecoat, 25, Filer; possession of a controlled substance;

\$800 fine, \$500 suspended; \$85.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 90 days jail, 70 suspended, 20 days house arrest; 12 months probation; no alcohol.  
 Justin C. Jay, 19, Twin Falls; frequenting a place where a controlled substance is used; \$200 fine; \$85.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee.  
 Tifini J. Stratton, 23, Twin Falls; resisting/obstructing an officer; \$700 fine, \$500 suspended; \$75.50 costs; \$75

public defender fee; 90 days jail, 87 suspended, credit for one day served, two days work detail; 12 months probation.  
 Christopher G. Galvin, 19, Twin Falls; one count possession of a controlled substance; \$85.50 costs; 10 days jail, credit for four days served; one count minor consumption; 10 days jail, credit for four days served; driving privileges suspended for 60 days; one count petit theft dismissed.

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AROUND THE STATE

**SANDPOINT POCATELLO**  
**Couple pleads not guilty to defrauding nonprofit**  
**Students punished in chick's death**

SANDPOINT — A northern Idaho couple has pleaded not guilty to defrauding a Sandpoint nonprofit that helps cancer patients and their families.

Jeffrey Michael McFarland, 26, and Carey Rose Bradshaw, 28, both of Ponderay, are each charged with 24 counts of conspiracy to commit petty theft by deception in Bonner County District Court.

Police say McFarland falsely claimed he had liver cancer to obtain gasoline and food vouchers from Community Cancer Services, and Bradshaw participated in the fraud when she claimed the couple was engaged and caring for two young children.

Police records indicate the two children had been taken from Bradshaw and placed in state custody.

POCATELLO — Five students at Highland High School in eastern Idaho have been punished after a baby chicken was kicked to death in what administrators are calling a senior class prank gone wrong.

Principal David Ross says some high school seniors brought six chickens into the school building in Pocatello on Wednesday, and other students began kicking one of the small birds, which were about two weeks old.

Ross says students who

witnessed the incident in a school hallway were able to rescue five of the chicks and a Highland High teacher who has a small farm took them home.

The longtime principal did not comment on the details of the sanctions for the four students.

**BOISE**  
**Authorities rescue stranded climber**

BOISE — The Owyhee County Sheriff's Office says a 19-year-old climber found dangling from a cliff about 40 feet from the ground in a southwest Idaho canyon was

rescued without injuries. Chief Deputy Bill Detweiler says a private helicopter based in Homedale flew rescue workers to Jump

Creek Canyon on Thursday to save the teenager, who called authorities after realizing he didn't have enough rope.

Detweiler says the climber was safely rappelled to the ground.

— The Associated Press

**WSU balks at book critical of agribusiness**

PULLMAN, Wash. (AP) — Washington State University has decided to halt a reading program for incoming freshmen that would have used a book critical of agribusiness.

WSU President Elson Floyd said Wednesday the decision not to distribute "Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals" by Michael Pollan was related to the university's financial crisis. He said the faculty is still urged to use the book as part of the curriculum.

But the university has already purchased 4,000 copies of the book that deals with the social, moral and environmental implications of the food people eat.

"Unless they wanted to have a big book-burning in the middle of Terrell Mall, I don't see how they intended to save money by making this decision," said Jeff Sellen, a general education professor and member of the committee that chose the book.

WSU's Pullman campus is in the heart of the Palouse, some of the state's most-productive farming ground.

Regent Francois X. Forgette told The Spokesman-Review newspaper that regent Harold Cochran, a Walla Walla wheat farmer, had read this year's proposed book and raised concerns, although the issue was never formally discussed at board meetings. Forgette said the selection committee had failed to get required approval from the provost of the selected book.

A phone call by The Associated Press to Cochran seeking comment was not immediately returned Thursday.

Floyd said he never spoke to a regent about the book.

Patricia Ericsson, an assistant English professor who had recommended the book, said she attended a May 4 meeting of a committee that was overseeing the reading program. She said the meeting was told there would not be a common reading program, at least not next fall.

"A substantial part of the reason was because of political pressure growing from the book choice," Ericsson said.

This fall was supposed to mark the third year of the program. Last year's chosen book was "Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers" by Mary Roach, about issues related to death.

By coincidence, Western Washington University is planning to have its freshmen read "Omnivore's Dilemma" this fall.

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## REINING IN UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COSTS

# A 100% INCREASE

Unemployment insurance tax expected to rise significantly; labor officials call on business owners to prevent fraud and losses

By Joshua Palmer  
Times-News writer

The tax rate employers pay to support the state unemployment trust fund is expected to increase by as much as 100 percent by 2010 as more Idahoans struggle to find employment, say state labor officials.

But not all recipients of state unemployment funds are eligible for the money, and in some cases workers are committing fraud to receive them.

So state labor officials are asking business owners to help prevent fraud and ineligible payouts that are placing further strain on the fund — and increasing employer taxes.

“Generally, when the economy is worse, we will see more people collecting unemployment benefits who are not eligible for it,” said Jan Roeser, regional economist with Idaho Department of Labor. “During a recession they are more desperate for the money and they know it’s more difficult to find a job.”

She added that the department of labor is expected to announce an employer tax rate increase of 100 percent by next year — despite a 70 percent increase that was enacted in December 2008.

The employer tax rate was reportedly at an all time low of .62 percent of total annual payroll from 2004 to 2008 before the increase. The actual rate for individual employers depends on the benefits charged to their accounts.

“For Idaho employers, unemployment insurance taxes can be unnecessarily high,” Department of Labor Director Roger Madsen said. “The Department of Labor is responsible for collecting all the unemployment taxes owed by businesses, but we also do everything in our power to help employers keep those taxes down.”

### A systematic approach to reducing unemployment taxes should include the following steps:

- Register the business properly**  
Failing to submit an Idaho Business Registration form within six months of becoming a covered employer may result in a penalty. Instructions on registering can be found at <http://business.idaho.gov>.
- Recruit the right employees**  
Making the right hiring decisions will save businesses money in the long run. Employers can access current information about work force trends, economic conditions, demographics and wages online at [lmi.idaho.gov](http://lmi.idaho.gov). Employers can also take advantage of the department's online searchable database which contains the résumés of thousands of active Idaho job seekers at [labor.idaho.gov/IDWorks/Ejentry](http://labor.idaho.gov/IDWorks/Ejentry).
- Understand Idaho labor and unemployment insurance tax laws**  
A wide range of state and federal laws governing wages, working conditions, youth employment and other employment practices can be accessed at [labor.idaho.gov/wh](http://labor.idaho.gov/wh).
- Issue an employee handbook**  
A clearly written, understandable employee handbook lets a business set policy on work hours, job duties, breaks, fringe benefits like vacations and holidays and other workplace issues like oral and written job performance warnings. Fairness and consistency are important.
- Protect your unemployment insurance account**  
Responding quickly and effectively to unemployment claims will ensure employers get their day in court. If payments are deemed improper, they are removed from the employer's account, which can check any future tax increases.
- Pay attention to detail**  
Employers should understand how to document their side in disagreements over worker benefit claims and file true and accurate quarterly employment reports.
- Actively manage unemployment insurance accounts**  
Use the department's online technology at [labor.idaho.gov/ECORE](http://labor.idaho.gov/ECORE).
- Report unemployment insurance fraud**  
Unemployment insurance fraud is a crime that hurts every honest business and worker. Abusing the system depletes the trust fund and drives up unemployment insurance taxes for complying businesses and frustrates law-abiding claimants.

### UNEMPLOYMENT BY THE NUMBERS:

60

The percent of all dismissed workers who are eligible for unemployment benefits — in many cases employers could not provide evidence of violations that would make the worker ineligible for benefits.

\$250

Maximum amount an employer could be fined for failing to file a proper report for employee discharge.

70%

Increase in employer taxes in 2008.

100%

Expected increase in employer taxes in 2010.

## Spokane distillery has plenty of help

Company plans to release rare wheat-only whiskey

By Tom Sowa  
The Spokesman-Review

SPOKANE, Wash. — Don Poffenroth and Kent Fleischmann get plenty of help at Dry Fly Distilling once their gin and vodka is ready for release.

That help comes each Saturday at Dry Fly's Spokane distillery, where groups of volunteers work three-hour shifts bottling and packing the products for shipping.

For most volunteers, it's more fun than work. They finish off their labors by having a free lunch, then enjoying what Poffenroth calls “sensory evaluation” of the Dry Fly inventory.

Which means the volunteers get three or four small shots of gin or vodka.

“Those volunteers find us,” Poffenroth said. “It's grown popular entirely by word-of-mouth.”

Dry Fly first announced it needed volunteers about a year ago. Within a few months, help was lined up solid for all of 2008 and 2009. Poffenroth and Fleischmann will wait until this fall before starting to fill the 2010 signup list — which may fill up faster once Dry Fly releases its new all-wheat whiskey in a few weeks.

The new product — called Washington Wheat Whiskey — is the first of as many as four types of whiskey Dry Fly plans to release over time.

Since it takes a full year to age, Dry Fly's Washington Wheat Whiskey output will be much smaller than the roughly 6,000 cases of gin and vodka the distillery will sell this year.

The owners say they'll bottle the new whiskey entirely with friends and family, for this year anyway.

According to research Fleischmann and Poffenroth have done, this will be the only all-wheat whiskey commercially made in the U.S. and the first sold commercially here in the past 150 years.

Commercial whiskeys are made from barley, rye, corn and other grains. Only one

See **DISTILLERY**, Business 3

## Nickle and diming reform

In the political menagerie that is Washington, there exists a species known as the budget scold — analysts, advocates, editorial writers and politicians who possess a fierce determination to bring the federal budget into better balance.

Budget scolds have a wonkish demeanor and a skeptical outlook. They possess an undue fascination with rules and processes, and speak in the arcane language of baselines, sunsets and pay-fors. There have been times when the budget scolds have saved the country from shortsightedness and pulled us back from the fiscal brink. There have been other times — and this is one of them — when their well-intentioned hand-wringing borders on the politically naive and threatens to derail much-needed reforms.



STEVEN PEARLSTEIN

Let us begin with the budget scolds' recent indictment of President Obama for his alleged scheme to turn the United States into a third-rate economic power by racking up more than \$10 trillion in additional government debt. The evidence for this supposed fiscal treason is the 10-year budget projection that was included in his spending proposal for the next fiscal year.

Do you think, maybe, we could cut the guy a little slack? After all, he's been in the job all of four months. He inherited two wars and

See **PEARLSTEIN**, Business 2

## Bidding wars at the bottom of the home market

Phoenix housing bust turns into a quasi-boom as investors snatch homes

By Nicholas Riccardi  
Los Angeles Times

PHOENIX — After four years of renting because they were priced out of the real estate market, Jamie Jenkins and Scott Renshaw concluded that the time for them to buy had arrived.

They saw that home prices had dropped so fast here — faster than in any other big city — that mortgage payments would be less than the \$900 they pay in rent. The town is littered with foreclosed houses, so the couple figured they easily could snatch up something in the low \$100,000s.

Three months later, they're still looking. They have submitted 13 offers and been overbid each time.

driven down so much that people said, ‘I'm going to come out and play!’”

Home prices continue to plummet or tread water in much of the nation, but there have been tentative signs of life. Pending home sales rose 3.2 percent nationally in April, the second month of increases after a record low in January. John Burns Real Estate Consulting in February identified Phoenix as “the most unique market in the nation,” where affordability was better than at any time since 1981 and buying a house once again was cheaper than renting.

Since then, says Chris Porter, a manager at the Irvine, Calif. -based company, there also have been signs of life in the Sacramento, Calif., and Washington, D.C., housing markets.

“You'll start to see some

“The free market is at work. Prices got driven down so much that people said, ‘I'm going to come out and play!’”

— Shannon Hubbard, a Realtor and blogger in Phoenix

markets emerge and it'll be the ones that went into the downturn first,” Porter said. “But it's going to be a slow recovery.”

Phoenix experienced one of the most dramatic real estate crashes in the nation. Median home prices for resold homes peaked at

See **PHOENIX**, Business 3

# YOUR BUSINESS

## MILESTONES

### CLAUDE BROWN'S



Courtesy photo

Claude Brown's Home Furnishings/Carpet Cleaning, 202 Main Ave. S. in Twin Falls, cut the red ribbon recently along with the Twin Falls Area Chamber's Ambassadors as they celebrated 90 years in Historic Downtown Twin Falls. They are a member of the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce. They offer fine home furnishings and carpet cleaning. Information: 733-2108. Pictured from left, front row, Bob Brown, third generation; Doug Brown, second generation; Mike Brown, fourth generation; back row, Dean Johns; Shawn Hanko; and Greg Brown.

### FLUTTER



Courtesy photo

Flutter (Dance, Gym and Swim) located at 1540 N. Fillmore St., Ste. 1 in Twin Falls, held a ribbon cutting recently along with the Twin Falls Area Chamber's Ambassadors at their new location. Flutter offers clothing and gear for dance, gymnastics and swimming. Information: 735-0904. Pictured from left, Amanda Coggins, Bob Ward, owner Lori Ward and Rayni Lanford.

### BRACES R US



Courtesy photo

Dr. Troy A. Williams announced the opening of his third and newest location in Kimberly, located at 622 Center St. W. Braces R Us Orthodontics held their grand opening and ribbon cutting with the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce and the Chamber Ambassadors. Williams opened the Kimberly office to better serve his patients in the surrounding areas. It is located right across the street from Kimberly Middle and High schools. Twin Falls is the main office, 1431 N. Fillmore St., with two satellite offices one in Hailey and other in Kimberly. Lynette Sievers was the winner of \$500 towards the cost of a full set of braces. Information: 737-0006. Pictured from left, Judith Williams, Becky Powlus, Dr. Troy A. Williams, Jon Powlus, Rachael Gause and Ashley Bollwinkel. Not pictured, Jenny Fife, Megan Silvester, Erica Griggs, Holly Cardinet, Amelia Heck, Rozita Doust Parvar, Samantha Hite and Shawntelle Packham.

### STONE CREEK CONSTRUCTION



Courtesy photo

Tony Hughes, owner of Stone Creek Construction, cut the red ribbon recently along with the Twin Falls Area Chamber's Ambassadors. They specialize in commercial/residential construction. Information: 731-0551.

### STITCHES AND STARS QUILTING



Courtesy photo

The Mini-Cassia Chamber Ambassadors hosted a ribbon cutting to commemorate the grand opening of Stitches and Stars Quilting located at 2255 Overland Ave., Suite B, in Burley. The business is owned and managed by Kern and Linda Crump (pictured cutting the ribbon). Summer business hours are 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. On Saturdays, Crump can be found at the Farmer's Market. Information: 678-2435.

### M C C A F E



Courtesy photo

The Mini-Cassia Chamber Ambassadors hosted a ribbon cutting to commemorate the grand opening of McCafe, the newest addition to McDonald's located at 394 N. Overland Ave., Burley. The business is owned by Bill, Donna and Darren Kyle and managed by Sara Qualls. Pictured cutting the ribbon are Bill and Donna Kyle. Business hours are 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily. Information: 678-2230.

### First Federal Bank gains award

First Federal Bank was recently awarded fifth place in the Large Corporation (100+ employees) Division of Idaho's Best Places to Work.

The reception was held at Boise State University. First Federal was established in 1916 and has over 200 employees.

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## CAREER MOVES

### Brian Higgins

Brian Higgins, Senior Instructor at Success Martial Arts in Twin Falls, received his Advanced Communicator Gold Award from Toastmasters International May 13.

This is the highest level award for speaking within the Toastmasters organization. The next step for Higgins, who is also club president, is his Distinguished Toastmaster award which is the highest award within the Toastmasters organization overall.

Toastmasters is a worldwide nonprofit educational organization helping members improve their communication, public speaking and leadership skills. Magic Valley Toastmasters meets every Wednesday at noon at Idaho Pizza on Kimberly Road. All meetings are open to the public.



Higgins

### Reed W. Larsen

The members of the Idaho State Bar, elected Reed W. Larsen of Pocatello, as the Board of Commissioner representative for the sixth and seventh judicial districts of Idaho. The Board of Commissioners is the governing body of the ISB and meets monthly. They operate under authority delegated by the Idaho Supreme Court through its rule-making power and under statutory authority of the Legislature.

Larsen, a partner in the firm Cooper and Larsen, is a native of Burley and received an undergraduate degree at Brigham Young University in 1982 and his J.D. from the University of Idaho College of Law in 1985. He served as a law clerk in the Fifth Judicial District and is admitted to practice before all state and federal courts in Idaho, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, and the Shoshone Bannock Tribal court.

He was President of the Southeast Idaho Claims Association in 1990, Secretary of the 6th District Bar Association in 2001, and President of the 6th District Bar Association in 2003-04.



Larsen

### Robert Barrera

Robert Barrera of Paul recently earned a promotion of Master Artistic Educator with Matrix Inc of New York City. He is the only Master in the State of Idaho. Barrera shares his knowledge with other hair dressers at manufacture shows and in salon classes. He works at "A Star Image Salon" in Burley.

He recently taught Socolor classes in Spanish in Seattle, Wash., and the Salt Lake City, Utah, area and just completed a national training in Houston, Texas, where he learned the latest in color and cutting collection High Definition Reds for Matrix.

Barrera has been in the industry for 22 years. He will be attending the Matrix Global Academy in New York City, N.Y., in November for the Color Mastery Class. He is a 1985 Minico graduate and a student of the College of Southern Idaho.



Barrera

### SPRING CREEK



Courtesy photo

The Mini-Cassia Chamber Ambassadors hosted a ribbon cutting to commemorate the grand opening at their new location and new name of Spring Creek Women's Health Care. Drs. Cannon and Dowdle are located at 1408 Pomerelle, Suite H, Burley. The business is a service of Intermountain Healthcare. Pictured cutting the ribbon is Dr. Michael Cannon and his daughter Paige with wife Brenda next to him. Business hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Information: 878-4970.

### Jensen Jewelers lauded for promotion

Jensen Jewelers and its advertising partner, Drake Cooper of Boise, recently won a 2008 Gold Rockie and a Gold Northwest Addy award for the "Great Heist" promotion that featured mock store-robbery themes to catch the attention of consumers.

The Gold Rockie was awarded as part of an annual creative awards contest sponsored by the Boise Ad Federation. The Gold Northwest Addy was awarded through an annual

competition sponsored by District XI of the American Advertising Federation. The Gold Northwest Addy now moves onto the national AAF contest.

## CONTRIBUTION

### D. L. EVANS BANK



Courtesy photo

Barbara Delmore, branch manager of the D.L. Evans Bank Blue Lakes Branch, and member of the Twin Falls Lions Club, was among several volunteers who helped provide lunch and ice cream for the Johnny Horizon Day on May 2. Area youngsters were provided lunch in appreciation of their efforts after a day of picking up trash on local roadways.

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# How new credit card rules affect you

## They may not be all that they're cracked up to be

By Candice Choi  
Associated Press writer

The overhaul of the credit card industry is being hailed as a triumph for long-abused consumers. But before you start banking on falling interest rates or vanishing fees, you might want to read the fine print.

Credit card legislation that Congress sent President Barack Obama on Wednesday bans certain practices by card issuers, but there's still no limit on the charges that can come with your monthly statement. And it's likely credit card companies will start searching for additional ways to earn profits.

That means cardholders across the board — even those who always pay on time — will probably see higher charges on a variety of services.

Obama signed the bill on Friday. Credit card lenders will now have nine months to be in compliance.

Here are some questions and answers about protections the bill spells out — and others that it doesn't.

**Q:** What specific practices does the bill ban?

**A:** Card issuers will no longer be able to raise interest rates on existing balances. The exception is if a payment is 60 days late; at that point, there's no cap on how much they can hike rates. If the cardholder pays the minimum balance on time, though, the lender would be required to restore the lower rate after six months.

Among other restrictions:

- Consumers will have to

get 45 days' notice and an explanation before their interest rate can be increased.

- If a company uses "risk-based pricing" to raise rates on riskier borrowers, they have to use that same methodology to lower rates when appropriate.

- The Federal Reserve in coming months will determine what constitutes "reasonable and proportional" penalty fees. This might include a cap on the dollar amount card issuers could charge for penalties such as late fees.

- Card issuers can charge a fee for over-the-phone payments only if you speak with a live operator. Charges will no longer be allowed for automated phone or online payments.

- You will have to opt in for the ability to go over your credit limit, which can trigger a fee as high as \$40. Issuers will also be limited to charging three over-the-limit charges for a single infraction. So if your balance goes over the limit and you fail to make any payments, you could only be charged over-the-limit fees for three payment periods; right now, issuers can continue charging that fee indefinitely on unpaid balances.

- Those 21 and under will need to show they have an independent source of income to get a credit card. Otherwise, they will need a co-signer.

**Q:** What practices are still allowed that I should be aware of?

**A:** The bill doesn't cap interest rates, as some lawmakers had hoped it would. While lenders generally can



AP photo

Credit card stickers posted at a bowling alley in Palo Alto, Calif. Debit card use has been catching up to credit cards for years, but only recently amid a weak economy has debit become the big U.S. revenue driver for card processors. The bill overhauling the credit card industry is being touted as long-needed relief for overburdened consumers, but that doesn't mean paying your monthly bill will suddenly be a cakewalk.

no longer raise rates on existing balances — at least until the cardholder is very late with payments — they can still raise them going forward.

That's true even for people who already saw their rates climb in recent months. The bill doesn't shield from further hikes in coming months — or ever.

"With all these limitations, (card issuers) still have a lot of freedom to charge what they want," said Ruth Susswein, a spokeswoman for

Consumer Action, an advocacy group in Washington, D.C.

**Q:** What if I always paid my bills on time?

**A:** There will likely be higher fees and interest rates across the board to make up for lost profit.

Card issuers in the past few months have already started raising fees for services such as balance transfers and cash advances. It's a trend that's likely to continue in the near future.

Card issuers also might start charging higher rates

at the outset, when a customer gets a new card.

Getting approved for a new credit card will probably be harder, too — even for those with a solid credit history. And if approved, the card will probably come with a lower credit limit than in the past.

With credit so much harder to come by, people could begin turning to outlets such as payday lenders and pawn shops, said Greg McBride, senior analyst with Bankrate.com.

"In the absence of credit

cards, people in need of a short-term loan will resort to other means," he said.

**Q:** What can I expect to happen in the next nine months?

**A:** Be on the lookout for any letters from your credit card company. They could be notifications about rate or fee hikes as card issuers prepare to get in compliance with the new bill.

"The next nine months are going to be filled with issuers implementing changes while they still can," McBride said.

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# NASA scraps shuttle landing for second consecutive day

## Obama names former shuttle commander to lead agency

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Thunderstorms prevented space shuttle Atlantis from returning to its home base Saturday for the second day in a row, and kept the astronauts circling Earth after a successful repair job at the Hubble Space Telescope.

The offshore storms, which later moved in, prompted NASA to skip both morning landing attempts at Kennedy Space Center. Despite an equally dismal forecast for Sunday, Mission Control opted to wait out the bad weather rather than take a detour to California.

As Atlantis soared overhead, right around what would have been landing time, commander Scott Altman called down that he saw "a pretty solid mass of clouds."

"It looks to us like maybe it is starting to break up and move out, so we're hopeful to get home tomorrow," he said.

"We're sharing your optimism," Mission Control replied.

Atlantis' seven astronauts made it further into their landing preparations than they did Friday, when storms directly over the Florida landing site resulted in much earlier cancellations.

A cooling-system problem cropped up aboard Atlantis soon after the astronauts got word of the latest delay, and they were advised to hold off on opening the payload bay doors just in case an emergency return was required. Within minutes, however, Altman was assured everything was fine, and the

doors were opened to radiate the heat generated by all the equipment.

Altman and his crew are trying to wind up their Hubble repair mission, which began May 11.

As the astronauts settled in for another day in space, President Barack Obama announced his choice for NASA's next administrator, Charles Bolden, a former shuttle commander. Obama told the Atlantis crew earlier in the week, in a phone call, that an announcement was imminent. If confirmed by the Senate, Bolden would become only the second astronaut ever to lead the space agency.

Mission Control relayed the news to the astronauts two hours later. "I guess it wasn't any of us in the flight after all," Altman joked.

An undated photo shows Charlie Vandergaw with a brown bear on his property near Alexander Creek, Alaska. The 70-year-old retired science teacher, who has been feeding bears for 20 years in the Susitna River valley, about fifty miles northwest of Anchorage, Alaska, has been charged with 20 counts of illegally feeding game.



Alaska Department of Fish and Game/AP photo

# Alaska cracks down on man who feeds wild bears

By Mary Pemberton  
Associated Press writer

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Charlie Vandergaw is crazy about bears.

That's obvious in a documentary made last year by a British filmmaker at Vandergaw's remote Alaska cabin and featured in the recent Animal Planet series "Stranger Among Bears." The videos show him scratching the belly of one black bear as if it was the family dog, feeding a cookie to a large black bear sitting under a tree, and feeding dog kibble to a cub from his outstretched hand.

Vandergaw has been coexisting with bears this way for the last 20 years, and he wants to be left alone.

That is not likely to happen now that the state is using a beefed-up law to prosecute Vandergaw for feeding bears. Game officials consider feeding bears a danger to humans, especially if others duplicate the behavior.

Not everyone thinks the state needs to be going after a 70-year-old retired teacher and wrestling coach.

Even if Vandergaw ends up being killed by the bears he loves, that's the Alaska way, said John Frost, who has been friends with Vandergaw for years. He recalled that when he came to Alaska in 1973 he saw a T-shirt that said "Alaska land of the individual and other endangered species."

"Yet here we are as a state going to crush this kind, gentle little guy," Frost said.

The bears at Vandergaw's cabin about 50 miles northwest of Anchorage are more than bold, said Sean Farley, a research biologist with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, who helped troopers serve a search warrant on Farley's cabin last year.

During the search, bears had been scared off with "cracker shots" that make a loud noise when fired.

If bears were that bold in an Anchorage park or campground, Farley said, he would recommend they be shot right away.

He also noted what happened to filmmaker Richard Terry at Vandergaw's cabin: "He got whacked and dragged across the yard by one of the bears during filming. Charlie has been nipped and slapped around."

The state last week charged Vandergaw with 20 counts of illegally feeding game — a charge that could put him in jail for a year and fine him \$10,000.

The law was recently changed to include stiffer fines and jail time, and Frost says it was specifically changed to go after his friend, Vandergaw. Farley denies that Vandergaw was the motivation behind the stiffer penalties.

There was no comment from Vandergaw. No one answered the door at his Anchorage home Wednesday and he hasn't responded to messages. The state has seized the plane that he normally would use to reach the cabin, Bear Haven, which isn't accessible by road.

According to charging documents, the plane was used to transport dog food to the cabin. Vandergaw's lawyer, Kevin T. Fitzgerald, said in a statement that he found the state charges "curious as to both timing and substance." He said Vandergaw stopped feeding bears last year.

The documentary describes how Vandergaw once hunted bears but quit after an encounter with a bear 20 years ago, shortly after he retired in 1985. A black bear appeared on his yard and crawled up to him on its belly. According to the Animal Planet Web site, Vandergaw reciprocated, and the encounter started "a long-lasting love affair" with bears.

Farley said there is a psychological component to Vandergaw's behavior with the bears. "They are associating with Charlie only because of the food. That association is fulfilling some psychological need for Charlie," he said.

Many Alaskans think Vandergaw is just plain crazy and lucky not to be "Treadwelled," a term used by some unsympathetic Alaskans referring to Timothy Treadwell, a self-described "bear protector" who had a similarly chummy relationship with bears. He and his girlfriend were eaten by grizzlies in Katmai National Park in 2003.

On one of the videos, Vandergaw says: "I think

basically what I do is my business as long as I'm not hurting anyone."

But Farley said Vandergaw was profiting from Bear Haven and had drawn two friends into his enterprise. They also were charged.

According to charging documents, Firecracker Films in London paid Vandergaw and co-defendant Carla Garrod nearly \$79,000.

"Charlie hasn't just been quietly feeding them. He has been profiting from it," Farley said.

Charging documents say a search of the home of Garrod — a real estate appraiser who also owns a photo business called C&C Bear Imagery — found receipts for thousands of pounds of dog food and hundreds of pounds of cookies.

Also charged was another Vandergaw friend, Terry Cartee. Documents say Cartee delivered 2,800 pounds of dog food to Vandergaw.

"It is unfortunate that the state of Alaska has taken this action now after turning a blind eye toward Mr. Vandergaw and his activities in the Susitna River valley for many years," Brent Cole, Garrod's lawyer, said in a statement. "This is an unfortunate occurrence which should make all citizens of Alaska pause and contemplate the unbridled power of the state of Alaska."

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# Golden Lab helps motivate disabled kids

By Tim Woodward  
The Idaho Statesman

BOISE — "Ovelle, get your lunch."

Ovelle walks to a refrigerator, pulls it open and gets her lunch bag. She gives it to Julia Gambassi, who puts it on a table.

"Plates, Ovelle."

Ovelle sets the table with paper plates and sits down to wait for her lunch of beans, apples and carrots.

Nothing special — except that Ovelle is a dog.

She's helping Julia and her 7-year-old twin sister, Claire, learn to eat, walk and talk. And it's working.

Born with a sensory motor disorder, the girls have come far since they joined the Jump Start program at Saint Alphonsus Rehabilitation Services at age 3.

"They were horizontal," their father, Ron Gambassi, said. "That was the only position they could be in. They went from that to sitting and now walking with walkers and being close to walking independently. Ovelle has been a big part of that."

The woman giving Ovelle commands is Diane Rampelberg. Ovelle, a golden Lab mix, is her dog. She



Julia Bambassi laughs at Ovelle, a therapy dog, during feeding therapy at St. Alphonsus Rehabilitation in Meridian.

works 40 hours a week — 40 volunteer hours a week — with her, helping children with disabilities and adults with brain damage improve their life skills.

Grants and donations help cover expenses, but Rampelberg works full-time for free.

"Diane is phenomenal," speech therapist Tiffany Dean said. "Ovelle wouldn't be able to do what she does without her. And her dedication and love for the kids is above and beyond."

She and others at Saint Al's see what Rampelberg

does as leading-edge therapy.

"I'm not aware of any place in the country that's doing this," Dean said. "Typical therapy dogs visit places like hospitals or nursing homes and let people pet them. It gives them emotional support, whereas Ovelle is working with therapists to actually motivate the kids. Her level of skill is much greater than a normal therapy dog, and her trainer has to have the skills and education level that matches the therapists."

A teacher with a special-

ed background, Rampelberg began working with assistance dogs in California a decade ago, after her son raised one for the Canine Companions organization. Its name was Dustin.

"I couldn't believe what the kids would do when Dustin was there," she said. "The connection was amazing."

Now living in Kuna, she was impressed enough that she started an organization to work with dogs and kids with disabilities. She named it Dustin's Paw; Ovelle is its third dog. Rampelberg chose

to volunteer rather than returning to a paid teaching job because "it didn't do for my heart what Dustin's Paw does."

She and Ovelle work with 16 kids a day plus outpatients. Another dog, Prairie, was added last week. Disabilities range from autism and visual impairment to motor and sensory problems. For some kids, such as the twins, even the seemingly simple act of eating can be overwhelming.

"Ovelle helps them see that it can be fun," speech therapist Pat Vanderveleg said. "If they take a bite, they get to give Ovelle a bite. That's their treat."

One boy wouldn't let anyone brush his teeth.

"If he brushed them, he could brush Ovelle's as a reward," occupational therapy assistant Diann Davis-Martin said. "It worked. When he went to the dentist, it was the first time in five years he didn't have to be sedated."

"Another kid hated putting on socks. We let him put socks on Ovelle, and after a while he'd put on his own. Sometimes it almost seems like a miracle. You don't think a kid is ever going to get something, and Ovelle comes in and they get it."

## DEATH NOTICES

### Harry E. Reed

JEROME — Harry E. Reed, 72, of Jerome, died Thursday, Jan. 1, 2009, at his home.

A celebration of life will be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 30, at the Jerome Public Library, 100 First Ave. E. in Jerome (Farnsworth Mortuary of Jerome).

### Gladys I. Reynolds

BURLEY — Gladys Irene Reynolds, 94, of Burley, died Friday, May 22, 2009, at Countryside Care and Rehabilitation in Rupert.

Arrangements will be announced by Hansen-Payne Mortuary in Burley.

### David K. Elie

David K. Elie, 78, of Twin Falls, died Friday, May 22, 2009, at his home.

Arrangements will be announced by Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

### Gilbert W. Craggs

FILER — Gilbert "Gib" Weldon Craggs, 95, of Filer, died Saturday, May 23, 2009, at a local care facility.

Arrangements will be announced by Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls.

### For obituary rates and information

Call 735-3266 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 3 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is [Obits@magicvalley.com](mailto:Obits@magicvalley.com). Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to [www.magicvalley.com](http://www.magicvalley.com) and click on "Obituaries."

# Grand Canyon fraught with peril for unprepared

By Felicia Fonseca  
Associated Press writer

GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK, Ariz. — Frank Poole worked out at a gym and hiked around his Mississippi home carrying a weighted pack for months in preparation for his trip to the Grand Canyon.

But it wasn't long after Poole started hiking on a popular Grand Canyon trail that he was struggling to breathe. Several hours later, he was in a northern Arizona hospital, where doctors determined the 75-year-old Poole had suffered a heart attack.

"I never suspected I was having a heart attack," Poole said recently from his home in Oxford, Miss. "I just thought it was the heat and extra exertion, the altitude and things like that. I was just so naive."

As tourist season picks up, emergency workers at the park and hospital officials know they'll start seeing more people with injuries or those who, like Poole, didn't know they had underlying health conditions that surfaced during the strenuous hikes at the canyon.

### Millions of visitors

The canyon lures millions of people each year with its colorful landscape, immensity, and awe-inspiring geology. But it presents obstacles that can leave even experienced hikers emerging sore and fatigued, including scorching heat during summer months, an altitude of 7,000 feet, and steep, rocky, winding trails.

"There's a million ways you can hurt yourself down there," said Lon Ayers, who works in the park's backcountry office.

The last few weeks have illustrated that.

In late April, an Ohio man fell 60 feet when he was peering over the edge of the canyon and lost his balance. Two days later, two teenagers and a young man who were swimming in the Colorado River at the bottom of the canyon were swept away and drowned. Another injury occurred when a mule lost its footing on a trail, fell and rolled over the passenger it was carrying.

Falls, fatigue, extreme temperatures and horseplay at national parks around the country lead to nearly 3,600 search-and-rescue operations each year, according to 2007 figures. The park service also responds to 16,000 emergency medical calls a year for anything from abrasions to twisted ankles, heat stroke and cardiac arrest, said Dean Ross, NPS branch chief of emergency services in Washington, D.C.

Rangers at the Grand Canyon perform more rescues than at any other park, including 300 helicopter rescues a year, Ross said.

People who come prepared, bringing plenty of snacks and water, and who pace themselves and listen to their bodies fare the best.

### Ignoring the signs

But hikers don't always heed warnings from rangers and on signs posted around the canyon.

Allan Widener of Louisville, Ky., recently took the Bright Angel trail just off the canyon's South Rim. After a park staff member strongly recommended that Widener not head down without water, the hiker quipped that, "I don't drink water, I drink Coke."

On the way back from his 1½ mile hike, leaning against the canyon wall in a shady spot, the 48-year-old said he wished he would have had something to drink.

Park rangers say they generally encounter three types of people hiking in the canyon. There are the strong-headed ones, usually in their teens and 20s who have an invincibility complex and will go against recommendations. Others are excited and unprepared but willing to change plans.

Then there are people like Albert Shank, who are prepared and generally stick to plans they've made, but sometimes get in trouble because of circumstance or because they made a bad decision, said Marc Yeston, deputy chief ranger.

Shank was about 28 miles into what was supposed to be a 42-mile rim-to-rim run in April when his legs started cramping and his body refused to keep down any food or water. He nearly collapsed on a park bench and spent several hours having saline pumped into his body before he was able to walk out of the canyon.

The Arizona State University faculty associate, who often runs distances longer than marathons, had



AP photo

A rescuer attached to a helicopter rescues a 47-year-old Ohio man who fell 60 feet while hiking in the Grand Canyon, Ariz., April 28.

plenty of water, energy bars and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches but not enough electrolytes or salty food.

"That was a rookie mistake, and I'm not a rookie," he said. "I learned that no matter how good of shape you're in, the canyon is something you need to respect, and dehydration will take you down."

### Temperature changes

What can be deceiving at the Grand Canyon is that the temperature at the South Rim, where 90 percent of all visitors go, is about 20 degrees cooler than at the bottom. And while most trails lead hikers up a mountain before the downward descent, it's the opposite at the Grand Canyon.

"It's a unique set of circumstances," Ayers said. "People from all over the world need to at least hear it from somebody on what to expect. People who have never hiked the Grand Canyon before expect it to be a walk in the park."

Ayers said the level to

people get the sense that it's Disneyland when it's an environmental park."

### 'Grand Canyon Season'

At the Flagstaff Medical Center — northern Arizona's only Level I trauma center — officials have a name for the spring and summer months when many tourists travel to the canyon. They call it "Grand Canyon Season."

It's a time where about 30 percent of heart patients are brought in from the canyon with conditions such as valve and rhythm problems, and heart disease and blockages.

Since the hospital started its open heart surgery program in 2004, there has been at least one month where all heart attack patients came from the Grand Canyon, said Gigi Sorenson, the hospital's cardiopulmonary services director.

"You just get used to it," she said. "And now when tourist season kicks in, you just start to expect when they call and say they're coming from the canyon."

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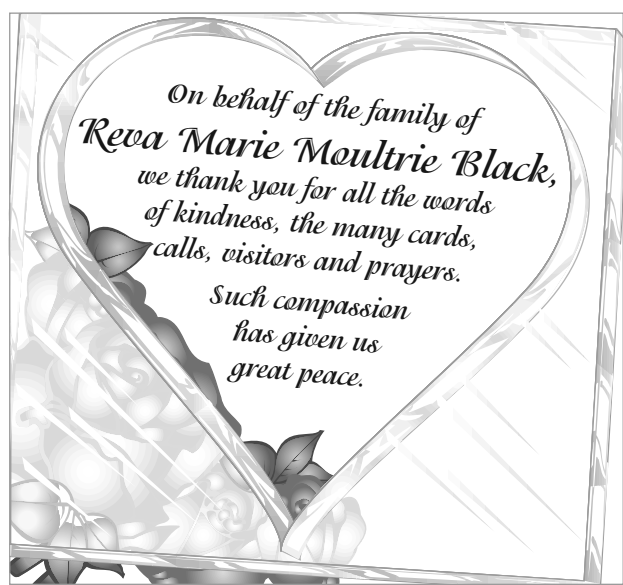


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BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Partly cloudy with a slight chance of an afternoon thunderstorm. Highs 70 to 75.
Tonight: Might be an evening storm, otherwise partly cloudy. Lows in the 40s.
Tomorrow: Building afternoon clouds leading to a small chance of thunderstorms. Highs around 70.

ALMANAC - BURLEY

Table with 2 columns: Temperature and Precipitation. Includes high/low for today, month, and year, along with precipitation averages.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

Map of Idaho showing weather forecasts for various regions including Boise, Northern Utah, and Mountain Home. Includes temperature ranges and weather icons.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Five-day forecast table for Twin Falls with columns for Today, Tonight, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, including weather icons and high/low temperatures.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 4 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset, and Pollen Count. Includes historical and current data for Twin Falls.

MOON PHASES

Table showing moon phases: New (May 24), First (May 31), Full (June 7), and Last (June 15).

REGIONAL FORECAST

Regional forecast table listing weather for various Idaho locations like Boise, Grangeville, and Mountain Home.

NATIONAL FORECAST

National forecast table listing weather for major US cities like Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, and Chicago.

WORLD FORECAST

World forecast table listing weather for international cities like Moscow, Nairobi, Oslo, and Paris.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP

National weather map showing fronts, cold, warm, and stationary systems across the United States. Includes a legend and temperature scale.

CANADIAN FORECAST

Canadian forecast table listing weather for cities like Calgary, Edmonton, Kelowna, and Vancouver.

Quote of the Day by Gregg Middlekauff: 'You never know when a moment and a few sincere words can have an impact on a life.' Includes a photo of the author.

More Magic Valley weather at www.magicvalley.com/weather
Get up-to-date highway information at the Idaho Transportation Department's Web site at 511.idaho.gov or call 888-432-7623.

Navy officer, daughters killed in NV plane crash

RENO, Nev. (AP) — A small plane crashed while approaching an airport in the northern Nevada town of Fallon, killing a naval air station officer and his three daughters, authorities said Saturday.

Cmdr. Luther H. Hook III, 44, died when his twin-engine Cessna 320 crashed and burst into flames Friday night about a mile from the runway after a flight from Fresno, Calif., base spokesman Zip Upham said.

Also killed were his three daughters from a previous marriage: Kaitlyn Hook, 15; Rachel Hook, 12; and Mackenzie Hook, 9, all of Clovis, Calif.

Hook was the No. 2 officer at Naval Air Station Fallon, which meant he was responsible for "all the administrative, disciplinary and detail work that makes the base run," Upham said.

A witness told authorities that the plane appeared to be in distress and was maneuvering erratically shortly before the crash. According to Federal Aviation Administration records, the plane was manufactured in 1966 and had no prior incidents.

The National Weather Service said wind was gusting up to 40 mph at the time in the town about 60 miles east of Reno.

Hook had flown to Fresno on Friday to pick up his daughters and was bringing them to Fallon for the weekend when his private plane crashed, Upham said.

Kelly Spicer, spokesman for the airport's fixed based operator Fallon Airmotive, told the Lahontan Valley News and Fallon Eagle Standard newspaper that Hook regularly flew to Fresno to pick up his daughters for weekend visitation.

Spicer said the plane was well maintained and had been sold to Hook by a former commanding officer at the Fallon base.

Hook, a native of Havana, Fla., and a 1986 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, was a decorated pilot who amassed over 2,700 flight hours in an F/A-18 Hornet, flying from the USS Kitty Hawk and other aircraft carriers.

A witness told authorities that the plane appeared to be in distress and was maneuvering erratically shortly before the crash.

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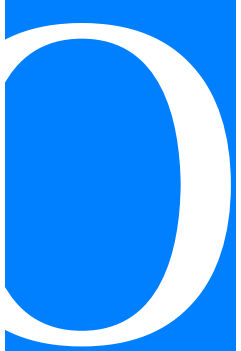
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# Obama sees court pick as smart with common touch

See Opinion 4

Letters to the editor, Opinion 2 / Nation/World, Opinion 4-7 /

Opinion

SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2009

OPINION EDITOR STEVE CRUMP: (208) 735-3223 SCRUMP@MAGICVALLEY.COM

## EDITORIAL

### Idaho Latinos: Economic dynamo, political mystery

It's a formidable economic, social and demographic force, Idaho's Latino population. So why isn't a political force too?

The state's Latino population grew 5 percent last year. Three in 10 people in Minidoka County now are Latino. In Cassia, Gooding and Jerome counties, the ratio is one in four.

Latino buying power in Idaho soared 11.3 percent last year, faster than the purchasing power of Latinos nationwide and the state's non-Latino population, according to a new report from the Selig Center for Economic Growth at the University of Georgia.

The largest ethnic minority in Idaho is spending 486 percent more on things like food, clothing, housing and vacations than in 1990. Latinos now account for a \$2.3 billion share of the state's total \$43.9 billion purchasing strength, compared to \$398 million 20 years ago.

State Farm Insurance and high-tech employers Micron Technology and Hewlett-Packard are among companies that have sought guidance from the Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs during the past five years while attempting to tap into the Latino market.

In Boise, a television station announced in January it would offer a new channel devoted solely to the region's Latino community. KIVI-Channel 6, the ABC affiliate, launched Mexicanal, which features programming from central and southern Mexico.

And yet ...

There are three Latinos in the Idaho Legislature, and not a single Latino county commissioner anywhere.

It's not that Latinos aren't rapidly integrating into Idaho society; it's that they're not the force of change non-Latinos often believe them to be.

Idaho Latinos tend to be socially conservative, and their political allegiances aren't easy to peg.

Canyon County, the most Latino in Idaho, is among the most conservative in the state. Tiny Clark County in eastern Idaho, where Latinos make up 40 percent of the population, even more so.

Latinos who are not U.S. citizens don't turn up at the polls, and there are relatively few Spanish-language media outlets.

So the more Idaho's Latino population grows — and the more prosperous it becomes — the more Idaho Latinos become like other residents of the state.

There's no doubt that more Latinos will become a greater part of the political conversation here in the Gem State. That's a natural and positive progression that should be welcomed by all Idahoans.

#### SOUTH-CENTRAL IDAHO LATINOS

County	Population	% of Total	Population Under 15	% Increase from 2007
Blaine	3,793	17.5%	32.7%	5.0%
Camas	81	7.2%	13.0%	1.3%
Cassia	4,994	23.4%	32.2%	6.2%
Gooding	3,470	24.3%	36.8%	3.4%
Jerome	5,589	27.3%	41.4%	8.3%
Lincoln	923	20.5%	31.6%	3.8%
Twin Falls	9,171	12.3%	19.7%	6.3%
<b>Idaho totals</b>	<b>155,827</b>	<b>10.2%</b>	<b>16.1%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>

## 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.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Public health plan should be an option

Did you know that 30 percent of every dollar you pay to a private health insurance company goes for executive salary, political campaign funds, profit and other administrative costs. Only 70 percent goes toward patient care. Compare that to Medicare's budget where only 3 percent goes toward administrative costs; 97 percent is paid out for patient care.

Countries with a public health-care program pay about one-half what we do per person and they have a longer life span. Right now, the health insurance companies are lobbying hard (with your money) to stop

Americans from having the option of buying into a public health plan. Their reason: they say they can't compete. Of course they can't, they have to pay multimillion dollar executive salaries and donate huge amounts to campaign funds that a public plan wouldn't have to.

Contact your congressional representatives and tell them that you want the "option" of a public health plan. Give the private companies some competition. You can still pay into a private plan if you choose. Contact Mike Crapo, 202-224-6142; Jim Risch, 202-224-2752 or Mike Simpson, 202-224-3121.

MIKE FRAZIER  
Twin Falls

# Life after Yucca

## Idaho, other states wonder if they'll ever be rid of nuclear waste

By Rick Larson



Photo courtesy U.S. Department of Energy

A piece of President Obama's budget that hasn't drawn as much attention as other high-profile programs would finally bury the controversial Yucca Mountain nuclear waste project in Nevada.

Scrapping Yucca Mountain will leave a \$13.5 billion hole in the ground, which is how much the Department of Energy has spent on the project since 1983, and it leaves unanswered the question of what to do with waste from nuclear power plants. It's a question the nation has struggled with for some 30 years.

Yucca Mountain's death knell was only a matter of time, as Nevada's Harry Reid, who's Senate majority leader, had promised to shut it down because his state doesn't want all of the nation's nuclear trash.

Obama's proposed budget includes \$197 million for the Yucca Mountain project, according to The Associated Press. But the budget directs that the money be spent to "explore alternatives" to the Nevada project, and stipulates that no money would go for site access work, engineering or land purchases.

The waste repository program isn't a project being funded through some

See YUCCA, Opinion 2

## Remembering journalists killed in action

Have you ever heard of Marcus Henry Kellogg?

How about Donald F. Bolles or Reid Blackburn?

Do the names Michael Kelly or Ernie Pyle sound familiar?

Each of those men gave his life for you. They are among the almost 2,000 journalists worldwide who have been killed in the line of duty since 1837. That number, compiled by the Freedom Forum in Washington, D.C., includes 138 journalists and 51 media workers of all nationalities killed in Iraq since March 2003.

Journalists are an unusual bunch. When things blow up and people start shooting, they tend to run toward, not away from, the mayhem. Sometimes their dedication to getting the news you want to read or hear can cost them their lives.

On this eve of Memorial Day, let me introduce you to some great Americans who gave their lives in the line of duty.

Marcus Henry Kellogg never got the chance to write the biggest story of his life.

In 1876, Kellogg, a reporter for North Dakota's Bismarck Tribune, was assigned to accompany Col. George Armstrong Custer and his famed 7th Cavalry into Montana's Black Hills.

Kellogg sent three dispatches back to the Tribune, which is a sister paper of the Times-News in Lee Enterprises. The last read, in part, "By the time this reaches you we would have met and fought the red devils, with what result remains to be seen. I go with Custer and will be at the death."

Four days later, on June 25, Kellogg joined Custer and 206 other soldiers,



132 FAIRFIELD ST. WEST  
James G. Wright

scouts and civilians in death at the Battle of the Little Bighorn. He was killed near the river below Last Stand Hill and he is believed to be buried in the mass grave at the battlefield monument. Though he never filed his story, his notes were found on the battlefield. They, along with his earlier dispatches, are considered primary historical sources about Custer's last campaign.

Reid Blackburn was just doing his job; taking pictures for the Vancouver Columbian.

On May 18, 1980, Blackburn was seven miles north of Mount St. Helens in southeast Washington, preparing to trigger remote-control cameras placed to record the volcano's imminent eruption. The area was thought to be a safe distance from the mountain, which was expected to blow straight up. At 8:32 a.m. the mountain instead blew sideways with the force of 500 Hiroshima atomic bombs.

Blackburn must have known he was going to die even before the scalding hot gases and four feet of smothering ash reached him. He stood fast, and triggered his cameras to make the only photographic record of the eruption. He was just 27.

Don Bolles was a veteran Arizona Republic investigative reporter who specialized in covering corruption and organized crime. On

June 2, 1976, he went to a Phoenix hotel to meet someone who offered information on real estate dealings said to involve the mob and high-ranking state politicians. The source stood him up, but as Bolles was driving away from the hotel someone detonated six sticks of dynamite taped to the underside of his car.

The motive for his assassination was never clearly established, though several people associated with reputed mobsters were convicted of various charges.

His death spurred The Arizona Project, a long-term investigation that drew nearly 40 volunteer reporters and editors from around the country who swarmed Phoenix to continue his work. Their articles resulted in 18 criminal indictments.

Michael Kelly had covered the first Gulf War as a freelancer hitching a ride on an Egyptian tank, risking his life for the adventure of it all.

A dozen years later he returned to the Middle East to cover the invasion of Iraq for the Washington Post, where he was an established columnist, and The Atlantic Monthly magazine, where he was a respected editor.

At age 46 with two small children, Kelly didn't need to establish his reputation or prove himself in battle. He went because he believed it was the right thing to do.

As an embedded journalist, he had a seat in a 3rd Infantry Division Humvee for the race across the desert to Baghdad. On April 3, 2003, the Humvee came under enemy fire, went out of control and flipped over in a canal. The driver and Kelly both drowned. He was the only journalist killed in

action during the invasion, though many more have died since.

Ernie Pyle, like Kelly, was a middle-aged civilian who wasn't required to put himself in harm's way but felt that he could do nothing else.

As a roving correspondent for Scripps Howard newspapers, he roamed Depression-era America, telling the stories of everyday people at a time when most journalists paid attention only to those in power.

In World War II he saw intense action, reporting from Europe, Africa and the Pacific. He was famous for getting down into the mud with the troops he covered and not trying to impress generals.

On April 18, 1945, Pyle was on Ie Shima, an island near Okinawa, when he came under fire from a Japanese machine gun. After jumping into a ditch, he raised his head to see if a friend was safe, and was killed instantly.

President Harry Truman said, "No man in this war has so well told the story of the American fighting man as American fighting men wanted it told. He deserves the gratitude of all his countrymen."

Each year the Newseum in Washington, D.C., re-dedicates its Journalists Memorial and adds the names of those who have given their all to the cause of keeping you informed.

Sixty-two were killed in 2008.

Eleven have died so far this year. To read their stories, visit <http://www.newseum.org/scripts/journalist/main.htm>

Times-News Editor James G. Wright may be reached at 735-3255.

# Catholic priests' celibacy is a self-inflicted wound

Should the Catholic priesthood be restricted to single, celibate men? Do clergy restrictions based on gender, marital status or sexual orientation make sense these days?

As an atheist and an ex-Catholic, I cannot claim to be displeased at the spectacle of the Roman Catholic Church continuing to shoot itself in the foot by refusing to ordain women or to allow priests to marry. If I cared about the survival of the Catholic Church, however, I would have to say that the severe priest shortage would end tomorrow if the church simply allowed its preachers to have a normal family and sexual life. But Palestinians and Israelis are going to embrace one another at the Wailing Wall and the Dome of the Rock before the rigid old men who run the Vatican open up the doors of the priesthood to people who want to serve their god and enter into the full experience of loving and being loved by another human being.

The vast majority of American Catholics see no need for priestly celibacy and support the ordination of women. Father Alberto Cutie, the appropriately named Miami priest and television star who was caught embracing an adult female companion on the beach, has received strong support from many of his parishioners and fans. He has said that he loves the woman in question and would like to marry her and remain a priest. Fat chance. Pope Benedict XVI will



SUSAN JACOBY

not change his position on female priests or on priestly celibacy. One of the most ridiculous rationales for priestly celibacy used by the church has always been the notion that the celibacy requirement is not just about sex but about the need for a priest to be fully free to devote himself to the spiritual needs of his parishioners. The notion that a priest somehow becomes better attuned to the needs of his or her flock by forgoing intimate human love is so illogical that it needs no further comment. It may even be more illogical than the rationale for not admitting women to the priesthood, which rests on the biblical depiction of the twelve apostles as men. (By that logic, all priests should be Jews because the biblical Jesus and the Apostles were Jews.)

The priest shortage in the United States and western Europe began to develop in the late 1960s, when many young priests—who had once hoped that the Second Vatican Council would drop the requirement of priestly celibacy—began to realize that the successor to the great-hearted Pope John XXIII was not open to any fundamental change. Large numbers of heterosexual men left the priesthood at that time.

This church, with no room in its priesthood for women or for men who simply wanted to love and live with another adult, then proceeded to turn a blind eye to the pedophile predators whose evil deeds were covered up by the hierarchy for decades.

The Rev. Donald Cozzens, a celibate priest and professor of religious studies at John Carroll University in Ohio, says, "I've asked dozens of men here that showed signs of deep faith if they had thought about going into the priesthood. They all said, 'I've thought of it, but I want to have a family.'" You can be sure that Father Cozzens, the author of *Freeing Celibacy*, will not be promoted to Monsignor or bishop any time soon.

Really, who cares about this other than the old men in the Vatican who want all younger priests to lead the same repressed, rigid, and lonely lives as their elders? In the U.S., an astonishing 25 percent of those raised as Catholics have left the church. Priestly celibacy, like the church's position on birth control and female priests, is part of the mix that has led so many once-loyal Catholics out of the church. As an atheist, I am pleased by news of the rising dropout rate. If I were the pope, I would be really, really worried. Oh, wait. Even if I were a believer, I couldn't become pope because I am a woman.

*Susan Jacoby is an author and reporter. She wrote this commentary for The Washington Post.*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Passivity is no longer an option

It's time for courage. It's time for truth. It's time to muster the courage to see the truth. It's time to examine our time-honored assumptions and fears. As humans, do we stand apart from other species inhabiting the globe or are we intertwined with all life? Have we been given dominion over the earth? If so, what form does that dominion take?

Does it give us the right to engage in mountain top coal removal with its massive pollution, or does it demand responsible stewardship of the earth, the source of all life? Can we continue to find solace in non-existent future techno-fixes designed to cover the failings of previous techno-fixes? How many Band-Aids upon Band-Aids will it take before we wake from our societally sanctioned slumber? Do we invest in nuclear energy when we have no techno-fixes to eliminate or safely store its waste, hazardous for a million years, or do we take advantage of the endless naturally occurring, non-polluting, non-waste producing sources of energy such as wind and sun?

Are we willing to face the irrational belief in the necessity of perpetual growth in a world of finite resources? Can we consider the notion that "growth for the sake of growth is the ideology of the cancer cell?" Can we have a reasoned and civil discussion about the inevitable need for human population stabilization or even reduction? Are we, as citizens of the United States, entitled to a consumption rate 3,000 times greater than that of the citizens of Bangladesh? Do we become self-realized agents of responsible action, or do we continue to wait for our ideologically-driven leaders to rescue us from global environmental disaster?

Passivity is no longer an option.  
JIM SYLVA  
Hansen

### Volunteers can't make up for increased library costs

Many people volunteer to help the Burley Public Library. Some volunteers are visible, such as those who help with Friends of the Library book sales. Others work behind the scenes, such as a computer technician who has donated thousands of hours to keeping the computers running.

Why do they do this? Some want to help their own children and other people's children have access to special educational programs such as story-time and summer reading. Some appreciate having computer access. Some believe that a good library helps to build a good community. They know that businesses look at things such as libraries and schools when choosing where to locate. Some people remember how important libraries were to them when they were young and want to make sure that the next generation has the same benefits.

Volunteers can help the library in many ways, but they cannot make up for the increased demands and the increased costs that the

library has experienced in recent years. In the past three years the circulation of library materials has increased by 35 percent.

In order to help the library financially, Burley voters passed an override levy two years ago. This levy cost the average household about \$3.50 per month. This year the proposed override levy will decrease by about \$1 and will cost the average household about \$2.50 per month. Considering all the benefits and services the library provides, this is truly a bargain.

The Friends of the Burley Public Library Board of Volunteers urges you to vote in favor of the Burley Public Library override levy on May 26.

**KATHLEEN HEDBERG**  
Burley  
*(Editor's note: Kathleen Hedberg is the president of the Burley Public Library Board of Volunteers.)*

### Magic Valley needs internment museum

I would like you to help put up an "internment museum" in memory of the Japanese who were violated of their rights.

**JONAH RUF**  
Hansen  
*(Editor's note: Jonah Ruf, 12, is a homeschooled student who recently learned about the Japanese Internment in a civics class.)*

## Yucca

Continued from Opinion 1 abstract government borrowing program. It's funded by everyone who uses utility company electricity.

Under the 1982 Nuclear Waste Policy Act, power users have paid one-tenth of a cent for every kilowatt-hour used. The money originally was intended to help find the best site in the nation for a nuclear repository by evaluating the suitability of several sites. The proposed deep underground repository originally was supposed to be ready to start taking spent fuel from the nation's nuclear power plants in 1998 — a deadline obviously badly blown.

(Idaho has an agreement with the federal government to remove all the high-level waste from the Idaho National Laboratory by 2035. If the Yucca Mountain project is dead, that deal is in jeopardy.)

The Department of Energy's Web site reports that a total of \$29.6 billion had been collected for the nation's Nuclear Waste Fund as of Dec. 31. That included money appropriated by Congress and collected by the states.

Scrapping Yucca Mountain isn't as simple, however, as just walking away from a massive hole in the ground. The problem of what to do with the 55,000 tons of used nuclear fuel sitting in 39 states in "temporary" storage at nuclear power plants remains.

And lawmakers from states with nuclear plants are getting angry, threatening to stop or reduce their

payments to the federal government for nuclear waste management until a solution for nuclear waste emerges. The New York Times reported in April that at least four states — Maine, South Carolina, Michigan and Minnesota — were considering measures.

All of this comes as nuclear power plants are being promoted as potential sources of clean and reliable base power. Or, at least, they would be "clean" if a reliable method of handling their waste was developed, whether safe disposal or fuel reprocessing.

Don't expect a quick answer to this riddle, though. This is a hot potato that's been tossed back and forth for almost 30 years, and nobody wants to be the

one left holding the responsibility for it.

*Rick Larson is a reporter for the Tri-City Herald of Kennick, Wash.*

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2:45pm: Copperhead  
5:00pm: Swamp Cats  
6:00pm: Milestone  
7:00pm: TBA  
8:00pm: TBA

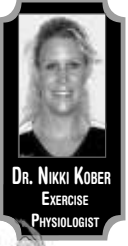
**SUNDAY MAY 31<sup>ST</sup>**

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# Americans need Washington, but they're still skeptical

We're in the middle of the biggest crisis of capitalism in 70 years. We've got a new administration in Washington active on every front. What's all this done to the public mind?

A poll to be released recently by *The National Journal* and *Allstate* gives a pretty good view. As you'd expect, there's a lot of economic anxiety in the country, spanning every income category. Sixty-four percent of Americans believe there are more risks that endanger their standards of living today than in their parents' time. On the other hand, there's still some sense of opportunity. Forty-two percent believe there are more opportunities to move up than a generation ago, compared with 29 percent who think there are fewer.

In short, there's a feeling of greater volatility, both up and down. People don't seem to feel as if they are sliding into a hole, but neither do they feel secure.

So whom do they turn to in times like these?

Themselves. Americans have always felt that they are masters of their own fate. Decade after decade, Americans stand out from others in their belief that their own individual actions determine how they fare. That conviction has been utterly unshaken by the global crisis. In question after question, large majorities say their own actions will determine how much they will make, how well they will endure the recession, how healthy they will be and so on.

The crisis has not sent Americans running to government for relief. Nor has it led to a populist surge in anti-business sentiment. In



DAVID BROOKS

a recent Gallup poll, 55 percent of Americans said that big government is the biggest threat to the country. Only 32 percent said big business. Those answers are near historical norms.

Americans have always been skeptical of activist government, and that skepticism remains. When Gallup asked specifically about the current crisis, 44 percent of Americans said they disapprove of an expanded role for government during the crisis; 39 percent said they approve of an expanded role but want it reduced when the crisis is over; and only 13 percent want to see a permanently expanded role for government.

When asked by the *National Journal* group more specifically where good ideas and financial solutions come from, 40 percent said corporate America and 40 percent said government. When asked what could best enhance income security, half of all Americans said it was a matter of individual responsibility, 19 percent said government regulations like increasing the minimum wage were most effective and 15 percent said government programs.

The area where the *National Journal* poll found the most desire for government activism is health care. A recent Pew Research Center survey found that while there is less support for a health care overhaul than there was in 1993, the

public still wants reform that at least improves the current system.

My friend Ron Brownstein of *The National Journal* looks at the data and concludes that while Americans are still skeptical of government, they are open to rethinking what the social safety net should look like in the 21st century. I look at the data and conclude that the tumult has not significantly changed the way Americans look at government, corporations or the social contract. Americans are open to good ideas from government, as always, but they are still skeptical and fiercely self-sufficient. The economic crisis has produced a desire for change but not a philosophical shift.

The big lesson for the Obama administration is that the American people will continue to support its agenda as long as they think it is competent. It was not automatic that an administration led by a 47-year-old man with little Washington experience would run a pro-

fessional, smoothly functioning operation. Yet he has. The administration has unveiled a dazzling array of proposals with a high degree of efficiency and managerial skill. This has inspired confidence in his team, if not in the government as a whole.

If that aura of nonideological competence fades, however, support for the agenda will crater. There is little philosophical backing for a government as activist as the one Obama is proposing. Middle-class voters are not willing to hand over higher taxes in exchange for more federal services. The public is significantly to Obama's right on economic matters and needs constant evidence that he is not trespassing on personal freedom and individual responsibility.

For Republicans, the message is that all is not hopeless. Swing voters have temporarily rejected the party, but not the Weltanschauung. After this crisis is over, they still want a return to normalcy, with

balanced budgets and a limited state. Americans still want to see power dispersed among a diversity of institutions, not concentrated in the hands of supertech-nocrats in Washington.

The Great Depression

altered the national consciousness. So far, the Great Recession has not.

David Brooks is a columnist for *The New York Times*. Write to him at [dbrooks@nytimes.com](mailto:dbrooks@nytimes.com).

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## This mom didn't have to die

BO, Sierra Leone — On this trip through West Africa with my “win-a-trip” contest winner, I was reminded of one of the grimmest risks to human life here. Despite threats from warlords and exotic disease, it's something even deadlier: motherhood.

One of the most dangerous things an African woman can do is become pregnant. So, along with the winner of my contest for college students, Paul Bowers, I have been visiting the forlorn hospitals here in West Africa. According to the World Health Organization, Sierra Leone has the highest maternal mortality in the world, and in several African countries, 1 woman in 10 ends up dying in childbirth.

It's pretty clear that if men were dying at these rates, the U.N. Security Council would be holding urgent consultations, and a country such as this would appoint a minister of paternal mortality. Yet a half-million women die annually from complications related to pregnancy or childbirth without attracting interest because the victims are typically among the most voiceless people in the world: impoverished, rural, uneducated and female.

Take Mariama, a 21-year-old pregnant woman with a 3-year-old child living in a village here in southern Sierra Leone. Mariama started bleeding one afternoon before we arrived, but her family had no money and was reluctant to seek medical care. When she was already half-dead, she was finally taken into the government hospital in Bo.

She was off-the-charts

NICHOLAS KRISTOF

anemic, but there was no blood available for a transfusion. In that situation, the woman's relatives are checked to see if they are of the same type and can give, but Mariama was accompanied only by her mother, who was too fragile to donate blood.

The only obstetrician, serving an area with 2 million people, was away, so nurses suggested that in the absence of a transfusion, Mariama receive a plasma expander for her blood. But that would have cost \$4, and Mariama and her mother had no money at all.

So Mariama continued to hemorrhage right there in the maternity ward. At 1 a.m. the next morning, she died.

“We did our best to save her,” said Regina Horton, a nurse-midwife at the hospital. “But we had no blood.”

I've seen women dying like this in many countries and it's not only shattering but also infuriating. It's no mystery how to save the lives of pregnant women; what's lacking is the will and resources.

If the lives of women like Mariama were a priority, there would be many simple ways to keep them alive. For example, they could routinely be given anti-malarials and deworming medicine during pregnancy to flush out parasites. They should also receive daily iron tablets to overcome anemia, and a bed net. All this would cost just a few dollars and would leave pregnant women far less likely to die of hemorrhages.

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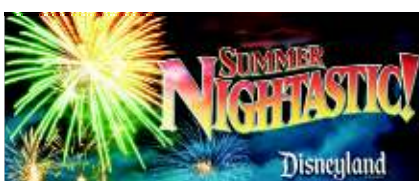
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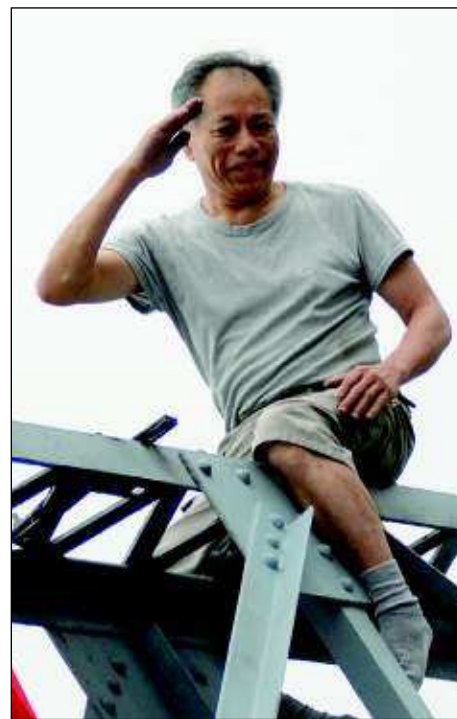
## A helping hand, then a shove

Passerby pushes man who was threatening to jump off bridge in China

BEIJING (AP) — Chen Fuchao, a man heavily in debt, had been contemplating suicide on a bridge in southern China for hours when a passer-by came up, shook his hand — and pushed him off the ledge. Chen fell 26 feet onto a partially inflated emergency air cushion laid out by authorities and survived, suffering spine and elbow injuries, the official Xinhua News Agency said Saturday. The passer-by, 66-year-old Lai

Jiansheng, had been fed up with what he called Chen's "selfishness," Xinhua said. Traffic around the Haizhu bridge in the city of Guangzhou had been backed up for five hours and police had cordoned off the area. "I pushed him off because jumpers like Chen are very selfish. Their action violates a lot of public interest," Lai was quoted as saying by Xinhua. "They do not really dare to kill themselves. Instead, they just want to raise the relevant government authorities' attention to their appeals." Xinhua said Lai was "taken away by police" but did not elaborate. A police officer who answered the telephone Saturday at a station close

to the bridge confirmed the incident and said it was under investigation. He refused to give any other details and hung up. According to Xinhua, Chen wanted to kill himself because he had accrued 2 million yuan (\$290,000) in debt from a failed construction project. On Thursday, he made his way to the Haizhu bridge, where 11 other people have tried to take their lives since April. Lai volunteered to talk Chen down but was turned away by police, Xinhua said. Lai then broke through the cordon, climbed to where Chen sat, greeted him with a handshake, then pushed. Chen was recovering in the hospital, Xinhua said.



Lai Jiansheng salutes onlookers after pushing a man threatening suicide off a bridge in Guangzhou, China, Thursday. Lai said he was fed up with the 'selfishness' of the potential jumper, who survived a 26-foot fall onto a partially inflated emergency air cushion. AP photo

## Stabbed to death in bed, 'CSI' officer becomes a victim

By Colleen Long  
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Michelle Lee's career was solving crimes. Working as a forensic investigator for the New York Police Department, she was training to do the type of "CSI" work made famous on television.

But the 24-year-old became a victim of a crime herself, stabbed to death in her bed, her naked body found in a pool of blood. Using the same investigative techniques Lee was learning, authorities on Friday arrested her ex-lover Gary McGurk in the case, charging him with second-degree murder.

McGurk pleaded not guilty and was being held without bail. His attorney, Joseph Corozzo said his client was innocent.

"This is a gruesome crime, but my client is not responsible for it," he said. "We look forward to seeing the purported evidence in this case."

Lee had recently moved out of her parent's home and was living in Sunnyside, Queens, a quaint neighborhood of working-class families. She started working for the NYPD last September and was training in forensic investigations at a police lab analyzing evidence like hair samples, drugs, gunshot residues and bodily fluids. She was going to specialize in narcotics.

Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly described her as a "very talented young woman."

The weekend of her death, her roommate was out of town. She returned Sunday, April 26, and thinking Lee must've been sleeping, she didn't bother to say hello. When she was n't up the next morning, the roommate peeked into Lee's room and discovered the grisly scene. Lee was naked and had been tied to her bed, a knife jutted out of her neck. Her chest had been burned with an iron. Investigators would later say she was hit with a blunt instrument before she was stabbed.

There was no sign of



AP photo Gary McGurk, left, is arraigned Friday in a New York City courtroom in the April stabbing death of NYPD criminal investigator Michelle Lee. McGurk pleaded not guilty and was being held without bail.

forced entry. She was last seen leaving the gym in her neighborhood around 5 p.m. the Saturday before her roommate discovered her body.

Police offered a \$12,000 reward for any information leading to her death. Meanwhile, investigators probed the case, talking to her friends and acquaintances. Lab workers — though none of Lee's co-workers — analyzed forensic evidence from the scene.

Weeks went by, and one person's story didn't quite add up, according to police and prosecutors. McGurk, a 23-year-old Irish-born student at John Jay Criminal College, was apparently the last person to have contact with her, and his statements kept changing, investigators said.

The two had met at the John Jay athletic center in 2004, where she also attended, and he asked her out. But dating didn't work, and so they were "friends with benefits," according to his statement to police. He claimed they had rough sex — tied each other up, choked each other, that sort of thing, according to court documents.

"Sweet girl. Friends first, herself last," McGurk said in a statement to police. "She told me that she made bad decisions. I told her that I was a bad decision, joking."



The New York Times/AP photo Gov. Jennifer Granholm of Michigan at an event at the White House on May 19. It is not clear what kind of legal style Granholm would take with her to the Supreme Court.

## Supreme Court guessing game

## Obama's ideal nominee will be smart, have the common touch

By Ben Feller  
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — On the verge of choosing his first Supreme Court nominee, President Barack Obama has already provided a profile of the person he is likely to pick: an intellectual heavyweight with a "common touch," someone whose brand of justice means seeing life from the perspective of the powerless.

Obama is expected to announce his nominee this week, as early as Tuesday. He has interviewed at least two finalists for the position, according to an official familiar with Obama's thinking who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter. One of those interviewed is federal appeals court judge Diane Wood, officials said last week.

Obama's words, his young presidency and his own life experience reveal what the nation should expect in his choice — and help explain how the president is making a decision that will endure long after he leaves office.

"You have to have not only the intellect to be able to effectively apply the law to cases before you," Obama said in an interview carried Saturday on C-SPAN television. "But you have to be able to stand in somebody else's shoes and see through their eyes and get a sense of how the law might work or not work in practical day-to-day living."

That quality — Obama calls it empathy — is a huge factor in picking a



Moreno



Sotomayor



Wood



Sotomayor



Kagan

### Obama's other top Supreme Court picks

successor to retiring Justice David Souter. Among the others Obama is weighing: judicial philosophy, intellectual sway, gender, ethnicity, age and the politics of Senate confirmation.

He is expected to choose a woman, and perhaps someone who is Hispanic, but insists he will not be "weighed down" by demographics.

Ultimately, it may come down to an intangible — how well the nominee resonates with Obama. A president's tenure will last at most eight years, but his choice of a Supreme Court nominee could affect the course of the nation for a generation, and his personal legacy for even longer.

The six people known to be under consideration by Obama are U.S. Appeals Court judges Wood and Sonia Sotomayor, Solicitor General Elena Kagan, Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano and California Supreme Court Justice Carlos Moreno.

It remains possible that Obama could nominate someone else who

would surprise the legal, political and media communities tracking his deliberations.

His approach, though, is methodical.

He consulted senators on the Judiciary Committee, without revealing much. His aides gave an audience to interest groups, but warned them that Obama did not want to be lobbied. Obama is conferring with a circle of advisers, but is heavily involved in his own review as a lawyer who loves constitutional law.

"He makes the decision himself, but I think he welcomes arguments and counter-arguments from other people," said David Strauss, a professor at the University of Chicago's law school who knows Obama from when they both taught there. "He wants to hear, 'What are the problems with going this route?'"

Obama says he wants to give the Senate a traditional 70 days to confirm his nominee — which, by the calendar, means he plans to announce a pick this week.

## Obama urges public to do more to thank vets this Memorial Day



AP photo President Obama walks with first lady Michelle Obama to Marine One outside the White House on Saturday in Washington.

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama saluted veterans and urged his countrymen to do the same this Memorial Day weekend, saying the nation has not always paid them proper respect.

In his weekly radio and Internet address Saturday, Obama said people can honor veterans by sending a letter or care package to troops overseas, volunteering at health clinics or taking supplies to a homeless veterans center. He said it could also mean something

as simple as saying "thank you" to a veteran walking by on the street.

"We have a responsibility to serve all of them as well as they serve all of us," Obama said. "And yet, all too often in recent years and decades, we, as a nation, have failed to live up to that responsibility. We have failed to give them the support they need or pay them the respect they deserve."

"That is a betrayal of the sacred trust that America has with all who wear and

all who have worn the proud uniform of our country," he said.

The president planned to attend a Memorial Day ceremony Monday at Arlington National Cemetery.

Obama said he was committed to giving troops the training and equipment they need and making certain the Veterans Affairs Department had the money it needed. He also noted that he had signed a bill into law that would eliminate waste in defense

projects and was working to improve the economy so that veterans can find a good job, provide for their families and earn a college degree.

"That is what Memorial Day is all about," Obama said. "It is about doing all we can to repay the debt we owe to those men and women who have answered our nation's call by fighting under its flag. It is about recognizing that we, as a people, did not get here by accident or good fortune alone."





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# Unlikely duo push public-private aid partnership

By Jane Wardell  
Associated Press writer

LONDON — An unlikely duo of a fashion heiress and a Nobel Prize-winning economist is pushing a controversial plan to boost aid to the developing world by giving wealthy donors a greater say in how the money is distributed.

Backed by the head of the United Nations and a bevy of billionaires, supermodels and pop stars, socialite Renu Mehta and economist James Mirrlees say a private-public partnership on foreign aid is the only way to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, since governments are falling short of U.N. targets.

But the notion sits

uneasily with critics already unhappy about the juxtaposition of champagne-fueled fundraisers and the poverty of those they are supposed to benefit. Critics argue it would set a dangerous precedent for the super-rich to determine foreign aid policies.

On its face, the Mehta-Mirrlees plan is simple. They are calling on the Group of Eight industrialized nations, which are meeting in Italy in July, to agree to match private donations with state aid. For every \$100 pledged by the private sector, a government would add a matching \$100 from existing aid budgets.

The plan seeks to address the fact that governments are falling behind in their



Socialite Renu Mehta and Nobel prize-winning economist James Mirrlees are shown in London on Tuesday.  
AP photo

commitments to the United Nations to donate 0.7 percent of gross national incomes to meet eight goals, including halving extreme poverty by 2015 from its 1990 level.

In 2007, only five countries — Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden — met the commitment. Collectively, all U.N. mem-

bers delivered \$103.7 billion, just 0.3 percent of gross national income and far short of the goal of \$155 billion.

"The U.N. Development Goals are widely recognized as the most comprehensive template to address these issues, but the program is in jeopardy because governments are not meeting their commitments," said Mehta,

who launched her Fortune Forum charity in 2006 at a glitzy London dinner with former U.S. President Bill Clinton as the keynote speaker.

Mehta, the daughter of an Indian textile magnate, added: "What we need to do is come up with a new model, find a new way to meet these targets, on the one hand. On the other hand, we need to make sure that the money is deployed to the maximum effectiveness?"

Mirrlees and Mehta estimate their plan could raise \$75 billion, even in the current economic climate, arguing that people will donate if they know their contributions will be doubled.

"We see a number of countries cutting back on government assistance ... that inevitably makes things more urgent" since developing countries are suffering further from the falloff in global trade, Mirrlees said.

# Sri Lanka war zone scene of devastation

By John Heilprin  
Associated Press writer

NORTHEAST COAST, Sri Lanka — Sri Lanka's former war zone is a wasteland, its earth scorched and pocked by craters. Cars and trucks lie overturned near bunkers beside clusters of battered tents.

The government has denied firing heavy weapons into what had been a battlefield densely populated with civilians. But the helicopter tour the military gave U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and a group of journalists Saturday revealed widespread devastation.

Civilians who escaped the zone said they came under intense shelling from both the rebels and the government.

"We ran for our lives from the shelling in the north," said one man who gave his name as Krishnathurai. "It was coming from both sides, the Tamil Tigers and the military, and we were stuck in the middle."

The sandy coastal strip where the final battles of the quarter-century civil war were fought was dotted with patches of charred earth and



AP photo

Some of the devastation left by recent fighting in Sri Lanka's civil war is seen on the country's northeast coast Saturday.

deep recessions. Dark craters were visible amid the grayish earth along the coast.

One area was thick with endless rows of tents, many of them knocked down and damaged. Abandoned vehicles were overturned, some reduced to burnt skeletons. Some huts with thatch roofs were destroyed, others had no roofs.

In one area near the tents, bunkers appeared to have been constructed of sandbags and barrels.

Along a nearby beach lay a large boat with the rebels' roaring tiger emblem.

After touring the area, Ban said the trapped civilians must have undergone "most

inhumane suffering."

The government declared victory over the rebels Monday in the civil war that began in 1983.

In the final weeks, with the rebels boxed into a tiny coastal strip and tens of thousands of civilians trapped inside the battlefield, the government said it would no longer fire heavy weapons.

But government doctors in the area — as well as human rights groups and foreign leaders — said intense shelling continued, killing hundreds of civilians. The U.N. Human Rights Council has planned a special session on Sri Lanka on

Monday in Geneva amid international calls for a war crimes investigation into the military's conduct.

According to private U.N. documents, at least 7,000 civilians were killed in the final months of fighting.

The military said again Saturday it had not shelled the area, and blamed the craters on rebel fighters.

"We heard many explosions even in the last days as they exploded their ammunition dumps," military spokesman Brig. Udaya Nanayakkara said.

But many of the trapped civilians, now living behind barbed wire in displacement camps, spoke of unrelenting shelling.


"We walked for three days to get here. We were shelled and bombed. There was no food. Both sides were shelling us," said an elderly woman who gave her name as Lechchami.

Another woman, Krishmaleela, 42, said her family came under shelling from the military and one of her children was killed.


At the Manik Farm displacement camp, some civilians said there was little food or water.

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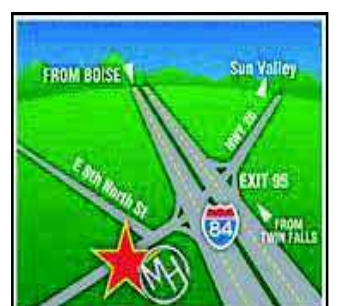
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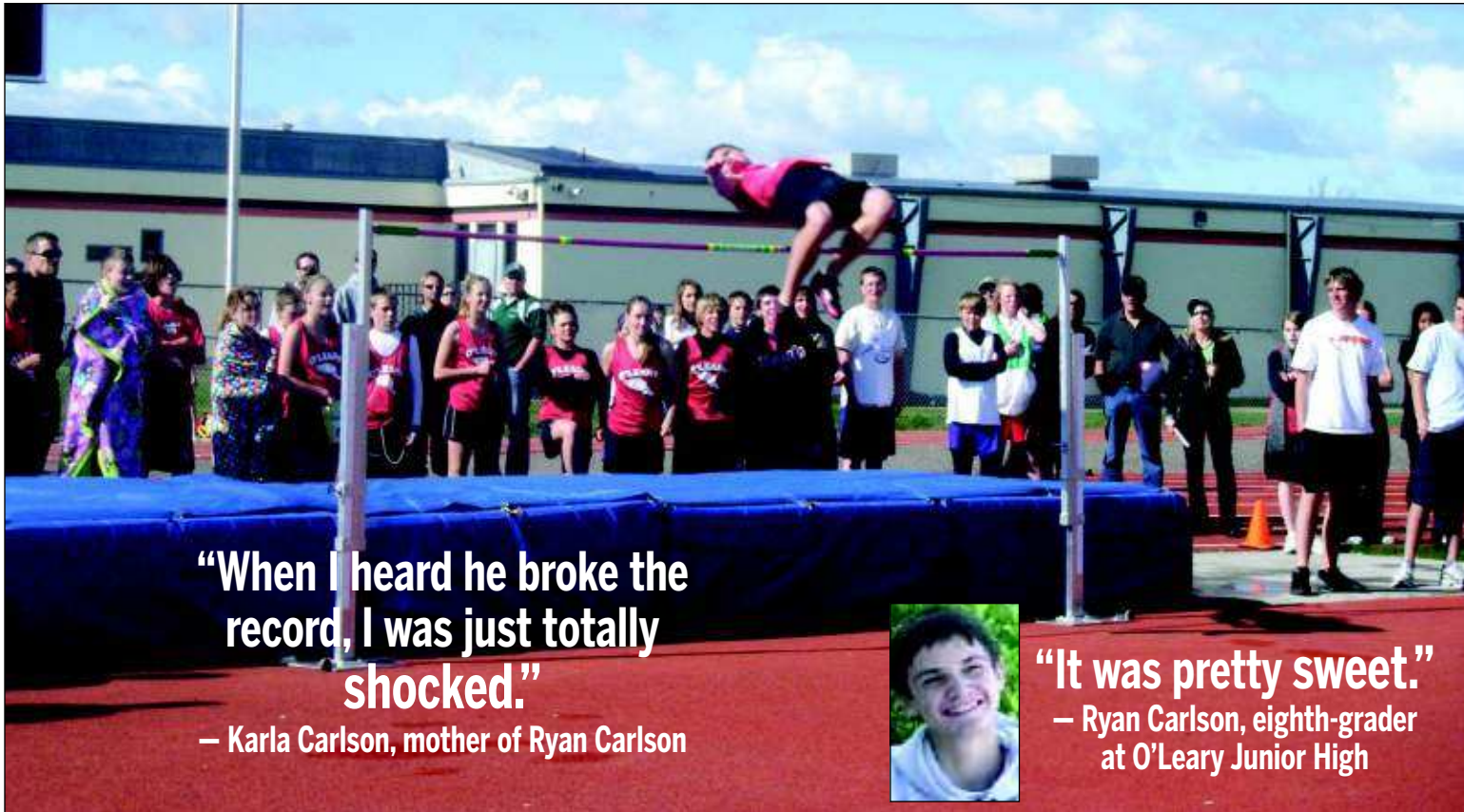
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# RAISING the bar

**"It was an amazing jump."**  
— O'Leary Junior High track coach Mike Wilkinson



**"When I heard he broke the record, I was just totally shocked."**  
— Karla Carlson, mother of Ryan Carlson



**"It was pretty sweet."**  
— Ryan Carlson, eighth-grader at O'Leary Junior High

Courtesy photo

O'Leary Junior High's Ryan Carlson soars over the high jump bar during the conference meet May 5 in Jerome. Carlson recorded the nation's best jump this year by a seventh- or eighth-grade student, according to Athletic.net, clearing 6 feet, 1 inch.

## O'Leary's Carlson soars to nation's best high jump mark

By Mike Christensen  
Times-News writer



Magicvalley.com

WATCH Ryan Carlson talk about his record high jump and the attention that has come with it.

Sitting in the living room of his Twin Falls home on a May afternoon, Ryan Carlson looks every bit a typical 14-year-old. His body sunk deep in a large recliner, he answers each question with a casual air. But when he's soaring over the high jump bar, Carlson leaves typical in the dust.

The eighth-grade student at O'Leary Junior High is in a class by himself when it comes to the high jump, owning the best mark of the 2008-09 school year for seventh- and eighth-grade students, according to Athletic.net, a Web site maintained by New Hope Christian School (Ore.) track coach David Bowdoin. He cleared a mark of 6 feet, 1 inch at the conference tournament May 5 in Jerome.

"It's pretty cool knowing that there's a billion other high jumpers in the nation, and I'm the best right now, so it's a pretty cool feeling," said Carlson.

The day of the conference meet dawned with wind and rain, which stayed through portions of the com-

petition. But when the high jump drew near, the weather cleared, as if the heavens knew something special was about to happen.

In his first year of high jump as a seventh-grader, Carlson's best effort was 5-6. This season, 5-8 was his highest before the conference meet. But on this day, he had special motivation.

"I had a bet with my coach (Mike Wilkinson)," said Carlson. "He made a bet with me that I couldn't jump 5-10. He said if I could jump 5-10, he wouldn't leave the school before he jumped 4 feet."

Motive in hand, Carlson went to work on his record-setting performance.

The leap of 6-1 puts him three

inches better than any other reported jump this season. It was a mark that took even his loved ones by surprise.

"I wasn't able to make it to the meet," said Carlson's mother Karla. "When I heard he broke the record, I was just totally shocked. I had no idea he was that good. It's been pretty exciting for the family."

Carlson has been soaking up the attention and recognition that have come his way, particularly in the halls at O'Leary. His coach, meanwhile, had to deal with the aftermath of the bet.

Asked how that turned out, Wilkinson said, "Not so well. I gave it three attempts, but I couldn't clear it."

From the time Carlson turned out for the seventh-grade track team, Wilkinson knew he'd do something special. "It's an amazing thing," said Wilkinson. "I knew Ryan was going to do great."

It was Wilkinson who first showed Carlson the Athletic.net

site. But when Carlson saw the heights reached by his peers across the nation, he didn't think he'd ever find his name among theirs.

"I saw what the highest was and I was like, 'Crap, I'm never going to get that,'" said Carlson.

His coach thought otherwise. "I knew he had the ability," said Wilkinson, "he'd just never been able to show it in a meet."

Until that memorable May afternoon.

As Carlson soared higher and higher, crowds began to gather around the high jump area. After clearing 5-10, Carlson took the bar up one inch at a time until becoming the nation's best. Despite the throngs surrounding him, his focus was singular.

"It's a lot of concentration," said Carlson. "You have to clear every-one out of your mind and focus on the jump"

High jump isn't the only event

See **JUMP**, Sports 2

## Driver longs to lead Penske parade

Castroneves hopes to change things

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Helio Castroneves understands better than most how hard it is to win the Indianapolis 500.

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11 a.m., ABC

Since then, six years have passed with no fence-climbing celebrations at Indy for "Spiderman."

"The first year was pretty tough," Castroneves said. "The second year was even tougher. The third year, I had like a bullet. This car was incredible, supersonic. I finished second. So, I learned that you can't let opportunities go by. You've got to go for it. That's what we're going to do this Sunday."

A win this year would be particularly significant for Castroneves. On Friday, federal prosecutors dropped the remaining tax evasion conspiracy charge against him and his sister, clearing Castroneves of all the charges that once threatened to derail his career.

In just his third race since returning to the series, Castroneves will start from the pole Sunday, with Penske Racing teammate Ryan Briscoe next to him in the middle of the front row. That 1-2 punch gives team owner Roger Penske a good shot at his 15th Indy win.

"We've got a good chance this year with two cars on the front row," said Penske, who last visited

See **INDY**, Sports 2

## One last game

South seniors win pair

By David Bashore  
Times-News writer

The South team won both of its games at the Idaho Baseball Coaches Association Senior Showcase at Bill Ingram Field on Saturday, but that was hardly the focus.

In South's 2-0 win over North, its 9-5 win over Treasure Valley and Treasure Valley's 12-3 win over North, the prevailing attitude was one

See **SOUTH**, Sports 2



DREW GODLESKI/For the Times-News

Twin Falls batter Brodie Hall gets hit by a pitch from the North Seniors team Saturday during the 2009 IBCA Senior Showcase Games at Bill Ingram Field in Twin Falls. The South Seniors team won the game 2-0.

## Local stars shine in Junior Showcase games

By Ryan Howe  
Times-News writer

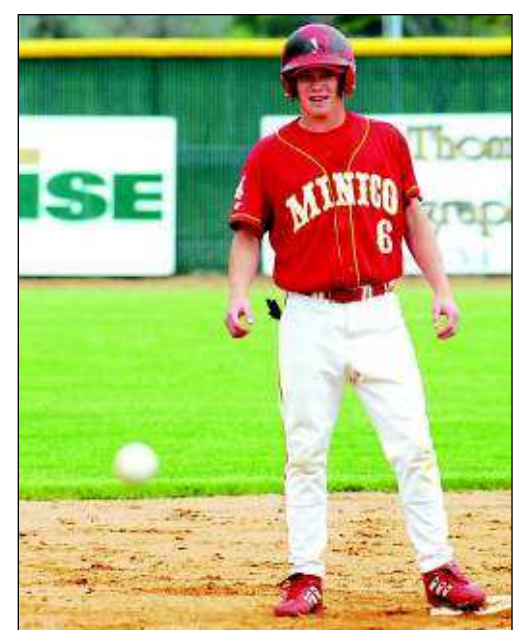
RUPERT — In a one-run game with no outs in the bottom of the sixth inning, the South pitcher loaded.

Still, no one in the South dugout seemed too upset.

"It's way more relaxed," said South team member Pete Coats of Minico.

"Relaxed" is an appropriate word to describe the atmosphere at the three Idaho Baseball Coaches Association Junior Showcase games on Saturday at Minico High School. One week removed from the competitive high

See **JUNIOR**, Sports 2



Minico's Pete Coats is safe at second base as he watches the play at third during the IBCA Junior Showcase games Saturday at Minico High School.

RYAN HOWE/Times-News









## YOUTH SWIMMING

## Magic Valley Marlins fare well at Northwest Section meet in Seattle

For the Times-News

Four Magic Valley Marlins recently competed in the Northwest Section Age Group Championships in Seattle, Wash.

Parker Twiss, Matt Twiss, Maddie Johnson and Zach Malina took part in the March 27-29 meet.

Parker Twiss earned three first-place finishes in the boys 11-12 division, taking the 100 breaststroke, 200 breaststroke and 50 breaststroke. He also placed ninth in the 100 IM, 13th in the 50 free and 19th in the 100 free.

His brother Matt Twiss competed in the 9-10 boys

division, taking 12th in the 200 free, 17th in both the 100 free and 200 IM, 18th in the 50 free and 20th in both the 100 butterfly and 100 IM.

Malina competed in the same division, earning 15th in the 100 IM and 24th in the 100 backstroke.

Johnson, 10, the only female swimmer from the Marlins that made the trip, was 18th in the 50 free and 27th in the 50 backstroke.

The Marlins, a year-round swim team, begin their summer schedule in early June with morning practices.

For more information on joining the Marlins, contact Noella at 539-5592.



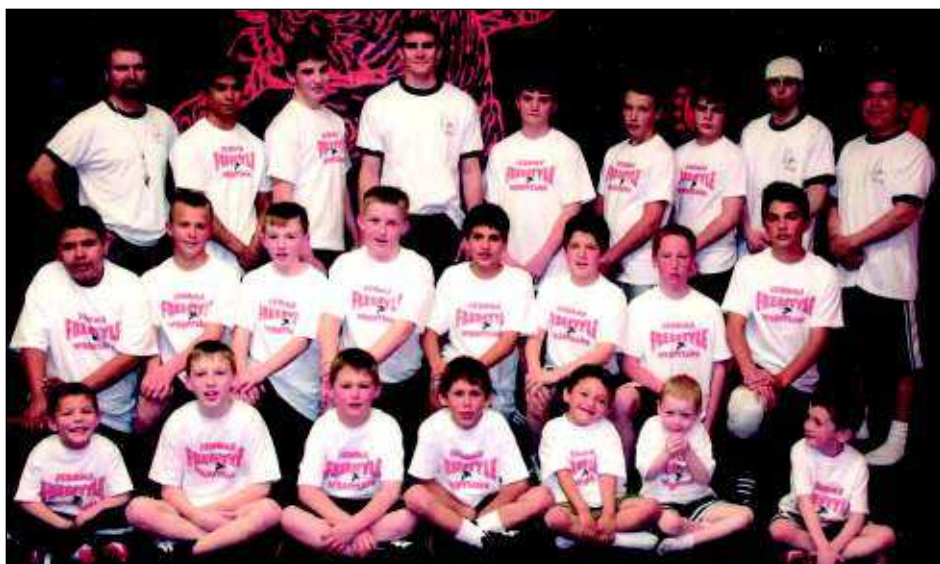
Matt Twiss, left, and Maddie Johnson



Parker Twiss

Zach Malina

## YOUTH WRESTLING



Courtesy photo

Jerome Freestyle Wrestling Club members, pictured, from left, front row: Colton Anderson, Treysen Steel, Wyatt DeWitt, Anthony Ciocca, Tyler Andrade, Anthony Lindsay and Ethan Borraro; second row: Miguel Andrade, Wyatt Smith, Taft Steel, Landunn Koyle, Matt McFarland, Zachary Borraro, Cage Peck and Michael Roberts; back row: Coach Jess Argyle, Alan Benson, Justun Steel, Riley Argyle, Nick Goodrich, Jordan Crist, Zachary Argyle, coach Matt Lindsay, coach Poncho Borraro. Not pictured: Cody Agee, Domonic Borraro, Tate Patterson, Kase Mauger and coach Ryan Steel.

## Jerome Freestyle club competes at state tourney, sends six to regionals

For the Times-News

The Jerome Freestyle Wrestling Club recently completed its season. The club competed in six tournaments, including the Cadet/Junior State Tournament in Idaho Falls. Placers from Jerome were Riley Argyle (second), Justun Steel (second), Alan Benson (fourth) and Tate Patterson (fifth).

Ten Jerome grapplers took part in the Kids State Tournament at Meridian High School with six of those qualifying for the Western Regional Tournament in Pocatello June 22-27. Placers at Kids state were Ethan Borraro (first place), Zachary Argyle (second), Wyatt Smith (third), Kase Mauger (fourth), Jordon Crist (fifth) and Landunn Koyle (sixth place). Other participants were Treysen Steel,



Courtesy photo

The Gooding Cobra Wrestling Club, pictured, competed at the state freestyle tournament.

## Gooding grapplers shine at state meet

Below are results for the Gooding Cobra Wrestling Club at the state freestyle tournament.

Name	Place	Age Division	Weight Class
Cayden Hall	1st	Bantam	40
Chase Hall	4th	Novice	60
Kieth Holmes	8th	Intermediate	80
Jaden Robinson	3rd	PreBantam	50
Owen Rogers	4th	Bantam	45
Logan Anderson	4th	Bantam	50
Remington Winmill	4th	Bantam	60
Kayd Craig	2nd	Pre-Bantam	35
Isaac Finley	4th	Pre-Bantam	55
Xander Coehlo	4th	Pre-Bantam	55
Wacey Williams	4th	Bantam	55
WyattWilliams	3rd	Novice	90
Tyler Clements	6th	Intermediate	65
Eric Finley	1st	Schoolboy	170
Zach Noffsinger	6th	Schoolboy	98
Josh Finley	1st	Novice	140
Kris Scott	7th	Schoolboy	84
Torrin Brunson	4th	Schoolboy	136

Others team members include Gavin Martin, Garrick Wilson, Dillon Hatfield, Brandon Beckman, Jake McGinnis, Bodie Clements and Jacob Flick.

## YOUTH SOCCER



Courtesy photo

## Tourney champs

The Twin Falls Rapids U14 girls team claimed a championship at the Friendship Cup in Pocatello May 8-9. Pictured, from left, front row: Raven Osterlain, Jordan Clark, Hailey Hutchinson, Ellen Bartlett, Hailey Stott, Jennifer Jackson and Sarah Bradley; back row: Coach John Bartlett, Alex Jahns, Stephanie Sanchez, Annie Kent, Veronica Fustos, Katelynn Rudd, Riley Glasscock, Sabrina Hamen, Megan Mayo, Madison Roemer and coach Jeff Kent.



Courtesy photo

## First pitch

Kimberly High School graduate Rick Rayborn threw out the first pitch prior to the Houston Astros at Chicago Cubs Major League Baseball game on May 16. Rayborn's parents, Mel and Lee Rayborn, reside in Twin Falls. He now lives in Park Ridge, Ill. Rayborn won a raffle to earn the opportunity to throw out the first pitch.

## BOWLING

BOWLADROME, TWIN FALLS  
TUES. NO TAP

MEN'S SERIES: Con Moser 746,  
Josh Serr 742, Myron Schroeder  
738, Blaine Ross 722.

MEN'S GAMES: Con Moser 279,  
Blaine Ross 278, Josh Serr 278,  
Myron Schroeder 267.

LADIES SERIES: Gail McAllister 679,  
Charlene Anderson 635, Ada  
Perrine 608, Imagine Morgan 587.

LADIES GAMES: Gail McAllister 240,  
Charlene Anderson 240, Imagine  
Morgan 233, Ada Perrine 222.

## TUES. MAJORS

BOYS' SERIES: Steven Maher 560,

Anthony Vest 537, Tyler Black  
509, Joe Campbell 467.

BOYS' GAMES: Steven Maher 223,  
Tyler Black 200, Anthony Vest  
182, Joe Campbell 162.

GIRLS' SERIES: Koti Jo Moses 517,  
Miranda Curtis 448, Megan  
McAllister 317.

GIRLS' GAMES: Koti Jo Moses 190,  
Miranda Curtis 177, Megan  
McAllister 114.

## THURS. NO TAP

MEN'S SERIES: Jim DeVries 772, Bill  
Boren 682, Nathan Ybarra 665, Ian  
DeVries 664.

MEN'S GAMES: Jim DeVries 278,  
Nefi Lopez 256, Bill Boren 254, Ian  
DeVries 246.

LADIES SERIES: Michele Seckel 721,  
Ann Shepherd 692, Brittney  
Rackham 595, Imagine Morgan  
504.

## Your Scores

LADIES GAMES: Ann Shepherd 268,  
Michele Seckel 256, Imagine  
Morgan 225, Brittney Rackham 208.

SUNSET BOWL, BUHL  
LUCKY STRIKERS:  
LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

State Farm Insurance: Carol Ruhter,  
Megan Anthony, Darla McCallister,  
Mandi Olson.

MASON TROPHYS:  
LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

Hit & Misses: Nancy Bright, Dianne  
Davis, Katie Owsley.

SUNSET SENIORS:  
LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

Strike Outs: Wiley Bothum, Ed  
Hanna, Ron Fugate.

MONDAY YABA:  
LEAGUE CHAMPION

Sarah Thompson

SPAIR PAIRS:  
LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

B & L Meat: Lois Tomlinson, Barbara  
Rediker, Cliff Rediker, TC  
Tomlinson.

STARLITE:  
LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

Big Dawgs: Darla McCallister, Jim  
Boehm, Jim Boehm, Dirk  
McCallister, Teresa Boehm.

PINBUSTERS:  
LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

Sunset Bowl: Dirk McCallister,  
Trevor Webb, Josh Kennedy, Hunt  
Olsen, Dustin McCallister.

MAGIC BOWL, TWIN FALLS  
SUMMER TUES. MIXED

MEN'S SERIES: Joe McClure 632,  
Chad Yturbe 519, Cotlin Runyan  
475, Kenny Schoonover 449.

MEN'S GAMES: Joe McClure 211,  
Chad Yturbe 203, Kenny  
Schoonover 180, Cotlin Runyan  
170.

LADIES SERIES: Angie Wayment  
184, Shanda Pickett 181, Randi  
Hernandez 178, Kathy McClure  
156.

LADIES GAMES: Angie Wayment  
529, Randi Hernandez 463,  
Shanda Pickett 444, Kathy  
McClure 441.



# NFL loses right to moral ground on betting issue

Coming soon to a state lottery near you: NFL team logos you can save after blowing 20 bucks on yet another worthless batch of scratch-off tickets.

Coming soon to the Delaware state lottery: A legitimate chance to win some money with what you know about your favorite NFL team.

One game steals your money in the name of pro football. The other at least gives you a fighting chance to test your skills.

Guess which one the NFL likes.

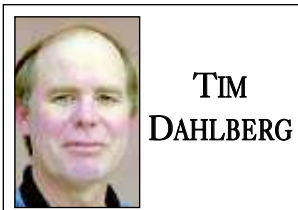
Yes, the league that is so terrified of gambling that it refused to allow a Las Vegas commercial during the Super Bowl a few years back is now in the gambling business itself. Aware that it can sell only so many \$300 tickets to its games, the NFL has figured out a way to get a cut of some of the biggest gambling operations around.

Owners this week gave their approval for teams to put their logos on lottery tickets, in exchange for a piece of the action. The Patriots and Redskins immediately announced plans to do just that, and you can bet there will be plenty of team promotions urging folks to spend what little money they might have left on the new tickets.

No word yet on whether there will be kiosks next to the beer stands at the stadiums, but that won't likely be far behind. The one thing the NFL does know how to do is promote its product.

At the same time the league is entering the lottery business, though, it is threatening legal action if Delaware goes ahead with plans for a new lottery of its own. The NFL has serious problems with Delaware's new lottery, and not just because its greedy owners won't make money off of it. Delaware's crime? It wants to allow sports betting in its lottery.

That apparently crosses the line for the NFL, whose stance against betting on its games has always been a bit ironic considering gamblers helped found the league and the evolution of point spreads helped make it so wildly popular. So attorneys for the league were in the



TIM DAHLBERG

courtroom the other day arguing before the Delaware Supreme Court that betting on NFL games should not be allowed.

Their reasoning? Bettors might have too good a chance to win.

Indeed, it may be true that picking winners in the NFL is easier than picking a scratch-off card at your local convenience store that might pay off. Then again, what isn't easier than going up against the astronomical odds that lotteries disclose only on the fine print that few people who buy tickets actually read.

Take the Massachusetts State Lottery, where the Patriots tickets will be sold, as an example. The lottery already runs a Boston Red Sox game, which this year offers prizes of up to \$1 million for 10 lucky buyers whose only skill was being in the right line at the right time to buy a ticket and having \$5 to buy it with.

The official odds show that one out of every 4 1/2 tickets is a winner. But odds of actually winning something over your original investment are more like one in eight because 10 percent of the payoffs merely give you your five bucks back.

Pick a football game against the spread, meanwhile, and you theoretically have a 50-50 chance of winning. Heck, play a three-team parlay and you're still ahead of the scratch-card odds.

Interesting that the NFL has no moral qualms about making money off people who have no clue about how high the odds are stacked against them. But it does have issues with people betting \$20 on the outcome of one of its games when they have a decent likelihood of winning that bet.

It's not as simple as that, of course. The NFL will tell

The NFL has figured out a way to get a cut of some of the biggest gambling operations around.

you it's terrified of sports betting because of the possibility someone may try to fix one of its games. But that's an old and tired argument, and the thought that an NFL game could be tampered with is laughable to a betting industry that analyzes everything from the wind patterns at Lambeau Field to the main course at the team breakfast and would quickly spot any wrongdoing.

In the end, gambling is gambling. And now that the

NFL is in the gambling business, it has lost its right to the moral high ground on the issue.

Lotteries are the worst form of gambling imaginable. They prey on the weakest people and exploit their dreams.

The next time the NFL screams about sports betting, remember who is sharing its bed.

*Tim Dahlberg is a columnist for The Associated Press.*

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## Graveside visits I long to make on Memorial Day

I've never visited the grave of my wife's grandfather. In fact, I never got to meet him. Yet on weekends like this, it's impossible not to think of his resting place.

He lies in a cemetery in Eureka, Calif., an ordinary town like any other. But the accomplishments of men like Curtis McKnight were anything but ordinary.

In the winter of 1944, Curt left behind a young wife, a baby girl, and the comfort of Southern California, where he trained recruits in the anti-aircraft artillery. He volunteered for the fight of his life, with the 90th Infantry Division — the Tough 'Ombres — under Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army.

War was not kind to the Allies that winter as they plunged into the deciding battles of the conflict. I've read history, watched movies and heard the tales of how those infantry men struggled for every yard.

But what's most revealing is what his family heard him share about combat.

That was ... almost nothing. He rarely spoke of it.

Instead, he sealed those memories away and focused on a good life, raising a family in a time of peace. Only after he died did family members piece together a full history of his service.

In another grave, near Charlotte, N.C., lies my great-uncle Phil. When I was 15, my mother took me and my sister on a cross-country trip to acquaint us with her Southern roots.

Meeting Uncle Phil was my best memory. After an enormous meal and an hour of jokes, he pulled out pictures of France in the summer of 1945. One old black-and-white shot of him, with a cigarette in his mouth and a tired grin on his face, will forever be the image I keep of an infantryman. That one day at his house has stayed with me my whole life.

Up in Shoshone Cemetery rests our Uncle Glenn. Glenn married my aunt and together they blended a family of 15 kids. Glenn had the demeanor of a saint — a tender and hard-working man, who was a pillar in Lincoln County. It was after his death that I learned about his days with the 110th Combat Engineer Battalion in Okinawa. When they say it took our most determined forces to hold off the Japanese, I know they were talking about Uncle Glenn.

Finally, there's my great-great-grandfather Durham Hall Smith, in a family grave near Fuquay, N.C.

He fought three years under the Confederate banner, although family lore says he wasn't the greatest soldier, as his multiple P.O.W. forms can attest.

But at the battle of Cold Harbor, he took a bullet to the stomach and was left among the dead. When the Union soldiers moved in, he called one over and flashed him a Freemason sign pleading for help. The soldier ran to fetch him water and pulled him upright against a shaded tree. He was later given medical aid and eventually saved.

He never knew the name of that soldier. So when a son was born a year later, he was given the only name that would satisfy an indebted former Rebel — Union Allen Smith.

On holidays like this, I feel a lot like Durham Smith, thankful to nameless men and women who made a lasting union possible.

Wherever they all rest this Memorial Day, I hope my gratitude never fades away.

David Cooper is a father of five. Reach him at [dcooper@magicvalley.com](mailto:dcooper@magicvalley.com).



SPLIT MILK  
David Cooper



Photos by ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Tristan Durtschi laughs and cuddles with his father, Sam, while Alisha Durtschi looks on. Tristan has a rare disorder called Lesch-Nyhan syndrome, which causes the boy to mutilate himself.

# SMILING through the scars

## Jerome family copes with son's rare condition that causes him to self-mutilate

By Melissa Davlin  
Times-News writer

Alisha and Sam Durtschi spent a recent Tuesday morning at their Jerome home, watching television and keeping an eye on their children. Three-year-old Grace played with her kitchen set, and 1-month-old Aedon slept peacefully in a corner basket.

Their oldest son needed the most supervision. Tristan, 4, stayed confined to a red play mat, rolling around and grinning at his parents and sister. Occasionally, he scooted to the edge of the mat and attempted to kick the coffee table. Sam or Alisha dragged him back to the center as he giggled.

Tristan has Lesch-Nyhan syndrome, a genetic condition characterized by self-mutilating behaviors, poor muscle control, moderate mental retardation and kidney malfunctions. The syndrome, caused by the absence of the hypoxanthine-guanine phosphoribosyltransferase (HPRT) enzyme, affects one in 400,000 live births and almost exclusively appears in boys. Boys whose mothers are carriers have a one-



To prevent him from tearing at his lip or hitting his head, Tristan Durtschi's parents keep braces on his arms. Although Tristan can feel pain, he is compelled to injure himself because of his disorder.

in-four chance of having the disease.

His prognosis is grim — most people with Lesch-Nyhan die of kidney failure in the first or second decades of their lives. But it's clear, now that Tristan has a diagnosis and treatment plan, that Alisha and Sam's oldest son is finally enjoying his life.

Tristan first started exhibiting symptoms at 6 months old. The infant was always stiff, but his head flopped over on his neck. He wasn't making major milestones, like sitting up or holding up his head. The boy also scratched at his face, causing deep red gashes on his cheeks and nose.

An initial misdiagnosis of hypertonia and, later, cystic fibrosis, led Tristan's parents and doctors down a



Four-year-old Tristan Durtschi gets a kiss from his mother, Alisha, while his sister, Grace and aunt Emma Waymont look on Tuesday at their Jerome home. Tristan has a rare disease called Lesch-Nyhan syndrome. Tristan's condition causes self-mutilation and he has bit his lip off in the past.

wrong path. Cystic fibrosis would explain his inability to sit up or crawl, but not the face scratching.

And that was just the

beginning.

As Tristan's two front teeth came in, he started

See **TRISTAN**, FL 3

The self-mutilation wasn't symptomatic of cystic fibrosis, and physicians had no idea how to curb it. Finally, one doctor referred the desperate parents to a geneticist in Salt Lake City. As soon as the geneticist saw Tristan, Alisha said, she knew he had Lesch-Nyhan syndrome.

## INTRODUCE US TO A SPECIAL DAD

Perhaps you know a particularly inspiring father. One who set a splendid example for his children or overcame tremendous obstacles. Or one who spread his arms, opened his heart and cared for families other than his own. If so, please tell us about him.

On Father's Day next month, we

want to devote the Family Life section front to an extraordinary southern Idaho father. But we need you to introduce us to him.

By e-mail, you can nominate a father who lives in Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka or Twin Falls county. Tell us why his story would be

inspiring to our readers.

Also include: Your full name; how you're connected with the father you're nominating; contact information for both you and him; and the towns where each of you live. Please make sure all your information is correct, including name spellings.

**E-mail your nomination:** Send it to [virginia.hutchins@lee.net](mailto:virginia.hutchins@lee.net) with "Father" in the subject line.

**The deadline:** We must receive your nomination by Sunday, June 7.

In our Father's Day story, we may quote from any nomination we receive.

SENIOR CALENDAR

Twin Falls Senior Citizen Center

530 Shoshone St. W., Twin Falls. Lunch at noon.

Suggested donation: \$4.50, seniors; \$5.50, under 60; \$2.50, under 12. Center hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; lounge and pool rooms; bargain center, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Daily lunches are available for take-out from 11 a.m. to noon; seniors 59 and under, \$5.50; seniors 60 and older, \$4.50. 734-5084.

MENUS:

Monday: Center closed
Tuesday: Taco salad
Wednesday: Birthday lunch, cook's choice
Thursday: Potato bar
Friday: Sweet-and-sour pork

ACTIVITIES:

Tuesday: Ticket Tuesday Blood pressure, 10 a.m. to noon Duplicate bridge, 12:30 p.m. Let's Dance, 6-11 p.m.
Wednesday: Cinnamon rolls for sale, 8:30-11:30 a.m.; \$1.50 each; coffee and roll, \$2 Quilting, 8 a.m. Gem State Fiddlers, 11 a.m. Duplicate bridge, 12:30 p.m. Board meeting, 1 p.m. Tai chi, 1 p.m., \$1 Elks Card Club, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday: Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Friday: Quilting, 8 a.m. Bingo at lunch Texas Hold'em, 1 p.m. Tai chi, 1 p.m., \$1
Saturday: Bingo, 1-3 p.m.

West End Senior Citizens Inc.

1010 Main St., Buhl. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$4, seniors; \$5, under 60. Sunday buffet: 1 p.m.; \$5, seniors; \$6, under 60; \$4, under 12. Center hours: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday; 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday.

MENUS:

Monday: Center closed
Tuesday: Potato bar
Wednesday: Cook's choice
Thursday: Meatballs

ACTIVITIES:

Tuesday: Quilting, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bus runs for lunch pickup, call

543-4577 by 10:30 a.m. Bingo, 7 p.m.
Wednesday: SilverSneakers, 10:30 a.m. Board meeting, 1 p.m.
Thursday: Quilting, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bus runs for lunch pickup, call 543-4577 by 10:30 a.m. Bingo, 1-3 p.m. Bingo, 7 p.m.
Friday: SilverSneakers, 10:30 a.m.

Filer Senior Haven

222 Main St., Filer. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$4. Center hours: 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
MENUS:
Tuesday: Spaghetti
Wednesday: Party casserole
Thursday: Birthday lunch, fried chicken
ACTIVITIES:
Tuesday: Puzzles, 11:30 a.m. Bingo, 12:30 p.m.
Wednesday: Puzzles, 11:30 a.m. Bingo, 1 p.m., \$2 Jackpot trip, 3:30 p.m., \$7
Thursday: Blood pressure, 11:30 a.m. Bingo, 1 p.m.

Ageless Senior Citizens Inc.

310 Main St. N., Kimberly. Lunch and full-serve salad bar, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.; take-out; home delivery. Suggested donation: \$4, seniors; \$5, under 60; \$2.50, under 12. Center hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
MENUS:
Monday: Center closed
Wednesday: Potato bar
Friday: Roast pork
ACTIVITIES:
Tuesday: Bingo, 7 p.m.; everyone over 18 welcome
Wednesday: Nu-2-U open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Exercise, 10:30 a.m.
Thursday: NA meeting, 7 p.m.
Friday: Nu-2-U open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Exercise, 10:30 a.m. Bingo, 11:50 a.m. Pinochle, 1 p.m.

Gooding County Senior Citizen Center

308 Senior Ave., Gooding. Lunch at noon. Suggested

donation: \$3.50 for seniors. Center hours: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
MENUS:
Monday: Chicken-fried steak
Tuesday: Barbecue beef on a bun
Wednesday: Creamed chicken
Thursday: Birthday lunch, roast pork
ACTIVITIES:
Monday: Pinochle, 12:30 p.m. Wild one, 6 p.m.
Tuesday: Hand and foot, 6 p.m.
Wednesday: Shuffleboard, 6 p.m.
Thursday: Quilt social, 9 a.m. Pinochle, 7 p.m.
Friday: Bridge and duplicate bridge, 1 p.m.
Saturday: Pinochle, 7 p.m.

Wendell Senior Meal Site

105 W. Ave. A. Lunch served at noon Mondays. Hours, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Hagerman Valley Senior and Community Center

140 E. Lake, Hagerman. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$4, seniors; \$5, under 60; \$2, under 12. Center hours: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.; thrift shop, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; free high-speed Internet.
MENUS:
Monday: Center closed
Wednesday: Fried trout
Friday: Spaghetti
ACTIVITIES:
Wednesday: Blood draws at the HVSCC, 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Jerome Senior Center

212 First Ave. E., Jerome. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$3.50, seniors; \$5, non-seniors. Center hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free transportation to and from center Wednesdays through Fridays, call center for information at 324-5642.
MENUS:
Monday: Center closed
Tuesday: Salisbury steak
Wednesday: Spaghetti
Thursday: Sloppy Joes
Friday: Roast pork
ACTIVITIES:
Tuesday: Pinochle, 1 p.m. Snack bar, 6 p.m. Bingo, 7 p.m.; early bird, 6:45 p.m.

Wednesday: SilverSneakers, 10:30 a.m. Bridge, 12:30 p.m. Dick and John Pinochle, 7 p.m. Square dancing
Friday: SilverSneakers, 10:30 a.m. Fiddlers, 12:30 p.m. Pinochle, 1 p.m. Veteran's Day Remembrance Kid's Club, 4-6 p.m.

Silver and Gold Senior Center

210 E. Wilson, Eden. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$3.50, seniors; \$5, non-seniors. Center hours: 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday; 8 a.m. to noon Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

MENUS:

Tuesday: Roast beef
Thursday: Chef's salad
ACTIVITIES:
Wednesday: Bingo, 7 p.m.

Richfield Senior Center

130 S. Main, Richfield. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$3.50, seniors; \$5.50, under 60.

MENUS:

Monday: Center closed
Thursday: Tuna sandwiches and soup

Golden Years Senior Citizens Inc.

218 N. Rail St. W., Shoshone. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$3.50, seniors; \$5.50, under 60. Center hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday; 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday.

MENUS:

Tuesday: Chicken strips
Wednesday: Hot dogs
Friday: Baked ham
ACTIVITIES:
Monday: Center closed
Tuesday: Pinochle, 1 p.m. Bingo
Wednesday: Black Out Bingo, 12:30 p.m.
Friday: Pinochle, 1 p.m. Bingo

Camas County Senior Center

127 Willow Ave. W., Fairfield.

Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$3, seniors; \$4, under 60; \$2, under 10. Quilting, pool, table games, puzzles, TV, videos. Center hours: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
ACTIVITIES:
Thursday: Art class, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Blaine County Senior Center

721 Third Ave. S., Hailey. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$3, seniors; \$5, non-seniors. Center hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

MENUS:

Tuesday: Spaghetti
Wednesday: Oven-fried chicken
Friday: Chicken enchilada
ACTIVITIES:
Monday: Center closed
Tuesday: Knitting, 10:30 a.m. Blood pressure, 11:30 a.m. Bingo, 1 p.m.
Wednesday: Fit and Fall-proof, 1 p.m. Win on Wednesday
Thursday: Jackpot trip
Friday: Table tennis, 9 a.m. Fit and Fall-proof, 1 p.m.

Carey Senior Center

Main Street. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$3, seniors; \$5, non-seniors.

MENUS:

Thursday: Crock pot brisket or Reuben sandwich

Minidoka County Senior Citizens Center

702 11th St., Rupert. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$5, seniors; \$6, non-seniors; \$3, under 12; \$4.50, home delivery. Gift shop: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Center hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

MENUS:

Monday: Center closed
Tuesday: Enchilada
Wednesday: Birthday lunch
Thursday: Finger steaks
Friday: Chicken or fish
ACTIVITIES:
Tuesday: Pool, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Walking, 9 a.m.
Wednesday: Pool, 1 p.m. Pinochle, 1-4 p.m.

Thursday: Pool, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Walking, 9 a.m. SHIBA and Medicare assistance, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; call George Schwindeman at 436-9107 or Kitty Andrews at 677-4872 for appointments
Friday: Pool, 1 p.m. Pinochle, 1 to 4 p.m. Bingo, 7 p.m.

Golden Heritage Senior Center

2421 Overland Ave., Burley. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$4.50, seniors and children under 12; \$6, non-seniors. Center hours: 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

MENUS:

Monday: Center closed
Tuesday: Tater Tot casserole
Wednesday: Meatloaf
Thursday: Taco salad
Friday: Birthday lunch
ACTIVITIES:

Tuesday: Pool Wood carving, 8:30 a.m. Radio show, 9:06 a.m. Exercise Community bingo, 7 p.m.
Wednesday: Pool Pinochle, 1 p.m. Exercise
Thursday: Pool Exercise Movie, 9:30 a.m. Community pinochle, 6 p.m. Woodcarving, 6 p.m.
Friday: Pool Exercise Pinochle, 1 p.m. Bingo, 1 p.m.

Three Island Senior Center

492 E. Cleveland Ave., Glenns Ferry. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$4, seniors; \$6, under 60; \$2.50, under 12. For rides: 366-2051. Center hours: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

MENUS:

Monday: Center closed
Tuesday: Polish sausage and kraut
Thursday: Meatloaf
ACTIVITIES:

Tuesday: Quilting, 1 p.m. Foot clinic
Thursday: Fit and Fall-proof, 10:30 a.m.
Friday: TOPS, 9 a.m.

Teens panic as they're forced to unplug at camp

By Megan K. Scott Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Tim Chai keeps in touch with friends through Facebook, listens to music on his iPod and never goes anywhere without his BlackBerry.

So when the 17-year-old was looking for a summer camp, he ruled out a church camp with a no-cell-phone, no-computer policy.

"I just thought it was too much for me to handle," said Tim, of Carmel, Ind. "I love my Internet. I love my phone. I'm not ashamed to say it."

For a generation used to texting, Facebook and YouTube, going away to sleepaway camp can be a bit unnerving. Many outdoor camps don't allow cell phones, laptops or iPods, and there is no computer lab for them to update their pages.

Many campers are "a little panicked" to part with their cell phones, said Tony Sparber, founder of New Image Camps, with locations in Florida and Pennsylvania. Some try to smuggle them in or bring more than one phone in case one is confiscated, he said.

Even parents who are used to having constant access to their kids can experience anxiety.

Kimberley Fink, 40, of Weston, Mass., is a little nervous about her 14-year-old daughter who is going away to camp for the first time. The camp lasts for two weeks and her daughter won't be able to call.

"It makes me slightly uneasy," said Fink. "I will probably be one of the mothers who calls the camp office after a couple of days to check in. Sometimes you just need that reassurance."

Dave Steinberg, owner and director of Canteen Roads Teen Travel Camp out of



AP Photo/New Image Camp

Camper Zach Gordon, left, gets encouragement from counselor Phil Brandt. Camp Pocono Trails is a weight loss camp in Pennsylvania.

Huntington, N.Y., said most parents ask about the no-cell-phone policy out of concern for their children's safety.

To reassure them, he gives them his cell phone number and campers a prepaid calling card. He also uploads photos to a password-protected site that the parents can access.

Experts agree that unplugging is a great idea. But it will be a "shock to the system" for those who are digitally dependent, says Anastasia Goodstein, author of "Totally Wired: What Teens and Tweens Are Really Doing Online?"

Some like Chai was reluctant to go to a camp for that reason, said Gary Rudman of GTR Consulting, author of the upcoming 2009 gTrend Report, which focuses on teens and tech-

nology.

Sean Hakim, 16, struggled to give up his gadgets for two weeks when he went to Antiochian Village Camp in Pennsylvania. The camp does not allow cell phones, iPods, and campers have no computer access.

"At first, it was scary," admits Sean, of River Vale, N.J. But he said, "once you get there, you realize you don't really need it. You are always with people, doing something."

Plugged in teens are under

tremendous pressure to maintain "Brand Me" on Facebook and other social networking sites, said Rudman. Without a cell phone or online access, it's like they are invisible.

And while teens will inevitably make friends at camp, 10 friends in your bunk is not the same as hundreds on Facebook, he said.

"The dilemma for camps is that if they do allow technology, the kids will likely plug in and tune out," said Rudman, adding that being

"It makes me slightly uneasy. I will probably be one of the mothers who calls the camp office after a couple of days to check in. Sometimes you just need that reassurance."

— Kimberley Fink, 40, of Weston, Mass., whose 14-year-old daughter is going away to camp for two weeks and won't be able to call

off the grid may be the best thing for chill-challenged teens. "That would defeat the purpose of camp."

When camp starts, plugged-in children may feel a little disoriented, like a part of them is missing, said Dr. Michael Assel, associate professor of pediatric psychiatry at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. Those feelings should subside as children get involved in camp activities, he said.

Campers say that's what

usually happens. They forget about their lost social connections much like they forget about television.

"They keep you so busy, you are having so much fun, I forget about the computer. I forget about Facebook," said Max Truen, 15, of Dix Hills, N.Y., who goes to New Image Camp's Camp Pocono Trails each summer.

So what happens when camp is over? Do teens give up texting? Or Facebook?

Not a chance. They have more friends.

CLEANING CORNER Question: A friend at work was telling me about a Don Aslett Cleaning Seminar she attended where she learned that there is a wrong and a right way to clean a toilet. Come on Lori! Cleaning the "John" seems basic and simple to me. What could I possibly do wrong? Answer: Cleaning your porcelain throne requires some serious potty know how. (Some call my advice potty mouth). First and foremost you must lower the water level in your toilet with your Johnny mop so that the chemicals have direct contact on dirt, scum and germs. Otherwise, you are diluting the strength of your cleaner in the water! Second, use a professional bowl cleaner. Don Aslett's industrial strength SAFETY FOAM is the best bowl cleaner in the business. It's advanced formula has proven superior to millions of professionals across the country! For a demonstration check out our video at www.cleanreport.com Frustrated with a stubborn cleaning problem? Write or e-mail your questions to: lchandler@cleaningcenters.com 483 Washington St. N. Twin Falls, ID (Corner of Washington St. N. and Filer Ave.) 021



Lynne Bundesen, 71, of Santa Fe, N.M., on a boat in Hong Kong Harbor in 1976. This photo is posted on Bundesen's Facebook page.

AP photo/  
GENE THOREAU

## Grandpa is ... browsing your Facebook page

By Beth DeFalco

Associated Press writer

HAMILTON, N.J. — When your 88-year-old grandfather sends a request to be your “friend” on Facebook, you have two choices: Either confirm it, then quickly take down all those party pictures you thought were so funny, or plan on never coming home for the holidays.

As someone who lists pinot grigio as a hobby, I was seriously concerned about my grandfather joining Facebook.

I was worried my grandfather would get the wrong idea about me. Or worse yet, he'd find out exactly who I was — not the teetotaling granddaughter I try to portray twice a year when I go home.

And that's just what happened: We got to know each other through a social networking site that many 30-somethings haven't learned to use, let alone octogenarians.

“I don't browse Facebook much, but I see that it is a way to get to the nitty-gritty of a person's character,” my grandfather explained. “Also a way to do something late at night when I can't sleep.”

Turns out, my grandfather isn't the only one with an AARP card using social networking sites.

Facebook estimates that it has a few million users over the age of 65. MySpace claims to have 6.7 million users age 65 and over on its site. In fact, according to MySpace spokeswoman Jessica Bass, older users are among the site's fastest growing demographic.

Seventy-one-year-old Lynne Bundesen of Santa Fe, N.M., is one of them. Why did she join? “To keep track of what my grandchildren are doing, of course,” she said.

Her grandson, 27-year-old Russell Simon, knows that but doesn't mind.

“It keeps her young to be on there, in more ways than one,” he said. “She puts these very young pictures of herself up there. She was beautiful. Just seeing her when she was young, out on a boat with her hair flowing, it makes me think of her differently.

“But mostly, it's so she can spy on us, not so we can learn about her,” he said half-jokingly.

Simon actually has three grandparents on Facebook. And he admits that having them there has changed his online behavior.

“When you do status updates — sometime I forget that they're on — I have to look at it a different way,” he said.

Not everyone is thrilled with the Baby Boomers' discovery of such sites. Some young people have responded by searching out new ways to stay a step ahead of grandma, moving from Facebook to Twitter, for example.

“I think that these developments might be the death of Facebook,” said Simon's friend, Charlie Pabst.

Social networking sites are still predominantly used by a younger population. The median ages of MySpace and Facebook users were 26 and 27 years old, respectively. At the career-focused LinkedIn, it was 40, according to a recent report by the Pew Internet & American Life Project.

But there may be no



AP photo/BETH DEFALCO  
Facebook user Howard Hilt, 88, of Pueblo, Colo. Facebook estimates that it has a few million users over age 65.

escaping the onslaught from older relatives. Bundesen also uses Twitter to update her status. “I'm adapting to their lifestyle,” she explained.

Like some younger users, my grandfather initially joined looking to connect to old classmates — in his case, any that were still alive.

He wasn't so successful there. But soon, he found that he could use it to stay in touch with grandchildren near and far.

I spent a fair amount of time around my grandfather growing up in Colorado. But truthfully, I never really knew him — his personality, his war stories, the story of how he and my grandmother met.

After my grandmother passed away last year, my grandfather found himself alone for the first time in 65 years. He was looking for ways to occupy his time.

So this summer, about six months after becoming a widower, 88-year-old Howard Hilt of Pueblo, Colo., joined Facebook and got to know his granddaughter in New Jersey. For better or worse.

When I posted a status update about running my first mile since recovering from ankle surgery, he wrote on my page: “That's the way to go Tiger!”

He also comments on pictures.

“I sure look my age in this one, and not too good in the others either,” he said of one recent picture my cousin posted. “Candid shots are too stark for me, I think.”

When I sent him a list of 25 random things about me, he returned the favor with a list of “Notes about me, Grandpa Hilt.”

They were very different lists, to be sure.

He learned that I once met Magic Johnson and that I don't prepare food using fire.

I learned that he used to make spare money as a kid by watering graveyard grass in Brooklyn; he flew B-24 bombers in WWII; and he worked for Anastasio Somoza Garcia, Dictator of Nicaragua, as a controller in his steamship agency's New York office.

“While in Managua on a business trip (my wife accompanied me), we became embroiled in an insurrection by communists and had a ducky time of it,” he wrote.

But his No. 2 random thing was my favorite. It read: “Met my future wife in kindergarten.”

Before that, I had no idea how or when my grandparents met.

And despite my initial concerns, he assures me that he hasn't been shocked by what he's seen.

The reason is simple: “At my age, nothing shocks me!”



Photos by ASHLEY SMITY/Times-News

Sam Durtschi has placed pads on most things Tristan comes in contact with to prevent the boy from hurting himself — like this walker and his crib.

## Tristan

**Continued from FL 1**  
biting his lower lip. His sheets were often soaked with blood, Sam said. Alisha tried to stop the biting with a bandage placed on his lower lip, but Tristan's saliva would make it slip off. The wounds got worse as more teeth came in.

One dentist recommended removing Tristan's four upper teeth to prevent him from biting himself. Wary of such an invasive procedure, Alisha and Sam waited to decide.

The decision didn't come soon enough, however. One night, when Grace was 1 month old, Tristan bit his lip hard enough to tear off a piece. Two nights later, he bit the rest of the lip off, right below the lip line.

“There was blood everywhere, and his lip was gone,” Alisha said.

As Tristan healed, the scar tissue reformed his mouth into a swollen, puckered orifice. As soon as his front four top teeth were removed, he started biting his upper lip with his bottom teeth.

In the next few months, dentists removed all but four back teeth to stop him from shredding his tongue and the inside of his mouth. By the end of the year, those molars were gone, too — but not before he took a chunk out of his tongue.

Tristan also started tearing at his mouth with his hands and continued scratching his face. He would wake up looking like he had road rash because of all the scratches, Sam said.

The self-mutilation wasn't symptomatic of cystic fibrosis, and physicians had no idea how to curb it. Finally, one doctor referred the desperate parents to a geneticist in Salt Lake City.

As soon as the geneticist saw Tristan, Alisha said, she knew he had Lesch-Nyhan syndrome.

Tests confirmed her suspicion, and Alisha and Sam began learning how to manage their oldest son's syndrome. Arm braces keep Tristan from getting his hands to his face, preventing scratches and mouth injuries. A padded high chair



Tristan Durtschi walks with help from his mother, Alisha, as he's unable to walk on his own and mainly rolls and crawls.

keeps him from slamming his head onto hard surfaces. The red mat and constant supervision minimize painful kicks to furniture and appliances. The parents decided against sedating their son — the only drug treatment available for curbing his harmful behavior. High uric acid levels, another symptom of the disease, are controlled with medication.

Tristan communicates with a limited vocabulary and vivid facial expressions. He says, “mom,” “dad,” “yeah,” “nana” for banana, and “bye bye.” He smiles and points when trying to get someone's attention, and likes showing off what he can do, like sitting up by himself and walking with his mom's help.

The parents also found that Tristan can still eat most solid foods with his strong gums.

“He can eat steak,” Sam said, but chips don't go over so well.

What happens when he gets his permanent teeth?

Within the next couple of years, the Durtschis plan to take him in for a surgery to have them all removed before they start to come in. Tristan could use even the tiniest teeth buds to slice open his gums and tongue, Alisha said.

He doesn't hurt just himself. He chomps at his mom's fingers, smacks his sister and head-butts his dad. He has torn out chunks of Grace's hair before, Alisha said.

“She always says, ‘It's OK, I have more,’” Alisha said, mimicking her daughter's tearful response.

Tristan is aware that he is hurting himself, Sam said — the boy can still feel pain and knows that what is about to happen will hurt. He doesn't want to bite or scratch himself, and he really doesn't want to kick and hurt his family. But the compulsion to strike, chomp, smack and tear is just too strong.

On one sitting attempt that recent Tuesday, Tristan got to the edge of the mat, then sat up partially and

bashed his head, face-first, on the floor. His face scrunched up in pain, and he looked like he was trying to expel something from his mouth. Alisha moved quickly to get a piece of carpet fuzz off his tongue — if she waited too long, she said, he would throw up.

One of Tristan's tics is a discomfort with fuzzy or hairy textures. If he gets hair in his mouth, he throws up almost immediately. His parents can't give him stuffed animals or furry toys, and Grace knows to keep hers away from him.

Grace also knows that if she gets too close, Tristan will kick her or pull her hair. She has learned to move in quickly for kisses, which make Tristan grin widely. If she wants a hug, she pins him with her tiny limbs, then tackles him.

Their son's syndrome confines the parents to a limited number of baby sitters. The couple trusts only three or four others to watch him. Alisha once saw a therapist get so frustrated with Tristan for head-butting her that the woman slammed him down on a chair and yelled at him.

“And that was a therapist,” Alisha said.

Alisha and Sam are still learning how to care for him, too. Alisha just learned the other day that the best way to calm him during a tantrum is by tickling him. Yelling and punishment just makes it worse, Sam said.

Now that they're getting down the pattern, the couple is focusing on 1-month-old son Aedon. Aedon showed high uric acid levels in one test — an indicator that the HPRT enzyme is missing — but another test showed low levels. They're optimistic that Aedon will be Lesch-Nyhan-free.

And they're optimistic about Tristan's quality of life. His disarming grin and wide blue eyes make it clear that, behind the scarred mouth and arm braces, this is one happy 4-year-old.

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

## STORK REPORT

**Cassia Regional Birth Center**  
Juan Daniel Ruiz, son of Jose and Amanda Ruiz of Paul, was born May 12, 2009.

**St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center**  
Lucas Caleb Clements, son of Brenda Leigh and Ryan Sterling Clements of Jerome, was born April 25, 2009.

Alexis Tse, daughter of Huan Huan and Tung Chun Tse of Twin Falls, was born May 5, 2009.

Logyn Grace Asher, daughter of Nichole Kathleen and Gary Eugene Asher Jr. of Twin Falls, was born May 12, 2009.

Conner Olathey Wayne Barnett, son of Maegan Elizabeth and Cody Wayne Barnett of Gooding, was born May 12, 2009.

Liam Jefferson Hegdahl, son of Emilie Abigail and Lars Peter Hegdahl of Twin Falls, was born May 12, 2009.

Presley Khye Woody, daughter of Viviana Marizol

and Matthew John Woody of Twin Falls, was born May 12, 2009.

Joshua Jeffrey Farrin, son of Nicole Dawn and Jeff Joshua Ferrin of Gooding, was born May 13, 2009.

Jack Pierce Royal, son of Carolyn Jeanne Hurlley and Jeremy Louis Royal of Castleford, was born May 13, 2009.

Madilynn Marie Cook, daughter of Tobey Danae and Jason Alexander Cook of Kimberly, was born May 14, 2009.

Calvin Kay Heward, son of Rachel Louise and Jared Calvin Heward of Twin Falls, was born May 14, 2009.

Jarrett Alvin Madsen, son of Holly Sherrice and Adrian Drew Madsen of Twin Falls, was born May 14, 2009.

Ryder Michael Neely, son of Carrie Carlean and Jason Robert Neely of Twin Falls, was born May 14, 2009.

Levi Everett Switzer, son of Annie Lori and Lawrence Everett Switzer of Twin Falls,

was born May 14, 2009.

Mariah Ruth Baird, daughter of Emmylou Anna and Joshua Ryan Baird of Twin Falls, was born May 15, 2009.

Jordan Nicole Hunt, daughter of Abby Pate Hunt of Hazelton, was born May 15, 2009.

Sarah Anneliese Westermann, daughter of

Annette Christine and Scott Kevin Westermann of Twin Falls, was born May 15, 2009.

Steven Crivits Lea, son of Melody Ann Medina and Jimmie Crivits Lea of Twin Falls, was born May 16, 2009.

James Charles Silvers, son of Hannah Elizabeth and Aaron Alan Silvers of Jerome, was born May 16, 2009.

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# ALLOWANCE 101: HOW TO MAKE YOUR KIDS MONEY SAVVY

By Candice Choi  
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Scrawled in big, pink letters across three envelopes are the words “spend,” “save” and “give.” It’s how second-grader Chloe McLaughlin organizes her \$8 allowance.

It may sound grown-up for someone who still writes in crayon. But given the state of the economy and runaway levels of personal debt, her parents figured it’s never too soon to teach a little fiscal responsibility.

“We see a lot of people having trouble financially these days, and that made us think about instilling discipline in them early,” said Kevin McLaughlin, a 33-year-old resident of Pine Beach, N.J., who also has two younger children.

Once a casual weekly payment, allowance for many families has evolved into a more structured lesson in money management. Children today might be expected to map out budgets or track spending in exchange for weekly payments as they get older.

For now, the McLaughlins are keeping it simple by letting 8-year-old Chloe decide how she wants to use her allowance. Her decision surprised them; \$4 goes to savings, \$3 to charity. Just \$1 goes toward spending.

“Of course, it’s only been a few weeks, so that could change,” said McLaughlin, who works in marketing.

With a little bit of guidance, your own child’s money savvy might surprise you. Here are some strategies to make an allowance count.

### How do I start?

Give young children clear jars, envelopes or piggy banks so they can see their allowance accumulate. This makes the concept of saving tangible.

To provide some guidance, have them divide money into categories, as the McLaughlins did with Chloe. Depending on how sophisticated you want to be, set up two or three jars with labels such as “saving,” “spending” or even “video games” if you want to focus on short-term purchases.

“Some parents are very willy nilly about it, but allowance needs to be structured,” said Jennifer Hartman, a certified financial planner and principal with Greenleaf Financial Group in Los Angeles. “Don’t just give it to them because the kids are whining about it.”

If you want to preserve the piggy bank tradition, Money Savvy Pig offers see-through piggy banks divided into four compartments — spend,



Kevin McLaughlin sits with 8-year-old daughter Chloe McLaughlin at their home in Pine Beach, N.J., as they count some of the allowance money Chloe keeps in different envelopes. One envelope is for spending, one for savings and one for giving.

save, donate and invest. A pig is \$16.99 at www.msgen.com.

If you haven’t already, open a savings account for your kids so they can make occasional deposits for long-term goals.

### How much should I give?

The rule of thumb is \$1 for every year of their life, meaning a 10-year-old would earn \$10 a week. But that baseline might be too high or low depending on your expectations.

For instance, it might not be enough if you expect your kids to pay for their lunch or after school snacks. Whatever the figure, it should be enough so they can make decisions about purchases, but not so much that they don’t need to weigh what they buy.

While you want to provide some structure, don’t dictate how they spend every penny. The purpose of an allowance is to let your children experiment and even fail while it’s still harmless.

Lastly, don’t be swayed by

whining for more money. “You have to show them that you can’t always be keeping up with the Joneses,” Hartman said.

### Should I tie it to chores?

Tying allowance to routine chores can be an invitation for trouble. It might prompt an expectation of payment simply for making a bed or hanging up clothes.

“That should be part of taking care of family,” said Joel A. Larsen, certified financial planner with Navigator Financial Advisors LLC in Davis, Calif.

Instead, Larsen suggests offering to pay for specific tasks that go above and beyond everyday duties. He pays his 8- and 12-year-old daughters \$6 an hour to help with filing duties at the office. They can also wash windows or help out with yard work for extra cash.

“As they get older, they’ll learn that they need to work jobs to earn money,” Larsen said.

Every family is different, of course. You might decide

to give your child an allowance with no strings attached. Others might dock pay for failure to perform certain duties, whether it’s helping out around the house or making grades at school.

### How should I adjust as kids get older?

Spending can quickly outpace an allowance as your child gets older. The obvious way to bridge the gap is to encourage teenagers to get a part-time job.

For major purchases such as a car, consider working out a deal where you pick up a share of the cost.

“They should save up for it one way or another,” said Hartman of Greenleaf Financial. “Otherwise it could turn into a problem when they get a credit card and just buy whatever they want.”

If you want them to focus on school work, consider giving a quarterly stipend for clothing and other expenses, she said. This can teach kids to be judicious with money over time.

## 8 questions to test your kid’s financial savvy

Here are eight questions to test your teen’s understanding of some basic financial concepts, including developing a budget and building a strong credit history.

1. Which of the following would be beneficial in achieving financial security?
    - A. Adhering to your financial plan only when you are in debt
    - B. Creating a financial plan and then carrying it out
    - C. Assessing your “needs” only
    - D. Only considering your short-term goals
  2. What does a budget help you do?
    - A. Stay in control of your money
    - B. Make purchases without considering what money you’ve spent so far
    - C. Prepare you financially for planned events only
    - D. Make impulse purchases
  3. Which of the following is a benefit of short-term saving?
    - A. Allows you to stray from your budget because you have money saved in the bank
    - B. Allows for your financial security if an unexpected expense should arise
    - C. Enables you to stop saving when you have too much money in the bank
    - D. Allows you to overspend on items you want
  4. Which of the following is a tip for saving?
    - A. Put all the money you get from your paycheck into your pocket
    - B. Develop a habit for putting a set amount or percentage of your paycheck into your savings account
    - C. Never deposit unexpected money into your savings
    - D. Develop a habit for saving only when the amount of money being put away is substantial
  5. What should you remember about interest and borrowing money?
    - A. I should borrow enough money to buy everything I want
    - B. I should not worry about how much interest I must pay on a loan or credit card
    - C. When I borrow money, I should consider how much I will pay in interest and what the total amount is that I will have to pay back
    - D. Credit cards are a good way to buy what I want, when I want
  6. Which of the following may lead to a financial problem?
    - A. Overspending
    - B. Categorizing your expenses into different funds
    - C. Understanding your positive and negative spending habits
    - D. Considering your values when determining your goals
  7. Which of the following payment options allow the user to pre-establish the dollar value available for spending?
    - A. Smart card
    - B. Chip card
    - C. Stored value card
    - D. Debit card
  8. Which of the following information may appear on your credit report?
    - A. A late payment on your magazine subscription
    - B. The last store where you shopped
    - C. Your family history
    - D. Your financial goals
- ANSWERS: 1) B, 2) A, 3) B, 4) B, 5) C, 6) A, 7) C, 8) A  
Source: Visa Inc.



# Handing down fitness: Parents can adapt workouts

By Jennifer Forker  
For The Associated Press

Athletic parents who’ve been through it have some advice for those embarking on parenthood for the first time: Don’t fret, you’ll still get your sweat on.

But new parents may have to adjust their workout routines — what one optimistic Dad refers to as “cross-training.” The kid-friendly workouts are no less rewarding — although the benefits are less about distance and time, and more about building healthy family habits.

“This is such a teaching time,” said Heidi Hill, of Waterbury, Vt. “This is a time that (children) model their parents and look up to their parents.”

Hill wrote a how-to book to assure active adults that, as new parents, they can keep on exercising through the baby years. In “Fit Family: The Infant, Toddler and Preschool Years” (Vitesse, 2008), she explained how to hike, bike,

run, cross-country ski and even kayak with small kids.

Hill, 37, and her husband, Tom Thurston, 45, have done many of these sports while towing along daughters Ava, 5, and Julia, 3.

She says parents must persevere through these early years because as the kids get older and more self-sufficient, exercising as a family becomes more rewarding.

“At the get-go, a lot of it can be miserable,” said Hill. “You really have to persevere and know that you’re teaching a lifestyle.”

“I don’t want parents to quit before getting to the good part,” she added.

Will Chin, 47, of Seattle, is living that fit family dream right now. An outreach administrator for the outdoors company REI, Chin and his wife have three kids, ages 7, 8 and 10.

The kids now want to pursue sports that exceed his own, Chin said. He likes to road bike, and his kids want to mountain bike. He likes to cross-country ski,



Heidi Hill, left, runs with daughters Ava Thurston, right, and Julia Thurston in Stowe, Vt., April 24.

they want to learn snowboarding.

“They want to take it to the next level,” Chin said.

It wasn’t always that way. When they were toddlers, Chin had to modify his workouts to include them. He cut back on his 30- to 50-mile rides and took up “fast walking” with a jog stroller — an athletic downhill Chin cheerfully calls “cross-training.”

He advises new parents to concede that their outdoor adventures may change, but not necessarily for the worse. He and his wife went from driving an hour to reach a trailhead to taking the kids to Seattle parks and festivals.

The right equipment makes all the difference, said Hill, who recommends buying both new (bike helmets) and used (the baby jogger).

“Get good equipment for transporting your kids,” she said. “Clunky equipment — a baby jogger that’s more for walking, not running — it’s hard to push, and then parents end up not doing it.”

Chin recommends multi-use gear, such as a bike carrier that can morph into a “ski pulk,” which elevates the carrier on a sled base or skis. The pulk is strapped around a parent’s waist for cross-country skiing, like a dogsled. Chin says the Chariot brand can do this.

He also recommends investing in a trail-a-bike, a one-wheel contraction that attaches to the back of a parent’s bicycle, allowing a small child to learn the mechanics of cycling while the parent does all the motoring. A child needs to be able to hang on to the handlebars without leaning to the side, Chin noted, which not all young kids can

do. He recommended parents keep to flat terrain.

Above all, Hill said, make the most of athletic outings that go sour. She and her husband were excited to take their girls cross-country skiing this past season, but their first time out lasted only a few minutes.

“Ava falls over, crying and cold, and Julia wants out of the pulk,” Hill recalled. “We gave up pretty early that day.”

The family went out for lunch instead. “It’s just knowing that some days aren’t going to be great, but we’re going to put a positive spin on it,” Hill said.

The workouts may require extra planning, different expectations — and taking along snacks — but in the end, parents really need to get past their own mental roadblocks. “I think people tend to find a lot of excuses — too busy, too much money, the kids are crying,” said Hill. “You just really have to educate yourself, and do it.”

repay you in cash.

### What if my budget is tight?

Don’t feel guilty if you have to scale back your child’s allowance. Having children share in any family cutbacks can be an important lesson, said Susan Beacham, founder of Money Savvy Generation, a Lake Bluff, Ill.-based company that makes personal finance products for children.

In fact, she said it will prepare them for the future by giving them a taste of what many adults are going through in the recession.

# SEEKING SIMILARITIES

Mixed marriages decline as immigrants' children seek similar partners

By Annie Gowen  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Katie Xiao emigrated from China when she was 4 and always thought of herself as Americanized — until she started dating.

Subtle cultural clashes with Caucasian or Latino boyfriends led to unhappy breakups. It made her realize she's more Chinese than she thought. Now she wants to meet a man of Asian descent.

She has recently gone to a chocolate tasting and a cocktail mixer, both catering to Asian Americans and immigrants. She spent Valentine's Day weekend making contacts at a Harvard Business School conference called "Asia in a Whole New World."

Sociologists and demographers are just beginning to study how the children of immigrants who have flowed into the country in recent years will date and marry. The generation that is coming of age is the most open-minded in history and living in the Obama era — where hues mingle in classrooms, nightclubs and the White House. Conventional wisdom has it that they will begin choosing spouses of other ethnicities as the number of interracial marriages rises.

But scholars delving into the U.S. Census have found a surprising converse trend. Although interracial marriages overall have increased, the rate of Hispanics and Asians marrying partners of other races declined in the past two decades. This suggests that the growing number of immigrants is having a profound effect on coupling, they say.

The number of native- and foreign-born people marrying outside their race fell from 27 to 20 percent for Hispanics and 42 to 33 percent for Asians from 1990 to 2000, according to Ohio State University sociologist Zhenchao Qian, who co-authored a study on the subject. The downward trend continued through last year, Qian said.

"The immigrant population fundamentally changes



Photos by SARAH L. VOISIN/Washington Post

Shubham Tyagi and Nancy Desai talk during a speed-dating party for Asian professionals in Arlington, Va. Conventional wisdom says the generation coming of age is the most open-minded in history and they will begin choosing spouses of other ethnicities. But scholars delving into the U.S. Census have found a surprising converse trend.

the pool of potential partners for Asians and Hispanics. It expands the number and reinforces the culture, which means the second generation ... is more likely to marry people of their own ethnicity," said Daniel Lichter, a sociologist at Cornell University.

Increasingly, singles are turning to a growing number of niche dating sites on the Internet, such as Shaadi.com and Persian-singles.com. The large social networking groups Professionals in the City has expanded its repertoire over the past year to include "speed dating" nights for people of Asian, Latino or South Asian descent. Its president, Michael Karlan, noted that the Washington area has more than 1 million immigrants.

The 20- and 30-somethings drawn to these events say they have a deep yearning to connect with someone who shares their roots, yet they are conflicted about it. As children, they felt divided loyalties, growing up with one foot in their parents' home country, the other in the U.S. Now, as adults, they wonder: Would I be happy with someone as American as I am, or a recent immigrant?

"People grow up the entire time rebelling to our parents, doing everything we could to fit in and spending the majority of our time running away from the traditions and our heritage," said Bhavna Pandit, a political consultant of Indian descent. "Now I'm 29 years old, and I actually care about this stuff!" She says it's difficult to find a nice



Michael Karlan, of the social networking group Professionals in the City, instructs singles at a speed-dating party for Asian professionals in Arlington, Va. The group has expanded its repertoire of lectures and wine-tastings over the past year to include special events for people of Asian, Latino or South Asian descent.

guy, and Indian men in particular are in short supply in her Capitol Hill circles.

Even minor issues can become a big deal, singles say, such as a man who wore a T-shirt with a risqué slogan to meet his girlfriend's conservative Iranian parents. One 27-year-old woman, a successful energy financier who still lives with her parents in their suburban house, believes an American man wouldn't understand her Indian values.

Researchers spent a decade following 3,300 children of immigrants in the New York region as they navigated adulthood, which led to a study published last year called "Inheriting the City: The Children of Immigrants Come of Age." They followed both the "second generation" children born in the U.S. and the "1.5 generation" — children of immigrants who came as youngsters — who were Dominican, Chinese, Russian Jews, South Americans and West Indians.

"The immigrant population fundamentally changes the pool of potential partners for Asians and Hispanics. It expands the number and reinforces the culture, which means the second generation ... is more likely to marry people of their own ethnicity."

— Daniel Lichter, a sociologist at Cornell University

## ENGAGEMENTS

### Bradshaw-Steel

Steven R. and Joy Bradshaw of Rupert, announce the engagement of their daughter, Cindy Lynn Bradshaw, to James Marchall Steel, son of Lawrence and Nadine Steel of Gooding.

Bradshaw is a 2001 graduate of Minico High School, and a 2005 graduate of BYU-I with a degree in sociology. She is employed at International Farmers Association in Salt Lake City.

Steel is a 2002 graduate of Gooding High School, and also attended BYU-I. He served an LDS mission in the England, Birmingham Mission. He is employed



Cindy Bradshaw and James Steel

at Scott's Fertilizer in Salt Lake City.

The wedding is planned for May 30 in the Twin Falls Temple. A reception will be held from 6-8 p.m., May 30, at the Steel residence in Gooding. Another reception will be held from 6-8 p.m., June 6, at the Layne Mackay residence in Rupert.

### Walker-Jenkins

Adrianne Ruth Walker and Kevin David Jenkins, both of St. George, Utah, together with their parents, Dr. and Mrs. LeRoy H. Walker of Murray, Utah, and Mr. and Mrs. George Jenkins of Hagerman, Idaho, and the late Bonnie Jenkins, are pleased to announce their marriage on Saturday, May 30, 2009, in the St. George, Utah Temple of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

An open house will be



Kevin Jenkins and Adrianne Walker

held in their honor at the Hagerman LDS Church, 620 North State Street, on Saturday, June 6, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

### Barth-Nelson

Rod and Linda Barth of Meridian, Idaho, and Jerry and Michelle Atkinson of Seattle, Washington, announce the engagement of their daughter, Shanell Barth, to Kenny Nelson, son of David and Chris Nelson of Hailey, Idaho.

Shanell is a graduate of Twin Falls High School and is working for Dr. Cunningham in Ketchum, Idaho.

Kenny graduated from Wood River High School, attended CSI and Concordia University in Portland, Oregon, and is employed by Rocky Mountain Hardware



Kenny Nelson and Shanell Barth

in Hailey.

They have set July 11, 2009, as their wedding date with a reception at 5:30 pm north of Sun Valley.

The couple will reside in Hailey, Idaho.

### Black-Pavkov

Kay and Jerry Black of Buhl are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jeny Black, to J. Scott Pavkov, son of Nancy and Joe Storey Gooding and John Pavkov of Wendell.

Jeny is a 1995 graduate of Buhl High School and received her degree at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande, Oregon. She is currently working towards her masters degree in bilingual education at Boise State University. Jeny is employed as a teacher for the Gooding School District.

Scott is a 1991 graduate of



Jeny Black and J. Scott Pavkov

Gooding High School. Scott owns Pav. Co. Live trucking and farms in Gooding.

The wedding and reception are planned for Saturday May 30th at the Basque Center in Gooding. The couple will reside in Gooding.

### Standley-Franz

Tom and Cathie Standley of Twin Falls announce the engagement of their daughter, Katie, to Spencer Franz, son of Bob and Marilyn Franz of Rexburg.

Standley is a 2004 graduate of Twin Falls High School, and received her bachelor of science degree in nursing from Idaho State University in December, 2008. She is currently employed by St. Luke's Clinic of Magic Valley.

Franz is a 2001 graduate of Madison High School. He is also a 2008 graduate of Idaho State University, and received a bachelor of science degree in physical education. Spencer served a mission in Paraguay and is currently attending the Illinois College of Optometry in Chicago, Illinois.



Spencer Franz and Katie Standley

The wedding is planned for May 28th in the Salt Lake City LDS Temple. A reception will follow on Saturday, May 30th, from 6:00-8:00 pm at the Temple Stake Center in Twin Falls.

The couple will reside in Chicago, Illinois, where Spencer will continue his education in optometry. Katie plans to work as a nurse, and soon continue her education as a nurse practitioner.

## Frugal fiancée finds style in vintage frocks

Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — A sapphire blue tent, peacock-feather head wear and hot pink flowers: the wedding of fashion designer Wells Butler to Oliver Nathan in July promises to be a showstopper.

"We didn't want to do anything too cookie-cutter," said Butler of her bohemian wedding theme.

That goes for their rehearsal dinner as well, which will be a picnic at Saddlerock Ranch in Malibu Hills — where Butler and Nathan will marry the next day.

For the picnic, Butler wants a memorable ensemble, but she doesn't want to spend a lot of money. So, the *Los Angeles Times* offered her a \$100 challenge to see if she could find her perfect rehearsal dinner-picnic dress on a budget of \$100 or less.

Butler chose Shareen Vintage, in an industrial warehouse on the outskirts of downtown Los Angeles.

Many dresses sell for less than \$60. In short order, she amassed a rack of candidates.

"I want something long so I won't have to worry about sitting on the ground or picnic bench," Butler said, "and also something flowy that I can wear with flat sandals. Heels will sink into the lawn."

Her first choice was a pale pink strapless dress with ragged chiffon hem — for \$48. But the light-colored bodice had stains; that was a deal breaker for Butler.

Back to the rack. Contender No. 2 was a bright fuchsia strapless cocktail dress, but it was too short and not right for the occasion. Butler plans to rent it for a friend's wedding this summer.

An \$88 pale gray strapless gown with a tri-color paneled inset spoke to her — "I love how I feel in it," she said — and its long, sweeping skirt and pale dusty colors fit the bohemian aesthetic. But Butler felt the style was too similar to her Lazaro

wedding gown.

That brought her to a poppy-colored halter dress with floor-length skirt — perfect for a sunset picnic in Malibu.

And the best part?

The dress was a rental, meaning that the cost for a week is 20 percent of the retail price. Grand total: \$45.

"I love it because it's sexy but still has that boho vibe because of the fabric and length," Butler said. "I can see wearing it with flat, gold gladiator sandals and gold bangles."

She already has a good start on the bangles.

At her Indian-themed bridal shower, her friends followed a tradition in which

### Williams-Dahl

Wyatt and Carole Williams of Hollister announce the engagement of their daughter, Carrie Leigh Williams, to Jared Kent Dahl, son of Kent and Kate Dahl of Buhl.

Carrie is a 2006 graduate of Filer High School. She is currently attending the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls. She works for her family's farm and ranch business.

Jared is a 2005 graduate of Castleford High School, and served a mission in the Virginia, Richmond Mission. He is also attending the College of Southern



GINA FERAZZI/Los Angeles Times

Wells Butler chose this orange halter gown. Shareen's Vintage makes it available for loan at \$45, not sale.

each gives the bride-to-be a bangle and whispers a wish as she places it on her wrist.

That wish for a stylishly frugal send-off to her wedding? Granted.



Jared Dahl and Carrie Williams

Idaho, majoring in mechanical engineering. He works at Silver Lining Herbs, Inc.

The wedding is planned for May 29th in the Twin Falls LDS Temple. A reception will follow that evening from 6:00-8:00 pm at the Filer LDS Stake Center.

**Bridal Registry**  
Amber Hymas & Shay Taylor  
June 13th  
Becky McKay & Brock Leslie  
June 13th  
Hailey Spevak & Josh Kendall  
June 13th  
Carrie Aston & Michel Belnap

To submit engagement, wedding and anniversary announcements, contact Janet Cranney at 735-3253, or e-mail her at [announcements@magicvalley.com](mailto:announcements@magicvalley.com).

**Deadline is 5:00 pm Tuesday** for the following Sunday.

# Kids Only

## The astronauts' space bathroom

By Howard Bennett  
Special to The Washington Post

Last week, the space shuttle Atlantis blasted off for an 11-day mission to repair the Hubble Space Telescope. In addition to the seven American astronauts on Atlantis, there are three astronauts living and working on the international space station. With 10 humans orbiting Earth, it seemed like as good a time as any to talk about what astronauts do when nature calls.

Alan Shepard was the first American to be launched into space. His mission was a 15-minute flight that took place on May 5, 1961, in the Freedom 7 spacecraft. According to NASA records, Shepard had to pee minutes before his ship was about to take off. He told the mission commander about his predicament because he couldn't hold it anymore, and it was apparently too late for him to leave the ship. After a quick discussion among NASA scientists, Shepard was told he could pee inside the spacesuit without causing any problems. It must have smelled wonderful when he removed his suit after the flight.

The next American to go into space was Gus Grissom, who took a similar flight on July 21, 1961. One can bet that Grissom learned from

Shepard's mistake and went to the bathroom before liftoff. (Now you know why your parents ask you to go to the bathroom before you leave the house!)

Since the early days of the spaceflight, NASA has learned a lot about what to do with human waste while astronauts are away from Mother Earth. The international space station and today's space vehicles are equipped with special toilets that work in a gravity-free environment. (If they didn't, there would be a lot more flying about the ship than pens and pencils!) Instead of flushing, a space toilet works like a giant vacuum cleaner that sucks away the astronaut's waste.

If astronauts go on a spacewalk for an extended time, what do you think they do? They wear diapers inside their spacesuits. They don't call them diapers, of course, because that term clearly has a non-scientific ring to it. Instead, they're called MAGs, which stands for maximum absorption garments.

Do you still want to be an astronaut when you grow up?

*Bennett, a Washington pediatrician and author of health-related books for kids, writes about gross things for KidsPost.*



NASA

This toilet aboard the space shuttle Atlantis has a suction fan. Instead of flushing, a space toilet works like a giant vacuum cleaner that sucks away the astronaut's waste.

## What makes you itch?

By Margaret Webb Pressler  
The Washington Post

When you have an itch, you scratch it, right? Sounds simple. But the systems inside the body that create that itchy feeling — and then soothe it through scratching — are very complex and have never been well understood.

Some high-level scientists have just solved one big part of the mystery, though, and they are hoping it will help develop treatments for itchiness. You may think of itching as the result of a bug bite or allergies, but some conditions and diseases cause people to itch for no apparent reason, and it can be a terrible, constant feeling. "They really suffer," said Glenn Giesler, a professor at the University of Minnesota who was involved in the research.

Giesler and his team looked at two things: what creates the itch and what it is about scratching that stops that itch.

It turns out that the feeling of itchiness comes from a particular kind of neuron, or long nerve cell, inside the spinal cord that carries pain signals to the brain. Of all the neurons that carry messages to the brain (to make your arm move or feel when

something hurts), only a tiny portion carries the itch signal.

"There are fewer than 20,000 (itch neurons) in a spinal cord that has millions and millions of neurons," Giesler said. "Finding them is like finding a needle in a haystack."

But the researchers did find some. Then they recorded the responses of those neurons when an itch-producing substance was put on the skin. The itch neurons pulsed repeatedly with tiny electrical signals headed to the brain.

Once that nerve was activated, the researchers scratched the affected skin — and the electrical pulses stopped completely for about 40 seconds. That's why, when you scratch a mosquito bite, the itchy feeling stops for half a minute or so.

Experiments such as this reveal tiny details about the body's nervous system. But these discoveries can have a big impact. Now that it's known what nerves carry itch signals and that scratching shuts them down, other researchers can start looking for new medicines that will do the same thing without your having to claw at your skin.

## Jokes for kids

Newsday

What do you get when you cross a frog with a soft drink?  
Croak a cola.

How do you find a lost train?  
Follow its tracks.

What did one tree say to the other?  
"Sorry, but I need to leaf."

What do you get when you pamper a cow?  
Spoiled milk.

## GOOD, GREEN FUN

By Margaret Webb Pressler  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — When we ask kids what world issue is most important to them, the same word comes up over and over again: environment, environment, environment.

In an effort to be "green," kids participate in stream cleanups and nag their parents to replace traditional light bulbs with ones that use less energy and last longer, but will kids change the way they play?

Some toy companies think so, and they're changing not just the kinds of toys they make but also how they package them to appeal to a generation of green kids.

Many toys today are made of plastic, and when those toys are thrown away, they sit in a landfill for many years without breaking down. One alternative is to look for a wooden toy or game, because wood doesn't have to be manufactured with chemicals and it will



**BILL WEBSTER/Washington Post**  
Barbie Thumbelina is packaged inside recyclable cardboard. "There was a time when the big box meant value, and now the big box means waste," said toy expert Chris Byrne.



**BILL WEBSTER/Washington Post**  
No batteries are necessary for the Windmill Generator, which powers an LED light. Make it using an old plastic bottle.

decompose over time. The games Gobblet and Gobblet Junior, with little wooden cups that players stack on one another until someone gets three or four in a row, are good examples.

Other companies are trying to use recycled materials in their toys. The Green Science line by ToymSmith uses recycled materials and teaches kids about being Earth-friendly. Kids will like toys only if they are fun, but being green "is definitely a plus these days," said company executive Rich Ockwell.

You can also think about ways to make toys from things you already have at home. Family Fun magazine suggests screwing a long dowel (wood stick) to an old sneaker to make a goofy golf club. Or put reflective tape on small toys and hunt for them in the backyard at night with flashlights.

Here are some other things that you can think about the next time you're in a toy store or playing at home:

• **Look at the box** the toy is in. Is it made of recycled or recyclable material? Is it

**Green, in every sense of the word**

Green Toys, a California company, makes toys out of recycled milk jugs. Kids "want to know what happens to the recycling after we recycle it," said company founder Robert von Goeben. "This makes recycling real." Among the company's eco-conscious toys are a mini gardening kit, a flying disk called an EcoSaucer and a jump-rope.



Green Toys, a California company, makes toys out of recycled milk jugs. This Green Toys gardening kit includes seeds and a soil disk that expands to fill the recycled-plastic pot.

**BILL WEBSTER/Washington Post**

bigger than it needs to be? "There was a time when the big box meant value, and now the big box means waste," said toy expert Chris Byrne.

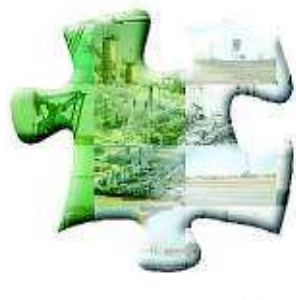
• **Look at where** the toy was made. A lot of energy is used to get a toy all the way from China. When possible,

look for toys made in this country.

• **When a toy** gets broken and needs to be thrown away, see whether all or part of it can go in the recycling bin instead of the trash can. Green Pieces puzzles by TDC Games have wildflower seeds pressed into them, so when you're done with the puzzle, you can just plant the pieces!

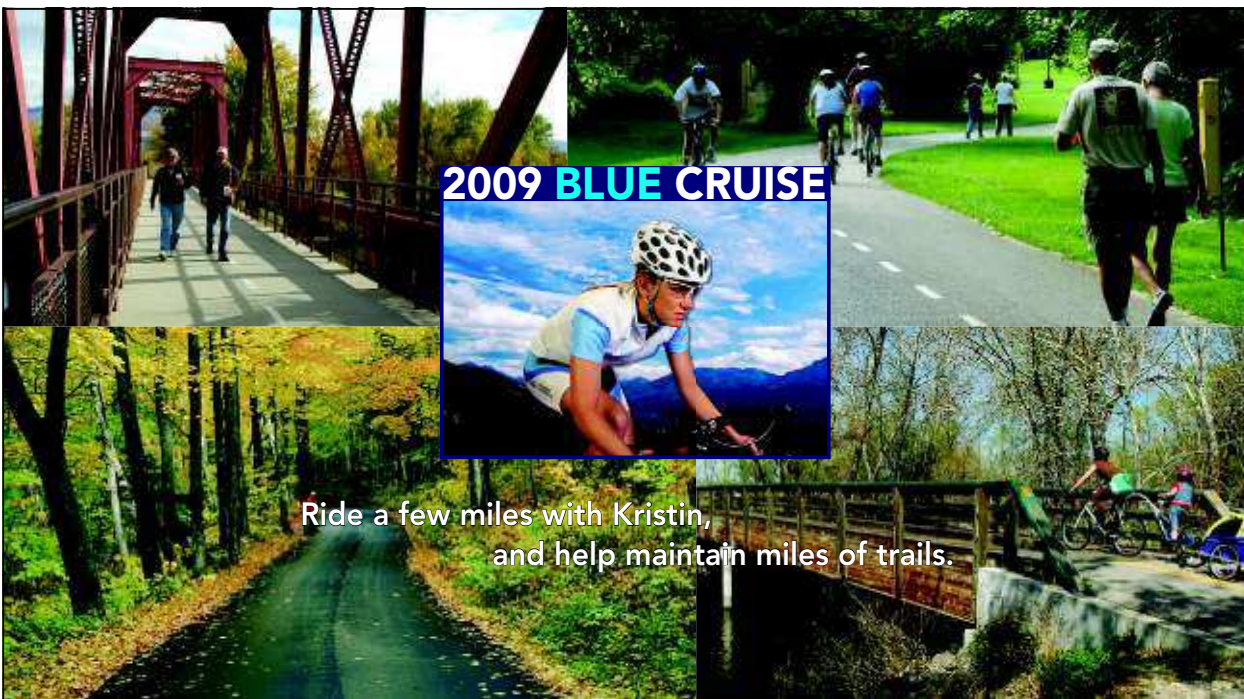
• **Instead of using** all those AA and AAA batteries to power your remote control cars and then throwing them in the trash when they are used up, consider using rechargeable batteries. Rechargeable batteries are widely available and can be recycled rather than pile up in a landfill.

• **If you outgrow** a toy and find that you're not playing with it much anymore, give it to another child who will enjoy it. That's the best recycling of all.



TDC Games

Some toy companies are changing not just the kinds of toys they make but also how they package them to appeal to a generation of green kids. If you bury this Green Pieces puzzle piece, it will grow wildflowers.



### 2009 BLUE CRUISE

Ride a few miles with Kristin, and help maintain miles of trails.



**BLUECRUISE OF IDAHO**



**Blue Cross of Idaho**

**Foundation for Health, Inc.**

**Saturday, May 30, 2009**

**Twin Falls, Robert Stuart Jr. High (start/finish)**

- Ride with Olympic gold medal cyclist Kristin Armstrong
- Ride lengths of 15, 30 and 50 miles
- Post-ride picnic and party
- Community Wellness Fair & Bike Rodeo 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Ride with Olympic gold medal cyclist Kristin Armstrong in the 2009 Blue Cruise and help raise funds for the Canyon Rim trail system. Kristin will ride the 50-mile route, deliver a motivational message, sign autographs and take part in the Blue Cruise Community Wellness Fair & Bike Rodeo. The first 100 participants in the children's bike rodeo will get FREE bike helmets signed by Kristin.

Register online at [www.bluecruiseidaho.com](http://www.bluecruiseidaho.com)

All proceeds will benefit the Canyon Rim trail system.



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