

**SUNDAY**  
December 27, 2009  
\$1.50

# TIMES-NEWS



MagicValley.com

# THE COST OF CARING



## Home health-care providers crucial to patients who can't afford hospital stays

By Blair Koch  
Times-News correspondent

Shawna Fuller, clad in a black, quilted coat with a fur-lined hood, braces for the chill of another southern Idaho December day.

Inside her sedan are necessities such as bottled water and granola bars, everything Fuller, 61, said she needs for "living on the road." For the past 15 years, the nurse of 42 years has worn tracks across the Magic Valley, bringing care to Idaho Home Health & Hospice patients.

On Dec. 8, Fuller crossed the snow-blanketed walk to the Twin Falls home of Ross and Mabel Peck, filling her role, she said, of helping patients stay comfortable at home.

"It's about providing the best quality of care as long as quality of life is there," Fuller said.

Home health-care providers are tasked with finding ways to continue to provide such care and quality of life for patients in the face of congressional cuts to payments they receive from Medicare.

The government-administered insurance most home health-care patients rely on for coverage, Medicare faces \$43 billion in cuts

See **HOSPICE**, Main 6

ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News  
Shawna Fuller, right, a registered nurse with Idaho Home Health & Hospice, talks with Mabel Peck during a visit at her home on Tuesday in Twin Falls.

"I feel lucky enough to walk and live and, as long as I'm able to, I'll be helping others to live life to the fullest."

— Shawna Fuller, a registered nurse with Idaho Home Health & Hospice

# HOME HEALTH CARE BRACES FOR CUTS

Health-care reform will mean less for in-home care providers

By Blair Koch  
Times-News correspondent

Gary Thietten is used to dealing with difficult news.

The founder of Idaho Home Health & Hospice, which provides home-based health services and end-of-life care, Thietten has directed care for Magic Valley residents suffering some of the darkest prognoses imaginable since 1977.

But 2010 may offer Idaho Home Health & Hospice — and the thousands of patients its nine offices serve — its most difficult dilemma yet. As Congress scrambles to make President Obama's goal of providing near-universal health care to Americans a reality, cuts to subsidize the massive program have targeted home-health service covered by Medicare, the government-administered

See **CUTS**, Main 6

## Variety defined wide range of Wood's cases

5th District judge retiring

By Nate Poppino  
Times-News writer

GOODING — It's the variety that's kept 5th District Judge Barry Wood interested in his job over the years.

After all, very few jobs provide a learning experience like his, he observed during a Christmas Eve interview in his Gooding office.

"One day you're learning how to drill a well. The next day you're learning about primers and bullets," he said.

Wood, who started as a Lincoln County magistrate judge in 1987 and has spent two-thirds of the past 15 years of his career as the administrative judge of the 5th Judicial District, will retire from his full-time duties on Thursday.

He leaves behind a career that spanned just about every type of case the district could throw at him and a legacy as a proponent of rehabilitation and drug, mental health and other specialty courts.

Born in Nampa, Wood earned degrees in accounting and law from the University of Wyoming and University of Idaho, respectively.

He became a district judge in 1995, covering Gooding, Jerome and Lincoln counties. A year later, he began his first stint as administrative judge — basically the administrative supervisor of the district.

In January 1999, he was named as presiding judge of the Snake River Basin Adjudication, a massive effort to sort out



Wood

See **WOOD**, Main 2

## 'No one should go there armed'

Russians who fought Afghans in '80s think same fate will befall U.S.: retreat and defeat

By Tom Lasseter  
McClatchy Newspapers

MOSCOW — Thirty years ago this week, the Red Army began its invasion of Afghanistan, a move that sank the Soviet Union in a decade of guerrilla war and hastened the collapse of the Cold War empire.

Today, as former Soviet soldiers watch American troops trying to pacify the same stretches of Afghan land they once fought for, aging Soviet generals and grunts alike are reminded of a war they would rather forget.

While Russians are willing, and often eager, to predict utter defeat for U.S. efforts based on their own failure in Afghanistan, they're much less comfortable talking about the pain of reportedly having lost more than 14,000 lives in a war that ended in retreat.

Comparing wars is a process riddled with inconsistency — the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan was far different from the American presence today — but on the eve of

"Afghans will fight foreign troops as long as foreign troops are there. No one should go there armed."

— Lev Serebrov, a deputy in Russia's lower house of parliament and former commander in the Russian army

See **AFGHANISTAN**, Main 2

## HELP AT HOME

A look at Medicare home health beneficiaries

- 64 percent are women
- More than half are 75 years or older
- Almost half are widowed
- Nearly 75 percent have yearly incomes less than \$25,000
- Nearly one-third have five or more chronic conditions
- About 45 percent report either memory loss or problems making decisions

Source: Avalere Health analysis of the Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey, Access to Care, 2005.



Bridge .....Classifieds 6  
Crossword .....Classifieds 7  
Dear Abby .....Classifieds 3

Kids Only .....Family Life 6  
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Obituaries .....Business 4  
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## FROM SENEGAL TO SUN VALLEY

Teen making impact on and off court > Sports 1

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# Great Deals Inside!

See Swensen's New Year's Ad on page A7



# MORNING BRIEFING

## Pat's Picks

Three things to do today

Pat Marcantonio



- Dance at the Twin Falls Senior Citizens Center from 2 to 5 p.m. at 530 Shoshone St. W. The event includes a potluck and door prizes. Admission is \$4.
- Forever Plaid hits the stage at 7:30 p.m. in the Boiler Room at Sun Valley Village. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$15.
- Although Christmas Day is past, you can still

give. Donate good, used blankets and sleeping bags to Safe Harbor so they can give them to others in need. Take items to 269 Filer Ave., Twin Falls, or call Phyllis, 735-8787.

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

## COMING UP IN THE TIMES-NEWS

### Trend 2010

New fine dining, increased popularity for local brews and more on the foodie front.

WEDNESDAY IN FOOD



### Wood

Continued from Main 1

water rights across most of Idaho. That post ended in December 2000 after his brother-in-law, Daniel Eismann, was elected to the state Supreme Court, creating a conflict of interest with any future water appeals.

"I liked it over there," he said, recalling his disappointment at having to step down from the water cases rich with Idaho history. "I didn't think I would, but I really did."

He can't talk about many of his major cases, including the trial of Bellevue teen Sarah Johnson, who was convicted of killing both of her parents, or a landmark ruling tossing out the state's rules for conjunctive management of water that was later overturned by the Supreme Court. Aspects of them are still pending or being appealed, he said.

But he was more than happy to share his observations of how Idaho's courts have changed in the last two decades.

The workload has become staggering, he said, and county courthouses are running out of room for all the necessary judges and staff. "Unprecedented" population growth and drug issues, par-

ticularly meth, have contributed to the increase in cases, along with what Wood called a shift in people's attitudes. He recalled being taught in high school about his obligations and responsibilities in life.

"Now everyone wants to talk about 'what are my rights and privileges?'" he said.

Some things changed for the better. The advent of computers helped make the courts more efficient and cases more transparent to the public.

"You know, we work for the people," he said. "You can never lose sight of that."

Occasional health issues didn't deter his focus on court work, he said, including a fight with prostate cancer during his time on the SRBA and surgeries just this fall to replace both of his knees. He only took one medical leave, in 2002.

"You just do what you gotta do" and approach each day with a positive attitude, he said.

Wood plans to still work part-time as a senior judge as needed, both in and out of the 5th District. An open house honoring him is planned for Tuesday at the Gooding County Country Club.

## TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

### ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

**Twin Falls Senior Citizens Center**, public dance, includes: potluck and door prizes, featuring Country Cousins with Floyd Drowning, 2 to 5 p.m., 530 Shoshone St. W., Twin Falls, \$4 per person; free for children under 14 with adult., 410-5650 or galenslatte.com.

"A Year with Frog and Toad," presented by Company of Fools, 7 p.m., Liberty Theatre, 110 N. Main St., Hailey, tickets: \$25 for adults, \$18 for seniors (62 and older) and \$10 for children (18 and younger), at box

office one hour before show, 578-9122.

### HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

**Fun for Youth**, activities: arcade games, fast-track auto racing, crafts and more, 6 to 10 p.m., Sun Valley Inn continental room, One Sun Valley Road., Sun Valley, \$25 per child at the door, 622-2135.

### SPORTS

**NBC Camps Basketball Clinic**, boys ages 14 to 18, 1 to 4 p.m.; girls ages 14 to 18, 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., learn basketball

techniques camp; schedule available on website, Boys and Girls Club of Magic Valley, 999 Frontier Road, Twin Falls, \$35 per person, www.nbccamps.com or 800-406-3926.

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

## Times-News moving its Burley office

Times-News

Beginning Jan. 4, the Mini-Cassia office of the *Times-News* will be moving from its current location at 230 E. Main St. to 1510 Overland Ave. — offices that will share the building with Exit Realty Snake River.

The newspaper is downsizing its office space to become more efficient. Because reporters, circulation district managers and

advertising salespeople are frequently working outside the office, there is less of a need to heat the paper's current 13,914-square-foot facility.

Since circulation calls have been routed to a regional call center and classified calls sent to the main *Times-News* office in Twin Falls, the number of walk-in customers to the Burley office has declined substantially.

"It is important that we continue to report local news and sell local advertising from within the Mini-Cassia area," said *Times-News* Advertising Director John Pfeifer, "and in each of these areas the focus has changed from customers coming in to our office to our people going into the community to visit advertisers and news sources."

Advertising account executives Michelle Campbell

and Tressa Toner will work out of the new office Monday through Friday, as will circulation district manager Wendy Pool.

Reporters Laurie Welch and Ryan Howe will also split time working from their homes and the Overland Avenue location.

The main office number for the Mini-Cassia bureau of the *Times-News* will continue to be 208-678-2201.

## Afghanistan

Continued from Main 1

the anniversary of the Soviet war, the somber and at times anguished way that veterans in Russia spoke of their time in Afghanistan was a disturbing reminder of the hurdles that American forces now face.

The retired soldiers talk about Afghanistan in terms that echo the American experience in Vietnam: of winning battles but losing the campaign, watching the local population throw its support behind an insurgency and, finally, coming home to a country that no longer understood or supported their war.

As the Obama administration sends in 30,000 to 35,000 more troops by next summer — raising the total of U.S. and coalition forces in Afghanistan to at least 140,000 — men such as Alexander Tsalko say they can't fathom why anyone would want to fight in that land of sharp mountain ridges and hot desert sands.

"Nothing was achieved while I was there. ... There wasn't anything good there; they fired at us, we fired at them," said Tsalko, who commanded a helicopter unit in Kandahar from 1982 to 1983.

Tsalko was later the deputy head of a Soviet state defense committee and then a member of a Russian government commission for veterans affairs. He has spent the last several years working for an organization that helps disabled veterans.

What are his thoughts in late December, the period when the Soviets thrust into Afghanistan with a troop buildup on Dec. 24 and Dec. 25 and then the overthrow of the government on Dec. 27?

"Bitterness and regret that we were drawn into this war," Tsalko replied.

In short, he said, "those who fought there do not want to talk about it when they're not drunk."

Unlike Russia's springtime celebration of its World War II victory over Nazi Germany, a national holiday that includes a triumphant, sparking military parade in Red Square, the anniversary of the Soviet war in Afghanistan is hardly mentioned in the cold, dark days of December.

"It's especially difficult to remember those episodes that so many would like to leave behind," said Vladimir Kostyuchenko, a helicopter pilot for three tours in Afghanistan who's now active with an Afghan veterans group in Russia. "These generals at the top, they had no sense of reality. They gave us murderous orders. I still bear a cross because I fulfilled those orders."

Kostyuchenko, a slightly pudgy man with a friendly

### Soviets' disaster in Afghanistan

Ten years after it invaded Afghanistan, the Soviet Union was driven out by its mounting casualties and its inability to defeat the U.S.-backed guerrillas fighting in the Afghan mountains.



#### War's toll

**Afghan casualties**  
 • 1.3 million Afghans killed  
 • 5.5 million (a third of prewar population) left country as refugees  
 • 2 million forced to migrate within country  
 • About 10 million land mines left behind

**Soviet casualties**  
 642,000 Soviets fought in Afghanistan



- 1975
- 1976
- 1977 **Dec.** Soviet troops enter Afghanistan at invitation of Marxist Afghan leader Babrak Karmal
- 1978
- 1979
- 1980 U.S. starts sending aid to Afghans via Pakistan
- 1981
- 1982
- 1983 Deadliest period of war; Soviet forces peak at 104,000
- 1984
- 1985
- 1986 U.S. begins sending Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to Afghans
- 1987
- 1988
- 1989 **Feb.** Soviets withdraw, leaving behind pro-Soviet Afghan leader Najibullah
- 1990
- 1991
- 1992 **After Soviet defeat**
- 1993 **April** Islamic rebels oust Najibullah
- 1994
- 1995
- 1996 **Oct.** Extremist Taliban faction gains control
- 1997
- 1998
- 1999
- 2000
- 2001

face whose helicopter was shot down in 1988, continued the thought: "Later we saw the results, and they were terrible?"

Igor Rodionov, who from 1985 to 1986 commanded the Soviet 40th Army, its main military force, said it wasn't just the troops who were conflicted.

"On one hand, I was indignant when I understood what this decision to invade Afghanistan would result in. I could say that to my friends, but I could not say it out loud because I was a general," said Rodionov, who retired as a four-star general and later was a Russian defense minister and then a parliament deputy. "Our sacrifices were not needed."

Rodionov, who's now 73, looked down at a table in front of him and arranged a pen, plate of crackers and a napkin to demonstrate the flanks of a troop position. He gazed at them for a moment with a bemused expression, as if to recognize the absurdity of talking about the violence of war while pointing at a napkin.

Pushing the items forward, Rodionov said commanders often sent their men to hunt for the enemy in villages on either side of mountain gorges near vital transport routes.

"We could fight for two weeks in this gorge, killing the Afghans," he said in a gravelly voice. "In return they kill our guys. We have used all our water, ammunition and food, and then we must go back to our rear position."

Rodionov pulled the pen, crackers and napkin back to



TOM LASSETER/MCT

Vladimir Kostyuchenko, who served as a helicopter pilot during three tours for the Soviet military in Afghanistan, stands at a local memorial exhibit for Afghan veterans in southeast Moscow, Dec. 17.

their starting places: "Then the mujahedeens" — meaning holy warriors, the term used by Afghan fighters — "would return to the gorge, and the whole thing continues."

The Soviet experience, of course, isn't proof that the same fate will befall the United States, which is now more than eight years into its Afghan war.

While the Soviet invasion in 1979 was widely seen across the world as an act of wanton aggression, a broad coalition of countries supported the U.S. decision in the aftermath of 9-11 to topple the Taliban government in Kabul and hunt down al-Qaida.

The Soviets were badly hobbled by Western and Arab financial and arms support for the Afghan fighters, especially U.S. Stinger anti-aircraft missiles, which American pilots haven't had to face.

The current collection of insurgents and terrorists —

though they include some of the same men the U.S. backed against the Soviets — aren't thought to receive anywhere close to that level of foreign help.

Still, the men who took part in the Soviet fight for Afghanistan say that no matter how smart the Obama administration's plans are for turning the tide, they stand little chance in a country that's known as the graveyard of empires.

"Afghans will fight foreign troops as long as foreign troops are there," said Lev Serebrov, whose time there was bookended by the Soviet invasion and retreat. He arrived in 1979 and stayed through 1981 as a lieutenant colonel and deputy division commander, and returned from 1987 to 1989 as a major general and deputy to the Soviet operations commander for the Afghan war.

"No one should go there armed," said Serebrov, who's now a deputy in Russia's lower house of parliament.

## READY TO BE SWORN IN

Swearing-in dates have been set for south-central Idaho's two newest district judges. Jonathan Brody and Eric Wildman will replace retiring Judge Barry Wood and Judge John Melanson, who moved in October to the Idaho Court of Appeals. Brody is set to be sworn in on Jan. 8 at the Minidoka County Courthouse. Wildman will take the oath of office on Jan. 14 at the Jerome County Judicial Annex.

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# Power failure leaves many in the cold on Christmas Day in Wood River Valley

By Karen Bossick  
Times-News correspondent

SUN VALLEY — Christmas Eve and Christmas Day traditions were short-circuited by a power outage, which blacked out the Christmas lights for 17,000 people from Shoshone to Sun Valley at 10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve. The outage lasted until about 3:30 p.m. Christmas Day for most residents.

The power outage squelched Sun Valley's ski lifts on a day that could have seen more than 5,000 skiers and boarders on the mountain. It quieted the snow guns over a 24-hour period when temperatures in the single digits and teens were optimal for snowmaking.

It delayed the debut of two new movie screens in Ketchum on a day that traditionally is one of the biggest movie-going days of the year. And it gave

Ketchum restaurant owners high blood pressure as they tried to prepare Christmas dinners for hundreds of out-of-town visitors.

At Sun Valley Resort, where a Christmas Eve ice show had drawn 4,000 people early Christmas Eve, most guests treated the power outage as an adventure, albeit an inconvenient one.

Corey Weiss and his family from New York gathered a breakfast of cookies and pastries in the darkened lobby of the Sun Valley Lodge as Resort employee Ghislane Guigan guided their way with a flashlight.

"It reminds me of the olden days," said Weiss.

Priscilla Panzer, of Los Angeles, joined lodge guests wearing ski parkas around the fireplace of the lodge, as the morning light began trickling through the windows and the temperature climbed from zero to 4 degrees.

"It's certainly a Christmas we'll all remember," she said.

Twelve-year-old Zachary Miller, of Chicago, sat on the fireplace hearth as he played his Game Boy.

"My son won't give up his spot," said Doug Miller. "But what happens when he runs out of batteries?"

Sun Valley treated its guests to a breakfast of lox and bagels, scrambled eggs and oatmeal and a variety of fruits and pastries. And even some locals showed up in hope they could find a cup-pajoe, given that Tully's and other coffee shops around town were in the dark.

Wait staff set flashlights in bathrooms. And, since Rudolph and his red nose had vacated the premises, Sandra P. Fetter worked behind a bevy of candles in the Lodge Gift Shop, helping people find newspapers and other items by shining flashlights on them.

"I've worked here 26 years

and this is the first time I know of this happening," she said. "Luckily I took my shower and washed my hair last night."

Fortunately, the calm sunny weather outside was perfect for sledding, ice skating and any other winter activities that didn't require electricity.

And, as luck would have it, Sun Valley Nordic Center opened for the season on Christmas Day. In a show of Christmas spirit, Director Sean McLaughlin waived trail fees and equipment rentals for the guests staying in Sun Valley's 450 rooms.

Idaho Power employees said low fog hampered their ability to locate the break, which turned out to be in the King-Moonstone area. They finally located it about 10 a.m. Christmas morning.

By afternoon, power was restored to about 10,000 customers. Cause of the outage is under investigation.

## 5TH DISTRICT COURT NEWS

**CITY OF TWIN FALLS**  
**Misdemeanor sentencing**  
Justin M. Call, 22, Twin Falls; controlled substance -frequenting place where used; \$300 fine, \$200 suspended; \$127.50 costs; 10 days jail suspended; six months probation.  
Michelle D. Johnson, 34, Twin Falls; possession of a controlled substance; \$500 fine suspended; \$127.50 costs, \$75 public defender fee; 90 days jail suspended; 12 months probation; concurrent with other probation; 24 hours community service.  
Patrick D. Grimes, 19, Twin Falls; battery; amended to disturbing the peace; \$500 fine suspended; \$87.50 costs, \$75 public defender fee; 10 days jail suspended; six months probation; resisting/obstructing officers; \$500 fine, \$400 suspended; 30 days jail, 29 suspended, credit for one day served; six months probation.  
Kayla M. Price, 19, Twin Falls; theft-petit; \$500 fine suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days jail, 85 suspended; 12 months probation.  
Rustam O. Svanidze, 31, Twin Falls; theft-petit; amended to aiding in misdemeanor; \$500 fine suspended; \$75.50 costs; 60 days jail, 31 suspended, credit for 29 days served; 12 months probation; \$26.06 restitution.  
Joan E. Wells, 58, Twin Falls; unlawful entry; amended to disturbing the peace; \$300 fine suspended; \$87.50 costs, \$75 public defender fee; 10 days jail suspended, credit for time served; six months probation;  
24 hours of community service.  
Beatriz M. Cano, 16, Twin Falls; operating vehicle without owner's consent; \$500 fine suspended; \$87.50 costs; 10 days jail suspended; six months probation; 24 hours of community service.  
Shane B. Wheeler, 21, Twin Falls; resisting/obstructing officer; amended to disturbing the peace; \$300 fine suspended; \$87.50 costs, \$75 public defender fee; 10 days jail, nine suspended, credit for one day served; six months probation supervised until costs paid, and community service done; 16 hours community service.  
Isaiah M. Evans, 21, Twin Falls; resisting/obstructing officer; \$500 fine, \$300 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 30 days jail, 27 suspended, credit for three days served; 12 months probation; possession of alcohol (minor), \$500 fine, 400 suspended; driving privileges suspended 90 days; restricted permit authorized; 12 months probation.  
Brian A. Anderson, 46, Twin Falls; disturbing the peace; \$500 fine, \$400 suspended; \$87.50 costs, \$75 public defender fee; 30 days jail, 28 suspended, credit for two days served; 12 months probation; resisting/obstructing officer; \$500 fine, \$300 suspended; 90 days jail, 85 suspended, credit for two days served, three days work detail; 12 months probation.  
Levi A. Joles, 19, Twin Falls; failed to purchase/invalid license; \$100 fine; \$87.50 costs; five days jail suspended; six months probation.

# Suspect arrested in kidnapping of Phoenix girl

By Amand Lee Myers  
Associated Press writer

PHOENIX — Phoenix police Officer Mike Burns had just finished searching a desert area for signs of a 5-year-old girl and the man who had kidnapped her as she played with her sisters on Christmas Day.

No luck. But as Burns drove down a north Phoenix street, he spotted a truck that matched descriptions of the kidnapper's vehicle, and a man and a little girl inside.

When the truck made an abrupt turn and sped off, Burns knew he couldn't let it out of his sight.

"There was no doubt in my mind," Burns told reporters on Saturday, "If he disappears, we may not get her back."

About 10 minutes later, 45-year-old Larry Jon Ladwig was under arrest, and the frightened girl was rescued and taken to a Phoenix police facility that aids young victims of crime, where it was determined she had been molested. The girl was treated and is back home with her family, police Sgt. Andy Hill said.

Ladwig was booked into jail early Saturday on charges of kidnapping, sexual molestation of a child, aggravated assault of a police officer and felony flight. It's unclear whether Ladwig has a lawyer, and the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office did not immediately respond to a request to interview him.

Statistically, Hill said if police don't recover a child abducted by a stranger with-

in the first several hours, "chances are slim of recovering them alive."

"We really did have a Christmas miracle," he said.

The girl was rescued at about 9:30 p.m. Friday, more than seven hours after police believe Ladwig kidnapped her while she was playing outside a Phoenix apartment building.

The Associated Press is not reporting the girl's name because she may be the victim of a sex crime. The AP had named the girl after her abduction Friday.

When Burns spotted Ladwig's pickup, he gave chase and alerted the force. Officers put spike strips across the road several blocks away that punctured Ladwig's tires, causing him to crash on the roadside.

Ladwig took off on foot but was caught and arrested a block away after a brief struggle during which Hill said he punched an officer in the face.

"It makes you feel good," Burns said of his part in the girl's rescue. "It takes a while to soak in."

Police received the call that the girl had been taken at about 2:15 p.m. An Amber

Alert was issued, and authorities began combing the area on foot, by car and with helicopters.

Hill said the child had been playing in a common area at the apartment complex with her two sisters, ages 7 and 9, when a man parked his brown pickup in a nearby parking lot and

walked over to them carrying a camera.

He said the man violently pulled down the 7-year-old's pants, took a photo of her, then grabbed the 5-year-old and threw her into the truck through a window.



Ladwig

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## IDAHO Washington man files pothole lawsuit

COEUR D'ALENE — A Spokane, Wash., man has filed a \$500,000 lawsuit against the state of Idaho for injuries he says resulted from a crash caused by potholes on Interstate 90 in northern Idaho.

Kasey Crick, 22, filed the lawsuit Dec. 18 after the state denied any wrongdoing in response to a tort claim he had filed following the Dec. 28, 2007, accident.

According to court files obtained by the Coeur d'Alene Press, Crick was a passenger in a vehicle pulling a trailer when the trailer came dislodged after running over potholes.

The lawsuit said the driver pulled into the median to reattach the trailer when another vehicle hit the same series of potholes, breaking that vehicle's steering mechanism.

That vehicle then struck the trailer, which struck Crick, breaking his pelvis and causing other injuries.

Idaho did not take the proper precautions to prevent the accident, the law-

suit said, and "that failure constituted negligence."

Crick is being represented by Spokane-based attorney Patrick Fannin.

"My client was in massage therapy school at the time but dropped out because they didn't think he would be able to stand that well," Fannin said. "He's made a fairly good recovery, but still has ongoing pain."

## MONTANA Yellowstone getting better quake monitors

HELENA — The Yellowstone "supervolcano" will soon be among the best monitored hot spots in the world with the installation of new earthquake monitoring equipment.

"We should have a fantastic network, probably the best in the world over an active volcano," said Bob Smith, a University of Utah geology and geophysics professor and member of the Yellowstone Volcano Observatory.

The park is getting 10 new seismic monitoring stations over the next two years, which will be used jointly at the observatory by the U.S.

Geological Survey, Yellowstone National Park and the University of Utah.

Funding for the project will come from a portion of \$950,000 in Recovery Act money given to the observatory.

The money pays for new sensors for river monitoring and the installation of a temperature sensor network, new software tools, alarming capabilities and display systems for use by the observatory's partners.

"It will provide everyone with better raw data," said Jake Lowenstern, scientist in charge of the observatory.

Yellowstone rests in a 37-by-25-mile caldera that is one of the world's largest volcanoes, known as a supervolcano. It rests upon a magma plume that extends roughly 400 miles beneath the Earth's surface.

## UTAH Grandpa: Kids of missing mom in good spirits

SALT LAKE CITY — The parents of a missing Utah woman spent an unhappy Christmas together with her

two young children, the woman's father said Saturday.

Chuck Cox said he and his wife were with the boys, ages 4 and 2, for several hours on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Both boys were in good health and spirits, Cox said in a posting to a Facebook page dedicated to the disappearance of his daughter, Susan Powell.

"We went through the motions of Christmas, but it didn't fill the emptiness," he said.

Powell, 28, has been missing since Dec. 7. Her husband, Josh Powell, has told police he last saw her at 12:30 a.m. on that day as he left their suburban Salt Lake City home with the two boys for a camping trip.

Josh Powell failed to show up at work that day. Police consider him to be the sole person of interest in her disappearance.

Cox, of Puyallup, Wash., said the last few days have been difficult. But his grandsons seem to be unaffected by their mother's disappearance and the national attention it has brought, he wrote.

"We have pictures of Susan and her family up, so I was a little concerned," Cox

said. "But the boys just went on playing, so I feel they are doing well."

## Huntsman renews Christmas tradition

SALT LAKE CITY — Neither recent shoulder surgery nor his new job as U.S. ambassador to China could prevent former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman from renewing a Christmas tradition.

Huntsman, his wife Mary Kaye and their children served dinner to more than 500 homeless Utahns at the Salvation Army in downtown Salt Lake City on Friday night.

The Huntsmans voted to continue the decade-long tradition this year, even though the Republican governor left in August to become ambassador.

"Merry Christmas to you, my friend," Huntsman said as he greeted diners, patting them with his left hand since his right arm was in a sling.

When a visitor asked about his new position, Huntsman described living and working in China as "exhilarating."

Homeless advocate Pamela Atkinson called the Huntsmans part of her

"wonderful" volunteer team. Utah Jazz owner Greg Miller also was on hand.

## 7th grader shadows governor for day

OREM — Chris Horne needed to find someone to shadow at work for a seventh-grade school assignment. He chose his neighbor, who happens to be the governor of Utah.

After his initial request to Gov. Gary Herbert's office was denied, Horne followed through one Sunday at church and asked the governor in person.

"He said 'Yes' right on the spot," said Brenda Horne, the boy's mother. "I was shocked. I thought my son had a lot of moxie to go ask him. He was very confident."

Horne is a student at Lakeridge Junior High in Orem. He spent one Monday this month with Herbert at the Capitol and got a first-hand look at what it's like to be the state's top elected official.

"It made me feel like I was important," he said. "Yeah, that's a great thing to be."

— The Associated Press



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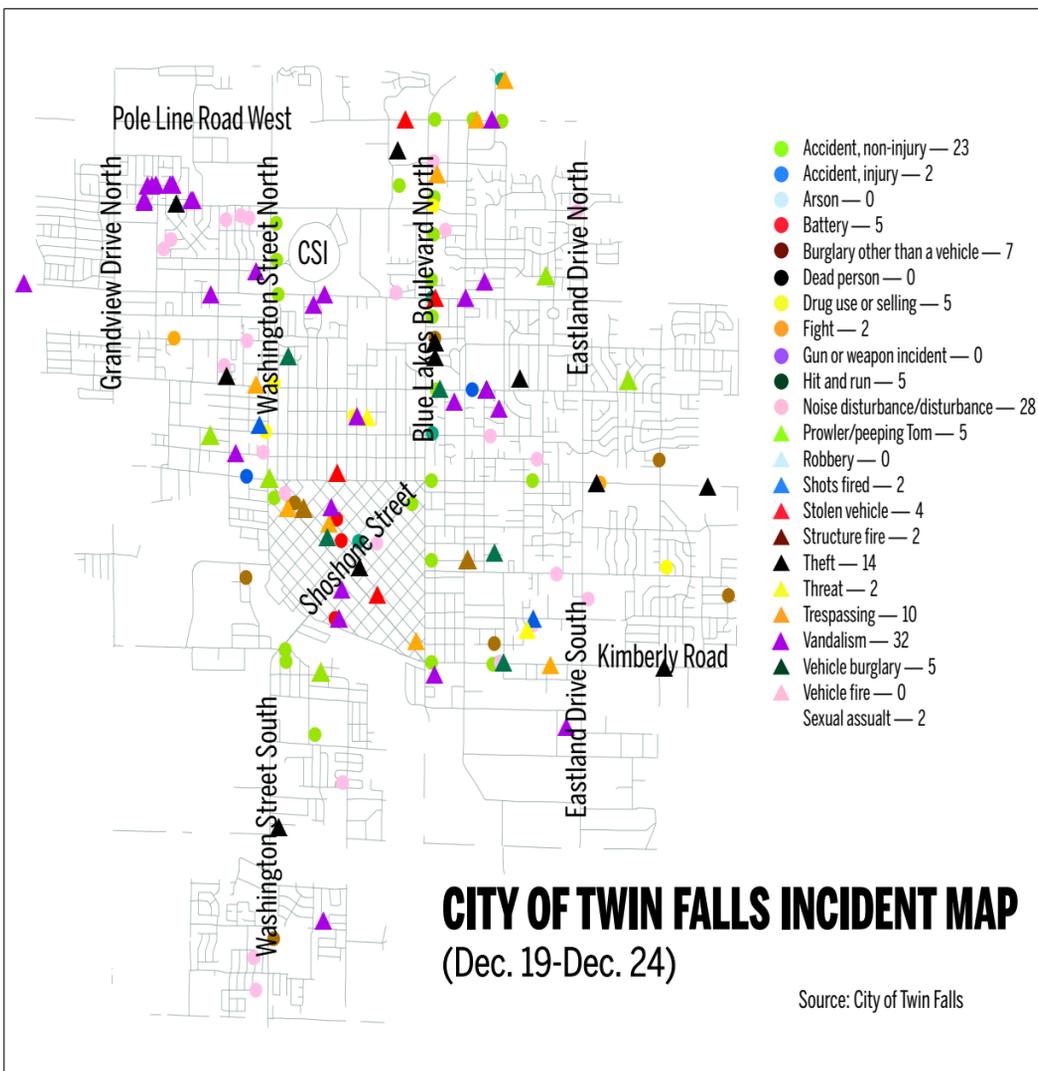
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BLAIR KOCH/For the Times-News

Idaho Home Health & Hospice founder and president Gary Thietten is shown in his office at the organization's Twin Falls headquarters. Thietten is concerned that continued cuts to government-run insurance such as Medicare would negatively impact services offered to home health and hospice patients.

## Cuts

Continued from Main 1

health insurance program many homebound patients rely on.

Senate Democrats have proposed \$42 billion in cutbacks over the next decade in payments to providers that care for homebound Medicare beneficiaries, claiming the cuts will eliminate inefficiencies in home-health service. Republicans have countered that footing the bill to provide coverage to the general population by trimming home health-care funding will injure the nation's most vulnerable citizens.

Thietten and his agency have endured government cutbacks before.

"In 1998, payment for (Medicare) services changed so drastically and so abruptly it created a ripple across the nation," he said. "Idaho alone lost 30 percent of its providers."

Currently 75 certified home health-care providers are listed in Idaho, according to the Medicare Web site, [www.medicare.org](http://www.medicare.org).

Thietten says this year's cutbacks could have a similar effect as the 1998 changes, by reducing provider availability in the state. Patients would not only lose access, but the government would end up paying more as home health-care patients displaced by dwindling provider options transition into hospitals and long-term care settings, he said.

The National Association of Home Health Care and Hospice estimated the average per-visit Medicare charge for home health care at \$132, compared to an average \$5,765 daily charge for a hospital stay.

Thietten also doesn't understand why the proposed cuts to home health care are disproportionate to cuts affecting other providers.

While providing home health-care represents 3.7 percent of overall Medicare spending, cuts to Medicare home health-care account for nearly 10 percent of overall targeted Medicare cuts, he said.

Thietten said cuts are coming at a time when many rural Medicare home health-care providers are already losing money providing services.

"The industry, my peers, this company included, is doing everything to keep costs as low as possible while still investing in providing the best quality care," Thietten said.

The company recently invested in telemonitoring services that allow homebound patients to use scales, oxygen-level-reading oximeters and blood pressure cuffs to monitor and send vital signs to their caregivers from home, cutting costs for daily visits.

But as reduced payments cut into already slim profit margins, such money-saving measures may not keep providers from shutting their doors.

In Washington, Idaho's

"There is a lot of fear but these cuts will not affect care or access for Medicare beneficiaries. If it did, we wouldn't support it."

— AARP Idaho Director  
Jim Wordelman

Republican delegation has fought funding cuts targeted for Medicare home health care.

Sens. Mike Crapo and Jim Risch both voted on Dec. 5 in support of a motion to send Senate health care reform legislation back to the Senate Finance Committee with instructions to remove the home health-care cuts.

However, AARP Idaho Director Jim Wordelman said the home health care industry is using "scare tactics." His organization stands behind the cuts, calling them necessary for eliminating "waste and overpayment."

"There is a lot of fear but these cuts will not affect care or access for Medicare beneficiaries. If it did, we wouldn't support it," Wordelman said.

He points to the Medicare Advisory Payment Committee's 2009 "Report to Congress: Medicare Payment Policy," calling for significantly reduced fees based on its finding that home health-care agencies enjoyed an average profit margin of 16.5 percent in 2007.

MedPAC estimated 2009 profit margins at 12.2 percent.

Wordelman said the industry has a right to profit but not at the cost to Medicare.

Thietten declined to release the company's Medicare profit margin but contends MedPAC's figures aren't reliable.

According to ongoing studies by National Association for Home Care and Hospice the average Medicare profit margin drops, in rural areas, to negative 3.52 percent.

While Idaho Republicans may be swimming upstream against the Democratic controlled Congress, Thietten sees reason for optimism thanks to key Democrat senators' support of lessening the blow to home health care.

An amendment made by Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass. was approved, 96-0, protecting benefits.

Kerry's amendment, which reads, in part: "Nothing in the provisions of, or amendments made by, this act shall result in the reduction of guaranteed home health benefits," shows that the industry's message is being heard, Thietten said.

"Nothing is certain," he said. "We are optimistic but remain cautious and all we can do is continue to lobby Washington with the message that what we do is important, that we provide a critical health-care service."

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## Hospice

Continued from Main 1

to home health-care spending over the next decade.

Those cuts, representing 13 percent of Medicare's home health care budget, could lead to providers closing their doors, said Gary Thietten, founder and president of Idaho Home Health & Hospice.

For patients who rely on home health-care services, visits from caregivers such as Fuller offer an ability to remain independent of frequent hospitalization or a life-altering move to a long-term care facility.

Ross Peck, 84, lives with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, unstable diabetes, heart problems and worsening confusion. Before he became a home health-care patient, Peck was frequently hospitalized, unable to manage the four self-administered insulin shots and 11 pills he needed to take daily.

Since Fuller started coming to his Alturas Drive home, Peck hasn't been admitted to a hospital.

"Neither one of us has a good memory, and having Home Health has really been a lot of help," said Peck's wife, Mabel Peck, 84, who served as her husband's primary caregiver before she suffered a stroke last year. "It was really stressful. I don't know where we'd be."

"We'd probably be alive," Ross added.

"You think?" Mabel replied, unconvinced.

Today is one of Fuller's five weekly visits to the Pecks. A certified nurse assistant will also visit Ross this day, as happens daily, to help with baths, meals and other tasks for an hour and a half.

Ross, seated on a kitchen-corner stool, looks upon the counter before him, lined with pill bottles, syringes and plastic bags. A handwritten note taped to the cabinet above reminds him to measure his blood sugar, take his insulin and not skip meals, daily requirements of managing his diabetes.

Fuller and Ross chat for a couple minutes, Fuller asking if he remembered his breathing treatment, if he's had any chest pains.

She listens to his heart. After checking his breath-



ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Shawna Fuller makes the rounds during a shift on Tuesday. She usually visits 10 patients during a 12-hour day that takes her around the region.

ing, she gathers four syringes prefilled with insulin, and places them in a plastic bag.

"It helps us monitor if he has taken all he needs to for the day and it also helps him remember to take it," Fuller said. "We do anything we can do to help him live at home as independently as possible."

For a caregiver, providing that independence often comes down to leaving. Fuller tells the Pecks goodbye for the day and starts toward her next stop.

•••

On the road Fuller talks about how her job has changed her life.

"It really puts life into perspective. You see the struggles that people live through and it makes you think differently about your own life. I feel lucky enough to walk and live and, as long as I'm able to, I'll be helping others to live life to the fullest."

While Medicare provides health insurance coverage to people 65 and older, cuts to its programs could produce ripples felt by those covered by Medicaid or private insurance.

A reduction of profits from Medicare could mean the closure of home health-care providers, Thietten said, meaning all patients, regardless of their situation or insurance coverage, would have to scramble to find a new source of care.

For those fighting to regain a life relegated only to memory, the loss of a caregiver represents a step toward the darkness in which that



BLAIR KOCH/For the Times-News

Mabel Peck keeps a concerned eye on her husband, Ross Peck, as home health-care professionals make a stop to check on him. Peck was her husband's primary caregiver until she suffered a stroke last year. She said the couple wouldn't have as good a quality of life without the assistance of home health care.

memory is blotted out.

•••

The steady, breathy whir of the bedside ventilator escapes the Twin Falls bedroom where it keeps Curtis Cameron alive.

Inside, a mounted antelope's head, a few well-worn hats and pictures of friends and family adorn the walls above a corner computer waiting to be used, all evidence of the full life Cameron, 42, has led. In front of the computer, a menagerie of pills, latex gloves and other medical supplies wait at the ready for today's needs.

Cameron developed muscular dystrophy, an incurable, progressive weakening of the muscles, as a teenager and lives with his parents. A bad bout of pneumonia a year ago rendered his lungs too weak to work independently, leaving him bedridden, intubated and hooked to the ventilator.

When Cameron first became sick, he dreamed of returning to his familiar South Hills hunting grounds. Today, his goal has changed.

"I just want to get out of here," he says in his shaking, unsteady voice after Fuller clears his lungs with a machine.

If it wasn't for the weekly nurse check ups, Cameron would be hospitalized full-time.

For Cameron's family, Fuller has been instrumental in conveying how to provide

care, from operating the needed equipment to changing tracheostomy tubes and monitoring his condition.

"It's a big help. I don't know what we would do without her," said Linda Cameron, Curtis' mother.

Fuller tries to keep Cameron positive and talks about his progress. His goal is to get off the tracheostomy tube and breathe on his own.

Before pneumonia ravaged his body Cameron was able to move himself from his bed to his wheelchair. Although he's always lived with his parents he's never before needed this much assistance.

"I don't want to need their help," Cameron said. "I was almost to the point of being able to get up but then I got another infection. So here I am."

The only thing keeping him alive, he said, is the hope that someday he'll be able to get out of bed. For now, he's grateful to be at home.

"If I was in a facility I wouldn't be happy," Cameron said. "My mom is right here and can help me. She's right here when I need her."

"At the hospital, the nurses take forever. If I need suction right away, my mom hears the alarm. At the hospital I could be dead before anyone got to me."

Fuller pats Cameron's arm like she has before — like she will again the next time the title of caregiver demands it.

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ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Kevin Turner, right, a physical therapist with Idaho Home Health & Hospice, works with Tim Newbry Tuesday at his Twin Falls home.

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## AN INDUSTRY DIVIDED

# MILK MONEY

**DAIRYMEN IN WESTERN STATES SAY THEY WERE 'SHORTCHANGED' BY GOVERNMENT PROGRAM THAT AIMED TO HELP THEM**

**BY JOSHUA PALMER  
TIMES-NEWS WRITER**

The political clout of Idaho and other Western states was put to the test as Congress struggled to make last-minute changes to a federal dairy aid package.

Officials with Glanbia Foods and the Idaho Dairyman's Association say they joined forces in October to change a federal aid package that would provide up to \$60 million to large-scale milk producers operating primarily in the Western U.S.

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack announced last week that he approved those changes, which industry leaders say was indicative of the influence that Idaho is struggling to play in national agricultural politics.

The joint effort began in October when Congress approved \$350 million in aid for the dairy industry. Dairy men across the nation were struggling to survive the lowest milk prices in more than 30 years — being driven down by a collapse on domestic and foreign markets and rising input costs.

Lawmakers from California, Wisconsin, Idaho and New York, which are home to the nation's largest dairy producers and processors, lobbied for federal aid earlier in the year to keep the industry afloat.

But not everyone agreed how federal aid should be administered. It wasn't long before the aid package divided dairy men in the East and the West.

Lawmakers from states in the Northeast and Midwest wanted one-time payments to "small, family owned operations" with 300 cows or less, according to a draft of the proposal. But lawmakers such as Sens. Mike Crapo and Jim Risch, and Reps. Walt Minnick and Mike Simpson, all from Idaho, argued bit-

terly against the proposal — saying it would exclude most dairies in Idaho and the West because the average herd size is nearly three times larger than the 300 figure.

The Idaho dairy industry joined with dairy men from seven states in the West, including California, to encourage lawmakers to change the proposal. They suggested the money would be better used to buy cheese for government programs that feed low-income families.

"Inventories are what is keeping prices down, so we worked with Glanbia and dairy organizations in seven Western states to help the industry as a whole," said Bob

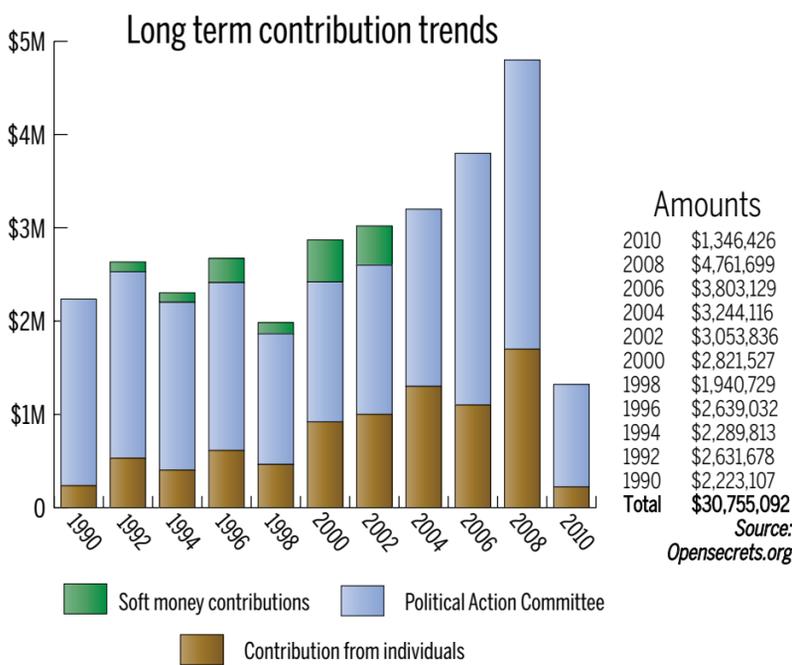
See **MONEY**, Business 2



Times-News photo illustration

"Idaho really needed a better aid package. We really fought for one."

— Mike Brown, dairy economist for Glanbia Foods



## Economic woes shape healthier spending habits

By Michele Heller  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Helen Wilson knows thrift. In the years after the Great Depression, she raised chickens and planted vegetables at her home in Alexandria, Va., to feed her children.

Now she smirks a little when her daughter Loretta Haley, 55, describes the recession as "life-changing."

"Absolutely I've changed my spending habits," Haley said, as she and her mother came out of a supermarket with just a few bags of what she described as "healthy" groceries in a giant shopping cart. "I'm only getting essentials."

For Wilson, 86, this new push toward frugality doesn't compare to the habits

she's kept up for generations. She reuses wrapping paper from one Christmas to the next, depends on lay-away instead of credit cards and saves plastic food containers rather than buying Tupperware. Unlike her daughter, she has steadily built her savings.

People beginning to live within their means could well be the silver lining of the recession. If people like Haley embrace change and maintain better financial habits, they will benefit in the long term, and the economy will, too.

"There will be good things that come out of this recession," said Marcia Tillotson, a financial adviser at Wells Fargo Advisors. "Many people had not been conscious of what their lifestyle cost. Now, all of a sudden, they have become

conscious of how they spend their money."

The question is, will the panic and uncertainty of the financial crisis shape a generation and an economy in the deep mold of the Depression? Or will our pledges of prudence have all the heft of a New Year's diet resolution?

"You have to feel the pain before you really make a change," said Gerri Detweiler, a personal finance adviser for Credit.com. "The longer it takes for the economy to feel normal again, it is likely to have a longer-term effect on our spending habits, and the more ingrained these habits of thrift will become."

Wiser habits in each household, experts say, will eventually help strengthen an economy that still

shows vulnerabilities.

"The economy really represents decisions made by tens of millions of people every day," said Bernard Baumohl, the chief global economist at the Economic Outlook Group.

He expects that a retooled economy will be fueled less by consumer spending.

According to his forecasts, by about 2015, consumer spending will contribute 65 to 67 percent of the gross domestic product — a broad measure of economic output — down from the traditional 70 percent, while exports and business spending will contribute more to GDP.

"We're going to see a profound change in the behavior of consumers, where they will be relying less on

See **SPENDING**, Business 3

## Corporations that helped the neediest in 2009

WASHINGTON — No, Virginia, 2009 was not a great year for corporate philanthropy. The \$10,000 and \$25,000 gifts that once arrived almost like clockwork at local nonprofits came this year in denominations of half that size, if they came at all. With the economy in recession and companies scrambling to reduce payroll just to remain profitable, there was simply less money to spread around. All the more reason to celebrate those companies that maintained their giving or stepped up to do more.

When the downturn first hit last year, the Community Foundation for the National Capital Region was quick to antici-

Steven Pearlstein

rate the increased urgency for resources at those safety-net organizations that provide those most in need with a meal, medical attention and a roof over their heads. So it launched a special Neighbors in Need Fund. The World Bank was the first to respond with a \$150,000 donation, followed in short order by \$500,000 from Bank of America, whose own balance sheet at the time was in a world of hurt. All in all, Neighbors in

See **NEEDIEST**, Business 3

# YOUR BUSINESS

## CONTRIBUTION

### FOTOS4FOOD



Courtesy photo

Local photographers Brittany Barnes and Bethany Cook recently donated \$775 and several bags of canned food to the Valley House. The money was raised as part of a Fotos4Food fundraiser. Participants who donated \$25 or more to the Valley House received a photo session and a CD with their pictures on it. Information: brittany-peaceloveandphotography.blogspot.com or setintimephotography.blogspot.com. From left: Brittany Barnes; Sharon Breshears, Executive Director of the Valley House; Jake Barnes.

## MUZZLE LOADERS



Courtesy photo

The Oregon Trail Muzzle Loaders had a turkey shoot and a drawing Nov. 19 in Albion and donated to Cassia and Minidoka Counties Senior Citizens Meals on Wheels. The club brought in \$1,010 and donated half to each county's Meals on Wheels. Information: Mitzi Ramsey, 208-878-3500. Pictured from left: Mitzi and Rick Ramsey, club members; Sharon Hardy Mills, Burley Senior Citizens; Holly Naranjo, Minidoka County Senior Citizens; Ben Anderson, president of the club.

## YOUR BUSINESS news

We welcome announcements about new businesses as well as employee changes or advancements. To submit contributions to YourBusiness, send announcements and photographs to *Times-News* business Editor Joshua Palmer at [jpalm@mag-icvalley.com](mailto:jpalm@mag-icvalley.com). Photos will only be accepted as .jpeg e-mail attachments. The deadline to submit an announcement for the following Sunday is Wednesday at noon. Announcements must be 150 words or less. The *Times-News* reserves the right to edit content.

## MILESTONES

### Premier Insurance congratulations

Premier Insurance of Twin Falls wants to congratulate Denise Metcalf, Larry Stumpf and Cheryl Owens for earning their professional certifications. Denise has attained her Certified Insurance Counselor by going through rigorous written examinations, focusing on all major fields of insurance, agency operations, and insurance management.



Stumpf

Stumpf and Owens are two of the elite group of risk management professionals who have earned their Certified Risk Manager certificates by completing a rigorous five-course program.

Owen has been employed with Premier Insurance for 16 years and is currently a commercial lines agent. Stumpf has been employed with Premier Insurance for 28 years and is currently a commercial lines agent. For more information call 734-1711 or [www.premierinsur.com](http://www.premierinsur.com).



Metcalf



Owens

### Heritage Makers announce rank advancement for Shirley Lee

Shirley Lee has been promoted to the rank of director with Heritage Makers, Inc. of Twin Falls. She achieved this advancement on Dec. 1. She directs and assists clients with their projects and has built a team of consultants in and around the area.

For more information call 208-731-0447 or [Shirley@HeritageForLife.com](mailto:Shirley@HeritageForLife.com)

### Asset Bookkeeping and Tax Service holds grand opening in Twin Falls

The Twin Falls Chamber Ambassadors welcomed Asset Bookkeeping and Tax Service with a ribbon cutting to celebrate the grand opening.

Asset Bookkeeping & Tax Service offers bookkeeping and income tax service and specializes in QuickBooks installation, training and support. Although headquartered in Hansen, they offer onsite service and will be happy to come to you.

Call them at 208-944-9393, 888-239-6446 (toll free) or contact Brian Cogan at [contactus@assetbooksandtax.com](mailto:contactus@assetbooksandtax.com).



Pictured left to right: Lori K Cogan & A. Brian Cogan, Certified Public Bookkeeper & Certified QuickBooks ProAdvisor



RICARDO DEARATANHA/Los Angeles Times

The 67-acre CityCenter in Las Vegas is the largest private development in U.S. history and might be the last major Strip opening for years.

# Nevada bets the future on CityCenter

By Ashley Powers  
Los Angeles Times

LAS VEGAS — Has a state's psyche ever rested so completely on a single resort complex?

In recession-ravaged Las Vegas, the flashy opening last week of Aria — the hotel-casino centerpiece of CityCenter — was regarded as either a sign of the Strip's economic rebound or another symptom of its ailments.

Most Nevadans are praying for the rebound.

The punditocracy cast the unveiling of Aria — a 4,004-room Cesar Pelli-designed hotel with a Maya Lin sculpture above the front desk — in terms more suitable to heroism.

"Hail CityCenter," cheered the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

"If it works, all Nevadans surely will sing its praises," said the Reno Gazette-Journal.

"If we can do anything in Nevada, we can hype things," said tourist Rod McMullen of Yerington, Nev., as he took in the \$8.5-billion project that one alternative weekly mocked as "CitySavior."

There was far less breathlessness when casino magnate Sheldon Adelson opened Palazzo in 2007 or when Steve Wynn debuted Encore last year. The recession was sapping business even then, but Nevada's power players were convinced that Las Vegas soon would shrug it off. Not so.

Neither Palazzo nor Encore significantly increased the Strip's gaming revenue, as nearly all modern resort openings had. But the Mirage, Bellagio, Venetian and other resorts also had been unveiled during better economic times and catered to a market that Las Vegas had yet to tap completely: the well-to-do.

This explains the reception given CityCenter, a 67-acre warren of upscale hotels, condos and shops. With economic turbulence largely halting new construction, CityCenter might be the last major Strip opening for years — and the last chance, at least for a while, to lure tourists with something new.

"Lots of people want CityCenter to be an economic miracle," said Mary Riddel, interim director of the Center for Business and Economic Research at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. "We've been so dependent for so long on massive openings and massive spending. We've hit a wall."

Nevada is desperate for a white knight. Gaming revenue in October, the most recent month for which data are available, plunged to its lowest level since 2003. In Clark County, unemployment dipped in November to 12.1 percent, but only because the labor force shrank.

Because Nevada relies so heavily on gaming and sales taxes, which are waning, Gov. Jim Gibbons' administration asked state agencies last week to prepare plans to slash their

budgets. Again.

"If CityCenter doesn't change anything, Las Vegas is really in trouble," said William Eadington, director of the Institute for the Study of Gambling and Commercial Gaming at the University of Nevada, Reno.

MGM Mirage, the chief force behind CityCenter, has boosted expectations, with Chief Executive Jim Murren predicting the complex will increase visitation in 2010 by more than 5 percent. Executives say its modern artwork and glass-sheathed architecture will draw tourists who otherwise would sniff at Sin City.

"So you're not a Vegas person," one ad says. "Are you sure?"

When proposed in 2004, CityCenter seemed a logical, if pricey, evolution for the Strip. Where else would you dare build a massive complex essentially mimicking New York, which is already mimicked by New York-New York Hotel & Casino down the street?

As the project wore on, CityCenter, a partnership with Dubai World, grappled with the consequences of enormous debt and swift construction. Six workers died in accidents. The complex teetered near bankruptcy. With the real estate market in a free fall, MGM Mirage slashed condo prices by 30 percent. (Murren said that, in hindsight, roughly 2,400 residential units might have been too many.)

As CityCenter's phased opening begins, early indicators are mixed. The high-end Crystals mall is about half full. Aria is offering rooms, in terms of opulent hotels, for fire-sale prices: \$109 on weeknights.

"Just this place isn't going to pull us out of everything," said McMullen, 59, a retired art teacher who said he was impressed with Aria's sleek, modern look. "It's not the people from Nevada who make these things float. I don't see it doing that much until the national economy turns around."

Last week, though, Murren stood outside Aria, near a 270-foot-long water wall and a dancing fountain called Lumia, and led what felt like a pep rally for Las Vegas. In particular, he pointed out that CityCenter employed 12,000 workers, although MGM Mirage laid off 9,000 during the recession.

"People who live here have a more optimistic view of the future because of CityCenter," Murren said.

Observers have been impressed with Aria's intriguing touches: dark wood, bursts of sunlight, steel sculptures and a pair of Kirin statues blessed by a Buddhist monk.

"Everyone was overly optimistic in projecting growth. Who's to say they're not overly pessimistic in projecting gloom?" said David G. Schwartz, director of the Center for Gaming Research at UNLV.

## Money

Continued from Business 1

Naerebout, executive director of the Idaho Dairy Farmers' Association.

But later in October, the U.S. Department of Agriculture sided with lawmakers from New York and Wisconsin, distributing \$290 million in one-time payments to struggling dairymen.

"This one time payment to U.S. dairy farmers limits payments to no more than 6 million pounds of milk annually, which covers only 40 percent of the average Idaho dairy producer's annual production" said Mike Brown, dairy economist for Glanbia Foods.

Naerebout said the Idaho dairy industry asked the

"Most of Idaho's milk supply comes from dairies that produce far more than the 6 million pound cap."

Direct payments provided about 32 cents per 100 pounds of milk for up to 6 million pounds of annual production, but the average dairy operator in Idaho produces 15 million pounds annually. Because of their larger size, most Idaho dairies would only receive 13 cents per 100 pounds of milk.

"Idaho really needed a better aid package, said Brown. "We really fought for one."

Naerebout said the Idaho dairy industry asked the

federal government to not get involved in government-sponsored programs. But, he said, if the money is going to be spent, all dairies in all regions should be treated equally.

Glanbia officials said they got involved when Congress wanted to create greater benefits for other regions.

"We worked closely with Idaho's congressional members, our New Mexico representatives, where Glanbia has operations, and other Western dairy cooperatives and trade associations," Brown said. "But we just didn't have the political clout — and

numbers in Congress — that exist in the Midwest and Northeast to make this program size-neutral and fully equitable for our Idaho dairy farms."

He said Western dairy producers have been hit hard over the past two years due to much higher feed costs, higher fuel costs and higher transportation costs than those in the Midwest and East.

"This divided the dairy industry by region because of where most of the money was going," Naerebout said. "I think everyone in the Western states got short-changed on this."

# Leniency is available on student loans

By Eileen Ambrose  
The Baltimore Sun

Federal student loan default rates are on the rise, but there's no need even in this weak economy for you to fall into arrears.

That's because when it comes to repaying an education loan, no one — except maybe Mom or Dad — is more lenient than Uncle Sam.

Can't find a job? Or, the one you have barely pays the bills? Maybe you have decided to go back to school to wait out the recession. Whatever the situation, the government has options to provide relief — sometimes for years — from federal loan payments while you get your finances in order. You might even have your loans forgiven over time.

"If students are consci-

entious about it and they explore their options, there shouldn't be any reason they would be in default, even if they don't have a job," says Mark Lindenmeyer, director of financial aid at Loyola University Maryland.

You run into trouble, though, if you blow off repaying the taxpayers who put you through school. The government comes down hard. It might garnish your wages, apply future tax refunds to the debt, prevent you from renewing a professional license, hit you with interest, late fees and collection costs, and even ding your Social Security benefits in retirement.

The poor job market is blamed for the rising defaults in federal loans. For those in their early 20s with or without a college degree

the unemployment rate is significantly higher than for their older counterparts. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports the unemployment rate grew to 16 percent for those age 20 to 24 in November, while the overall unemployment rate dipped slightly to 10 percent.

You're in default if you haven't made a payment for 270 days, although it may take an additional three months before the default is final, says Mark Kantrowitz, publisher of [FinAid.org](http://FinAid.org).

The government measures defaults over a two-year period, looking at borrowers entering repayment one fiscal year and defaulting by the end of the next. The latest figures show the default rate rose to 6.7 percent for the period that ended October 2008, up

from 5.2 percent a year earlier.

At the first inkling that you might have trouble repaying your loan, contact your lender or loan servicer. For private loans, your options will depend on the lender. But here are some moves with federal loans:

Deferral — Loan payments can be suspended while you return to school half-time or more. You also can defer payments for up to three years if you can't find a job or have some other economic hardship, such as being on public assistance or joining the Peace Corps.

If the government paid the interest on your loan while you were in school, it will do so again in a deferment. If your loan wasn't subsidized, you'll owe the interest, which can be tacked onto the principal.

# Spending

Continued from Business 1

debt and on the liquidation of their savings to finance consumption," Baumohl said. "People will be more disciplined."

Dan Ariely, a professor of behavioral economics at Duke University, said he believes the recession will drive a change in spending and savings patterns.

"For many people, this was a

shock. People in their 20s to 40s, who grew up in this period when the stock market has been good for most of their lives, had a great belief in the stock market," he said. "This failure has shocked people to the ground and will stay with them."

Americans are saving more, as they traditionally do during downturns. In October, the personal savings rate was 4.4 percent

of disposable income, which compares with an average annual savings of 2.7 percent over the past decade, the Commerce Department reported last week. The current rate, though, is nothing close to the 8 to 11 percent that Americans saved in the mid-1950s through the mid-1990s.

Detweiler said there is a "constant tension" among consumers torn between paying off credit

card debt and building savings. She recommends trying to do both. "Put something aside for savings, then look for every opportunity to put money toward paying down the unsecured debt," she said. "You have to set aside money for emergencies, or you'll turn to credit that might not be available. So get some emergency savings, even if it's just \$1,000. Otherwise you'll

never get out of the cycle of debt."

Future spending habits will be influenced greatly by the availability of consumer credit. If it remains tight, people won't have the ability to easily spend beyond their means. Instead, layaway, the use of debit cards and other ways of saving up to make a purchase with cash will remain in vogue.

# Neediest

Continued from Business 1

Need has distributed \$3.6 million this year to more than 70 frontline organizations.

Meanwhile, in Prince George's County, Md., the Community Foundation and the Washington Regional Association of Grantmakers were tackling a somewhat different problem — the lack of organizational and management capacity in many of the county's nonprofit organizations. Kaiser Permanente stepped up first, with a donation of \$200,000 to the Partnership for Prince George's County. Right behind it was Wachovia (now Wells Fargo), Freddie Mac, Fannie Mae, Riderwood Village and Stewart Funeral Home.

Things were looking bleak again this year for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington until someone came up with the idea of relocating its headquarters staff from leased space to one of its D.C. clubhouses. The move shaved \$200,000 off the clubs' annual operating expenses, but was done almost without cost thanks to architect Salditt & Associates and Forrester Construction.

And let's not forget the \$150,000 donated by E-Trade to Habitat for Humanity for its Maple Ridge community in Northern Virginia.

The real estate bust was particularly bad news for the Alexandria (Va.) Seaport Foundation, which was counting on support from construction companies to complete 4,500 square feet of new shop space for its wooden boat building apprenticeship program. That's when the concrete division of Clark Construction Group stepped up with the men and materials to complete the project.

While the indefatigable Joe Robert gets most of the credit for creating and sustaining "Fight Night," Joe will be the first to tell you that there is a ton of corporate support behind his Fight for Children. This year, none was more important than that from Geico, which volunteered to take the lead in putting on a first-ever golf tournament for the benefit of the nonprofit. The insurer not only came up with a \$125,000 check and a team of volunteer organizers for the October event at the TPC Potomac (Md.) at Avenel Farm, but corralled General Electric, Pepco and PNC to serve as co-sponsors.

And while we're on the subject of sport, I should mention NII Holdings, which for the second year sponsored a golf tournament that this year raised \$100,000 for Reston Interfaith; local Hooters franchisees who raised \$18,000 for the Autism Society of Northern Virginia through their golf tourney; and Acumen Solutions, which for the last three years has sponsored a road race in November that this year raised \$35,000 for 13 charities.

As it has opened more stores in the region, Walmart has noticeably increased its philanthropic presence, particularly in fighting hunger and homelessness. Since May, its Gaithersburg and Waldorf stores in Maryland have donated all their leftover produce, meat, dairy and bakery products to the Capital Area Food Bank. Walmart also donated \$200,000

"The holidays would not be the holidays without toy drives, secret Santas and turkey giveaways too numerous to mention."

this year to the D.C. Central Kitchen, while the Walmart Foundation pledged another \$300,000 to the Central Kitchen's Campus Kitchens Project, which runs meals programs on college campuses across the country. By its count, Walmart distributed more than \$700,000 to Washington-area nonprofits this year.

At the premium end of the supermarket spectrum, Whole Foods also did its part, this year donating cash and 100,000 pounds of perishable foods to Manna Food Center, the food bank in Montgomery County, Md.

We in the press haven't always given CareFirst the most favorable press over the years, but there is no denying its generosity. Last year the local Blue Cross company increased its community giving by more than 10 percent, to \$46 million, much of it for free medical care and discounted drugs.

CSC celebrated its headquarters move to Fairfax County, Va., this year with a \$50,000 donation to the county that will fund a computer learning center in Falls Church.

And let's raise a glass of eggnog, shall we, to Argon Engineering in Fairfax city, which sets aside 1 percent of its pretax profits every year for local charities chosen by a committee of its employees.

What sustained many nonprofits this year were the partnerships that they have developed over the years with a handful of corporations.

The law firm of WilmerHale deepened its relationship with D.C.'s Bread for the City this year with its pledge of \$100,000 — that on top of legal advice, a clothing drive and 1,250 pounds of just-picked apples.

And I'd be remiss if I didn't mention the partnerships between CGI Federal and the Catalogue for Philanthropy; Security Storage and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society; NBC Universal and the Sitar Arts Center; KPMG and First Book; PricewaterhouseCoopers and Martha's Table; REI stores and Nature Rocks; Pyramid Systems and the American Red Cross; CapitalSource and Arlington's Doorways for Women and Families; and Deloitte and the Capital

Area Food Bank.

Also Excella Consulting and Homestretch; BB&T and Melwood; Money One Federal Credit Union and the Foundation Schools; W.R. Grace and Meals on Wheels; Apple Federal Credit Union and Northern Virginia Family Service; IBM and the Latin American Youth Center; Apex CoVantage of Herndon and OAR of Fairfax County; Capital Group Cos. and the Falls Church-McLean Children's Center; Pepco and Mentors Inc.; Sprint Nextel and the Character Education Partnership; and Combined Properties and Our Daily Bread of Fairfax.

Also Linder & Associates and Horton's Kids; the Kiehl's store in Georgetown and Potomac Riverkeeper; Wilkie Farr & Gallagher and A Greater Washington Field of Dreams; Ernst & Young and Phillips Programs for Children and Families; Waiter on the Way and Stepping Stones Shelter; Corporate Executive Board and Ashoka; and Beazer Homes and HomeAid Northern Virginia.

CrisisLink was able to double its capacity thanks to the Virginia Hospital Center, which donated office space, and Jack Bays, a construction firm that helped to renovate it.

One of my favorite nonprofits is DC Scores, which somehow manages to combine soccer, poetry and service in a successful program for elementary- and middle-school students here. Stephen Harrell, owner of Bicycle Stations, also likes the program — so much so that his company donated a new bike for one boy and one girl in each of the 23 schools participating in the program.

Capital One stepped up its commitment to financial literacy this year with a five-year, \$2.5 million commitment to build and run a financial education center in collaboration

with Fairfax County Schools and Junior Achievement.

One of the best ways for companies to give back is through in-kind services, and Capital One has come up with a creative new online system to connect its employees with nonprofits. At last count, the program was generating about 3,000 hours a year in free services.

As pro bono goes, however, it would be hard to beat Latham & Watkins, which over the last year has assigned 90 attorneys and 22 staff to spend thousands of hours on a project for Applesed, the social action network, studying the operational problems at the U.S. Immigration Court and recommending solutions. That works out to more than \$5 million in unbilled hours.

Other examples of in-kind donations include the grounds upkeep Brickman does for the Howard County (Md.) Conservancy; the video production provided by RP3 Agency for the Washington Area Women's Foundation; the legal advice provided by DLA Piper for Bread for the City's new addition; the boat that Potomac Riverboat donated to Potomac Riverkeeper for its annual gala; and the roof provided by Dryhome Roofing and Siding this year for the Hebron Women and Children's Shelter.

The holidays would not be the holidays without toy drives, secret Santas and turkey giveaways too numerous to mention. In the same spirit, employees of Perdue Farms in Salisbury, Md., have a tradition of cleaning and decorating some of their trucks each December and driving to the Holly Center to give the disabled residents a ride on a "big rig." And in cooperation with the USO, employees at BAE Systems in Reston, Va., once again this year donat-

ed 300 bicycles to the "Bikes for Tykes" program for children of local military families in need.

Because of a cut in city funding, it looked as if there would be no performance of the Nutcracker this year by the Washington Ballet at THEARC here.

That's when developer Chris Smith of William C. Smith & Co. stepped in to fill the \$50,000 gap, making a generous donation himself, hitting up friends and recruiting FedEx as a sponsor. The sugar plum

fairies made it to Anacostia after all.

To those who helped in compiling this catalog of corporate philanthropy, many thanks. To the many businesses whose generosity was overlooked, please accept my apologies. And to all of you, dear readers, best wishes for a joyous holiday and a more prosperous new year.

*Steven Pearlstein writes about economic and financial market news for the Washington Post.*

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Sound Ideas in Uncertain Times

## Balanced Approach

My friend Ben's cheesecake is the signature plate of his restaurant and draws quite a crowd. While I have enjoyed my share of this dessert, serious problems would result if it became my sole source of nutrition. Predicaments can also result for individuals that trust solely in the group term life insurance coverage provided by their employer. In matters of diet and finance, wisdom often lies in a balanced approach.



**Terry R. Downs\***

Group term life insurance has many reasons for recommendation. It is offered to employees by their employer at little or no cost. This type of coverage often does not require a health exam or rigorous inspection of the applicant's background to determine eligibility for coverage. Significant sums of life insurance coverage often can be attained using this product. Initially, it appears that this type of policy provides superior coverage at a measurable price advantage. But, let's look a little closer.

How is it possible for the insurance provider to apparently disregard the health history of the applicant when accepting the risk of covering this life? While the method for eliminating higher risk applicants for this type of coverage is not immediately obvious, it does occur. The insurer usually forgoes the health exam and background check, which are the traditional forms of underwriting. But this coverage is only offered to someone that is young enough and healthy enough to be gainfully employed. The ability to show up for work and put in a meaningful day of labor is the alternative approach to achieve the results traditionally reached by underwriting.

This key piece of information is instructional in understanding the major weakness of group term coverage. Once the insured becomes too old or too ill to work, he usually is no longer covered by the employer's policy. In essence, as the risk of mortality increases the coverage lapses. In an uncertain job market, it is important to realize that an employer's group term policy does not offer any coverage to the individual who is between jobs. Not all employers provide this benefit, thus a job transition could leave you uninsured.

That is why I advise having a whole life or term life insurance policy as the primary source of life insurance coverage. This approach provides an individual protection for the duration of the contract and is not interrupted by unemployment or deteriorating health. It has been a source of personal satisfaction to assure clients in declining health, that the coverage they have enforce will still be in place on the date their heirs will need it most. This is especially true when the applicant is covered by whole life. But, either a term life or whole life policy can provide an essential foundation for protecting your loved ones.

Because of the earlier mentioned benefits, group term coverage offered by an employer can play a valuable role in your personal finance. Imagine that we are dining at the Fire 10 Grill. You will notice that only after eating a balanced main course that I order the cheesecake. Likewise, group term makes best sense when it is in addition to a personalized life insurance program. You are welcome to contact my office for more insight into your existing life insurance coverage.

*Securities offered through MWA Financial Services, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Modern Woodmen of America, 1701 1st Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201 (309)558-3100. Member: FINRA, SIPC*

*Terry Downs is a Financial Representative with Modern Woodmen of America. He can be reached at (208) 316-2244 or [terry.r.downs@mwarep.org](mailto:terry.r.downs@mwarep.org)*

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## Carl J. Williams

BURLEY — Carl John Williams, age 88, of Logan, Utah, and formerly of the Mini-Cassia area, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2009, at Sunshine Terrace in Logan.

Carl was born on Oct. 26, 1921, in Pocatello, where he was raised and received his education. He developed a solid work ethic as a very young child and wanted for nothing in spite of the economic times. He met his future wife, Dona Waters, in a typing class in high school and they were married in 1942. His formal education was in mechanical engineering, which benefitted him and others throughout his life in the military, hardware business, farming and manufacturing.

His World War II experience as head of a maintenance depot in Southern California, and as a test pilot, advanced him to the rank of major. He was a very patriotic citizen and maintained communication with his political representatives throughout his life.

He brought his family to Rupert to homestead on the North Side Project in 1954. He was an active member of the LDS Church, where he served as a bishop. He held many positions of leadership as well as being an excellent teacher. He was well-read and outspoken about the subjects he studied.

He spent his years after retirement in Logan, Utah.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Heber Walden Williams and Josephine Florence Elizabeth (Hirschvogel) Williams; one brother, George; and a sister, Laura.

He is survived by his wife, Dona of Logan, Utah; a younger brother, Howard Walden Williams of Salt Lake City, Utah; two daughters and five sons, Janice Pierson of Burley, Carl John Williams



II (Pamela) of Victor, Nancy (Gary) Griffin of Millville, Utah, Stephen Williams of Idaho Falls, Kim Williams of Burley, David (Lynne) Williams of Idaho Falls and Michael (Shawna) Williams of Buckeye, Arizona. He is also survived by a posterity of 37 grandchildren and 40 great-grandchildren.

The family expresses our gratitude for the kind and compassionate care rendered to Carl by the staff at Sunshine Terrace in Logan. We are also grateful to Rasmussen Funeral Home and members of the Burley 1st Ward (where Carl was a member) for their service to the family at this time.

The funeral will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 28, at the Burley LDS West Stake Center, 2420 Parke Ave., with Bishop Dan Alvey officiating. Military rites will be provided by the Mini-Cassia Veterans and Auxiliary. Burial will be in the Rupert Cemetery. Friends may call from 11:30 a.m. until 12:45 p.m. Monday at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of the Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley.

## Lyla R. Henage

BOISE — Lyla R. Henage passed away Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2009, in Boise, Idaho, at the age of 86.

She was born Lyla Rachel Oliver on Jan. 26, 1923, in Paul, Idaho. She married Fred Henage on March 7, 1941, at Camp Murray, Wash. She was a loving mother to their four children, Lyle, Diane, Carole and Jeffrey. The family led a typical Army life in the 1940s and 1950s and traveled to the Aleutian Islands, Germany, New Jersey, California, Texas, and back to Germany until Fred retired shortly after Jeff's birth in 1960. Lyla bravely made the best of all the packing, moving, making new friends and helping the children regain the normalcy of home in each new place. Lyla and Fred settled in Lakewood, Wash., for seven years and then built their dream home in the woods of Olympia, Wash. She enjoyed camping, bowling, gardening, pinochle parties with friends, and tole painting.

Fred passed away in 1999. Lyla moved to Boise in the summer of 2006 and died after several years in care for



severe dementia. She is survived by her sister, Naida Melby; brothers, Richard and Lamont Oliver; her children, Lyle Henage of Dallas, Diane Adair (happily on the road in her fifth wheel), Jeffrey Henage and Carole Skinner of Boise; two granddaughters, Jennifer Henage and Hayley Skinner Brown; as well as many loving nieces and nephews.

There will be a viewing for Lyla from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 28, at Summers Funeral Homes, 1205 W. Bannock St. in Boise. The funeral will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29, at Summers Funeral Homes in Boise. Lyla will be buried at Mills and Mills Memorial Park in Tumwater, Wash.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to Friends in Action, P.O. Box 1516, Boise, ID 83701, www.FIABoise.org.

## Betty Jane Helms

Betty Jane Helms, beloved mom, grandmother and great-grandmother, left this world in the loving and gracious arms of our Lord Jesus Christ on Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2009.

Betty was born Feb. 27, 1928, in Joplin, Mo., to Olin Leon and Velma Marie LaMaster. Betty lived and spent her life in La Plata, Mo. She moved to Chicago, Ill., in 1955 to reunite with her mother. She met and married her soul mate, Ray Burton Isacc Helms. Betty and Ray were the proud parents of Sharon Rae, born October 1956, and older brother, Ricky Wayne, born September 1954. Betty and Ray returned to Burley, Idaho, in 1960, where their life was lived. Christopher Leon joined this family in August 1963.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents; her loving husband; her oldest son, Rick; and great-grandson, Josiah Jenner Beers. Survivors include her daughter, Sharon (Mike) Sullivan of Twin Falls; son, Christopher (Melanie) Helms of Spokane, Wash.; grandson, Jud (Tamara)



Harmon of Twin Falls; granddaughter, Melanie (Ben) Beers of Redding, Calif.; extended grandkids, Will Murphy of Idaho Falls, Vanessa (Darren) Baker of Heyburn, Erin Sullivan (David) Miller of Buhl, Idaho; and great-grandkids include Abigail and Isaac Harmon, Caleb and Gracie Beers, Keegan Murphy, Mikel and Bobbie Baker, and Lydia and Wyatt Miller.

A celebration of Betty's life will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 30, at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls. Burial will follow at 2 p.m. at the Gem Memorial Gardens in Burley, Idaho. A viewing for family and friends will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29, at Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a memorial to the charity of your choosing in Betty's honor. Contributions may be given to funeral chapel staff or mailed to Reynolds Funeral Chapel, P.O. Box 1142, Twin Falls, ID 83303.

## DuWayne 'Rosy' George Rosenof

FILER — DuWayne "Rosy" George Rosenof, 80, of Filer, Idaho, passed away Thursday, Dec. 24, 2009.

DuWayne was born Nov. 8, 1929, and was raised in Greeley, Colo., and Rock Springs, Wyo. He later moved to Twin Falls, Idaho, where he graduated from Twin Falls High School. He served in the Idaho National Guard, worked as a Nalleys representative and later as a car salesman until his retirement. He married Eleanor Reichert on April 17, 1966, in Elko, Nev.

DuWayne loved camping, fishing and crossword puzzles. He was an avid fan of pro football and the BSU Broncos. He was preceded in death

by his parents; a son, Greg Rosenof; and a granddaughter, Amber Rosenof. He is survived by his wife, Eleanor Rosenof of Filer; daughter, Kay (Todd) Wright of Twin Falls; stepdaughters, Teri (Ron) Moody of Twin Falls and Lisa (Rusty) Kennedy of Salmon; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; and his brother, Bill (Aloa) Rosenof of Twin Falls; and his sister, LaVerna Simons of Twin Falls.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29, at White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park." In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in DuWayne's name to the CSI Foundation.

## Edith Clark Robertson

Edith Clark Robertson, a civic leader and daughter of Twin Falls pioneers, died Sunday, Dec. 20, 2009, in the log house that she built with her husband, Thomas Macon (Tim) Robertson Jr., in the 1930s. She was 92.

Edith was born in Twin Falls on May 27, 1917. Her parents, David F. and Nellie B. Clark, came to Twin Falls in 1903 and were among the first residents of the Twin Falls tract. As an elementary school student living on a farm southeast of town, Edith rode the horse-drawn school wagon to Bickel School. In 1935, she graduated from Twin Falls High School, where she was active in drama and played on the women's basketball team. She attended Colorado Women's College and the University of California, Berkeley, returning to Twin Falls as a legal secretary for attorney Tim Robertson, whom she married in 1940.

Edith was active in community affairs. She served as president of the League of Women Voters, chaired the Board of the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center Foundation, and for many years, helped to coordinate the UNICEF Christmas card project. Particularly important to her was her membership in the Episcopal Church of the Ascension, where she served on the Vestry, directed the children's choir, and was senior warden and director of the Altar Guild.

A great lover of the outdoors, Edith ("Punkin") was introduced to the Sawtooth wilderness at an early age. Every summer her family made the slow, two-day journey by Model T Ford to the Stanley Basin, stopping for breakfast in the desert outside of Shoshone, camping out for the night in Hailey, and taking the old gravel road over the Galena summit. In the early years their destination was Petit Lake, where her father built a cabin in the 1920s. Later it was to nearby land that became the Clark-Miller Ranch, for some years run as guest ranch by Edith's sister, Isabelle Miller. As a young girl, Edith rode her horse

across the valley to Obsidian to collect the mail and often accompanied her father on fishing trips to the high lakes. Later, she and Tim enjoyed extended pack trips on the mountain trails. As her family grew, she drew children, grandchildren and then great-grandchildren to the ranch each summer, passing along her pioneer values of hard work, self-reliance, and good cheer in the face of adversity. On her Twin Falls acreage, protected by a classic University of Idaho-designed windbreak that Edith and her husband planted, she kept horses, raised fruits and vegetables, and tended a spectacular flower garden. Frequently her extended family gathered from around the country and the world to spend time with her there. She also opened the acreage to her Episcopal Church fellowship for retreats and their annual picnic.

Edith was an avid reader and throughout her life was always open to new ideas. She was stimulated by literature, current events and good conversation. Her view of the world was shaped by these things but was always informed by her generous and giving spirit. She was a lifelong contributor to the Twin Falls Community Concert series, supported the Magic Valley Symphony, and was a proud donor to the Southern Poverty Law Center.

Edith was preceded in death by a daughter, Jean Meredith Robertson; her husband, Tim; her brother, Frank Clark; and her sister, Isabelle Miller. She is survived by her daughter, Mary Robertson Page; two sons, Thomas M Robertson III and Jack Clark Robertson; a favorite nephew, David L. Miller; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 9, at the Episcopal Church of the Ascension in Twin Falls. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Episcopal Church of the Ascension or St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center Foundation.

## Charles Willis Tennant

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Charles Willis Tennant, 90, passed away peacefully at home on Saturday, Dec. 19, 2009, in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Born in Aberdeen, Idaho, on Dec. 31, 1918, to Joseph and Appie Tennant, he and his family moved to Declo in 1926, where he graduated from high school in 1936. He married Mary Louise Richins on Feb. 21, 1945, in Salt Lake City, Utah. Charles was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Charles became a decorated fighter pilot in the South Pacific during World War II. He had a successful 30-year career in the U.S. Air Force and retired in 1970 with the rank of colonel. After military retirement, Charles worked in administration at Widefield School District 3. He was respected for his integrity, his kindness, and his business acumen. An avid golfer, fisherman and hunter, Charles loved spending time at their mountain home and watching sports with Louise.

Mostly, Charles loved and enjoyed his family. Louise, his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren were his greatest joy. Charles, Dad, Grandpa and Papa Charles — we love you and will miss you! Surviving is his wife of 64 years, Mary Louise Tennant; children, Michael B. Tennant of Salida, Timothy R. Tennant (wife, Lynn) of Westminster and Cynthia L. Gardner (husband, Kimball) of Colorado Springs; nine grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and sisters, Gladys Darrington, Betty Gallacher and Iris Barton. He was preceded in death by his brother, Max; and sisters, Dorothy, Marion and Inez.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29, at the Broadmoor LDS Church, 150 Pine Ave., (Old Broadmoor and Pine). The viewing will be prior to the service at 9:30 a.m. at the church. Interment at Fairview Cemetery in Salida, Colo.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Hospice, 825 E. Pikes Peak Ave., 80903.

## DEATH NOTICES

### Virgil W. Hampton

GOODING — Virgil William Hampton, 82, of Gooding, died Thursday, Dec. 24, 2009, at his home.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 30, at Demaray Funeral Service, Gooding Chapel.

### Emery E. Winks

BURLEY — Emery Earl Winks, 86, of Burley, died Friday, Dec. 25, 2009, at his home. Arrangements will be announced by Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley.

### David Schwendiman

BURLEY — David Lee Schwendiman, 60, of Burley, died Saturday, Dec. 26, 2009, at Cassia Regional Medical Center in Burley.

Arrangements will be announced by Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley.

### Byron D. Richards

JEROME — Byron D. Richards, 50, of Jerome, died Sunday, Dec. 20, 2009, in Las Vegas, Nev.

A private memorial will be held (Farnsworth Mortuary of Jerome).

### Helen McVey

BOISE — Helen McVey, 90, of Boise, died Saturday, Dec. 26, 2009, at a local care center.

Arrangements will be announced by Summers Funeral Homes, Ustick Chapel.

### Terresa Stallings

HANSEN — Terresa J. Stallings, 45, of Hansen, died Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2009, at her home.

Arrangements will be announced by White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

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## SERVICES

**Wilma Irene Baillergeon** of Twin Falls, celebration of life memorial service at 10 a.m. Monday at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

**Lloyd William Smith** of life at 11 a.m. Monday at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

**Callahan Jay May** of Paul, funeral at 11 a.m. Monday at the Emerson LDS 2nd Ward Chapel, 127 S. 950 W. in Paul; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. today at the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel, 710 Sixth St., and 10 to 11 a.m. Monday at the church.

**Shirley May Braun** of Burley, funeral at 2 p.m. Monday at the Burley LDS 4th Ward Chapel, 515 E. 16th St. in Burley; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. today at the Hansen-Payne Mortuary,

321 E. Main in Burley, and 1 to 2 p.m. Monday at the church.

**Gary P. Frisby** of Twin Falls, service of remembrance at 3:30 p.m. Monday at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

**Lenora Blakeslee Richards** of Jerome and formerly of Filer, memorial service at 11 a.m. Tuesday at White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

**David Palmer** of Burley, funeral at 1 p.m. Tuesday at the River 4th Ward Chapel in South Jordan, Utah; visitation from noon to 12:45 p.m. Tuesday at the church (Morrison Funeral Home and Crematory).

**Lisa Louise Spencer-Culver** of Twin Falls, service of remembrance at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

## OBITUARY

## Jeffrey B. Straub Sr.

GOODING — Jeffrey B. Straub Sr., airman of the Idaho Air Guard, died in the early morning hours of Saturday, Dec. 19, 2009, in his home.

Jeff is survived by this loving family, children, Johnathan, Jade, Owen and Tytus; stepchildren, Seryn and Leif; wife, Brandi; ex-wife, Aletia; parents, James and Linda Straub; siblings, Lauren (Travis), James (Sarah), Lindsay (Del), Josh (Amy); and many nieces and nephews. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him. Jeff was preceded in death by his maternal and paternal grandparents.

Jeff arrived in the world the same way he lived his life, unexpectedly and without apology. Jeff was born 10 weeks premature at home on Feb. 11, 1971. From that time, there was never a dull moment in the Straub household. Jeff was a precocious toddler, an energetic child, and a spirited teenager. Jeff married Aletia on Aug. 7, 1993, in Challis Idaho. During their 10 year union, they were blessed with two beautiful boys, Johnathan and Jade. Jeff became a Level 1 Reserve Officer with the Moscow Police Department and continued to volunteer for the Challis Police Department. He worked at Thompson Creek Mine for six years and was a Basic EMT with the Challis Volunteer Ambulance for four years.

Jeff and Brandi married on June 24, 2004, in Las Vegas,

Nev. Jeff was then immediately deployed with the Idaho Army National Guard 2-116th Cavalry Brigade in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom during which he earned an Overseas Service Ribbon, a Global War on Terrorism Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, Idaho Service Ribbon and Combat Action Badge.

Jeff returned from his 18 month deployment to meet his 1-year-old son, Owen, who immediately became his constant companion. Tytus joined the family a short time later and immediately joined Jeff's fan club. Jeff transferred to the Idaho Air Guard in July of 2007, where he earned the Idaho Adjutant General Outstanding Unit Citation. Jeff's final days were filled with work as a United Oil delivery driver and being the primary caregiver to his children, while Brandi completed her advanced degree. Jeff will always be remembered as a wonderful cook. His smile and quick wit will be missed by all who knew him.

The funeral will be held at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29, at Gowen Field Chapel in Boise. Interment will follow at 3 p.m. at the Idaho Veterans Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made in Jeff's name to the Suicide Prevention Action Network of Idaho at [www.spanidaho.com](http://www.spanidaho.com) or to the Custer County EMS.

## Nigerian charged in airliner attack

By Larry Margasak and Corey Williams  
Associated Press writers

DETROIT — A 23-year-old Nigerian man who claimed ties to al-Qaida was charged Saturday with trying to destroy a Detroit-bound airliner, just a month after his father warned U.S. officials of concerns about his son's religious beliefs.

The suspect claimed to have received training and instructions from al-Qaida operatives in Yemen, a law enforcement official said on the condition of anonymity because the investigation is ongoing.

Aides to President Obama are pondering how terror watch lists are used after the botched attack, according to officials who described the discussions Saturday on the condition of anonymity so as not to pre-empt possible official announcements.

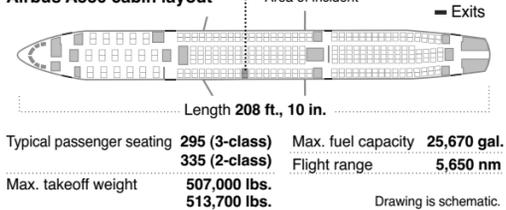
Rep. Jane Harman, D-Calif., chairman of a House Homeland Security subcommittee, said there were "strong suggestions of a Yemen-al Qaida connection and an intent to blow up the plane over U.S. airspace." Several officials said they have yet to see independent confirmation.

Some airline passengers traveling Saturday felt the consequences of the frightening Christmas Day attack. They were told that new U.S. regulations prevented them from leaving their seats beginning an hour before landing.

## Suspect charged in airliner attack

Umar Farouk Abdul Mutallab, the suspect in the disturbance aboard Northwest Airlines Flight 253, was charged with trying to blow up a plane in a federal court in Detroit, Saturday. Preliminary analysis of the device used by Mutallab shows that it contains pentaerythritol tetranitrate (PETN), which is a colorless, crystalline material that is generally stored and shipped as a mixture with water. It is less sensitive than nitroglycerin but is easily detonated.

## Airbus A330 cabin layout



SOURCES: Northwest Airlines; Airbus, Encyclopedia Britannica

The Justice Department charged that Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab willfully attempted to destroy or wreck an aircraft; and that he placed a destructive device in the plane.

U.S. District Judge Paul Borman read Abdulmutallab the charges in a conference room at the University of Michigan Medical Center in Ann Arbor, Mich. where he is being treated for burns.

An affidavit said he had a device containing a high explosive attached to his body. The affidavit said that as Northwest Flight 253 descended toward Detroit Metropolitan Airport, Abdulmutallab set off the device — sparking a fire instead of an explosion.

According to the affidavit filed in U.S. District Court in



NOTE: Approximate route

DETROIT, a preliminary analysis of the device showed it contained PETN, a high explosive also known as pentaerythritol. This was the same material convicted shoe bomber Richard Reid used when he tried to destroy a trans-Atlantic flight in 2001 with explosives hidden in his shoes.

PETN is often used in military explosives and found inside blasting caps. But terrorists like it because it's small and powerful.

FBI agents recovered what appeared to be the remnants of a liquid-filled syringe, believed to have been part of the explosive device, from the vicinity of Abdulmutallab's seat.

U.S. authorities told The Associated Press that in

November, his father went to the U.S. embassy in Abuja, Nigeria, to discuss his concerns about his son's religious beliefs.

One government official said the father did not have any specific information that would put his son on the "no-fly list" or on the list for additional security checks at the airport.

Nor was the information sufficient to revoke his visa to visit the United States. His visa had been granted June 2008 and was valid through June 2010. Officials spoke on condition of anonymity because neither was authorized to speak to the media.

The suspect smiled when he was wheeled into the hospital conference room. He had a bandage on his left thumb and right wrist, and part of the skin on the thumb was burned off.

He was wearing a light green hospital robe and blue hospital socks. The judge sat at the far end of a 10-foot table, the suspect at the other end.

Judge Borman asked the defendant if he was pronouncing his name correctly.

Abdulmutallab responded, in English. "Yes, that's fine." The judge asked Abdulmutallab if he understood the charges against him. He responded in English: "Yes, I do."

The judge said the suspect would be assigned a public defender and set a detention hearing for Jan. 8. The hearing lasted 20 minutes.

## Singer-Songwriter Vic Chesnutt, 45, dies after overdose

By Claire Noland  
Los Angeles Times

Vic Chesnutt, a singer-songwriter of spare, idiosyncratic folk songs tinged with melancholy, died Christmas Day in Athens, Ga., after an intentional overdose of prescription muscle relaxants, a family spokesman said. He was 45.

Chesnutt had been admitted to Athens Regional Medical Center on Wednesday and died surrounded by "devastated" friends and family, according to Jem Cohen, a filmmaker and friend who produced Chesnutt's 2007 album "North Star Deserter."

"This is not a story of a rock star being on heroin or even drinking themselves down," Cohen said Friday in an interview with the Los Angeles Times. "The real story here is about a someone who struggled against amazingly difficult odds for many years and managed to transcend those odds with almost unparalleled productivity and creativity and power in his work."

Paralyzed after a 1983 single-car accident when he was driving drunk at age 18, Chesnutt had limited use of

his arms and hands but still carved out a career as a songwriter, singer and guitarist. He was discovered in the late 1980s by REM frontman Michael Stipe, who championed his early recordings, and he won over music critics and fellow musicians with his darkly humorous songs.

Chesnutt tackled death and mortality head on in his lyrics, as in "It Is What It Is," from his new album "At the Cut": "I don't worship anything, not gods that don't exist / I love my ancestors, but not ritually / I don't need stone altars to hedge my bet against the looming blackness / that is what it is."

In recent interviews he contemplated the challenges he faced as a wheelchair-bound paraplegic with inadequate health insurance and mounting medical bills.

"I'm not too eloquent talking about these things," Chesnutt told the Times earlier this month. "I was making payments, but I can't anymore and I really have no idea what I'm going to do. It seems absurd they can charge this much. When I think about all this, it gets me so furious. I could die tomorrow because of other operations I need that I can't afford."

## Failed attack raises new security concerns

By Devlin Barrett  
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — U.S. counterterrorism officials are scrambling to assess a potential new threat from an explosive mixture that evaded detection aboard a Detroit-bound airliner but failed to bring down the plane.

Multiple law enforcement officials said the suspected attacker — identified as a Nigerian man named Umar Farouk Abdul Mutallab — claimed to have acted on instructions from al-Qaida to detonate the explosive device over U.S. soil. The law enforcement officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the case.

The law enforcement officials cautioned that such claims could not be verified immediately, and said the man may have been acting independently — inspired but not specifically trained



Police enter the basement of a building in London, Saturday. The search was reportedly linked to Friday's attempted terrorist attack. AP photo

or ordered by terror groups.

One law enforcement official, also speaking on condition of anonymity in order to discuss the case, said Mutallab's name had surfaced earlier on at least one U.S. intelligence database, but not to the extent that he was placed on a watch list or a no-fly list.

As investigators try to determine the veracity of his claims, they also want to figure out exactly how the explosive device was made — and how much of a broader threat it may pose

to air security.

In 2006, investigators in London uncovered a plot to use liquid-based explosives disguised in drink bottles to blow up airliners. The case prompted new restrictions on passengers carrying beverages or other liquids.

Now investigators are trying to determine whether

the rules need to be tightened again, concerned that the components of the explosive device were smuggled onto the plane despite technological advances in screening and detection.

"It raises some serious questions, such as how was this person able to bring an explosive substance aboard a commercial airliner?" said Sen. Susan Collins of Maine, the senior Republican on the Senate Homeland Security Committee.

Law enforcement officials said the man appeared badly burned on his legs, indicating the explosive was strapped there. The components apparently were mixed in flight and included a powdery substance, multiple law enforcement and counterterrorism officials said.

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BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

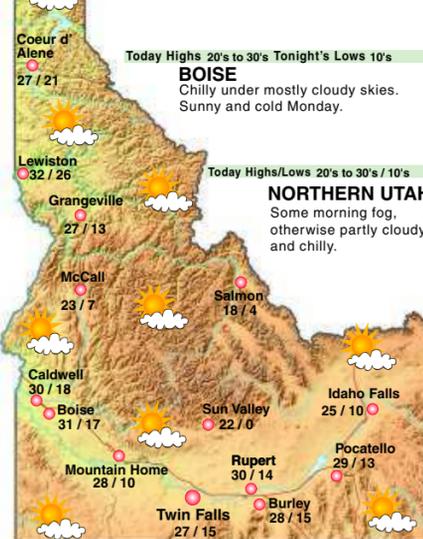
Today: Partly cloudy
Tonight: Partly cloudy
Tomorrow: Partly cloudy

ALMANAC - BURLEY

Temperature and Precipitation almanac for Burley/Rupert area, including high/low records and monthly averages.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. Mostly sunny skies and quite cold.



TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Five-day forecast for Twin Falls, showing conditions (Partly cloudy, Snow showers) and high/low temperatures.

Yesterday's Weather

Table of weather data for various Idaho locations, including Boise, Challis, and Coeur d'Alene.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Temperature and Precipitation almanac for Twin Falls, including monthly and yearly averages.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Regional forecast table for various Idaho cities, providing today and tomorrow's weather and temperatures.

NATIONAL FORECAST

National forecast table for major U.S. cities, including Atlanta, Chicago, and New York.

Barometric Pressure

5 pm Yesterday 30.15 in. Today Sunrise: 8:07 AM Sunset: 5:11 PM

Sunrise and Sunset

Today Sunrise: 8:07 AM Sunset: 5:11 PM
Monday Sunrise: 8:07 AM Sunset: 5:12 PM

Moon Phases



Moons and Moonset

Table of moonrise and moonset times for today, Monday, and Tuesday.

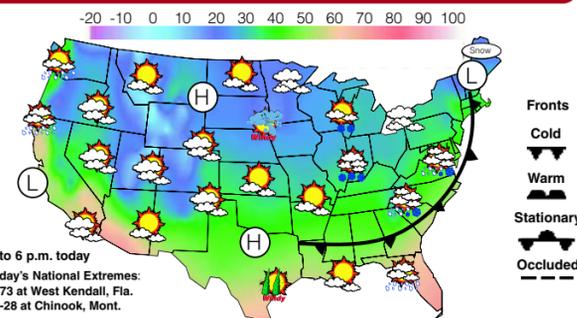
Today's U.V. Index



WORLD FORECAST

World forecast table for major international cities like London, Paris, and Tokyo.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



Gregg Middlekauff's Quote of the Day: 'There is no failure except in no longer trying. There is no defeat except from within...' with a photo of Gregg Middlekauff.

CANADIAN FORECAST

Canadian forecast table for cities like Calgary, Toronto, and Vancouver.

Winter weather disrupts travel in Plains and East

By Timberly Ross Associated Press writer

OMAHA, Neb. — Drifting snow and cold rain that have plagued much of the country for days stranded drivers and airline passengers Saturday trying to get home after Christmas.

Storms from Texas to the Upper Midwest that dumped 23.9 inches of snow in Grand Forks, N.D., and 18 inches near Norfolk, Neb., began subsiding, but blowing and drifting snow hampered visibility in many areas.

Several motorists abandoned their vehicles on snow-covered roads in northeast Nebraska. Ten to 20 vehicles were stuck near Norfolk, but state troopers do not believe any motorists were stranded.

Warmer temperatures and rains in the East began melting and washing away last week's record-setting snowfalls, threatening the region with flooding.

A woman and her teenage daughter in Middletown, Pa., a suburb of Philadelphia,

were rescued from a rain-swollen creek after their SUV went off the road Saturday. Rescue workers found the 14-year-old clinging to a log; her mother was trapped in the vehicle.

Authorities in southeast Missouri were searching for a woman who washed away in a ditch on Christmas Eve as heavy rains showered the region. Witnesses saw her in the water west of Powe, Mo., and tried to assist her, said Sgt. Jody Laramore of the state Highway Patrol.

In Chicago, one of the nation's busiest travel hubs, snow and ice along with rain on the East Coast canceled or delayed more than 300 flights.

Shannon Fullmer drove two hours from his home in Freeport, Ill., to Chicago's O'Hare International Airport on Saturday to pick up his 12-year-old son. But the flight from New Jersey was delayed more than three hours.

The 38-year-old waited in a long line to get through security so that he could wait by the gate where his son's



Door-to-door snow shovelers Lance Wiley, left, and his sister Katrina Johnson walk down a snowy avenue looking for work Saturday in Peoria, Ill.

plane was expected to arrive about 7:30 p.m. CST. Fullmer said he would wait "as long as I have to." "It doesn't do any good to get angry," he said.

A few dozen flights were delayed and a few canceled Saturday afternoon in southern Wisconsin. The National Weather Service issued a winter weather

advisory through Saturday evening. Three to five inches of snow was expected by Sunday morning. Flights also were delayed

at the three major airports in the New York area, which was getting rain and patchy fog. Some travelers arriving at Newark Liberty

International had delays of nearly 2 1/2 hours. Transportation officials closed a 30-mile stretch of Interstate 70 between Goodland, Kan., and Burlington, Colo. Officials had closed interstate highways in Nebraska, the Dakotas and Wyoming, but many were reopening Saturday as the storm began to abate.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln marching band canceled its bus trip to San Diego for the Holiday Bowl. The band had been scheduled to perform Wednesday as the Cornhuskers face the Arizona Wildcats.

In South Dakota, state troopers assisted 182 people who were stranded in their vehicles or needed help getting through snowy roads, Col. Dan Mosteller said.

Activist: U.S. missionary crosses border into N. Korea

The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — An American Christian missionary slipped into isolated North Korea on Christmas Day, shouting that he brought God's love and carrying a letter urging leader Kim Jong Il to step down and free all political prisoners, an activist said.

Robert Park, 28, crossed a poorly guarded stretch of the frozen Tumen River that separates North Korea from China, according to a member of the Seoul-based group Pax Koreana, which promotes human rights in the North. The group plans to release footage of the crossing Sunday, he said.

"I am an American citizen. I brought God's love. God loves you and God bless you," Park reportedly said in fluent Korean as he crossed over Friday near the northeastern city of Hoeryong, according to the activist, citing two people who watched Park cross and filmed it. The activist spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the situation.

No information has emerged next to Park, who is of Korean descent. The communist country's state-run media was silent. The State Department and the U.S. Embassy in Beijing said they were aware of the incident

but had no details. "The U.S. government places the highest priority on the protection and welfare of American citizens," said State Department spokesman Andrew Laine.

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# ENDURING WOUNDS

Monks, tourists, villagers mark fifth anniversary of Asian tsunami.

Letters to the editor, Opinion 2 / Nation, Opinion 4 / World, Opinion 6-7

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2009

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

Opinion

## EDITORIAL

# Will health care reform provide what Mustard Tree can't?

Whatever form the final health insurance reform legislation passed by the Senate takes — and it still must be reconciled with the House version — places like the Mustard Tree Wellness Clinic are where the rubber will meet the road.

The Twin Falls clinic has been providing free medical treatment for patients without health insurance for the past five years — first under the name “Mustard Seed,” referring to the biblical parable, and was supported by the Twin Falls Reformed Church.

In 2008, Mustard Tree became its own 501(c)3 organization and is now funded by grants, as well as private donations from individuals and churches. The clinic is staffed by volunteer health-care providers three nights per week, including more than 40 local doctors.

The clinic is largely for the working poor and people who are uninsured. Treatment is provided by appointment, mostly for chronic problems such as diabetes and hypertension, rather than emergency or swine-flu services.

Currently, about 25 patients are treated Tuesdays through Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m. — Wednesdays are specifically for women's health care — and the numbers are increasing, about 3,000 this year.

Co-founder John Sexton, a retired medical technologist, said the organization, depending upon funds, hopes to open satellite clinics in Wendell and the Wood River Valley. He also said the federal government could learn something from Mustard Tree.

“If Congress would support the free clinics across the country by giving people breaks, there wouldn't be a health-care problem, but they have to spend money for some reason. Our grandchildren are going to be paying for this,” he said, referring to the Senate's health-care reform bill.

Sexton said Mustard Tree's volunteers, who work in the evenings because they've already been working all day at their regular jobs, are able to provide efficient care and individual attention.

“One of the great things about our clinic and others is that patients are getting treatment at the time that it's needed, not waiting around, like they'll have to when the federal plan is enacted,” he said.

St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center, Sexton said, was skeptical at first but is now offering invaluable support and referring some patients to the clinic in order to relieve emergency-room congestion at the hospital.

“We could see a hundred people a night if we had the space for it,” he said. “We're just trying to give something back to the community for what it's given us.”

Will the working poor and the newly unemployed get a better deal from federal health care reform? It's possible, but we suspect organizations like Mustard Tree will be busy long after Obamacare becomes law.

### Our view:

Twin Falls' Mustard Tree Wellness Clinic provides free care for those who wouldn't get it otherwise. Can the feds do better?

If happiness is the point, four in five Americans already are on the right track, and that should make all of us more optimistic about the decade to come.

# What, us worry?



At the end of a brutal decade, most Americans are happy

BY KEVIN HUFFMAN

Conventional wisdom seems to be that this decade was a somewhat shoddy start to the millennium. We watched multiple unsustainable bubbles deflate before our eyes (tech stocks, home values, Tiger Woods). And, as many commentators have been eager to remind us last week, we close the year with higher debt, fewer jobs and deep political divisions.

Yet a glimmer of hope persists: We are, as a country, remarkably happy.

This month's AP-Gfk poll showed that 78 percent of Americans, when asked to “think about how things are going in your life in general,” said they are very happy or somewhat happy.

Despite the deluge of depressing national data this year, one might reasonably ask: How should we measure ourselves, if not by our happiness?

Indeed, philosophers have grappled with this question since before there was a Christmas. Aristotle said: “Happiness

is the meaning and the purpose of life, the whole aim and end of human existence.” Our founding fathers listed its pursuit as one of our inalienable rights.

More recently, France's President Nicolas Sarkozy proposed that national well-being be measured alongside gross domestic product. And a growing academic field of behavioral and social science researchers have turned their attention to the

See **HAPPINESS**, Opinion 2

# Setting the record straight on wilderness

By Tim Lydon  
High Country News (Paonia, Colo.)

It's been a good year for wilderness. In March, the Omnibus Lands Bill designated over 2 million acres of wilderness in nine states. In September, President Obama declared a month-long celebration of the Wilderness Act, and this November, the United States, Canada and Mexico signed the world's first international agreement on wilderness conservation.

Perhaps because wilderness has been getting serious consideration in Washington, there's been a backlash. Proposals for new wilderness areas — especially the big ones being debated in Utah and the Northern Rockies — become punching bags for those who regard wilderness as a four-letter word. Opponents say it blocks access, locks up resources and worsens fire problems. They claim it hinders local use of the land, reserving it for the rich and out-of-state.

The criticisms offer an opportunity to set a few things straight. First, although some claim wilderness excludes people, it's good to recall that Congress created the designation “for the use and enjoyment of the American people.” Early wilderness proponents were hunters, stock riders, hikers and other outdoor enthusiasts.

Seeing how roads brought more and more cars and development to their favorite haunts, they were the ones who urged the government to preserve places where their admittedly small numbers

could enjoy the public estate. In an age of rampant off-road vehicle traffic, I'm thankful for their efforts.

Next, while wilderness is often painted as the creation of a liberal elite, the 1964 Wilderness Act passed with broad support in Congress. The final product was the work of both political parties, following eight years of debate. It was a compromise, born in the darkest days of the Cold War, when the specter of nuclear annihilation forced many to consider the physical and psychological values to the human spirit of undeveloped nature.

The Wilderness Act recognized that, even in 1964, most of the American landscape was already developed. Truly remote places were becoming rare. The law decreed that certain federal lands with outstanding qualities of solitude and beauty would remain roadless and undeveloped. Today, the protection covers about 109



Editor's note:  
Westword is a weekly selection of commentary from Western newspapers and other media

million acres, roughly 5 percent of the nation's land-mass.

Early advocates knew that wilderness offered benefits aside from recreation. In the 45 years since the law's

passage, scientists seem to have never stopped learning about the importance of permanently protected roadless landscapes.

Take our fire problem. It stems from a century of misguided fire suppression that led to crowded, fire-prone woods. Climate change, with its diminished snowpacks, enhances extended droughts. Added to the mix is too much sprawl and development, thanks to shortsighted Western communities. Astoundingly, some blame wilderness for the fire problem, yet for decades, big wilderness areas like Sequoia-Kings Canyon in California and the Bob Marshall in Montana have provided a laboratory for experiments that will save millions of acres of unhealthy woods, not to mention many homes.

Then there's wildlife. Every year, it seems, another study demonstrates that grizzly bears and other animals require large intact areas in order to survive. In short, roads kill. With scien-

tists such as E.O. Wilson warning that up to half of the Earth's species could soon disappear, wilderness is more than ever a key to protecting wildlife, from grizzlies to butterflies.

We also have wilderness to thank for dramatic improvements in air and water quality. In the mid-'70s, some of our most effective air-quality laws were inspired by the threat to clean air in parks and wilderness, and for tens of millions of us, wilderness also provided that last glass of clean water. Whether it's a few thousand acres in Vermont or the immense Wrangell-Saint Elias in Alaska, wilderness always offers us the opportunity to reacquire ourselves with the natural world that sustains us.

Many of us are realizing the truth of what John Muir said over a century ago, that going into wilderness is going home. This message has critical importance in the 21st century, when the future of so much life is in the hands of humanity. In our era, it's not the size or number of wilderness areas that will save life on earth; sadly, they will always be too small and fragmented for that. Instead, it's the psychological and emotional impact that wilderness has on us. America needs wilderness to keep its soul alive.

Tim Lydon is a freelance writer in Whitefish, Mont.

TIMES-NEWS

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

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brad Hurd, Steve Crump, Bill Bitzenburg and Mary Lou Panatopoulos.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Twin Falls should be proud of musical talent

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the wonderful people of Twin Falls for the warmth and hospitality shown to me these past 18 months that I have had the privilege of living in and serving Our Savior Lutheran Church as interim pastor.

I appreciate the musical talent I have experienced from the children to adults in vocal and instrumental groups. It is outstanding. The people of Twin Falls can be very proud of their musical talent.

I also want to thank the newspaper staff for its support and interest in the life and ministry of Our Savior Lutheran Church.

STAN HOOBING  
Twin Falls

## Many problems with Medicare

Corruption in government? How widespread is it? Congress believes it could save \$500 billion a year by eliminating corruption in Medicare. Every program run by the government is suspect. In 1999, I had a 45-minute procedure done at a clinic in Seattle. At that time, I had Medicare and a little financial help from my previous employer. I keep my own health records on our computer. Every statement Medicare sent me was logged into the record. As the statements dribbled in over the next several months, I noticed Medicare had paid \$1,100 three times for a procedure number done at the clinic on three different dates. I was only in Seattle one day.

Medicare employees must pay everything that comes to them without question. I called Medicare; it said to call the clinic. I wrote the clinic and told them they had billed Medicare three times for the procedure. They said it was just a clerical error and that Medicare would catch it. I never received a correction statement from either party. I now have Aetna Medicare. Rest assured, they will not pay anyone twice.

In the '80s, my mother was being billed every month for a tank of oxygen which she had stopped using. When I called them, they said it was just a clerical error. If you went to apply for Medicaid, they would tell you how to hide your assets so you would qualify. Government employees are told they must use all of their budget money, or they will not be able to get a bigger budget next year. Maybe ACORN people (funded by the government) only made the mistake of letting someone catch them on camera. Read "Going Rogue" by Sarah Palin and you will join me in voting for Sarah.

GAYLE FIXSEN  
Twin Falls

## Health reform needs to start with living better

How can we talk health care reform if there is no discussion about taking care of our health? No matter who or how we try to pay for it, there is no way we can afford the medical costs associated with a society that fosters so much disease with its poor diet and lack of exercise. Add the incredible government subsidies for growing the corn that becomes high fructose corn syrup and the other nasty ingredients which make up what we pass off as food, which while cheaper in the store than real food in the store, ends up costing us in medical bills.

Polluting industries with their big campaign contributions and high priced lobbyists fight the kind of regulations that would force them to spend the money to clean up their act and thus the environment and lower the rate of environmentally caused diseases are only too glad to have the taxpayers pick up the medical bills they should be paying. They even have a name for it: "externalities," which means the costs you can

## Tell us what you think

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pass on to others.

Top that off with our greed-based economic system that is predicated on "stress"; stressed-out consumers that are never good enough or happy enough. and stressed-out workers that have to work more to buy all the things they supposedly need to make them and their children happy. Medical science says that most of our diseases are stress related.

Health care reform? Good luck, I say, unless there is a grassroots revolution that starts with eating better, exercising more, buying less junk, reducing stress and thus going to the doctor less.

BILL CHISHOLM  
Buhl

## Woman's Christmas decorations damaged

This is to the ones that ruined my outdoor Christmas decorations!

I am a woman over 70 years of age. I put up all my decorations myself, starting early to beat the weather, and it takes me longer than it used to. How would you feel if someone did that to your grandmother? This is my Christmas — enjoying the lights and my decorations. Why would anyone do this? I am a religious person; why would you leave the deer in an obscene position? A practical joke? Boredom? Ignorance?

Meanness? Trying to impress the ones you're with? But why? Have I done something wrong to you? If I have, why not come to me in person? I am so sad that you ruined my holiday! But, as a Christian woman, I wish you the spirit of the season.

GLENNA WHITTAKER  
Burley

## Background on blue moons

Once in a blue moon — what is a blue moon? Some do not know. When two full moons occur in the same month, the second one is known as the blue moon.

Dec. 2 was the first full moon and the second one is Dec. 31. It only happens once every few years or "once in a blue moon." The next blue moon happening will be 2012 on Aug. 2 and Aug. 31, then again in 2015 on July 2 and July 31.

Maybe you'll take that trip, get that phone call or win the lottery. Yeah, maybe — once in a blue moon.

STORMI STORCH  
Twin Falls

## Concert was ruined by out-of-control kids

On Oct. 17, my wife and I had occasion to attend the Christmas concert at Oregon Trail Elementary School to see and hear our two youngest grandchildren perform. They are in the

second grade.

We have attended several other programs there and enjoyed them. Not so this time!

I have never in my life experienced such a display of rudeness, lack of consideration for others as well as the lack of parental control over their children. Parents did not control or attempt to control their children from running around, screaming and generally disrupting those of us that were there for the program. I guess when parents can't control themselves, how to do you expect them to control their children?

People stood in front of those seated and, when several were asked to move so others could see, one lady said to my wife, "Are you a teacher?" Her reply was, "No, I am not." "Well, then I don't have to." This lady appeared to be a grandparent and should have known better.

Being of the "old school" and having had a mother who was a school teacher for 30 years, this would not have taken place then. No wonder teachers and society have a problem with some, not all, of our younger generation. What a refreshing thought for parents to teach their children some manners and a few courtesies, especially this time of year. That might be hard for some if they are visiting about work or something else. Save that for before or after!

To the teachers and students who spent time and effort to prepare for this program, we say thank you! With a little forethought from some of the parents in attendance, possibly the next one will be better.

Merry Christmas and I hope New Year's resolutions are in place for some.

JIM OLSON  
Twin Falls

## Happiness

Continued from Opinion 1

happy meter voted for Obama in 2008. Brooks also points to research showing that 44 percent of conservatives are "very happy," but only 25 percent of liberals describe themselves that way. He says half of the difference, statistically, is lifestyle — mostly rates of marriage and religious worship — and half is attitude.

None of these drivers is particularly helpful to me. I won't be voting Republican or moving to Louisiana in the near future (though, after hearing a friend use "joie de vivre" to explain Louisiana's top ranking, maybe I should reconsider). But I am among the 78 percent of happy Americans, which leads me to ponder what more, exactly, we are striving for.

Tal Ben-Shahar, who teaches positive psychology at Harvard and has written extensively on happiness, calls it "the end toward which all other ends lead." He writes: "Wealth, fame, admiration and all other goals are subordinate and secondary to happiness; whether our desires are material or social, they are means toward one end: happiness." This year was a near-constant assault on the senses from people confusing means with ends. Bernie Madoff, Balloon Boy, Mark Sanford, the Sahalis, Tiger Woods. It is easy to view them all as representative of our culture, a fitting end to a rotten decade.

And yet most of us aren't, in fact, bilking or scheming or faking or aspiring to reality TV. If happiness is the point, four in five Americans already are on the right track, and that should make all of us more optimistic about the decade to come.

Kevin Huffman won *The Washington Post's America's Next Great Pundit* contest.

Arthur Brooks, president of the American Enterprise Institute and author of two books on happiness, doesn't buy weather or other external factors, including money, as real drivers of happiness. In his interpretation, the state rankings reflect political viewpoints — each of the bottom 10 states on the

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# The war most Americans don't fight

A new study shows that the eight years of warfare in Iraq and Afghanistan were taking an emotional toll on the children of service members and that the difficulties increased the longer parents were deployed.

There is no way that the findings of this study should be a surprise to anyone. It just confirms that the children of those being sent into combat are among that tiny percentage of the population that is unfairly shouldering the entire burden of these wars.

The idea that fewer than 1 percent of Americans are being called on to fight in Afghanistan and Iraq and that we're sending them into combat again and again and again — for three tours, four tours, five tours, six tours — is obscene. All decent people should object.

We already knew that in addition to the many thousands who have been killed or physically wounded, hundreds of thousands have returned with very serious psychological wounds: deep depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and so on. Other problems are also widespread: alcohol and drug abuse, family strife, homelessness.

The new study, by the RAND Corporation, was published in the journal *Pediatrics*. The children surveyed were found to have higher levels of emotional difficulties than their peers in the general population.

According to the study: "Older youth and girls of all ages reported significantly more school, family and peer-related difficulties with parental deployment. Length of parental deployment and poorer non-deployed caregiver mental health were significantly associated with a greater number of challenges for children, both during deployment and deployed parent reintegration."

The air is filled with obsessive self-satisfied rhetoric about supporting the troops, giving them everything they need and not letting them down. But that rhetoric is as hollow as a jazzman's drum because the overwhelming majority of Americans have no desire at all to share in the sacrifices that the service members and their families are making. Most Americans do not want to serve in the wars, do not want to give up their precious time to do volunteer work that would aid the nation's warriors and their families, do not even want to fork over the taxes that are needed to pay for the wars.

To say that this is a national disgrace is to wallow in the shallowest understatement. The nation will always give lip-service to support for the troops, but for the most part



**Bob Herbert**

Most Americans do not want to serve in the wars, do not want to give up their precious time to do volunteer work that would aid the nation's warriors and their families, do not even want to fork over the taxes that are needed to pay for the wars.

Americans do not really care about the men and women we so blithely ship off to war, and the families they leave behind.

The National Military Family Association, which commissioned the RAND study, has poignant comments from the children of military personnel on its Web site.

You can tell immediately how much more real the wars are to those youngsters than to most Americans:

"I hope it's not him on the news getting hurt."

"Most of my grades dropped because I was thinking about my dad, because my dad's more important than school."

"Mom will be in her room and we hear her crying."

The reason it is so easy for the U.S. to declare wars, and to continue fighting year after year after year, is because so few Americans feel the actual pain of those wars. We've been fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan longer than we fought in World Wars I and II combined. If voters had to choose right now between instituting a draft or exiting Afghanistan and Iraq, the troops would be out of those two countries in a heartbeat.

I don't think our current way of waging war, which is pretty easy-breezy for most citizens, is what the architects of America had in mind. Here's George Washington's view, for example: "It must be laid down as a primary position and the basis of our system, that every citizen who enjoys the protection of a free government owes not only a proportion of his property, but even his personal service to the defense of it."

What we are doing is indefensible and will ultimately exact a fearful price, and there will be absolutely no way for the U.S. to avoid paying it.

*Bob Herbert is a columnist for The New York Times. Write to him at bherbert@nytimes.com*

# Captives of airlines no longer

For perhaps the first time in the history of our republic, the government has had to tell a private industry it must let paying customers use the bathroom.

A case of heavy-handed government intrusion?

Hardly. It was an invitation. For a decade, Congress and previous administrations had threatened the airlines with regulations if they didn't improve customer service. Repeatedly, the airlines promised to do better. Repeatedly, they failed.

So stubborn was the industry's refusal to accept the most rudimentary concept of customer service that it took regulations to enforce common customer courtesy.

On Monday the Department of Transportation slapped airlines with new rules for tarmac delays that have turned thousands of passengers into captives, often without food, water or working toilets.



**Loren Steffy**

The rules require airlines to allow passengers stuck on grounded planes for more than three hours to return to the terminal. It also requires the airlines to provide food, water and working restrooms for delays of more than two hours.

Failure to comply with this government mandate of common courtesy carries fines of \$27,500 per passenger. For a full 737-700, which has about 140 seats, one delay could cost a carrier almost \$4 million. If the rule were applied to the 1,500 flights delayed three hours or more during the past two years, the airlines would have been fined more than \$3 billion, the DOT said.

Three years ago, Congress once again took up the issue of a "passenger bill of

rights," yet the industry responded with lobbying and excuses. Since then, flight delays have persisted and complaints have risen.

The delays showed no signs of abating. Just in the first six months of this year, more than 600 delays would have qualified for the fines had the rule been enacted, the DOT said.

A stranding by Continental Airlines' Houston-based Continental regional affiliate, ExpressJet, of 51 passengers for six hours in Rochester, Minn., this summer finally triggered the long-overdue rebuke.

The DOT said the repeated failure by airlines to address the problems convinced it that the industry simply wouldn't fix things itself.

For example, after 10 years, only seven of the 18 biggest airlines have adopted limits on tarmac delays, only five have customer service plans with internal audits, and only three publish delay data on their Web sites, the DOT said.

Certainly, airport procedures need to be changed to be more accommodating, and air traffic control remains a big problem that should have been fixed long ago. But the airlines are quick to blame the weather, the ground crews, the regional affiliates and passengers themselves when things go wrong, as if their passengers don't know whose logo is on the tail.

Airlines, entering yet another money-losing cycle, may indeed face higher costs.

The DOT is required to assess the impact on small carriers, those that fly planes with 60 seats or fewer. Implementing it will cost less than nine-tenths of 1 percent of their annual receipts. The big carriers will probably face higher costs, but likely far less than what they spend annually for their names on sports arenas.

*Loren Steffy is the Houston Chronicle's business columnist.*



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# House and Senate look to final health care talks

By Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar  
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — How many Americans will get subsidized medical coverage — plus who will pay for it — will be front-burner issues when Congress returns next month to complete President Obama's health care remake.

Pocketbook concerns join abortion and whether Uncle Sam should peddle insurance as the top bones of contention for negotiators who must resolve difference between the House and Senate bills.

The negotiations are the last chance for Democrats to shape the legislation to deliver concrete benefits to Americans skeptical that it will help control skyrocketing premiums as it expands coverage to millions more.

"People will really begin to focus on some of the core issues that have received less attention," said Rep. Chris Van Hollen, D-Md., a member of the House leadership. "These are the bread-and-butter issues that will have the most significant impact on people's pocketbooks."

Broadly speaking, both bills would gradually expand coverage, while banning objectionable insurance industry practices such as turning down people with health problems. Eventually, all Americans would be required to carry health insurance, with government subsidies to make premiums more affordable for many of them.

Those covered by big employers wouldn't see major changes, but individuals buying their own policies and small businesses would be able to shop for competitively priced plans in an insurance supermarket called an exchange. Medicare cuts and an assortment of taxes and fees would pay for the bills.

Democrats are under pressure to reconcile the House and Senate versions before Obama's first State of the Union speech. Not yet scheduled, it's usually delivered in late January or early February. Republicans will wage legislative guerrilla warfare to delay an agreement.

There's not much time, and apparently not much give either.

Senate moderates say they won't vote for a bill

## Comparing the health care bills

Bills moving through Congress have the potential to change how millions of Americans pay for and get health care. About 54 million people would be uninsured if a final bill is not passed.

	SENATE BILL	HOUSE BILL
Cost*	\$871 billion	1.2 trillion*
Uninsured**	24 million	18 million

\*10-year  
\*\*Projected in 2019

### KEY MEASURES

**Government-run plan**  
In place of a government-run insurance option, Americans purchasing coverage through new insurance exchanges would have the option of signing up for national plans overseen by the same office that manages health coverage for federal employees and members of Congress. Those plans would be privately owned, but one of them would have to be operated on a nonprofit basis.

A new public plan available through the insurance exchanges would be set up and run by the Health and Human Services secretary. Government would negotiate payment rates.

**Individual requirement**  
Most individuals required to get insurance through work, private or government plan. Exemptions for economic hardship. Those who are obligated to buy coverage and refuse to do so would pay a fine starting at \$95 in 2014 and rising to \$750.

**Employer requirement**  
Not required to offer coverage, but companies with more than 50 employees would pay a fee of \$750 per employee if the government ends up subsidizing employees' coverage.

**How it's paid for**  
Fees on insurance companies, drugmakers, medical device manufacturers. Medicare payroll tax increased to 2.35 percent on income over \$200,000 a year for individuals; \$250,000 for couples. A 10 percent sales tax on tanning salons. Cuts to Medicare and Medicaid. Forty percent excise tax on insurance companies, keyed to premiums paid on health care plans costing more than \$8,500 annually for individuals and \$23,000 for families.

**Choosing your health insurance**  
Self-employed people, uninsured individuals and small businesses could pick a plan offered through new state-based purchasing pools called exchanges. Employees would be generally encouraged to keep their work-provided coverage.

**Insurance industry restriction**  
Starting in 2014, no denial of coverage based on pre-existing conditions. No higher premiums allowed for pre-existing conditions or gender. Limits on higher premiums based on age and family size. Children up to age 26 can stay on parent's insurance.

**Abortion**  
The bill tries to maintain a strict rules on who would pay for abortion coverage. No health plan would be required to offer coverage for the procedure. In plans that do cover abortion, beneficiaries would have to pay for it separately. Exceptions would be made for cases of rape, incest and danger to the life of the mother. States could prohibit abortion coverage by plans in the exchanges.

NOTE: The Congressional Budget Office says the House bill would cost \$1.055 trillion over 10 years. The net cost is \$894 billion, factoring in penalties. Those figures leave out new costs, including increased prescription drug coverage for seniors under Medicare.

SOURCES: Congressional Budget Office; AP research

that changes the basic terms they agreed to with Majority Leader Harry Reid.

Independent Sen. Joe Lieberman of Connecticut and conservative Sen. Ben Nelson, D-Neb., have drawn a line against reintroducing a government-run insurance plan to compete with the likes of Aetna and Wellpoint. The House bill includes it, but Reid, D-Nev., needs every member of his 60-vote coalition to hold off GOP opponents.

More difficult to solve is the issue of how to restrict taxpayer funding for abor-

tions. Abortion opponents disagree among themselves over the Senate's approach. Abortion rights supporters are completely against the more restrictive House language and are divided on how the Senate has handled it.

Obama will probably have to step in to settle disputes and keep things moving.

Democrats have options on how to handle the negotiations. They could agree to a limited set of changes, allowing each chamber to pass identically amended bills. Or they could set up a

formal conference committee to resolve differences. Leaders have made no decision yet. Naming a conference committee would signal that the issues have proven difficult.

Yet the longer Democrats argue, the more suspicious the public becomes about remaking the health care system. "The making of salami and legislation is not pretty for people to watch," said Harvard professor Robert Blendon, who tracks public opinion on health care. "It has left them nervous that the interests of middle-income people are not being served."

That's one reason leading Democrats are arguing for a focus on pocketbook issues in the homestretch.

"There will be a certain amount of replaying issues that have been hot-button issues, but I think there will also be a refocusing, especially on cost," said Senate Budget Committee Chairman Kent Conrad, D-N.D. "At the end of the day, when all of us go home, what we hear about is the ever-increasing, ever-escalating costs."

There are some signs of that already.

Last week, Reid pledged on the Senate floor to close the coverage gap in Medicare prescription benefit — as the House bill already does. The message was aimed at seniors worried that Medicare cuts to hospitals and other providers will jeopardize their care.

And Conrad said senators may go along with the House timetable for expanding coverage, which calls for starting subsidies in 2013, a year earlier than the Senate bill.

The House bill provides coverage to 36 million, while the Senate covers 31 million. Lawmakers in the House want the Senate to move toward their number.

Another priority will be to make sure the final bill promotes competition in the health insurance market, which in many states is dominated by one or two large carriers.

Though it sounds arcane, a major problem for negotiators is whether the new insurance supermarket should be state-based, as in the Senate bill, or national, as the House calls for. Some advocates say a national approach provides stronger consumer protection.

# Actor Charlie Sheen arrested in Colorado

ASPEN, Colo. (AP) — Charlie Sheen spent the better part of Christmas Day in a Colorado jail cell after being arrested on domestic violence allegations.



Sheen

The 44-year-old actor was taken into custody Friday morning by officers responding to a 911 call from a house in this ski resort town about 200 miles west of Denver.

An ambulance went to the house, but the accuser was not taken to the hospital.

Sheen, the star of CBS' "Two and a Half Men," was taken to the Pitkin County jail and booked for investigation of second-degree assault and menacing, both felonies, along with criminal mischief, a misdemeanor, Aspen police spokeswoman Stephanie Dasaro said.

He was released in the late afternoon after posting \$8,500 bond and being advised by a county judge on the conditions of his release, she said.

Dasaro declined to name Sheen's accuser, citing a department policy prohibiting the identification of potential victims in domestic violence cases.

Aspen attorney Richard Cummins said late Friday that he was representing Sheen in the case. He declined to name Sheen's accuser or discuss details,

but he cautioned against any rush to judgment.

"I think at the end of the day it will be much ado about nothing," Cummins told The Associated Press. "I don't think there's any criminality about what went on."

Cummins said a court date was set for Feb. 8. "That may be to determine whether a case goes forward or not," he said.

Sheen is the son of actor Martin Sheen and brother of actor-director Emilio Estevez. He is married to Brooke Mueller Sheen, a real estate investor who gave birth to the couple's first children, twin boys, in March. They married in May 2008 following Sheen's bitter divorce and custody battle with actress Denise Richards.

The star of "Platoon," "Wall Street" and the "Hot Shots!" movies has had run-ins with the law before. In December 1996, he was arrested and charged with attacking a girlfriend at his Southern California home. He later pleaded no contest and was placed on two years' probation.

In 1998, his father turned him in for violating his parole after a cocaine overdose sent him to the hospital. He was later ordered to undergo a rehabilitation program.

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## Police: Pa. pastor fatally shoots son during fight

DARBY, Pa. (AP) — A pastor fatally shot one of his eight children on Christmas Day during a dispute at the family home, where more than a dozen relatives had gathered to celebrate the holiday, police said.

Kirk Caldwell killed 21-year-old Jordan Caldwell after intervening in a violent confrontation between the son and a woman at around 2 p.m. at their home in suburban Philadelphia, Darby Borough police said Friday.

Kirk Caldwell fired a single shot, striking his son in the chest, police Chief

Robert Smythe said. Jordan Caldwell died at a hospital shortly afterward, police said.

Smythe, who noted he had met Caldwell a couple of times, called the pastor a "very good man" and said he was "quite surprised."

"I find this is not something I would expect this guy to do," Smythe said.

As a pastor at End Times Harvest Mission for Christ in Philadelphia, Kirk Caldwell had spoken against violence at a vigil for a slain teen in Darby last summer.

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# Monks, tourists, villagers remember tsunami victims

The Associated Press

PHUKET, Thailand — Buddhist monks in orange robes chanted on a Thai beach, an Indonesian mother mourned her children at a mass grave, and a man scattered flowers in now-placid waters Saturday to commemorate the 230,000 killed five years ago when a tsunami ripped across Asia.

An outpouring of aid that followed the Dec. 26, 2004, tsunami has helped replace homes, schools and entire coastal communities decimated by the disaster. But at Saturday's ceremonies, survivors spoke of the enduring wounds.

Thousands in Indonesia's Aceh province, which was hardest hit, held prayer services at mosques and beside the mass graves where tens of thousands were buried. The 167,000 people who died in Indonesia accounted for more than half the total death toll.

Among them were the relatives of Siti Amridar, a 48-year-old woman who wept Saturday at a mass grave in Banda Aceh, the provincial capital. She was a mother of five, until the tsunami claimed four of her children, her parents and washed away their village.

"I don't know where my



Thais gather during candlelight ceremonies Saturday in Phuket, Thailand, to remember those killed in the Asian tsunami on Dec. 26, 2004. The tsunami killed about 230,000 people in 14 Asian and African countries.

AP photo

children have been buried, or my parents. They have never been found," she said, sobbing. "I still can't believe the tsunami destroyed my life and my family in just a few minutes."

The disaster's epicenter was off the coast of Aceh, on the island of Sumatra, where a 9.2-magnitude earthquake struck underwater. The quake toppled homes and buildings and sent panicked communities rushing into the streets.

About 20 minutes later, a wall of water up to six stories high surged in from the

sea. Traveling at jetliner speed, it carried with it toppled trees, crumpled cars and refrigerators. The wave sent people scrambling up the sides of buildings and in search of higher ground.

On Saturday's anniversary, Indonesian villagers briefly panicked when another strong earthquake struck deep under the sea off the eastern coast, officials said. Residents in Saumlaki, about 1,680 miles east of the capital Jakarta, said the magnitude-6.0 quake cut electricity, but there were no reports of

damage or injuries.

Indonesia sits above a series of fault lines that make the vast island nation one of the most earthquake-prone places in the world. This year, another earthquake measuring magnitude 7.6 struck off West Sumatra on Sept. 30, killing hundreds of people and toppling hundreds of homes and buildings.

In Thailand on Saturday, hundreds of residents and foreigners returned to the white-sand beaches on the southern island of Phuket. More than 8,000 people were killed along the country's shores.

A moment of silence was observed on the Phuket's Patong Beach, a popular strip of hotels and restaurants, where the waves crashed over throngs of tourists the morning after Christmas.

Buddhist monks in bright orange robes chanted prayers. Onlookers wept and embraced.

Giorgio Capriccioli, an Italian who lives on Phuket, carried a bouquet into the ocean.

He waded knee-deep in water that five years ago was clogged with corpses and cast the white flowers adrift to honor the memory of two friends. His wife owns several beach-front shops but decided not to go to work the morning the tsunami struck.

"My wife would be dead if it weren't for the fact that she were pregnant and didn't go to work that day," he said at a ceremony that attracted suntanned tourists in skimpy swimsuits as well as Thai villagers.

## Officials: Suspected U.S. strikes kill 3 in Pakistan

By Rasool Dawar  
Associated Press writer

MIR ALI, Pakistan — A suspected U.S. missile strike killed three people Saturday in a northwest Pakistani tribal region where militants focused on fighting the West in Afghanistan are concentrated, two Pakistani intelligence officials said.

The missile strike was apparently the latest in a lengthy campaign of such attacks by the U.S., which rarely discusses the covert program but has in the past said it has taken out several top al-Qaida operatives. Pakistan publicly opposes the strikes but is believed to secretly aid them.

Saturday's strike occurred in the Babar Raghzai area of North Waziristan and also wounded two people, the officials said. The identities of the dead were not immediately clear. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to speak to media on the record.

The area targeted is used by militants from two major factions that are battling U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan — the Haqqani network and the militants of warlord Hafiz Gul Bahadur.

U.S. missile strikes in North Waziristan are sensitive largely because Pakistan has a truce with Bahadur. He agreed to stay on the sidelines as the Pakistani army has waged an offensive in South Waziristan against the Pakistani Taliban, a group that has focused on attacking the Pakistani state.

Missile strikes on his territory could endanger that deal, analysts have said.

The South Waziristan ground offensive was launched in mid-October, but many leaders of the Pakistani Taliban are believed to have fled to other parts of the lawless tribal belt — including North Waziristan and the Orakzai tribal regions.

## U.S. commander: Iraq must be fair to Sunnis

By Chelsea J. Carter  
Associated Press writer

BAGHDAD — A top American commander called on the Iraqi government to take care of tens of thousands of unemployed anti-al-Qaida Sunni fighters, saying proper treatment for the men is critical for national reconciliation.

The U.S. military's support for Iraq, who played a key part in subduing al-Qaida, comes at crucial time when a number of checkpoints in Baghdad province manned by the Sunnis will be closed. The U.S. is seeking to ease the group's concerns that the Shiite-dominated government may not honor its pledge to pay them until they are absorbed into national security forces or find civilian jobs.

"We want to make sure that the right things, the things the government has promised, in fact occur," Army Maj. Gen. John Johnson, a deputy commanding general, told The Associated Press during a recent interview.

Many of the Sons of Iraq

were former insurgents who later teamed up with the Americans against al-Qaida. The move, known as the Awakening, was credited — along with the surge of tens of thousands of U.S. troops — in helping quell the violence.

But the question of what to do with these nearly 100,000 people in the long-term remains. The U.S. handed over control last year of the Awakening Councils to Iraq, which pays their roughly \$300 monthly salaries.

"I think it's fair to say the Sunni population, in general, looks to see how the Sons of Iraq are being treated as maybe an indicator of how serious the government is of true reconciliation," Johnson said.

Johnson, who oversees the U.S. role in the transition, said the American military has "a bond" with the Sunni group that obligates it to make sure they are treated fairly.

Under heavy U.S. pressure, Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's government agreed to absorb up to 20 percent of the fighters into its security forces — a move the U.S. has said is paramount

toward reconciling with its minority Sunnis.

Al-Maliki has repeatedly said he would honor the pledge to pay the Sons of Iraq.

There have been Sunni complaints about missed paychecks and not enough jobs being provided in the security services because of a budget crisis. Earlier this month, al-Maliki told parliament that problems paying the group may have led to security lapses allowing three deadly bombings against government sites in Baghdad.

The closing of some of the Baghdad checkpoints and turning others over to Iraqi security forces is the next key hurdle.

The last of the Sons of Iraq in Baghdad province were scheduled to be absorbed into civil service jobs by the end of the year. But that has been delayed until after the March 7 parliamentary elections due to security concerns, Johnson said.

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**TWIN FALLS CANAL COMPANY NOTICE OF REGULAR STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the regular meeting of the Stockholders of the Twin Falls Canal Company will be held on Tuesday, the 12th of January, 2010. The meeting will be called to order by the Directors at 9:00 a.m. in the Rick Allen Room in the Herrett Center at the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls.

Director from District 2 – (Twin Falls) will be elected for a three year term.  
Candidates running: David Patrick and Tom Billington

Director from District 3 – (Filer) will be elected for a one year term.  
Candidates running: Roger Blass and David Lohr

Director from District 4 – (Buhl) will be elected for a three year term.  
John Honcik running unopposed

Other business will also be transacted. There will be reports from the Company's General Manager, auditors and lawyers. There will also be reports concerning operation and maintenance efforts, 2010 water supplies, water call, and other matters of interest.

The corporate books will close for the transfer of stock on December 31, 2009.

Proxies shall be filed with the Company's Assistant Secretary at the Company Office on or before January 8, 2010.

DATED this 1st day of December 2009.

TWIN FALLS CANAL COMPANY  
Kay Puschel, Assistant Secretary

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# Army's new all-terrain vehicle debuts in Afghanistan

By Thomas Day  
McClatchy Newspapers

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — The U.S. military's new all-terrain vehicle doesn't look all that different from its lumbering predecessor. It's painted desert sand, and reaching the cabin still means climbing a couple of steps.

On Afghanistan's rough dirt roads, however, the new \$500,000 to \$1 million Mine Resistant Ambush Protected All Terrain Vehicle is a major improvement over the massive Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle it's replacing, soldiers say. The M-ATV is tailored to Afghanistan, at least parts of it, and the Pentagon is sending about 5,000 of them to the battlefield.

For soldiers who had grown accustomed to bruising trips through rural Afghanistan, their first M-ATVs, which have just been introduced in the field, were an early Christmas present. Seemingly without effort, the vehicles climb mountains at angles that



MCT photo  
The MATV vehicle, left, will gradually take over for the MRAP vehicle, right, which has proven ill suited for the mountainous terrain of Afghanistan.

approach 45 degrees, and they glide across the country's rocky roads.

In the cities, the M-ATV's lighter frame can make sharp turns and maneuver through Afghanistan's lawless traffic much better than the hulking MRAP can.

Introduced in 2007, the MRAP was the Army's answer to the Iraqi insurgency's deadliest weapon, the improvised explosive device. What worked in Iraq

hasn't worked as well in Afghanistan, however.

Iraq has a network of smooth roads on flat terrain. In Afghanistan, most roads are paths of rocks and dirt, and the MRAP is ill-suited for navigating its mountainous environments. The MRAP's 36,000 pounds — more than 10,000 pounds heavier than the M-ATV — have given drivers headaches as they figure out how to maneuver

around tight corners and up large hills.

Worse, McClatchy Newspapers reported last month that Afghan insurgents had found vulnerabilities in the MRAP, attacking convoys with explosive charges that punched projectiles through the vehicle's hull. IEDs have caused more than 60 percent of the coalition fatalities from hostilities in Afghanistan so far this year.

According to iCasualties.org, a Web site that tracks casualties in Iraq and Afghanistan, IEDs have killed 266 U.S. and coalition troops so far this year, more than triple the number two years ago.

The military says the new M-ATV's lower weight won't mean less protection. Like the MRAP, the M-ATV's hull is V-shaped to deflect explosions from the vehicle's crew, but the military is withholding further details of the M-ATV's counter-IED capabilities.

"It gives us the same protection as the MRAPs," said Lt. Col. Michael Fordham, a reservist from outside Savannah, Ga., and the executive officer of the

Georgia Army National Guard's 48th Brigade.

One of the M-ATV's major advantages is that unlike the MRAP, it isn't confined to Afghanistan's few heavy-duty roads, a limitation that helped insurgents know where to plant IEDs. However, the steep mountains of eastern Afghanistan and the orchards and deep irrigation ditches in parts of the south will limit even the 12.5-ton M-ATV's movements.

Moreover, it's not safe to assume that insurgents who've devised ways to destroy the heavier MRAP won't in time also figure out how to disable or destroy the smaller M-ATV.

# Israel kills 6 Palestinians in surge of violence

By Mohammed Daraghme  
Associated Press Writer

NABLUS, West Bank — Israeli troops blasted their way into the homes of three wanted Palestinians on Saturday, killing each in a hail of bullets and straining an uneasy security arrangement with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

Israel's military said the three, affiliated with a violent offshoot of Abbas' Fatah movement, were targeted for killing an Israeli settler in a roadside ambush earlier in the week and had turned down a chance to surrender.

In the Gaza Strip, three young men approaching Israel's southern border were killed by shots from an Israeli helicopter gunship. Saturday's deaths made it one of the deadliest days in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict since Israel waged war on Gaza's Islamic militant Hamas rulers a year ago.

The violent Nablus raids, after months of relative quiet, embarrassed Western-backed Abbas, whose security forces have been coordinating some of their moves with their Israeli counterparts and share a common foe, Hamas.

At the funeral for the slain

men, Abbas' security policy was denounced by thousands of mourners, who chanted: "Why the coordination while we are under the bullets of the army?"

Abbas' prime minister, Salam Fayyad, rushed to Nablus in an apparent attempt at damage control, paying his respects at a large communal wake and condemning Israel. "This attack was a clear assassination, and I believe it is targeting our security and stability," Fayyad told The Associated Press.

Israel did not let Abbas know of the raid in advance, said Maj. Peter Lerner, an Israeli army spokesman.

Saturday's killings put to the test an often strained relationship between Israel's military and Abbas' security.

Since the violent takeover of Gaza by Hamas in 2007, Abbas has gradually strengthened his control in West Bank towns to keep the Islamists there in check.

Palestinian leaders frequently complain that Israel is undermining these efforts by carrying out arrest raids in areas under Palestinian control. Israel counters that while the performance of the Palestinian security

forces is improving, its military will step in when necessary.

The target of Saturday's predawn raids were three longtime members of Fatah's violent offshoot, the Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades. The army said the three — Anan Subeh, 36; Ghassan Abu Sarah, 40; and Raed Suragji, 40 — were involved in Thursday's deadly roadside shooting of an Israeli settler, and that Israeli forces entered Nablus to try

to arrest them.

Dozens of Israeli soldiers, some of wearing black masks, poured into Nablus' casbah, or old city, at about 2 a.m. They were backed by sniffer dogs and dozens of jeeps, bulldozers and other military vehicles.

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**It's Complicated** (R) Fri - Sun 4:30 7:00 9:30 Mon - Thurs 7:00 9:30

**Twin Cinema 12** 180 Eastland Drive Twin Falls All Adults \$6.00 Before 5:15 p.m.

**Disney's Christmas Carol** (PG) 12:15 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:45

**Up in the Air** (R) 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45

**Disney's Princess and the Frog** (G) in 2 Theatres 12:15 12:45 2:30 3:00 4:45 5:15 7:00 7:30 9:15 9:45

**Twilight Saga: New Moon** (13) 1:30 4:30 7:15 10:00

**Blindside** (13) 12:45 3:45 6:45 9:30

**Avatar** (13) in 2 Theatres Dolby Digital Surround 12:00 2:00 3:15 6:30 7:45 10:00

**Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel** (PG) in 2 Theatres 12:30 12:45 2:40 3:00 4:50 5:15 7:00 7:30 9:15 9:45

**Sherlock Holmes** (13) in 2 Theatres 12:45 1:30 3:45 4:30 6:45 7:15 9:30 10:00

**Jerome Cinema 4** 955 West Main, Jerome All Adults \$5.50 Before 5:15 p.m.

**Avatar** (13) DTS Digital Surround 12:00 3:15 6:30 9:45

**Disney's Princess and Frog** (G) 12:30 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:30

**Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel** (PG) 12:30 2:40 4:50 7:00 9:10

**Sherlock Holmes** (13) 12:45 3:45 6:50 9:30

**Odyssey 6** Inside Magic Valley Mall, Twin Falls All Adults \$6.00 Before 5:15 p.m.

**Did You Hear About the Morgans** (13) 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45

**Fantastic Mr. Fox** (PG) 12:30 2:45

**Fourth Kind** (13) 5:00 7:15 9:30

**Boondock Saints 2: All Saints Day** (R) 7:00 9:30

**2012** (13) 12:00 3:15 6:30 9:45

**Planet 51** (PG) 12:30 2:40 4:50

**Invictus** (13) 12:45 3:45 6:50 9:30

**Disney's Old Dogs** (PG) 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45

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**INVICTUS** PG-13  
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**THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG** G  
Now at the Twin & Jerome Cinema

Through Out History -- We have Been Warned!

John Cusack Amanda Peet Poliver Platt

**2012** PG-13  
Digital Sound - Now at the Odyssey

A Spectacular World Beyond Imagination

**AVATAR** PG-13  
Now in 2 Screens at Twin Cinema and 1 Screen in Jerome -- Digital Sound

Hugh Grant Sarah Jessica Parker Sam Elliot

**Did You Hear About The MORGANS?** PG-13  
We're not in Manhattan Anymore. Now at the Odyssey Theatre

Divorce is Usually Final -- Unless it comes with Benefits

Meryl Street Steve Martin Alex Baldwin

**it's Complicated** R  
Now at The Orpheum

Disney Sit. Stay. Play Dad!

**OldDogs** PG  
Robin Williams John Travolta Now at the Odyssey

Robert Downey Jr. Rachel Adams Jude Law

**SHERLOCK HOLMES** PG-13  
Now at the Jerome & Twin Cinema

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Photos KAREN BOSSICK/For the Times-News

Exchange student Daniel Gomis of Senegal has made a big impact on and off the court for the Community School this winter. The 6-foot-9 forward is dominating on the court, while teaching French to fifth-graders in the classroom.

# Globe-trotter

From Senegal to Sun Valley, Gomis making impact on and off the court

By David Bashore • Times-News writer

SUN VALLEY — It's a love affair no one wants to see dissolve. But in the end, the Community School is just another stop along Daniel Gomis' journey upward in the basketball world.

The 6-foot-9 forward is an exchange student from Theis, Senegal, the same hometown as current College of Southern Idaho guard Byago Diouf, and came to Sun Valley from the SEEDS Academy, which also produced Diouf and CSI teammate Aziz N'diaye. While his countrymen are at CSI, Gomis brought more attention to his present basketball program than has been given in quite a while — before a game had even been played.

"The games before Christmas are usually (heavily attended) because the alumni are back in town, but I've never seen it that packed," said Jackie Flanigan, Gomis' host mother. Her son, Tanner Flanigan, is also on the boys basketball team at the Community School.

"We haven't had that many people in who don't have kids at the school, and they're there to see Daniel play."

With good reason. Gomis moves well for his size and height, and at the Class 1A Division II level he regularly

delivers what pretty much everyone loves to see in basketball games: dunks.

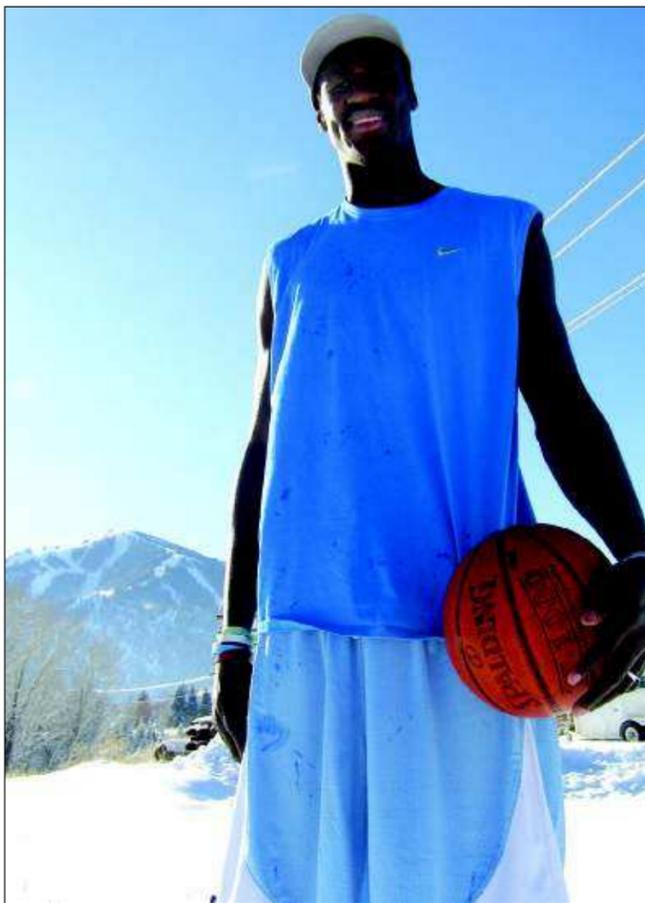
With his skill set, it's a mortal lock Gomis will only attend the Community School this year before heading to a more renowned prep school for his senior season to ready for what could be a strong college career.

So why Sun Valley, Idaho, of all places?

"He's here for the academics, to get his NCAA Clearinghouse things in order," Cutthroats coach Ed Flory said. "I know how tough that Clearinghouse stuff is to go through. He'll have plenty of time to devote to basketball next year if he gets his SATs and ACTs together."

It's a smart move that should allow Gomis to go straight to the NCAA ranks rather than passing through a junior college like many international players must. Various recruiting sites on the Internet have Gomis getting attention from ACC and Big East schools, while Flory

See **GOMIS**, Sports 2



Sun Valley has given Senegalese exchange student Daniel Gomis his first taste of significant snowfall.

## Fix BCS by DQing Alabama

By Jennifer Floyd Engel  
McClatchy Newspapers

FORT WORTH, Texas — How long have I been preaching how bleeping filthy this whole BCS system is, and how seriously delusional its defenders are?

Nobody listens, not even TCU coach Gary Patterson, whose team is the latest in a long line of victims. He actually has hope this group, without any strong-arming, eventually may decide to do the right thing and give every program an equal chance at a championship.

### Analysis

Who are we kidding? These people cannot even follow their own jacked-up rules.

The tiny print under the "USA Today" coaches' poll reads: "The AFCA prohibits coaches from voting for schools on major NCAA probation."

So why, exactly, is Alabama No. 1 with 54 first-place votes when the NCAA Division I Committee on Infraction penalized the Crimson Tide "for major violations" in June? This is not a case of a couple of tennis players getting whacked for taking a couple of free sandwiches. This was members of the committee saying the worst offenders were football players and thereby forced to vacate three seasons' worth of victories, only seven years after the then infractions chairman threatened hellfire if this program appeared again.

Hellfire, apparently, loosely translates to Rose Bowl.

This has been mentioned from time to time, mainly by angry Auburn fans, with little traction. My e-mail to the American Football Coaches Association to clarify Alabama's eligibility for votes and what "major" means produced this answer:

"A school is ineligible for coaches' poll consideration if it is hit with any of the following sanctions:

"1. Postseason competition ban.

"2. Live TV ban.

"3. Loss of 20 percent of total scholarships in a given season.

"Alabama received none of those penalties, so it is eligible to receive votes in our poll."

So major is not major unless it is really major?

"That needs to be (asked of) somebody else," Patterson said. "I'm not going to be the bad guy. We said whoever won the game we'd vote for as champion."

Do you not get it? The big boys are never going to share the wealth, or play by the rules. They make them up as they go along. So the non-automatic qualifier schools have to make up their own.

Patterson needs to leave the Crimson Tide off his final ballot, and vote his team No. 1 if 'Bama beats Texas. He needs his friends to do likewise. Or he needs to start stumping for a playoff.

Contrary to popular opinion, Patterson is not opposed to a playoff.

He never said he was. He simply said a playoff did not necessarily solve his biggest problem. Access. It was kind of the devil-you-know argument.

"It's not that I don't like it," Patterson said. "Here's the problem. Tell me why it will be easier for TCU to get

## Florida's Meyer resigns amid health concerns



AP photo

Florida coach Urban Meyer is stepping down because of health concerns. He will coach the No. 5 Gators against Cincinnati in the Sugar Bowl on New Year's Day. Meyer has led Florida to two national titles in five seasons.

By Mark Long  
Associated Press writer

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Urban Meyer resigned Saturday as Florida's football coach after five seasons and two national titles because of health concerns that came to light when he suffered chest pains following the SEC championship game earlier this month.

The 45-year-old Meyer will coach his final game at the Sugar Bowl against Cincinnati on New Year's Day.

He leaves No. 5 Florida with a 56-10 record that includes a 32-8 mark in league play and a school-record 22-game winning streak that was snapped by

### INSIDE

Results of Saturday's bowl games, plus a preview of today's Music City Bowl

See Sports 5

Alabama in the Southeastern Conference title game Dec. 5.

"I have given my heart and soul to coaching college football and mentoring young men for the last 24-plus years and I have dedicated most of my waking moments the last five years to the Gator football program," Meyer said in a statement. "I have ignored my health for years, but recent developments have forced me to re-evaluate my priorities of faith and family."

Meyer said he consulted with his family, doctors, school president Bernie Machen and athletic director Jeremy Foley before deciding it was in his best interest to focus on his health and family.

Meyer will hold a news conference in New Orleans this afternoon.

"Coach Meyer and I have talked this through and I realize how hard this was for him to reach this decision," Foley said. "But the bottom line is that Coach Meyer needed to make a choice that is in the best interest of his well being and his family. I certainly appreciate what he has meant to the University

See **MEYER**, Sports 2

See **BCS**, Sports 2

## YOUR SPORTS

## Your Scores

## BOWLING

## MAGIC BOWL, TWIN FALLS SUNDAY ROLLERS

**MEN'S SERIES:** Kyle Mason 675, RD Adema 632, Keith Kelly 586, Trevor Wakley 582.

**MEN'S GAMES:** Kyle Mason 248, Trevor Wakley 227, Robert Watkins 223, RD Adema 221.

**LADIES SERIES:** Margie Adema 523, Suzi Leon 509, Stephanie Evans 490, Andrea Dayley 488.

**LADIES GAMES:** Stephanie Evans 204, Andrea Dayley 199, Kim Dreisigacker 192, Margie Adema 191.

## COMMERCIAL

**SERIES:** Kyle Mason 664, Ian DeVries 636, Zack Black 613, Rick Frederiksen 606.

**GAMES:** Ron Romero Jr. 264, Kyle Mason 238, Rob Kennison 232, Greg Hancock 225.

## MASON LEAGUE

**SERIES:** Georgia Randall 588, Shanda Pickett 512, Glenda Barrutia 507, Marie Bruce 504.

**GAMES:** Georgia Randall 209, Polly Fivas 208, Glenda Barrutia 201, Marie Bruce 189.

## EARLY FRI. MIXED

**MEN'S SERIES:** Joe McClure 648, Chet Stone 590, Tad Capurro 588, Roy Molsee 580.

**MEN'S GAMES:** Joe McClure 256, Tim Justice 246, Abe Straug 237, Chet Stone 232.

**LADIES SERIES:** Julie Capurro 560, Kathy McClure 549, Krista Wakley 526, Julie Shaffer 515.

**LADIES GAMES:** Julie Capurro 245, Tawnia Bryant 199, Kathy McClure 197, Julie Shaffer 186.

## SAT. YABA

**BOYS' SERIES:** Anthony Brady 549, Dominic Curtis 509, Michael Jenkins 367.

**BOYS' GAMES:** Anthony Brady 193, Domic Curtis 176, Michael Jenkins 129.

**GIRLS' SERIES:** Jessica Jenkins 489, Rio Leazer 361, Chelsey Brady 316, Tiffany Bryant 212.

**GIRLS' GAMES:** Jessica Jenkins 178, Rio Leazer 129, Chelsey Brady 126, Tiffany Bryant 81.

## BOWLADROME, TWIN FALLS SUN. EARLY MIXED

**MEN'S SERIES:** James Stewart 562, Lin Gowan 531, Randy Sunde 498, Robert Dyer 480.

**MEN'S GAMES:** James Stewart 205, Lin Gowan 191, Dennis Hite 185, Randy Sunde 179.

**LADIES SERIES:** Robyn Rosson 374, Dana Gowan 354, Ludy Harkins 338, Brandy Dyer 335.

**LADIES GAMES:** Dana Gowan 158, Robyn Rosson 144, Brandy Dyer 130, Dana Stewart 120.

## MON. FOLLIES

**MEN'S SERIES:** Rick Ruhter 629, Dave Wilson 609, Ron Marshall 572, Bill Boren 564.

**MEN'S GAMES:** Rick Ruhter 238, Dave Wilson 215, Kevin Hamblin 211, Steve Inman 205, Quentin Jones 305.

**LADIES SERIES:** Sylvia Inman 439, Kay Puschel 509, Stacy Hodges 502, Margaret Watson 495.

**LADIES GAMES:** Sylvia Inman 201, Kay Puschel 190, Michele Seckel 177.

## SH-BOOM

**MEN'S SERIES:** Clint Koyle 667, Blake Kondracki 622, Nick Parsons 612, Donnie Parsons 592.

**MEN'S GAMES:** Clint Koyle 148, Kelly Jeroue 247, Donnie Parsons 237, Blake Kondracki 235.

**LADIES SERIES:** Michelle Baughman 579, Diana Brady 573, Julie Shull 521, Barbara Reynolds 511.

**LADIES GAMES:** Michelle Baughman 232, Diana Brady 222, Shannon Kondracki 214, Julie Shull 197.

## MID MORN. MIXED

**MEN'S SERIES:** Dave Wilson 648, Ed Dutry 620, Dick DeRoche 610, Ron Barrett 582.

**MEN'S GAMES:** Dick DeRoche 231, Dave Wilson 119, Ed Dutry 227, Maury Miller 212, Jim DeVries 212.

**LADIES SERIES:** Kim Leazer 576, Bonnie Draper 573, Char DeRoche 566, Linda Vining 529.

**LADIES GAMES:** Kim Leazer 211, Bonnie Draper 210, Char DeRoche 2043, Linda Vining 203.

## TUES. A.M. TRIOS

**SERIES:** Jessie Biggerstaff 518, Barbara Frith 504, Gail McAllister 488, Sandra Milam 480.

**GAMES:** Kathy Salisbury 191, Gail McAllister 190, Sandra Milam 188, Melanie Hine 186.

## LATECOMERS

**SERIES:** Linda Vining 549, Barb Aslett 529, Kristy Rodriguez 529, Gail McAllister 525.

## CONSOLIDATED

**SERIES:** Steve Gentry Sr. 727, Rocky Bennett 694, Nicholas Parsons

658, Chad Kepner 657.

**GAMES:** Steve Gentry Sr. 278, Nate Jones 269, Jene Prudent 267, Chad Kepner 256.

## M.V. SENIORS

**MEN'S SERIES:** Myron Schroeder 644, Bob Chalfant 581, Ed Dutry 573, Jack Clifford 513.

**MEN'S GAMES:** Myron Schroeder 234, Ed Dutry 204, Bob Chalfant 198, Jack Clifford 192.

**LADIES SERIES:** NaJean Dutry 501, Betty Taylor 497, Barbara Frith 478, Shirley Kunsman 473.

**LADIES GAMES:** NaJean Dutry 193, Barbara Frith 193, Shirley Kunsman 189, Betty Taylor 187.

## LADIES CLASSIC

**SERIES:** Dani Bruns 566, Barb Reynolds 554, Carol Quaintance 523, Betty Wentworth 519.

**GAMES:** Dani Bruns 209, Barb Reynolds 205, Kay Puschel 200, Betty Wentworth 199.

## SUNSET

**SERIES:** Kristy Rodriguez 641, Sylvia Inman 594, Gail Cederlund 583, Kathi Jeroue 550.

**GAMES:** Kristy Rodriguez 231, Sylvia Inman 223, Kathi Jeroue 215, Gail Cederlund 215.

## SOMETHING ELSE

**MEN'S SERIES:** Randy Gentry 652, Steve Gentry Sr. 210, Steve Gentry Jr. 599, Byron Leggroan 555.

**MEN'S GAMES:** Randy Gentry 258, Steve Gentry Sr. 242, Byron Leggroan 220, Steve Gentry Jr. 210.

**LADIES SERIES:** Gail McAllister 516, Kim Ward 482, Susan Kepner 449, Shanna Call 443.

**LADIES GAMES:** Gail McAllister 196, Kim Ward 180, Sharla Warren 175, Susan Kepner 167.

## FRI. P.M. SENIORS

**MEN'S SERIES:** Dave Wilson 628, Keith Kulm 589, Jerry Seabolt 588, Ed Dutry 577.

**MEN'S GAMES:** Blaine Ross 224, Dave Wilson 224, Keith Kulm 223, Ed Dutry 222.

**LADIES SERIES:** Joann Burket 547, Jeane Miller 546, Barbara Frith 528, Linda Vining 518.

**LADIES GAMES:** Barbara Frith 193, Joann Burket 193, Jean McGuire 191, NaJean Dutry 189.

## MOONSHINERS

**SERIES:** Deanna Heil 472, Janina Webb 429, Diann Roberts 416, Flame Klundt 411.

**GAMES:** Deanna Heil 188, Flame Klundt 169, Ariel Bolish 159, Janina Webb 147.

## MOOSE

**SERIES:** Cobey Magee 722, Tony Brass 700, Tony Cowan 687, Bob Leazer 660.

**GAMES:** Tony Brass 290, Cobey Magee 289, Bob Leazer 276, Cory Moore 245.

## SUNSET LANES, BUHL SUNSET SENIORS

**MEN'S SERIES:** John Kodesh 547, Ron Fugate 546, John Haxby 530, Tom Kinnett 520.

**MEN'S GAMES:** David Hanna 223, Tom Kinnett 209, Ron Fugate 190, John Kodesh 190.

**LADIES SERIES:** Verna Kodesh 483, Dixie Schroeder 420, Carol Ruhter 405, Bonne Sligar 374.

**LADIES GAMES:** Verna Kodesh 193, Dixie Schroeder 149, Carol Ruhter 146, Elda Huff 136.

## MON. YABA

**BOYS' SERIES:** Derek Webb 414, Bradley Webb 350, Chaz Hicks 266, Devin Dias 262.

**BOYS' GAMES:** Derek Webb 142, Bradley Wewv 129, Devin Daaais 93, Chaz Hicks 92.

**GIRLS' SERIES:** Alexis Breck 222, Sarah Thompson 216, Julie Anne Nejezchleba 203, Amanda Dewitt 143.

**GIRLS' GAMES:** Alexis Breck 83, Sarah Thompson 76, Julie Anne Nejezchleba 75, Amanda Dewitt 60.

## LUCKY STRIKERS

**SERIES:** Mandi Olson 557, Lois Tomlinson 548, Cheryl Russell 533, Carma Sobotka 527.

**GAMES:** Elaine Wightington 219, Lois Tomlinson 203, Mandi Olson 200, Carma Sobotka 195.

## MASON TROPHY

**SERIES:** Lois Tomlinson 496, Nancy Bright 471, Verna Kodesh 450, Carol Ruhter 429.

**GAMES:** Lois Tomlinson 194, Nancy Bright 175, Verna Kodesh 170, Carol Ruhter 168.

## PINBUSTERS

**SERIES:** Keith Simmons 726, Mitch Olsen 701, Harvey McCoy 688, Dirk McCallister 643.

**GAMES:** Keith Simmons 289, Mitch Olsen 265, Dirk McCallister 245, Bob Fields 244.

## SPARE PAIRS

**MEN'S SERIES:** Dustin McCallister 728, TC Domlinson 618, Keith Simmons 616, Curt Quaintance 587.

**MEN'S GAMES:** Dustin McCallister 268, Keith Simmons 245, TC Tomlinson 236, Tom Wiggs 218.

**LADIES SERIES:** Kay Miller 508, Lois Tomlinson 492, Darla McCallister 475, Sandra Wiggs 448.

**LADIES GAMES:** Darla McCallister 193, Kay Miller 186, Lois Tomlinson 178, Sandra Wiggs 174.

## STARLITE

**MEN'S SERIES:** Dustin McCallister 651, Mike Goodrich 629, Dee Maier 616, Mike Larsen 567.

**MEN'S GAMES:** Dustin McCallister 236, Dee Maier 232, Mike Goodrich 225, Dirk McCallister 215.

**LADIES SERIES:** Mandi Olson 513, Darla McCallister 505, Dorothy Moon 498, Jeanne Hicks 494.

**LADIES GAMES:** Darla McCallister 206, Nita Maier 198, Dorothy Moon 194, Jeanne Hicks 185.

**SNAKE RIVER BOWL, BURLEY MON. MARAUDERS**

**SERIES:** Derry Smith 532, Lori Parish 519, Diane Stroberg 476.

**GAMES:** Lori Parish 217, Derry Smith 211, Pat Hicks 185.

## LADIES TRIOS

**SERIES:** Tiffinay Hager 647, Anna Rose 643, Kim Davis 217.

**GAMES:** Tiffinay Hager 236, Anna Rose 233, Kim Davis 217.

## MEN'S CLASSIC TRIOS

**SERIES:** Brad Holm 946, Jordan Parish 940, Bob Bywater 924.

**GAMES:** Bob Bywater 288, Jordan Parish 269, Brad Holm 268.

## TUES. MIXED

**MEN'S SERIES:** Rick Hieb 718, Jordadn Parish 638, Clavell Godfrey 616.

**MEN'S GAMES:** Rick Hieb 258, Jordan Parish 233, Bill Stark 223.

**LADIES SERIES:** Tiffinay Hager 713, Stacy Hieb 588, Terri Harris 519.

**LADIES GAMES:** Tiffinay Hager 257, Stacy Hieb 200, Terri Harris 198.

## RAILROADERS

**SERIES:** Tammy Rains 540, Kristine Jones 531, Deon Fassett 515.

**GAMES:** Deon Fassett 212, Janet Grant 207, Sharon Hissing 194.

## TUESDAY TEENS

**BOYS' SERIES:** Andrew Morgan 505, Cameron Black 242, Kaden Black 204.

**BOYS' GAMES:** Andrew Morgan 180, Cameron Black 90, Kaden Black 80.

**GIRLS' SERIES:** Bridget Albertson 506, Rachel Watson 223.

**GIRLS' GAMES:** Bridget Albertson 182, Rachel Watson 88.

## BURLEY HIGH

**BOYS' SERIES:** Daniel Posada 480, Tyson Despain 469, Broc 375.

**BOYS' GAMES:** Tyson Despain 195, Daniel Posada 179, Jim Hollahan 147.

**GIRLS' SERIES:** Kyleigh 356, Kyleigh 356, Kyleigh 125.

**GIRLS' GAMES:** Kyleigh 125, Kyleigh 125.

## WED. MIXED

**MEN'S SERIES:** Tyson Hirsch 628, Justin Studer 618, Galan Rogers 566.

**MEN'S GAMES:** Tyson Hirsch 247, Justin Studer 237, Jordan Parish 226.

**GIRLS' SERIES:** Annette Hirsch 193, Jessica Meyer 467, Bobbi Crow 428.

**GIRLS' GAMES:** Annette Hirsch 192, Jessica Meyer 176, Bobbi Crow 162.

## THURS. MORN. DBLS.

**SERIES:** Kym Son 578, Deon Fassett 486, Derry Smith 472.

**GAMES:** Kym Son 210, Deon Fassett 199, Jamie Stewart 177.

## HOUSEWIVES

**SERIES:** Kristie Johnston 542, Bonnie Murphy 518, Bonnie McClellan 487.

**GAMES:** Kristie Johnston 204, Bonnie Murphy 189, Bonne McClellan 174.

## MAJORS

**SERIES:** Tyson Hirsch 743, Rick Hieb 709, Shon Bywater 666.

**GAMES:** Jonny Amen 285, Rick Hieb 279, Gene Smith 257.

## PINHEADS

**BOYS' SERIES:** Andrew Morgan 524, Quentyn Roberts 434, Teagan Uscola 276.

**BOYS' GAMES:** Andrew Morgan 190, Quentyn Roberts 187, Karrigan Hollins 102.

**GIRLS' SERIES:** Cheyenne Powers 334.

**GIRLS' GAMES:** Cheyenne Powers 122.

## MINICO HIGH

**BOYS' SERIES:** Brody Albertson 551, Anthony Meyer 515, Bryant Craythorn 483.

**BOYS' GAMES:** Bryant Craythorn 200, Brody Albertson 197, Anthony Meyer 179.

**GIRLS' SERIES:** Catilyn Schafer 443, Jessica Hodge 351, Jamie Mancias 340.

**GIRLS' GAMES:** Bridget Albertson 551, Catilyn Schafer 165, Jessica Hodge 150.

## Gomis

## Continued from Sports 1

gets "a couple of calls a day" and the odd visit about Gomis, citing interest from schools like Oregon State, UCLA, UNLV and Virginia Tech.

Gomis will have to work on his 3-point shooting, he and Flory agree, as he projects as a small forward at the next level.

For now he focuses on studies and basketball, especially after getting cleared in November to attend the Community School on a full-time basis. Prior to that he had a visitor's visa to the United States, which only permits part-time study.

Under a new IHSA rule, Gomis was technically ineligible to compete for the Community School varsity team, as foreign-exchange students are now treated as transfer students and must sit out one varsity season before being eligible to compete. The Northside Conference voted to permit him to play in the regular season but his postseason status, and that of the Cutthroats, is still unclear.

Whether the team, Gomis, or both, are allowed into or barred from postseason play, the ripple effects of his impact are already being felt. In the old analogy, Gomis is higher water and his teammates are the boats.

"We're trying to build a program," Flory said. "With Daniel it's a different skill level, and we're all playing basketball at a higher level now."

For an 18-year-old high-schooler, Gomis already speaks like a coach when it comes to basketball.

"I like to try and get my teammates involved with assists," he said, "and get them motivated, especially on defense. Anyone can score but if you can play really good defense you can win games more easily."

In his basketball experiences, Gomis has played among the elite in Africa, stepped on the big stage of Madison Square Garden in New York City, and met current NBA players Caron Butler and DeSagana Diop, the latter also hailing from Senegal.

But none of his previous globe-trotting yielded what he found in Idaho — his first taste of significant snowfall. Even that he took in stride.

"It's cool," Gomis said of the snow.

So is he. Posters of Gomis dot the foyer of the school's gymnasium, drawn by fifth-graders he, by his own doing, helps teach French, the official language of Senegal.

Those posters, and the gaggle of elemen-



KAREN BOSSICK/For the Times-News

Daniel Gomis is leading the Community School in points and rebounds this season, while drawing larger-than-normal crowds both home and away.

tary-school students that attend the Cutthroats' games, are but a sampling of the regard with which the Community School community views Gomis.

And the feeling's mutual.

"I love the kids," Gomis said, noting that the Ketchum community reaching out to him when he first arrived fed his desire to give back. Doing so is the hallmark of one of his most revered NBA personalities.

Gomis said his favorite player on-court is Tracy McGrady, while one of his favorites off-court is recently-retired Dikembe Mutombo, who is well-known for his philanthropy in his native Democratic Republic of the Congo.

"I like Dikembe not just for basketball, but he's got a big heart," Gomis said. "He does many great things besides basketball."

Gomis is off to a pretty good start in that respect as well, already leaving a mark on his Idaho family.

"It's fun to watch (the home dynamic) because he's so big, and Tanner's a short blond kid," Jackie Flanigan said, chuckling. "It's going to be sad to see him go."

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## BCS

## Continued from Sports 1

into a playoff?"

He has given this thought. He figures it would be eight teams, because that is what every playoff proponent wants, or two fewer than get BCS berths. And he figures the SEC wants two. So does the Big 12. Figure at least one Big Ten school, an ACC school and a Big East and you're suddenly looking at seven spots already spoken for.

"So until they tell me there is a formula where we get an automatic qualifier, whether a BCS game or a playoff, tell me why I should be in favor of anything," he said. "Because I don't think it changes anything."

He is wrong, of course. It changes the biggest thing. A playoff gives the Frogs an actual chance to win a National Championship

# SCOREBOARD

## BASKETBALL

NBA All Times MST EASTERN				
ATLANTIC	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	23	5	.821	-
Toronto	14	17	.452	10½
New York	11	18	.379	12½
Philadelphia	7	22	.241	16½
New Jersey	2	28	.067	22

SOUTHEAST				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Orlando	22	8	.733	-
Atlanta	21	8	.724	½
Miami	15	12	.556	5½
Charlotte	11	17	.393	10
Washington	10	18	.357	11

CENTRAL				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Cleveland	23	8	.742	-
Milwaukee	12	16	.429	9½
Chicago	11	17	.393	10½
Detroit	11	18	.379	11
Indiana	9	19	.321	12½

WESTERN				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Dallas	21	9	.700	-
Houston	18	12	.600	3
San Antonio	16	11	.593	3½
New Orleans	13	15	.464	7
Memphis	13	16	.448	7½

NORTHWEST				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Denver	20	10	.667	-
Portland	20	12	.625	1
Utah	17	13	.563	3
Oklahoma City	15	14	.517	4½
Minnesota	17	24	.226	11½

PACIFIC				
W	L	Pct	GB	
L.A. Lakers	23	5	.821	-
Phoenix	19	11	.633	5
Sacramento	13	15	.464	10
L.A. Clippers	12	17	.414	11½
Golden State	21	25	.166	16

Friday's Games				
Miami 93, New York 87				
Boston 86, Orlando 77				
Cleveland 102, L.A. Lakers 87				
Phoenix 124, L.A. Clippers 93				
Portland 107, Denver 96				

Saturday's Games				
Dallas 106, Memphis 101				
Atlanta 110, Indiana 98				
Houston 98, New Jersey 93				
Oklahoma City 98, Charlotte 91				
Chicago 96, New Orleans 85				
Minnesota 101, Washington 89				
San Antonio 112, Milwaukee 97				
Utah 97, Philadelphia 76				

Sunday's Games				
L.A. Lakers at Sacramento, late				
Phoenix at Golden State, late				
Detroit at Toronto, 11 a.m.				
Indiana at Miami, 4 p.m.				
Houston at Cleveland, 4 p.m.				
Houston at New York, 4 p.m.				
Dallas at Denver, 6 p.m.				
Boston at L.A. Clippers, 7:30 p.m.				

Monday's Games				
Milwaukee at Charlotte, 5 p.m.				
Oklahoma City at New Jersey, 5:30 p.m.				
L.A. Lakers at Phoenix, 7 p.m.				
Philadelphia at Portland, 8 p.m.				
Denver at Sacramento, 8 p.m.				
Boston at Golden State, 8:30 p.m.				

## NBA Box

JAZZ 97, 76ERS 76

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

UTAH (97)				
Miles 1-6 0-0 2, Boozer 7-12 5-6 19, Okur 6-10 4-5 16, D. Williams 10-14 3-6 27, Brewer 2-3 0-4, Matthews 6-9 3-5 16, Kirilenko 2-5 2-4 6, Millsap 1-6 1-2 3, Price 0-2 4-4 10, Korver 1-2 0-0 3, Fesenko 0-0 0-0 0, Koufos 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 36-69 19-37 97.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

PHILADELPHIA (76)				
Iguodala 6-16 3-7 16, Young 8-15 3-20, Dalembert 0-0 0-0 0, L. Williams 3-10 1-2 7, Green 3-10 0-0 7, Brand 3-7 4-4 10, Speights 0-0 0-0 0, Holiday 2-7 5-10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Iyavosa 2-3 0-0 6, Kapono 0-2 0-0 0, Carney 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 27-80 16-23 76.				

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Mohammed 8), Oklahoma City 57 (Krstic 10). Assists—Charlotte 23 (Fellon, Jackson 5), Oklahoma City 17 (Westbrook 6). Total Fouls—Charlotte 18, Oklahoma City 18. Technicals—Jackson, Charlotte defensive three second, Collison, Ibaka. A—17961 (18,203).

**MEMPHIS (10)**  
Gay 10-22 2-4 22, Randolph 12-19 3-5 27, Gasol 5-10

# Jets next up in Indy's march to perfection

By Barry Wilner  
Associated Press writer

To be perfect or not to be? The Indianapolis Colts don't consider it much of a dilemma, really.

They certainly aren't going to sit Peyton Manning for long as he pursues an unprecedented fourth MVP award and the career 50,000-yard passing mark. And on Sunday they host the Jets, a team that has shown little ability to keep up offensively.

So Manning could get in his work, lift the Colts to 15-0, knock the Jets out of playoff contention and finish off an unbeaten home schedule before heading to Buffalo for the finale.

And a share of history. "You don't want to lose a game. As a competitor, as an athlete, you want to go out every single game and win," defensive end Dwight Freeney said. "That being said, we're going out there and playing hard every game no matter who is out there. Maybe the starters may not be out there the whole game, but that's no excuse. We still have to try to get it done regardless."

They have gotten it done 23 straight games, an NFL regular-season record. To think they will make a half-hearted effort at an unbeaten slate is, well, unthinkable.

The NFL got an early start on the action on Christmas night with the San Diego Chargers clinching the AFC's No. 2 seed and a first-round bye with an impressive 42-17 victory over Tennessee that knocked the Titans out of playoff contention. The Chargers had already won the AFC West.

## BALTIMORE (8-6) AT PITTSBURGH (7-7)

Back in January, the winner of this game was headed to the Super Bowl. Now, the loser — particularly if it's the defending league champion Steelers — might see playoff hopes disappear.

The Steelers snapped a five-game slide with a final-play touchdown to edge Green Bay. That doesn't mean they're back to anticipated levels from earlier this season. Not by a long shot.

Baltimore has won three of four, including 20-17 in overtime against the Steelers when Ben Roethlisberger was sidelined by a concussion. The Ravens could clinch a wild card this weekend and remain barely alive in the NFC North race.

## DENVER (8-6) AT PHILADELPHIA (10-4)

Think they're getting nervous in Colorado, where the Broncos might be in the midst of another Mile High plummet? From 6-0, they are now scrambling for a wild-card berth and their

## A gang of teams cling to hope

The AFC West race has ended with San Diego winning it and the Broncos desperately clinging to a wild-card spot at 8-6. A loss to the Eagles, who already own at least a wild-card berth in the NFC, could send Denver spiraling out of the postseason altogether.



### Buffalo at Atlanta (5-9) (7-7)

Bills only win in Atlanta was in 1973. They have not made the playoffs in this decade. The Falcons need to sweep final two games to stay in it.



### Kansas City at Cincinnati (3-11) (9-5)

Chiefs and Bengals split the previous four games. Bengals can clinch AFC North title with win or Baltimore loss, but wasted chances in last two games.



### Oakland at Cleveland (5-9) (3-11)

Two storied struggling franchises with coaches on the hot seat. Raiders are seeking first back-to-back wins this season.



### Seattle at Green Bay (5-9) (9-5)

Seahawks lost the last four in Green Bay, including in playoffs to end their 2003 and 2007 seasons. Packers are second in NFL in total defense.



### San Diego at Tennessee (11-3) (7-7)

Chargers need a win or Patriots loss to clinch AFC's No. 2 seed and first round bye. Titans remain mathematically alive for the playoffs.



### Houston at Miami (7-7) (7-7)

Texans are the only NFL teams the Dolphins have never defeated. A win Sunday would tie Houston's franchise record for victories with eight.



### Jacksonville at New England (7-7) (9-5)

Both teams missed chances to ruin Indianapolis' unbeaten season by giving up late scoring passes from Peyton Manning to Reggie Wayne.



### Tampa Bay at New Orleans (2-12) (13-1)

Saints can clinch No. 1 NFC playoff seed with win. Bucs seek first two-game winning streak of season. Tampa Bay last won in New Orleans in 2007.



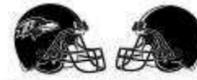
### Carolina at N.Y. Giants (6-8) (8-6)

Last week, Panthers QB Matt Moore had career-high 299 yards and three TDs over the Vikings; Giants 45 points were their most on the road since 1954.



### Denver at Philadelphia (8-6) (10-4)

Broncos are now in danger of falling out of playoffs. Eagles won five in a row to secure playoff spot. A win Sunday with a Cowboy loss gives Eagles NFC East.



### Baltimore at Pittsburgh (8-6) (7-7)

Teams are meeting for the fourth time in 13 months. Baltimore can clinch AFC playoff if they win and Jaguars and Jets lose.



### St. Louis at Arizona (1-13) (9-5)

Rams have lost six in a row to Cardinals. If Cardinals beat St. Louis, 10 wins would be their most since 1976.



### Detroit at San Francisco (2-12) (6-8)

Detroit has lost 82 games since start of 2003 season. San Francisco needs to win its final two games to avoid seventh straight losing season.



### N.Y. Jets at Indianapolis (7-7) (14-0)

Jets face undefeated team in December for second time in three seasons. Colts have set NFL records with 23 straight regular-season wins and 115 in a decade.



### Dallas at Washington (9-5) (4-10)

Cowboys will clinch playoff berth with a win and Giants loss to Carolina. Dallas is trying to win first back-to-back games in December since 2003.



### Minnesota at Chicago (11-3) (5-9)

Vikings would earn first-round bye in NFC playoffs with win and Philadelphia loss or tie; or Vikings tie and Eagles loss.

## Today's TV games

- Baltimore at Pittsburgh 11 a.m., CBS
- Seattle at Green Bay 11 a.m., FOX
- Denver at Philadelphia 2:15 p.m., CBS
- Dallas at Washington, 6:15 p.m., NBC

home loss to Oakland last Sunday was particularly damaging.

Denver's highly rated defense will be tested severely by the potent Eagles and their big plays. Philly has won five in a row thanks mainly to the explosiveness of DeSean Jackson and the guidance of quarterback Donovan McNabb. A win and a Dallas loss gives the Eagles their sixth NFC East crown in this decade.

## DALLAS (9-5) AT WASHINGTON (4-10)

The Cowboys won this first matchup 7-6 a month ago. Considering how both teams looked last weekend, anything but a rout by Dallas would be surprising in the 100th version of this intense rivalry.

A win and a Giants loss puts Dallas into the postseason. If the Cowboys can't build momentum off handing New Orleans its first loss of the season, then they probably don't belong in the playoffs.

Washington is playing out the string. Well, not exactly

playing it out, considering that 45-12 humiliation by the Giants on Monday night.

## KANSAS CITY (3-11) AT CINCINNATI (9-5)

Two straight defeats to division winners shouldn't dampen enthusiasm in Cincinnati, particularly after the Bengals performed so well in San Diego. A victory or a Baltimore loss hands the AFC North to Cincinnati. The Bengals' players and coaches flew to New Orleans to attend the funeral of WR Chris Henry on Tuesday.

## JACKSONVILLE (7-7) AT NEW ENGLAND (9-5)

For all their struggles, the Patriots are about to win the AFC East again. They're unbeaten at home and Randy Moss re-emerged last week. His receiving partner, Wes Welker, is on pace for 9.1 receptions per game, which would break Marvin Harrison's NFL record of 8.9 set in 2002. Welker leads the league with 109 catches despite missing two games.

Jacksonville leads something, too: the pack of 7-7 teams in the AFC. But the Jags likely must win out to get into the postseason.

## HOUSTON (7-7) AT MIAMI (7-7)

Two more of the half-dozen .500 teams in the AFC, and Houston is at the back end of the 7-7 clubs because of tiebreakers. The Dolphins have a slim chance of winning the East, but their best bet is winning out,

which lifts them above the Texans and Steelers, their final opponent. Plus, they'd need some losses from Denver and Baltimore.

Odd stat: Houston is the only franchise the Dolphins have never beaten, losing all four meetings.

## SEATTLE (5-9) AT GREEN BAY (9-5)

The first time Mike Holmgren is not involved in this matchup since 1990.

While the injury-ravaged Seahawks can't wait for the season to end, the Packers seem headed to the playoffs. Their last-play defeat at Pittsburgh should be a boost because of the strong comeback they staged and how well they moved the ball. On a troubling note, their defense was ripped by the Steelers.

A win and a loss by either the Giants or Cowboys earns Green Bay a wild card.

## OAKLAND (5-9) AT CLEVELAND (3-10)

Two bad teams playing a bit better. The Browns have won two straight, with record-setting showings at Kansas City by Joshua Cribbs and Jerome Harrison. Oakland has wins over Philly, Denver and Cincinnati, all playoff candidates, but has trouble with prosperity: The Raiders have been outscored 119-23 after victories.

## CAROLINA (6-8) AT N.Y. GIANTS (8-6)

Carolina comes off its best game of the season, a 26-7 manhandling of Minnesota. Panthers QB Matt Moore had

a career-high 299 yards passing and three touchdowns, DeAngelo Williams and Jonathan Stewart form a formidable rushing pair, and New York is vulnerable on defense if it can't manufacture a pass rush.

The Giants went 2-1 in a three-week march through their division, but likely still must beat the Panthers and Vikings next week to have a shot at the playoffs for the fifth straight year.

## MINNESOTA (11-3) AT CHICAGO (5-9)

This Monday night appearance will be Minnesota's third in prime time in four weeks. The Vikings lost the previous two badly, and for the first time all season, there's some discord thanks to coach Brad Childress' thoughts about removing Brett Favre from the loss at Carolina last Sunday evening.

If Childress is concerned about his quarterback play, all he needs to do is look at the Bears and Jay Cutler, whose 25 interceptions lead the league.

## TAMPA BAY (2-12) AT NEW ORLEANS (13-1)

OK, that silly undefeated stuff is out of the way for the Saints. Yeah, we know they really wanted to shoot for 16-0, but with the loss to Dallas last Saturday night, it's time to get everyone organized and healthy for the postseason. New Orleans must erase those early-game woes that have plagued it for

a career-high 299 yards passing and three touchdowns, DeAngelo Williams and Jonathan Stewart form a formidable rushing pair, and New York is vulnerable on defense if it can't manufacture a pass rush.

The Buccaneers shocked Seattle last week, perhaps blowing the top overall draft pick.

## ST. LOUIS (1-13) AT ARIZONA (9-5)

That No. 1 spot in the draft is the Rams' pick to, uh, lose. They aren't likely to get a second-round pick in the Valley of the Sun, even though the Cardinals own the NFC West and are almost locked in as the fourth seed in the conference. After they sputtered late last season when the division was clinched, the Cardinals heard it loud and clear from coach Ken Whisenhunt. They won't lose their focus again.

## DETROIT (2-12) AT SAN FRANCISCO (6-8)

San Francisco needs to win its final two games to avoid a seventh straight losing season. Running back Frank Gore is looking for his third straight 100-yard rushing game and needs 58 yards for his fourth straight 1,000-yard rushing season.

The Lions have dropped 19 in a row on the road.

## BUFFALO (5-9) AT ATLANTA (7-7)

Now in its 44th season, Atlanta never has managed winning records in consecutive years. After going 11-5 in 2008, it comes down to this: sweep the Bills and Bucs or extend the ignominious string.

Buffalo WR Terrell Owens needs two receptions to become sixth NFL player with 1,000.

# Spin, spin on the coaching carousel: NFL teams start looking

By Barry Wilner  
Associated Press writer

The coaching carousel has begun to spin in the NFL, with seven teams possibly stepping on once the season ends. Those teams certainly know who is out there for the hiring: Bill Cowher, Mike Shanahan, Jon Gruden and Brian Billick for starters.

Mike Holmgren already has landed in Cleveland, although he is not likely to be on the Browns' sideline in 2010. Holmgren was hired as president of the team, even though the coaching bug has never really left him. But don't expect to see him wearing a headset next year.

What might we expect in coaching moves? Here's a look at teams that might be headed for the merry-go-round, not including Tampa Bay or Dallas.

Some believe Raheem Morris is a one-year fill-in before the Buccaneers go for a bigger name with more experience, but there's been little evidence ownership is thinking that way. And Jerry Jones wants to find every reason to keep Wade Phillips at the Cowboys' helm, although failing to make the playoffs surely could change Jones' approach.

## CLEVELAND

Holmgren's coaching genes tell him it's unfair to fire a coach after one season, no matter how disappointing and dysfunctional that season has been. But Holmgren also understands holding on to Eric Mangini for 2010 could mean delaying Holmgren's own program for rebuilding the Browns by another year.



Billick



Cowher



Gruden

When Bill Parcells took over in Miami, he weighed the same options before firing Cam Cameron and bringing in his own guy — Parcells has a lot of "guys" — in Tony Sparano. That's worked out pretty well, and Holmgren is likely to want a coach of his choosing.

Besides, Mangini hardly has been the most popular, diplomatic or understanding coach in the league, both in Cleveland and New York. All three of those traits defined Holmgren when he led the Packers and Seahawks.

They probably will define whoever he seeks to replace Mangini.

## OAKLAND

Don't be surprised to see Tom Cable return. Yes, the Raiders remain losers, and JaMarcus Russell has made virtually no progress at quarterback. But remember that Cable had nothing to do with Al Davis selecting Russell at the top of the draft in 2007, and his decision to go with Bruce Gradkowski late this season worked well enough.

Oakland plays hard, if not with consistent efficiency, and the players seem to respond to Cable. One thing that could hurt his future coaching opportunities: off-the-field issues that surfaced this year.

Plus, nobody can predict the whims of

Davis, who might just decide a Super Bowl-winning coach needs to be brought to Oakland. Of course, Shanahan and Gruden already have been down that Black Hole.

## CHICAGO

Three seasons back, Lovie Smith was the toast of Chitown, as secure as any coach or manager in the Windy City. Now, followers of Da Bears are ready to bring out Da Ax.

And not just for Smith, but for general manager Jerry Angelo.

The Bears' frugality was legendary, but Angelo has spent big time on some of his stars, who have not played like stars, and he did get aggressive in acquiring Jay Cutler. Unfortunately for the GM and his coach, Cutler has been the season's biggest individual flop, more a franchise scourge than franchise quarterback thus far.

Chicago has looked inept and disinterested at times this season, about the worst indictment a coaching staff can be handed.

If Smith goes, don't look for a big name to replace him.

## CAROLINA

John Fox is an excellent coach who has been hamstrung by some poor contract situations (Julius Peppers) and decisions (Jake Delhomme). Fox was part of those choices by the Panthers, of course.

Carolina has been up and down for most of the decade, going 7-9, 11-5 (and a last-second loss in the Super Bowl), 7-9, 11-5 (and a trip to the NFC title game), 8-8, 7-9 and 12-4 under Fox. That might be too much inconsistency for owner Jerry Richardson and GM Marty Hurney, and if Fox is fired, he easily

could wind up with another head coaching position quickly.

The Cowher factor plays heavily here. Does the former Steelers coach and superb TV studio analyst want to leave his comfortable gig? Cowher lives in North Carolina and would be a popular choice.

## WASHINGTON

Since Daniel Snyder bought the Redskins in 1999, he has had six head coaches, one of them interim. It's clear that Jim Zorn won't be around for 2010, and new GM Bruce Allen had a long working relationship with Gruden in Oakland and Tampa Bay.

Snyder loves big names, doesn't mind spending big bucks, but Gruden has indicated he will stay in the broadcast booth next year. Plus, there's another megacoach out there in Shanahan, who wants back in. This looks like his landing spot, particularly if he's willing to have less say over personnel than he did in Denver.

One question: Would he have as much say about personnel as the owner?

## BUFFALO

Dick Jauron couldn't stick around long enough to go 7-9 for a fourth successive season. Perry Fewell has to win his last two, including beating the Colts, to get that high as he finishes out Jauron's term.

Owner Ralph Wilson says he will spend to get a quality coach and he had a long meeting with Shanahan after firing Jauron. This team desperately needs an infusion of offense regardless of who takes over, and Shanahan would be a good choice if he slips out of Snyder's grasp.

AP

# Barkley leads USC past Boston College in Emerald Bowl

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Matt Barkley threw touchdown passes to Stanley Havili on Southern California's first two possessions and added a touchdown run in the fourth quarter to help the Trojans beat Boston College 24-13 in the Emerald Bowl on Saturday night.

The victory was far from impressive but it did put a positive ending on a disappointing season for USC (9-4). The Trojans lost three of their final five regular-season games to fall out of the national rankings for the first time since Pete Carroll's first season as coach in 2001.

That left USC in an unfamiliar bowl setting after making it to the Bowl Championship Series the past seven years, including four straight Rose Bowl bids. But the Trojans made the most of it, handing Boston College (8-5) its second straight bowl loss after an

eight-year bowl winning streak.

Damian Williams caught 12 passes for 189 yards in what could be his final game for the Trojans, grabbing long passes to set up Havili's second score and Barkley's 1-yard sneak that gave USC a 24-13 lead with 11:53 remaining. Williams is expected to skip his senior season to enter the NFL draft.

The Eagles stayed close with the Trojans for most of the game before Dave Shinskie threw an interception to Shareece Wright early in the fourth quarter. On the next play, Barkley connected on a 48-yard pass to Williams, who made a leaping grab between three defenders. Barkley scored on the next play.

The Trojans won despite playing without leading rusher Joe McKnight, who was not cleared to play as the school investigates whether he violated rules by

using an SUV that doesn't belong to him. McKnight is USC's first 1,000-yard rusher since 2005, with 1,014 yards on 6.2 yards per carry and eight touchdowns.

USC struggled on the ground without McKnight but was able to move the ball consistently through the air as Barkley often found open receivers on slant patterns. Barkley completed 27 of 37 passes for 350 yards in the second 300-yard game of his freshman season. He also threw two interceptions that allowed Boston College to stay close until the fourth quarter.

The Trojans got a fast start by scoring touchdowns on their two possessions with passes from Barkley to Havili to go up 14-0. But USC didn't score again in the half, with Barkley throwing an interception deep in BC territory to end one potential scoring drive.

The Eagles got right back into the game with a 7-yard run by Montel Harris. Steve Aponavicius hit the upright on the extra point attempt, ending a streak of 81 straight makes since late in the 2007 season.

BC got help from a big mistake by USC to get another score late in the half. Michael Morgan was called for pass interference on a third-and-21 toss to Chris Pantale that went only 2 yards. But the infraction gave the Eagles an automatic first down and Shinskie connected with Rich Gunnell on a 61-yard TD pass on the next play to make it 14-13.

The Eagles missed a golden opportunity to score after intercepting Barkley on the first play of the second half to give them the ball at the 9. Harris fumbled a handoff two plays later, costing BC a chance to take its first lead of the game.



AP photo

Southern California quarterback Matt Barkley (7) celebrates after throwing a touchdown to Stanley Havili (31) during the second quarter of the Emerald Bowl in San Francisco, Saturday.

# Williams, Jazz shred Sixers

SALT LAKE CITY — Deron Williams scored 27 points, Carlos Boozer had 19 points and 11 rebounds, and the Utah Jazz returned home to beat the struggling Philadelphia 76ers 97-76 on Saturday night.

The Jazz held the Sixers scoreless for nearly nine minutes late in the second half and used an 11-0 run during Philadelphia's drought to pull away and end a two-game losing streak.

Mehmet Okur scored 16 and pulled down eight rebounds, while Williams had eight assists in Utah's first home game since Dec. 14.

Thaddeus Young scored 20 for the Sixers, who played much of the game without starting center Samuel Dalembert. Dalembert had three fouls midway through the first quarter and played just 16:24, but still managed to pull down nine rebounds.

## BULLS 96, HORNETS 85

CHICAGO — Tyrus Thomas returned from injury to score 21 points, Joakim Noah added 17 points and 18 rebounds, and the Chicago Bulls capped an eventful week with a 96-85 victory over the New Orleans Hornets on Saturday night.

Thomas, back after missing 22 games with a broken left forearm, was active from the moment he entered to a nice ovation 3:09 into the game. He finished 10 for 17 from the floor and also had nine rebounds.

Kirk Hinrich replaced slumping John Salmons in the starting lineup and scored 14 points and Derrick Rose also had 14 for the Bulls.

## ROCKETS 98, NETS 93

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Reserve Carl Landry scored 26 points to lead the Rockets to a victory over New Jersey, sending the Nets to their ninth straight loss.

Luis Scola and Aaron Brooks each had 17 points, while Trevor Ariza added 13 points and 11 rebounds as the Rockets won for the fourth time in the last five games.

## HAWKS 110, PACERS 98

INDIANAPOLIS — Al Horford had 25 points and a season-high 19 rebounds, leading the Hawks past the Pacers.

Joe Johnson scored 24 points, and Josh Smith had 22 points and five blocks for the Hawks (21-8), who had dropped two of their last three games, all on the road.

Troy Murphy, Tyler Hansbrough and Luther Head all finished with 19 points for Indiana.

## MAVERICKS 106, GRIZZLIES 101

DALLAS — Dirk Nowitzki scored 20 points over the first three quarters, then saw his teammates take control in the fourth to carry the Mavericks to a victory over the Grizzlies.

Nowitzki asked for more help from his teammates after the last game and certainly got it. Six other Mavericks



AP photo

Philadelphia 76ers guard Andre Iguodala (9) loses his balance while going to the basket against Utah Jazz center Mehmet Okur during the first half Saturday in Salt Lake City.

scored in double-figures, with Jason Terry scoring 14 of his 23 points in the fourth quarter. He sealed the victory with four free throws in the final 20.6 seconds. Nowitzki was 0 for 2 in the final period.

Erick Dampier had 13 points and 10 rebounds, Jason Kidd had 10 points and 10 assists, Josh Howard had 11 points and Shawn Marion had 10 points as the Mavericks pulled out a split of a four-game homestand, and avenged a 16-point loss in Memphis earlier this month.

## TIMBERWOLVES 101, WIZARDS 89

MINNEAPOLIS — Corey Brewer scored 23 of his career-high 27 points in the second half to lead the Timberwolves to a victory over the Wizards.

Kevin Love added 17 points and 10 rebounds against a Wizards team that has seven coaches and players who have significant ties to the Timberwolves organization.

Gilbert Arenas had 26 points, nine assists and seven rebounds.

## THUNDER 98, BOBCCATS 91

OKLAHOMA CITY — Kevin Durant scored 30 points, Russell Westbrook

had 22 and the Thunder held off the Bobcats.

Nenad Krstic added 13 points and 10 rebounds for the surprising Thunder, who improved to 15-14. They didn't earn their 15th win last season until the 60th game, on March 2.

A near-capacity crowd of 17,961 showed up at the 18,203-seat Ford Center, two nights after the biggest snowstorm (14 inches) in Oklahoma City history.

Stephen Jackson had 24 points for the Bobcats, who dropped to 1-13 on the road.

## SPURS 112, BUCKS 97

MILWAUKEE — Tim Duncan scored 26 points and the Spurs never trailed in a victory over the Bucks.

The Spurs opened a 20-point lead in the second quarter and Milwaukee never got within single digits in the second half.

Tony Parker had 16 points and eight assists for San Antonio, which has won four of five. Antonio McDyess scored 14 points and Manu Ginobili added 13.

Hakim Warrick scored a season-high 23 points for Milwaukee.

— The Associated Press

# Pittsburgh rallies to edge North Carolina

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Pittsburgh hasn't won this many games since Dan Marino was the quarterback. The only player in school history to rush for more yards in a season than freshman sensation Dion Lewis is somebody named Tony Dorsett.

Thanks to a late-game rally in front of a hostile crowd, the Panthers made a strong case they've returned to prominence.

Lewis rushed for 159 yards and a touchdown to move up in the record book and Dan Hutchins kicked a 33-yard field goal with 52 seconds left, giving 17th-ranked Pitt a 19-17 victory over North Carolina on Saturday in the Meineke Bowl.

Winning 10 games for the first time since the Marino era in 1981, Pitt (10-3) overcame a disappointing loss to Cincinnati three weeks ago that cost it a spot in a BCS bowl.

"It's back," Lewis said of Pitt football, moments after he was voted bowl MVP. "We're not satisfied with just 10 wins. We want to get more next year."

The last win in 2009 required a remarkable 17-play drive that lasted nearly 9 minutes, included a key fourth-down conversion, a costly penalty against North Carolina and 13 runs by the dynamic Lewis.

Eclipsing Dorsett's freshman rushing record of 1,686 yards in the first quarter, Lewis also moved past Craig Heyward into second on the school's single-season list with 1,799 yards. Dorsett rushed for 2,150 yards in 1976 when he won the Heisman Trophy and Pitt won its last national title.

"It's tough to describe what Dion has accomplished," coach Dave Wannstedt said. "He's special."



AP photo

Pittsburgh quarterback Bill Stull (11) kisses the trophy after Pittsburgh's 19-17 win over North Carolina in the Meineke Bowl in Charlotte, N.C., Saturday.

T.J. Yates threw two touchdown passes to Greg Little, but his incomplete pass on fourth-and-10 from his own 49 with 6 seconds left sent the Tar Heels (8-5) to their second straight loss.

Yates was 19 of 32 for 183 yards and an interception while Little caught seven passes for 87 yards and Ryan Houston rushed for 83 yards.

But North Carolina's defense, which came in sixth in the nation overall and ninth against the run, struggled to contain the shifty Lewis and continued a trend of struggling to close out games over the past two seasons under coach Butch Davis.

"I don't think we played as smart as we needed to," Davis said.

The matchup of old coaching buddies went to Wannstedt.

Davis and Wannstedt worked on Jimmy Johnson's staffs at Oklahoma State, Miami and the Dallas Cowboys, winning a national title and Super Bowl together. Their careers then included NFL head coaching jobs before they returned to college.

# Marshall holds on to beat Ohio

DETROIT (AP) — Martin Ward ran for two touchdowns in the first half Saturday and Marshall held off Ohio 21-17 in the Little Caesars Pizza Bowl.

DeQuan Bembry's interception with 40 seconds left sealed the victory for the Thundering Herd (7-6), who led by three touchdowns midway through the second quarter.

The Bobcats (9-5) rallied with Shannon Ballard's 75-yard return off a fumble in the second quarter, Terrence McCrae's TD catch and Matt Weller's field goal. Ohio had chances to complete the comeback but was stunted on the drive before its final possession.

The game looked like it

was going to be a route when Ward's 2-yard run put Marshall ahead 21-0 with 7:21 left in the first half. Ward scored on a 12-yard run late in the first quarter and Andre Booker had 58-yard punt return for a touchdown at the end of the quarter.

Just when it appeared as if the Herd were going to make the game lopsided, Ballard returned a fumble 75 yards and gave Ohio a much-needed spark. The Bobcats carried the momentum into the second half, when Theo Scott connected with a leaping McCrae in the end zone on an 8-yard pass midway through the third quarter.

Weller's 46-yard field goal made it 21-17.

# Kentucky back for 3rd Music City Bowl in 4 years

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Call the Music City Bowl the Kentucky Wildcats' new postseason home.

Here for the third time in four years, Kentucky fans aren't bored by the familiar scenery. The Wildcats (7-5) can make team history by beating C.J. Spiller and Clemson tonight to win a fourth straight bowl game, and fans have bought more than 15,000 tickets through the school alone.

"Our fans have been great traveling and certainly our biggest successes this year have been on the road," Kentucky coach Rich Brooks said Saturday. "We've had smaller groups because they

can't get enough tickets in SEC stadiums. But our visit against Vanderbilt, I believe we had more white and blue in the stands than Vanderbilt had at a home game."

Kentucky fans have been here often enough that they know it's easier to buy tickets through the bowl office than working through the school's donor list. Brooks said he got an eye-opener here at the 2006 Music City Bowl when he saw so much blue in the stands for his

first bowl game with this program.

"I'm just very, very pleased that our fans are in close proximity again and coming to a fourth straight bowl and enjoy not traveling too far," Brooks said.

Clemson will be without several backups because coach Dabo Swinney suspended four players for missing curfew the first night in town. Assistant athletic director Tim Bourret confirmed that second-string defensive

tackles Jamie Cumbie and Rennie Moore won't play along with third-string tight end Durrell Barry and receiver Kyle Johnson.

Clemson (8-5) gave back some tickets for this game, and a rematch of that 2006 Music City Bowl isn't what the Tigers expected after winning the Atlantic Division of the ACC title game.

Swinney insists his Tigers will be ready to snap a three-game bowl skid, even though they could have played in a Bowl Championship Series Bowl if not for their 39-34 loss to Georgia Tech in the ACC title game.



Kentucky vs. Clemson  
6:30 p.m., ESPN

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# Sports in 2009 looked down the barrel of a gun

By Fred Lief  
Associated Press writer

From Tennessee to Georgia to Nicaragua, gunfire crackled in July. The causes differed — a romance gone wrong, a robbery botched, a self-inflicted wound — but the outcome did not. A gun was the weapon of choice, and all were dead: a former star quarterback and two ex-boxing champions.

Steve McNair was dozing on his sofa in his Nashville condo one weekend when his 20-year-old girlfriend shot him four times. McNair was married with four sons. Police say the woman, Sahel Kazemi, was "spinning out of control" and suspected McNair was seeing someone else. The carnage did not end there. Kazemi turned the semiautomatic pistol on herself.

McNair was 36 and had left the NFL a year earlier. He spent 13 seasons in the league and was the heart of the Tennessee Titans. His closing drive in the 23-16 loss to St. Louis in the 2000 Super Bowl was one of the most riveting finishes in the history of the title game. He was a Pro Bowl player four times. He shared the MVP award in 2003. McNair was fierce on the field and generous off it.

"I'm going to miss you, No. 9," Titans coach Jeff Fisher said.

Vernon Forrest grew up in Georgia and fought in the 1992 Olympics with Oscar De La Hoya. He became a three-time champion and was the first to beat Shane Mosley. His manager said he was at a gas station when approached for money. Atlanta police said the 38-year-old boxer exchanged gunfire with two robbery suspects and was shot several times in the back. In a sport where bravado rules, Forrest had been known for his modesty and keeping the volume low.

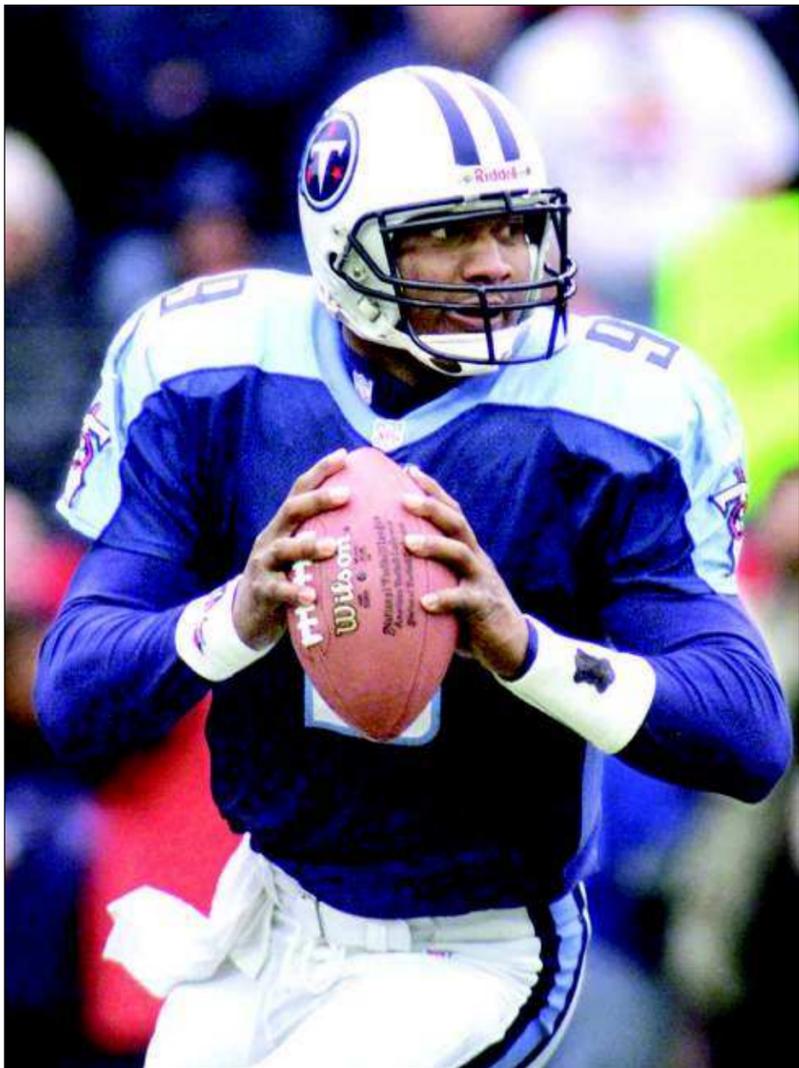
"I viewed Vernon as a great competitor in the ring and an even greater man outside the ring," De La Hoya said.

Weeks earlier, Alexis Arguello was found dead at his home in Managua, the city where he was elected mayor a year earlier. Investigators said a single gunshot wound to the chest pointed to suicide. Arguello was dead at 57 after a career in which he galvanized boxing fans. He won titles in three divisions. His two bouts with Aaron Pryor in the early 1980s were pulsating, brawling tests of will.

"Those were great fights we had," Pryor said. "This was a great champion."

Boxing is brutal every year, but especially so this time. In July, former champion Arturo Gatti died at 37 at a Brazilian resort. Police initially suspected his wife but later determined Gatti hanged himself. Months later, in a grisly parallel, Darren Sutherland, who won a boxing bronze medal for Ireland at the Beijing Olympics, was found hanged at his home.

The sport also lost Ingemar Johansson at 76. The Swede jolted boxing by knocking out Floyd



Former Tennessee Titans quarterback Steve McNair, 36, was killed in July, a year after he had left the NFL. He spent 13 seasons in the league and was the heart of the Titans.

Patterson to win the heavyweight title in 1959. Greg Page, another heavyweight champ, died at 50 of complications from a brain injury during a 2001 fight. Jose Torres, the inspirational light heavyweight champ from Puerto Rico who became a writer, died at 72.

Baseball could fill a lineup card with its departed from 2009: On the mound, Nick Adenhardt, Mark Fidrych, Carl Willey and Tom Sturdivant throw to Johnny Blanchard behind the plate. George Kell, Whitey Lockman and Woodie Held make the plays in the infield, while "Old Reliable" Tommy Henrich roams the outfield with Dom DiMaggio and Dusty Rhodes. Herman Franks, Preston Gomez and Danny Ozark direct the moves from the dugout, with Carl Pohlad watching from the owner's box.

And Harry Kalas announces from the booth that the ball is "outta here!" The promise of youth resonated with the deaths of Adenhardt and Fidrych, days apart in April. Fidrych brought a burst of life to the game. He was Rookie of the Year in 1976 for the Tigers, talking to the ball and smoothing the mound with his hands. Nothing was the same after that season, injuries exacting a toll. He died at 54, suffocated in an accident while working under a dump truck in Massachusetts.

Adenhardt was a 22-year-old rookie for the Angels, having finally made it to the big leagues. Hours after throwing six scoreless innings, he was killed in a car crash. His death became a rallying point for his team-

mates all the way to the postseason, his jersey with the team every day.

"It makes you take into consideration that not every day is promised," Angels pitcher Jared Weaver said. "And you have to go out there, every out, and give it everything you have."

Chicago Bulls fans had a rough day on Feb. 26. They learned of the deaths of former coach and broadcaster Johnny Kerr at 76 and Norm Van Lier, 61, one of NBA's best defensive players in the 1970s.

Randy Smith, a blindingly fast guard, died at 60. Marvin Webster, the shot-blocking "Human Eraser," was gone at 56. College basketball coach Kay Yow's gallant fight with cancer was over at 66. The NBA said goodbye to two owners: Bill Davidson of the Pistons and Abe Pollin of the Wizards, whose name he changed from the Bullets because of the ties to violence.

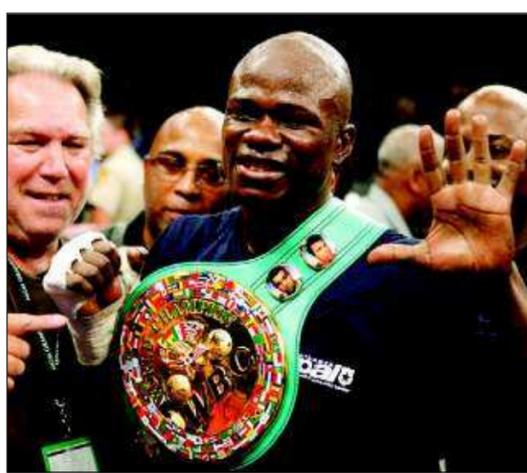
Wayman Tisdale, the former Oklahoma All-

American who spent a dozen years in the NBA before shifting rhythms and becoming a jazz musician, died at 44.

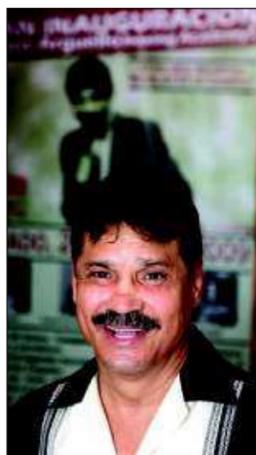
"He was the nicest man in the world with the biggest heart and an even bigger smile," former Pacers teammate Reggie Miller said.

In football, Jack Kemp, the star Buffalo Bills quarterback who went on to a life in national politics, died at 73. Doc Blanchard, the 1945 Heisman Trophy winner and Army's Mr. Inside, was 84. Lou Saban had one of the fullest resumes in sports — the longtime NFL and college coach and New York Yankees president died at 87.

The Detroit Lions mourned former coach Monte Clark, 72, and Hall of Fame lineman Lou Creekmur, 82. Forest Evashevski, the former Michigan star who coached Iowa to two Rose Bowl victories in the 1950s, was 91. Dante Lavelli, the receiver who helped the Cleveland



Boxing promoter Gary Shaw, left, and Vernon Forrest celebrate Forrest's unanimous-decision victory over Sergio Mora in a WBC super welterweight championship boxing match in Las Vegas Sept. 13, 2008. Forrest was killed in July, police said, during an exchange of gunfire with two robbery suspects. He was shot several times in the back.



Former lightweight boxing world champion Alexis Arguello, of Nicaragua, is pictured during an inauguration of a public boxing gymnasium named after him, in Carolina, Puerto Rico. Arguello, who was also the current mayor of the Nicaraguan capital Managua, was found dead in his Managua home on July 1.

Browns build a post-World War II dynasty, was 85.

Jasper Howard and Chris Henry didn't see old age. Howard, a 20-year-old cornerback for Connecticut, was stabbed during a fight outside a school dance. Henry, the Cincinnati Bengals receiver, died at 26 near the year's end, falling from a pickup truck during what police said was a dispute with his fiancée.

NCAA president Myles Brand, who tried to contain the "arms race" in college sports but might be best remembered for firing Bob Knight while at Indiana, died of pancreatic cancer at 67.

Tennis lost a giant in Jack Kramer at 88. He won

Wimbledon in 1947 and the forerunner of the U.S. Open in 1946 and '47. He went on to promote the sport for more than a half century, an industry unto himself.

In horse racing, Hall of Fame trainer Bobby Frankel died at 68, running his stables while concealing his cancer from most of his colleagues. The race also ended for two Kentucky Derby winners: Alysheba (1987) and Lil E. Tee (1992).

Reggie Fleming, who played a gritty 12 seasons in the NHL, died at 73. The New York Times reported he had had brain damage stemming from repeated head trauma, linking hockey for the first time to a condition usually found in boxers.

Germany was shaken by the suicide of Robert Enke, the 32-year-old national goalkeeper who stepped in front of a train. Toni Sailer, the mighty Austrian skier who won three gold medals at the 1956 Olympics, died at 73.

This year also marked the last swings for Jerry Sacharski at 93. He was the architect of T-ball, introducing baseball to millions of kids. Sacharski also taught public school in Michigan and coached high school baseball.

"Everything that he did," son Will Sacharski said, "the purpose was to teach something."

Contributing to this report were Associated Press Writers Lucas L. Johnson II in Nashville, Tenn.; Jonathan Landrum Jr. in Atlanta; Filadelfo Aleman in Managua, Nicaragua; and James Prichard in Albion, Mich.

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### REAL ESTATE

**501**  
Open House

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE Selling Property? Don't pay any fees until it's sold. For free information about avoiding time share and real estate scams, write to: Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580 or call the National Fraud Information Center. 1-800-876-7060.

### 502 Homes For Sale



**EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES**

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin or an intention to make any such preference limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodian; pregnant women and people securing custody or children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD Toll-free telephone number at 800-688-9777. The Toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 800-927-8275.

#### HOME INSPECTIONS

theinspectionco.com For Buyers & Sellers **Bill Baker 326-5115**

**JEROME** 5 bdrm, 3 bath, 3000 sq. ft., hot tub/gazebo, all on approx 5 acres, horse property, metal carports, 2 large shops 1 fully insulated, wired 220 3 car, great location on the edge of town, \$410,000. Call 208-731-2139

**TWIN FALLS** Available Jan 1<sup>st</sup>. Newer home, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, fenced backyard, large corner lot, new landscaping in front, appls, 2 car garage with storage on side of house. House is available for showing now. Take advantage of \$8000 first time home buyer program and make this your first home. \$129,500. 421-2746 or 308-7512

**TWIN FALLS** Free Home Search [www.twinfallshomeinfo.com](http://www.twinfallshomeinfo.com) Free list of foreclosures [www.twinfallstoreclosures.com](http://www.twinfallstoreclosures.com) Exit Realty

**TWIN FALLS** Priced Reduced! Seller pays 3% of buyers closing costs! Nice 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage, huge fenced yard \$124,900. 2068 Falls Ave E. - 208-404-4799

**TWIN FALLS PRICED TO SELL**, this beautifully landscaped, 4+ bedroom, 2 bath home sits on one-third acre. Large family room plus a shop for FIM! Enjoy summer living on the covered patio. Best school district in TF. Drive by 2142 Sherry Lane. If interested, call 208-481-2009. A steal at \$159,000.

**WWW.MAGIC VALLEY.COM/CLASSIFIEDS**

### 515 Commercial Property

CURRY 7000 sq.ft. commercial building w/5 overhead doors on .661 acre lot. \$250,000

## NELSON REALTY LLC

**734-3930**

WHO can help YOU sell your property? Classifieds Can! 208-733-0931 ext. 2 [twinnad@magicvalley.com](mailto:twinnad@magicvalley.com)

### RENTAL PROPERTIES

### 0602 Unfurnished Homes

BUHL/JEROME/SHOSHONE Rent/rent to own Apts & Homes, new & remodeled, town or country. **Builder 208-308-2941** **Realtor 208-731-4040**

**FILER** Spacious 5 bdrm 3 1/2 bath pellet stoves horse property \$2000 Country 3 bdrm appls oil heat \$800

**TWIN FALLS Canyon Ridge** 3 bdrm 2 1/2 bath, appls, garage, \$900

**Newer neighborhood** 3 bdrm, 2 bath, appls, garage, \$950/month.

**Perrine** 6 bdrm., 2 bath, stove, fireplace, garage, \$900/month. **The Management Co. 733-0739**

**HAGERMAN** 2 bdrm, 2 bath, attached garage, fenced yard, \$650. 208-837-6234 or 208-731-2249

**HAGERMAN** Small, clean 2 bdrm, 1 bath, W/D hookup, \$500 + \$500 dep. Call for further info 731-5546.

**HANSEN** 3 bedroom, 1 bath, \$700 month. No smoking. Call 208-420-6283.

**JEROME** 1/2 way to Wendell, VERY SMALL 1 bdrm, appls, \$350 + dep. No alcohol/drugs. 324-7901

**JEROME** 2 bdrm, 1 bath house, \$650/mo. + \$400 dep. No pets/smoking. Call 208-421-0906

**JEROME** 3 bdrm, 2 bath mobile homes, \$550-\$600. No pets. Long term. 324-8903 or 208-788-2917

**JEROME** 3 bdrm, 2 bath with attached garage. \$675 month. 759 17<sup>th</sup> Ave. E. - 208-539-1403

**JEROME** 3, 2 & 1 bdrms, ranging from \$450-\$750, water, sewer, trash included, 50% off 1<sup>st</sup> mo. rent w/signed 1 year lease. 733-7818

**KIMBERLY** 3 bdrm, 2 bath, newer home, large yard, with RV parking, near park and walking trails. Pets Neg. \$895 + dep, short term ok. Avail Now. **Anna 420-6169**

**KIMBERLY** 3 bedroom, 1 bath, \$750, newer, sprinklers, outside storage. Call 208-420-8887.

**KIMBERLY** Country, 3 bdrm., 2 bath, gas heat, \$550 mo + deposit. 208-423-9668 or 208-981-0073

**PAUL** 3 bdrm., 1 bath, fenced yard. 18 N 2<sup>nd</sup> W. \$500 month + \$350 deposit. No smoking. 431-2046

**RUPERT** 3 bdrm, 1 bath home. 2 bdrm, 1 bath duplex. Call 208-878-8916.

**SHOSHONE** 2 bdrm mobile home, 1 bath, stove, refrig, W/D, no pets, refs. \$400 + \$300 dep. 886-7573.

**TWIN FALLS** 1 Bdrm Duplex, \$400 Owner Pay Water & Heating 756 Blue Lakes Blvd. 208-734-4334

**TWIN FALLS** 1-3 bdrm houses and apartments ranging from Buhl to Burley. 423-4301 or 909-881-2045

**TWIN FALLS** 1/2 off 1<sup>st</sup> mos rent. 328 1/2 Adams Remodeled 1 bdrm, 1 bath house, \$450 + \$300 dep. No pets/smoking. 208-733-8676 or 208-539-4449

**TWIN FALLS** 1526 Filer Ave E 1 bdrm \$500+ dep. 1598 Filer Ave E 2 bdrm \$575+ dep. Both have stove, refrig, W/D hookup, water & yard care provided, no pets. 420-0125

**TWIN FALLS** 2 bdrm, 1 bath, laundry hook up, kitchen appls, gas heat, AC. Very nice. Small pets neg. \$680+ dep. 280-1809

### 0602 Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS 2-3 bdrm, 2 bath, garage, small shop, by Perrine School, \$625 month + \$500 dep. 731-6172 or 731-6188

TWIN FALLS 2600 sq. ft., 4 bdrm, 3 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, sprinkler, central air, \$1000 rent, \$800 dep. 208-308-7606 or 208-589-4647

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 1 bath, \$650 or 4 bdrm, 2 bath, \$775. Both remodeled and super nice. Pet ok, NO smoking. 212-2553

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 3 yrs new \$875 + dep., 4 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 yrs new, \$950 + dep. both have central AC & heat. 2 car garage, fenced yard, both avail. 11/27. 208-720-9200

TWIN FALLS 4 bdrm., 2 bath, some appls., no smoking, pet dep. \$910. 2 bdrm kitchen appl no smoking/pet \$675. <http://steelmg.com> 735-0473 pics on back of website

TWIN FALLS 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 1 car garage, \$850 month. Call 208-731-8260

TWIN FALLS 5 bdrm/3 bath house, incl. appl. \$975/mo + \$800 dep. Call 420-3929 or (208)724-1856.

TWIN FALLS A very nice 3 bdrm, 2 bath home, garage/door opener, lawn care, appls. No smoking. \$950 + dep. 208-733-6269

TWIN FALLS Classic 4 bdrm, 2 bath bungalow with swimming pool and hardwood floors. 143 N. 10th. \$990/month. 208-481-1969

TWIN FALLS Cute 1 Bdrm House, \$400 932 Blue Lakes Blvd No Pets 734-4334

TWIN FALLS Near new, upscale townhome, 3 bdrm., 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, no smoking, pets considered. Lease/buy avail. \$975 mo. Call 208-733-8267.

TWIN FALLS Newly remodeled small 3 bdrm, 1 bath. \$575 + \$300 deposit. No pets. 208-212-1678

TWIN FALLS Quiet, fenced yard, Sawtooth dist. 4 bdrm, 3 bath, 2 car garage, no smoking, pets w/ deposit. 1<sup>st</sup> & last, refs. \$950. Call 208-293-8670

TWIN FALLS Small 3 bdrm, 1 bath, \$540 + \$300 deposit. No pets. 208-212-1678

WENDELL 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath w/lots of storage space. \$625 month. 427 E. Ave. A - 208-539-1403

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**TWIN FALLS** 2 bdrm, 1 bath, laundry hook up, kitchen appls, gas heat, AC. Very nice. Small pets neg. \$680+ dep. 280-1809

Today is Sunday, Dec. 27, the 361st day of 2009. There are four days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight:**  
On Dec. 27, 1968, Apollo 8 and its three astronauts made a safe, nighttime splashdown in the Pacific.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

**On this date:**  
In 1831, naturalist Charles Darwin set out on a round-the-world voyage aboard the HMS Beagle.  
In 1904, James Barrie's play "Peter Pan: The Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up" opened at the Duke of York's Theater in London.  
In 1927, the musical "Show Boat," with music by Jerome Kern and libretto by Oscar Hammerstein II, opened at the Ziegfeld Theater in New York.  
In 1932, Radio City Music Hall opened in New York City.  
In 1945, 28 nations signed an agreement creating the World Bank.  
In 1949, Queen Juliana of the Netherlands signed an act recognizing Indonesia's sovereignty after more than three centuries of Dutch rule.  
In 1959, the Baltimore Colts defeated the New York Giants 31-16 to win the NFL championship.  
In 1979, Soviet forces seized control of Afghanistan. President Hafizullah Amin, who was overthrown and executed, was replaced by Babrak Karmal.  
In 1985, Palestinian guerillas opened fire inside the Rome and Vienna airports; a total of 20 people were killed, including four of the attackers, who were slain by police and security personnel.  
In 2007, opposition leader Benazir Bhutto was assassinated in Pakistan by an attacker who shot her after a campaign rally and then blew himself up.

**Ten years ago:** Space shuttle Discovery and its seven-member crew returned to Earth after fixing the Hubble Space Telescope. Former television executive Leonard H. Goldenson, who'd built ABC into a network powerhouse, died in Longboat Key, Fla., at age 94.

**Five years ago:** The death toll continued to rise in southern Asia in the wake of a huge tsunami triggered by a monster earthquake underneath the Indian Ocean. Opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko declared victory in Ukraine's fiercely contested presidential election. In an audiotape, a man purported to be Osama bin Laden endorsed Abu Musab al-Zarqawi as his deputy in Iraq and called for a boycott of January's elections.

**One year ago:** Israel bombed security sites in Hamas-ruled Gaza in retaliation for rocket fire aimed at civilians in southern Israeli towns, opening one of the Mideast conflict's bloodiest assaults in decades. Tens of thousands of people in Pakistan paid homage to Benazir Bhutto on the one-year anniversary of her assassination. Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin's 18-year-old daughter Bristol gave birth to a son, Tripp Easton Mitchell Johnston. Sculptor Robert Graham died in Santa Monica, Calif., at age 70.

**WHO can help YOU rent your rental? Classifieds Can!**  
733-0931 ext. 2  
[twinnad@magicvalley.com](mailto:twinnad@magicvalley.com)

**WHY RENT WHEN YOU CAN BUY!**  
Mercy Housing is now accepting applications for the Magic Valley Self-Help Program. Homes are 3 or 4 bedrooms, 2 bath with 2 car garages. Payments based on income \$425-\$850. No closing costs. No down payment.

Funded by USDA-RD, HUD, IHFA Energy Star Homes



**CALL TODAY! 208-737-1470**  
1-866-335-2087

### 603 Furnished Apartments

**TWIN FALLS/BURLEY/RUPERT \* WOW!**

**Weekly Payments O.K!**

- No Credit Checks-No Deposit-All Utilities Paid-60 Channel Cable and Internet Free.
- Pets O.K.-Furnished Studios.
- On Site Laundry.

**TWIN FALLS** Starting \$690 mo. 731-5745 or 358-0085

**BURLEY-RUPERT** Starting \$350. 731-5745 or 436-8383

### 604 Unfurnished Apartments

**BUHL** Close to park 2 bdrm, \$425

**TWIN FALLS** Close to CSI 3 bdrm., 3 bath, appls, water incld, \$725.

**New Paint/Carpet**, 3 bdrm., 2 bath appliances, garage, \$950 month.

**Cul-de-sac** 3 bdrm appls., \$750

**Morningside** 3 bdrm., 2 bath \$850.

**Spacious** 2 bdrm., appls, \$525.

**Nice size** 2 bdrm., 2 bath, stove, garage, patio, \$600 month.

**Quiet Neighborhood** 2 bdrm., garage, fenced yard, \$650 month. **The Management Co. 733-0739**

**BURLEY** 1 bdrm apt at 1134 Elba. \$280 month + deposit. Call 208-312-7250.

**BURLEY** Cute 1 bdrm, \$350 and 2 spacious 2 bdrm, \$375-\$400. Great location, storage and laundry. 208-678-2520

**TWIN FALLS** AC, cable, W/F, all utls. Paid. Weekly/monthly rates. 1341 Kimberly Rd. 208-733-6482. [www.capriextendedstay.com](http://www.capriextendedstay.com)

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## OPPORTUNITY IS AT YOUR DOOR.

### RN

Positions available for 2 p.m.-10 p.m. and 10 p.m.-6 a.m. shifts. Current Idaho nursing license required. New graduates welcome to apply. We offer competitive pay in a team-oriented, mission-driven environment. Apply in person.



**208.736.3933 | 208.736.3941 Fax**  
1828 Bridgeview Blvd. | Twin Falls, ID 83301  
[www.LCCA.com](http://www.LCCA.com)

## Cactus Petes

*Northeastern Nevada's Four Diamond Award Winning Resort and Casino*

### Exciting Opportunities!

We are looking for outgoing and friendly people who want to be rewarded and appreciated for a job well done.

Can you handle working in a fast paced, ever changing, fun filled environment?

**Food Server  
Beverage Server  
Poker Dealer  
Slot Service Specialist  
Wardrobe Manager**

Various Shifts Available  
Wage based on experience and position

Affordable Transportation available from Twin Falls, Filer, Hollister, and Rogerson

**Apply Online at:**  
[www.ameristar.com](http://www.ameristar.com)

For more information:  
Call 775-755-6907 or Fax 775-755-2724  
EOE/Drug Free Workplace

## NEW YEARS RESOLUTION!!

**#1 BUILD WITH RENALDI!**  
**#2 GET \$8000 TAX CREDIT**  
**#3 CALL TAMI SHIRLEY 539-9368**

Twin Falls - \$149,900 - 3 bed, 2 bath 1494 sq ft  
Kimberly - \$154,900 - 3 bed, 2 bath, 1428 sq ft  
Buhl - \$144,900 - 3 bed, 2 bath 1309 sq ft  
Murtaugh - \$119,900 - 3 bed, 2 bath, 1416 sq ft

**WESTERRA REAL ESTATE GROUP 733-7653**

### WILL YOUR TITLE INSURANCE PROTECT YOU?

FROM SCHEDULE B "EXCEPTIONS" TO THE POLICY "Any...adverse circumstance...that would be disclosed by an accurate and complete land survey..."

**CALL US BEFORE YOU SIGN!**

**208-934-4811**

boundary & lot surveys, construction staking, subdivisions, elevation certificates



*Merry Christmas!*  
*Wishing you a Wonderful Holiday Season!*

**TITLEFACT, INC.**  
A LAND TITLE COMPANY

TITLEFACT, INC.  
163 4<sup>th</sup> AVENUE  
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301  
P. 208-733-3821 F. 208-733-3878  
[www.titlefact.com](http://www.titlefact.com)

The Times-News will be closed  
Friday **January 1<sup>st</sup>**  
for **New Years Day**  
Classified

**604**  
**Unfurnished Apartments**

**BURLEY** Norman Manor Apts  
1361 Parke Avenue  
1 & 2 bdrms, \$375-\$400 + dep.  
Office hours 2-5pm, Mon-Fri  
Call 208-678-7438

**BURLEY** Very nice 2 bdrm apt,  
exc location, no smoking/pets.  
208-431-1643, 878-3216, 431-1642

**Classified Department**  
Classified Sales Representatives  
are available from  
8:00 am-5:00 pm Monday-Friday  
Call our office in Twin Falls  
733-0931 ext. 2

**FHA LOANS AVAILABLE**  
With low to no down payments,  
low interest rates  
and low monthly payments.  
Call John to see how much you're  
approved for! 208-733-1996  
or 1-866-595-4591

**GOODING** 1 bdrm, 1 bath, includes  
WD, no smoking, no pets, \$500  
mo including utilities. 308-6804

Government funds available for  
first time home buyers on new  
manufactured homes. Monthly  
payments based on income!  
Call Troy for pre-approval today!  
208-733-7755 or 1-866-595-4591

**Hear the quiet!**  
Lazare Park Apartments  
176 Maurice Street Twin Falls  
734-4195

**JEROME** Immaculate 3 bdrm, 1.5  
bath, all appls, WD hookups, AC,  
\$600 mo. + dep, garbage paid. NO  
pets/smoking. 324-4698 tv msg

**JEROME** The Oaks. Enjoy living in  
one of our beautiful, 3 bdrm, 2  
bath, 2 car garage Duplex Style  
Townhomes. Amenities incl. en-  
ergy efficient central heat & air,  
ceiling fans, WD hookups, ceramic  
tile, & vaulted ceilings, private  
fenced backyard & more. Enjoy the  
use of our state of the art fit-  
ness center, basketball court, &  
play ground. No smoking or pets  
\$578 + dep \$500. 208-324-6969.

**NEW CREDIT, LIMITED CREDIT?**  
We have FHA loans on new man-  
ufactured homes with monthly  
payments less than rent! Call Melanie  
for an appointment and be in your  
new home for the holidays.  
208-733-7767 or 1-866-595-4591

**RUPERT** 202 A Lorene Ln. 2 bdrm,  
1 bath, WD hookup, \$425 mo. +  
\$350 dep. 208-670-4345

**SHOSHONE** Move-in special \$99 1<sup>st</sup>  
mo, 2 bdrm, 1 bath, water/garbage  
pd. \$500 + \$300 dep. No pets.  
2 Falls Property Mgmt. 212-1678

**TWIN FALLS** 1 & 2 Bedrooms  
Apts & Houses. \$400-\$600  
Various Locations  
Call for Details 734-4334  
www.twinfallsrentals.com

**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdrm new duplex,  
1 mi CSI, WD incl. off street park-  
ing, fenced yard, \$650. 420-6628

**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdrm, 1 bath, some  
utils paid, all appls, nice and clean  
\$450 + dep. Sm pet neg. 280-1809

**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdrm, now carpet  
paint, WD, free utilities. By Har-  
mon Park, \$395. No smoking/pets.  
208-732-5408

**TWIN FALLS**  
1<sup>st</sup> MONTH FREE!  
Affordable 1, 2 & 3 bedrooms.  
Call today! 208-734-1600  
Fawnbrook Apartments  
Equal Housing Opportunity

**TWIN FALLS** 1<sup>st</sup> month free,  
1 & 2 bdrm apts.  
The Falls Apts. 734-6600

**TWIN FALLS** 2 bdrm, new paint,  
carpet, windows, gas heat, no  
smoking/pets, \$450. 208-732-6408

**TWIN FALLS**  
2 Bdrms, 1 Bath Nice Apts.  
Only \$525, 734-4334  
Honey Locust Ln  
No Pets

**TWIN FALLS** 2 bedroom, 1 bath,  
remodeled 1<sup>st</sup> floor, AC, carpet,  
fenced yard, no pets \$600.  
Call 208-731-9260

**TWIN FALLS** 3 bdrm, 1 bath duplex  
w/onus rooms in bsmt & carport.  
Has recently been remodeled. No  
smoking, no pets. \$675 + deposit.  
208-954-6119

**TWIN FALLS** 3 bdrm, 2 bath apt  
w/garage at 377 Morningside Dr.  
Fresh coat of paint, small pet ne-  
gotiable, no smoking. \$675/month  
+ deposit. 208-954-6119

**TWIN FALLS** Attractive, 2 bdrm,  
very clean, modern appls, quality  
carpets/drapes, carport, no drugs/  
pets. \$495/mo. + dep. 733-2546

**TWIN FALLS** Brand new 2 bed-  
room, 1 bath apts, \$624-\$680  
Close to CSI campus. For more  
info call 208-735-1180.

**TWIN FALLS** Duplex, 3 bdrm, 1  
bath, all appls., small pet OK, near  
CSI, \$720/month + \$600 deposit.  
208-731-9268

**604**  
**Unfurnished Apartments**

**TWIN FALLS** Large, clean 2 bdrm,  
range, refrig, WD furnished,  
\$490/mo. Avail Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>. 320-0288

**TWIN FALLS**  
Maple Grove - 1st Mo Free  
Lg. secure 2 bdrm, 2 bath apts  
Call 208-734-8004

**TWIN FALLS**  
MOVE-IN SPECIAL  
\$100 off first month's rent.  
Carriage Lane Apts.  
2510 Whispering Pine Drive  
Twin Falls, ID 83301  
208-735-2111

Affordable 2 and 3 bdrm/2 bath  
apts. Laundry hookups, AC,  
garage w/sea apt, 2 playgrounds,  
fitness room. Rental Assisted  
Households welcome.

**TWIN FALLS** Newer 4-Plex, 3 bdrm,  
2 bath, garage, downstairs unit,  
WD hookups, \$19 Lenore #2,  
\$650-\$500 dep. No pets/smoking.  
208-420-2853.

**TWIN FALLS** Roomy 2 bdrm, 2 bath  
no smoking/pets. \$615 mo + \$615  
dep. 916 Mountainview 420-9339.

**TWIN FALLS** Super Deal! 2 bdrm,  
2 bath, in 4-plex, \$540 mo. + \$400  
dep. No smoking/pets. 539-4515  
or 734-8452

**TWIN FALLS** Very nice 1 bdrm,  
front rm, kitchen, 559 Main Ave W.  
\$379 mo. + dep. 208-423-6177

**605**  
**Rooms For Rent**

**BURLEY-RUPERT** All utilities paid,  
free cable & internet. No dep. No  
credit check. Starting \$450 month.  
208-431-3796 or 208-731-5745

**BURLEY-RUPERT** All utilities paid,  
free cable & internet. No dep. No  
credit check. Starting \$450 month.  
208-431-3796 or 208-731-5745

**TWIN FALLS MOTEL**  
Daily and weekly rates. Quiet  
208-733-8620. We are affordable!

**TWIN FALLS** Quiet, clean motel.  
Weekly \$115. Monthly \$395 + dep.  
Microwave/refrig. No pets. 736-1988

**606**  
**Mobile Homes**

**TWIN FALLS** 1 & 2 bdrms, 1 bath,  
with WD, no pets, quiet park.  
\$300 & \$390 + \$375 dep 320-8496

**607**  
**Office and Retail Rentals**

**KIMBERLY** Price reduced. Office  
space for lease. New construction,  
1168 sq. ft. with shared common  
area. Great location, across from  
the middle and high school. Will  
build to suit you. Troy 404-6181.

**NEED OFFICE SPACE?**  
Contact Walt Hess  
Gem State Realty  
208-410-2525

**TWIN FALLS** 734-4334  
Offices, Retail Spaces  
Shop with Bay Door & Dock  
Great Location in TF & Jerome.  
Various Sizes at Great Prices

**TWIN FALLS** For lease 2130 sq. ft.  
professional office space in pre-  
mier location at Blue Lakes Office  
Park. Ground floor, excellent visi-  
bility with ample parking. Lease  
negotiable. 208-736-1004

**608**  
**Commercial Property**

**TWIN FALLS** 2000 sq. ft. shop with  
office. For more information call  
208-734-9288 or 421-2832

**616**  
**Roommates Wanted**

**TWIN FALLS** Downstairs, master  
bdrm, \$395. Upstairs room \$275 +  
deposit. Shared utilities,  
fully furnished. Pets neg. Near CSI.  
1149 Blake St. N. 208-721-1592

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**Classified Ad**  
Placement  
magicvalley.com

**NOTICES**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Actions planned and taken by your government are contained in public notices. They are part of your right to know and to be informed of what your government is doing. As self-government charges all citizens to be informed, this newspaper urges every citizen to read and study these notices. We advise those citizens who seek further information to exercise their right to access public records and public meetings.

**IMPORTANT**  
Please address all legal advertising to:  
**LEGAL ADVERTISING**  
The Times-News  
PO Box 548  
Twin Falls, Idaho  
83303-0548  
email to  
legals@magicvalley.com  
Deadline for legal ads: 3 days prior to publication, noon on Wednesday for Sunday, noon on Thursday for Monday, noon on Friday for Tuesday and Wednesday, noon on Monday for Thursday and noon on Tuesday for Friday and Saturday. Holiday deadlines may vary. If you have any questions call Ruby, legal clerk, at 208-735-3324.

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The Board of Cassia County Commissioners is requesting proposals for Ambulance Service to be provided in Cassia County. The County's intent is to comply with applicable emergency medical standards; and to realize the best possible ambulance service for the county and to award a contract for a period of up to four (4) years. Proposals submitted pursuant to this solicitation shall be filed with the Cassia County Administrator by hand delivery or certified mail, return receipt requested, to be received by the administrator no later than 11:00 a.m. on the 30th day of December, 2009. The submittals will then be presented to the Board at 9:00 a.m. on the 4th day of January, 2010 for opening. [Two (2) sets of proposals must be supplied at the time the RFPs are submitted.] Late proposals will not be accepted, opened or considered. Each proposal shall include the legal name of the provider and a statement whether the provider is a sole proprietor, a partnership, a corporation or other legal entity, and shall be signed by the person or persons legally authorized to do so. No bidder's security deposit is required. The name and address of the Cassia County Administrator is as follows:  
Kerry D. McMurray  
Cassia County Administrator  
1459 Overland Avenue  
Burley, Idaho 83318  
The County reserves the right:  
1. To reject any and all Proposals, or any part thereof.  
2. To waive any minor defects in the Proposals if this is to the advantage of the County.  
The Requests for Proposals may be obtained from the office of the County Administrator, Room 4, in the basement of the Cassia County Courthouse, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, or by writing to the Administrator at the above address.  
Board of Commissioners  
For Cassia County, Idaho  
By: 's' Dennis D. Crane, Chairman  
Dennis D. Crane, Chairman  
PUBLISH: Times-News December 14 and 27, 2009

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**101**  
**Lost and Found**

**FOUND** Australian Shepherd puppy,  
found on Wednesday in the down-  
town area near 8<sup>th</sup> Ave in Twin  
Falls. To identify at 404-6676.

**FOUND** Key chain with the name  
Christina on it with 1 silver key.  
Found on Rock Creek Park. Call  
732-5940 and leave message.

**FOUND** Lab mix puppy  
about 8 weeks old.  
Call 324-7346

**FOUND** Leatherman knife combi-  
nation. Found east of Twin Falls.  
Call 208-733-8301

**FOUND** Motorola cell phone  
at the mall.  
Call to identify 208-731-1111.

**LOST** Purple IPOD with name on  
back. Lost at South Hills lights or  
ID Joe's on 12/21/09. 308-3207

**LOST** Womens diamond wedding  
ring, possibly at Shopsy or in park-  
ing lot, white gold. 308-6252

**LOST: COLD FIREFIGHTER!** Lost  
black/reflective Blauer coat and  
wallet around 300 block of East A  
in Jerome. Return to station no  
questions asked.

**106**  
**Special Notices**

**BIRTHDAY PHOTOS**  
Have you forgotten to  
pickup your birthday  
photos? We have some  
photos we are sure you  
don't want us to lose.  
These can be picked up  
at The Times-News  
Classified Dept.

**107**  
**Pregnancy**  
**Alternatives**

Pregnant? Worried?  
Free Pregnancy Tests  
Confidential  
208-733-7472

**108**  
**Professional Services**

**Bankruptcy & Debt Counseling**  
Free 15 hr consultation. Competitive  
Rates. We are a debt relief agency.  
We help people file for bankruptcy  
relief under the bankruptcy code.  
May, Browning & May  
208-733-7180

**BANKRUPTCY**  
**ATTORNEY**  
Accurate, dependable &  
very experienced. Free  
telephone consultations.  
We are a debt relief agency  
helping people file for  
bankruptcy relief.  
Bradley Rice,  
Attorney at Law  
208-734-3367 or toll  
free @ 866-734-3369

**0113**  
**Child Care Services**

**BO PEEP DAYCARE**  
**& PRESCHOOL**  
ICCP & CPR Certified. State  
licensed. Creative fun home  
environment.  
Call 208-733-5097

**CAREER NANNY**  
Looking to take care of your  
infants. Experienced.  
Part time, have transportation  
& personal references.  
Call 208-329-0037

In home child care has immediate  
openings. 6:30am-6pm. Mon-Fri.  
Call Stacy 420-7828.

**L'il Tikes Childcare &**  
**Preschool.** After school,  
preschool, snacks & meals  
provided. \$15/day. Multi-  
child discounts. ICCP Cert.  
12 years exp. 208-260-5488

**check**  
**your**  
**career**  
**vitals.**

The Times-News, in  
partnership with Yahoo!  
HotJobs, gives you access  
to more high-quality  
nursing jobs at:  
magicvalley.com/hotjobs  
Times-News  
magicvalley.com  
in partnership with  
YAHOO! hotjobs

**PEOPLE FOR PETS**

420 Victory Ave. - PO Box 1163  
Twin Falls, Idaho  
736-2299

**LOST & FOUND**

1. Retriever/Mastiff cross black/brindle adult male, 2361 Orchard E
2. Shih-Tzu cross white adult male, 2015 E 4560 N
3. Doberman Pincher/Heeler cross black/brown adult male 2015 E 4560 N
4. Akita/Border Collie cross white/black adult male animal shelter
5. Australian Shepherd light brown/white older adult neutered male 3880 N 3635 E
6. Boxer brindle/white adult neutered male black collar, 259 Rock Creek Ave.
7. German Shepherd cross tan/black male pup, VanBuren Kimberly, ID
8. Lab/Pit Bull cross black adult female, 2304 Eldridge
9. Husky black/white adult spayed female, Addison & Jackson
10. Lab yellow male puppy found in the PetSmart parking lot
11. Terrier cross black/white male puppy, 146 Addison Ave.
12. Spaniel cross tri colored male pup, 100 block of Ramage
13. 4 Australian Shepherd cross 2 tans/1 brown merle/1 blue merle 840 Madrona St.
14. Lab/Heeler cross 1 black/white / 1 yellow/white male puppies, 233 Harrison

**ADOPTIONS**

1. Lab/Retriever cross black 3 mos old spayed female.
2. Heeler cross black/white 4 mos old spayed female
3. Border Collie cross white/chocolate 3 mo spayed female
4. Boxer/German Shepherd cross tan/black 2 mo spayed female
5. Miniature Pincher black/brown 9 yr neutered male
6. Lab/Hound cross black/white 5 mo neutered male
7. Lab/Hound cross black 5 month old spayed female
8. German Shepherd/Basset cross black/brown/white 8 mo spayed female
9. Hound cross black/chocolate 4 mo neutered male
10. Terrier cross black/tan 8 month old spayed female
11. Mastiff/Hound cross tan/black 11 mo neutered male
12. German Shepherd cross red/black/white 9 mo neutered male
13. Shepherd/Collie cross red/black 1 yr spayed female
14. Retriever/Mastiff cross black/brindle 3 yr neutered male
15. Rottweiler cross black/brown 2 yr neutered male
16. Heeler cross blue merle 2 year old spayed female
17. Border Collie black/white 2 yr old neutered male
18. Heeler/Border Collie cross black/white 10 mo spayed female
19. Lab cross black 3 month old neutered male

**DON'T FORGET US!**  
**Many cats/kittens for adoption!**  
www.petfinder.com  
Hours: Mon-Fri. 10:00 am-5:30 pm  
Saturday 10:00 am-2:00 pm  
**Closed Sunday and Holidays**  
We can only keep animals 48 hours,  
they are then sold or DESTROYED.  
Please check daily

(208) 734-3259  
**Renaldi**  
CONSTRUCTION, INC.  
320 Camas Meadows Way • Kimberly, ID

- 3 Bed • 2 Bath • 2-Car Garage • Cherry Cabinetry •
- Tile & Laminate Floors • Pella Casement Windows •
- Pella Mahogany Entry Door • Custom Closet-Maid Shelving
- Split Bedroom • Open Floor Plan •
- Stainless Steel Appliances • REALTORS WELCOME •

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Window Covering or Landscape Allowance

Deposit Moves You In!  
All Units Discounted\*

**Rivercrest**  
• Magic Valley's NEWEST and NICEST  
• Spectacular View of the Canyon  
• Resort Style Pool and Spa  
• 24 Hour Fitness Center  
• Garages and Storage Units

\*Some fees may apply. OAC  
Call (208) 732-0400 www.rivercrestapartmentcommunity.com

**THOUGHT FOR TODAY**  
"Everybody gets so much information  
all day long that they lose their  
common sense."  
— Gertrude Stein, American author (1874-1946)

**WWW.MAGIC**  
**VALLEY.COM/**  
**CLASSIFIEDS**

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm a home-  
maker with two sweet little  
girls. As precious as they are  
to me, I have a problem that  
is preventing me from giving  
them the kind of life they  
deserve. I hate to leave my  
house. Anytime I have to  
leave the house I start sweat-  
ing, my heart starts pound-  
ing, and by the time I return  
home I'm exhausted and can  
do nothing more for the rest  
of the day.  
My girls are asking to go to  
parties, have me volunteer in  
their classrooms, and they  
want to join Girl Scouts. I  
don't know what to do! I  
want them to experience all  
of these things, but the  
thought of how I'll have to  
leave the house and all the  
people I will have to meet  
and try to converse with  
brings me to tears. I don't  
want my anxieties to rub off  
onto my children. What  
should I do?

— **HOMEBOUND**  
**IN ANDERSON, CALIF.**



**DEAR HOMEBOUND:**  
Call your doctor and have a  
frank conversation about how  
stressful it is for you to  
leave the house and interact  
with people. Then ask for a  
referral to a mental health  
professional who treats  
panic and phobic disorders,  
because it appears you have  
at least one.

Fortunately, problems  
such as yours are treatable —  
but in order to get the help  
you need, you will have to  
ASK for it. Make it your first  
New Year's resolution.

**DEAR ABBY:** At a recent  
social gathering I was taking  
digital photos and handed  
my camera to a friend so she  
could view the last shot.  
She then proceeded to  
scroll backward through a  
large number of previous  
shots I had taken, most of  
them from other events. She  
even questioned me about  
one of them.

I think what she did was  
uncalled-for and intrusive.  
What do you think? I have  
since dumped the camera's  
contents onto a computer  
and purged them from my  
camera.

— **ROBERT**  
**IN PORTLAND, MAINE**

**DEAR ROBERT:** Those  
must have been some "hot"  
shots to have elicited such a  
strong defensive reaction. If  
you didn't want your friend  
to see the pictures you had  
shot previously, you should-  
n't have handed her the  
camera.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been  
keeping company with a  
man for the past 10 years.  
Our spouses are deceased.  
He sometimes receives invi-  
tations to weddings, parties,  
etc. addressed only to him.  
Without consulting me, he  
will call and tell these people  
that if I am not invited, then  
he will not attend — so they  
are forced to tell him it's OK  
if I come, too. I am very  
uncomfortable about these  
situations.  
I feel that after 10 years my  
name, or at least "and  
guest," should appear on the  
invitation or I should not go.  
Because I don't want him to  
stay home, I usually end up  
going. What do you think  
about this?

— **UNCOMFORTABLE**  
**IN WISCONSIN**

**DEAR UNCOMFORT-**  
**ABLE:** Your gentleman  
friend's behavior is rude.  
Guest lists are usually limited  
for economic reasons. He  
should not be attempting to  
"blackmail" his prospective  
hosts. Many hosts handle  
situations like this by cheer-  
fully telling the boor who  
tries it, "Sorry you won't  
attend. We'll miss you!"

I don't blame you for feel-  
ing awkward. My advice is  
not to do anything that  
makes you uncomfortable.

# SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concepts Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

## Concepts Sudoku

By Dave Green

								9
8					1			
			2	3	4			5
	3			7		6	1	
	5					2		
6	2			1		3		
3			8	6	7			
			9					6
	6							

### Answer to previous puzzle

5	6	9	8	3	1	2	4	7
3	7	1	5	2	4	6	8	9
2	4	8	7	6	9	3	5	1
7	2	3	6	9	8	4	1	5
4	8	5	3	1	7	9	6	2
1	9	6	2	4	5	7	3	8
9	3	7	1	5	6	8	2	4
6	5	4	9	8	2	1	7	3
8	1	2	4	7	3	5	9	6

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

12/27

## FINANCIAL

### 304 Investments

**DRACO INVESTMENT CORP**  
CASH for Deeds of Trust, Mortgages and Real Estate Contracts. Call today for a free, no-obligation quote. (208)733-3821

### Business Opportunities and Commercial Properties

- **Pita Pit Franchise**, Idaho Falls, for sale at discounted price of \$75K
  - **Unique Resort Area Retail**, established 60+ years, \$250K
  - **Newspaper Publisher**, specialty markets in mountain west, relocatable, \$300K
  - **Franchise Card and Gift Store**, long established in Magic Valley, \$300K
  - **2.30 Acres on Overland** south of river in Burley, Id. Great retail development potential
  - **Irrigations System Co.**, SE Idaho, design, installation, maintenance. \$300K
- Arthur Berry & Co.**  
208-336-8000  
View 100+ Listings on Web  
[www.arthurberry.com](http://www.arthurberry.com)

## EDUCATION

### 401 School Instruction

**PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE**  
Big profits usually mean big risks. Before you do business with a company, check it out with the Better Business Bureau. For free information about avoiding investment scams, write to the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580 or call the National Fraud Information Center 1-800-876-7060

### REMEMBER

That birthday or anniversary picture you ran in the paper. Now is the time to come in and pick up your pictures.

### 401 School Instruction

**CLASSIFIEDS**  
It pays to read the line print. Call Times-News to place your ad 208-733-0931 ext. 2

## AGRICULTURE

### 701 Livestock/Poultry

CONNECT WITH CUSTOMERS WHO NEED YOUR SERVICE  
Advertise in the Business & Service Directory  
733-0931 ext. 2

**CALF SALE** 4-H Club & FFA steers and heifers, halter broke and started on feed. Call for viewing. 543-6180 or 280-1846.

**MINIATURE DEXTER STEER** unusual marking. Call 208-308-1561

### 703 Horse and Tack

**ADVANCED-HORSE TRAINING** - Sterling, Tune-ups & Finishing, Western, English, Saddle Seat, Hunter, Show Hack & Dressage, Lessons, Showing & Coaching. Full Care Boarding 208-404-9582 Videos at [www.paladinhorse.com](http://www.paladinhorse.com)

**EQUINE**  
**Paul Struchen • Trimming**  
We can handle all your trimming needs. 30 years experience.  
734-3976 or 358-3976

**GIVE YOUR HORSE A 2ND CHANCE. WANTED:** Unwanted horses, ponies, mules and draft horses. Call 208-539-1714

**ROUND PEN** 45' diameter, heavy duty screen, plywood panels, disassembled, all parts ready to re-assemble, \$1500. 208-431-5598

### 703 Horse and Tack

**HORSE SHOING & TRIMMING**  
Montana State Graduate with experience.  
**Dan Davis**  
208-670-1868

**SADDLE** 13" Courts Youth All Around Saddle. Light oil, suede seat, exc cond, \$695/offer. Call 208-734-2274 or 208-734-2277

### 704 Pets and Pet Supplies

**BEAGLE** puppy, male \$250, 13 inch tri color. 8 wks old Christmas day. Call 208-733-5825



**BICHON** AKC pups champion pedigree. Non shedding, guarantee & care pkg. As pets. 673-5525

**BORDER COLLIE** McNab, Ker cross, 2 mos old, Christmas puppies, browns & blacks, marked like a Border Collie, \$150 ea. 3 older spring pups, started on collie, not recommended for sheep, \$750 ea. Call 208-731-7143.

**BORDER COLLIE** only one left. Reg male, black & white, working parents on site, out of champion bloodline. (Cash/Conn/Wille/Griz), had 1" & 2" shots, dewormed, 12 weeks old, ready to go now. \$350. Call Sylvia 208-670-2262.

**BOXER PUPPIES** (3) AKC Reg., will be 6 wks on Christmas Eve, \$300. 208-948-9091

**BOXER** Puppies AKC reg. and purebred, 1" shots, dewormed and vet checked. 208-308-3269

**BUNNIES** for Christmas, cute and cuddly. All sizes and colors. \$8 each. Call 208-324-5372.

**CHIHUAHUA** puppies, long coat, all males, \$200. Also smooth coat, \$100. 1" shots and 1" deworming, dewclaws removed. 208-539-7038

**CLASSES** for all dogs start in January! Puppy, basic, advanced, and agility. \$40-\$75. Member of National Assoc. of Dog Obedience Instructors. Good Neighbor Dog Training. 208-420-4750 or 208-423-5442 [www.gndt.net](http://www.gndt.net)

**COCKER SPANIEL PUPPIES**, AKC Reg. 4 left, Buff and white and buff. Call 208-735-0001.

### 704 Pets and Pet Supplies

**DACHSHUND** pups AKC reg, both shorthair & longhair mini. Can email pictures. In Buhl 405-973-6395

**FREE** kittens, (4) 4 months old, free to good homes. Call 208-423-4231.

**FREE** Kittens, 8 weeks old, variety of colors, litter box trained. Call 208-679-4973

**FREE** to country home only, 2 Heeler Aussie cross dogs, 1 year. Patience and love will make these great companion dogs. Gary at 208-490-1781.

**GERMAN SHEPHERD** puppies 8 weeks old, black/tan, black/red, 3 females, 2 males, papered, 1" shots \$450. Mom and dad on site. Call 208-280-0159

**GERMAN WIREHAIRED POINTER** 6 months old, AKC Reg., \$400. Call 208-280-1569.

**GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPPIES** AKC. Golden gifts are just a phone call away. Healthy, happy puppies raised by a responsible breeder. 2 litters to choose from. Ready Christmas and New Year's. (208) 436-5627 or (208) 431-4868

**LABRADOR** Puppies AKC Reg. chocolate female & 1-black male, 9 weeks old, shots & dewormed. 208-734-6152

**LABRADOODLES** F1b CKC Reg. Only 6 left, DixonsArkRanch.com. Call 208-731-9839.

**PEKINGESE** pups, parents on site, ready for Christmas. Born on Halloween. Call 208-734-9476

**PLOTT HOUND** good cat/coon pack female, spayed, shots, \$150/offer. Also FREE to good home black & tan Walker. 208-280-3100.

**POODLE** (Standard) puppies see at [www.poodlepuppiez.weebly.com](http://www.poodlepuppiez.weebly.com) pick yours now, take home on New Year's! Call 208-944-0429

**POODLE, STANDARD** Apricot color, 4 males, \$75 each, 10 weeks old. 208-734-3276 or 358-2997

**ROTTWEILER** Puppies, purebred, tails docked, 1" shots, paper trained, parents on site. "Heybum" Ready for adoption. Good family pet, good watchdog. \$300. 208-670-4798 or 208-670-1607

**SHIH TZU** Christmas Babies 4 females, need loving home. AKC Reg., purebred, \$375. 421-1481

**WEIMARANER** puppies AKC reg., great hunting dogs. \$250. Call 208-324-1213

**YORKIE** male, AKC Registered, dewclaws & tail docked, will be very small. \$500. 208-539-0319.

**YORKIE** Tiny AKC male puppy. Ready to go 1/9/10. \$850. Rachael 208-308-8617.

**YORKSHIRE PUPS**, AKC Reg, 6 weeks old, females \$475, males \$450. Buhl- 208-543-5933.

### 705 Farm Equipment

**CULVERT** 1 good used culvert 3 ft. by 24 ft. \$500. Call 208-731-7022

**JOHN DEERE** 4450 and 4440. Also 6 used wheel lines. 208-431-6628

**JOHN DEERE** 4455 MFWD Power shift/duals/5600 hrs, excellent cond. \$38,000. Call 731-4937

**JOHN DEERE** 7810 MFWD, 19 spd power shift, with duals, 10,000 hours, well maint, \$45,000/offer. 208-280-5389 or 208-280-6595

**KUBOTA** B26 tractor loader backhoe 26hp. \$25,900, 0%/\$0 mos. OAC. Call Layne 208-670-4770.

**KUBOTA** L3400 hydroloader, 34hp. \$19,900, 0%/\$0 mos. OAC. Call Brad at 208-420-3293.

**MF 165** tractor, Perkins diesel, multi power shift, \$4250. Call 208-420-1147.

**PARMA** 25' roller harrow, folding, new, \$43,000. Call 208-731-4666.

**WANTED** Good, used Grain Grinder. Call Joe 208-312-3040 or 679-3244

**WANTED** Parma 6-row beet defolator, Ace bedder bar & Ace 12' 3pt style roller harrow or similar. Call Bob 208-312-3746

**WANTED** Tractors and other misc. repair/salvage/turning. Bob, 208-312-3746

### 707 Irrigation

**WANTED SIPHON TUBES** 1" x 72", 1 1/4" x 72" & 3" or larger. Call Bob 208-312-3746

### 709 Hay Grain and Feed

**#1 QUALITY** Green Leafy Baled Hay, Alfalfa grass mix & straight alfalfa. Southern Idaho Feeds. 347 South Park Ave W. Twin Falls 208-732-5270

**ALFALFA HAY** Small bales, 1" cutting, no rain, \$85/\$95 ton, 2" cutting \$100/ton. West of Twin Falls. Call 208-731-0514

**ALFALFA/GRASS HAY** 3" cutting. 15 one ton bales, \$90/ton. 208-316-4429

**BARLEY STRAW** big bales, call for a delivered price. 208-670-5165

**HAY** Exc. quality, 2" & 3" cutting 100 lb. 2 string bales, \$7/bale, 100 ton 1" cutting, big bales, feeder hay good quality. Wendell 539-0201

**HAY FOR SALE** 3 cuttings, good quality, close to Twin. Straw, sell any amount. 208-733-2520

**HAY FOR SALE** Small Bales, Delivery in MV area. Horse Pro Shop 434-4404; 431-9098

**HAY** for sale, feeder hay, oat hay & straw, 4x4 bales. Call 208-731-3471

**HAY** for sale: 1500 tons 2" crop hay, ton bales, tarp covered. Call 208-731-2017

**HAY** Horse grass hay 100 lb. bales, \$7/bale. Oat hay 40 lb. bales, \$65/T. Clean bean straw, 50T, \$35/bale. TF 420-9899 / 734-6411

**HORSE HAY** 3" cutting, 125 lbs. 3-string, green, bam stored, \$10/bale. 208-324-7148

**SHREDDED CORN STALKS** 45-1 ton bales. Load/haul available. 208-326-3618

**SILEAGE WANTED** for Buhl dairy. 208-543-8263

**T.S.C. Hay** Retrieving Grass Alfalfa 2" cutting, 3-wide stacks, \$100/ton + hauling. Call Con at 208-280-0039

**TRADE** 200lbs grass finish beef - out and wrapped- 50lbs steak- 50lbs roasts- 100 lb ground beef for 15 T hay. Call 208-539-7261.

**WHEAT STRAW** 1600 small 2 string bales, \$2/bale. Call 280-1845.

### 713 Farms/Pasture Rentals

**WANTED** 9 shares of beet stock to lease for 2010 in the Mini-Cassia area. Call 208-670-5165

### 714 Farms Pasture Wanted

**PIVOT GROUND WANTED** in the Twin Falls, Buhl, Jerome and surrounding area. Paying approx \$250 per acre. Call 208-358-1277

### 801 Antiques/Collectibles

**2ND TIME AROUND** At the Whistle Stop, 18 dealer antique mall, in Shoshone, ID. Open Saturday & Sunday after Christmas, 10-5. 208-886-7787

**BIRTHDAY PHOTOS** Have you forgotten to pick-up your birthday photos? We have some photos we are sure you don't want us to toss. These can be picked up at The Times-News Classified Dept

### 802 Appliances

**USED APPLIANCES** All types & models. Starting price \$85 w/warranties. Appliance Repairs. Delivery available. Call 208-733-0114

### 803 Bazaars and Crafts

**Buy It! Sell It!** A Times-News Classified Will fill every need. Call Today 208-733-0931 ext 2 or visit us online at [www.magicvalley.com](http://www.magicvalley.com)

### 805 Electronics

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Times-News





Sunday, Dec. 27, 2009

# THE ACES ON BRIDGE® Bobby Wolff

**Dear Mr. Wolff:**  
Will the major World Championships ever come back to the United States? It seems a while since we had one in North America.

America First, Detroit, Mich.

**ANSWER:** Do not forget that Montreal hosted a major event in 2002. And in October 2010, Philadelphia will play host to the World Championships. More details soon, but the ACBL Web site at acbl.org will tell you all you need to know.

**Dear Mr. Wolff:**  
My partner told me that it was normal practice to double a loose club with a hand like ♠ A-Q-3, ♥ A-10-8-3, ♦ 7-3, ♣ A-10-3-2. He indicated that the likelihood of partner responding in a major suit was high enough that it was worth risking the occasional embarrassment of playing diamonds to ensure that you got into the auction.

Purist, Union City, Tenn.

**ANSWER:** I agree with your partner. The Italians always doubled first and asked questions later, not requiring perfect shape, especially doubles of loose opening bids. I'm not averse to overcalling in four-card suits with enough high cards if the suit itself is good. Here that would be impractical — the double would be my best guess as a way to avoid being shut out.

**Dear Mr. Wolff:**  
My partner, who held ♠ 9-8-7-5, ♥ A-Q-10-8-7, ♦ K-Q, ♣ Q-7, opened one heart. I held 12 points with three hearts and four very small clubs. What is the right way to show my hand and how should our bidding go?

Stuck for an Answer, Little Rock, Ark.

**ANSWER:** In mainstream Standard American an initial response of two no-trump shows either a balanced game-force, or a good hand with trump support (at least four). You could bid two no-trump here if you play the former way. If not, you can either respond two clubs (planning to jump to four hearts to show a minimum), or you can underbid slightly by responding one no-trump, following

up with a call of three hearts or four hearts. The former is invitational; the latter suggests 12-14 and three trumps.

**Dear Mr. Wolff:**  
I was taught that to respond to my partner, I need at least six points at the one-level and 10-plus at the two-level. My response of one heart to my partner's opening promises only four cards, but my subsequent rebid of two hearts would guarantee six hearts. My partner says if he has 6-9 points, he must rebid his suit, however weak, to show five. Who is right?

Over the Rainbow, Laredo, Texas

**ANSWER:** You are right and your partner is wrong. The point is that at his second turn opener will always raise partner with four, but will also often raise with three and an unbalanced or semi-balanced hand. Therefore, if he does not receive a raise, responder will go out of his way NEVER to repeat a five-card suit unless it is so good it looks like six. As responder, support partner or bid no-trump, or pass his minimum action if you have five in your original suit and 6-9 points.

**Dear Mr. Wolff:**  
You open one club with ♠ A-J-8-3, ♥ K-7-3, ♦ Q-J-3, ♣ K-10-3. Your partner responds one heart. Should you introduce the spades, raise hearts, or bid no-trump?

Patterned Out, Mitchell, S.D.

**ANSWER:** While it is acceptable to raise partner with three trumps, one should not do so with completely balanced hands of this sort. So the choice is to bid one no-trump (which would be my preference because this hand has a proper stopper in each minor) or to bid one spade. I'd prefer to have at least four clubs for the latter action — and even then, I might rebid one no-trump if my diamond stopper was solid.

For details of Bobby Wolff's autobiography, "The Lone Wolff," contact kay19672@aol.com. If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at bobbywolff@mindspring.com.

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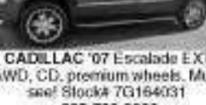


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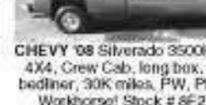
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**Sunday Crossword**

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

AND ANOTHER THING ... By Barry C. Silk & Doug Peterson

- ACROSS**
- Escher Museum site, with "The"
  - Rolls
  - Like Mr. Magoo
  - Capital of Slovakia?
  - When many return from lunch
  - Vision
  - Symphony originally dedicated to Napoleon
  - Ball support
  - Result of a battle of highoms?
  - One of Rose's 4,256
  - Province in northern Finland
  - It's pitched
  - Holds on to
  - Fishing, maybe
  - Negative link
  - Apple's G4, e.g.
  - "See ya!"
  - Fire alarm during kindergarten?
  - Search uncertainly
  - Cross shapes
  - Talked nonstop
  - Martinique, e.g.
  - Lever with a blade
  - Selling points
  - Madagascar tree climber
  - Commanded
  - Attracting outdoorsy readers, say?
  - Elided greeting
  - Car wash option
  - Roddick of tennis
  - "Baseball is 90% mental; the other half is physical" speaker
  - Hoarse
  - Ballroom that made the Lindy Hop famous
  - Brimless caps
  - "The Avengers" guy
  - Stubborn beast
  - Many a joke involves one
  - "\_\_ go there!"
  - Crustacean with an electric guitar?
  - Budget rival
  - Hopper of gossip
  - Colorado county or its seat
  - Psyche component
  - Top
  - Yes or no follower
  - Proceed
  - Surveyor's units
  - Web site security expert?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18			
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114						115				116	117				118					
119						120									121					122
123						124									125					126

- Alleged Soviet spy Hiss
- Approved
- Alien's course: Abbr.
- Lackluster
- Unfinished framework
- Office note
- "The Disrobing of Christ" painter
- Follower's suffix
- Kids' puppet show script?
- Rejections
- Gerald Ford, by birth
- Players
- Racing paths
- Places for organ repairs, briefly
- Apartment restriction
- "Ta ta!"
- Secure, as a nautical rope
- DOWN
- "Aqui se \_\_ español"
- Travel guide
- Have a cow, so to speak
- Open, as a large envelope
- Raggae star \_\_
- Mouse
- Teller's spot
- Say "Furthermore \_\_" say
- Collector's item?
- Discount event
- Tryster's request
- Mos, and mos.
- "I'm impressed!"
- Disembarking site
- Slush Puppie maker
- Something that may help you get the picture?
- Kenya neighbor
- Its 5/14/1998 final episode was seen by 76 million viewers
- Liberates
- Monument word
- Army divisions
- Band piece
- For adults only
- "So soon?"
- Cold and moist
- Spot for a band
- D.C. ball team
- Bookshelf buildup
- Cozy
- Company that acquired Lawn-Boy in 1989
- Errand runners
- Bawl out
- Implicit warning
- Cut
- Glitch
- "Leading With My Chin" author
- Mixes thoroughly
- Horses running leisurely
- Actress Kim of "24"
- Org. concerned with suits
- Tear gas target
- Weasel out
- Minute Maid Park team
- Part of a mating ritual
- Basking locale
- "What Women Want" actor
- Cluster of cloves
- Organic compound
- Got by
- 68-Down, for one
- Pet with green fur?
- "Of Man River" composer
- Gp. that includes Iran and Ecuador
- Muttonhead
- Tusked animal
- "Ocean's Thirteen" actor
- Lawbreaker, e.g.
- Acknowledgement of a deviation, usually after "but"
- Attach, in a way
- Dilate
- PC component
- Tokyo-based computer giant
- 24 Hours of \_\_ annual auto race
- Comfortable with
- Confederate
- Of the kidneys
- Northeast express train
- Everycow
- Sport for big grapplers
- Piece of cake
- L x XXXIV
- City near Santa Barbara
- Squishy lump
- Argentinian
- Manist
- It may be passed or tipped
- TNT alternative

The Times-News will be closed Friday **January 1<sup>st</sup>** for New Years Day

Classified deadlines will be as follows:  
**Deadline for Jan 1<sup>st</sup> is 10am Dec 31<sup>st</sup>.**  
 To place an ad for Sat 2<sup>nd</sup>, Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>, Monday 4<sup>th</sup>  
 The deadline is:  
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HYUNDAI '05 Santa Fe GLS, 4X4, AC, PW, PL, sunroof, 31K miles, very nice ride! Stock# 5U883169 208-733-3033



JEOP '93 Cherokee 4.0 engine, auto, PW, dark blue w/gold trim, real sharp. 208-308-4613



NISSAN '05 Murano, 73K miles, PW, PL, AC, only \$16,900.



NISSAN '06 Pathfinder SE, 43K miles, 3rd seat, PL, PW, AC, CD, 4x4, \$20,950



DODGE '03 Caravan, 65K miles, PW, PL, dual sliding doors, AC, CD, only \$8950.



MERCURY '99 Villager, 81K miles, PL, PW, sliding doors, nice family vehicle, only \$6950.



TOYOTA '99 Sienna LE minivan, one owner, 149,800 miles, \$5100 reduced, good condition, roof rack, blue, 4 captain seats, air, cruise, 7 seatbelts. 734-5199 or 308-5199



BMW '06 3-Series, 39K miles, loaded, leather, sport pkg \$22,900



DODGE '08 Avenger SE, air, CD, cruise, certified used. Stock# 8N126613D. Sale price \$10,999. 208-733-5776



TOYOTA '99 Camry LE, AC, PW, PL, power mirrors, automatic, only 93K miles, \$6995.



VOLKSWAGEN '07 Jetta, 2.0L Turbo, 6 speed trans, leather loaded, sunroof, alloys, multi CD. Stock#7M044652 208-733-3033



MAZDA '96 626 LX, white, AC, CD, Cruise, 38 mpg, runs great, \$2200. 208-490-1902



MITSUBISHI '09 Eclipse GS, 16K miles, automatic, PL, PW, like new, only \$15,900.



NISSAN '98 Maxima GLE, 4 door, runs exc, good shape, new tires, must see, \$2300. 208-734-8128

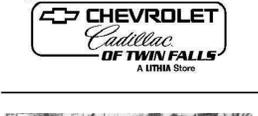


TOYOTA '07 Camry XLE, 17K miles, loaded w/leather seats, moon roof, extended warranty, \$21,500. 208-490-1802

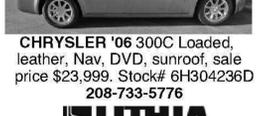
### 1010 Autos



CADILLAC '08 CTS 3.6DI, AWD, absolutely loaded, premium wheels, sunroof, 40Gig hard drive, Bose 5.1 speaker system, heated seats. Stock# 80131709 208-733-3033



CHRYSLER '06 300C Loaded, leather, Nav, DVD, sunroof, sale price \$23,999. Stock# 6H304236D 208-733-5776



DODGE '04 Intrepid, 4 door, rear spoiler, original owner, leather interior, silver, exc cond. AT, \$5,000. 208-645-2257 or 208-431-6667



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### 1010 Autos



DODGE '08 Avenger SE, air, CD, cruise, certified used. Stock# 8N126613D. Sale price \$10,999. 208-733-5776



HONDA '95 Accord EX V6, sunroof, AT, 4 door, clean car \$4295. Call 208-733-0818



MAZDA '96 626 LX, white, AC, CD, Cruise, 38 mpg, runs great, \$2200. 208-490-1902



MITSUBISHI '09 Eclipse GS, 16K miles, automatic, PL, PW, like new, only \$15,900.



NISSAN '98 Maxima GLE, 4 door, runs exc, good shape, new tires, must see, \$2300. 208-734-8128



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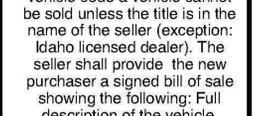
TOYOTA '99 Camry LE, AC, PW, PL, power mirrors, automatic, only 93K miles, \$6995.



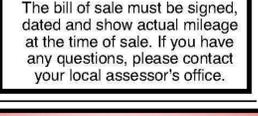
VOLKSWAGEN '07 Jetta, 2.0L Turbo, 6 speed trans, leather loaded, sunroof, alloys, multi CD. Stock#7M044652 208-733-3033



MAZDA '96 626 LX, white, AC, CD, Cruise, 38 mpg, runs great, \$2200. 208-490-1902



MITSUBISHI '09 Eclipse GS, 16K miles, automatic, PL, PW, like new, only \$15,900.



NISSAN '98 Maxima GLE, 4 door, runs exc, good shape, new tires, must see, \$2300. 208-734-8128



TOYOTA '07 Camry XLE, 17K miles, loaded w/leather seats, moon roof, extended warranty, \$21,500. 208-490-1802

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### 1010 Autos

TOYOTA '87 Celica GT 146K miles, new CV axles, clutch, computer, etc. & extra set snow tires. \$1500/offer. '72 Ranchero 351 Cleveland, camper shell, org mags, 76K miles, \$1800/offer. 208-315-1694

TOYOTA '96 Paseo new rims, tires, runs exc, great gas mileage! CD player, \$1600. 208-420-6722.

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MITSUBISHI '09 Eclipse GS, 16K miles, automatic, PL, PW, like new, only \$15,900.



NISSAN '98 Maxima GLE, 4 door, runs exc, good shape, new tires, must see, \$2300. 208-734-8128

# Canyon Motors Subaru

### 1996 JEEP CHEROKEE LIMITED

#51055A, 4X4, AC, ALLOY WHEELS, AUTO, CD PLAYER, CRUISE, KEYLESS ENTRY, PWR MIRRORS, SEATS, WINDOWS, TILT, TOW PACKAGE, LEATHER, SUNROOF  
**CANYON'S PRICE \$3,425**

### 2008 SUBARU OUTBACK

#9143A AWD, ONLY 11K MILES, AC, ALLOY WHEELS, AUTO, CD PLAYER, POWRR EVERYTHING  
**NOW ONLY \$18,775**

### 2003 FORD EXPLORER

#51042A, 4X4, AC, ALLOY WHEELS, AUTO, CD PLAYER, CLIMATE CONTROL, CRUISE, TILT, PWR BRAKES, LOCKS, MIRRORS, SEATS, WINDOWS, TOW PKG.  
**CANYON'S PRICE \$9,700**

### 1999 SUBARU FORESTER

#5126A, AWD, AC, AUTO, CRUISE, PWR BRAKES, STEERING, TILT  
**CANYON'S PRICE \$5,650**

## MANAGER'S CHOICES OF THE WEEK!

### 2002 VW JETTA DIESEL

#51031A, GLS - TDI AUTO, AC, CD PLAYER, CLIMATE CONTROL, CRUISE, KEYLESS ENTRY, POWER EVERYTHING!  
**CANYON'S PRICE \$9,885**

### 2005 PT CRUISER

AC, ALLOYS, CD CHANGER, CRUISE, KEYLESS ENTRY, TINTED WINDOWS, PWR LOCKS, MIRRORS, WINDOWS.  
**CANYON'S PRICE \$7,225**

# SUBARU

### 2007 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER

9131A, 4X4, LOADED, AC, ALLOY WHEELS, PWR BRAKES, LOCKS, MIRRORS, STEERING, WINDOWS, AUTO, CD PLAYER, CRUISE, KEYLESS ENTRY, TILT  
**CANYON'S PRICE \$12,950**

### 2002 GMC SONOMA CREW CAB

5T010A, 4X4, SLS, AT, 6 CYL. ALLOYS, CD CHANGER, CRUISE, KEYLESS ENTRY, PWR BRAKES, LOCKS, MIRRORS, STEERING, WINDOWS, TOW PKG.  
**CANYON'S PRICE \$7,800**

### 2006 JEEP GR. CHEROKEE

#51033A 4X4, V8, AC, ALLOY WHEELS, AUTO, CD PLAYER, LIMITED LOADED, ONLY 42K MILES  
**NOW ONLY \$20,675**

### 2006 NISSAN MURANO

#1019A 4X4, PRICED AT WHOLESALE, AC, ALLOY WHEELS, AUTO, CD PLAYER, PWR BRAKES, LOCKS, MIRRORS, SEATS, WINDOWS, TILT  
**CANYON'S PRICE \$15,975**

### 2005 HONDA ACCORD LX

#8121B AC, ALLOY WHEELS, AUTO, CD PLAYER, CRUISE, KEYLESS ENTRY, PWR BRAKES, LOCKS, MIRRORS, SEATS, WINDOWS, TILT  
**CANYON'S PRICE \$8,995**

### 2008 TOYOTA CAMRY

#9072A, HYBRID, LOW MILES, AC, ALLOY WHEELS, AUTO, CD PLAYER, CRUISE, KEYLESS ENTRY, PWR BRAKES, LOCKS, MIRRORS, SEATS, WINDOWS, TILT  
**CANYON'S PRICE \$22,500**

### 2008 TOYOTA CAMRY

#9072A, HYBRID, LOW MILES, AC, ALLOY WHEELS, AUTO, CD PLAYER, CRUISE, KEYLESS ENTRY, PWR BRAKES, LOCKS, MIRRORS, SEATS, WINDOWS, TILT  
**CANYON'S PRICE \$22,500**

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## Way beyond checkers

New board games get a rigorous test during family game night.



Family Life 4

SPILT MILK  
AVOID MENTAL  
BREAKDOWNS  
DURING CHRISTMAS  
BREAK >> FL 4



Senior calendar, Family Life 2 / Stork report, Family Life 5 / Wedding, engagement, anniversary, Family Life 5

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2009

FEATURES EDITOR VIRGINIA HUTCHINS: (208) 735-3242 VIRGINIA.HUTCHINS@LEE.NET



MEAGAN THOMPSON/Times-News

The day's last rays fall on Echo Brimley, 3, as she plays on new equipment at Drury Park, at Washington Street and Fourth Avenue West in Twin Falls. 'I didn't even know this was here,' says Sheldon Brimley, Echo's father. 'It's nice to have something like this close to home.'

## TREND 2010: Nursery and playground

By **Melissa Davlin**  
Times-News writer

What can Idaho families expect in the coming year?

It might be a bumpy road. While divorce rates are down, teen pregnancy is up. Families are filing in from war-torn countries and looking for assistance from Magic Valley organizations, while also enriching Idaho's culture.

The good news: Parents are finding cheaper ways to raise their babies, and Twin Falls is providing new places for children to play. Here are just a handful of developments that will affect southern Idaho families in 2010.

## Providing for new residents



MEAGAN THOMPSON/Times-News

Sujan Subedi receives a tika — a ceremonial mixture of red powder, yogurt and rice — from his mother, Hema Subedi, at his first Dashain celebration in September in Twin Falls. A grant will provide car seats for refugee children such as Sujan in 2010.

Between 300 and 400 refugees are expected to arrive in Twin Falls by September 2010, following the 365 refugees who came in the 2009 fiscal year, said College of Southern Idaho Refugee Center director Ron Black in an Oct. 5 *Times-News* article.

Often, the refugees come from countries where there are no seat belt laws or child car seats, said Safe Kids director Page Geske. She applied for a grant and received \$2,000 to purchase about 30 infant and booster car seats for the resettled families. Safe Kids employees volunteer their time to teach families with young children how to use the seats. Child safety seat classes will start in January.

## More midwives, more options

Locally, some women are looking for alternatives to giving birth in hospitals with an obstetrician.

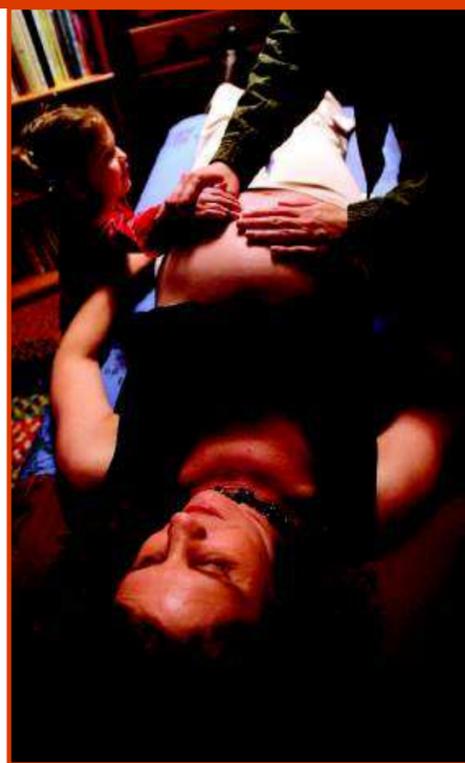
"There's probably been an increase in midwifery care in general," said certified nurse midwife Melissa Vitek, adding that many midwives, like her, work only in hospitals with the support of obstetricians and hospital staff. Women turn to midwives for a more personal, family-centered experience, Vitek said.

Connie Wolcott of Magic Valley Birth Center agreed. When she moved to Jerome in 2001, there were no practicing midwives. Now, she said, there are three in town, plus more in Twin Falls and Wood River Valley.

"We're all busy," she said, which means some moms-to-be must be turned away. Wolcott hopes to add another midwife to her practice, but in the meantime, she is handling the growing workload by herself.

Homebirth popularity, meanwhile, has stayed static. In 2005, just 1.4 percent of all Idaho births took place at home. That percentage crept up to 1.5 percent in 2007.

Twin Falls midwife Cara Niska helps Sonnet Gripkey, 3, feel the belly of her mother, Jennifer Teisinger, at a February prenatal appointment. Magic Valley midwives report an increase in interest from local mothers.



Times-News file photo

## Family planning

It's not all good news for Idaho families. Out-of-wedlock births for Idaho mothers increased from 24.3 percent of all births in 2006 to 25.4 percent in 2007, according to the Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics. Teen pregnancies also rose. In 2007, teens girls aged 15 to 19 got pregnant at a rate of 49.5 per 1,000, up from 46.5 in 2006.

The newest numbers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show that nationally, teen pregnancies are also rising for the first time in 15 years. And nationally, 39.7 percent of babies were born to unwed mothers in 2007.

"Nationwide, the country has experienced a rather disturbing uptick in teen pregnancy rates. Idaho is no exception," said Brian Cutler, communications director for Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest.

In a phone interview Tuesday, Cutler said several factors play into higher teen pregnancy rates, including family connectedness, poverty, alcohol and drug use, a lack of access to preventative health care and inadequate sex education.

As for whether Idaho will continue to see growth in teen motherhood, Cutler said it's hard to say, adding that Planned Parenthood will continue to offer programs that facilitate conversations about sex education for parents and their children.

"This is a community problem," he said.



More 'Trend 2010: Nursery and playground' on Family Life 3

## What's ahead in Trend 2010

This week, *Times-News* reporters look ahead at what 2010 will bring to south-central Idaho. Watch for these special stories in *Times-News* feature sections and at [magicvalley.com](http://magicvalley.com):

**Monday:** A gym opening, more medical residents in family practice and other trends in health and fitness

**Tuesday:** Green cleaning products, locally grown trees and other picks for your home and garden

**Wednesday:** New fine dining, increased popu-

larity for local brews and more on the foodie front

**Thursday:** ATV unity on trail issues, enhanced helmet standards and more in the off-road outdoors

**Friday:** Arts center construction, online venues for crafters and more things to expect in the arts

**Saturday:** Billboard evangelism, modular LDS chapel construction and other religious developments

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:** Beef stroganoff  
**Tuesday:** Roast beef  
**Wednesday:** Bratwurst  
**Thursday:** Jambalaya

**ACTIVITIES:**

**Today:** Unitarian Church service, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
**Monday:** Quilting, 8 a.m. Fit and Fall Proof, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.  
Foot clinic, 1 p.m.  
Duplicate bridge, 6:30 p.m.  
**Tuesday:** Ticket Tuesday at lunch  
Duplicate bridge, 12:30 p.m.  
Oil painting by appointment, 734-0509  
Let's Dance, 6 to 11 p.m.  
Basket weaving, 404-6377  
**Wednesday:** Quilting, 8 a.m. Fit and Fall Proof, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.  
Blood pressure, 11 a.m. to noon  
Duplicate bridge, 12:30 p.m.  
Pinochle, 7:30 p.m.  
**Thursday:** Cinnamon rolls and sandwiches for sale, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.; \$1.50 each  
Pinochle, 1 p.m.  
Oil painting by appointment, 734-0509  
Official bingo, 6:45 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:** Chicken and dumplings  
**Tuesday:** Ham and beans  
**Wednesday:** Cook's choice  
**Thursday:** Beef stew

**ACTIVITIES:**

**Today:** Roast beef, 1 p.m.  
**Monday:** SilverSneakers exercise program, 10:30 a.m.  
**Tuesday:** Quilting, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bus runs for lunch pickup, call 543-4577 by 10:30 a.m.  
**Wednesday:** SilverSneakers, 10:30 a.m. Bingo, 7 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 to 3 p.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:** Sloppy Joe on a bun  
**Wednesday:** Ham loaf  
**Thursday:** Fried chicken

**ACTIVITIES:**

**Monday:** Bingo, 6:30 p.m.  
**Tuesday:** Puzzles, 11:30 a.m. Bingo, 12:30 p.m.  
**Wednesday:** Puzzles, 11:30 a.m. Bingo, 1 p.m.  
**Thursday:** Puzzles, 11:30 a.m. Bingo, 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 breast  
**Tuesday:** Split pea soup  
**Wednesday:** Barbecued beef on a bun  
**Thursday:** Baked ham

**ACTIVITIES:**

**Monday:** Pool, 9:30 a.m. Pinochle, 12:30 p.m. Wild card, 6 p.m.  
**Tuesday:** Pool, 9:30 a.m. Hand and foot, 6 p.m.  
**Wednesday:** Pool, 9:30 a.m. Shuffleboard, 6 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:** Turkey casserole  
**Wednesday:** New Year's ham dinner

**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:** Beef stew  
**Tuesday:** Sloppy Joe on a bun  
**Wednesday:** Hash brown casserole  
**Thursday:** Roast pork

**ACTIVITIES:**

**Monday:** SilverSneakers exercise, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Bridge, 12:30 p.m. SilverSneakers, 5:20 to 6:20 p.m.  
**Tuesday:** SilverSneakers, 10 to 11 a.m. Pinochle, 1 p.m. Snack bar, 5 p.m. Bingo, 7 p.m.; early bird, 6:45 p.m.  
**Wednesday:** SilverSneakers, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Bridge, 12:30 p.m. Dick and John Pinochle, 7 p.m.  
**Thursday:** SilverSneakers, 10 to 11 a.m. SilverSneakers, 5:20 to 6:20 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

**ACTIVITIES:**

**Wednesday:** Bingo, 7 p.m.

**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:** Meat loaf  
**Tuesday:** Barbecue chicken  
**Wednesday:** Sloppy Joe

**ACTIVITIES:**

**Monday:** Pinochle, 1 to 4 p.m.  
**Tuesday:** Pool, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
**Wednesday:** Pinochle, 1 to 4 p.m.

**Golden Years Senior Citizens Inc.**

218 N. Rail St. W., Shoshone. Closed for the holidays.

**Camas County Senior Center**

127 Willow Ave. W., Fairfield. Closed for the holidays.

**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:** Tuna melt  
**Wednesday:** Spaghetti and meat sauce  
**Friday:** Meat loaf

**ACTIVITIES:**

**Monday:** Salad and soup bar, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Massage therapy, 9 a.m. Fit and Fall Proof, 10 a.m. Duplicate bridge, 7 p.m.  
**Tuesday:** Knitters Anonymous, 10:30 a.m. Blood pressure, 12:30 a.m. Bingo, 1 p.m.  
**Wednesday:** Fit and Fall Proof, 10 a.m. Arts and crafts, 1 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:** Quiche  
**Tuesday:** Chili  
**Wednesday:** Bill and Norma's 21st anniversary  
**Thursday:** Board of direc-

tors/Senior Appreciation luncheon

**ACTIVITIES:**

**Monday:** Pool Pinochle, 1 p.m. Exercise  
**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.

**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:** Country beef and macaroni  
**Tuesday:** Chicken rice casserole  
**Thursday:** Roast pork

**ACTIVITIES:**

**Monday:** Fit and Fall Proof, 10:30 a.m.  
**Thursday:** Fit and Fall Proof, 10:30 a.m.

**Carey Senior Center**

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

**MENU:**

**Thursday:** Meatloaf

**Richfield Senior Center**

130 S. Main, Richfield. Closed for the holidays.

All of life's riches

By Armin Brott  
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

**Q:** My wife and I are relatively well off and can give our kids whatever they want. But how can we be generous without spoiling them rotten?

**A:** First of all, change your perspective: think in terms of giving them what they need instead of what they want. That said, if by "generous" you mean giving your time and love to your children, there's no need to limit your generosity. The kids will benefit from spending time with you and your wife (and you will too), whether you're just hanging out, taking walks, talking or doing something more structured — none of which needs to cost anything at all. If, on the other hand, you're talking about financial or material generosity, be careful about how much money you give or how many big-ticket items you buy for your children. Your intentions may be good, but the results may not be.

Children who get everything they ask for — and even more they haven't asked for — quickly develop a sense of entitlement and a need for instant gratification. Children who get everything they ask for — and even more they haven't asked for — quickly develop a sense of entitlement and a need for instant gratification. They grow up expecting their every whim to be quickly satisfied and will probably become frustrated and unhappy when all their desires are not immediately met. In other words, you'd be creating demanding little monsters.

There's also a social component to think about. If your kids' friends or schoolmates aren't as well off and don't have as many material things, your children may find themselves not fitting in, especially if they brag

about that new gadget you bought them, or the expensive cruise they went on. That kind of thing breeds resentment and can lead to your kids being ostracized, excluded and friendless. (In some cases, though, they may acquire "friends" who hang around only so they can have access to whatever generosity your kids may choose to spread around. The net result is the same: no real friends.)

Regardless of your financial situation, I strongly urge you to practice moderation and good sense when it comes to showering your children with material things. It's far better for them to earn a privilege or a special treat rather than have it handed to them on a silver platter. If they're too young to have an after-school job but are begging you for a new toy, give them some household duties to perform or other age-appropriate chores so they can work their way toward that reward. If they are old enough for a real job (including babysitting, lawn mowing, tutoring or anything else that brings in a few bucks), have them earn enough to pay for that new iPod or those concert tickets. Giving them the opportunity to make their own spending money teaches them valuable lessons in work ethics, getting along with others, and following directions — all things that will serve them well as they get older.

Teach your children about money. Get them involved in managing the money in their 529 college savings plans, have them sit with you while you pay household bills, and have them calculate the interest payments on hypothetical (or real) credit card balances.

It's a boy? Some moms struggle with gender disappointment

By Angie Wagner  
For The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — My good friend just found out she is pregnant with a boy. It is her first child, and instead of celebrating the good news, she cried during her ultrasound.

That's because she really wanted a girl.

Good mothers are supposed to say they are happy with a boy or a girl, as long as the baby is healthy. But gender disappointment is a very real and heartbreaking issue that affects many pregnant women.

Christine Lich of Lindenhurst, Ill., always assumed she would have a girl. Instead, she got three boys. She wanted to appear to be the perfect mother, so she never let anyone except her husband know her disappointment.

"And they tell you it's a boy, it's like, ahhhh. For that short moment, you're kind of bummed in the back of

your mind. There's not going to be any pink dresses. There's not going to be any scrapbooking. That's not going to happen," she said.

Lich gets tired of people making comments such as: "Are you going to try for the girl?" or "You need to have the girl!"

Even now, four years after her third child, she can't bring herself to buy clothes for a little girl's birthday because she just can't look at the outfits.

Joyce Venis, a psychiatric nurse in Princeton, N.J., who works with women suffering from gender disappointment, said it is not really discussed because other people would perceive the disappointment as being ungrateful. Venis said the problem mainly involves women who wanted a daughter.

Just because a woman has a gender preference does not mean she is a bad mother or that she doesn't want the child, Venis said.

"They have the right to

want the certain sex," she said.

Venis suggests women find out during the pregnancy what sex the baby is so they can deal with any disappointment before the birth. She said women should find someone to talk with, and if the woman is depressed, she should talk to a therapist.

Katherine Asbery was so depressed that her third child was a boy, she wouldn't even say the sex. She called him "not a girl," and spent hours crying.

She and her husband had even tried different techniques that promised to yield a girl.

"That dream of what you wanted is gone, and you have to learn to live with that," she said.

Asbery, who has a masters degree in clinical psychology, started sharing her story on mommy message boards, and later decided to write a book called "Altered Dreams: Living with Gender

Disappointment?"

She turned to her faith and drew strength from talking to others who felt the same way. She said it's important for people to understand that mothers suffering from gender disappointment want their children and are not bad moms. It's just the plan they had for their family has changed.

Her third son is 3 years old now, and Asbery admits she still has some pangs of sadness. She sometimes looks at her son and wonders, just for a moment, what he would look like as a girl. She and her husband are not going to have more children. Their family is complete, she said, and she doesn't feel like someone is missing anyone.

What she most wants mothers to know is this:

"It's normal. And they shouldn't feel like a freak," she said. "It is a normal process of when a dream has changed. You just have to relearn a different dream."

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# TREND 2010: Nursery and playground

By **Melissa Davlin**  
Times-News writer



**Magicvalley.com**

WEIGH IN on the future: Take our survey about expected 2010 trends in family life.

## Till debt do we part

According to the National Marriage Project at the University of Virginia, the recession might benefit marriages.

Financial difficulties make couples think twice about splitting, project researchers said. Moreover, acquiring less debt is directly tied to marital bliss.

"Accordingly, insofar as the current recession has encouraged Americans to shed consumer debt and acquire assets, it may be fostering an ethic of thrift that is redounding to the benefit of married couples," wrote researcher Jeffrey Dew of Utah State University.

Idaho seems to be following that trend. In 2007 — the latest year for available Idaho statistics — the rate of divorces decreased 2 percent from 2006. Although the divorce rate of 4.9 per 1,000 population was higher than the national rate of 3.6, it was the lowest Idaho had seen since 1968, according to the Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics.

## Raising baby on the cheap

At Twin Falls baby store 9 Months Later, co-owners Conni Walker and Erin Gray have seen an increased interest in cloth diapers and homemade baby food supplies.

At trade shows, the business partners see cloth diapers, organic toys and other baby products touted as an eco-friendly way to take care of children. But going green in the nursery isn't popular in Magic Valley, Gray said. Rather, parents are interested in saving money.

With disposable diapers, parents can drop \$1,700 to \$2,500 into diapers before their child is potty trained.

"With cloth diapers, you can do it all for \$500," Gray said.

Parents can also save money by making their own baby food. Gray noted that most parents go for cheaper food mills at her store, another indicator that they are budget-conscious. Another benefit: Moms and dads know exactly what is going into their babies' tummies.

## More places to play

Dennis Bowyer, director of the Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Department, said the city plans to improve parks around Twin Falls next year.

In 2009, the city added playground equipment and an asphalt track to Drury Park. Soon, Bowyer intends to add benches to make it easier for parents to wait while their kids play.

Bowyer also said the department plans to build permanent restrooms at the Oregon Trail Youth Complex. Right now, soccer players must use portable toilets, which the city will continue to provide for large soccer tournaments even after the completion of permanent facilities.

Bowyer also hopes to see development at a new piece of land acquired near Oregon Trail Elementary School. The lot is empty now, but Bowyer plans to talk to subdivision developers and residents about coming together for playground equipment that everyone can use.



Echo Brimley, 3, scales a climbing wall that leads to a slide on the new playground equipment at Twin Falls' Drury Park. Expect more park improvements around Twin Falls next year.

MEAGAN THOMPSON/  
Times-News

## Foster-child project recasts concept of 'family'

By **Petula Dvorak**  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — It's Friday night, and the pizza has just arrived.

The kids race to claim their slices and load up on the homemade macaroni salad.

The grown-ups are in the dining room, guffawing and joking, stopping to refill a plate or juice cup when a kid wanders in.

It feels like a typical family gathering, complete with big kids who scoff at the baby movie being shown and adult gossip about the mom who is not there. But none of these people is related by blood, and the entire gathering is orchestrated by the District of Columbia government.

The six adults are all foster parents; the seven kids were all removed from their birth parents by social workers who suspected abuse or neglect. The gathering is part of a quiet, 40-child experiment by the Mockingbird Society, named for the destruction of innocence in Harper Lee's classic novel, "To Kill a Mockingbird."

The concept, pioneered in Washington state and recently expanded to the District and Kentucky, creates clusters of foster families around a hub parent. On a recent Friday night, the gathering was at Diane Barnes' home, who's been the hub parent here for three years.

She keeps a schedule for

swapping out child-care duties, having kids over to her own apartment in Washington so the foster parents can get a breather.

And at their monthly gatherings, or trips to the circus or Thanksgiving dinners, they talk about birth-parent issues, family visitation, therapy sessions and social worker visits.

Many of the kids come to them double-traumatized. They might have endured some type of abuse or neglect, and while a court decides whether their parents are fit to take care of them, they are taken from the only family they know.

So in a Mockingbird cluster, they hang out with other kids who are going through the same stuff. And sometimes, there's comfort in that.

Just as the adults are gabbing, a 3-year-old barrels into the room screaming "Daddy!"

He wraps himself around Edward Harris, kissing his face and poking his fingers into his mouth. They cuddle, resting their shaved heads against one another. "He's my foster son," Harris says. "He came to me when he was 3 months old."

Harris wants to adopt the boy, but is worried that there will be difficulties with his birth mother. But even when the foster parents are great, that doesn't necessarily mean the families these kids were removed from were terrible.

The foster care and family court system is shrouded in

secrecy, a world where laws and accountability and decisions are never public and open for scrutiny only until the worst happens, such as the gruesome case in Maryland of Renee Bowman and the dead daughters she stored in a freezer.

And so these worst-case scenarios scare officials and force kids into foster care at alarming rates, leaving many a scar no warm embrace can erase.

"They all remember the day they were taken. They all remember everything about it," Alan Abramowitz, director of the Office of Family Safety in Florida, said in a roundtable discussion sponsored by the Casey Family Group, about a new nationwide movement in child welfare: preventing foster-care admissions.

In Florida, Abramowitz curtailed the number of kids in foster care and the money spent on them by putting government funds into fixing their families. Agencies in Georgia, Philadelphia and New Jersey all shared similar stories.

Instead of removing a child from a mom who can't pay her rent, social workers give her counseling and help pay the bills. Rather than take the kids from a homeless family, they find it work and housing. They've stopped taking kids from a mom who is being physically abused and instead get the mom and the child into a hotel, away from the abuse and on the road to their own place. The drug-addicted mom on a waiting list for rehab gets treatment.

## Experts advise parents not to worry: Kids' interest in nudity is normal

By **Margaret Shapiro**  
The Washington Post

Parents should not worry when their young children touch themselves, seem interested in nudity or sit a little too close to others, as long as the behavior does not occur all that often and the child can be distracted from it, according to a new report by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

On the other hand, children who openly imitate intimate sexual acts, engage in sexualized play with peers who are much younger or older, or act out sexually may need further assessment or intervention, according to the report, published in the journal Pediatrics.

The full report, including a table of "normal, common" behaviors, "less common normal" ones, "uncommon" ones and "rarely normal" behaviors, is available at the journal's Web site, <http://aapolicy.aappublications.org>. Carole Jenny, head of the academy's committee on child abuse and neglect, which issued the report, said it was an attempt to help doctors respond to questions from parents and caregivers.

"There are behaviors that are clearly normal and there are others that raise more concern," Jenny said. "The question is to sort that out and help the pediatrician figure out which issues are normal and which require follow-up. Pediatricians have been wanting direction, and this in an effort to provide some direction."

The report focuses primarily on children between ages 2 and 6.

"Some behaviors that are reported as problematic by the parent may be normal for the child," the report says, and the pediatrician can offer the parent "reassurance and guidance regarding appropriate responses." On the other hand, "If sexual behaviors are escalating, frequent, or intrusive, a more comprehensive assessment and treatment may be needed."

For instance, the report says it would be entirely normal for young children to be interested in seeing siblings, peers or even adults naked. It is also normal for children of this age group to want to show off and touch their own naked bodies.

"Preschool-aged children are naturally inquisitive and undergo periods of enhanced awareness of their environments," according to the report. "Recognition of gender differences occurs during this time and contributes to inquisitive viewing and touching of other children's genitals. This curiosity-seeking behavior tends to occur within the context of other similar, nonsexual explorations." As a result, parents and caregivers should not be worried about this behavior and can either distract their child or discourage the behavior.

On the other hand, children who participate in sexual behaviors with children four or more years older or younger, or who display a variety of sexual behaviors on a daily basis and who become angry if they are distracted fall into the "rarely normal" category and should be further examined to see what may be happen-

"Preschool-aged children are naturally inquisitive and undergo periods of enhanced awareness of their environments."

— A report from the American Academy of Pediatrics

ing in their homes or elsewhere in their lives.

"Sexual behavior problems in children are significantly related to living in homes in which there is disruption because of poor health, criminal activity, or violence," the report notes. "The greater the number of life stresses ... the greater the number and frequency of sexual behaviors observed in children."

Between these two extremes, Jenny said, are a "reasonable range of behaviors" that do not signify sexual problems or abuse, and how parents or caregivers respond tends to depend on their attitudes. "Some families are much more uptight about these things. It really varies from family to family," she said.

The report also says that "the variety and frequency of sexual behaviors" increase in young children up to the age of 5 and then decreases gradually after that.

However, it notes that parents may simply be watching their children more closely before age 5 and that "younger children are less aware of breaches in personal space and how their behavior may be construed as sexual or inappropriate."

## LIFE WITH LEUKEMIA

Meet a Magic Valley family struggling to help a sick baby.

NEXT WEEK IN FAMILY LIFE

Open House  
to celebrate the  
90th Birthday of  
**Fay Wright**



Join us January 2nd, 2010, from 2-4pm at the L.D.S. Church building located at 680 Hankins Road, Twin Falls. The event is being hosted by her children Carol, Bonnie, Donna and Robert. Please come celebrate this wondrous occasion with Fay. Your presence will be gift enough.

Happy 90th Birthday  
**Thelma Marsh**



Please, join us for an open house for our mom on Saturday, January 2, 2010 from 1-4 p.m. at 441 Main Ave. E. Hagerman, ID. It will be hosted by her children, Ardith (Russell) Weaver, Hollister; Arlene Patterson, Carey; Allan (Rose) Marsh, Meridian. Cards and wishes are welcome. No gifts please.

## CLEANING CORNER

**Question:** Over the holidays, my place has been the designated "Party House." As you can imagine, my carpets have taken a beating with drink spills, ground in cookie crumbs, and the normal spotting caused by walk-in foot traffic, bringing in all the nasty elements from winter weather. My guests are gone, but their messes remain! Any suggestions?  
"Walking in a Winter-Spotted Land!"

Lori Chandler  
Cleaning Center owner  
734-2404

**Answer:** Holiday celebrations are great, but they can leave your home in post-party, after-Santa, less-than-jolly conditions. So after you've finished off the last sip of egg nog, come into Don Aslett's Cleaning Center and pick up a great product for small mess rescue called PERKY. Perky is a safe, water-based spotter that cleans up food and drink spills, as well as many other stubborn messes like cosmetics, ink and copy toner. Perk up your after holiday blues with PERKY!

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# WANTED: CREATIVE TYPES

They enrich our lives with their songs, make us think with their poetry, captivate our imaginations with their sculptures. Maybe they give new life to antique autos or create their own fashions that wow their peers. No matter what they do, we want to meet south-central Idaho's most creative people. The *Times-News* is working on a series that explores how creativity spans

generations, in which we will feature one artist, craftsman or other inventive spirit from each decade of life. We want to meet elementary school Picassos, grandparents who compose, middle-aged weavers, or anyone of any age who brings beauty into the world. Send nominations to features writer Melissa Davlin at melissa.davlin@lee.net, or call 208-735-3234.

## Avoid mental breakdowns in Christmas break

The stockings are either packed away or filled with Hershey's wrappers. The ham is reduced to a leftover bag of scraps fit only for an omelet. And empty boxes are scattered throughout the living room — all to the baby's delight.

Most importantly, my wife is on the recliner, on the verge of tears — with a calendar in her hand, with extra circles around the first Monday in January.

**SPILT MILK**  
**David Cooper**



Nope, there's nothing quite like the days after Christmas at our house.

The 10 school days that my children are home from school can be described as an event rivaled only by Mardi Gras, or a weekend with the drummer from Motley Crue.

Because it's Dec. 27, the innocent euphoria of presents has worn off. Any threats about being on the naughty list are as empty as Congress during Christmas recess. The children are deliriously high on sugar and late-night debauchery. There are more fights than a Golden Gloves tournament. Even the dog runs away to the garage, just to avoid the high-pitched shrieking.

But those were signs from last year. In a new effort to save the adults from a trip to the Mayo Clinic, things will be different.

This year the kids have to get along. With out-of-state family members coming, the household will have four more children and three more adults, for a grand total of 14, count 'em, 14 people in the house for a two-week span. When you combine the norms of civility for rarely seen relatives, and the architectural limits of my older split level home, I'll have no choice but to institute martial law. And when it's over, the children will either have volumes of wholesome memories, or they'll be begging to go back to school. Here are my starters.

**Bedtime is strictly enforced** — If you fight, you go to bed. No tantrums, no weapons and no flushing candy-canes down the toilets just to see how minty fresh the bowl can get. Step out of line, and you'll be in bed before the 6 o'clock news.

**No end runs to Grandma** — Because Grandma is so delighted to have all these grandkids around, she's relishing every minute of the holiday. She's also a huge pushover, providing extra trips to McDonald's, giving half-dollar coins liberally, and letting late-night stories last too long. I'm on to your devious tricks, kids. Come to think of it, I'm on to your spiel, too, Grandma.

**Go outside, stay outside** — My nieces and nephews are from Arizona and never see snow. Good thing, too, because they're gonna have to stay in it for large portions of the day. Hopefully, my kids will have them trained for winter survival. First lesson: Mucus on your nose stops freezing when it's about 25 degrees, thus saving you a trip inside for lunch.

David Cooper may be reached at dcooper@magicvalley.com.

# New board games get a rigorous test during family fun night

By Diana Reese  
McClatchy Newspapers

Buying a new game is cheaper than taking a family of four to the movies, and playing a game together creates memories and strengthens relationships. Bonus: You can play again and again.

We tried out several of this season's new games over the course of a couple of family game nights with my son the tween, my daughter the teen, my baby boomer husband and me.

## Sort It Out! The Game of Putting Things in Order

**Grade: A**

This was my personal favorite — maybe because I finally won, or maybe because it appealed to my inner organizer.

**Players:** Two to six, ages 12 and older.

**The object:** Put a list of weird and sometimes unrelated items in order.

For example, sort these things by weight: an elephant's daily poo, three standard house bricks, a blue whale tongue, an average domestic cat and a Jeep Grand Cherokee. Or sort these inventions by when they were created: barbed wire, telephone, incandescent lamp, the Mercedes-Benz "Patent Motor Car" and the hovercraft.

**Plus:** My son and I thought it was great fun (a mix of strategy and educated guesses with no down time because everybody plays each turn).

**Minus:** My daughter found it frustrating, and my analytical husband questioned why anyone cared.

## Monopoly City

**Grade: A-**

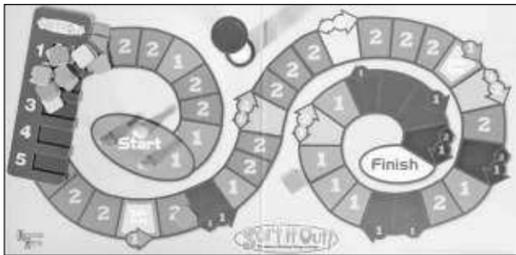
If you love traditional Monopoly, you'll probably like this 21st century revamp, complete with 80 3-D buildings such as skyscrapers, stadiums and industrial complexes.

**Players:** Two to six, ages 8 and older.

**The object:** You start with more than \$37 million in cash and build on every Go. Unwanted property gets auctioned as soon as anyone lands on it. You can even sabotage other players' investments by placing prisons or sewage plants next to their prized properties.

**Plus:** My son liked the electronic gadget that serves as a timer and determines how many buildings can be purchased at a time.

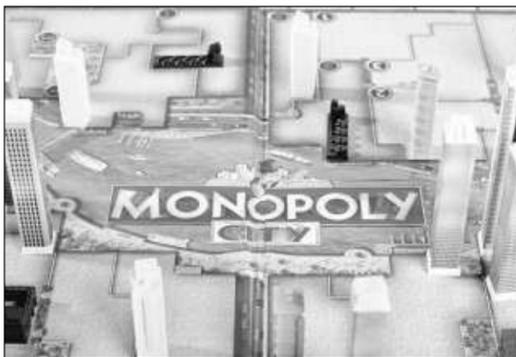
**Minus:** We had to frequently refer to the 16-page instruction manual to understand the rules, slow-



Sort It Out! The game of putting things in order will appeal to your inner organizer.



The updated Bop-It! has solo, pass it and party modes, which means more than one can play.



If you love traditional Monopoly, you'll probably like this 21st century revamp, complete with 80 3-D buildings such as skyscrapers, stadiums and industrial complexes.

ing down play.

## Trivial Pursuit Team Edition

**Grade: A-**

I used to love playing Trivial Pursuit but quit when kids came along because the questions often frustrated them. This version uses teams, so we evened out our knowledge bases with mom-and-daughter, father-and-son teams.

**Players:** Two or more teams, ages 18 and older.

**Object:** There are six question styles, including Multiple Choice: You get four possible answers and three guesses (the sooner you guess, the more you score); Name Six: For example, name six novels written by Jane Austen (get a point for each one you can name); More or Less: Correct answer on a hard question is worth twice the points.

**Plus:** A cardholder makes it easy to take the game on the road.

**Minus:** You get 12 decks, good for just 12 games (until you wait long enough to play again that you can't remember the questions).

## Bop-It!

**Grade: B**

This year's updated Bop-

It! has solo, pass it and party modes, which means more than one can play.

**Players:** One or more, ages 8 and older.

**Object:** In party mode, you throw your whole body into play and tap the Bop-It! on the body part that is called, such as the elbow or knee. But the thing talks back to you when you miss, asking "Too fast for you?"

**Plus/minus:** It can be either addicting or annoying, though it is kind of fun to twist, pull, bop and shout. You can adjust the sound level, and it comes with batteries.

## StoryClub: Girls' Night Edition

**Grade: A-**

Marcie Jacobs, a former Kansas City, Mo., resident, invented this writing game along with a couple of friends when her book club members couldn't agree on what to read next. Whether it beats Bunko as an excuse to have a girls' night out is open to debate, but you do need a group of open-minded and imaginative friends.



MCT photos

Trivial Pursuit Team Edition uses teams, so you can even out your knowledge bases with mom-and-daughter, father-and-son teams.

**Players:** Six to 16 (12 is ideal), adult (rated PG-13).

**Object:** Two or three people huddle together to literally write one-page chapters in the notebook that comes with the game. The first team gets a Story Starter card, such as this one: "If she could go back in time, Carly would erase last night's argument with X.

Would they ever speak to one another again? ..."

People, Places and Things cards help keep the story going.

**Plus:** While one team writes, the other players snack, talk and relax.

**Minus:** Girls' night could stretch into a weekend if you don't set a time limit for writing each chapter.

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A recent posting by a *Times-News* mom blogger. Read more on [Magicvalley.com](http://Magicvalley.com)



## Why I am not a 'Martha Stewart' mom

So what I mean ... is a mom that is not the most accomplished baker, and that is why when it comes to my children's parties (both birthdays and school parties), the store is my friend. I do not bake my own birthday cakes for my kids, and I actually see this as a good thing for them. Sometimes you just have to realize your weaknesses.

This week I had to be reminded of this. You see, I am helping with my oldest son's first-grade Christmas party. Since I had scored a really good deal in my couponing on some pre-made sugar cookie dough, I gained some false confidence. I thought I could handle making for the party said cookies in cute Christmas designs and decorating them. As I was rolling out the cookie dough yesterday, the thought running through my head was "I think I am falling in love with Pillsbury." As I was thinking this, I should have known it was too good to be true.

# Women giving birth at home without midwives

By Jeff Barnard  
Associated Press writer

ASHLAND, Ore. — When Jennifer Margulis went into labor with her fourth child, she sent her husband off to take the kids to school, then waited at home for her body to do what she felt confident it had evolved over millions of years to do on its own.

There was no rushing to the hospital, no midwife, no EMTs. Just Jennifer and her husband, home alone, giving birth.

"I think a lot of people think a woman who would want to have an unassisted birth would be a little bit crazy," said Margulis, who holds a Ph.D. in literature and is a contributing editor for *Mothering Magazine*. "I think I may have had that reaction as well. I am definitely not a crazy person. I am a very educated, thoughtful and caring person. I am not a person who takes a lot of unnecessary risks. The whole point is it is not risky if you do your homework."

Nationwide, 90 percent of births still take place in hospitals with doctors attending, said Oregon State University medical anthropologist and midwife Melissa Cheney. Another 8 to 10 percent are with midwives in hospitals or birthing centers. And 1 to 2 percent are at home.

The numbers of at-home births that are unattended are impossible to track, Cheney said.

But Internet traffic and books on the subject indicate more women are choosing to take control with what is becoming known as freebirth because they are concerned about the United States' dismal record of maternity care and skyrocketing rate of Cesarean births, now at nearly 32 percent of all births, Cheney said.

"I don't think they are just crazy," said Cheney. "I think they are trying to find a way to work around a system they see as very problematic."

Though the U.S. spends more money on childbirth



AP photo

Jennifer Margulis and James di Properzio look on Nov. 11 as their daughter, Hesperus, holds the newest member of the family, a daughter born at home in Ashland, Ore., without a doctor or midwife present. The couple decided to have the birth without help, and there are signs an increasing number of people are making the same choice.

than any other nation, it has one of the world's worst records for infant mortality and maternal mortality, said Cheney. The infant mortality rate is nearly 7 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, ranking the U.S. 30th in the world in 2005.

"The U.S. is really the butt of lots of international public health jokes," Cheney said. "What a waste of money; it is usually the punchline."

Dr. Erin Tracy, an obstetrician and gynecologist at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston and assistant professor at Harvard medical School, said most women can give birth alone without any problem, but there are still small numbers — as high as 10 percent — who will run into complications, often without warning. "What worries me is that very often women who have absolutely no risk factors develop an emergency complication," she said. "I can't imagine how you can possibly recognize that yourself, particularly if you have no medical training. Sometimes you have only minutes to intervene."

Tracy said the increase in C-sections appears driven by the high rate of obesity in America, more births of twins and triplets, more women asking for them, as well as the

fear of lawsuits. The high infant mortality rate is related to the high number of premature births that can survive for a time.

"None of these make it, I think, a wise choice to have a delivery in a setting where no one has any training," she said.

Margulis' decision to have her child without medical help evolved.

She had a bad experience with her first birth in a hospital, and her second birth, which was with a midwife at home. A midwife also assisted with the third, but this midwife had half of her own 10 children unassisted, and was an inspiration for the idea. Margulis began interviewing midwives for her fourth birth, but as she learned more about doing it herself, she became convinced she could.

"I felt like when I read other peoples' stories, I felt like those were the most amazing women in the world and they were all so much stronger than I am," she said. "It wasn't true. In no way am I special or amazing. It's that if we let our bodies do what they evolved to do, what they know how to do, then any woman can have a safe unassisted home birth."

Jennifer Block, author of the book, "Pushed," said while it is impossible to track the numbers of women doing

unassisted childbirth, they are highly educated, committed, motivated and frustrated with mainstream medicine.

"That should give us pause," she said. "We are failing in some way. Women should be able to be in control and still have trained support with them. Emergencies do happen. I can't imagine trying to resuscitate my own infant, or if I had a hemorrhage."

Margulis said she lied to her mother, University of Massachusetts Amherst evolutionist Lynn Margulis, a member of the National Academy of Sciences, about having a midwife present. Lynn Margulis said she's nonetheless proud of her daughter.

"I'm delighted. Her father and I used to say, when people asked how may kids do you have, we used to say, 'We have a daughter and a half,'" she said.

Laura Shanley, a leading advocate for freebirth, had her first child in 1978 without a doctor or midwife at home. She and her husband were inspired by the book "Childbirth Without Fear" by the late British obstetrician Grantly Dick-Read, widely regarded as the father of the natural childbirth movement. She went on to have all five of her children that way. One died of a congenital heart defect soon after birth, she said.

Shanley later wrote her own book and established a Web site called *Bornfree!*

"It didn't make sense to me that the thing that assures the continuation of the race would be this horrendous experience," she said.

Margulis' husband, James Di Properzio, was not convinced at first. He was worried about the few births that do not go smoothly.

"I wanted to know what the contingency was, and how we were going to know when to go to the contingency," he said. Being a short drive from the hospital and having a midwife standing by to call helped, he said.

## Getting up to speed on the power of attraction

By Ellen McCarthy  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Eli Finkel was still an undergrad when he realized "somebody could spend his life asking questions about relationships, trying to find the answers to those questions and then teaching interested young minds about the research."

But when, as a newly minted psychology professor teaching a course on romantic relationships, he faced questions from a discerning student about how couples paired off, he was stumped.

"I kept being like, 'I don't know and the field doesn't really know,'" he recalls. Research on attraction had been done in the '50s and '60s but was largely abandoned after that. It has come back into academic fashion in recent years, however, led in part by Finkel's work with that former student, Paul Eastwick, now an assistant professor at Texas A&M.

Speed-dating events became their petri dish of choice — "it was this extraordinarily rich social context for studying initial attraction," Finkel explains.

In a 2005 study, they looked at whether the characteristics singles say they want in a partner match what they actually pursue. On paper, women reported a greater desire for earning potential and status; men were more interested in physical attractiveness. In person at speed-dating events, that discrepancy went away — "women want really good-looking men every bit as much as men want really good-looking women," Finkel says. And financial prospects were no less important to men than women.

The take-away, as Finkel sees it: "We tend not to have the insight that we think we do into our romantic preferences."

"Don't read a profile of somebody on Match.com and assume 'Oh, well, that person doesn't match my shopping list of characteris-

tics I need in a partner so there's no way I should go on a date with her," he cautions. "We can't evaluate people as abstractions. ... Life isn't lived on paper. It's lived in flesh-and-blood encounters, and there's magic that can happen in those encounters."

Another of Finkel and Eastwick's studies found that when it comes to platonic relationships, if a person tends to like everyone, that goodwill is more likely to be reciprocated. But in romantic relationships, that wasn't the case. If a single guy digs all the women in the room, Finkel explains, "the women don't like him back."

The turn-on, he continues, comes when a person feels "uniquely desired." "When he or she has set sights on me, that seems to be something of an aphrodisiac," says the 34-year-old psychologist, who was set up with his wife by his grandmother.

Finkel and Eastwick's most recent study questions why women are so often found to be more selective in choosing partners than men. In almost all speed-dating events, women sit in stationary positions and men rotate to talk with each of them. When Finkel and Eastwick set up a dating event like that, the standard result bore out — women were more selective.

But when they reversed the roles and had women rotate, that was no longer the case. Suddenly, the men became more selective and the women less so. Finkel postulates that the very act of making an approach changes the dynamic between two people — the one who walked up is more likely to feel attracted to the person sitting across from him or her.

"If you're somebody who's reliably felt, 'I just can't find anybody interesting,' take a bit more initiative," he says.

"If you see someone who's potentially interesting, stand up and walk over there. Who knows — it could at least inspire you a little bit."

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.



## ENGAGEMENTS

### Garrard-Klein

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Garrard of Burley, announce the marriage of their daughter, Jennifer, to Scott Klein, son of Jana Klein and Russell Klein of Taylorsville, Utah.

Jennifer and Scott will graduate this spring in history education from Utah State University.

Jennifer was a member of "Latter-Day Voices," a select singing and dancing group from the Institute of Religion at Logan.

Scott was Student Body President of Taylorsville High School, and served an L.D.S. mission to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He is currently an ambassador for



Jennifer Garrard and Scott Klein

Utah State University.

They will be married in the Mt. Timpanagos Temple on Dec. 30. Their reception will be from 7-9 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 2, at Sweetheart Manor in Burley.

The couple will make their home in Logan as they complete their education.

## ANNIVERSARIES

### The Petersens



Emery and Ruby Petersen

Emery and Ruby Petersen celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in Palm Desert, California on December 26, 2009.

They live part time in Twin Falls, Idaho where they both grew up and spent



most of their lives. Their children, Dr. Michelle Summers from Anchorage, Alaska and Doug Petersen from Luanda, Angola were with them for an anniversary dinner.

## STORK REPORT

### St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center

**William Grant Hobbs**, son of Jody Ann Gage and Allen Grant Hobbs of Jerome, was born Oct. 20, 2009.

**Rhilee Adelise Kinsey**, daughter of Leah Cherron Wasko of Kimberly, was born Nov. 28, 2009.

**Alivia Jo Stahlecker**, daughter of Andrea Kae and Gary Wayne Stahlecker of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 7, 2009.

**Cutler T. Lapp**, son of Katie Ann Beem of Filer, was born Dec. 8, 2009.

**Gryffon Alexander White**, son of Tracy JoAnne and Devon Alan White of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 9, 2009.

**Helen Nang Kham**, daughter of Tail Hnri Hai and Simon Zohrek Cin Zah of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 14, 2009.

**Timothy James Ferrera**, son of Kari Marie and Michael Herold Ferrera of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 15, 2009.

**Imauni Elaine Gonzalez**, daughter of Alicia Kaye Gonzalez of Hansen, was born Dec. 15, 2009.

**Debin James Isenhardt**, son of Whittney Nicole and

George Augustus Isenhardt II of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 15, 2009.

**Hannah Marie Seaman**, daughter of Andreda Marie and Steven Ray Seaman of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 15, 2009.

**Ian James Watson**, son of Cindy Ann and Kit Vernon Watson of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 15, 2009.

**Natalie Kate Weston**, daughter of Amanda Jill and Benjamin Roscoe Weston of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 15, 2009.

**Brynlee LaRee Barney**, daughter Megan LaRee and Jacob David Barney of Twin Falls, was born of Dec. 16, 2009.

**Ryker Zane Bernier**, son of Heather Lynn and Kevin Franklin Bernier of Buhl, was born Dec. 17, 2009.

**Claire Ruth Cook**, daughter of Gail Rae and William Erle Cook of Filer, was born Dec. 18, 2009.

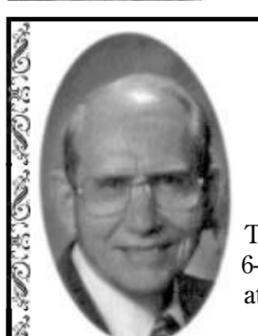
**Julie Annie Gutierrez-Lira**, daughter of Leida Aide and Luciano Gutierrez of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 18, 2009.

**Carson Drew Lindemood**, son of Kari Lynn and Charles Olon Lindemood of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 18, 2009.

**Iain Augustus Plante**, son of

Kimberly Ann and Justin Ray Plante of Kimberly, was born of Dec. 18, 2009.

**Haiden Rae Romney**,



Please come and help celebrate this occasion. Forrest would be pleased to greet his friends, former employees and customers of Hall's True Value, Farm and Home Supply.

daughter of Kelsey Ann and Nicholas Robert Romney of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 18, 2009.

# Kids Only

## Time to get down with these CDs

By Moira E. McLaughlin  
The Washington Post

It's hard to find good kids music out there. You either get songs about ABCs and 123s, or songs about relationships and (ick!) love. So we set out to find good kids music. We looked for catchy tunes, funny lyrics and real musicians who just happen to be playing for you.

The following CDs fill the bill. The tunes are energetic, silly at times (but not goofy), clever (but not boring), danceable, cool and fun. We hope they will inspire you to rock!

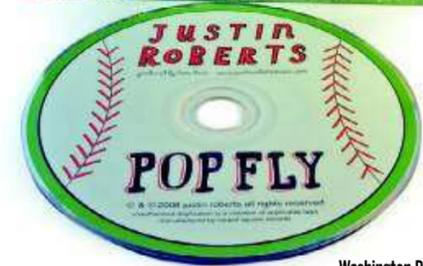


**Robbert Bobbert and the Bubble Machine:** With a name like that, how can you go wrong? This CD is more electronic and modern-sounding. It's obvious that the band likes experimenting with different, weird sounds. "We R Super Heroes" is a totally fun song.

**Jump With Jill, "Get Me Goin'":** Try to listen to "Healthy Is Good for Me" without moving your whole body. (Bet you can't!) Then see if you can name all the instruments you hear. There is a lot going on here. The words to the songs are about eating well and being healthy. (Jill is a doctor.) Boring, right? No! These songs will knock your socks off, they are so fun. Listen to this when you need an energy boost.

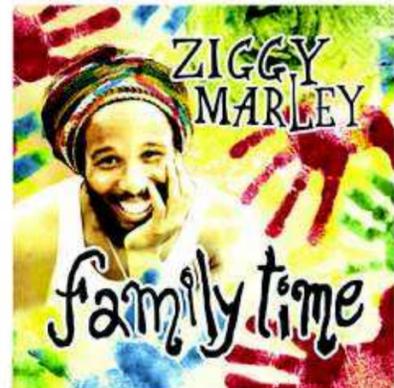
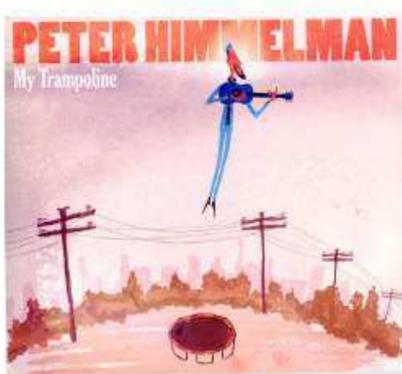
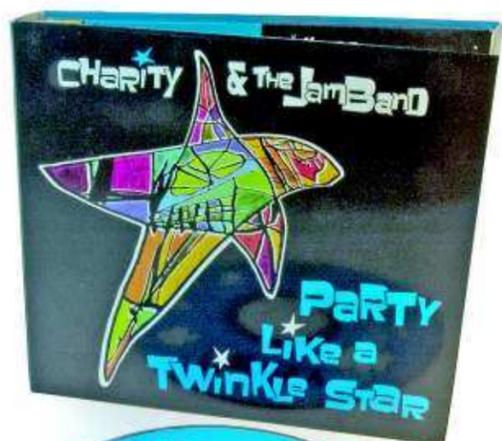
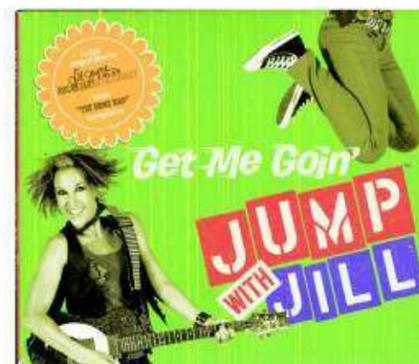
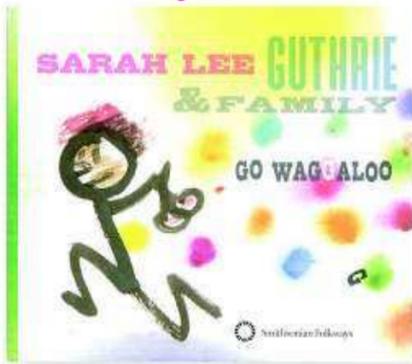


**Sarah Lee Guthrie and Family, "Go Waggaloo":** Sarah's grandfather is Woody Guthrie, a well-known musician from a while ago. Sarah's music is beautiful and relaxing. She plays the guitar and sings. Her husband plays with her, and her daughters sing backup. It's a sweet, family CD. Think good campfire songs.



Washington Post photos

**Justin Roberts, "Pop Fly":** Just because your parents find the lyrics (meaning the words) to these songs funny does not mean the tunes are any less cool. Justin seems to remember what it's like to be a kid. His songs are clearly about you.



**Peter Himmelman, "My Trampoline":** If the song "Imagination" doesn't get you moving, check your shoes! Peter is a very talented musician. He's not just another goofy adult trying to make you laugh. The memorable tunes are fun and smart, and they will keep you humming all day.

**Ziggy Marley, "Family Time":** This is happy music. It's a little like reggae. (That's a kind of music that started in Jamaica and makes you want to lift your shoulders up and down.) You want to sway and smile? This is your CD.



**Charity and the JAMband, "Party Like a Twinkle Star":** Girls can rock, too, and they can rock while singing about things such as pancakes and rocket ships. Check out Charity's funky "Row Row Row Your Boat." Or slow it down a little with the pretty song "We Are Stardust."

## How jeans were invented

By Moira E. McLaughlin  
The Washington Post

What you think of as cool and stylish was invented with the intention of being sturdy and long-lasting.

Jacob Davis was a businessman and immigrant from Latvia, a small country next to Russia. Around 1869, he opened a shop in Nevada specializing in wagon covers, tents, horse blankets and work clothes.

One day a woman asked him to make a sturdy pair

of pants for her husband. Davis was not the first to make pants out of denim, but he did come up with the idea of putting rivets, small nail-like, copper pieces that he used on horse blankets, on men's pants. Rivets could help hold the pants together, and working men could stuff their pockets with tools without fear of their pants ripping.

Soon, many men wanted a pair of Davis' \$3 "waist overalls," to wear over their street clothes when they worked. Davis asked Levi Strauss, a German immigrant who sold him cloth, to go into business

with him. In 1873, the two patented the riveted pants idea so that no one else could make the same product until 1890, when the patent expired.

Davis worked as a supervisor at Levi Strauss & Co. in San Francisco until his death in 1908. By the 1960s, the public began calling the riveted pants "jeans."

Today a plaque on Virginia Street in Reno, Nev., marks where the first jeans were made.

