

SUNDAY
June 13, 2010

TIMES-NEWS

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NO LONGER BEHIND THE SCENES



Photos by MEAGAN THOMPSON/Times-News

Brittney Tipton, a freshman at North Valley Academy, peers through the curtains at the gathering audience before a play June 2 at the Gooding charter school. Parents helped supply costumes and props for the production, which was held as part of the entertainment for the last day of school. Due to tight public school budgets, donations from parents and school organizations are becoming an increasingly crucial part of funding school activities like drama and music.

BY THE NUMBERS

Here's a look at how much state funding for a selection of area school districts will be cut in the next fiscal year, which starts July 1. The figures are preliminary estimates.

TWIN FALLS
\$2.64 million

CASSIA COUNTY
\$2.5 million

MINIDOKA COUNTY
\$2.1 million

HANSEN
\$300,000

KIMBERLY
\$660,630

WENDELL
\$579,573

Americans radiation dosage increases

Most of our radiation comes from medical scans

By Marilyn Marchione
Associated Press writer

We fret about airport scanners, power lines, cell phones and even microwaves. It's true that we get too much radiation. But it's not from those sources — it's from too many medical tests.

Americans get the most medical radiation in the world, even more than folks in other rich countries. The U.S. accounts for half of the most advanced procedures that use radiation, and the average American's dose has grown sixfold over the last couple of decades.

Too much radiation raises the risk of cancer. That risk is growing because people in everyday situations are getting imaging tests far too often. Like the New Hampshire teen who was about to get a CT scan to check for kidney stones until a radiologist, Dr. Steven Birnbaum, discovered he'd already had 14 of these powerful X-rays for previous episodes. Adding up the total dose, "I was horrified" at the cancer risk it posed, Birnbaum said.

After his own daughter, Molly, was given too many scans following a car accident, Birnbaum took action: He asked the two hospitals where he works to watch for any patients who had had 10 or more CT scans, or patients under 40 who had had five — clearly dangerous amounts. They found 50 people over a three-year period, including a young woman with 31 abdominal scans.

When other radiologists tell him they've never found such a case, Birnbaum replies: "That tells me you haven't looked."

Of the many ways Americans are overtested and overtreated, imaging is one of the most common and insidious. CT scans — "super X-rays" that give fast, extremely detailed images — have soared in use over the last decade, often replacing tests that don't require radiation, such as ultrasound and MRI, or magnetic resonance imaging.

Radiation is a hidden danger — you don't feel it when you get it, and any damage usually doesn't show up for years. Taken individually, tests that use radiation pose little risk. Over time, though, the dose accumulates.

See PARENTS, Main 3

See RADIATION, Main 6

Education budget shortfalls shine spotlight on parent, nonprofit fundraising efforts

By Ben Botkin
Times-News writer

These days, public schools have no shortage of needs.

Those needs will likely become even more apparent as the new school year begins and Idaho educators grapple with a \$128.5 million, 7.5 percent cut in state funding. Besides less money for salaries, there's also less to go around for needs like transportation, class supplies and technology.

Throughout the Magic Valley, school groups like parent-teacher and booster organizations are finding that their work is all the more necessary. The organizations are crafting fundraising plans for the coming school year with an eye toward preserving the quality of education and ensuring that schoolchildren's educational experiences still include field trips, music and drama activities, and textbooks.

"I think the attitude should be: This is my child's school," Anna Scholes, a member of the Vera C. O'Leary Middle School parent-teacher organization, said of the role parents should take in ensuring their children receive an adequately funded education.

At the Twin Falls school, for example, parents have volunteered this year to monitor students as

they take annual exams, helped raise money for a field trip to Hagerman-area fish hatcheries and started a long-term effort to overhaul the school's running track.

Resurfacing the track, which has sustained water-related damages and cracks, will likely cost as much as \$250,000, though the final figure isn't known yet.

"I think in better days you have the district do that," Scholes said of the effort. "I think we have felt that if we wait, it will be a long time until the district has money to spend on the track."

The nonprofit Twin Falls School District Education Foundation is planning a fundraiser for this fall that will raise money for innovative classroom teaching efforts, with recipients within the district selected



Kaitlyn Loosle, a sixth-grader at Kimberly Elementary School, hangs out in the deep end of the pool with her classmates during the school's annual year-end trip to Nat Soo Pah Hot Springs near Hollister. Due to state budget cuts to school transportation budgets, the Kimberly Booster Club plans to raise funding to cover the costs of trips for district schools.

through an application process.

"We work very closely with the schools, and our board is really committed to doing what we can," said Linda Watkins, executive director of the foundation, stressing that the annual event will be a way to bring out community support for schools.

Charter schools are also in the mix as state-funded public schools. At North Valley Academy in Gooding, parents have pitched in to provide instruments for the school's orchestra, and there will be

more orchestra fundraising in the coming school year.

Salena Mink, a parent with children in the orchestra, said music is a crucial part of their education and teaches them skills that are closely related to other subjects like math.

Parents have also pitched in through other ways at the school. They've donated time and painted the school's walls. And they've also provided props and costumes for school plays.

See PARENTS, Main 3

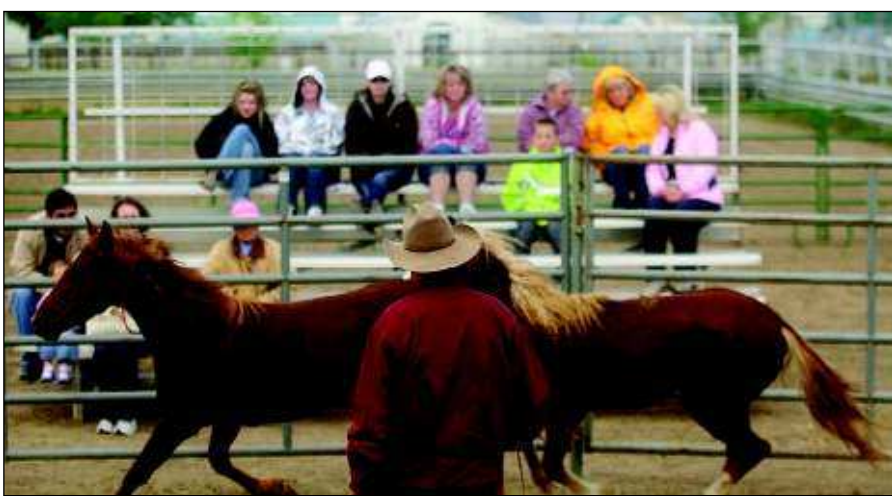
Adoptions give equines a life off the range

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

FILER — When Jennifer Williams first arrived at the Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Saturday at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds, she was drawn to a bay filly, impressed with its flaxen mane.

The horse was already spoken for, however, so Williams considered the other animals in the pen. A white-faced gelding in Pen No. 4 caught her eye. She watched how it interacted with the other animals.

See HORSES, Main 2



DREW GODLESKI/For the Times-News

Mario Johnson, a horse trainer from Georgetown, Idaho, works with wild horses during the Wild Horse and Burro Adoption event at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds on Saturday in Filer.

Ex-GIs remember their 'forgotten' war

Korean War began 60 years ago

By Charles J. Hanley
Associated Press correspondent

WAEGWAN, South Korea — The old soldier stood erect on the riverbank, his cane at his side, a baseball cap emblazoned "2nd Infantry Division" square above his brow. He looked out, then turned away from the slow, silty Naktong.

"I've seen this river before," Carroll Garland said.

"I don't want to remember. Too many memories."

The war that began in Korea 60 years ago, on June 25, 1950, a ghastly conflict that killed millions and left the peninsula in ruins, became "The Forgotten War" in many American minds.

To a shrinking corps of aging men, however, the soldiers of Korea 1950-53, it can

See KOREA, Main 4



BridgeClassifieds 9
CrosswordClassifieds 4
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Kids OnlyFamily Life 6
JumbleClassifieds 2
MoviesNation 7
ObituariesBusiness 5-6
SudokuClassifieds 7
Your BusinessBusiness 2

OIL SPILL DISPUTE ESCALATES
Coast Guard gives deadline to BP > Nation/World 1

Parents

Continued from Main 1

"Parents volunteer tons of time," said NVA Principal Gayle DeSmet.

Although the time and efforts of area PTOs are generally volunteered willingly, some school requests of parent organizations in the state are raising eyebrows. The Idaho Parent Teacher Association, a statewide child advocacy group, has heard of schools across Idaho asking for fundraising for everything from textbooks to copy paper, said Laurie Boeckel, the organization's legislative vice president.

Boeckel said the organization has concerns about relying upon parent-teacher groups to raise money for no-frills, basic education needs in publicly funded schools.

"When you are starting to see a growing need across the state for parent groups to have to pay for basic things that should be provided inside the classroom, something is terribly wrong with the priority that our state is taking with education," she said, stressing her organization's role as one of advocacy, not fundraising.

Boeckel said fundraising decisions are up to individual parent-teacher groups, adding that her organization will continue to educate its members on how the state is spending its resources and funding education.

Among area parent-led organizations, there's more of a willingness to pitch in and volunteer than disagreements about how much fundraising should be done and where the money should go. For example, in Hansen School District a new group formed on its own to raise money for a district music teacher in the coming school year. The effort to overhaul the track at O'Leary started with parents.

Jennifer Graves, president of Gooding Elementary and Middle School Parent Teacher Association, said the organization doesn't feel overly relied on for essential education needs, adding that community support is strong for the school system.

For the coming year, the Gooding organization will continue to raise money for field trips, supplies for special projects and an awards assembly that recognizes students, as it has in recent years.

"We just try to help the school and the kids all we can," Graves said. "We were able this year to send every



Walker Mink, a student at North Valley Academy in Gooding, plays the cello June 2 during orchestra class on the last day of school. Parents like Mink's have contributed to the school's music program by supplying instruments for their children. Due to tight public school budgets, donations from parents and school organizations are becoming an increasingly crucial part of funding school activities like drama and music.

Photos by MEAGAN THOMPSON/Times-News



Mindy Paul, an eighth-grader at North Valley Academy, peeks through the curtains as she waits for her entrance cue backstage during a production of 'Tied to the Tracks' at the Gooding charter school. Parents helped supply the costumes and props for the play, which was held as part of festivities for the last day of school on June 2.

grade on field trips. We think it's important for all the kids to be able to participate in something that maybe they can't afford themselves."

Andrea Tegan, president of Declo Elementary School's parent-teacher organization, said that money gained through the group's fundraiser this year will go toward purchasing textbooks and workbooks, items that aren't covered in the district budget for the coming school. In the past, the organization has raised money for new furniture, physical education equipment and sheet music for the music department.

"Declo school system is relatively small, which means we know each other," she said. "We have that sense of community and that transfers into our schools. That sense of community also helps when it

comes to things like this because everybody's willing to get behind it."

In Kimberly School District, its booster club is

gearing up as well.

The Kimberly Booster Club is planning fundraising efforts to cover travel expenses for various school-related events, including field trips, athletics and other extracurricular activities like FFA, debate and speech, said Dan Rongen, the club's president.

Preliminary figures show they'll need to raise between \$20,000 and \$25,000, he said.

"We all anticipate that we're going to have to help more and contribute more in many different ways," he said, adding that volunteering time is another way that parents can help out. "... I'm very proud of (the) Kimberly community's parents, teachers and the whole community as far as being always willing to take on whatever the challenge is."



Ayla Robinson, a junior at North Valley Academy, breaks through the curtains before a production of 'Tied to the Tracks' June 2 at the Gooding charter school. Parents helped supply the costumes for the play, which was held as part of festivities for the last day of school.

In Hansen School District, three parents formed an organization this year to raise \$21,000 for the part-time music teacher.

The goal is to have the funding secured by June 20, said Lauren Peters of Hansen, a member of the group. She said that raising money in a small community during an economic downturn can be challenging. Still, she said, there's

been positive feedback about the effort.

"For the parents watching all of the cuts that are happening, it's extremely frustrating and it's really, really scary just wondering, are your kids going to get the education they need?" Peters said.

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

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Semi crash injures one, closes lanes

Times-News

A truck driver was taken to the hospital with minor injuries, and lanes of Interstate 84 were closed for about nine hours, after the tractor-trailer he was driving tipped over and spilled hazardous material onto the highway Saturday near Glens Ferry.

Harvey Cooley, 42, of Hollister was traveling eastbound on I-84 when, a little after 5 a.m., he fell asleep at the wheel, causing the FedEx semi he was driving to veer off the highway, according to a news release by the Idaho State Police.

The semi was carrying multiple barrels of hazardous materials, and when the vehicle landed on its side it caused fluid to leak onto the interstate.

The incident, which happened at mile post 111, caused the eastbound lanes to be closed for about nine hours while crews cleaned up the mess.

Cooley was transported by ground ambulance to the Elmore Regional Medical Center with minor injuries, according to the release.

ISP was assisted by the Elmore County Sheriff's Office, EMS crews and Glens Ferry Fire Department.

The crash is still under investigation.

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Korea

Continued from Main 1

never be forgotten. It damaged many physically, scarred many mentally, and left men questioning their commanders' and their nation's wisdom.

They fought many enemies — not just the North Koreans and Chinese, but also the heat, the killing cold and the cursed hills, the thirst, hunger and filth, the incompetence and hubris of their own army, and the indifference of an American homeland still fixed on the "good" war, World War II, that had ended five years earlier.

Remembering Korea today may be painful, as ex-sergeant Garland, 81, of Oxon Hill, Maryland, can attest. But when such men get together, the freeze frames of war's horrors and miseries, of lost comrades and paralyzing dread, inevitably emerge in sharp focus.

"At the reunions, they talk about it," said Lucille Macek, 76, wife of Shawnee, Kansas, veteran Victor Macek. "And then they break down."

In a wartime arc of desperation, triumph, retreat and final stalemate in Korea, no U.S. division sacrificed as much as the 2nd Infantry Division, losing more than 7,000 killed, one-fifth of total U.S. dead. And it is the 2nd Infantry Division that still stands guard over South Korea today.

Two days spent with a "2nd ID" group on a 60th-anniversary visit to old battlefields opened a window on the men and events of a lifetime ago, when what happened here, on the Naktong, on the Chungchon River of North Korea, in places like Kunu-ri and Heartbreak Ridge, neglected stories though they may be in today's textbooks, was nothing less than a pivotal turn in 20th-century history, when a cold war grew hot in America's confrontation with communism.

•••

"We didn't have enough men," Henry Reed recalled of the division's ordeal on the Naktong.

"There were so many holes in the line, the North Koreans didn't have to try too hard. The enemy would get behind us, and we'd be fighting on all sides. Things were desperate."

It was called the Pusan Perimeter, a southeastern corner of Korea running 85 miles north to south along the Naktong, and 60 miles east to west. Here in mid-1950, in one of the most perilous U.S. military operations ever, outmanned U.S. and South Korean troops mounted a last-ditch defense against a closing North Korean vise.

It wasn't supposed to be that way. After the communist-led northerners struck south in their surprise invasion on June 25, two years after U.S. combat units withdrew from South Korea, U.S. commanders believed the simple reappearance of American troops would deter the North Koreans.

The northern army battered the first-arriving U.S. units and shattered the South Korean divisions. It simply was better trained and better



Korean War veterans Henry F. Reed, 78, of Butte, Montana, left, and Lynn A. Freeman, 87, of Concord, Calif., right, talk June 2 as veterans of the 2nd Infantry Division and the 5th Regimental Combat Team, listen during a tour of a war monument at Daburi, South Korea.

AP photos



In August 1950 file photo, U.S. Marines help a wounded buddy on the Naktong River front in South Korea.

equipped, with Soviet-made T-34 tanks.

The U.S. government had shrunk the Army drastically after World War II, and training and equipment upgrades were neglected.

As the 2nd Division sailed from Ft. Lewis, Washington, toward Korea in late July 1950, "we wound up training our soldiers to fire their weapons at tin cans thrown into the Pacific," said retired Col. Ralph M. Hockley, 84, of Houston, then a young artillery officer.

"Twenty percent of our vehicles had to be towed to the embarkation point," Walter Wallis of Palo Alto, Calif., recalled of the 2nd Division deployment. "We had some real crap, four-year-old C-rations and stuff like that."

Not long after, on the Naktong, the 18-year-old radioman Wallis watched helplessly from a hilltop as a U.S. river-crossing patrol was slaughtered by the North Koreans. His batteries had failed; he couldn't call for help.

For House, a 57mm-recoilless rifleman, it wasn't quality but the quantity: none. For a month after his 5th RCT took up position on the perimeter, he had no ammunition for his gun, leaving him to help mortar and other gun crews fight off the enemy.

The North Koreans, crossing the shallow Naktong at night on barges or over underwater "bridges" built of rice bags filled with rocks, hammered again and again at the U.S. and South Korean lines in August and early September 1950.

The "lines" were more a series of hills, road junctions and other points manned by under-strength units, sometimes a mile apart. Commanders would rush up reserves to fill the gaps as the North Koreans attacked.

For the GI, in the 100-plus-degree heat, amid tropical downpours and malarial mosquitoes, with water supplies scarce, soldiering became misery. "Those weeks seemed like a lifetime," said House, of Bonne Terre,

Missouri.

Time and again, the 2nd and other U.S. and South Korean divisions held the North Koreans off, sometimes fighting hand-to-hand, at great cost to the defenders and even greater cost to the North Koreans. Finally, on Sept. 15, 1950, U.S. amphibious forces landed at Inchon, far to the North Koreans' rear, cutting them off from their supplies and recapturing Seoul from the invaders.

"We did what we had to do. We kept them out," twice-wounded ex-rifleman Reed, 78, of Butte, Montana, said of the Naktong campaign. "But

we suffered plenty. In the first month, my company" — A Company, 23rd Infantry Regiment — "went down to 78 men from 200."

More suffering lay ahead. The lunge north had been ill-conceived, putting the American army on a collision course with the might of China deep inside North Korea.

Chinese attacks all along the front forced the longest retreat in U.S. military history, a withdrawal by the entire U.S. Eighth Army some 160 miles back into South Korea.

For the 2nd Division, the pullback through Kunu-ri and the valley remembered as "The Gauntlet" was a descent into a wintry hell.

"The worst was the cold. I've never been so cold," said Ruiz. "You'd dig a hole in the snow and you'd all huddle together."

The "Big Bugout" retreat left the Eighth Army holding a line below the 38th Parallel, the North-South divide. In February 1951, the Chinese mounted an all-out offensive, but were turned back at Chipyeong-ni by the 2nd Division, ushering in a final long phase of the Korean War, the "war of the ridgelines," as the two sides jockeyed for advantage, winning hills, losing them,

winning them back, while truce talks went on.

It was at Heartbreak Ridge, in September 1951, that "we got into trouble, when we tried to move north," recalled Ed Reeg, ex-machine gunner with the 23rd Infantry. "The night of 19 September, Love Company was under real heavy attack, and Lt. Monfore called for a machine gun."

Reeg climbed to Love's position, set up his .30-caliber gun, and suddenly the North Koreans were charging out of the darkness along the ridgeline. Reeg's team tried to hold them off, dodged their grenades, but finally "they found the mark," a bullet hitting him above the hip, sending him rolling in pain.

As Love beat back the attack, at the cost of Lt. Monfore's life, Reeg was carried to a spot on the hillside, injected with morphine, roughly bandaged, and left lying there, as the sun rose, peaked and began to set.

"Here I'm thinking, it's over. What's my mom going to think?" In late afternoon, passing GIs realized he wasn't dead and sent him off to a medical station. The war was over for Ed Reeg, who would be awarded a Silver Star for bravery.

•••

Too many memories. This May 31, Reeg, 82, of Dubuque, Iowa, stood with his wife and son atop a ridgeline south of Korea's

dividing Demilitarized Zone, and looked out toward Heartbreak.

"To think we were so close to where I lay dying 59 years ago," he reflected later. "I never thought I'd get back here."

It wasn't the only pilgrimage this old soldier has made. In 2003, he found Lt. Peter Monfore's grave in Springfield, South Dakota, and met with his family. "It seemed like my duty to go find him."

Duty and doubts, flashbacks and nightmares, pride and uncertainties — veterans of killing fields, in Korea or elsewhere, are often torn by conflicting feelings. Many Korea vets are open about the psychic legacy of their war.

"I had night sweats for years," Ruiz said. "Whatever, it's still blocked out." Reeg believes a nervous breakdown he suffered in 1960 may have stemmed from his time in Korea.

In their foxholes 60 years ago, many questioned why their lives were being risked in a far-off civil war. "As a young fellow, I did wonder what we were doing here," said the big Montanan and ex-rifleman Reed.

Their anniversary tour supplied an answer for some, as they gazed upon a prosperous and — in recent decades — democratic South Korea, whose government subsidizes such veterans' visits.

"This makes me feel it was worth it," said Reeg. "To see this country built up. It's amazing."

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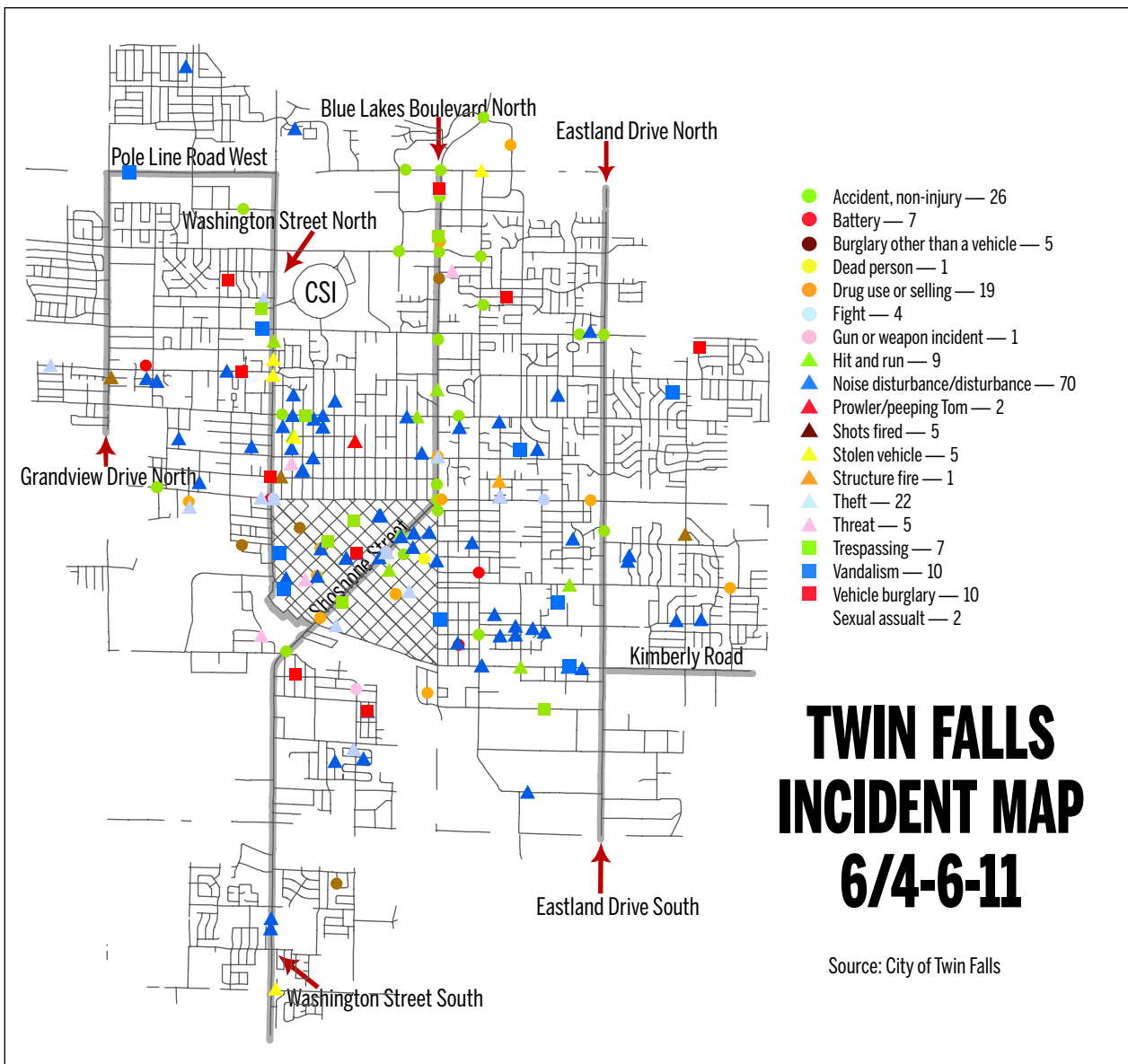


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TWIN FALLS INCIDENT MAP 6/4-6-11

Source: City of Twin Falls

Radiation

Continued from Main 1

Doctors don't keep track of radiation given their patients — they order a test, not a dose. Except for mammograms, there are no federal rules on radiation dose. Children and young women, who are most vulnerable to radiation harm, sometimes get too much at busy imaging centers that don't adjust doses for each patient's size.

That may soon change. In interviews with The Associated Press, U.S. Food and Drug Administration officials described steps in the works, including possibly requiring device makers to print the radiation dose on each X-ray or other image so patients and doctors can see how much was given.

The FDA also is pushing industry and doctors to set standard doses for common tests such as CT scans.

"We are considering requirements and guidelines for record-keeping of dose and other technical parameters of the imaging exam," said Sean Boyd, chief of the FDA's diagnostic devices branch.

A near-term goal: developing a "radiation medical record" to track dose from cradle to grave.

"One of the ways we could improve care is if we had a running sort of Geiger counter" that a doctor checked before ordering a test, said Dr. Prashant Kaul of Duke University.

He led an eye-opening study that found that U.S. heart attack patients get the radiation equivalent of 850 chest X-rays over the first few days they are in the hospital — much of it for repeat tests that may not have been needed.

How much radiation is risky?

It's hard to say. The best guess is based on the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident and studies of Japanese atomic bomb survivors who had excess cancer risk after exposures

of 50 to 150 millisieverts (a measure of dose) of radiation.

A chest or abdominal CT scan involves 10 to 20 millisieverts, versus 0.01 to 0.1 for an ordinary chest X-ray, less than 1 for a mammogram, and as little as 0.005 for a dental X-ray. Natural radiation from the sun and soil accounts for about 2 millisieverts a year.

A big study last year estimated that 4 million Americans get more than 20 millisieverts a year from medical imaging. Two percent of people in the study had high exposure — 20 to 50 millisieverts.

Another study by Columbia University researchers, published in 2007, estimated that in a few decades, as many as 2 percent of all cancers in the U.S. might be due to radiation from CT scans given now. Since previous studies suggest that a third of all tests are unnecessary, 20 million adults and more than 1 million children are needlessly being put at risk, they concluded.

Just because a scan didn't find anything wrong doesn't mean a test wasn't needed. Scans are useful for many diagnoses. But many studies suggest people are getting too much imaging now.

Reasons for overuse include accuracy and ease of use. Scans have become a crutch for doctors afraid of using exams and judgment to make a diagnosis. Some think a picture tells more than it does. Imaging that shows arthritis in a knee or back problems doesn't reveal how to make it better, said Dr. Richard Baron, a primary care doctor in Philadelphia.

"Physical therapy for an orthopedic injury is always the first choice," yet doctors rush to order tests, he said. "The question you should be asking when you do sophisticated imaging is, 'Is there something I can fix with an operation?'"

5TH DISTRICT COURT NEWS

CASSIA COUNTY FELONY SENTENCINGS

Lisa Segura Trevino, 34; grand theft, \$125.50 costs, \$23,000 restitution, 3-10 years prison, 57 days credited, retained jurisdiction; grand theft, dismissed on motion of prosecutor; 2 counts petit theft, dismissed on motion of prosecutor; financial fraud while serving as an employee of a financial institution, 3-5 years prison, 57 days credited, retained jurisdiction; forgery, retained jurisdiction. Stephanie K. Clayton, 45; possession of controlled substance, treatment diversion. Daniel Sapien, 44; domestic violence inflicting traumatic injury, enhancement — in presence of children, 3-14 years prison, 188 days credited, retained jurisdiction; rape, dismissed on motion of prosecutor; attempted strangulation, dismissed by court; domestic battery, 3-10 years prison, retained jurisdiction; domestic violence with no traumatic injury, dismissed by court. Rodney Shane Richardson, 43; possession of controlled substance, enhancement — prior drug conviction, \$415.50 costs, \$753.81 restitution, 2-10 years prison, 218 days credited. Matthew Nathan Sayles, 23; possession of controlled substance, \$915.50 costs, \$230 restitution, 2-7 years prison, 48 days credited, retained jurisdiction; destruction, alteration or concealment of evidence, dismissed on motion of prosecutor; petit theft, dismissed on motion of prosecutor. Aprilann Beltran, 31; possession of controlled substance, treatment diversion; injury to a child, dismissed on motion of prosecutor; possession of controlled substance, dismissed on motion of prosecutor; possession of drug paraphernalia with intent to use, dismissed on motion of prosecutor. Andrew Charles Waldron, 21; threats and other improper influence in official and political matters, 3-5 years prison, 117 days credited; theft by extortion, dismissed on motion of prosecutor.

FELONY DISMISSALS

Andrew Charles Waldron, 21; sex offender failure to register or give false information, dismissed on motion of prosecutor.

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE SENTENCINGS

Emma Jean Fox, 54; driving under the influence, \$132.50 fine, \$503.54 restitution, driver's license suspended 90

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days, 24 months probation, 60 days jail, 55 suspended, 5 credited, 30 days community service suspended; probation violation, guilty.

Yuliana Rodriguez, 21; driving under the influence (under age 21), \$200 fine, \$100 suspended, \$132.50 costs, driver's license suspended 365 days, 12 months probation, 30 days jail, 26 suspended, four credited; providing false information to an officer, dismissed by court; failure to purchase or invalid driver's license, \$100 fine, \$87.50 costs. Hugo E. Rojas, 26; driving under the influence, \$500 fine suspended, driver's license suspended 90 days, 24 months probation, 180 days jail, 174 suspended, six credited.

Douglas H. Owens, 48; driving under the influence, \$300 fine, \$125.50 costs, driver's license suspended 90 days, 18 months probation, 30 days jail, 27 suspended; driving without privileges amended to driver's license violation, \$200 fine, \$77.50 costs, 18 months probation; probation violation, guilty.

Donald Duane Willard, 33; driving under the influence, \$312 fine, \$90.50 costs, driver's license suspended 180 days, 85 days jail credited; driving without privileges, \$342 fine, \$90.50 costs, 85 days jail credited; resisting or obstructing officers, dismissed on motion of prosecutor. Michael Lyle Decker, 51; driving under the influence, \$4,300 fine, \$132.50 costs, driver's license suspended 90 days, 12 months probation, 60 days jail, 58 suspended, one credited, two days community service in lieu of jail.

Abelardo Martinez Montoya, 27; driving under the influence (excessive) amended to driving under the influence, \$300 fine, \$732.50 costs, driver's license suspended 180 days, 24 months probation, 180 days jail, 170 suspended, two credited, 30 days community service suspended; driving without privileges, driver's license suspended 180 days, 24 months probation, 90 days jail, 88 suspended, two credited, 30 days community service suspended. Yvette Rios, 30; driving under the influence, \$300 fine, \$132.50 costs, driver's license

suspended 90 days, 90 days jail, 88 suspended, 1 credited; resisting or obstructing officers, 18 months probation, 90 days jail suspended; resisting or obstructing officers, dismissed on motion of prosecutor; battery, dismissed on motion of prosecutor.

Aaron A. Ondrizek, 23; driving under the influence, \$300 fine, \$132.50 costs, driver's license suspended 90 days, 12 months probation, 30 days jail, 28 suspended, one credited, two days community service in lieu of jail.

Neeka Celeste Reyes, 27; driving under the influence, withheld disposition.

David Lynn Chesley, 36; driving under the influence, \$350 fine, \$232.50 costs, driver's license suspended 120 days, 18 months probation, 180 days jail, 178 suspended, one credited.

Nabor Macuixtle-Chipahua, 21; driving under the influence, \$102.50 costs, driver's license suspended 180 days, 24 months probation, 180 days jail, 177 suspended, three credited; failure to purchase or invalid driver's license, 24 months probation.

Roberto Gomez-Montez, 37; driving under the influence (excessive) amended to driving under the influence, \$255 fine, \$182.50 costs, driver's license suspended 180 days, 12 months probation, 180 days jail, 178 suspended, two credited.

MINIDOKA COUNTY FELONY SENTENCINGS

Brandee Johan Grimsman, 36;

WANTED in Cassia County

Ryan Wesley Ward

Age: 30
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Wanted for: Failure to appear to court — no driver's license; \$5,000 total bond
The Cassia County Sheriff's Office asks anyone with information pertaining to Ward to call 878-2251 or Crime Stoppers, at 878-2900, where tipsters can remain anonymous.

burglary, treatment diversion; possession of drug paraphernalia with intent to use, dismissed by court.

Andrew Scott Praegitzer, 18; delivery of controlled substance, treatment diversion.

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE SENTENCINGS

Justin Lee Walker, 22; driving under the influence (second offense) amended to driving under the influence, \$300 fine, \$182.50 costs, \$100 restitution, driver's license suspended 180 days, 18 months probation, 180 days jail, 178 suspended, 30 days community service, 26 suspended.

DIVORCES FILED

Ken Erickson, Paul, vs. Joanna Erickson, Rupert.



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Idaho Press-Tribune/AP photo

Beekeeper Doug Cleveland holds a frame of bees from a beehive on May 28 in the backyard of his home in Nampa. Cleveland has been keeping bees for about six years and has 10-12 beehives.

Amateur bee business buzzing in Treasure Valley

By Jesse Nance
Idaho Press-Tribune

MARSING — Spring would not be the same without the dutiful efforts of honeybees.

While longtime commercial beekeepers like Honeygold and Hamilton Corp. in Nampa continue to play a crucial role in pollinating Idaho's diverse agriculture economy, the hard-working insects have also drawn increased interest among backyard hobbyists in recent years.

Third-generation beekeeper Jon Millet, who runs Golden Bee Inc., keeps his 3,000-plus honeybee colonies busy, producing about 150 barrels of honey each year and transporting hives to pollinate a variety of crops as far away as California. He also stays busy this time of year catching and raising hardy queens found locally to ship to mid-scale beekeepers across the country.

The Marsing beekeeper said it's the lifestyle that draws him.

Beekeepers in backyards and large warehouses face one common challenge: keeping the bees alive.

In recent years, this means added expenses with more artificial food and medication to fend off increased threats, including parasitic mites, moisture, and the weather.

Maintaining the delicate balance honeybees require has become a far more daunting task for commercial beekeepers like Honeygold and Golden Bee — which face a new, more costly reality of more medication and artificial feeding.

Known as Colony Collapse Disorder, honeybee populations worldwide have been decimated in recent decades. The exact cause is

uncertain, but experts say a multitude of factors is likely. While backyard hobbyists like Meridian's Ken Price also face some similar challenges — he lost all five of his hives last year — the commercial sector has witnessed the most carnage.

Commercial hives face added stresses, including traveling long distances to pollinate crops, which exposes them to a wide variety of environments and potential threats. In the Treasure Valley, food sources have also declined as housing developments replaced farmland and open fields.

Honeygold has lost as many as 45 percent of its honeybees in recent years, though last year the number dropped to 25 percent.

Honeygold and others like second-generation beekeeper Nick Noyes, who owns the Honey Store in Marsing, have offset losses in the past few years by adding more supplements and medications to fend off parasites and new viruses.

"It's the ultimate get-out-and-smell-the-flowers job," Millet explained. "Spring doesn't come until bees come and get everything under way. There would be no fruits, vegetables and nuts if bees weren't out there. And, in my opinion, it's the ultimate negative-carbon-footprint job."

For Millet and many local hobbyists, it's all about the honey and sustainable living.

The Treasure Valley Beekeepers Club was formed by a small group of backyard hobbyists three years ago but has grown steadily since its inception.

The group meets once a month in Meridian, with about 80 in attendance at this month's meeting at Meridian's Idaho Pizza Co. Its membership includes all

experience levels, but an increasing function it serves is instructing and mentoring novices interested in beekeeping.

"Many come to meetings out of curiosity," Price said, "but overall the membership has grown steadily, and mostly from novices with an interest looking to grow."

Its members point to ties with the rising sustainability movement across the country in the spike in interest — a trend that goes along with more urban residents raising chickens and vegetable gardens in backyards.

"What's been going on is there's been sort of this green, sustainability movement happening all over, and beekeeping fits into that trend," M.J. Oresik, the club's webmaster, said.

Retired Nampa resident Doug Cleveland, a club member who has tended hives in his backyard for about seven years, takes his passion for honeybees on the road to promote awareness of their role at local elementary schools and agriculture events. His dozen hives yield about 60 pounds of honey each year that he mostly gives away to friends and neighbors.

Cleveland and others say backyard beekeeping is not a lot of work, requiring checking up on hives once or twice a month. He said the bees don't bother the neighbors.

But for those unwilling to put in the time, there is another option.

M.J. Oresik started Bee Happy Co-op three years ago, offering to tend urban hives in Boise. She tends the bees and, at harvest time in July or August, splits the honey with clients. She now manages bees for 16 Boise residents, at a cost of \$150 a year for clients. Leftover honey is sold locally.

In bold move, Colorado alters teacher tenure rules

By Colleen Slevin
Associated Press writer

DENVER — Colorado is changing the rules for how teachers earn and keep the sweeping job protections known as tenure, linking student performance to job security despite outcry from teacher unions that have steadfastly defended the system for decades.

Many education reform advocates consider tenure to be one of the biggest obstacles to improving America's schools because it makes removing mediocre or even incompetent teachers difficult. Colorado's legislature changed tenure rules despite opposition from the state's largest teacher's union, a long-time ally of majority Democrats. Gov. Bill Ritter, also a Democrat, signed the bill into law last month.

It requires teachers to be evaluated annually, with at least half of their rating based on whether their students progressed during the school year. Beginning teachers will have to show they've boosted student achievement for three straight years to earn tenure.

Teachers could lose tenure if their students don't show progress for two consecutive years. Under the old system, teachers simply had to work for three years to gain tenure, the typical wait around the country.

After the bill survived a filibuster attempt and passed a key House vote, Democratic Rep. Nancy Todd, a 25-year teacher who opposed the measure, broke into tears.

"I don't question your motives," an emotional Todd said to the bill's proponents. "But I do want you to hear my heart because my heart is speaking for over 40,000 teachers in the state of Colorado who have been given the message that it is all up to them."

While other states have tried to modify tenure, Colorado's law was the boldest education reform in recent memory, according to Kate Walsh, the president of the Washington-based National Council on Teacher Quality, which promotes changing the way teachers are recruited and retained, including holding tenured teachers accountable with annual reviews.

Walsh thinks Colorado is now at the head of the pack in the second round of the Obama administration's Race to the Top competition, a \$4.35 bil-

lion pot of stimulus money designed to prod just such changes.

"If I was a betting woman, I would absolutely put Colorado in first place," she said.

Teachers won't be at risk of losing tenure until 2015 because lawmakers slowed down the process under political pressure from the teachers' union. Teachers can appeal dismissal all the way to the state Supreme Court, and

school districts have the burden of proving why they should be terminated.

Every state but Wisconsin has some form of tenure. The protections were intended to protect teachers from being fired because of their politics, religion or other arbitrary reasons. But Patrick McGuinn, a political science professor at Drew University who has studied tenure, said they have evolved into virtual employment guarantees.



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Authorities widen search for missing Oregon boy

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — The search for a missing 7-year-old Portland boy grew larger on Saturday as teams spent another day combing the hills and deep woods near a rural elementary school.

Second-grader Kyrion Horman disappeared on June 4 sometime after a science fair at Skyline Elementary School. Saturday was the ninth day searchers spent looking for him.

"The search continues, and it expands to previously unsearched areas," Capt. Monte Reiser of the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office said at a news conference.

He declined to say whether the expanded areas are contiguous with the

two-mile radius around the school on which search teams have focused.

Men and women in fluorescent-colored vests and T-shirts were seen on the roads and in the hills near the school on Saturday.

After fielding multiple interview requests, Kyrion's family gave a statement on Friday. His father and step-

father made emotional pleas for his return, with his mother and stepmother present.

It was the family's first public appearance since the boy's disappearance.

"That was very, very stressful for the family to come through," said Capt. Mike Shults, who is serving as the sheriff's office liaison to the family.

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Officials better prepared to help Idaho soldiers

New programs can help identify depression

By Kathleen Kreller
Idaho Statesman

BOISE — The roadside bomb that killed three Idaho men along a pitted, bleak Iraqi highway in 2007 almost claimed George Nickel's life — twice.

The first time, Nickel recalls only a shock wave before he woke up in a state-side hospital with a brain injury, broken bones and shrapnel wounds.

Months later he hobbled home to Idaho, where his physical injuries healed and — he thought — his emotional wounds mended. For the better part of two years, he seemed to cope.

After counseling and treatment, Nickel was medically cleared. He thought he was ready to move on with life at home with his wife. He went back to the grind at his civilian job as a correctional officer and fulfilled his weekend obligations as a citizen soldier.

But the bomb wasn't finished with him yet.

Before long, black moods took hold, and his work was complicated by a brain injury that made it difficult to concentrate. He burned up sick time as alcohol replaced the medication he got from the VA. When his wife left for Texas to prepare for her own deployment, Nickel further cloistered himself.

He was a leader, he told himself, a good soldier who had been awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. He should be able to "snap out of it" on his own.

He couldn't.

And on July 28, 2009, Nickel outfitted himself with a tactical vest, a handgun, an AR-15 rifle and 90 rounds of ammunition — and went looking for his dog.

George Nickel may be the most high-profile Idaho soldier who suffered emotionally after returning from Iraq, but he's not the only one.

The Department of Defense estimates that between 11 percent and 20 percent of veterans coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan suffer mild to severe symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, said Sue Hicks, Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom program manager for the Boise VA Medical Center.

Idaho National Guard spokesman Col. Tim Marsano said five guardsmen committed suicide in 2009. The year before, there were no suicides, and in 2007 there were two, he said. The Air National Guard had a few suicides in that same period.

"None of those happened while soldiers were deployed. They were all (at home) and not actually working at the time. It is hard to say whether the military had any role," Marsano said.

When soldiers deploy, relationships often suffer. Though the Idaho National Guard didn't track specific numbers, anecdotal evidence suggests some mar-

riages and relationships broke up during and after the 2004-05 deployment, Marsano said.

The divorce rate in the military is almost 70 percent, said Chaplain (Maj.) Rob Morris with the Idaho National Guard. If a soldier marries within a year before a deployment, the divorce rate rockets to more than 90 percent, he said.

Broken relationships are a leading cause of suicide among soldiers, Morris said.

Today, nearly 1,500 Idaho soldiers with the 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team are preparing to deploy to Iraq later this fall — and officials say they're better prepared to help them before and after.

That night last summer, Nickel walked through his apartment complex, shooting locks off doors.

A terrified neighbor called police, and when officers arrived, Nickel used his combat skills to find a defensible space in a stairwell. He surrendered unscathed after officers fired 12 rounds at him.

The dog, meanwhile, was home in its crate all along.

Police and prosecutors took Nickel's service into consideration, though. Earlier this year, a judge sentenced him to probation and to inpatient PTSD and alcohol treatment.

Looking back, Nickel said he knew help was available. But for months he wrestled with post-traumatic stress disorder and refused to seek help for his alcoholism or the depression that had a stranglehold on his life.

"I didn't reach out to anybody," Nickel said from the Boise VA hospital. "I guess you could say I was a little bit embarrassed. I was a squad leader. ... It does become a self-imposed myth: 'I don't want to show weakness because it would set a bad example for the men under me.'"

When 116th soldiers returned from an 18-month deployment in 2005, they had 90 days free from any military duty, Morris said.

"We discovered they started having symptoms," Morris said. "A lot of issues took root in their lives and which took a lot of resources to get fixed."

Those resources included dollars and man hours to track down veterans' problems. As a result, the Army spent money to develop new programs and hire civilian contractors who provide services on the base, Morris said.

Contractors include a "transition assistance advisor," who helps combat vets access VA benefits.

It all means that when Idaho soldiers deploy in September, they'll have better "resiliency" skills and stronger personal relationships, Morris said.

Of the Idaho guardsmen and Army reservists who commit suicide, 40 percent have been in a combat zone, Morris said. Of those, 70 percent had multiple deployments — a common connection. Statistics show that the risk of veteran suicide increases with multiple deployments.

This time, soldiers with multiple deployments under their belts will be watched more closely, Morris said.

"We are just educating them," Morris said. "When they return, they are on our radar to watch for. ... If we see risk factors, we will be much quicker to respond."

Not every soldier, Marine, airman or sailor who sees combat develops PTSD. In that sense, the disorder is still a bit of a mystery. PTSD is a "normal reaction to abnormal events," said the Boise VA's Hicks.

So the Guard and VA have new programs, classes and treatments to help prevent and identify depression and PTSD and to keep more soldiers from slipping through the cracks.

"We explain it to them that way," she said. "There is nothing really wrong with you. You are reacting the way you should react in this set of circumstances. There isn't a deficiency?"

Some soldiers seek help

right away when they need it. Others wait, Hicks said.

"I can guarantee there are people who are sitting out there in the community who need help," Hicks said. "Mental health issues have a stigma whether you are in the military or not. That stops people right there. It's hard to come in and say you have problems."

There is a level of personal responsibility and choice in seeking help, said Josh Callahan, spokesman for Boise VA Medical Center.

"In 2010, I've seen some who came back in 2005 who have just started entering the system with symptoms," Hicks said. "It depends on the person, resiliency and the way they see their career that determines when and if they come forward with symptoms."

These days, Nickel said he's feeling better. He plans

to work with the Idaho Veterans Network to spread the word about getting help to others who have served. Nickel checked in with 4th District Judge Deborah Bail Thursday. Bail lauded Nickel's progress and said

he'll need to check in again in August.

"If you need help, you are not alone. Go get it," Nickel said. "The resources are out there to get help. There are people out there who have been through it."



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PROPERTY TAX REMINDER

June 20th is the due date for payment of the 2nd installment of 2009 Real Property, Mobile Home & Personal Property Taxes. This year because June 20th falls on Sunday, payments will be accepted and considered timely on Monday June 21, 2010.

Payments by mail **must be postmarked** on or before June 21, 2010.

This reminder courtesy of:
Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Jerome,
Gooding, Lincoln, Minidoka and
Twin Falls County Treasurers.



Friendly faces at T.F.'s front door



MEAGAN THOMPSON/Times-News

Perry Freestone, a Twin Falls Visitor Center volunteer, points out a photo of Shoshone Falls as he highlights a map to the local tourist attraction for K.W. Shipp, of Texas, on Thursday afternoon in Twin Falls. Freestone also offered some traveling advice to Shipp adding, 'The map is free as long as you sign the (visitors) book. Otherwise it's \$30.'

Volunteers at visitor center offer a warm greeting and wealth of knowledge

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

On any given Sunday you can find Perry Freestone at the Buzz Langdon Visitor Center, helping tourists and locals find the next best thing in Twin Falls and surrounding communities.

"Some people ask why I'm not at church," Freestone said, instinctively organizing a stack of maps that point the way to Shoshone Falls. "I tell them

MORE ONLINE



MEET Perry Freestone a volunteer at the Buzz Langdon Visitors Center for more than 16 years. MAGICVALLEY.COM

people go to church so God can show them the way; I come here so I can show people the way around our valley."

Freestone is one of eight volunteers who guide road-weary visitors to hotels, recommend local restaurants and describe the formation of the massive Snake River Canyon outside the center's front door. The volunteers are all area natives, having lived the history that visitors often ask about in passing.

How was the canyon made?

Where did Evel Knievel try to jump it? Where are the potatoes?

Armed with pamphlets and promotions, the volunteers answer it all with a friendly smile.

The Buzz Langdon Visitor Center has greeted tourists crossing the Perrine Bridge into Twin Falls since 1989. It was the brainchild of the late Buzz Langdon, owner of several newspapers on the north side of the canyon and the former president and CEO of the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce.

He died of cancer just before the center opened.

Since it opened, hundreds of thousands of visitors have passed through its doors. They have traveled from as far as

Saudi Arabia, while others live only a few blocks away. They are young BASE jumpers with chutes on their backs and retired couples traveling with antique car clubs.

The number of visitors passing through the center reflects economic booms and busts, said Judy Harr, manager of the visitor center.

"We have a guest book that we ask people to sign," she said, "It's not the most accurate because some people don't sign it when it gets busy, but it still gives us a good idea of the traffic."

She said that in 2006 — before the national recession struck — the visitor center guest book recorded more than

See **CENTER**, Business 2

Cadillac calls Ritz to recapture reputation for luxury

By Jeff Green and David Welch
Bloomberg News writers

SOUTHFIELD, Mich. — General Motors Chief Executive Officer Ed Whitacre wants Cadillac to treat customers better.

At a June 3 meeting in Chicago, GM managers told 300 salespeople how a Texas salesman had dissuaded a friend of Whitacre's from buying a Caddy. When his buddy test drove a CTS-V sedan, it ran out of gas. Whitacre's e-mailed response was projected in large letters on a screen: "If true, awful."

The gathering — a combined pep rally, lecture and confessional — was part of a GM offensive to revive Cadillac, which has fading appeal, aging customers and trouble persuading buyers it's worth paying a premium. GM brought in trainers from Ritz-Carlton Hotel Co., a unit of Marriott International Inc., to show dealers how to reconnect with customers.

"It's truthfully a new beginning for us," said Kurt McNeil, Cadillac U.S. vice president of sales and service. "We know we've got a lot of work to do on the product side, the marketing side and the customer service side."

Cadillac, which once called itself the "Standard of the World," ended a six-decade run as the top-selling U.S. luxury brand in 1998 and hasn't placed higher than third since 1999. Though U.S. sales rose 32 percent through May, Caddy's results last year were the worst since 1953.

The GM brand finished eighth among 12 upscale makes in the Luxury Institute's 2009 survey of buyers who make at least \$150,000 a year, said Milton Pedraza, the New York-based group's CEO. About a third of the wealthy respondents said Cadillac was worth paying a premium, compared with 57 percent for BMW and 63 percent for Mercedes.

GM brought in the Ritz trainers to help Cadillac create a consistent sales experience across the country, similar to what customers expect at Ritz-Carlton hotels, said Jeff Hargett, who is corporate director of learning and content delivery at the Ritz-Carlton Leadership Center in Chevy Chase, Md.

See **CADILLAC**, Business 3



Illustration courtesy Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce and Hummel Architects.

The proposed design of the new Buzz Langdon Visitor Center. The Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce hopes to build the new center within two years as funds become available.



AP photo

A mobile phone reads a bar code placed on the sign outside of Philz Coffee in San Francisco.

Bar codes get around town, get more useful

By Rachel Metz
Associated Press writer

SAN FRANCISCO — It used to be that the only time you'd notice a bar code was at a store, maybe when a cashier scanned your groceries. But lately bar codes are showing up in more places around town — and getting more sophisticated.

You might have seen one cousin of the traditional bar code: Known as a QR code, this jumble of little squares randomly arranged within a larger square is popping up on everything from bus stop billboards to restaurant windows. If you spot one and snap it with your cell phone camera, the device can show you a website, photo or video related to the advertiser.

For example, Google Inc. is giving businesses stickers with QR codes that passers-by can scan. That brings up a link to a mobile version of a Google page where the business can post coupons and information about themselves. Soon the codes could lead to other avenues for connecting with customers in ways businesses can measure and control. That could help them target advertisements to the people who are

See **BAR CODES**, Business 2

One price doesn't always fit everyone

WASHINGTON — The night before my son's college graduation last month, we made plans to celebrate at one of his favorite restaurants, Fogo de Chão, one of those Brazilian steakhouses where they come around with more than a dozen types of grilled meat and you take as many servings as you want.

Eli was a bit conflicted about the choice of restaurant. For him, the all-you-can-eat pricing seemed like a great deal after he's put down his third helping of succulent rib-eye and special sirloin. But he figured (correctly, as it turned out) that his mother and sister would never eat enough meat to justify the hefty fixed price the restaurant charges for each diner.

Eli would have preferred that Fogo de Chão had offered tiered pricing — one price for

Steven Pearlstein



all-you-can-eat customers such as himself, and a lower one for those with more modest appetites.

Lots of other businesses use one-price strategies. Many health insurers charge the same for family plans no matter how many kids are involved, while delivery services charge the same for a package no matter how far it travels. And in recent years, it has turned into the dominant pricing strategy in much of the telecommunications business, where unlimited phone calls and texting and Internet access have become the norm.

That wasn't always the case. Some of us remember when long-distance phone calls were reserved for nights and weekends, when businesses were closed, circuits were underutilized and rates were lower. And as recently as the mid-1990s, Internet access providers charged on the basis of how much time you spent online. All that changed during the tech bubble of the 1990s, when so much money was invested to create so much excess network capacity that the incremental cost of providing a customer with another call, or another minute of Web access, came to be approximately zero. All-you-can-eat pricing made perfect sense for companies drowning in unused bandwidth, and with it, supply created its own demand.

Now, thanks to the ingenu-

ity of the tech and telecom industries, there are so many people demanding so many new services that networks are straining to keep up — and the costs of adding capacity are escalating rapidly. That's why Comcast and other cable operators are demanding that they be allowed the flexibility to manage their networks to give lower priority to services that hog large amounts of bandwidth — or, at a minimum, to charge higher rates for customers who use such services. And it is why AT&T announced last week that it was moving away from its unlimited pricing for Internet and data service on its wireless networks, in favor of the kind of "tiered" pricing that Eli might appreciate.

Not surprisingly, those who have relied on cheap and

See **PEARLSTEIN**, Business 2

YOUR BUSINESS

MILESTONES

FROGZ STOP STUDIO



Courtesy photo

Frogz Stop Studio, located at 636 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. in Twin Falls, will open for business Monday. Rosanne Palpa, owner, will be teaching bi-weekly art and craft classes. There will be a variety of classes available; from seasonal crafts and drawing with graphite and charcoal to advanced art. Call Palpa at 736-4403 or visit her studio for information about classes and party options or to register for classes.

QUICK LANE TIRE & AUTO CENTER



Courtesy photo

Quick Lane Tire & Auto Center at Middlekauff Auto Group, 1243 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. in Twin Falls, cut the red ribbon along with the Twin Falls Chamber Ambassadors to celebrate their opening at the Middlekauff Auto Group. Quick Lane Tire & Auto Center is one of the Chamber's newest members. Pictured from left: Dave Mace, Owner Gregg Middlekauff, Jeanette Foster and Evan Durrant.

Quick Lane Tire & Auto Center provides all the services your car or truck needs most. All of their services are performed by factory-trained experts on your schedule. You will never need an appointment and you will get the services while you wait. They are open on evenings and weekends. They will take care of any make or model, using quality parts from trusted brands. Their business number is 736-6565.

KIWI LOCO



Courtesy photo

Kiwi Loco at 1520 Fillmore St. N. No. 2 in Twin Falls cut the red ribbon recently to celebrate their grand opening along with the Twin Falls Chamber Ambassadors. Kiwi Loco is a new member of the Chamber. Kiwi Loco makes yogurt your way. Just pick your bowl, choose your flavor, add toppings and weigh it; it's 39 cents per ounce. Their business number is 733-1343.

Pictured are Doug Burch, owner; Jake Detweiler, owner; Gene Turley, owner; and family members.

EXTRA MILE AWARD



Courtesy photo

The Twin Falls Chamber Ambassadors recently presented the Extra Mile Award to Jake Mitchell. Mitchell provides his customers at Lowe's in Twin Falls with excellent customer service. Pictured from left: Jake Mitchell and Rob Dixon

CAREER MOVES

Kolynn C. Weighall

Kolynn C. Weighall has moved her hair salon business to 114 Locust St. Suite B10 in Twin Falls. This is a multi-purpose office complex. Weighall specializes in precision cutting, up-to-date colors and weaves and facial waxing. She has 11 years of experience.

Weighall can be reached at 293-5038 by appointment, but walk-ins are welcome.



Weighall

Angelica Lopez

Jensen Jewelers in Burley announced that Angelica Lopez has graduated from Master Jewelry Salesman program.

Lopez completed the required 12-week course and has received certification. The course involved extensive training in all aspects of fulfilling customer needs in the areas of diamonds, genuine stones, watches and all facets of jewelry making and repair.

Dave Snelson

Dave Snelson has recently joined Capricorn Financial Strategies, a full-service financial organization located at 1426 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

Snelson has been an insurance agent for 14 years, has owned and managed businesses for over 30 years, and relates well to both employers and employees. He has a strong background in risk management. He believes a good plan is the map to a successful financial future and a secure retirement. Snelson works with health insurance, life insurance, long-term care, annuities, IRA's, simple IRA's, 401k's and investments.



Snelson



Courtesy photo

Pictured from left: Charlie Ergen, Guy Patterson and Jim DeFranco.

Guy Patterson

Local business owner Guy Patterson, a retailer of DISH Network, recently attended a three-day training event in San Antonio, Texas, where he gained additional certification from DISH Network founders, Charlie Ergen and Jim DeFranco.

Lenny L. Payne retires

Lenny L. Payne has announced his early retirement from South Central Community Action Partnership, which was effective Friday. Payne is looking forward to camping, riding his ATV's and baby-sitting his grandchildren.

Payne would like to thank everyone for their support and friendship throughout the years. Also, he extends a special thanks to Ken Robinette, SCCAP executive director, for giving him the opportunity to work at SCCAP for the last seven years.

Kayleen Benedictus will be Payne's successor. She has served the agency for the last 10 years in the Heating Assistance Program.

Zach Gregersen named to financial club

Zach Gregersen, a licensed banker in Twin Falls, was named to the 2009 Financial Specialist President's Club. The President's Club has long been the benchmark of sales, service, and leadership excellence at U.S. Bancorp Investments, Inc. and U.S. Bancorp Insurance Services LLC. President's Club members earn this important recognition by achieving superior sales and, most importantly, by displaying outstanding leadership qualities and superior dedication to their clients.

Information: usbank.com.

We want 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 jpalmer@gmagicvalley.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.

Center

Continued from Business 1

34,000 signatures. But in 2009, that figure plummeted to 26,000. A large map in the visitor center lets tourists identify their hometown with pushpins.

"They come from all over the nation and even the world, but mostly they are just passing through," Freestone said. "I just make sure that they take in the sights before they leave."

It's the diversity of visitors that keeps things interesting for center volunteers.

"We had about 100 Japanese tourists pass through on buses this morning," Freestone said on Thursday. "Now we are seeing mostly older people passing through for a car show. They come from all walks of life — especially when we're talking about BASE jumpers."

He said the BASE jumpers are big boost to the local economy, with tour guides and charter buses planning their visits to Twin Falls around jump times.

Others, like Sandy and Ray Hoyal, from San Clemente, Calif., pass through Twin Falls more or less by accident.

"We are traveling around northern Nevada in our old Chevy hot rod for a charity, and we decided to stop in Twin Falls for a car show at Shoshone Falls," said Sandy Hoyal, who just purchased a "potato bead" necklace at the visitor center. "We didn't know anything about it until we stopped by here and (the volunteers) told us about the area. They were really nice and helpful."

It's those memories that the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce hopes visitors will take with them and tell their friends about.

"It really serves as the front door to the community, and a phenomenal marketing tool for our valley," said Shawn Barigar, president and CEO of the Twin Falls Area Chamber

Buzz Langdon Visitor Center

The visitor center is open daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. It will remain open while the Idaho Transportation Department builds a new overlook on the north side of the center's parking lot.

"They come from all over the nation and even the world, but mostly they are just passing through. I just make sure that they take in the sights before they leave."

— Perry Freestone,
Twin Falls Visitor
Center volunteer

of Commerce.

The center is self-sustaining, relying on volunteers and the sale of gifts in the shop to stay open. The land is owned by the Idaho Transportation Department, which allows the center to operate on the property at no cost. The center also offers advertising space for local businesses hoping to catch the attention of tourists.

However, the chamber is planning significant changes to the center.

Barigar said the chamber plans to replace the existing building with a new 5,000 square-foot visitor center with a conference area. The chamber currently has about a quarter of the money needed to begin construction of the approximately \$1 million project.

"It's a short-term plan, but we are still talking about something that's two or three years down the road," Barigar said. "But it will be well worth it!"

Joshua Palmer may be reached at jpalmer@gmagicvalley.com or 735-3231.

Pearlstein

Continued from Business 1

plentiful network capacity to dramatically expand their businesses — everyone from Google to iPhone application developers — are concerned that charging people based on what they consume will slow the growth in Internet usage. It's true, of course, in the same way that charging people based on how much meat they consume runs the risk of slowing growth in Brazilian steak restaurants.

As a general rule, the most sustainable pricing strategies are ones that avoid overcharging one group of customers to make it possible to offer bargain prices to others. The danger of such cross-subsidies is that a competitor could come along and pick off the overcharged, and highly profitable, customers by offering a better value. At the same time, you don't want to push that logic too far by charging every customer a different price.

Consider the airlines. In a misguided effort to keep posted fares as low as possible to fill every last seat on the plane, airlines have embarked on a what is now a farcical strategy to unbundle everything they do, charging customers extra for picking up the telephone, checking a bag, or providing a pillow, a blanket or extra

legroom. It is only a matter of time before one of the airlines begins charging for seats in the waiting area.

But the airlines have long since gone past the point where they are asking customers to cover the marginal cost of extra services — these fees allow the airlines to raise fares without actually doing so. The major carriers have once again set themselves up to get their clocks cleaned, this time by the first airline with the brains and courage to offer a decent full-service package.

In every business, there's usually a happy medium between the extremes of a la carte and all-you-can-eat pricing. While that sweet spot constantly shifts in response to changing costs, technology and competition, my guess is that it most often involves some form of tiered pricing that offers a choice from among a handful of credible value propositions. In a truly competitive market, a pricing regime that is constantly trying to force customers to consume more or less than they really want isn't likely to win.

Steven Pearlstein is a columnist for the *Washington Post*. He may be reached at pearlsteins@washpost.com.

Bar codes

Continued from Business 1

most likely to respond to their entreaties.

Earlier attempts to get consumers to scan bar codes that link with the Web didn't get much traction. The 1990s brought the CueCat, which let publishers append their printed material with bar codes that people could scan

with a handheld reader if they wanted to be taken directly to related information on their computers. The QR code (short for "quick response") also was released back in the '90s by Japanese scanning equipment maker Denso Wave Inc.

What has changed now, though, is that consumers are increasingly

engaging with their mobile devices for more than making phone calls, texts and checking e-mails. And smart phones can easily download scanning applications that make it possible for product codes to leap from store shelves to the wider world.

The bar code on your box of cookies encodes a string of num-

bers horizontally that a bar code reader matches with information from a central database. That's how the supermarket scanner identifies the product you're buying.

These other codes, such as QR codes, can represent data horizontally and vertically. That means they can include much

more information in a smaller space, and some of them can tell the scanning app on your phone all it needs to know about which website or video to pull up, without needing to consult a database. It's unclear how many of these codes are out there, but potentially billions could be created.

Outlook looks good for careers in high-tech

By Carole Feldman
Associated Press writer

A decade or two ago, high-tech was the place to go if you were looking for a job. New companies were sprouting up, offering opportunities to enterprising workers. Then came the dot.com bust.

"The thing lost after the dot.com bust was the idea that a tech job was cool," said Todd Thibodeaux, president and CEO of the trade association CompTIA.

Now, high-tech looks again like a good place to go in a tough job environment.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics says job prospects for high tech are excellent, ranging from network administrators, software engineers and programmers to computer manufacturers, operators and repairers.

Two — network systems and data communication analysts, and software engineers — are forecast to be among the fastest growing occupations over the next decade.

Thibodeaux said technology fared somewhat better than the rest of the economy during the recession. "Tech has been in a little more of a

holding pattern than a shedding pattern," he said.

Still, he said, there is an oversupply of skilled workers. "A lot of people out there are getting skills in anticipation of a hiring boom in tech," he said.

In mid-April, there were about 250,000 jobs listed on CompTIA's jobs site — down from about 400,000 several months ago.

Among high-tech jobs, security is one of the most in demand, especially with electronic health records firing up and data being stored in remote cloud environments.

"People are hiring," said Tom Silver, senior vice president for North America at dice.com.

Most of the approximately 65,000 high-tech jobs listed on the dice.com site in April were for mid-level positions, from programmers to network storage experts and others, Silver said. They require applicants to have skills and certifications already. The New York area had about 7,500 jobs listed, more than any other part of the country.

Technical writer Luci Barnitz, 37, of Westchester, Pa., has been looking for full-time work since she was laid

off more than a year ago. "I get a job offer where they want me to move to Iowa or Utah, or I get a contract and they pull the funding on it," she said.

Barnitz is networking, submitting applications and following job boards. She also has gotten some new training. "Maybe I could do more in content management systems or maybe pick up some more multimedia skills," she said. But at the same time, it's been tough to leave technical writing, which she's done for more than 10 years.

One resource for workers seeking to enter high tech is CompTIA. Gretchen Koch, director of Workforce Development Programs at the association, said it helps job seekers who it determines have some aptitude for high-tech to community colleges or commercial trainers. Funds are available through the Workforce Investment Act to help pay for the training, she said. CompTIA also helps with preparations for certification exams, and has listings of available jobs by location and job type.

Those just starting out in high-tech might want to go for an A-plus certification,

which allows them to do personal computer repairs, among other things. Advanced certifications include Network-plus, Security-plus and others.

Dice.com also allows job seekers to search by job title, skill and location.

Not all high-tech jobs are with high-tech companies, of course. Many computer network, systems and database workers are in the telecommunications, financial and insurance industries, as well as business management companies, schools and the government, the BLS study said.

"Computer networks are an integral part of business, and demand for these workers will increase as firms continue to invest in new technology," the BLS said.

Many companies put off capital investment in technology during the recession, said John Challenger, CEO of Challenger, Gray and Christmas, a consulting firm that helps people re-enter the workforce. But many are poised to begin investing again, he said.

"You need talent to implement it, to customize it to your environment," Challenger said.

Home seizures jump to record

Idaho among top 10 states with highest foreclosure rates

By Dan Levy
Bloomberg News writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Home foreclosures reached a record for the second consecutive month in May, with increases in every state, as lenders stepped up property seizures, according to RealtyTrac Inc.

Bank repossessions climbed 44 percent from May 2009 to 93,777, the Irvine, California-based data company said Thursday in a statement. Foreclosure filings, including default and auction notices, rose about 1 percent to 322,920. One out of every 400 U.S. households received a filing.

Nevada, Arizona, Florida, California, Michigan, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Utah and Maryland ranked among the 10 highest rates.

"We're nowhere near out of the woods," Rick Sharga, RealtyTrac's senior vice president for marketing, said in a telephone interview. "We're likely to set a quarterly record for home seizures if June is anything like May."

Lenders are completing the "inevitable progression" of taking properties from homeowners who stopped paying, Sharga said. He predicted last month that another 5 million delinquent mortgages will end in foreclosure in addition to properties that had already been repossessed.

"The second quarter won't be the peak," Sharga said. "I'm not even sure 2010 will be."

The previous record for seizures was 92,432 in April. Last month was the first in which every state had an increase in repos-

sessions from a year earlier, according to RealtyTrac.

Almost a quarter of the nation's mortgage holders owed more than their homes were worth in the first quarter, Zillow.com said last month.

Bank sales of foreclosed properties accounted for more than a fifth of all U.S. home transactions in March, the Seattle-based real estate data provider said.

Wells Fargo and Bank of America, the two largest home lenders, are cutting principal on some mortgages in an effort to keep owners in properties and get them to pay at least part of what they owe. Bank of America said in March it was reducing principal for some borrowers who owe more than 120 percent of what their homes are worth.

"Marginal people, those types that were working as laborers, are most affected by foreclosures," said Albert Kyle, a finance professor at the University of Maryland's R.M. Smith School of Business. "A lot of foreclosures are occurring in modest houses."

The number of homes that received default notices last month was 96,462, down 7 percent from April and 22 percent from a year earlier, RealtyTrac said. A default notice is the first stage in the foreclosure process. They peaked at 142,064 in April 2009.

A foreclosure auction, the second stage in the process, was scheduled on 132,681 properties, down 4 percent from April and about 1 percent from May 2009. The record was 158,105, reached in March.

Cadillac

Continued from Business 1

Ritz employees have \$2,000 a day, per customer, that can be used to make up for a bad experience or surprise a guest with a better one, Hargett said. He suggested Cadillac dealers find similar ways to let sales and service people "wow" customers.

Cadillac service chiefs are now allowed greater flexibility to extend OnStar subscriptions, provide free maintenance or even reduce service charges for customers who are upset, said Steve Hill, GM's manager of customer care.

GM is also pushing Caddy dealers to unify the brand message.

Cadillac recently removed most references to General Motors from its Web page and identity, using Cadillac.com instead of gm.com in e-mail addresses. Displaying inflatable animals, neon letters and balloons to advertise sales is now verboten, Peper said.



Courtesy of General Motors Co.

A Cadillac CTS-V is shown in this photo provided by the General Motors Co. Cadillac is launching an overhaul of its service and marketing to strengthen its image as the American luxury vehicle.

Cadillac spent \$354 million last year on marketing, more than any other luxury auto brand, according to

estimates from Kantar Media in New York. This year it will spend an extra \$50 million, said Don Butler,

Cadillac's vice president of marketing and the fourth person to hold the position in three years.

Spirit Airlines pilot strike strands thousands

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — A strike by Spirit Airlines pilots shut down the discount carrier on Saturday, stranding thousands of travelers.

The airline also said it's canceling all of today's flights.

Spirit carries roughly 1 percent of U.S. air passengers, mostly between the eastern U.S. and the Caribbean and Latin America. It's a small carrier but its shutdown was causing major problems.

Spirit's tickets aren't good on other carriers. The airline said it was refunding fares for Saturday flights plus a \$100 credit toward future flights.

On Saturday, new, same-day tickets on other airlines were at least two- to three times the fares originally booked on Spirit.

That was out of the question for Junior Elliott, a 67-year-old mason from St. Ann's parish in Jamaica, who was stranded in Fort Lauderdale while traveling to New York for a cousin's funeral.

Elliott was unable to buy new tickets until his fare was refunded to his debit card. He had no cell phone, no U.S. currency, and nowhere to sleep but the terminal's seats.

"It's bad now, man,"

Elliott said. "I can't even buy a cup of coffee."

From Fort Lauderdale, Spirit is the only airline to 14 international cities and five U.S. destinations, said Greg Meyer, the spokesman for Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport. Spirit carries more than 16,000 passengers a day, many of them through that hub. Around the country Spirit runs roughly 150 flights per day.

The carrier and its pilots have been in negotiations for more than three years. Spirit pilots have said their pay lags competitors such as AirTran Airways and JetBlue.

Pilots could have walked out as early as midnight Friday, but kept talking under the guidance of the National Mediation Board in Washington until about 3 a.m. MDT.

The pilot's union Fort Lauderdale local said a loaded flight out of Orlando, Fla., had to deplane because the strike started just before takeoff.

"In the end, both sides could not reach an agreement," said Sean Creed, a Spirit captain and the head of the airline's branch of the Air Line Pilots Association, in a statement on the union's website.

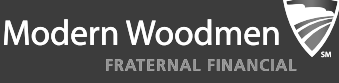
He said pilots "will not return to the cockpit until a

fair and equitable contract is negotiated."

The privately-held airline based in Miramar, Fla. has about 440 active pilots.

The company said it offered to raise pilot pay by 30 percent over five years. It would have included work

rule changes but would have retained a four-day break between every pilot trip, something the company said no other ALPA contract has. The offer also included a \$3,000 signing bonus and a larger retirement plan match.




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China, Bernanke send S&P to three-month high

Bloomberg News

U.S. stocks rose last week, pushing the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index to the biggest weekly advance since March, as China's exports jumped the most in six years, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke said the economic recovery is intact, and commodity prices rallied.

Alcoa, DuPont and Dow Chemical helped lead raw-material producers higher as reports showed the global economy is

strengthening.

A measure of apartment developers, hotel operators and warehouse owners rallied the most in seven weeks after Fitch Ratings boosted its outlook on the industry.

Bristol-Myers Squibb soared 12 percent, the biggest gain in 15 months, after studies showed two of its cancer drugs worked better than current therapies.

The S&P 500 gained 2.5 percent for the week to 1,091.60 as its 10 main industries rose.

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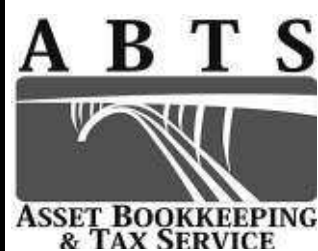


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Teen sailor healthy, weary after 3 days adrift

Sunderland dismisses talk that she was too young for adventure

By Christopher Weber
Associated Press Writer

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — A California teenager who spent three days adrift on the turbulent Indian Ocean described her ordeal as “crazy” as she started a long journey home aboard a French fishing boat that rescued her Saturday from her crippled sailboat.

Abby Sunderland was bumped and bruised but otherwise healthy, her parents said after hearing from the 16-year-old in a 20-minute phone call to their home northwest of Los Angeles.

“She sounded tired, a little bit small in her voice, but she was able to make jokes and she was looking forward to getting some sleep,” her mother, Marianne Sunderland, told reporters outside the family home.

Her mother, who is close to giving birth to a boy, said her daughter joked about her ordeal affecting the baby and also talked about plans for the next school year.

The young sailor continued to blog after being rescued more than 2,000 miles west of Australia two days after a wave broke the mast of her boat, Wild Eyes, satellite phone communication was lost and she set off emergency beacons.

“Crazy is the word that really describes everything that has happened best,” she wrote Saturday morning from “a great big fishing boat headed I am not exactly sure where.” She will spend more than a week traveling to Reunion Island, a French



AP photo
Phillipe Museux, director of the maritime rescue center on Reunion Island, points out the position of American sailor Abby Sunderland, 16, and the Australian plane that spotted her, on a wall chart Friday in St Denis, Reunion Island.

territory east of Madagascar. “The long and the short of it is, well, one long wave, and one short mast,” she wrote.

She dismissed criticism that she was too young to undertake an attempt to sail around the world by herself. “As for age, since when does age create gigantic waves and storms?” she wrote.

Her father, Laurence Sunderland, a boat builder who teaches sailing, said his daughter had thousands of miles of solo sailing experience before she set out and he had scrutinized her skills.

“This was not a flippant decision,” he said. “Abigail’s been raised on the ocean all her life. She’s lived over half her life on yachts. ... This is like second nature to Abigail.”

Laurence Sunderland said the team of experts that worked on Wild Eyes and the

circumnavigation project were “second to none.”

He said his daughter desired to sail solo around the world since she was 13 but he considered her “not fit” at that age or 14, when she was already helming by herself.

“And I did a lot of things to dissuade her actually by showing her the ferocity of the ocean around here ... taking yachts in very adverse conditions and to see what her mettle was made of,” he said.

He said his daughter simply “caught a bad wave.”

“Should age be a factor here?” he said. “Abigail has proven herself. She sailed around Cape Horn, the Cape of Good Hope. She’d endured 50 knots and 60 knots-plus of wind prior to this unfortunate circumstance.”

The Australian Maritime

Safety Authority said the French ship Ile De La Reunion brought Abby Sunderland aboard from her stricken craft Saturday afternoon at the site.

French authorities called it a “delicate operation,” and said at one point the fishing boat’s captain fell into the ocean and had to be rescued, but was in “good health.” Laurence Sunderland said the crew used its dinghy in the transfer.

Australian authorities were broadcasting a message to boats crossing through the area warning them that Sunderland’s sailboat is still adrift.

Sunderland will leave the French fishing boat in about two days to board a maritime patrol boat that will take her to Reunion Island, according to a statement from the office of the French Indian Ocean island’s top official.

The transfer will take place off the Kerguelen Islands, with the exact timing depending on weather and ocean conditions.

Authorities said Sunderland likely would not arrive in Reunion for at least a week.

Marianne Sunderland said her daughter was relieved to be off her boat, but it was difficult to abandon it.

“When you’re on a boat like Abby has been and so closely related to that boat for your everyday existence you become very close to it,” she said. “She had to leave Wild Eyes in the middle of the ocean and that’s been hard for her.”

Sunderland wrote in her blog: “I keep hitting the wrong keys and am still trying to get over the fact that I will never see my Wild Eyes again.”

Sunderland set out from

Marina del Rey on the Los Angeles County coast on Jan. 23, trying to become the youngest person to circumnavigate the globe solo and nonstop.

Soon after starting her trip, Sunderland ran into equipment problems and had to stop for repairs. She gave up the goal of setting the record in April, but hoped to complete the journey.

Zac Sunderland, her brother, held the record briefly last year until Briton Mike Perham completed his own journey. The record changed hands last month when 16-year-old Australian Jessica Watson completed her own around-the-world voyage.

Outside the family home on Saturday eight pink balloons were tethered to the white picket fence and beneath them was a hand-painted sign that read: “Thank God Abby’s alive.”

She had been keeping in contact with her parents and support team by satellite phone during the voyage. Early Thursday she reported her yacht was being tossed by 30-foot (9-meter) waves — as tall as a 3-story building. An hour after her last call ended Thursday, her emergency beacons began signaling.

Rescuers in a chartered jet flew from Australia’s west coast and spotted Sunderland’s boat on Thursday. She was able to radio to the plane to say she was in good health and had plenty of food supplies.

The Australian maritime authority did not say how much the rescue mission cost but said it would not be seeking compensation for the search, which initially fell just outside of Australia’s search and rescue region. It was not immediately clear if the French vessel would seek compensation.

Files show Kagan focussed on Ruby Ridge as Clinton re-election campaign loomed

By Pete Yost
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — As an aide in the Clinton White House, Elena Kagan stepped herself in details of the Ruby Ridge controversy, an issue that Sen. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania had zeroed in on as he sought the Republican presidential nomination.

Kagan’s handwritten notes from 1995 track Specter’s hearings, according to some of the Supreme Court nominee’s records released Friday from her days as a White House lawyer.

The wife and son of white separatist Randy Weaver had been shot to death in Idaho at the hands of federal law enforcement agents and Specter was looking into a possible FBI coverup of who gave the orders that led to the August 1992 tragedy, which also claimed the life of a deputy U.S. marshal who was shot to death.

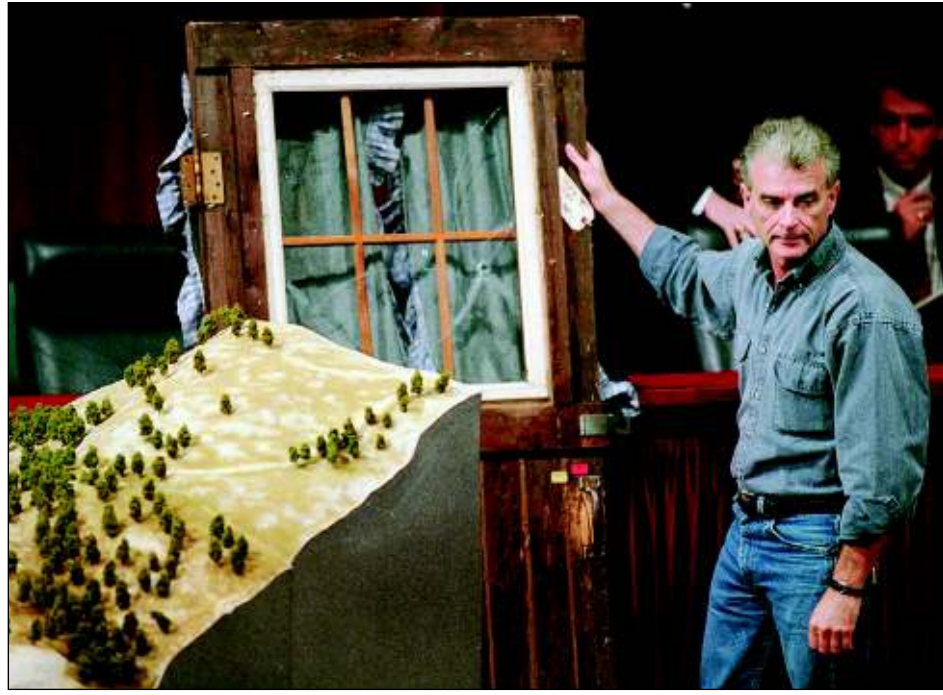
Among the Ruby Ridge-related documents in Kagan’s files was a preparatory question-and-answer session with President Clinton in which the president called for a “full accounting” on Ruby Ridge, adding that he had not been in office when the shootings took place.

By 1995, it was the alleged FBI coverup following the shootings that became the consuming issue.

“Dispute btw Hatch and Specter — when to finish up? latter wants to get into coverup,” state handwritten notes in Kagan’s files.

Following a GOP takeover of the Senate as well as the House in 1994, Orrin Hatch of Utah took over the chairmanship of the judiciary committee and Specter chaired the terrorism subcommittee.

Facing fundraising woes and trailing Sen. Bob Dole



AP file photo
White separatist Randy Weaver holds the door of his cabin, showing holes from bullets fired during the 1992 siege of his Ruby Ridge home during testimony before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee chaired by Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., on Capitol Hill in Washington in September 1995.

of Kansas for the GOP nomination, Specter dropped out of the race toward the end of 1995, and Ruby Ridge didn’t become a campaign issue.

But earlier in 1995, Kagan’s files reflect the importance that the issue of Ruby Ridge held for the president and his top aides.

In July 1995, a news article on a possible FBI coverup of the events surrounding Ruby Ridge was stamped “the president has seen.”

The news article focused on the possible shredding of an FBI document that could have shed light on law enforcement decisions during the siege at Ruby Ridge. The bureau had laid down permissive rules for the use of deadly force.

In releasing Kagan’s files Friday, the Clinton presidential library kept under wraps for now a five-page Justice Department memo on the coverup allegations. The memo was faxed to the

White House in early September 1995.

Releasing it would disclose confidential advice involving the president and his advisers or between his

advisers, according to a notice in the Kagan records explaining why the memo is being withheld from public view 15 years after the events.

4 bodies found on plane that hit school

PHOENIX (AP) — Authorities searching through the wreckage of a small plane that nosedived into an Arizona high school and exploded found four bodies Saturday.

Officials had previously thought only two people were aboard the single-engine Piper that crashed Friday afternoon into a two-story school building Friday afternoon in the small town of Eagar.

Officials were working

to identify the bodies, Apache County sheriff’s Sgt. Richard Guinn said. It’s not yet known whether any children were aboard the plane.

No one was in the building when the plane hit, Guinn said. There were no reports of injuries on the ground. Classes are out for the summer at the school.

The plane circled the area two or three times before it suddenly crashed into the main building.

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J. E. 'Jimmy' Russell

J. E. "Jimmy" Russell passed away while enjoying time with family in Flagstaff, Ariz. The previous day he was delighted to see his newest golf protege, his granddaughter



Section of the PGA, he once again took the reins of the state junior program and elevated it to one of the best in the country. A few years later he was also awarded the head professional job at Needles Golf Course in Needles, Calif., and successfully ran both operations utilizing his two sons, Tom and John, to help in the operation. He left Desert Hills in 1982 and then retired from Needles in 1987.

Danielle, play golf at Forest Highlands. The day he died he was home resting while Danielle and her dad played golf. Immediately before he departed us, Danielle scored the first par in her life. I guess his work was done here.

Jimmy was born April 23, 1928, in Twin Falls, Idaho, and in true fashion he died on Memorial Day so we will always have a national holiday to commemorate him. Jimmy was a gifted athlete in high school and excelled at baseball, golf and basketball but his true love (besides his future wife, Anne) and the focus of his life was golf. Upon graduating from Twin Falls High, he attended Southwest Texas State College and graduated in 1950 with a Bachelor of Science in physical education. He was inducted into the Army in 1950 and served two years in the medics. During this period, he witnessed three atomic bomb blasts at Camp Desert Rock, Nev., one from just seven miles away. After his stint in the Army, he attended North Texas State and graduated in 1954 with a master's degree. It was at North Texas State that he met the love of his life, Lila Anne Nelson, on a blind date. He proposed to her just six weeks after that first date. Of course, Jimmy had a tee time at 8 a.m. the morning after his marriage. As a testament to the love and strength of his lovely wife Anne, she always supported him in his golf ventures.

Jimmy spent four years coaching junior high and high school sports in Graham, Texas, and Amarillo, Texas, and then was hired as the men's and women's golf coach at Odessa Junior College in Odessa, Texas, in 1958. His three sons were born during this time, one in each location. Being raised Catholic and having an apparent lack of imagination, he and Anne named their sons, Mike, Tom and John. Both Tom (Needles, Calif.) and John (Santa Rosa, Calif.) followed in Jimmy's footsteps as PGA golf professionals and Mike, being the black sheep of the family, found a career outside of golf as a custom home builder in Paradise Valley, Ariz.

In 1959, Jimmy started the very first NJCAA national golf tournament. During the next 10 years, he won 14 national titles including three with the women's team as they competed against senior colleges. Jimmy was the first inductee into the NJCAA Golf Coaches Hall of Fame.

Jimmy took the head golf professional job at New Mexico Tech Golf Course in Socorro, N.M., in 1969. While in New Mexico, he continued his work with young people and, as the head of the state junior program, developed one of the premier junior programs in the nation. He then moved to Yuma, Ariz., in 1973 as head golf professional to open a new golf course, Desert Hills, and as a member of the Southwest

professional job at Needles Golf Course in Needles, Calif., and successfully ran both operations utilizing his two sons, Tom and John, to help in the operation. He left Desert Hills in 1982 and then retired from Needles in 1987.

Besides being the consummate golf educator, coach, instructor and head professional, he was also a fierce and accomplished competitor. He was one of the top amateurs in the state of Texas and in the summer of 1963 turned pro and played the PGA tour. Competing in Monday morning qualifiers, he qualified for every tournament and played in the U.S. Open but the grind and the loneliness from missing his family left little doubt that this was not the life for him. In May 1964, he was asked to play in an exhibition match at a new course opening in Seminole, Texas, with Jack Nicklaus and Arnold Palmer. Guess who had the low round of the day? That's right, Jimmy. He beat Jack by one shot and Arnie by five. With his kids all grown, Jimmy and Anne loaded up their motor home and spent 1982 through 1985 playing the Senior Tour with respectable results. Anyone who ever competed with Jimmy was very familiar with the word "Press" and was well aware of his propensity for making birdie on 9 and 18 when all the money was on the line. Jimmy retired in 1987 and became a man of leisure working as the staff golf professional on the Princess Cruise Lines and saw the world at their expense.

If you knew Jimmy, and it seemed like everyone did, you knew that he always did what he loved in life. Although he imparted tremendous lessons of friendliness, humility, compassion, integrity, competitiveness, drive and ambition, it is this determination to do what he loved that is the best lesson that this great teacher could ever bestow upon us.

Jimmy is survived by his wife, Anne; sons, Mike, Tom and John; and grandchildren, Crystal, Steven, Melanie, Danielle and Jimmy; and step grandchildren, Gregg and Kyle.

A celebration of Jimmy's amazing life will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday, June 17, at White Mortuary, 136 Fourth Ave. E. in Twin Falls, Idaho. An additional celebration of life will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, June 21, at McCall Golf Course in McCall, Idaho, following a 4 p.m. golf tournament held in his honor. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be sent to Idaho Youth Ranch Golf Program, P.O. Box 8538, Boise, ID 83707.

Wyo. man gets 21 years in drug death of champion bull rider

CASPER, Wyo. (AP) — A federal judge on Thursday sentenced a Cheyenne man to serve 21 years in prison for his role in providing the heroin that killed a professional bull rider and a young mother last year.

Joel Murdoch, 22, pleaded guilty in February to conspiring to distribute the drugs that killed Cheyenne bull rider Bryan Guthrie, 21, in December and Valerie Anne Sena, 20, last summer. Murdoch also pleaded guilty to distribution of the drugs in Guthrie's death.

The Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association had ranked Guthrie as high as third in bull riding early last year before he was knocked out of competition with a leg injury in March 2009. He was the 2003 national junior bull riding champion.

Both the prosecution and defense asked U.S. District Judge William Downes to sentence Murdoch to 20 years in prison, the minimum allowed under federal sentencing guidelines. But the judge refused, saying Murdoch's crimes didn't warrant a minimum sentence.

Downes said he recognized Murdoch wouldn't have committed his crimes if he weren't addicted to drugs. But he said the defendant was a "key ingredient" in the death of an innocent man.

"(Guthrie) wanted to quit," the judge said. "But you supplied him."

Murdoch apologized at sentencing to Guthrie's parents and sister and said he deserved to go to prison. "Please know Bryan was my best friend and I miss him and think about him every day," Murdoch said.



The New York Times/AP photo

Rod and Patty Guthrie visit a practice arena where their son Bryan trained near their home in Cheyenne, Wyo., on Feb. 26. Their son died of a heroin overdose in December 2009, a year after earning a top ranking in bull riding and living the rodeo dream.

But before Downes imposed the sentence, Guthrie's mother, Patty, told the judge that she doubted Murdoch was sincerely remorseful. She said he had called her shortly after her son's death looking for drugs he had stashed in her house.

"I know one thing ... if Joel Murdoch had not been in Bryan's life, he would not have died of a heroin and cocaine overdose," she said.

Kyle Murdoch, the defendant's father, told Downes that he and his wife raised their sons on a ranch in Burns and tried to instill the value of hard work in them.

"Looking back, it's probably clear we gave our sons too much leeway," he said.

Murdoch's attorney, Thomas Fleener, said Joel Murdoch's drug abuse began with the painkillers Percocet and OxyContin and graduated to heroin.

He said the case highlighted the dangers of prescription drug abuse.

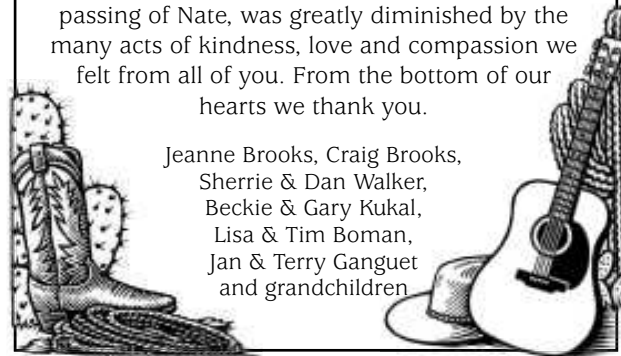
Prosecutors say Murdoch and two Cheyenne men, Kyle Walla and Christopher Tyson, purchased heroin in Denver the day before

Guthrie's death. When they returned to Cheyenne, Murdoch, Walla, Guthrie and a confidential source used the drug. The confidential source found Guthrie's body the next morning.

The family of Nate Brooks

would like to thank all of the wonderful friends, neighbors and extended family members whose outpouring of love and caring will be forever remembered. Our sadness and loss, with the passing of Nate, was greatly diminished by the many acts of kindness, love and compassion we felt from all of you. From the bottom of our hearts we thank you.

Jeanne Brooks, Craig Brooks, Sherrie & Dan Walker, Beckie & Gary Kukal, Lisa & Tim Boman, Jan & Terry Ganguet and grandchildren



US, Cuba agree to hold immigration talks Friday

HAVANA (AP) — The United States and Cuba have agreed to hold immigration talks in Washington within days, a U.S. official said Saturday, the first since a similar meeting in Havana in February.

The talks scheduled for Friday are intended to monitor adherence to a 16-year-old agreement under which the United States issues 20,000 visas to Cubans a year, though in

the past the sides have used the meeting to delve into more contentious issues.

In the last round of talks, U.S. diplomats pressed Cuba to release Alan Gross, a jailed American contractor that Cuba has accused of spying. Gross has been jailed for more than 6 months without charge.

The American delegation also met with dissidents in Havana, raising the ire of Cuban officials.

The family of Eddie Nichols

would like to express their gratitude to Dr. Enomoto, Dr. Kemp and all the wonderful staff of St. Lukes ICU and ER. Your kind words and gentle caring way did not go unnoticed.

We appreciate all you did.

Sincerely,

Barbara Olson Nichols, Cindy Hine, Phil Olson, Mr. & Mrs. Don Olson, Mr. & Mrs. Mike Olson, & Mr. & Mrs. Rick Olson



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The Family of Bonnie Joann Williamson

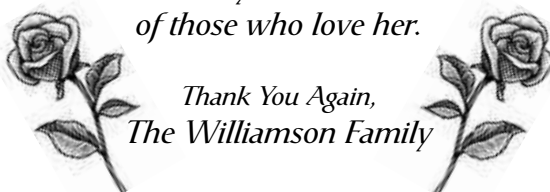
Would like to say Thank You for the many expressions of kindness, support and sympathy that everyone has shown during our time of great loss. We sincerely appreciate all of the love that was given and we want you to know that it has meant so much to our family.

(Cards, calls, visits, food, help with the luncheon, flowers, plants and all of those in attendance)

Bonnie was a very kind and loving person who touched the lives of many with her sweet smile and caring ways.

Her memory will live on in all of those who love her.

Thank You Again,
The Williamson Family



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Villagers risk lives to recycle India's e-waste

>>> Nation/World 6

Nation, N&W 2-4 / World, N&W 5-8

SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 2010

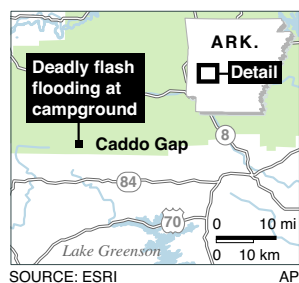
Search for flood victims goes from frantic to grim

By Andrew Demillo and Chuck Bartels
Associated Press writer

LANGLEY, Ark. — The search for nearly two dozen people who disappeared after flash floods swept through a popular campground went from desperate to grim on Saturday, after teams that scoured miles of river and rugged wilderness found just two bodies.

The last time someone was found alive was late Friday morning, hours after a pre-dawn wall of water surprised sleeping campers at the Albert Pike Recreation Area, leaving them frantically trying to scramble up the steep terrain in the dark.

As the swollen rivers sub-



SOURCE: ESRI AP

sided and the hours ticked by Saturday, anguished relatives waiting for word of loved ones grew more and more frustrated, lashing out at reporters, knowing that at some point the search mission would become one of recovery.

"They're just devastated. The time for shock has probably gone and now it's just anxiety building.

INSIDE

Campers had only seconds to escape from flood.

Nation/World 2

They're beginning to fear the worst," said Graig Cowart, the pastor of the Pilgrim Rest Landmark Missionary Baptist Church.

At least six of the 18 people confirmed killed were young children, according to a list released by Gov. Mike Beebe's office publicly identifying 15 of them. Among them were five people, including three children, from Gloster, La., as well as three others from that state and six from Texas. State police said Saturday evening

that there were 22 people missing.

The only Arkansas victim identified was Leslie Jez, of 23-year-old mother and wife from Foreman whose husband, Adam Jez, was listed as among those who survived the flood.

"So ready to go camping this weekend," she wrote on her Facebook page Monday. "Kaden is going to love it!!" She later added, "Not looking forward to that cold water, but sounds like I might change my mind after seeing how hot it's supposed to be."

Authorities haven't said whether the child survived.

About 200 searchers combed some 20 miles of wilderness along the reced-

ing rivers on Saturday. Crews on kayaks and canoes scanned the thick brush and debris in the swollen Caddo and Little Missouri rivers for bodies, but experts say many of those killed could be trapped under fallen trees and rocks, and that the river water likely won't be clear enough to see through for several days.

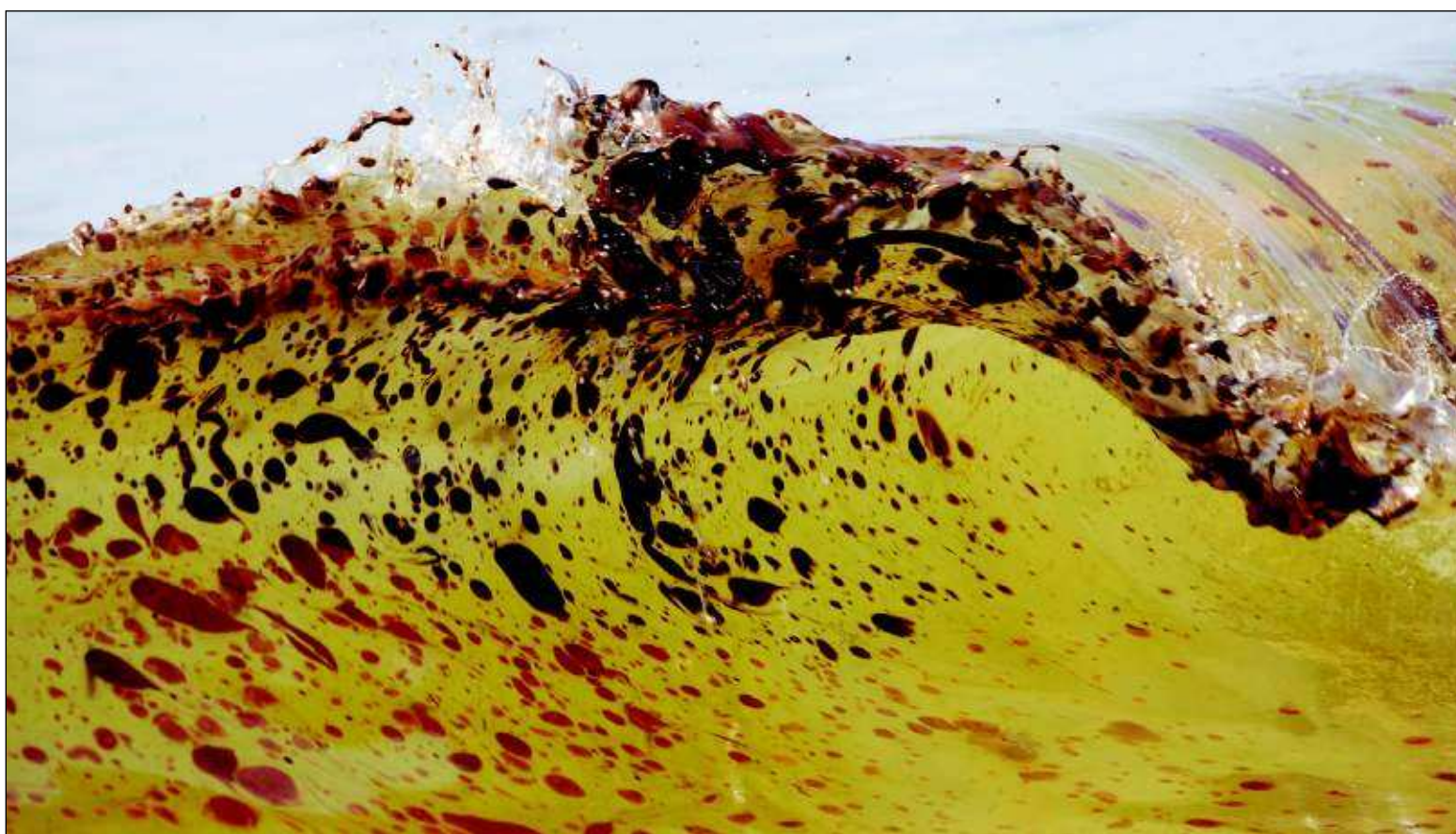
Tom Collins, a Spring Hill volunteer firefighter, said the debris in the water was frustrating their attempts to recover bodies, and that there were so many fallen trees that it looked like a "beaver dam."

"It's just a tangled mess," Collins said.

Other searchers rode out on horseback and ATVs to

scan the heavily wooded area and rocky crags along the rivers, where debris hung as high as 25 feet up in tree branches. Cell phone service and visibility from the air in the heavily wooded area are very poor, hampering search efforts. Portable cell towers were dispatched to the area in the hope that stranded survivors would be able to call for help.

Beebe said many of those missing are people whose relatives called saying they believed they were camping in the area, but weren't sure. He said officials are running the license plate numbers of vehicles found in the area to try to contact their owners.



AP photo

Crude oil from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill washes ashore in Orange Beach, Ala., Saturday. Large amounts of the oil battered the Alabama coast, leaving deposits of the slick mess some 4-6 inches thick on the beach in some parts.

Obama calls on GOP to stop blocking Medicare bill

By William Spain
MarketWatch

CHICAGO — President Obama called on Republican lawmakers Saturday to stop blocking a bill that would forestall a 21 percent cut in the amount doctors are paid under Medicare, warning that the elderly could lose medical services if the cuts go into effect.

In his weekly radio address, Obama said the looming cuts—under a formula established more than a decade ago — "would not only jeopardize our physicians' pay, but our seniors' health care."

He said that since 2003, Congress has voted, largely in a bipartisan manner.

And a majority is again ready to stop the cuts, although some Senate Republicans may block a vote on the issue.

"After years of voting to defer these cuts, the other party is now willing to walk away from the needs of our doctors and our seniors," he said. "I'm absolutely willing to take the difficult steps necessary to lower the cost of Medicare and put our budget on a more fiscally sustainable path. But I'm not willing to do that by punishing hard-working physicians or the millions of Americans who count on Medicare."

Pipe bomb, weed found outside VA hospital

BEDFORD, Mass. (AP) — Police detaining a man on an outstanding warrant outside a Massachusetts veterans affairs hospital got a surprise when the man's friend handed them a pipe bomb.

Police Sgt. Michael Cloutier says Sean Carney and Christopher McDonald arrived at the Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital in Bedford, where one was planning to attend a detox program Friday.

Cloutier says officers noticed alcohol in the men's car and detained Carney on an outstanding warrant. Police then went back to the car with McDonald, who handed over a pipe bomb and marijuana.

The state police bomb squad detonated the device. No one was hurt.

It is unclear what they planned to do with the bomb. Authorities did not know if they have lawyers.

They will be arraigned Monday.

'Speed it up, stop the spill'

Coast Guard gives BP until end of next weekend

By Jay Reeves and Ray Henry
Associated Press writers

ORANGE BEACH, Ala. — The Coast Guard has demanded that BP step up its efforts to contain the oil gushing into the Gulf of Mexico by the end of the weekend, telling the British oil giant that its slow pace in stopping the spill is becoming increasingly alarming as the disaster fouled the coastline in ugly new ways Saturday.

The Coast Guard sent a testy letter to BP's chief operating officer that said the company urgently needs to pick up the pace and present a better plan to contain the spill by the time President Obama arrives on Monday for his fourth visit to the beleaguered coast. The letter, released Saturday, follows nearly two months of tense relations between BP and the government and reflects the growing frustration over the company's inability to stop the largest environmental disaster in U.S. history.

The dispute escalated on the same day that ominous new signs of the tragedy emerged on the beaches of Alabama. Waves of unsightly brown surf hit the shores in Orange Beach, leaving stinking, dark piles of oil that dried in the hot sun and extended up to 12 feet from the water's edge for as far as the eye could see.

INSIDE

Along Gulf coast highway, anxiety spreads with oil.

See Nation/World 2

It was the worst hit yet to Alabama beaches. Tar-like globs have washed up periodically throughout the disaster, but Saturday's pollution was significantly worse.

"This is awful," said Shelley Booker of Shreveport, La., who was staying in a condominium with her teenage daughter and her friends near the deserted beach about 100 miles from the site of the spill.

Scientists have estimated that anywhere between about 40 million gallons to more than 100 million gallons of oil have spewed into the Gulf since a drilling rig exploded April 20, killing 11 workers. The latest cap installed on the blown-out well is capturing about 650,000 gallons of oil a day, but large quantities are still spilling into the sea.

The Coast Guard initially sent a letter to BP on Wednesday asking for more details on its plans to contain the oil. BP responded, saying a new system to trap much more oil should be complete by mid-July. That system's new design is meant to better withstand the force of hurricanes and could capture up to roughly 2 million gallons of oil daily when finished, the company said.

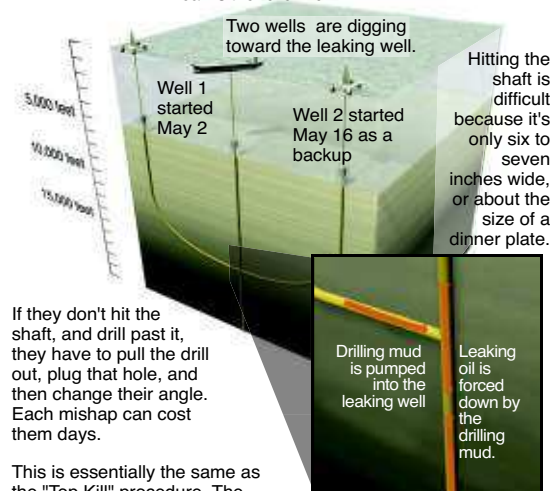
But Coast Guard Rear Adm. James A. Watson said in a follow-up letter Friday he was concerned that BP's plans were inadequate,

Two options to stop the oil leak

The federal government has given BP to present a plan to speed up efforts to contain the huge amounts of oil gushing from their well in the Gulf of Mexico. Two of the methods that may be tried are drilling a relief well and what is known as a reverse top kill.

Relief Well

The long-term method of stopping the leak is the relief well

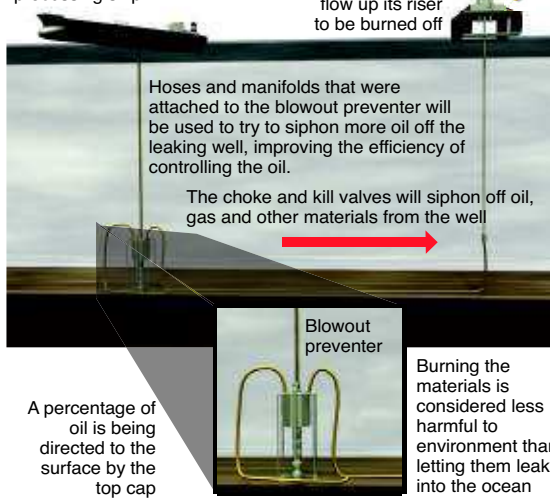


If they don't hit the shaft, and drill past it, they have to pull the drill out, plug that hole, and then change their angle. Each mishap can cost them days.

This is essentially the same as the "Top Kill" procedure. The difference is, since they are much deeper, the extra pressure will help them plug it

Reverse Top Kill

Discoverer Enterprise processing ship



especially in light of revised estimates this week that indicated the size of the spill could be up to twice as large as previously thought.

"BP must identify in the

next 48 hours additional leak containment capacity that could be operationalized and expedited to avoid the continued discharge of oil ... Recognizing the complexity

of this challenge, every effort must be expended to speed up the process," Watson said in the letter addressed to chief operating officer Doug Suttles.

Suttles said the company will respond to the letter by Sunday night.

"We've got a team of people looking to see, can we accelerate some of the items that are in that plan and is it possible to do more," Suttles said in a brief interview after speaking to workers at a command center where he thanked BP employees and contractors for their work in cleaning up the spill. "There are some real challenges to do that, including safety."

Suttles also acknowledged that "there's big frustrations out there. They're out there in the community, they're out there in government, they're out there everywhere. And I think they're all rooted in the fact that none of us want this to happen. And none of us want this to occur, and we all want it to get fixed now."

The letter and deadline come just before Obama is set to visit the Gulf Coast on Monday and Tuesday. On Saturday, Obama reassured British Prime Minister David Cameron that his frustration over the oil spill in the Gulf was not an attack on Britain.

The two leaders spoke by phone for 30 minutes Saturday. Cameron also has been under pressure to get Obama to tone down the criticism, fearing it will hurt the millions of British retirees holding BP stock that has taken a beating in recent weeks.

Campers had only seconds to escape from flood

Vacationers were roused by banging on cabin doors

By Justin Juozapavicius
Associated Press writer

OUACHITA NATIONAL FOREST — Some people awoke to roaring floodwaters. Others were roused by panicked banging on their cabin doors. At least a few got out of bed and were plunged almost immediately into deep, churning water.

Vacationing families camped in a remote Arkansas valley had only a moment or two in the darkness to escape from the worst flood to hit this area in nearly 30 years. For at least 18 people, it wasn't enough.

The deadly wall of water that rushed through a region southwest of Little Rock struck with such force that witnesses could hear trees being ripped apart and lumber buckling in homes that had been smashed.

Terry Whatley was staying at the Albert Pike Recreation Area with a group of about 35 friends and relatives. Around 3:30 a.m. Friday, someone pounded on the door of his camper to warn of the rising water.

He gathered everyone and got out into ankle-deep water. Soon it rose to up to their chests as they tried to reach higher ground.

"I just started thinking to myself, 'This is a bad way to die,'" said Whatley, whose group included three people who were confirmed killed in the flash flood.

The raging floodwaters killed at least 18 people before dawn Friday and left in their wake a path of destruction marked by cars hurled into trees, heavily



A camper lies overturned after being washed down stream from the Albert Pike Recreation Area by flash flooding, Friday in Caddo Gap, Ark.

damaged or destroyed cabins, even pavement that had been peeled off roads and bark off trees.

Vacationers were drawn by the campground's rustic landscape: a lush valley ringed with mountains on the southern edge of the Ouachita National Forest. But by the early Friday, heavy rains had turned the Caddo and Little Missouri

rivers into lethal torrents.

In seconds, survivors had to decide how to save their lives and those of their loved ones. Some clung to trees or climbed on top of cars bobbing like boats in the swift current.

Terry Scott figures he got lucky. His wife woke him at 4 a.m. By 4:30, the cabin was flooded with jade-colored water.

"There's just no place for it to go," said Scott, who went back to survey the damage after the water had started to recede. He said he cannot afford to rebuild because he's out of work.

"It's full of mud, water," he said. "I just closed it back up and left."

Whatley's 24-year-old son, Matt, and a friend, J.D. Quinn, were sitting on the

"You couldn't hear anything. Just lumber and houses being destroyed and trees ripping. We couldn't even talk to each other when we were in the water."

— J.D. Quinn, who was with a friend at Albert Pike Recreation Area when a deadly wall of water rushed through the region

porch of a nearby cabin as the water rose. They soon started trying to warn people in cabins and campers.

"You couldn't hear anything. Just lumber and houses being destroyed and trees ripping. We couldn't even talk to each other when we were in the water," Quinn said.

On Saturday, rescue crews in kayaks, on horseback and on all-terrain vehicles searched for campers who were still missing. The last person found alive was rescued late Friday morning.

Arkansas State Police Capt. Mike Fletcher said there were about two dozen people still unaccounted for — a number far lower than initial estimates based on the belief that 300 people were in and around the campground when the flood swept through.

Forecasters had warned of the approaching danger during the night, but campers could easily have missed those advisories because of the late hour and the remoteness of the area, where broadcasting and cell-phone signals are weak at best.

Sharon Paxton, who lives in the valley, described the

panic among cabin owners after water chased dozens of people from their campgrounds along the two rivers.

Having saved himself, Paxton's husband stayed behind to help.

"There were RVs floating by, and my husband was picking people off," she said.

Vehicles and bodies were carried several miles downstream by the rushing water. Among the dead was a 6-year-old girl who slipped from her mother's grasp in the current, a local pastor said.

As the water receded at Camp Albert, scenes of the devastation remained: a smashed stroller with children's booties and flip-flops scattered nearby, tents torn to ribbons, a car wrapped around a tree, hunks of rock and earth deposited indiscriminately onto roads and campsites.

The possessions left behind underscored how quickly the danger came.

At campsite A9, a trailer was smashed into a tree. A fly swatter, skillet and some coffee mugs on a table were all that remained.

Next door, at site A10, the only thing left was an American flag nailed to a post.

Some laundry still hung on clotheslines, unaffected by the rush of water. The place smelled like swamp and garbage, and hundreds of flies descended on the campsite.

The torrent was so fierce that some residents labeled the flood an act of the devil.

At a candlelight vigil Friday night, about 40 people prayed for the lost and acknowledged the hard days ahead.

"Father, if people ever needed you, they need you tonight," Pastor Scott Kitchens said in a prayer.

Along Gulf Coast highway, people's anxiety spreads with oil

By Adam Geller
Associated Press writer

ALONG THE GULF COAST — It's barely 5 a.m., and last night's sliver of moon still hangs in a charcoal sky as Dave Marino eases the 24-foot bayboat from the dock and into the flat, dark waters of the canal leading toward the Gulf of Mexico.

The air hangs thick with the vapors of the bayou, but for now it's cool — the ideal start for what should be a perfect day in the life of a fishing guide: chasing speckled trout in the morning, redfish in the afternoon.

"I'm 41 years old and that's the way it's always been," says Marino, a life-long fisherman who started his own charter business in Myrtle Grove, La., to relieve the stress of his primary job, fighting fires.

This morning, though, there'll be no escaping reality. The waters at the end of the canal are off limits to fishing. Marino's usual charter customers have canceled or stopped calling. Today, he is motoring out in search of oil.

With every sunrise, the sheen rippling from BP PLC's gaping Deepwater Horizon wellhead drifts closer to Marino's corner of paradise. And the slick is close behind.

"My concern is that it's going to tip the balance to where it's too much to overcome," Marino says. One hand on the wheel, he points to the baitfish called pogies jumping from the water, and to the grassy shallows where redfish longer than a man's arm feast on shrimp. "What



Charter boat captain Dave Marino pilots his boat across Barataria Bay off the coast of Louisiana on Monday. Marino, like many other charter boat operators, has seen a steep decline in business in the wake of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

happens when you tip the point to where there's more death than life?"

The question is beyond any simple answer. But the dread and uncertainty embedded in Marino's query hangs in the air all along the coast, where The Associated Press traveled four Gulf states — and explored states of mind — more than seven weeks after the BP-operated rig exploded, killing 11 men and starting the spill. The three-day trip traced the arc of the jigsaw coastline from Louisiana bayous to Florida beach enclaves.

Across nearly 500 miles, you hear the testimony of people whose lives are intertwined with the Gulf's ecology and economy, transfixed by its allure and frightened by its apparent limitations. You'll meet up with a new

opinion or emotion around every bend. Not all agree on who's to blame, or even if blame should be cast.

But you can be sure of at least one thing. Even in places that have seen no sign of oil, the spill is commanding attention in a way few other events can. It is redefining life on the Gulf, upending routines and reframing expectations.

• • • • •

By 6 a.m., we've passed a raft of commercial fishing boats in the canal, their crews loading a fresh supply of oil containment boom,

and entered the broad expanses of Barataria Bay. To the unaccustomed eye, it is a marvel of nature unspoiled, except for the oil platforms and pumps dotting the horizon. A porpoise vaults from the water. On tiny Queen Bess Island — circled in boom — hundreds of pelicans, ibises and terns keen from the mangroves. But Marino wants us to study the water.

"This is all an oil sheen that you're in," he says.

Soon, it becomes easier to see. When a breeze blows over open water, it's supposed to ripple. But the sheen acts like a blanket,

holding the water flat. Atop heavy sheen, the horse flies that have been nipping at our legs depart and most of the dragon flies vanish. Marino, who often watches birds hunt for clues to where the fish are, points out how few gulls and egrets are in the water.

Farther out, the smell kicks in, slightly sweet, like tar, but stronger. Then, just south of Bay Jimmy, we find what we've been looking for. A slick roughly the size of a school bus lies thick across the water like pancake batter, the color of chocolate fondue. There's no boom in sight and no cleanup crews. In the middle of the spill floats a lump roughly the size of a serving platter — a dead Kemp's Ridley sea turtle.

Marino calls the GPS coordinates into the Plaquemines Parish emergency operations center.

"Another 45 days, it's going to be on top of all of us, he says, returning to the dock. Still, he's not ready to let go.

"You know what I want? I want you come to come back in a couple of years when we're fishing again and let me take you fishing and catch a big gigantic redfish," he says. "I just wish I had the

certainly that would be soon."

Back on the road, we head up U.S. 90 about 16 miles to the narrow neck of land running between immense Lake Pontchartrain and smaller sibling Lake St. Catherine. Both are connected to the Gulf and lined with homes on stilts.

Just before the Fort Pike Bridge, a bar called Big Al's welcomes passers-by with a promise of free boiled crabs on Wednesdays. Ask, though, and you'll hear they've replaced some of the crabs with crawfish because of the fishing restrictions. Behind the bar, that's only the start of Jodi Jackson's worries.

Her husband, Kevin, is a crabber. They were counting on the proceeds from this year's catch to finish building a home to replace the one stolen by Hurricane Katrina. But with boats crowding into limited waters, his catch is down by 80 percent. Fumes she blames on the oil have sent her to the hospital for nausea. She worries most, though about the man she's loved since she was 14.

"We've been married 30 years and I've never seen him like this. He can't even watch the news. It gives him panic attacks," Jackson says.

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Va. inmate: 'Only way to stop me' is death row

Man says he'll kill again if he isn't put to death

By Dena Potter
Associated Press writer

POUND, Va. — For seven days, Robert Gleason Jr. begged correctional officers and counselors at Wallens Ridge State Prison to move his new cellmate. The constant singing, screaming and obnoxious behavior were too much, and Gleason knew he was ready to snap.

On the eighth day — May 8, 2009 — correctional officers found 63-year-old Harvey Gray Watson Jr. bound, gagged, beaten and strangled. His death went unnoticed for 15 hours because correctional officers had falsified inmate

counts at the high-security prison in southwestern Virginia.

Now, Gleason says he'll kill again if he isn't put to death for killing Watson, who had a history of mental illness. And he says his next victim won't be an inmate.

"I murdered that man cold-bloodedly. I planned it, and I'm gonna do it again," the 40-year-old Gleason told The Associated Press. "Someone needs to stop it. The only way to stop me is put me on death row."

Gleason already is serving a life sentence for killing another man. He fired his lawyers last month — they were trying to work out a deal to keep him from getting the death penalty — so he could plead guilty to capital murder. He's vowed not



Gleason

to appeal his sentence if the judge sentences him to death Aug. 31.

"I did this. I deserve it," he said. "That man, he didn't deserve to die."

Watson was serving a 100-year sentence for killing a man and wounding two others in 1983 when he shot into his neighbor's house in Lynchburg with a 10-gauge shotgun. According to prison records, Watson suffered from "mild" mental impairment and was frequently cited for his disruptive and combative behavior.

Watson was sent to Wallens Ridge on April 23, 2009, a day after he set fire to his cell at Sussex II State Prison. Gleason and Watson became cellmates on May 1, 2009.

In the days the two spent

locked in an 8-by-10-foot cell, Watson would talk about how he had "drowned" two television sets because they "had voodoo in them," Gleason said.

He would also belt out "I wish I was in the land of cotton" from the song "Dixie" and other songs at all hours, scream profanities and masturbate. In the chow hall and in the recreation yard, Watson would get inmates to give him cigarettes for drinking his urine and clabbered milk.

"You can't be upset with someone like that," Gleason said. "He needed help."

Gleason said his requests to separate the two were met with mockery and indifference by correctional officers and prison counselors. He said he knew what he'd do once officials refused to put Watson in protective custody.

"That day I knew I was going to kill him," he said. "Wallens Ridge forced my hand."

After murdering his cellmate, Gleason covered Watson's body with a bed sheet to make it look like he was sleeping.

He kept Watson's death a secret through two mandatory standing counts and two meals. Officers only discovered the body when Watson's psychiatrist came to see him at 4:40 p.m. and found him dead, according to court documents.

Prison employees involved in the case denied repeated requests for comment from the AP. Department of Corrections spokesman Larry Traylor also declined to discuss the situation, but said that two officers were disciplined and two others were fired. One of the fired officers was reinstated upon appeal.

Gleason has since been transferred to the "super-max" Red Onion State Prison.

Watson's sister, Barbara McLeod of Longmont, Colo., said Gleason should be forced to spend the rest of his life in prison with no privileges.

"He doesn't deserve to be able to control his own destiny at this point. He doesn't deserve to have his death on the conscience of the state of Virginia," she said.

McLeod said her brother had a history of mental problems that grew worse during his last decade of incarceration. McLeod said she's upset that her brother was housed with such a violent prisoner — and angry that it took so long for guards to realize he was dead.

"Supposedly they are monitoring these prisoners," she said. "I guess not."

One-time top Catholic school to close in Philadelphia

By Kathy Matheson
Associated Press writer

PHILADELPHIA — Even as financially strapped Catholic schools continue to close across the country, no one in Philadelphia ever thought the church would shutter Cardinal Dougherty High School.

Not the flagship campus that once boasted 6,000 students and billed itself as the biggest Catholic school in the world. Not the school whose marching band once played for a pope, a princess and a

presidential inauguration.

Not Cardinal Dougherty. But the unthinkable came to pass in October when the Philadelphia archdiocese announced 2009-10 would be Dougherty's last school year. The school, a victim of declining enrollment and changing demographics, will close this month after 54 years and more than 40,000 graduates.

"My head understands it, but it really hurts your heart," said 1966 alumnus Tony Conti. "This is where I went to high school, this is where I

met my wife."

Dougherty is hardly alone. Nationwide, 174 Catholic schools have closed in the past year, compared with 24 opening, according to the National Catholic Education Association. Catholic school enrollment in the U.S. has declined 20 percent in the past decade.

Named after a former archbishop of Philadelphia, Dougherty (pronounced DOCK-er-tee) opened in 1956 in the city's East Oak Lane section with more than 2,600

freshmen and sophomores.

The students — nearly all white and nearly all Catholic — paid no tuition, because local parishes could afford to subsidize the cost. A wall divided the boys' and girls' sides of the building.

"The only thing the males and the females shared was the chapel," said Jack Seydow, a member of Dougherty's first graduating class in 1959. "So I went to chapel a lot."

By 1965, the school reached its peak enrollment of 5,944, staggering schedules to accommodate the crowds.

Church officials today can't say how they verified Dougherty's title of the world's largest Catholic school, but the oft-repeated claim gave students "a tremendous sense of pride," Conti said.

Pride also stemmed from Dougherty's renowned marching band. In its 1960s heyday, about 200 students participated in the band, color guard and drill team, an ensemble so popular that it recorded albums each year. People joked it was the only band with a high

school attached.

Dougherty performed for Pope Paul VI at the Vatican, President Lyndon Johnson's 1965 inauguration and for Princess Grace of Monaco, a Philadelphia native. The band played at NFL games — including the 1962 championship — and won a world competition in The Netherlands in 1966.

"We were very much in demand in those days," said Msgr. James Mortimer, who managed the band from 1957-68. "We were the best, and everybody knew it!"

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Lizards leap no more



'Annie' fades from comics

Tribune Media Services Inc./AP photos

Annie and her dog, Sandy, from the Annie comic strip drawn by Leonard Starr, who succeeded Harold Gray as cartoonist upon Gray's death in 1968.

By Sharon Cohen
Associated Press writer

CHICAGO — Talk about a hard-knocks life: She has been jailed in North Korea, kidnapped repeatedly, accused of murder, trapped in a cave, roughed up by gangsters. And she's just a kid — more precisely, a red-haired girl named Annie.

Over 86 years, the spunky (and forever young) orphan has endured hundreds of curly hair-raising adventures, not to mention homelessness, poverty and other Dickensian hardships. She's even survived the death of the man whose pen and imagination turned her into a comic-strip heroine.

Annie, the character, may be indomitable. But Annie, the comic strip, is not.

Facing a shifting media landscape — the closing or shrinking of newspapers, a dwindling audience for comic adventures and an explosion of new forms of entertainment — Tribune Media Services has determined there will be no more newspaper tomorrows for Annie.

After today's strip, Annie, her father figure and frequent rescuer, Daddy Warbucks, and her beloved pooch, Sandy, will disappear from the funny pages. They will have a future, but for now, where that will be is unknown.

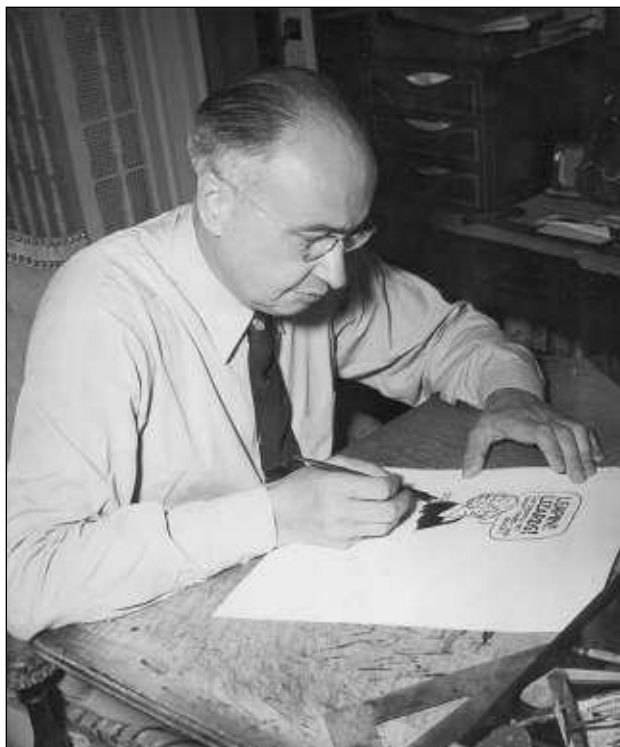
"Annie is not dying, she's moving into new channels," says Steve Tippie, vice president of licensing and new markets development at Tribune Media, which owns the license to the character. Annie, he says, has "huge awareness" and possibilities include graphic novels, film, TV, games — maybe even a home on a mobile phone.

No matter where she lands, it's clear there's still gold in that red mop of hair and those white, pupil-less orbs. Tribune Media continues to collect revenues from various productions of "Annie," the sunny musical that charmed Broadway more than 30 years ago — and is expected to return to the Great White Way in 2012.

"Annie is one of those iconic characters in American culture," Tippie says. "If you stop 10 people on the street, nine of them will drop down on one knee and start singing 'Tomorrow.'"

It was, in fact, the popularity of the musical that gave the strip a second life. Tribune Media revived the comic after the death of its creator, Harold Gray, who had used Annie as a megaphone for his conservative political views.

From its opposition to the New Deal in the '30s to its hard-line in the war on ter-



This undated photo shows cartoonist Harold Gray at work in his Connecticut studio on the comic strip he created.



character's triumphs over greedy bankers and phony reformers with colorful names such as Phineas P. Pinchpenny and Mrs. Bleating Hart.

The comic strip debuted in 1924 when Americans still were watching silent movies, Prohibition was a reality and a home entertainment center meant a radio the size of an end table. Annie expanded to the airwaves during the '30s when families, looking for a respite from the Depression, tuned in to follow the exploits of a feisty girl who took guff from no one.

Annie quickly moved beyond newsprint and radio, blossoming into a multimedia star: Comic books, movies, a doll and board game in her name, celebrity endorser (Ovaltine, anyone?) with her own decoder ring, and later, her own U.S. postage stamp.

But her home base was the funnies.

Annie was one of the first comics to use long-running narratives, unlike the episodic single gags that dominated the funny pages at the time, says Jeet Heer, who has written introductions to five volumes of Annie comic collections and is planning a biography of Gray.

At its peak, Annie appeared in hundreds of newspapers. During the 1945 New York newspaper deliverymen's strike, New York Mayor Fiorello La Guardia didn't want to disappoint her young followers so he read Annie's adventures over the air (she was on trial for murder at the time).

Annie did undergo a modest makeover over the years:

The "Little Orphan" was dropped in the late '70s. And she finally traded her red dress with the white collar for sneakers and jeans. But Annie remained a plainspoken girl — a favorite expression was "leapin' lizards!" — who preferred the company of working stiffs to those

"I always like to think of Annie as the Fox News Channel of the funny papers. It was a very political strip."

— Jay Maeder,
Annie's most recent writer

who put on airs.

In Gray's (and Annie's) view, Heer says, the enemies were "official social workers and government bureaucrats, snooty do-gooders and busybody political reformers ... know-it-all intellectuals and pointy-headed college professors."

One of the comic strip's recurring themes, he says, was the poor don't need the government to better themselves, just occasional help from a benevolent capitalist — such as Daddy Warbucks.

Sound familiar? "The 'don't expect government to do stuff for you' — all the slogans on the Tea Party placards sound like they came off Little Orphan Annie," says Randy Duncan, professor of communication at Henderson State University and co-author of "The Power of Comics."

Annie's creator, Gray, actually started as a progressive Republican with a populist streak; he was sympathetic to immigrants and minorities, according to Heer. But by the 1930s, he became a fierce opponent of Franklin Roosevelt and his New Deal policies.

When FDR was nominated to a fourth term, Gray killed off Daddy Warbucks; the bald magnate suggested that perhaps the climate was making him sick. After Roosevelt's death, Warbucks magically reappeared, puffing a cigar and saying the "climate here has changed!"

In the 1940s and into the Cold War a decade later, Warbucks fought the Communist conspiracy, sometimes using his own mercenaries to go beyond what the government was willing to do, Heer says.

Whether it was the politics or the adventure, Annie developed a huge fan base.

It was a diverse group, including a teenage John Updike (he wrote a fan letter) and Henry Ford, who sent a telegram in the 1930s when Sandy, the dog, went missing. It said: "Please do all you can to help Annie find Sandy. STOP. We are all interested. Henry Ford?"

Some politicians also took a shine to Annie, including Ronald Reagan and Jesse Helms, the former North Carolina senator who came to the comic's defense after a

paper in his state pulled the strip, accusing it of being "John Birch Society propaganda."

In the last decade, Annie story lines have included problems at the border, illegal immigration, even Guantanamo.

"Annie and Warbucks stand for law and order," Maeder says. "They're not politically correct people." Warbucks ended up doing undercover CIA work that took him to fictionalized countries named Ratznestistan and Quagmiristan.

Annie, meanwhile, hooked up with a new character named Amelia Santiago, a daring Cuban-American

aviatrix and CIA veteran. A few years ago, they were tossed into a North Korea prison.

"Annie got kidnapped more than any child on the planet," Maeder says.

And that, dear readers, is her predicament now.

She's been spirited away to Guatemala by her war-criminal captor. Warbucks is huddling with the FBI and Interpol but there aren't many clues.

Annie's captor says they're stuck with each other. Welcome to your new life, he says.

And there it ends.

Where and when will Annie resurface?

Stay tuned.

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Cuba frees 1 political prisoner, transfers 6 more

By Fernando Gonzalez
Associated Press writer

PEDRO BETANCOURT, Cuba — Cuba on Saturday freed a political prisoner who is confined to a wheelchair and began transferring six others to jails closer to their homes, part of a deal with the Roman Catholic Church and the most important sign yet that the government may be softening its hardline stance on organized dissent.

Ariel Sigler, one of 75 activists, community organizers and journalists arrested in a sweeping 2003 crackdown, was released in his hometown of Pedro Betancourt in the province of Matanzas.

"I feel a mix of happiness and sadness," Sigler told a small group of reporters in the town, about 160 miles east of Havana, Cuba's capital.

"I'm sad because I can't share this moment with my mother who died five months ago," he added, "and because more than half of our companions are still in



AP photo
Ariel Sigler, an ailing political prisoner, is helped by paramedics Saturday after he was released from a hospital where he was being held prisoner in Pedro Betancourt, Cuba.

prison."

Sigler, 44, had been serving a 25-year sentence for treason until being transferred recently to a hospital. He arrived at his home in a Ministry of the Interior ambulance.

With the prisoner's release, 52 of those arrested

in March 2003 remain behind bars. The others have been freed on medical parole, forced into exile or completed their sentences.

Six other prisoners from the so-called "Group of 75" — Hector Fernando Maceda, Juan Adolfo Fernandez, Omar Moises

Ruiz, Efen Fernandez, Jesus Mustafa Felipe and Juan Carlos Herrera — were being moved to jails closer to their homes, bringing to 12 the number of imprisoned dissidents sent to new facilities this month.

"They were taken from their cells early," Elizardo

Sanchez, who heads the Havana-based Cuban Commission on Human Rights and National Reconciliation, said by phone Saturday.

Sanchez's group puts the total number of political prisoners held in Cuba at 180, although that list includes some who were convicted of violent acts.

The Group of 75 was arrested when the world's attention was focused on the start of the U.S.-led war in Iraq.

The human rights situation on the island has remained tense since late February when another jailed dissident, Juan Zapato Tamayo, died following a lengthy hunger strike, sparking international condemnation. Sanchez said freeing Sigler and transferring the others may be part of a larger governmental effort to rehabilitate its reputation.

"I get the impression that Cuba is now working on generating a media image," he said.

Saturday's government

actions followed negotiations between the government of President Raul Castro and the office of Havana Cardinal Jaime Ortega.

They come just days before a visit to Cuba by the Vatican's foreign minister, Archbishop Dominique Mamberti. Cuba's government has not commented on any prison transfers.

Opposition and church leaders had expressed hope the communist government might make more concessions ahead of the trip, the first to Cuba by a top Vatican official since Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, secretary of state to Pope Benedict XVI, visited the island in February 2008.

The Church has suddenly become a major political voice in Cuba, apparently with the consent of Cuba's government.

In May, Ortega negotiated an end to a ban on marches by a small group of wives and mothers of the dissidents jailed in 2003 known as the Ladies in White.

Alleged Mossad spy arrested

By Juergen Baetz
Associated Press writer

BERLIN — An alleged Mossad spy from Israel wanted in connection with the hit-squad slaying of a Hamas agent in Dubai has been arrested in Poland, officials said Saturday.

The man, using the name Uri Brodsky, is suspected of working for Mossad in Germany and helping to issue a fake German passport to a member of the Mossad operation that allegedly killed Hamas agent Mahmoud al-Mabhouh in Dubai in January, a spokesman for the German federal prosecutor's office told The Associated Press.

Brodsky was arrested in early June upon his arrival in Poland because of a European arrest warrant issued by Germany which is now seeking his extradition, the spokesman said, declining to be named in line with department policy.

The spokesman had no estimate of how long it could take for Brodsky to be extradited from Poland to Germany, saying "the matter is now in the hands of the Polish authorities." If Brodsky agrees, the extradition could take a few days, but that isn't likely, the spokesman said.

In Warsaw, Monika Lewandowska, a spokeswoman for Polish prosecu-



AP file photo
A Palestinian youth walks out of a store covered with posters of assassinated Hamas military leader Mahmoud al-Mabhouh, in Beit Lahiya, northern Gaza Strip.

tors, confirmed that the suspect, identified only as Uri B., was arrested at the city's international airport on June 4. She told the AP that the arrest warrant was made "in connection with the murder of a Hamas member in Dubai."

The suspect appeared before a Polish court on June 6, and was ordered to remain in temporary arrest for up to 40 days, she said. Lewandowska had no information on his possible extradition.

In Israel, the Foreign Ministry said without elaborating that it was aware of the man's fate. "At the moment, we're looking into that like any other Israeli who has been arrested, and he's getting consular treatment," spokesman Andy David said.

Police in the United Arab Emirates said the elaborate hit squad linked to the Jan. 19 slaying in Dubai of al-Mabhouh — one of the founders of Hamas' military wing — involved some 25 suspects, most of them carrying fake passports from European nations.

Dubai's police chief, Lt. Gen. Dahi Khalfan Tamim, has said he is nearly "100 percent" certain that Mossad, Israel's spy agency, masterminded the killing.

The brazen assault in a luxury hotel and its alleged perpetrators were widely captured by security cameras. Some footage, released by Dubai's police, showed alleged members of the hit squad disguised as tourists, wearing baggy shorts, sneakers and baseball caps, and

carrying tennis rackets.

At the time, Israel said it didn't know who was responsible for the killing but welcomed it, claiming al-Mabhouh was a key link in smuggling weapons to Gaza and a possible middleman with Israel's archenemy, Iran.

For Israel, the news about Brodsky's arrest comes at an already difficult time as the country is facing international criticism over its May 31 military raid on a humanitarian flotilla bound for Hamas-ruled Gaza that killed nine people.

The German news weekly Der Spiegel reported that the arrest in Poland already has already led to some diplomatic friction. The Israeli Embassy has urged Polish authorities not to extradite Brodsky.

U.N. reviewing Taliban, al-Qaida sanctions list

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Fueling momentum for a political solution to the nearly nine-year-old Afghan war, a U.N. committee is reviewing whether certain people could be removed from blacklist that freezes assets and limits travel of key Taliban and al-Qaida figures, the top U.N. representative said Saturday.

Delegates to a national conference, or peace jirga, held this month in Kabul called on the government and its international partners to remove some of the 137 people from the list — a long-standing demand of the Taliban.

"De-listing was one of the clear messages coming

from the peace jirga," Staffan de Mistura, the top U.N. representative in Afghanistan, told reporters. "The U.N. is listening to what the peace jirga is saying. Some of the people in the list may not be alive anymore. The list may be completely outdated."

A committee is expected to complete its review at the end of the month and give its recommendations to the U.N. Security Council, which will make the final decision on whether to remove any names off the list. The U.S., Britain and France, who maintain troops here, wield veto power on the council and would have to agree to changes on the list.

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AP photo

Ethnic Uzbeks gather near the Kyrgyz-Uzbek border in southern Kyrgyzstan on Saturday, seeking refuge from mobs of Kyrgyz men who attacked the minority community.

Ethnic riots sweep Kyrgyzstan

Govt begs for help; roving gangs force thousands to flee

By Sasha Merkushev and Leila Saralayeva
Associated Press writers

"It's a real war. Everything is burning, and bodies are lying on the streets."

— Local political leader Omurbek Suvanaliyev

OSH, Kyrgyzstan — Ethnic riots wracked southern Kyrgyzstan on Saturday, forcing thousands of Uzbeks to flee as their homes were torched by roving mobs of Kyrgyz men. The interim government begged Russia for troops to stop the violence, but the Kremlin offered only humanitarian assistance.

At least 77 people were reported killed and more than 1,000 wounded in the violence spreading across the impoverished Central Asian nation that hosts U.S. and Russian air bases.

Much of its second-largest city, Osh, was on fire Saturday and the sky overhead was black with smoke. Roving mobs of young Kyrgyz men armed with firearms and metal bars marched on minority Uzbek neighborhoods and set homes on fire, forcing thousands of Uzbeks to flee. Stores were looted and the city was running out of food.

Kyrgyzstan's third straight day of rioting also engulfed another major southern city, Jalal-Abad, where a rampaging mob burned a university, besieged a police station and seized an armored vehicle and other weapons from a local military unit.

"It's a real war," said local political leader Omurbek Suvanaliyev. "Everything is burning, and bodies are lying on the streets."

Those driven from their homes rushed toward the border with Uzbekistan, and an Associated Press reporter there saw the bodies of children trampled to death in the panicky stampede. Crowds of frightened women and children made flimsy bridges out of planks and ladders to cross the ditches marking the border.

Interim President Roza Otunbayeva acknowledged

that her government has lost control over Osh, a city of 250,000, even though it sent troops, armor and helicopters to quell the riots. Violence spread to the nearby city of Jalal-Abad later Saturday.

"The situation in the Osh region has spun out of control," Otunbayeva told reporters. "Attempts to establish a dialogue have failed, and fighting and rampages are continuing. We need outside forces to quell confrontation."

Otunbayeva asked Russia early Saturday to send in troops, but the Kremlin said it would not meddle into what it described as Kyrgyzstan's internal conflict.

"It's a domestic conflict, and Russia now doesn't see conditions for taking part in its settlement," Kremlin spokeswoman Natalya Timakova said in Moscow. She added that Russia will discuss with other members of a security pact of ex-Soviet nations about the possibility of sending a joint peacekeeping force to Kyrgyzstan.

Timakova said Russia would send a plane to Kyrgyzstan to deliver humanitarian supplies and help evacuate victims of the violence.

Russia has about 500 troops at a base in Kyrgyzstan, mostly air force personnel. The United States has the Manas air base in the capital, Bishkek, a crucial supply hub for the coalition fighting the Taliban in Afghanistan.

Kyrgyzstan's interim government spokesman, Farid Niyazov, refused to say whether the country would turn to the U.S. for military help after Russia had refused. "Russia is our main strategic partner," he said.

In Washington, Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said he was unaware of any requests for

help by Kyrgyzstan.

The riots are the worst violence since former President Kurmanbek Bakiyev was toppled in a bloody uprising in April and fled the country. The violence is a crucial test of the interim government's ability to control the country, hold a June 27 vote on a new constitution and go ahead with new parliamentary elections scheduled for October.

Otunbayeva on Saturday blamed Bakiyev's family for instigating the unrest in Osh, saying they aimed to derail the constitutional referendum.

Maksat Zheimbekov, the acting mayor of Jalal-Abad, said in a telephone interview that Bakiyev's supporters in his home region started the riots by attacking both Uzbek and Kyrgyz. The rampaging mob quickly grew in size from several hundred to thousands, and automatic gunfire rang over the city, he said.

Ethnic tensions have long simmered in the Ferghana Valley, split by Soviet dictator Josef Stalin's whimsically carved borders among Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.

In 1990, hundreds of people were killed in a violent land dispute between Kyrgyz and Uzbeks in Osh, and only the quick deployment of Soviet troops quelled the fighting. Both ethnic groups are predominantly Sunni Muslim.

Moscow has competed with Washington for influence in strategically placed

Central Asia and pushed for the withdrawal of the U.S. base in Kyrgyzstan. But the Kremlin's refusal to send troops indicated that it's much more reluctant to get involved in the turbulent region's affairs than its assertive policy statements had suggested.

Pope urges bankers: Save human 'capital'

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Benedict XVI told European banking and development officials Saturday to keep families' needs paramount as they devise solutions to the continent's financial crises.

Economy and finance "are no more than tools, means" to safeguard human "capital, the only capital worth saving," Benedict said.

Benedict told representatives of the European Council's Development Bank during a Vatican audi-

ence that their task was to make the "human person, and even more particularly, families and those in great need, the center and the aim" of economic policies.

He urged experts to draw on what he called Europe's tradition of "generous fraternity" in coming up with rescue plans.

Benedict named no country, but efforts to help bail out Greece from its financial disaster exposed tensions in Europe over how much countries should help a fellow European Union nation.

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'Angel' saves lives at Australian suicide spot

By Kristen Gelineau
Associated Press writer

SYDNEY — In those bleak moments when the lost souls stood atop the cliff, wondering whether to jump, the sound of the wind and the waves was broken by a soft voice. "Why don't you come and have a cup of tea?" the stranger would ask. And when they turned to him, his smile was often their salvation.

For almost 50 years, Don Ritchie has lived across the street from Australia's most notorious suicide spot, a rocky cliff at the entrance to Sydney Harbour called The Gap. And in that time, the man widely regarded as a guardian angel has shepherded countless people away from the edge.

What some consider grim, Ritchie considers a gift. How wonderful, the former life insurance salesman says, to save so many. How wonderful to sell them life.

"You can't just sit there and watch them," says Ritchie, now 84, perched on his beloved green leather chair, from which he keeps a watchful eye on the cliff outside. "You gotta try and save them. It's pretty simple."

Since the 1800s, Australians have flocked to The Gap to end their lives, with little more than a 3-foot fence separating them from the edge. Local officials say around one person a week commits suicide there, and in January, the Woollahra Council applied for 2.1 million Australian dollars (\$1.7 million) in federal funding to build a higher fence and overhaul security.

In the meantime, Ritchie keeps up his voluntary watch. The council recently named Ritchie and Moya, his wife of 58 years, 2010's Citizens of the Year.

He's saved 160 people, according to the official tally, but that's only an estimate. Ritchie doesn't keep count. He just knows he's watched far more walk away from the edge than go over it.

Dianna Gaddin likes to believe Ritchie was at her daughter's side before she jumped in 2005. Though he can't remember now, she is comforted by the idea that Tracy felt his warmth in her final moments.

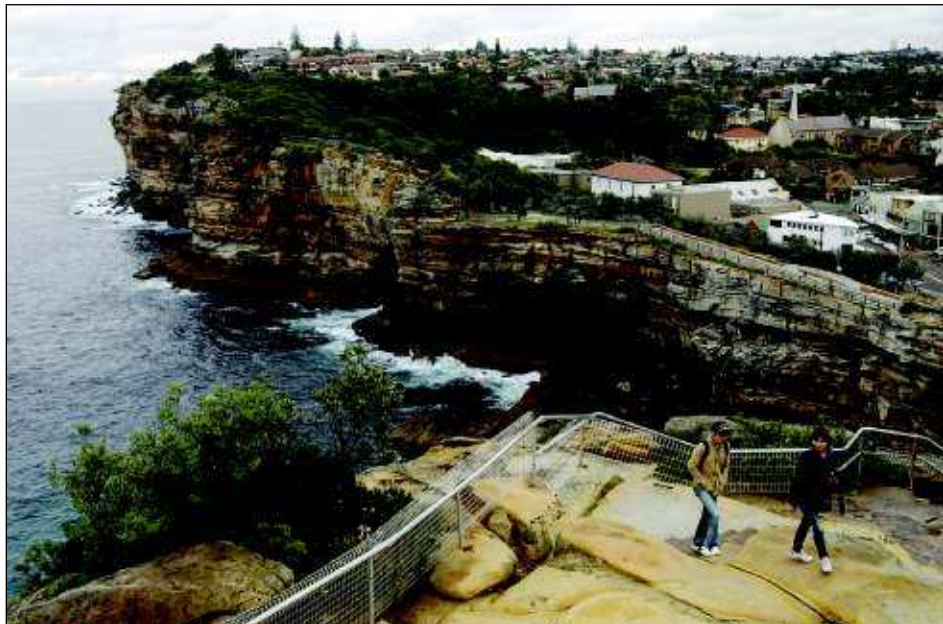
"He's an angel," she says. "Most people would be too afraid to do anything and would probably sooner turn away and run away. But he had the courage and the charisma and the care and the magnetism to reach people who were coming to the end of their tether."

Something about Ritchie exudes a feeling of calm. His voice has a soothing raspiness to it, and his pale blue eyes are gentle. Though he stands tall at just over 6'2 (an inch shorter, he notes with a grin, than he used to be), he hardly seems imposing.

Each morning, he climbs out of bed, pads over to the bedroom window of his modest, two-story home, and scans the cliff. If he spots anyone standing alone too close to the precipice, he hurries to their side.

Some he speaks with are fighting medical problems, others suffering mental illness. Sometimes, the ones who jump leave behind reminders of themselves on the edge — notes, wallets, shoes. Ritchie once rushed over to help a man on crutches. By the time he arrived, the crutches were all that remained.

In his younger years, he would occasionally climb



Visitors walk around a notorious suicide spot called The Gap, May 25 in Sydney, Australia.



Don Ritchie smiles at his home in Sydney, Australia, on May 25. For almost 50 years Ritchie, widely regarded as a guardian angel, has used simple kindness to shepherd countless suicidal people away from the edge.

the fence to hold people back while Moya called the police. He would help rescue crews haul up the bodies of those who couldn't be saved. And he would invite the rescuers back to his house afterward for a comforting drink.

It all nearly cost him his life once. A chilling picture captured decades ago by a local news photographer shows Ritchie struggling with a woman, inches from the edge. The woman is seen trying to launch herself over the side — with Ritchie the only thing between her and the abyss. Had she been successful, he would have gone over, too.

These days, he keeps a safer distance. The council installed security cameras this year and the invention of mobile phones means someone often calls for help before he crosses the street.

But he remains available to lend an ear, though he never tries to counsel, advise or pry. He just gives them a warm smile, asks if they'd like to talk and invites them back to his house for tea. Sometimes, they join him.

"I'm offering them an alternative, really," Ritchie says. "I always act in a friendly manner. I smile."

A smile cannot, of course,

save everyone; the motivations behind suicide are too varied. But simple kindness can be surprisingly effective. Mental health professionals tell the story of a note left behind by a man who jumped off San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge. If one person smiles at me on the way to the bridge, the man wrote, I will not jump.

By offering compassion, Ritchie helps those who are

suicidal think beyond the terrible present moment, says psychiatrist Gordon Parker, executive director of the Black Dog Institute, a mood disorder research center that has supported the council's efforts to improve safety at The Gap.

"They often don't want to die, it's more that they want the pain to go away," Parker says. "So anyone that offers kindness or hope has the capacity to help a number of people."

Kevin Hines wishes someone like Ritchie was there the day he jumped off the Golden Gate Bridge in 2000. For 40 agonizing minutes, the then-19-year-old paced the bridge, weeping, and hoping someone would ask him what was wrong. One tourist finally approached — but simply asked him to take her picture. Moments later, he jumped.

Hines, who suffers from bipolar disorder, was severely injured, but eventually recovered. Today he says if one person had shown they were not blind to his pain, he

"You can't just sit there and watch them.

You gotta try and save them.

It's pretty simple."

— Don Ritchie, 84, who lives across the street from Australia's most notorious suicide spot and has shepherded countless people away from its edge

probably would never have jumped.

"A smile can go a long way — caring can go even further. And the fact that he offers them tea and he just listens, he's really all they wanted," Hines says. "He's all a lot of suicidal people want."

In 2006, the government recognized Ritchie's efforts with a Medal of the Order of Australia, among the nation's highest civilian honors. It hangs on his living room wall above a painting of a sunshine someone left in his mailbox. On it is a message calling Ritchie "an angel that walks amongst us."

He smiles bashfully. "It makes you — oh, I don't know," he says, looking away. "I feel happy about it."

But he speaks readily and fondly of one woman he saved, who came back to thank him. He spotted her sitting alone one day, her purse already beyond the

fence. He invited her to his house to meet Moya and have tea. The couple listened to her problems and shared breakfast with her. Eventually, her mood improved and she drove home.

A couple of months later, she returned with a bottle of champagne. And about once a year, she visits or writes, assuring them she is happy and well.

There have been a few, though, that he could not save. One teenager ignored his coaxings and suddenly jumped. A wind blew the boy's hat into Ritchie's outstretched hand.

He later found out the teen had lived next door, years earlier. His mother brought Ritchie flowers and thanked him for trying. If you couldn't have talked him out of it, she told him, no one could.

Despite all he has seen, he says he is not haunted by the ones who were lost. He cannot remember the first suicide he witnessed, and none have plagued his nightmares. He says he does his best with each person, and if he loses one, he accepts that there was nothing more he could have done.

Nor have he and Moya ever felt burdened by the location of their home.

"I think, 'Isn't it wonderful that we live here and we can help people?'" Moya says, her husband nodding in agreement.

My Birthday was May 18th.

I want to thank family and friends who shared the week long of ushering in my 80th birthday. Luv-u-all

Rusty Mae Peterson Bare

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Iron Man 2 (13) 12:45 1:15 3:45 4:30 6:50 7:15 9:30 9:50

Shrek The Final Chapter in 2D (PG) 12:15 12:30 2:30 3:00 4:45 5:15 7:00 7:30 9:15 9:45

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Fri to Sun 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:15

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Fri to Sun 12:30 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:30

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Fri to Sun 12:30 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:30

Splice (R) Daily 7:00 9:15
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The A-Team (13) Shows in 2 Theatres Daily 7:00 7:15 9:30 9:45
Fri to Sun 12:30 1:00 3:30 4:00 7:00 7:15 9:30 9:45

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Fri - Sun 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:15

Karate Kid (13) Daily 6:45 9:45
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Villagers risk lives to recycle India's burgeoning e-waste

By Rama Lakshmi
The Washington Post

TILA BYEHTA, India — This village on the outskirts of New Delhi is a graveyard for the electronic devices that power India's information age.

Charred computer parts line the main road. Discarded green circuit boards crack under the feet of children running on dirt paths. And in unlighted, windowless shacks, women use small flames to melt piles of computer cables to retrieve copper.

India's rapidly growing economy generates more than 500,000 tons of electronic waste every year, a number expected to reach 1 million tons by 2012. The obsolete computer and cell-phone parts are dismantled, refurbished and recycled manually by hundreds of thousands of unorganized villagers across the country.

Critics say the work poses risks to the villagers and the environment, and lawmakers are considering a law that would set up large recycling plants and establish environmentally safe practices for disposing of high-tech toxic trash. The law would also ban the import of computers for "charity" and "reuse" from developed countries such as the United States, a practice that began in the 1990s because computers were so expensive in India. Officials say the donations have become a cover for e-waste dumping in the country.

But the backyard and storefront recyclers fear that the new regulations will leave them jobless, just as business begins to boom.

"My skin itches all the time. My head feels heavy with the foul smell I breathe in every day," said Shakila Mohammad, 42, peeling thin



Washington Post photo

Women and children in Tila Byehta retrieve copper strips from computer circuit boards. India generates more than 500,000 tons of electronic waste a year.

"I do not know if this is safe or unsafe. But no work is dirty if it feeds my family!"

— Shakila Mohammad, 42, who recovers copper with her 12-year-old daughter by burning circuit boards

copper strips off piles of burned circuit boards. A few feet away, her daughter, 12, worked on another pile. "I do not know if this is safe or unsafe. But no work is dirty if it feeds my family!"

Mohammad's work of recovering copper by burning circuit boards is considered one of the most hazardous: Carcinogenic gases released during the process can cause irreversible damage to the kidney, neurological and reproductive systems. After the copper strips are removed, the mercury-and-

lead-laden residue is dumped into rivers and on farms, increasing the risk of cancer if it enters the food chain.

The new law would prohibit the manual recovery of copper and gold and reduce the amount of hazardous substances used to make new equipment. Producers would pay for collecting electronic waste.

"We have to grapple with this problem head-on because our e-waste generation will grow exponentially in the coming years," said Rajiv Gauba, joint secretary in the Ministry of Environment and Forests. "There is a huge infrastructure deficit to deal with e-waste in India. We will soon fund 50 percent of the capital costs to set up new reprocessing and recycling plants."

Under the proposed law, recycling would take place only in licensed plants, Gauba said.

Many recyclers are organizing to negotiate so that they will not lose their jobs under the new law.

"The informal recyclers have the skill and experience. It is laudable that the government is trying to save environment and lives, but it should not destroy livelihoods in the process," said Shashi Bhushan Pandit, secretary of the newly formed Harit Recyclers Association.

At first, the government resisted drafting new e-waste legislation, saying existing laws on hazardous substances were adequate. Officials were reluctant to burden the information technology industry, and there was little public awareness about the issue.

At an e-waste conference last week, Alok Bharadwaj, senior vice president of Cannon India, said manufacturers need to create a common collection system for used electronic goods.

Anniversary of disputed Iran vote passes quietly

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — The one-year anniversary of Iran's disputed election passed quietly Saturday with little more than a subdued Internet appeal by opposition leaders for supporters to speak out on the Web against government repression.

Fearing bloodshed and calculating that it would gain them nothing, the movement's leaders called off a day of mass protests, reflecting their increasing powerlessness against the government's military muscle. Witnesses and the opposition reported a few isolated confrontations in the capital.

"We have to expand social networks, websites, these are our best means," said Mir Hossein Mousavi, a former prime minister who maintains he was robbed of the presidency through fraud in the June 12, 2009, election.

"These work like an army. This is our army against their military force," he said on his website, Kalem.com.

The retreat from Iran's streets and university campuses to the Web is certain to be seen as a victory for the ruling hard-liners and for the armed forces that preserved their grip on power with a harsh crackdown on

postelection protesters. The anniversary passed with no signs of major disturbances or large public gatherings.

Witnesses reported sporadic but minor clashes at Tehran's Azadi Square between a few dozen protesters and anti-riot police swinging batons.

At Tehran's Sharif University of Technology, students scuffled with hard-liners and plainclothes paramilitary personnel on campus, according to Mousavi's website. "Liar, liar," students chanted in a denunciation of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

Hundreds of police were deployed at main junctions in the capital. The government warned that any unauthorized gatherings would be harshly confronted. The scene was in stark contrast to a year ago.

Then, hundreds of thousands took to the streets to protest alleged fraud, which they said deprived them of a Mousavi presidency that might have brought a measure of political and social change. Mousavi had campaigned on promises of economic reform, freedom of expression and a review of laws that discriminate against women.

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"Miserable" Kobe,
Lakers prep for Game 5
in Boston



See Sports 4

Local roundup & MLB, Sports 2 / NASCAR, Sports 4 / Your Sports, Sports 5 / Weather & golf, Sports 6

SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 2010

SPORTS EDITOR MIKE CHRISTENSEN: 735-3239 SPORTS@MAGICVALLEY.COM

Busy week for Filer cowgirl Stradley at IHSFR

By Diane Philbin
Times-News writer

Filer cowgirl Kyndal Stradley has been in the spotlight all year, outdueling teammate Kindee Wilson for the District VI all-around title. This week, the lights get a little brighter.

The next stop for Stradley and a host of other area cowboys and cowgirls is the Idaho High School Finals Rodeo Monday through Saturday at the Bannock County Fairgrounds in

Pocatello. For some it will be the last charge out of the chute, but for others the road will continue to the 2010 National High School Finals Rodeo July 18-24 in Gillette, Wyo., or the Silver State International Rodeo in Fallon, Nev. July 5-9.

Stradley won her district title after a successful week-end at the district finals. She qualified for the IHSFR in all of her six events, including goat tying, breakaway roping, barrel racing, pole bending, girls cutting and team

roping with partner Chase Brice of Declo.

"I'm excited for state," said Stradley, who finished the district competition as the leader in poles, finished second in breakaway and barrels, third in team roping, fourth in goats and fifth in cutting. "I've been roping the dummy, tying goats and exercising my horses to get ready."

Where many of the participants use a different horse for each event, Stradley only uses two horses

for the rodeo events and one for cutting.

"I used three last year but it is nicer when you don't have to worry about getting another horse ready, much less hassle," said Stradley. "My horses, Scooter and Izzy, seem to be ready and are on the top of their games. I don't feel as though I am rodeoed out and they don't seem to be either."

The schedule for Stradley looks quite hectic. She opens the week with cutting all day on Monday. Barrels and

goats are Tuesday evening and Friday morning, with breakaway and poles Tuesday morning and Friday evening. Team roping is Wednesday morning and Thursday evening.

"State is going to be hard and busy but most rodeos are busy," said Stradley. "You just have to be determined and try to get plenty of rest and not wear yourself out, then go out and do your best."

Other top contenders from District VI include

defending state champion saddle bronc rider Brady Manning of Oakley. On the girls side, Tanisha Adams of Declo returns to defend her title in barrels.

Leading District V into Pocatello are Valene Lickley of Jerome, the District V all-around cowgirl, and the top cowboy, Kolton Hubert from Dietrich. Hubert led the district in bareback and steer wrestling and also qualified for state in calf roping and

See IHSFR, Sports 5

2010 TIMES-NEWS BASEBALL ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Honing in Buhl's Leckenby steps up as Indians win 3A crown

By David Bashore
Times-News writer

BUHL — Big stars shine brightest in big moments. The best high school baseball player in the Magic Valley saved his finest hour for the biggest game of his life.

When 2010 *Times-News* Baseball Athlete of the Year J.D. Leckenby stepped onto the mound at Treasure Valley Community College for a May 20 semifinal game against Fruitland, it was the game he had circled before the beginning of the season.

"I wanted Fruitland all season, from the minute we saw they were going to be on the same side of the bracket as us," Leckenby said.

It wasn't nearly the dominant Grizzlies team that had won the previous two Class 3A titles, but was still regarded as the favorite for a three-peat. Leckenby quickly quieted that talk with a dominant performance, allowing one earned run and striking out 10 in a 10-4 win to put Buhl into the state championship game.

Leckenby was so in tune with his stuff that game, he was clocked at 91 mph in the seventh inning as he neared the 100-pitch count.

"When you're throwing that hard in the seventh, you know you're throwing well," he said. "That's probably the best game I've thrown."

There's never been any doubt in his ability — he hasn't lost a game he's pitched in nearly two years, either in high school or American Legion Baseball play.

While he could just blow batters away, however, it was the honing of his craft as a pitcher — rather than a thrower — that helped him step up to a new realm.

He worked hard, fine-tuning his curveball and change-up, the two pitches he needed to improve if he wants to make an impact at Pac-10 power Washington State, with which he signed in November. That allowed him to keep hitters guessing, but also helped him learn that getting a batter out on one pitch is just as effective — and far more efficient — than throwing it by him three times.

"J.D. was just a lot more poised, and that comes with experience,"

See LECKENBY, Sports 2



ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Buhl senior pitcher J.D. Leckenby is the 2010 *Times-News* Baseball Athlete of the Year.

MWC has interest in Kansas, Missouri

By Mac Engel
McClatchy Newspapers

FORT WORTH, Texas — Mountain West Conference sources confirmed that the league is sending out feelers to Big 12 members that may be left out in any continued conference shakeup, most notably Kansas and Missouri.

Kansas State would be another option. Baylor, however, would not be.

On the same day the MWC officially added Boise State, sources said TCU will lobby the MWC against Baylor's inclusion should the Big 12 school be left out of the impending conference realignment.

The league is leaving the door open to pluck other schools to boost their resume to earn an automatic BCS bid. There are two more years remaining on a four-year evaluation period to get the automatic BCS bid.

With the addition of Boise State, the MWC hopes it can get a temporary BCS automatic qualifier status in 2012 and 2013.

Adding a couple more Big 12 schools would only help. And it looks as if more will be available. Colorado will join the Pac-10 and Nebraska the Big Ten, leaving the remaining schools of the Big 12 in limbo.

All signs point to Texas, Texas A&M, Oklahoma, Texas Tech and Oklahoma State departing the Big 12. That would leave a few available schools, most notably Kansas, Kansas State and Missouri to potentially join the MWC.

Despite success in nearly every sport but football, Baylor may not be so welcome in another MWC expansion. Some TCU officials and powerful alumni remain irked over the way

See MWC, Sports 4

Blackfoot snatches Donnelley title

By Michael Cole
Times-News writer

The Blackfoot Broncos 1-0 victory over the Kimberly Astros in the Donnelley's 2010 Wood Bat Tournament was proof that playing small ball works.

The Broncos rode a lone sac-fly RBI all the way to the championship as Alex Jones flew out to plate the game's only run in the top of the first inning.

"You have to constantly take advantage of any baserunning situation," said Jones. "I had two strikes and I just wanted to hit it the other way and try to score him anyway that I could."

As starting pitcher, Jones was able to protect his lead as he threw 11 strikeouts in the victory. Jones was also awarded the Defensive MVP award for the tournament.



DREW GODLESKI/For the Times-News

Kimberly Astros catcher Baxter Morse makes a hard catch at home plate as they take on the Blackfoot Broncos during the Donnelley Wood Bat Tournament championship game at Bill Ingram Field Saturday in Twin Falls.

"You have to trust you defense in a game like that," said Jones. "They have to make the plays behind you. I

just pitched to make contact and

See DONNELLEY, Sports 2

Dempsey goal gives U.S. 1-1 draw against England

By Ronald Blum
Associated Press writer

RUSTENBURG, South Africa — The record will show it was a tie, but it was hardly that.

One found renewed confidence; the other will feel the heat.

The United States and England played to a 1-1 draw Saturday night in their World Cup opener, with the Americans rallying when Clint Dempsey scored on a blunder by goalkeeper Robert Green and U.S. goalie Tim Howard withstood a second-half barrage by Wayne Rooney and his celebrated teammates.



AP photo

United States midfielder Clint Dempsey, center, celebrates after scoring a goal against England during the World Cup group C soccer match in Rustenburg, South Africa, Saturday.

See SOCCER, Sports 5

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Mostly sunny and warmer. High 69.

Tonight: Partly cloudy. Low 41.

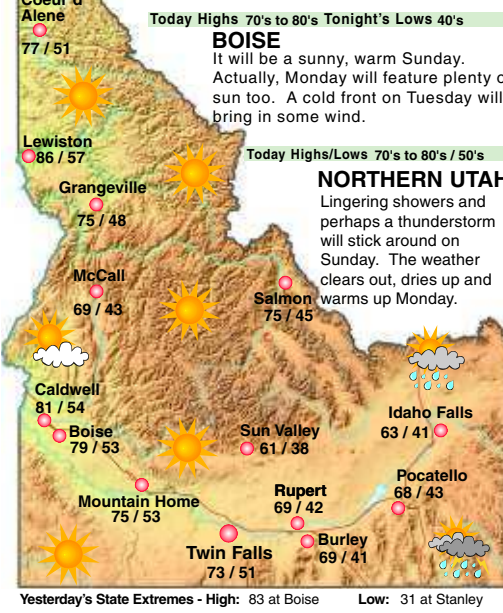
Tomorrow: Sunny, pleasant temperatures. High 76.

ALMANAC - BURLEY

Temperature and Precipitation tables for Burley/Rupert area.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. The high country will be in between weather systems for the next two days.



TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Five-day weather forecast for Twin Falls, including Today, Tonight, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, and Sunrise/Sunset data for Twin Falls.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Regional forecast table listing weather for cities like Boise, Grangeville, McCall, and others.

NATIONAL FORECAST

National forecast table listing weather for major cities across the United States.

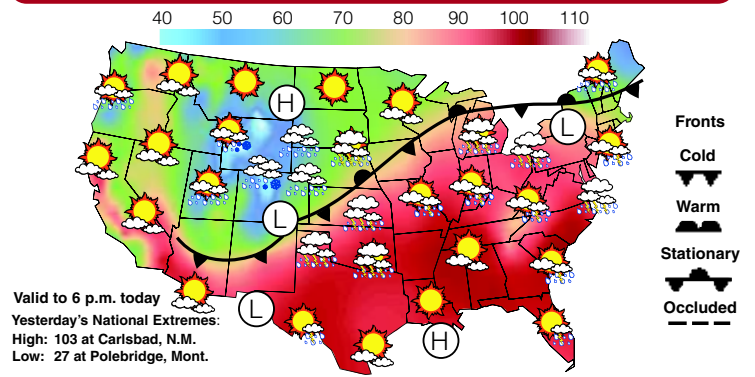
Today's U.V. Index



WORLD FORECAST

World forecast table listing weather for various international cities.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



CANADIAN FORECAST

Canadian forecast table listing weather for major Canadian cities.

Advertisement for Gregg Middlekauff's Quote of the Day: 'The quality of your life is the quality of your relationships.'

Garrigus surges to St. Jude Classic lead

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Robert Garrigus is taking inspiration for his own game from his beloved Chicago Blackhawks.



Robert Garrigus reacts after botching a chip from a green-side bunker on No. 3 during the third round of the St. Jude Classic golf tournament Saturday in Memphis, Tenn.

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Robert Garrigus is taking inspiration for his own game from his beloved Chicago Blackhawks.

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Robert Garrigus is taking inspiration for his own game from his beloved Chicago Blackhawks.

Pebble Beach has short history of great U.S. Open champions

By Doug Ferguson Associated Press writer



The U.S. Open returns to Pebble Beach for a fifth time this year, with Tiger Woods, left, trying to find his game on a course he has not seen in eight years, and Phil Mickelson trying to win the second leg of the Grand Slam and replace Woods at No. 1 in the world.

The history of the U.S. Open at Pebble Beach is short. The memories are not. The course is famous for its sheer beauty, especially the seven holes in the middle that run along the rugged Pacific coastline, and the wall along the 18th fairway that stands between the great meeting of land and sea.

returning from a five-month layoff at the Masters and tying for fourth. For the first time in his career, he failed to finish consecutive tournaments — he missed the cut at Quail Hollow, then walked out in the final round of The Players Championship with a sore neck.

brings as much hope as he does scar tissue to the U.S. Open. Mickelson is a three-time winner at the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, and it was at Pebble Beach in the 1992 U.S. Open that he turned pro.

Mickelson might trade them all for a U.S. Open, the major that is haunting him. A year ago at Bethpage Black, in his final tournament before a break to cope with his wife's cancer, Mickelson was poised to capture the U.S. Open until missing short putts over the final four holes.

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Robert Garrigus is taking inspiration for his own game from his beloved Chicago Blackhawks.

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Robert Garrigus is taking inspiration for his own game from his beloved Chicago Blackhawks.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

**101
 Lost and Found**

FOUND 2 dogs in the Jerome area. Peke-a-poo & other looks like a Basset/Colie. If not claimed, free to a good home. Call 421-3497 or 539-9115.

FOUND Border Collie, young adult, in the Filer area. Well-mannered. If not claimed, free to good home. Call 208-326-4017.

FOUND Camera w/case and CD album in the Twin Falls area. Call to identify 208-358-1477.

FOUND Chihuahua in Heyburn. Young female adult. If not claimed, will be adopted out. 208-572-0472

FOUND dog female, around 13 yrs old, on 9th Ave E Twin Falls. Answers to "Kayla". 208-733-4561.

FOUND Dog in the Heyburn area. Older, brown, no collar. 208-430-0973 or 678-0253

LOST brown Australian Shepherd, older male puppy, red collar. Last seen at home 3 miles south of Jerome. Sat June 5th. **REWARD** 208-316-1848 or 208-404-4055.

LOST Collie/Heeler mix in the Buhl area. Missing on 6/10/10. Answers to Gus. Call Jen at 316-7743!

LOST Siamese Cat in the Lake Walcott area. Black & tan, answers to Mojo. Please call 208-431-4012.

LOST Wedding ring, gold band with 16 baguette diamonds. Might be at: CSI Theater, Jaker's, or Lymwood Market. Reward Offered. Call 208-731-0415.

LOST-WHOMEVER took the black Lab w/turquoise collar from our backyard south of Jerome on morning of 6/10, please contact me. We have rabies tags for him. 420-1737 or 644-9295

LOST/STOLEN Kriehoff shot gun stolen from my house in the area of CSI. Colt 45. Tool box w/miso gun parts. Up to \$10,000 reward Call 280-3000.

**104
 Personals**

Single lady 71 wants to meet gentlemen in the TF area for companionship. Send letter to: PMB 43083 c/o Times News, PO Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303.

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Today is Sunday, June 13, the 164th day of 2010. There are 201 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight:
 On June 13, 1966, the Supreme Court issued its landmark *Miranda v. Arizona* decision, ruling that criminal suspects had to be informed of their constitutional right to consult with an attorney and to remain silent before being questioned by police.

TODAY IN HISTORY

On this date:
 In 1886, King Ludwig II of Bavaria drowned in Lake Starnberg.

In 1927, aviation hero Charles Lindbergh was honored with a ticker-tape parade in New York City.

In 1935, James Braddock claimed the title of world heavyweight boxing champion from Max Baer in a 15-round fight in Long Island City, N.Y. "Becky Sharp," the first movie photographed in "three-strip" Technicolor, opened in New York.

In 1944, Germany began launching flying-bomb attacks against Britain during World War II.

In 1957, the *Mayflower II*, a replica of the ship that brought the Pilgrims to America in 1620, arrived at Plymouth, Mass., after a nearly two-month journey from England.

In 1967, President Lyndon B. Johnson nominated Solicitor-General Thurgood Marshall to become the first black justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1971, The New York Times began publishing excerpts of the Pentagon Papers, a secret study of America's involvement in Vietnam.

In 1981, a scare occurred during a parade in London when a teenager fired six blank shots at Queen Elizabeth II.

In 1983, the U.S. space probe Pioneer 10, launched in 1972, became the first spacecraft to leave the solar system as it crossed the orbit of Neptune.

In 1996, the 81-day-old Freeman standoff ended as 16 remaining members of the anti-government group surrendered to the FBI and left their Montana ranch.

Ten years ago: The presidents of South Korea and North Korea opened a summit in the northern capital of Pyongyang with pledges to seek reunification of the divided peninsula. Italy pardoned Mehmet Ali Agca, the Turkish gunman who'd tried to kill Pope John Paul II in 1981. (Agca was then sent back to Turkey to serve a prison term for a killing there; he was released in Jan. 2010.)

Five years ago: A jury in Santa Maria, Calif. acquitted Michael Jackson of molesting a 13-year-old cancer survivor at his Neverland ranch. The Supreme Court warned prosecutors to use care in striking minorities from juries, siding with black murder defendants in Texas and California who contended their juries had been unfairly stacked with whites. The Senate apologized for blocking anti-lynching legislation in the early 20th century, when mob violence against blacks was commonplace.

One year ago: Opponents of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad clashed with police in the heart of Tehran after the Iranian president claimed a re-election victory. Hundreds gathered at a sprawling hillside cemetery in Los Angeles to attend a funeral for David Carradine, more than a week after the 72-year-old actor was found hanging in a Bangkok hotel room.

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She's a . SURVIVOR

“It was a true miracle that I even had the kids, let alone my life, still.”

— Karey Reali

Hagerman woman overcomes birth defect to become mom

By Ariel Hansen • Times-News writer

When Karey Reali was born four decades ago, it was quickly clear that something wasn't quite right.

Bronchitis, asthma, aspirated pneumonia: The diagnoses haunted her through high school, through her marriage and through two miscarriages. After her son was born six weeks early, she was the one who ended up back in the hospital when she woke up and couldn't breathe.

Then, when the Hagerman woman was 32, a doctor recognized something he had seen only in a textbook and sent her to a pediatric cardiologist in Boise. The next morning, she underwent open-heart surgery.

...

Karey was a small baby, so small that at 6 years old she was still sleeping in a crib.

“When she was sick, she was just real quiet, not fussy or anything, laying there looking at you like, ‘Oh, help me,’ the poor little thing,” said Karey's mother, Connie Elford of Buhl. Doctors said Karey had respiratory issues and sent her home. “I just figured OK, if that's what the doctor said, that's what it is, and it's going to run its course.”

In high school, Karey couldn't participate much in sports, turning to books instead.

“Of course, we had no clue she had only one (functional) lung at that time,” Connie said. “Looking back, it's frightening that I didn't follow through or ask questions, but then, we didn't in those days. Forty years ago, what the doctors said was gospel.”

What the doctors had failed to diagnose was a birth defect called Scimitar syndrome (pulmonary venolobar syndrome), in which veins from one lung drain into the side of the heart that usually collects blood from the body so it can be oxygenated by the lungs. This means that the heart works harder than usual, and that one lung doesn't get enough oxygen.

According to Orpha.net, a European repository for rare diseases, Scimitar syndrome occurs in about one in 100,000 people, and it is usually diagnosed in infants. Without surgery, it usually results in death



Photos by MEGAN THOMPSON/Times-News

Karey Reali, 41, is surrounded by her family — Taylor, 14, Bryana, 13, and husband Todd Reali, 39 — and their pets at their home in Hagerman. As an adult, Karey Reali discovered she had a rare condition that, without surgery, usually results in death in early childhood.



ABOVE: The Realis feed their horses Monday afternoon at their home in Hagerman. Karey Reali, 41, says that coming through a life-threatening illness gave her a new lease on life.



LEFT: As Bryana Reali bemoans her daily task of feeding the horses, mother Karey Reali reminds her that hard work now will help her in the future.

in early childhood, according to medical journals including Lung India, the journal of the Indian Chest Society.

“Most people who go undiagnosed with

Scimitar syndrome don't live past age 7. The heart can't keep up,” Karey said.

Looking back, doctors attribute her miscarriages to the syndrome, she said, and are

surprised she was able to make it through two pregnancies to have her son, now 14, and her daughter, now 13. “It was a true miracle that I even had the kids, let alone my life, still.”

Hours after Karey was diagnosed, she was in a Boise hospital room, scheduled for surgery the next morning.

“I didn't have time to go look on the Internet and research and freak myself out,” she said, thinking about what she now knows about the condition and its treatment. Instead, she turned to her faith, and her trust in her doctor.

“(He) had done a surgery just a month and a half before mine on another adult with the same condition, so it was my sign from God that it was meant to be him,” Karey said. “I remember the doctor coming in the night before and praying with me about it, which I've never heard of that.”

The doctor was able to fix her heart, although she was under the knife so long that she nearly suffered brain damage. Her medical team hoped that her underdeveloped right lung would grow properly now that it had a corrected blood supply. It didn't. The lung would fill with fluid, and the tiny blood vessels that were now under a greater amount of venous stress would break, so she coughed up blood.

“There was a period of time when I had to tote around the oxygen tank with me, for about six weeks,” Karey said. She was weak and spent several 10-day stretches in the hospital, leaving her kids with their father and her mother. “Mommy couldn't take

See SURVIVOR, FL 4

The quilts keep coming

Charitable urge turns Jerome woman's home into quilt factory

By Michael Cole
Times-News writer

Finding a way to help others after an undiagnosed condition left her literally grounded, Jerome 80-year-old Ora Vielguth dedicated her time to making quilts.

“I could not walk,” Vielguth said. “I used to black out. I had to sit on the floor, I lived on the floor. It was the only safe place. I needed help to walk or I would have to hold onto something or someone. I needed to keep myself occupied, so I started to make the quilts.”

Piecing quilts kept her mind busy instead of withdrawing into a shell.



Sailboats enliven this quilt made for children. Ora Vielguth says the stitching is easy; the hard part is finding fabrics and making sure there is enough for the pattern.

“I just kept telling her how important the quilts were — it was

very therapeutic for her,” said Sharon Leno of Buhl.

After three long years, doctors diagnosed Vielguth's condition as a heart problem. Now with the help of a pacemaker she is back on her feet.

But the quilts keep coming. Vielguth's 700-square-foot home looks like a fabric factory. Piles of material take up space in her living room and her dining room, which is her work area.

“I never get bored,” Vielguth said. “Each quilt is like a different phase; they don't all take the same amount

See QUILTS, FL 4



Ora Vielguth of Jerome says she has made about 200 quilts in the past 10 years to give to family, friends, churches, hospitals and other groups. Vielguth used to drive foster children around Magic Valley in the 1990s as a volunteer but had to stop due to health.

Photos by ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Rolling out a safety net

University program aids students who were in foster care

By Cyndee Fontana
McClatchy Newspapers

FRESNO, Calif. — In foster care, Kenyon Whitman changed families a half-dozen times before settling down with someone he now calls his grandmother.

That carousel of foster care could have destroyed any college ambition. But Whitman found another home at California State University, Fresno, where a program supports former foster youths and guarantees them a place to stay — even during the holidays.

Whitman, 22, is one of 33 students in the Renaissance Scholars Program. The grant-funded program caters to the academic, financial and emotional needs of former foster youth.

Some experienced neglect or abuse. Some saw mom or dad lose a battle to drugs. Others were cast into foster care when one or both parents died.

Fresno State's program rolls out safety nets — including an offer of year-round housing on campus — along with an anchor of stability.

Jazzman Hester, a junior, is one of the handful of Renaissance students living on campus. Over breaks, when the dining hall is closed, the program provides grocery store gift cards and bus passes to ensure students have something to eat.

This winter, Hester was among the last to leave the ghost town of dorms that quickly emptied after fall semester finals.

Hester, 20, packed up and headed for Bakersfield, Calif., to spend the holidays with her aunt. She had already celebrated with Renaissance peers at a party with Christmas stockings, donated gifts and "Jeopardy"-style competition.

"We are like a family," she said.

That's a carefully cultivated concept in the program run by a former foster child. Coordinator Kizzy Lopez knows the challenges after spending several years in foster care and then struggling to find her footing in college.

Lopez still keeps a copy of college transcripts — with C's, D's and F's — at her desk to show students success is possible. She has already earned bachelor's and master's degrees and now is pursuing a doctorate.

Lopez began developing the Renaissance program a few years ago after first volunteering as a counselor intern in the Educational Opportunity Program, which serves disadvantaged and low-income students. She was hired as a counselor after one semester.

Campus officials embraced the Renaissance concept. Lopez worked up a plan and several grant applications after talking to experts and studying similar programs, including those at Cal State Fullerton and San Francisco State.

Today, the Fresno State program — now in its second year — is funded for three years with \$480,000 in grants from the Walter S. Johnson Foundation and the California Wellness Foundation. It provides a variety of services such as academic monitoring, counseling, stipends and other help.

For example, Lopez maintains an emergency fund since most students don't have anyone to ask for extra cash. She has used it to fix broken eyeglasses and pay off car repairs for a student working a graveyard shift.

The program is competitive. Prospective students must apply, submit letters of recommendation and write a personal statement. Officials look for academic potential rather than rely on



Jazzman Hester, 20, packs up her Graves Hall dorm room at Fresno State as she prepares to leave for the holidays in Fresno, Calif. Hester is in the Renaissance Scholars Program; a grant-funded program that caters to the academic, financial and emotional needs of former foster youth.

MCT photos



Deshunna Ricks, left, and Latanya Stiner study for finals during a Renaissance Scholars study session at Fresno State. There are 33 students in the program, which serves foster kids at the university.



Sylvia Agavo studies for her nutrition final during a Renaissance Scholars study session at Fresno State.

past grades, but students still must explain poor performance.

"If you moved eight times during high school, that gives us some idea," Lopez said.

The first year, Lopez tapped into county and school sources to recruit. She also found students at Fresno State who had identified themselves as foster youth in financial aid and other forms.

Six freshmen washed out after failing to complete remedial course work. Two seniors participated in May graduation ceremonies.

Experts say former foster youth face long odds just to make it to college. Only about 30 percent graduate from high school, according to a California state Legislative Analyst's Office

report released in May.

Foster youth are far more likely to wind up unemployed, homeless or incarcerated than with college degrees, the report said.

Only 3 percent graduate from college compared with about 27 percent of the adult population, according to California State University reports. More than a dozen CSU campuses now run specific programs for foster youth.

Jenny Vinopal, assistant director of foster youth programs at the CSU Chancellor's Office, said officials are working to improve the college success rate for foster youth. She manages a \$600,000 grant aimed at helping that group of students throughout the state's higher education system.



Jazzman Hester, 20, wheels a laundry basket to her car at a Fresno State dorm.

Vinopal said college can be a casualty of foster care, often because foster youth have no one to encourage or guide them through the process. Academic shortcomings and childhood trauma also create hurdles.

Finally, foster youth generally age out of the system at 18 — often with nowhere to live and little money to provide for basic needs.

"We see a generation of young adults who are really having to grow up quickly and survive on their own," Vinopal said.

Whitman, the Fresno State senior from Sacramento, was lucky. His foster mom had a college certificate and pushed him onto that path.

"It wasn't whether you were going to go, it was 'Where do you want to go?'" he said.

Whitman plans to complete a kinesiology degree in May. He's also a peer mentor

in the Renaissance program, where he helps advise and counsel students.

"Everyone in foster care has obstacles to overcome," he said. "And everybody has their story that makes them unique."

Solving a litter box issue

By Marc Morrone
Newsday

Q: My 4-year-old cat, Simon, always urinates in the litter box.

About six months ago, he decided to poop only in one spot on the floor of my bathroom. I have tried cleaning that spot with vinegar, giving him an extra box to poop in with a different litter, putting the litter box in that spot in the bathroom — just about everything that has been suggested. I've tried but he still insists on doing this. Can you offer any other suggestions?

A: I know many people — myself included — who have cats that poop in the box regularly but pee everywhere else in the house. Your situation is preferable. Since you have tried every possible solution, then we have to conclude this is something he insists on doing for whatever kitty reason he has. In a perfect world, the best thing to do would be to confine him to a large cage for a few months so he is forced to use the litter box for a long enough period of time to allow whatever loose wiring that is in his head to repair itself. However, I think your life would be easier if you placed a puppy house training wee wee pad on that spot on the floor. This way, he will poop right on the pad and this is very easily cleaned up. Sometimes a compromise like this is the easiest way to solve a difficult pet-keeping problem.

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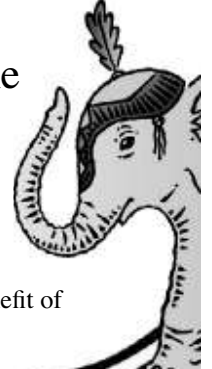
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Kids Only

Adventures with Buddy Bison

By Margaret Webb Pressler
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — As Lucky McNair, 11, started climbing a rock cliff on the banks of the Potomac River, she was fully outfitted with gear: a helmet, a harness, a safety rope and grippy climbing shoes. But possibly the most helpful piece of gear she carried was a cute animal dangling from her harness.

Called Buddy Bison, the sturdy plush toy is the centerpiece of a new campaign to get kids outside and experience the nation's thousands of parks. Lucky's school, Capital City Charter School in Washington, is using Buddy Bison in its outdoor education program to help the kids focus on new skills and get over their fears. There's just something comforting and fun about a stuffed animal.

"I was climbing the rock climbing wall at school, and (Buddy) climbed with me," said Lucky, who made the field trip to Carderock Recreation Area with her fifth-grade class. "That made me feel better, because at first I was scared."

Schools in the Buddy Bison program get a kit with information on area public parks and tips on using outdoor education in all types of classes, even music. The program was started by the National Park Trust, a Rockville, Md.-based nonprofit group that encourages people to explore the parks and buys land to create more parks.

The organization wants Buddy Bison to become "that voice that tells them to go outdoors and connect to the parks," said Grace Lee, executive director of the National Park Trust.

Kids can share their park experiences at www.buddybison.org and sign up for the National Park Trust's frequent-park-visitor rewards program. There's also a "Where's Buddy Bison been?" photo contest. If Buddy Bison goes on a trip with you, take his picture and send it to the website (the deadline is July 1). The best pictures will be included in a Buddy Bison calendar in the fall.

Buddy Bison toys are \$14 online and are sold at some park gift shops. Money from the toys goes to programs and scholarships run by the National Park Trust.

For the kids at Capital City, Buddy Bison has almost become a school mascot. At Carderock, the school's adventure leader, Damon Cory-Watson, used a fully harnessed Buddy Bison to explain climbing safety rules.

"He gives us a great excuse to get out of the classroom," said Nathan McMullen, 11. Plus, said Christian Cabrera, also 11, "He's really cool and cute."



JENNIFER BEESON GREGORY/Washington Post

The Buddy Bison plush toy is the centerpiece of a new campaign started by the National Park Trust to get kids outside and experience the nation's thousands of parks. Schools in the Buddy Bison program get a kit with information on area parks and tips on using outdoor education in all types of classes.



TRACY GRANT/Washington Post

The bison is also called an American buffalo. About 30,000 true, wild bison live in this country now. Some of the best places to see them roaming free are national parks including Yellowstone, shown here, and Wind Cave.

WHAT'S A BISON?

Also called: American buffalo
Height: 5 to 6 1/2 feet
Weight: Up to 2,200 pounds
Life span in the wild: 12 to 20 years
Population: About 30,000 true, wild bison live in this country now. Thousands more have been crossbred with cattle and are raised on ranches for their meat and hides. Some of the best places to see bison roaming free today are national parks including Yellowstone and Wind Cave.
History: Millions of wild bison once roamed American grasslands. Populations fell from hunting and loss of habitat.
Symbolism: The bison is a symbol of strength, so it is often used as a mascot and on official seals, including those of the Interior Department and the National Park Service. It's on the Wyoming state flag and is important in Native American culture. The U.S. Mint produced a bison nickel in 2005.

3 ways you can stay healthy

PHYSICAL FITNESS FACT

If you eat 3,500 more calories than you burn (through activity), you will gain one pound.

By Fred Bowen
Special to The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — First lady Michelle Obama issued an important report for kids this spring. She thinks too many kids in America weigh too much, and she wants to do something about it.

The first lady is right. Almost one in every three kids — 31.7 percent — from the ages 2 to 19 is overweight or obese (that means really heavy). That's more than three times as high as in the 1970s, when lots of your moms and

dads were growing up.

Childhood obesity is an important subject because heavy kids are more likely to grow up to be heavy adults. People who are heavy are more likely to get certain illnesses and may die younger. The report, by the Childhood Obesity Task Force, makes 70 recommendations for how governments and businesses, such as restaurants, can help kids eat better and live healthier, more active lives.

Kids will like some of the recommendations. The report suggests that elementary school kids have

more recess. More recess? All right!

The report also suggests longer school days — to make sure that while kids are getting more recess, they are not missing out on educational time. Longer school days? Yikes!

But I wish the report included suggestions for what kids can do to keep healthy and avoid getting too heavy. So I'll give kids (and their parents) three simple ideas.

Limit soda and energy drinks. Kids are drinking four times the soda that kids did 20 years ago. More kids are drinking so-called energy drinks that are loaded with caffeine and sugar. Sodas and energy drinks are OK once in a while, but not with every meal. Kids should drink more water and low-fat or skim milk.

Limit TV, video games and other screen time. Studies show that the average kid spends 45 hours a week —

that's more than six hours a day — with media such as TV, movies, the Internet and video games. Kids who do a lot of screen time are more likely to be heavy. That makes sense, because when you're playing most video games or watching TV, you aren't moving around very much.

Play sports. Mrs. Obama's program is called "Let's Move." I think the best way to get moving is to play sports. So join the swim team. Shoot some hoops. Throw a Frisbee around. Play catch. Take up golf or tennis.

Don't worry if you're not an all-star. Most kids aren't. The important thing is that sports and games are a fun way to stay healthy.



Family meltdown: The tragedy of absent fathers

“As flies to wanton boys are we to the gods; they kill us for their sport.” So says Shakespeare’s desperate and deceived Gloucester in “King Lear.” In the play, Gloucester is desperate because of the vicious blinding inflicted upon him. And he wrongly thinks the source of the wound is his loyal son, Edgar.

Modern life routinely resembles the tragic dimensions of Elizabethan drama. In the District of Columbia, that drama has more than its share of wanton boys. Over the past few months the city has been shocked by two barbaric murders that D.C. police say were committed by young men who escaped from juvenile detention facilities. The cases are particularly gut-wrenching. One concerns a 14-year-old boy who twice fled juvenile homes run by the D.C. Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services. He is accused of being the driver of a minivan who, along with two passengers, sprayed gunfire that killed five people and wounded five more. Just two weeks later, three 18-year-olds previously under the agency’s supervision were charged with murder in the robbery and shooting



Charles A. Donovan

of a D.C. middle-school principal in his home in suburban Silver Spring, Md. Police on May 18 arrested a fourth suspect, 19. He became at least the eighth ward of the D.C. juvenile justice system to be charged with murder this year.

The 14-year-old had his first run-in with juvenile courts when he was 9. One of the accused in the slaying of principal Brian Betts was 11 during his first stay in juvenile lockup on a child sex charge. Detention in the District’s porous juvenile justice system — an estimated 150 youths are missing from group facilities or home detention — is among few options available under the vagaries of the city’s rehabilitation-oriented law. The recent cases have spurred calls for reform. Chances are, D.C. officials will form a new juvenile justice commission. There will be demands for better databases, more funding for secure facilities and serious prison sentences for the most violent

Here is the sad reality. In the District of Columbia in 2007, roughly three of every five births were to single mothers.

young offenders.

One member of the D.C. Council spoke of the need for “educational and vocational opportunities” and “intensive mentoring.” Apparently, however, only multiple murders get press attention nowadays.

Washington Post columnist Colbert King laments how the April slaying of 17-year-old Kwanzaa Diggs on a city street merited only two lines in his newspaper. King openly frets that his bold writing about the broken system could spur critics to accuse him of wishing “to lock up youthful offenders and throw away the key.” But then, writing about the hardened 14-year-old charged with murder, the Pulitzer-winning journalist names something that no critic can challenge:

“There’s an ugliness to childhoods like his, where relentless, wrongful behavior abides; where babies have babies by men who are boys; where children barely known by their fathers are raised by grandparents, uncles and aunts too worn out to keep up; where the warmest attachment is to older boys with guns and attitudes to match.”

Spot on. Scan article after article about these homicide cases and you’ll find the word “father” mentioned exactly once. And that occurs in a story about a mother who is worried that her own son, now in juvenile detention, is headed for the same fate as so many others. That troubled boy’s father is dead, we learn, without further explanation.

Here is the sad reality. In

the District of Columbia in 2007, roughly three of every five births were to single mothers. Preliminary data for 2008 — just released by the National Center for Health Statistics — show that in the United States as a whole, four out of every 10 births are outside marriage.

For African Americans nationwide, an astounding 72 percent of all births are to unmarried women. News about this historic breaching of the 40 percent threshold is as buried as the story of the death of Kwanzaa Diggs. Google “out-of-wedlock births U.S.” Most of the stories that pop up will be about last year’s reports.

The city councilman in the nation’s capital who wants “intensive mentoring” of adolescent and teenage boys is on to something — but perhaps unknowingly. It’s the absence of fathers. In communities where single parenthood is relatively infrequent — and

such neighborhoods are vanishing in America — older married men or younger men who are marriage material can fill much of the mentoring gap.

But where will such men come from in cities where large numbers of males refuse to mentor or monitor their own children? Colbert King and others are asking the right questions. The meltdown at the core of nuclear families in the United States has radioactive properties that a hundred concrete buildings could not contain.

Poor Gloucester. His tragedy, like Lear’s, was his failure to recognize a loyal child. Our national tragedy is our loss of loyal fathers.

Charles A. Donovan is senior research fellow in the DeVos Center on Religion and Civil Society at The Heritage Foundation. He wrote this commentary for McClatchy-Tribune News Service.

Taxes

Continued from Opinion 1

then the levy would rise by 50 percent to create the same tax dollars for the district.

Taxpayers who feel their tax bills are too high usually blame the assessor’s office. Most tax increases are brought about by inflation and increased budgets, which require increases in the tax levies certified by cities, schools and other taxing districts. The tax rate or levy may also increase due to a taxing district’s emergency needs or voter-approved bonds or override levies. For these types of tax increases the assessor bears no responsibility. If taxpayers want information concerning the budgets that

establish the levies, they should attend the hearings held by the taxing districts on the dates that are listed on the assessment notice that was mailed out on June 7.

The assessor is responsible for the valuation of properties within Twin Falls County. Although property valuation is one factor in the process, it is not the determining factor of the overall property tax obligation that we see on our tax bills.

Gerald Bowden, a Twin Falls Republican, is completing his fourth, four-year term as Twin Falls County assessor. He will be seeking reelection on the Nov. 3 general election.

Tell us what you think

ONLINE: Register at Magicvalley.com, and respond to any of the local opinions or stories in today’s edition.

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

JOIN THE DISCUSSION: Voice your opinion with local bloggers: Progressive Voice and Conservative Corner on the Opinion page at Magicvalley.com.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why so much worry over the border?

Do we have a problem? Why are we keeping such a close eye on the Mexican border?

Illegal immigration targeted toward Mexicans? People coming to live a better life for them and their families?

Now, through all of this nonsense, a 15-year-old Mexican boy was shot by the Border Patrol. Smile if you can.

Looks like it is about time to let a new generation come and clean up the filth all you the political and government officials have stained this country

with.

THAYNE GALLEGOS
Heyburn

Cuts to education hurt our future

What about our future?

Twins Falls County and Idaho state, you just cut our future by cutting teachers' salaries. They are the ones that are teaching our future. Where did you get your education? Our good teachers will be going to other states, where they will be getting a better salary.

All you care about is road construction. That can wait until the economy gets better, and jails and prisons can wait or civil rights unions can

pay for them! Because they are losers! They don't put back into society except to drain it, where our teachers put back into society by going to college to teach our future, which costs them \$10,000 or more to teach our future.

Because of the way our society is going now, we're going to have to have better teachers to prepare our children for the future. By what you have just done makes our future pretty grim. But the way I feel about Idaho, monkey see, monkey do. Whatever California does, Idaho does. To the ones that voted for the teachers' cut. Remember election.

WAYNE LEE
Twin Falls

Constitution

Continued from Opinion 1

got rid of the Dred Scott Supreme Court decision, which held that even a freed slave could not be a citizen.

The party of Lincoln, the party that had worked hardest for the transformation of a nation that held human beings in bondage to a nation vowing to treat all people equally, is now going after one of the most powerful equalizers in the Constitution.

This time, they want to exclude an ethnic minority, rather than include one. Their target is Latinos, particularly babies born to illegal immigrants who become citizens by their birth.

"We're the only country I know that allows people to come in illegally, have a baby, and then that baby becomes a citizen," Paul told a Russian broadcaster. "And I think that should stop also."

Of course, race has nothing to do with it, these situational constitutionalists say. But you have to wonder if their concern over citizens-by-birth would have extended to big Irish Catholic families of 100

years ago, some of whom came to the United States through illegal border crossings from Canada.

Some polls have found majority backing for Paul's position. And Paul himself is likely to win a Senate seat, probably because of his defiance of a century of progress. The Constitution is supposed to be second only to the Bible as the sacred text of Tea Party Republicans, but some of them must think it was written in pencil.

Poll-testing the Bill of Rights in a troubled time is always a risky proposition. In 2010, the Fourth Amendment — protection against unreasonable search and seizure — probably would not fare very well. After all, a majority of Americans back the Arizona law, which allows police to demand citizen papers from people they stop who present a "reasonable suspicion" of being illegal immigrants. That same majority also says they believe the law makes it more likely that legal immigrants will be singled out, but that's the price, apparently.

As a nation, we have always stood for something larger than our political mood swings. After World War II, the United States prosecuted Japanese military interrogators for the war crime of waterboarding — consistent with American policy dating to Teddy Roosevelt's day.

But the Greatest Generation's war crime is the baby boomer's bragging point. The television drama "24" was a veritable torture-porn-fest of war crimes, committed by our hero. And last week, George W. Bush proudly acknowledged that his administration had waterboarded a top terrorist suspect. He said, with a shrug, that he would do it again.

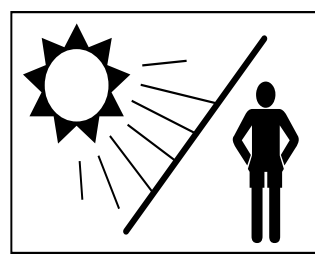
Timothy Egan is a Seattle-based columnist for The New York Times.



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Fred Meyer

What's on your list today?

Prices good Sunday, June 13 through Saturday, June 19, 2010. Most stores open 7AM to 11PM daily. 12-5-4-58788 (DDD/ELG/SPO/MCB, ECC)



Snake River Canyon JAM

June 16-20

The Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce proudly presents the Snake River Canyon Jam. The five-day event is a continuing tradition of music appreciation and community celebration offering a variety of venues and musical styles with something for every one. All proceeds from the Snake River Canyon Jam and community events benefit the charitable and civic projects of the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce.

Schedule of Events

<p>Wednesday, June 16 TWIN FALLS TONIGHT OUTDOOR CONCERT 6 pm – 9 pm Main Avenue at the Fountain Red Rock Hot Club - American Gypsy Jazz Ensemble</p>	<p>Thursday, June 17 SAVOR SOUTHERN IDAHO 6 pm to 8 pm Canyon Crest Dining & Event Center Taste Idaho wines and local dishes, entertainment by Red Rock Hot Club. Tickets \$30 per couple in advance from Southern Idaho Tourism at 732-5569</p> <p>TWIN FALLS MUNICIPAL BAND CONCERT 8 pm to 9:30 pm Twin Falls City Park Entertaining Twin Falls for 105 years</p>	<p>Friday, June 18 MAIN AVENUE JAM 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm Rudy's – A Cook's Paradise • 147 Main Avenue West Muzzie Braun - Original Idaho Backcountry Music</p> <p>7:30 pm to 9:30 pm Corner of Shoshone Street & Main Avenue Mad Max & The Wild Ones - High Energy Rockabilly</p> <p>THE ANCHOR BISTRO & BAR 7 pm to 10 pm 334 Blue Lakes Blvd. N Ethan Tucker - Soulful Reggae</p>
<p>Saturday, June 19 SNAKE RIVER CANYON JAM Noon to 9 pm Centennial Waterfront Park</p> <p>Playing on the BUD LIGHT Stage</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>Noon – 1 pm Mad Max & The Wild Ones Greatest Band under 400 Pounds</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>2 pm – 4 pm Bellamy Rose Blues, Folk, Country Rock and Blue Grass</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>1 pm – 2 pm Muzzie Braun Idaho Backcountry Music Storyteller</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>4 pm – 5 pm Foolsbane Twin Falls Own Progressive Rock Band</p> </div> </div>	<p>5 pm – 7 pm Johnny Hiland Country Rock Guitar Instrumental</p> <p>7 pm – 9 pm Bearfoot Northern Ballads with Southern Blues</p>	

Tickets: \$15 in advance / \$20 at the gate. Tickets and more information available on line or at the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce Office. No outside food or beverages. Food & beverages available for purchase. No coolers! Bring lawn chairs or blankets to enjoy the outdoor setting. No pets! Shade space available on a first-come first-served basis. Parking available in the lot on Fillmore Street behind Costco. Shuttle buses will run from 11 am till conclusion. Contact Ameritel Inns – Twin Falls for special Snake River Canyon Jam rate. See website for this offer and other lodging options.

www.SnakeRiverCanyonJam.com

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why not burn oil at source of the leak?

The "leak-in-the-gulf" continues in spite of the latest of several efforts to plug it. Instead of plugging, why not burn the oil at the source of the leak. (Burning it at the ocean's surface appears unfeasible.)

Almost certainly, the following scheme has been proposed and rejected for scientific or engineering reasons. Nevertheless, it might be feasible if a pipe or tube was lowered to the source of the leak through which gaseous or liquid oxygen could be fed to induce a chemically combustible reaction between the oil and oxygen. An optimal oxygen pressure could be computed, in conjunction with hardware properly configured, to confine the reaction between the oil (fuel) and oxidizer at the source of the leak. The reaction could be initiated by a squib or some other catalytic ignition device lowered through the same tube.

Depending on the impurities in the crude oil, most of the reaction species would be composed of harmless carbon dioxide and water.

To some folks this may sound outlandish and/or too simple to be effective but no more so than some of the tactics tried heretofore.

Like many simple answers to complex problems, a multitude of engineering considerations might conspire to thwart the feasibility of the scheme.

Whatever the final technical solution may be, hopefully profit and politics will not get in the way.

JACK HARTLEY
Twin Falls

CSI needs to listen to rodeo program complaints

CSI administration: I hope you are listening and hearing the students, parents, Magic Valley commu-

nity and supporters of your once highly sought-after CSI rodeo program before it is further tainted by your current rodeo coaching staff.

The meetings, letters, telephone calls and letters to the editors you have received, been part of and/or aware of should be more than enough.

So this is for all of those who have already suffered the consequences for speaking out and my hope is that they will be the last.

WENDI SCOTT
Boise

BIG FISH



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DATE: Thursday, June 24
TIME: Noon to 4
COST: \$50
AGES: Grades 1 through 6
LOCATION: Canyon Ridge High School-Twin Falls, ID
REGISTRATION: Register on-line or download a registration form at www.broncokidscamp.com

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Jean Mutchie at jmutchie@elksrehab.org or 208.489.4700
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BRONCO KIDS CAMP 2010

