

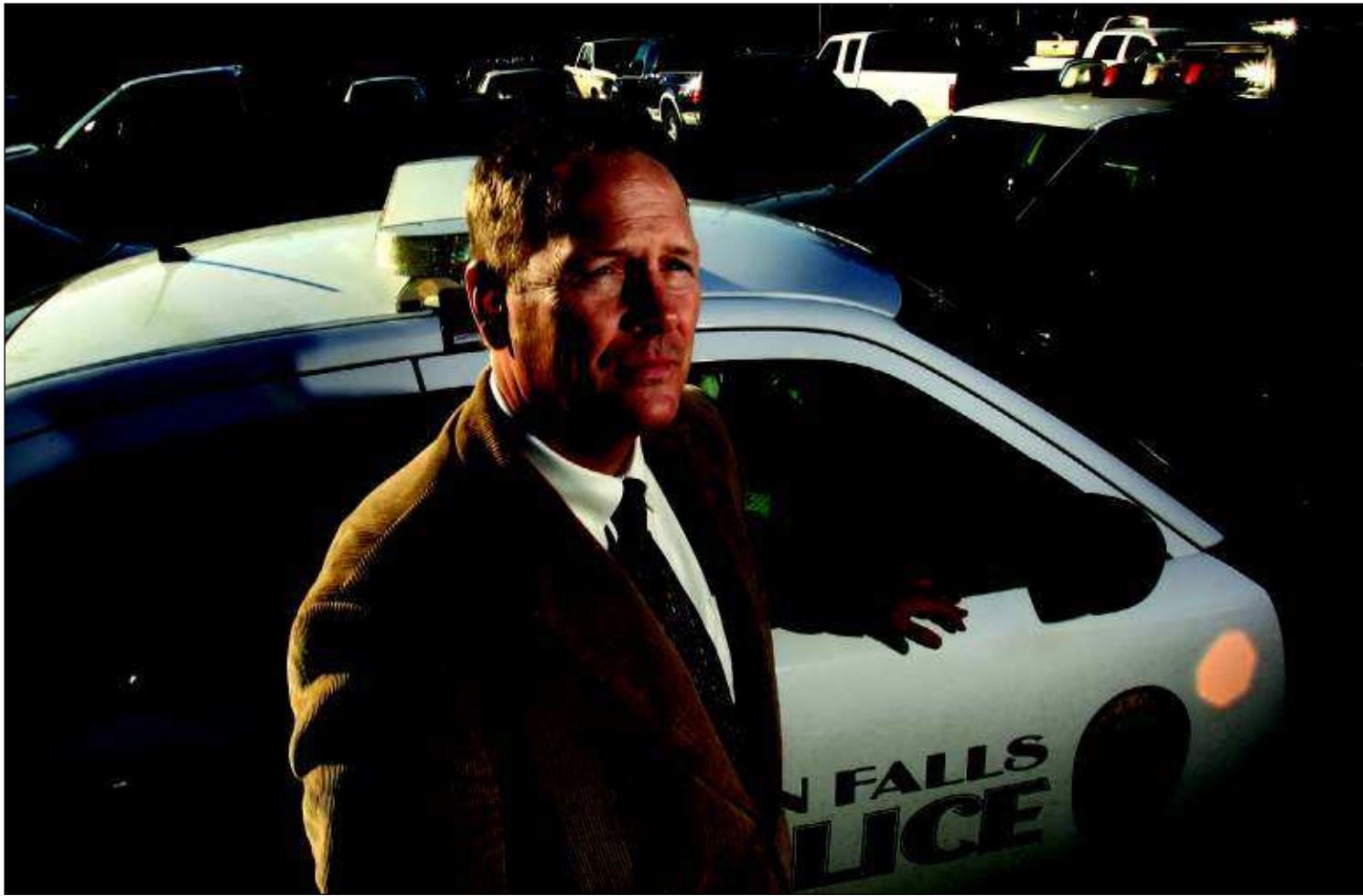
WEDNESDAY
November 17, 2010

TIMES-NEWS

75 CENTS

Magicvalley.com

TFPD CHIEF TO RETIRE



MEAGAN THOMPSON/Times-News

Twin Falls Police Chief Jim Munn Jr. plans to retire from the job on March 1, the second recent retirement announcement by a top city official this year.

'I surrounded myself with people I would follow,' Munn says

By Bradley Guire
Times-News writer

Jim Munn Jr. is stepping down as Twin Falls' top cop after five years. The city's police chief said he will retire from the force effective March 1, capping a 30-year career in law enforcement. "I like the idea of helping people, and I wouldn't want to be a cop anywhere else," said Munn, a Twin

Falls native. He notified City Manager Tom Courtney of his decision on Aug. 24, but he did not make a public announcement. According to Courtney, Munn wanted to wait for a new city manager to be named, as Courtney is retiring effective March 31. Munn joined the police force as a dispatcher in 1980, at age 19, and worked his way up the chain of

command. He spent most of his early career in patrol, serving as a patrol sergeant. He also did a short stint as a sergeant in investigations and community resources. In addition, he was a dispatch sergeant before the city moved dispatch services to the Southern Idaho Regional Communications Center. He was promoted to captain in 1996, eventually serving in all divisions of the police department —

patrol, investigations and administrative services. His background in dispatch served him well as he headed up SIRCOMM for a three-month stretch before the city decided to break off from the agency in 2003. Shortly after, Munn was placed in charge of forming Twin Falls' new dispatch center.

See **CHIEF**, Main 2

Castle Rocks climbing ban upheld

By Laura Lundquist
Times-News writer

Climbers tantalized by granite spires in part of the Castle Rocks Recreation Area must behave like youngsters in a china shop: They can look but not touch. The U.S. Bureau of Land Management announced Tuesday that its portion of the recreation area will be closed to climbing, camping and the construction of new trails for two years. The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation manages the majority of the recreation area near Almo, while another section falls under the Sawtooth National Forest. Michael Courtney, Burley BLM Office field manager, said this action was a continuation of a ban put in place on March 31. That ban was challenged by the Access Fund, a national climbing advocacy group, which protested the closure of all 400 acres of BLM land. The U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Hearings and Appeals heard the protest but affirmed the BLM decision on Sept. 27, Courtney said.

The ban was the result of a recent BLM environmental assessment focused on the impacts of climbing. Cultural resources claimed by the Shoshone-Bannock and Shoshone-Paiute tribes exist in the area frequented by climbers. Carolyn Smith, cultural resource coordinator for the Shoshone-Bannock tribe, could not elaborate on the specifics of the resources out of fear of artifact hunters. But she said many parts of southern Idaho, including Castle Rocks, are important to the tribes. "It has ancestral ties," Smith said.

See **BAN**, Main 2

Falls Avenue West: To slow or too slow?

TRAFFIC SAFETY MEETING

What: A discussion on whether a school zone should be reinstated on Falls Avenue West
Where: City Council Chambers, 305 Third Ave. E., Twin Falls
When: 9 a.m. Thursday

City commission to discuss reinstating school zone on expanded road

By Nick Coltrain
Times-News writer

The new wider, smoother Falls Avenue West may be slowing back down. The city of Twin Falls' Traffic Safety Commission will hear from a citizen Thursday morning about returning the road to a 20 mph school zone. After construction on the road finished, the city made it 35 mph with two four-way stop signs for traffic control. Falls Avenue West is about a block north of Robert Stuart Middle School and I.B. Perrine Elementary School. A Head Start campus is directly on the road. At least one school official thinks the idea has merit. "I really do believe that should be a school zone and traffic should be slowed in that area," said Perrine Principal Bill Brulotte. "Of course in my opinion, the safety of children comes first." He said a number of his students and the students of surrounding schools cross Falls Avenue when their schools let out, and adults need to be reminded every now and again that children will be in the area. "The last thing that I would want to see is a child get hurt at that intersection," he said of Falls' intersection with Sparks Street.



ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Traffic makes its way along Falls Avenue West in Twin Falls on Tuesday. The city of Twin Falls' Traffic Safety Commission will hold a discussion on potentially reinstating a school-zone speed limit on the western Twin Falls thoroughfare.

Twin Falls Police Staff Sgt. Dennis Pullin, the city's liaison to the commission, said the commission could recommend that city engineers look at reinstating the Falls school zone, replace an obsolete flashing beacon that was taken down during construction, or leave the area alone; none of that is his

call, however. Kirk Brower, a traffic safety commissioner and the director of operations for the Twin Falls School District, said the district hasn't taken a stand on the issue and he won't until he sees all the details at the commission meeting. That will probably include a traffic study, he said.

"Anytime someone brings stuff forward to you, it might be some stuff that you're not aware of and a lot of times people might bring it forward and you go 'well, that is a problem,'" Brower said.

Nick Coltrain may be reached at ncoltrain@magicvalley.com or 735-3220.

Idaho releases 100 sturgeon into Snake River

The Associated Press

BOISE — Idaho is stocking white sturgeon in the Snake River south of Boise in a bid to bolster the population of these peculiar-looking giants in an area unsuited to natural breeding. One hundred sturgeon, ranging from 3 feet to more than 5 feet, will be released at Swan Falls, with 10 released on Monday. The fish are coming from the College of Southern Idaho's aquaculture education program in Twin Falls. Idaho Department of Fish and Game fisheries manager Jeff Dillon called the fish "a windfall" for the state. This effort is aimed for a reach of the Snake River that's without the flow and habitat necessary for a natural sturgeon population. Most of the roughly 150 sturgeon already there are old, large fish. The new fish aren't likely to breed, either, so future stocking will likely be necessary to maintain numbers.

See **STURGEON**, Main 2



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Prince William, Kate to marry next year > Food 9

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

International Dinner and Festival, hosted by College of Southern Idaho's Diversity Council, 5:30 p.m., CSI Taylor Building cafeteria, 315 Falls Ave., Twin Falls, first 200 CSI students with current ID admitted free, \$5 each for the rest, general: \$14 adults, \$6 ages 4-12. 732-6863.

Movie Night, featuring a ski and snowboard movie, 7 p.m., Idaho Water Sports, 2165 Overland Ave., Burley, all proceeds will be donated to the Pomerelle Ski Patrol, \$10 (includes 1 raffle ticket, \$5 IWS gift certificate and Dutch oven cobbler), 678-5869.

Jazz concert, with pianist Michal Vanoucek, trumpeter Chad McCullough and drummer Matt Jorgensen, 7:30 p.m., CSI Fine Arts Recital Hall, suggested \$5 donation at the door to the CSI Jazz Club, 420-7066.

"Les Miserables," 25th anniversary production presented by Sun Valley Opera and Metropolitan Theatres, 7:30 p.m., Bigwood 4 Cinema, Hailey, \$15, 578-0971.

Twin Falls High School's Dessert Theater, 7:30 p.m., Roper Auditorium, 1615 Filer Ave. E., some material contains mature themes, \$7 for adults; \$5 for seniors over 60, students with identification and children under 12, 733-6551.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Magic Valley Singles group dancing, 7 p.m. workshop and 8 p.m. PLUS, American Legion Hall, 107 Seventh Ave. E., Jerome, bring finger food to share, \$3, 536-2243.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

Young At Art, art program for children ages 2-4 with their parents, 1 to 1:45 p.m., Twin Falls Creative Arts Center, 249 Main Ave. W., \$35 per month, 737-9111.

After School Art Club, explores a variety of visual arts for children ages 9-11, 3:45 to 5:15 p.m., Twin Falls Creative Arts Center, 249 Main Ave. W., ages are flexible for sibling and family groups, \$45 per month, 737-9111.

LECTURES

Neil deGrasse Tyson lecture, part of Sun Valley Center for the Arts' Lecture Series, 6:30 p.m., Church of the Big Wood, 100 Saddle Road, Ketchum, \$25 and \$35 for adults, 726-9491, ext. 10, or sun-valleycenter.org.

Herrett Forum, "An Artist's Perspective of the Historic Heyburn Art Collection" by Lavar Steele, 7:30 p.m., Herrett Center for Arts and Science, north side of CSI, no cost, open to the public, 732-6655.

LIBRARY

Computer Class: Beginning Microsoft Word, 10 a.m., Burley Public Library, 1300 Miller Ave., no registration necessary, class size limited to 10, no cost, 878-7708 or valerie@bplibrary.org.

Preschool Story Hour, with stories, activities and crafts, 10 a.m., Buhl Public Library, 215 Broadway N., no cost, open to the public, 543-6500.

Family Read Week, with Curious George, 3 to 5 p.m., Jerome Public Library, 100 First Ave. E., no cost, open to the public, 324-5427.

"Get Curious" at the library, monthly kid's program to celebrate Idaho Family Read Week, 4 p.m., Burley Public Library, 1300 Miller Ave., ages 3-11 invited, younger than 8 should be accompanied by parent or caregiver, no cost, open to the public, 878-7708 or valerie@bplibrary.org.

Idaho Family Reading Week craft and movie night, 4 p.m., Twin Falls Public Library, 201 Fourth Ave. E., open to public, no cost, 733-2964, ext. 110.

Let's Talk About It: "Other Americas," reading and discussion series for "Invisible Man" by Ralph Ellison, 6 p.m., Twin Falls Public Library, 201 Fourth Ave. E., open to public, no cost, 733-2964, ext. 109.

Environmental Resource Center presentation, learn to save money and energy, 6 to 7:30 p.m., Community Library, Ketchum, no cost, open to the public, 726-4333.

Kids Craft week, K-6 graders can pick up Thanksgiving craft kits from the youth services desk, during library hours, Twin Falls Public Library, 201 Fourth Ave. E., no cost, open to the public, 733-2964, ext. 110.

To have an event listed, please submit the name of the event, a brief description, time, place, cost and contact number to Mirela Sulejmanovic at mirelas@magicvalley.com; by phone, 735-3278; by fax, 734-5538; or by mail, Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548. Deadline is noon, four days in advance of event.

MORE CALENDAR ONLINE

Check out our online calendar where you can submit events and search by category for specific events and dates.

www.magicvalley.com/app/calendar/events/

Minidoka Memorial to make use of amendment

By Laurie Welch
Times-News writer

RUPERT — Minidoka Memorial Hospital will remain county-owned and still pursue its planned \$6 million renovation project.

Hospital officials will take advantage of a constitutional amendment passed by Idaho voters in November, allowing public hospitals to incur long-term debt to invest in certain equipment, technology and property improvements. Specifically, the Rupert hospital plans to revamp its emergency room, remodel two exits and

Hospital to stay county-owned, pursue \$6 million project

make other sweeping changes to its decades-old facility.

Minidoka Memorial is south-central Idaho's only publically owned hospital.

Due to the state law that the amendment changed, officials at Minidoka Memorial worked for more than a year on a plan to change hospital governance to a nonprofit form. Now they'll stow that plan away in case something like the 2006 Idaho Supreme Court

ruling that led to the limitations crops up.

"With the passage of HJR4, the hospital board recommended to the county commissioners that Minidoka Memorial Hospital complete the formation of the community-owned not-for-profit corporation, but table the lease and remain a county hospital," said Minidoka Memorial Administrator Carl Hanson.

Hanson said the conversion will be "on the shelf,"

ready to use if needed in the future. County commissioners approved the recommendation.

Hanson said hospital officials are working on project financing and plan to have that completed by mid-December. They hope to start construction by mid-February.

Hanson said some minor pre-construction work may be done between now and February that is necessary to sustain services. The construction is expected to be complete in two years.

Laurie Welch may be reached at lwelch@magicvalley.com or at 677-5025.

Probation violation could send Paul man to jail

By Laurie Welch
Times-News writer

RUPERT — A Paul man who claims he spent more than a month out in a southern Utah desert before he was arrested for a probation violation now faces an additional felony charge of failure to register as a sex offender.

Dallon Ted Heiner, 42, was arrested Sept. 15 in Monticello, Utah — about 60 miles south of Moab — by the San Juan County Sheriff's Office after a bench warrant was issued for his arrest for the alleged probation violation, according to court records.

Minidoka County Prosecutor Lance Stevenson said Heiner claims he spent 40 days in the desert before

he was taken into custody.

According to court records, Heiner received a suspended 10- to 20-year prison sentence and 10 years of supervised probation in January for sex abuse of a child under 16.

He is slated for an evidentiary hearing at 1:30 p.m. Dec. 6 in Minidoka County 5th District Court.

According to court documents, Heiner waived extradition and was transported to Salt Lake City, then back to the Mini-Cassia Criminal Justice Center in Burley, where he is being held on \$150,000 bond.

Court records state that the office where Heiner received sex offender treat-

ment sessions reported that he did not attend a session on July 25. On Aug. 4, his probation officer reported that Heiner, who had taken a week of vacation from his employer, did not return to work.

The probation officer checked Heiner's residence and discovered that Heiner had completely moved out of his apartment, leaving only his cell phone behind.

Heiner was originally charged in 2009 with lewd conduct with a child under 16 for an incident in 2008 involving a 9-year-old female victim. Under a plea agreement, he pleaded guilty to the lesser charge of sex abuse of a child.

At the time of the 2008

incident, Heiner was serving a 24-month supervised probation for a misdemeanor charge of indecent exposure after he exposed himself to an 11-year-old victim. Heiner was sentenced to 90 days in jail, probation and fines on that charge and was sentenced to 20 days in jail for violating his probation.

If convicted for the new alleged probation violation, the court could suspend his probation and reinstate his original sentence of 10 to 20 years in prison. Failure to register as a sex offender carries a penalty of up to 10 years in prison and up to a \$50,000 fine.

Laurie Welch may be reached at lwelch@magicvalley.com or at 677-5025.



LAURIE WELCH/Times-News

Autumn exposure

Reduced water levels in the Snake River leave large expanses of muddy bank exposed Monday on the south side of the Overland Bridge in Burley. Today's forecast in the Magic Valley calls for mostly sunny skies and a daytime high of around 50.

Ban

Continued from Main 1

Courtney said that based on the assessment, he couldn't come up with a finding of "no significant impact."

"Any impact required us to carry out an environmental impact statement and we couldn't get the funding," Courtney said. "Our only alternative was to shut it down."

Wallace Keck, Castle Rocks State Park manager,

said many climbing opportunities remain in the state-owned part because he can manage things differently.

"We support the BLM's decision because they have a different mandate," Keck said. "The tribes have more say in federal land management." Keck added that the state doesn't ignore cultural resources and has closed three state areas to climbing.

The BLM can't close areas to the public for longer than

two years if not specified in the area's resource management plan. The Burley district's plan is dated 1985, one of the oldest in the country.

Plans are usually evaluated every 15 to 20 years, but BLM spokeswoman Heather Tiel-Nelson said things are running a little behind due to funding limitations. The Burley and Shoshone district plans are slated to be renewed together in the

next few years.

The Castle Rocks area didn't open to the public until 2003, when a land swap with a private landowner allowed access to the area. Only one road leads to a single parking area, a mile away from the BLM sections.

Laura Lundquist may be reached at llundquist@magicvalley.com or 735-3376.

Chief

Continued from Main 1

Munn was promoted to chief in 2005, replacing Lee DeVore, but the occasion was bittersweet. He told the Times-News that he regretted that his father, former Twin Falls County sheriff Jim Munn Sr., didn't live long enough to see him as chief. Munn Sr. held office from 1979 to 1993, and died in 2000.

Upon becoming chief,

Munn Jr. guided the department through a tough 2005 in which nearly a dozen officers left for other jobs. He rebuilt the force with the philosophy of surrounding himself with smart individuals he could watch grow into leaders.

"I have to inspire people to get work done, and I can't do that alone," he said. "I surrounded myself with people I would follow."

As for retired life, Munn said he has no plans to jump into another full-time job. Rather, he'd like to take time for his hobbies, which include rock concerts and travel. He said he would most look forward to tracing some family roots back to western Europe, specifically Scotland.

It is uncertain when the search for a new chief will begin. While Courtney will

likely still be city manager when a new chief is named, future city manager Travis Rothweiler will get a lot of say in the matter as he prepares to take over.

"The new city manager needs to have significant input," Courtney said. "It'll be a collaborative effort."

Bradley Guire may be reached at bguire@magicvalley.com or 735-3380.

Sturgeon

Continued from Main 1

CSI's role stems from a 1988 agreement inked among the college's aquaculture program, Fish and Game and the Idaho Aquaculture Association, aimed at enhancing stur-

geon populations in the Snake River system.

The sturgeon that CSI is providing are surplus, and the college's hatchery still has several hundred remaining.

"They're realizing that

there's some good locations for sturgeon stocking," said Terry Patterson, professor of aquaculture at CSI. "It's good for the resource; it's good for the population."

Since the agreement

started, CSI has released about 6,500 fish, along with some in the American Falls and Idaho Falls areas.

Times-News writer Ben Botkin contributed to this report.

TIMES-NEWS

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Vol. 105, No. 321

Gooding council approves new fees, debates snow-piling fine

By Emily Katseanes
Times-News correspondent

GOODING — The Gooding City Council gave its final approval Monday to new hookup fees for sewer and water connections.

Council members voted to increase fees from \$450 for water hookups to \$1,500 for a one-inch meter, and \$750 to upgrade a current connection to a one-inch meter line. Councilman Michael Arkoosh moved to approve the measure "at the risk of getting yelled at by my wife," he said.

A new fine may be in the city's future as well. In a work

session before Monday's meeting, the council worked on a proposed ordinance that would prohibit Gooding residents from piling shoveled snow into city streets. If violated, the infraction could rack up a \$75 fine.

Public Works Director Todd Bunn said areas of the city's business district might need to be exempted from the ordinance, either by the public works department or the City Council.

If adopted, the ordinance would take effect at the first of the year. The council discussed ways to spread word of the new requirement before it would be enforced,

including sending out a mailing or handing out copies at City Hall. Police Chief Jeff Perry said officers could help by giving out verbal warnings and explaining the ordinance before issuing tickets.

"It has to get out to them," Mayor Duke Morton said.

The proposal was tabled for further discussion.

In other council business: Members also approved expense reimbursements and grant agreements related to airport construction.

Barring some paving planned for Thursday, Bunn said the airport is open. He also said the project would probably roll in about

\$100,000 under budget.

"We're working on a wish list to get with the (Federal Aviation Administration) and see what we can get," Bunn said. "Anything we can get them to do, we're going to try."

Bart Morrow, a member of the airport board, said the board is working to make sure emergency response teams have maps of the airport and are familiar with the area.

Bunn said some of the city's new Christmas decorations are going up early because they need additional wiring that takes slightly longer to put up.

Idaho woman impersonated plastic surgeon, police say

BOISE (AP) — Police arrested a woman in Idaho's capital city after they say she impersonated a plastic surgeon and conducted breast exams on at least two women in local bars.

Kristina B. Ross was booked into Ada County jail. She faces accusations of unlicensed practice of medicine.

It all started earlier this month, when Boise Police were called to a downtown medical office by employees of a licensed plastic surgeon.

They were getting calls from prospective patients who wanted to see a Dr. Berlyn Aussieahshowna.

But no doctor by that name worked there.

Police got names and contact details for the women who had called, interviewed them — and then identified the 37-year-old Ross, who isn't licensed to practice medicine.

Detectives say they fear there may be others who had fake exams or were given the promise of plastic surgery.

Why fat people use debit cards

Skinny people pay cash. You could look it up. A study by professors of marketing at Cornell University and the State University of New York, Binghamton, found that more than 60 percent of American adults are overweight, and only 14 percent of U.S. consumers use cash at the supermarket.

"Since paying in cash feels more painful than paying by credit or debit cards, paying in cash can reduce the purchase of unhealthy food items," write professors Manoj Thomas, Kalpesh Kaushik Desai and Satheehkumar Seenivasan in an article to be published in the *Journal of Consumer Research*.

The three researchers peered into the shopping carts of 1,000 people over a six-month period. They found that folks who paid for their groceries with plastic bought more junk food than those who used cash.

DON'T ASK ME

Steve Crump

DO TELL

If it's quirky, poignant or funny and it happens in south-central Idaho, I want to hear about it. Call me at 735-3223, or write scrump@magicvalley.com.

Parting with actual dollars and cents hurts, they concluded, so impulse items — cookies, cakes and pies, for example — tend to stay on the grocer's shelf.

"The epidemic increase in obesity suggests that regulating impulsive purchases and consumption of unhealthy food products is a steep challenge for many consumers."

Steep indeed. When I went shopping last week-

end, I hung out at the front of the store after I'd paid for my groceries — with a debit card, of course — to see who's using which to pay for what.

Eleven people went through the checkstands, and 10 of them used debit cards. The only cash that changed hands was for a bag of Snickers bars.

But the Snickers guy was rail-thin. Eight of the debit people — six women and two men — might charitably be described as ample.

Eight of the 10 folks who paid with debit cards bought more than \$100 worth of groceries — four of them spent more than \$150.

That's a lot considering that the average American household parts with \$62 a week at the supermarket, and it strongly suggests the presence of Yoo-Hoo, Cheez Doodles, Pringles, Mr. Pibb, DingDongs and pork rinds.

An 18-ounce Utz Pork

Rinds Barrel sells for \$12.30 at the grocery store. If you had to dig into your pocket and find enough currency and change to cover the tab, would you buy it?

But with a debit card? Shoot, why not?

Especially since you could go through the automated checkout and not have to look a checker in the eye and blush deeply.

Dunn & Bradstreet, the market research firm, calculates that if you use plastic you'll spend 12 percent to 18 percent more than if you pay with cash. And since more and more financial institutions cover debit card overdrafts — and charge you a fee for doing so — debit cards have functionally become like credit cards: Easy and guilt-free.

And most of all, painless. Care for a pork rind?

Steve Crump is the Times-News Opinion editor. Hear him on KLLX-AM Fridays at 8:30 a.m.

AROUND THE VALLEY

U.S. 30 canal bridge work to resume

The Idaho Transportation Department will resume reconstruction work on two U.S. Highway 30 canal bridges in Twin Falls County this week.

Now that irrigation water to the Twin Falls Canal has been turned off, crews will return to work on the bridges between Hansen and Murtaugh after work was suspended during irrigation season. Crews completed work on the southern halves of the bridges in the spring and expect to complete the northern halves in the coming spring.

During construction, traffic will be reduced to one lane, with temporary traffic signals posted at each bridge. A 35 mph speed limit and 11-foot, 6-inch width restriction will remain in effect.

Cannon Builders Inc. of Blackfoot is the contractor for the \$1.6 million bridge reconstruction project.

T.F. man arrested after Monday crash

A 43-year-old Twin Falls man was arrested for driving without

privileges following a crash involving another vehicle Monday in Mountain Home.

Idaho State Police responded to the crash, at milepost 1.8 on Idaho Highway 67, at around 6 p.m. According to the release, Twin Falls man Mickey McConnell was hit while attempting to make a U-turn. He was heading north and trying to turn southbound.

His 1989 International semitrailer was pulling a 1977 flatbed and hit on the driver's side by a 1969 Ford Mustang driven by Brian Silva, 25, stationed at Mountain Home Air Force Base.

Silva was trapped inside the Mustang for an unknown amount of time before he was extricated and taken to Elmore County Medical Center by ambulance. From there, he was transported by air ambulance to Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise, where he was treated for critical injuries.

McConnell was not injured in the crash. Both drivers were wearing seat belts.

The crash is under investigation by the ISP with assistance

from Elmore County sheriff's deputies.

Rupert library closed Thursday

The DeMary Memorial Library in Rupert will be closed Thursday while 32 windows are installed on the library's north side.

Information: 436-3874.

Semitrailer driver victim of high winds

A wind gust tipped over a semitrailer entering Interstate 84 on Tuesday morning, but the driver suffered only minor injuries, according to Idaho State Police.

Benjamin F. Britt, 47, of Elgin, Ore., was attempting to enter the westbound travel lane of I-84 from the on-ramp of Exit 173 near Twin Falls. He was driving a 2006 Freightliner, pulling an empty 2007 Great Dane trailer, which was blown over. The vehicle overturned onto the left shoulder of the ramp.

Britt was wearing a seat belt.

He was transported to St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center in Twin Falls.

— Staff reports

BIG FISH

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Chocolate Truffle Brownie

Makes 16 Brownies
Directions:
Entire bag Chocolate Truffle Brownie mix
2 eggs or 4 egg whites*
7 tbsp butter, melted*
Preheat oven to 350F

Spray 7x11 or 8x8 inch pan with vegetable spray or brush surface with vegetable oil.

In a large bowl, beat eggs for 2-3 minutes.

Add dry mix. Beat to moisten. add butter and stir until combined.

Fold in nuts, if used. (Mixture will be very thick.) Spread over prepared pan and bake 25-27 minutes. Cool completely.

For best results, freeze 1 hour before cutting. Makes 16 brownies. May be frozen.

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Idaho backs Tamarack plan for skiing this year

By John Miller
Associated Press writer

BOISE — Idaho gave its blessing Tuesday to a plan for a ski season at Tamarack Resort starting Dec. 20, moving the failed vacation getaway a step closer to firing up lifts for the first time since 2009.

The state Land Board, including Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter, approved a package to keep Tamarack's lease to 2,100 acres of state land alive until next June.

A federal bankruptcy judge still must approve allowing ski lifts, groomers, cash registers, rental skis and other equipment — all collateral in a \$300 million bankruptcy dispute with lenders led by Credit Suisse Group — to be

used for the ski operation.

Leaders of the Tamarack Municipal Association, the homeowner group that's joining with the bank to cover for the lease, remain optimistic they'll open the resort 90 miles north of Boise by Christmas. Lifts were shuttered in March 2009 after lenders turned off the money amid mounting losses.

"We're extremely confident," association director Tim Flaherty told The Associated Press after the hearing. "Nobody has said no yet. An operating resort only makes sense. It's a benefit for the homeowners, it's a benefit to the creditors, it's a benefit for Valley County."

Flaherty's group has sold more than 200 season passes for Tamarack, but many

skiers are waiting to see if the resort actually opens before paying the \$199. The plan is for a 15-week season from Dec. 20 to April 3, Thursdays through Sundays, with extended days during winter holidays.

Tamarack majority owner Jean-Pierre Boespflug missed last January's \$250,000 lease payment to Idaho.

According to the package approved Tuesday, Credit Suisse will pay \$290,000 to bring that current as well as cover interest that's been building up for 11 months. The Zurich-based bank is chipping in another \$45,000, which along with \$80,000 from the homeowners will pay the 2011 lease through next June 30.

Murkowski pulls ahead in Alaska senate race

By Sandhya Somashekhar
The Washington Post

Sen. Lisa Murkowski has pulled ahead in Alaska's still-undecided Senate race, putting opponent Joe Miller in a tight spot as he contemplates mounting a legal challenge that could drag out the contest for weeks or months.



Murkowski

With about 8,000 ballots left to count Monday night, Murkowski held a 1,700-vote advantage over the tea-party-backed lawyer who beat her in the Republican primary. Although narrow, the lead is commanding enough that Murkowski's campaign thinks it can win despite Miller's efforts to have thousands of ballots disqualified.

"If the 'trend' proceeds as it has for the past five days, Lisa stands to win the race, even accounting for Joe Miller's challenges," campaign manager Kevin Sweeney said in a statement. "And when that happens, we expect him to concede this race as he has indicated he would."

Officials were to begin counting the remaining votes on Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. Eastern time and are expected to continue through Wednesday.

As Miller contemplates his next steps, he must balance the demands of many of his staunch backers — who have been contributing tens of thousands of dollars to his legal fund — against the possibility of sparking a backlash if he jumps into an ugly and costly court battle.

In interviews, Miller has indicated that he will not fight in court if he has no chance of winning.

"Obviously, if the numbers of the challenged ballots don't add up, we aren't going to sit back and continue to contest this," he said in an interview on ABC's "Top Line" last week.

Still, he has shown no signs of backing down. He has argued in court that

thousands of ballots on which Murkowski's name is misspelled should be thrown out. He has asked for access to election registers to compare the number of voters to the number of ballots cast in certain precincts. His campaign has also alleged widespread voter fraud, though it has provided little evidence to support the claims.

Miller and his backers have sought donations to fund his legal challenges. He received a contribution from former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin's political action committee as well as about \$150,000 from the Senate Conservatives Fund, chaired by Sen. Jim DeMint, R-S.C.



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AROUND THE WEST

IDAHO

Former city parks worker sentenced for abuse of minor

BLACKFOOT — A former city parks worker in eastern Idaho will serve at least seven years in prison for the sexual battery of a minor.

The Blackfoot Morning News reports 58-year-old Michael Roy Conn was sentenced Tuesday.

Conn worked for the Blackfoot City Parks and Recreation Department for 11 years and coached baseball. He was initially charged with five counts of sexual battery.

The charges stem from 2008 encounters between Conn and a minor who was age 16 or 17 at the time. He pleaded guilty to one count in a deal with prosecutors.

District Court Judge Darren Simpson admonished Conn for using his position as a coach to lure the girl into an abusive situation. Conn was sentenced to a maximum of 17 years.

Parents on probation after son eats pot-laced treat

BOISE — An Idaho couple is on probation after their four-year-old son ate a Rice Krispie treat laced with marijuana and was hospitalized.

A district court judge sentenced 35-year-old Tony Green and 30-year-old Medina Green each to 150 hours of community service on misdemeanor child injury charges last week.

They each faced a felony after Boise police learned their son had found and ingested the doped treat at their home. The couple pleaded guilty to lesser charges in a deal with prosecutors.

Police called to a hospital in August to investigate after the boy was brought in with slurred speech and bloodshot eyes. Tony Green says he got the doped treat from a former co-worker about three years ago and had forgotten about it.

WASHINGTON

Lewis-McChord hearing on Afghan killing wraps up

JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD — A hearing wrapped up Tuesday at Joint Base Lewis-McChord that will determine whether a Boise soldier accused of killing a civilian in Afghanistan will face a court martial.

Army prosecutors charged 20-year-old Pfc. Andrew Holmes with premeditated murder. He denied it Monday at the military base near Tacoma.

Holmes is one of five soldiers accused of killing three Afghan civilians earlier this year.

The hearing's presiding officer will recommend whether there's sufficient evidence for a court martial.

Holmes defense lawyer Daniel Conway says he's appealing a decision that prevented him from showing photos of the dead civilian. Conway says they show he was not shot with Holmes' machine gun.

MONTANA

Vehicle pileups in snowstorm close part of Interstate 15

HELENA — The first major snowstorm of the sea-

son Tuesday caused a chain of crashes involving nine vehicles, leaving a 25-mile stretch of Interstate 15 closed for hours as crews cleared the wreckage.

At least two people were injured in the pileups, though their names and the extent of their injuries were not immediately known, the Montana Highway Patrol said.

Accidents were reported around the state as blowing snow, wind gusts up to 55 mph and icy roads made for treacherous driving conditions, patrol dispatch supervisor Michele Rogers said.

"We have crashes everywhere," Rogers said. "We're advising people to stay off the roads if they can."

Forecasters said the storm was expected to pass through the state fairly quickly, leaving scattered snow showers by night.

CALIFORNIA

Woman becomes nation's 1st transgender trial judge

OAKLAND — A 49-year-old California patent lawyer has been elected as the nation's first openly transgender trial judge.

Alameda County elections officials say Victoria Kolakowski beat prosecutor John Creighton 51 to 48 percent — a margin of nearly 10,000 votes — in the Nov. 2 election to fill the vacancy in California's Superior Court.

Kolakowski had been leading since election night, but outstanding absentee and provisional ballots made the race too close to call until Monday.

The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund has said she is the first openly transgender trial court judge in the country.

Kolakowski spent the past three years as an administrative law judge settling energy contract and environmental compliance disputes for the California Public Utilities Commission. She underwent gender reassignment surgery in 1991.

Hollywood publicist shot to death in Beverly Hills

BEVERLY HILLS — Authorities searched the home and office of veteran Hollywood publicist Ronni Chasen, who was killed early Tuesday morning in an attack in Beverly Hills. But they have no immediate motive for the slaying.

Beverly Hills Police Sgt. Lincoln Hoshino said detectives are pursuing all possibilities, including any links to her business or personal life. They are also looking into whether the shooting was a random act.

Detectives were dispatched to Chasen's office and her high-rise condominium unit, where they dusted for fingerprints and took evidence from computers.

"We don't know what the motive is. This is a fresh, active homicide," Hoshino said, confirming that detectives had served search warrants at the home and business. "We are obviously conducting a forensic investigation concurrent with the detectives' investigation."

— From wire services

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Defense begins for man charged in Smart abduction

SALT LAKE CITY — Attorneys for the man accused of kidnapping Elizabeth Smart began building their case Tuesday, painting a picture of a deeply religious man who became increasingly inflexible and lost in his own beliefs.

Witnesses told jurors that Brian David Mitchell thought the world was descending toward the final days and followed "revelations" from God to change jobs, follow an alternative medicine and travel around the country homeless to test how others would treat the poor.

"He felt that he had some kind of divine mission," said Karl West, whose parents allowed Mitchell to intermittently live in their Orem, Utah, home between 1999 and 2001.

Prosecutors rested their case against Brian David Mitchell early Tuesday after five days of testimony. Mitchell, 57, faces federal charges of kidnapping and unlawful transportation of a minor across state lines.

If convicted, the one-time street



AP photo
Brian David Mitchell is escorted into Frank Moss Federal Courthouse in Salt Lake City on Nov. 10.

preacher could spend the rest of his life in prison.

Smart was 14 when she was taken from her home at knifepoint on June 5, 2002, and held captive until March 13, 2003. Smart, now 23, testified that she endured nearly daily rapes, was forced to use drugs and alcohol, and was taken against her will to California.

Mitchell's attorneys have not disputed the facts of Smart's abduction and nine months in captivity, but contend he is mentally ill and can't be held responsible for his actions. Federal prosecutors say Mitchell is faking a mental illness.

A federal judge ruled him competent earlier this year. Mitchell is not expected to testify on his own behalf.

Mitchell has been removed from court daily for disrupting the trial by singing religious hymns — Christmas carols on Tuesday. He watches the proceedings on closed-circuit television from a holding cell.

Singing was a method Mitchell used to cope in situations he didn't

like, said witness Doug Larsen, who worked with Mitchell at a local jewelry-maker in the early 1990s.

When music or conversations became bothersome, Mitchell sang hymns at his desk until reprimanded, said Larsen, who shared Mitchell's more rigid approach to following the Mormon faith.

Viewed as a religious fanatic by some, Mitchell was "very confident to the point of being dogmatic and being inflexible in his point of view," said Larsen. "His religion was always behind everything he said."

Larsen told jurors that he worried when Mitchell said he hoped lymphology, a system of treating the lymphatic system to promote wellness, could relieve a dependency on medications to treat mental illness, primarily for his wife, Wanda Eileen Barzee.

After Mitchell left the company in 1994, Larsen said he heard rumors that his former co-worker had grown out his hair and beard and was wearing robes while pan-

handling in downtown Salt Lake City.

It was that persona that Karl West and his brother Benjamin West, told jurors they remember from the years Mitchell lived and worked with their father, naturopath and lymphology expert C. Samuel West, beginning in the mid-1990s.

Initially clean-cut and pleasant, Mitchell came and went from the home, sometimes living in a teepee in the yard. Mitchell later dressed in robes, wore his hair long and asked to be called "Immanuel."

"I don't think it was just a costume," Karl West said. "I think he sincerely felt, believed that he was who he tried to claim he was."

Arguments over Mitchell's pursuit of "false doctrine," including polygamy, ended the relationship, the brothers said. When he last appeared at the West home, Mitchell stood on the sidewalk yelling that it would be "leveled and destroyed," Karl West said.

"I'd never seen him like that. He was off his rocker," Karl West said.

Idaho woman claims police outed her as informant

By Jessie L. Bonner
Associated Press writer

BOISE — An Idaho woman is threatening to sue the city of McCall, claiming in court documents that police in the resort town endangered her life when a detective outed her as an informant two years ago.

Tracy VanDuren received death threats from Mexico-based drug dealers for several weeks after a detective with the McCall police department revealed she had made drug buys for law enforcement, her attorney said.

"She remains afraid for her life," attorney Michael Robinson said.

The city has until January to respond to the tort claim, which was filed in October and is a precursor to a lawsuit.

In the claim, VanDuren said she made two buys from drug dealers at the request of police detective Eric Fieldstad before she was terminated as an informant in April 2008.

VanDuren claimed she was fired after Fieldstad believed she had also sold drugs without his permission while working as an informant, according to court documents.

Fieldstad later revealed to drug dealers that she had worked as an informant, and he bragged about outing her during a recorded conversation with another officer, according to the claim.

Police chief Jerry Summers confirmed that Fieldstad resigned on Nov. 5. He would not comment further on the departure.

The department has hired an outside law enforcement agency to investigate the claim, Summers said.

"We hope it will be completed by the end of this week," Summers told The Associated Press on Tuesday.

Robinson said he came across the five-minute recorded conversation between Fieldstad and another officer while preparing for a separate, unrelated case.

During the conversation, Fieldstad told the other officer that VanDuren was an informant who "went bad" and so he had burned her with "The Mexican Mafia," Robinson said in court documents.

VanDuren claimed she was called and threatened several times a day for several weeks after Fieldstad outed her, and the threats stopped in November or December 2009 after members of the illegal drug trade were arrested.

Otter criticizes EPA over cleanup plan for N. Idaho

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter is criticizing a proposal by federal environmental regulators for expanding their cleanup of historic mining waste and contaminants in Idaho's Silver Valley region.

Otter outlined his concerns in a letter submitted Monday to the Environmental Protection Agency, which is taking public comments on its plan — called an amended Record of Decision — for extracting heavy metals, treating water and eliminating toxic mine sites along a 40-mile stretch of the South Fork of the Coeur d'Alene River basin.

The Republican governor urged the EPA to set reasonable goals and cautioned against any projects that could imperil existing or future mining in the region.

"In my view, the proposed ROD amendment must not go forward unless the EPA commits that cleanup work will not impede existing or future mining," according to Otter's letter, reported by the Coeur d'Alene Press. "Moreover, the proposed

ROD is not acceptable unless the EPA identifies and commits to reasonable and achievable endpoints."

The EPA has spent nearly 20 years cleaning up the Superfund site in Kellogg that was once one of the most polluted places in the country, with arsenic and lead stripping the hillsides of vegetation and poisoning the blood of children.

The agency now wants to broaden the cleanup to outlying areas and more rivers and streams. The price tag is estimated at \$1.3 billion and could take anywhere from 50 to 90 years to complete. The expansion would be partially funded by a recent \$500 million settlement with Asarco, one of the successors of the Bunker Hill mine that is blamed for polluting the valley.

But there are mixed feelings in northern Idaho about such an extended and pricey expansion. Some residents and leaders would rather have the cleanup and EPA presence wind down and worry the agency's long-term presence will stunt the region's prospects for economic growth.

Otter said he talked with lawmakers and other leaders in the region before submitting his letter.

He urged the agency to set a defined and limited timeframe for the additional cleanup and to draft it in a way that focuses on human-health restoration.

He criticized the section of the proposal devoted to water treatment, calling it an open-ended plan to "wildly spend public resources and perform work that is of questionable value," according to the letter.

Dan Opalski, EPA director of environmental cleanup, said the agency will consider comments that have been submitted in the last four months.

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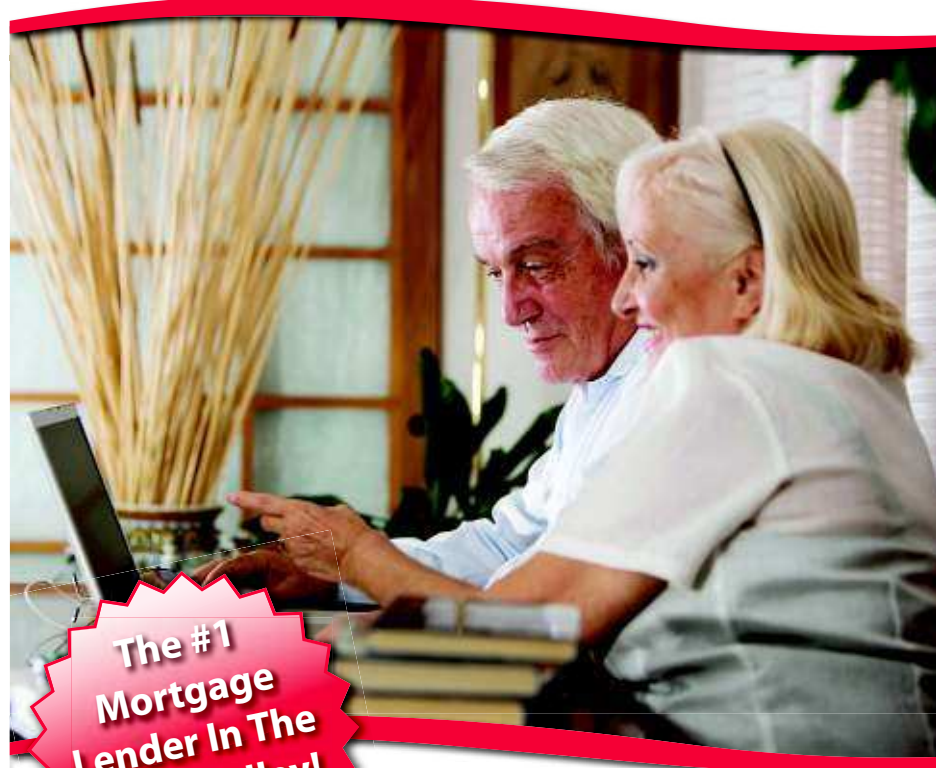
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Rangel found guilty; House ethics panel rules financial misconduct

By Larry Margasak
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — New York Rep. Charles Rangel, a longtime power in the U.S. House, violated its rules with financial misconduct, brought it discredit and will be punished, fellow lawmakers sitting as jurors ruled on Tuesday.

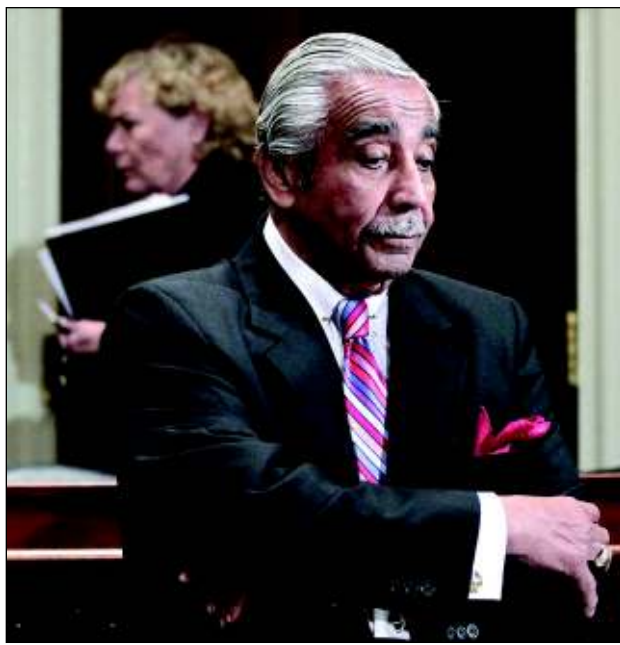
Protesting the enduring stain on his four-decade congressional career, the 80-year-old Democrat said he was treated unfairly for "good faith mistakes." His statement reflected the bitterness of an eight-month career slide, starting with an unrelated ethics ruling that forced him from his coveted chairmanship of the tax-writing Ways and Means Committee.

The conduct often cited by critics was his failure to report income to the IRS from a unit he owned in a Dominican Republic resort — showing the chairman in charge of tax legislation shortchanged the IRS.

Rangel, a founder of the Congressional Black Caucus, remains a political kingpin in New York's famed Harlem neighborhood and is unlikely to resign. He won re-election earlier this month.

Convicted on 11 of 13 charges of rules violations, his ordeal isn't finished.

The eight-member ethics



AP photo

Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y., waits for his appearance Monday before the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct on Capitol Hill in Washington. Rep. Zoe Lofgren, D-Calif., chair of the Rangel Adjudatory subcommittee, passes at left.

panel that convicted him — four Democrats and four Republicans — now will write what is likely to be a stinging report to amplify its findings. Then, the full House ethics committee will conduct a hearing Thursday on the appropriate punishment for Rangel, the silver-haired, gravelly voiced and sartorially flashy veteran of 20 terms in Congress.

Rangel can waive his right to the hearing and ask the

committee to go straight to deliberations on possible sanctions.

Possible sanctions include a House vote deploring his conduct, a fine and denial of certain privileges.

Rangel's downfall, in part, came in the way he solicited money for a New York college center designed as a monument to himself. There also was his decade of misleading annual disclosures of his income and assets and

his use of a subsidized New York apartment — designated for residential use — as a campaign office.

The panel deliberated over two days before its chairman, Democratic Rep. Zoe Lofgren, made a bare-bones statement announcing the findings — leaving a full explanation for the upcoming written report.

The conviction was a fresh setback for Democrats who lost control of the House to the GOP in the midterm elections, support for Republican candidates' assertions of bad conduct.

At his one-day trial on Monday, Rangel was reduced to pleading for a postponement — arguing that his lawyers abandoned him after he paid them some \$2 million but could afford no more. The panel rejected his request, and Rangel walked out of the proceeding.

"How can anyone have confidence in the decision of the ethics subcommittee when I was deprived of due process rights, right to counsel and was not even in the room?" Rangel complained on Tuesday. "I can only hope that the full committee will treat me more fairly and take into account my entire 40 years of service to the Congress before making any decisions on sanctions."

Passenger insists he wasn't seeking notoriety when he confronted agents over body scan

By Michael Tarm
Associated Press writer

CHICAGO — An airport traveler who famously resisted a full-body scan and groin check with the words "If you touch my junk, I'll have you arrested" has become an Internet sensation, tapping into rising frustration over increasingly invasive searches.

John Tyner's online account — complete with cell-phone video of the encounter — has helped fuel a campaign urging travelers to decline the body scans next week during the busiest travel day of the year.

It also raised questions about the complaints: Are Americans standing up to government overreach or simply whining about the inconvenience of air travel while insisting on full protection from terrorists?

"I think Americans, in their hearts, still feel airport security is just a big show — form over substance," said Joseph Schwieterman, a Chicago-based transportation expert. "So they're impatient with strategies they feel are just there to placate political demands rather than the genuine security threats."

Many of the people who have little tolerance for air-

port security are the same ones who want the government to work aggressively to prevent terrorist attacks, Schwieterman said.

Long-simmering annoyance among passengers and even plane crews has recently risen to new heights with wider use of full-body scanners, which show a traveler's physical contours on a computer in a private room removed from security checkpoints. Faces are never shown, and the person's identity is supposedly not known to the screener reviewing the images.

About 300 of the scanners are in use at 60 U.S. airports. The Transportation Security Administration hopes to deploy approximately 500 units by the end of the year.

Not all travelers are selected to go through the scanners, but the TSA requires people who decline to submit to pat-downs that include checks of the inside of their thighs and buttocks. Top federal officials insist the procedures are safe and necessary to ward off terror attacks.

"It's all about security," said Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano. "It's all about everybody recognizing their role."

Tyner, a 31-year-old software engineer from

Oceanside, Calif., insisted he was not looking for notoriety when he confronted TSA agents last weekend at the San Diego airport.

"I don't think I did anything heroic," he said in a telephone interview Tuesday. "I stood up for what I thought was right."

After Tyner declined to go through the full-body scanner, he refused to submit to a groin check as part of a pat-down. He was thrown out of the airport Saturday after being threatened with a fine and lawsuit.

His confrontation spawned online sales of T-shirts, bumper stickers, hats and even underwear emblazoned with the words, "Don't Touch My Junk!"

But he does not advocate travelers following his lead, saying he appreciates that most people cannot afford to put expensive trips at risk.

"But people ought to do what their consciences say they should do," he said. "If civil disobedience is a way they think would work, I think they should do it."

Tyner's one-man protest has inspired other efforts, including an online campaign urging air travelers to refuse body scans in a "National Opt-Out Day" the day before Thanksgiving, one of the year's busiest travel days.

Brian Sodergren, 33, of



Tyner

"How can anyone have confidence in the decision of the ethics subcommittee when I was deprived of due process rights, right to counsel and was not even in the room?"

— Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y.

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ELEVATION
486
FOOD AND SPIRITS
FOR THE NEW WEST

Russia protests Thai extradition of arms suspect

By Paul Richter and John M. Gionna
Tribune Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — The extradition of alleged Russian arms trafficker Viktor Bout from Thailand to the United States on Tuesday drew protests from Russian officials who insist the man dubbed the “merchant of death” is an innocent businessman.

Bout, a former Soviet air force officer who reportedly maintains strong ties to Russian intelligence, had been put aboard a chartered a

plane under tight security in Bangkok and arrived in suburban New York in manacles late Tuesday. He faces four federal terrorism charges, U.S. officials said.

Bout is scheduled to appear before a federal judge in the Southern District of New York on Wednesday. He faces four terrorism-related charges, according to an indictment unsealed in May 2008. Three carry a maximum life sentence and the fourth a prison term of up to 15 years.

Bout, 43, reputed to be one of the world's most prolific



Bout

as arms buyers for the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia.

He was being held in a maximum-security prison in Thailand and had fought extradition to the United States. Bout's detention in Thailand was due to expire

within days.

The case has stirred diplomatic tensions between Washington and Moscow, which alleges that Bout's extradition was politically motivated and that he has no chance of a fair trial in the U.S.

In Moscow, the Russian Foreign Ministry called the extradition “inexplicable and unjustifiable.”

“It leaves no doubt that the anti-legal extradition of V.A. Bout stems from the unprecedented political pressure applied by the United States on the government and judicial authorities

of Thailand,” the ministry said in a statement. “All this can be characterized as none other but interference in the execution of justice and puts in doubt the independence of Thailand's justice system.”

Some analysts contend Russian officials fear Bout could spill secrets to the United States on Russian intelligence gathering.

Philip Crowley, the chief State Department spokesman, acknowledged that the extradition would stress U.S. relations with Russia, though he described the effects as no more than “rip-

ples” in the relationship.

U.S. prosecutors maintain that since the 1990s, Bout has supplied weapons that have been used in civil wars in South America, the Middle East and Africa. His clients reportedly included Liberia's Charles Taylor, Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi and rebels in Angola's civil war.

Bout “augmented his arms brokerage with conflict diamonds, frozen fish, cut flowers,” shipping these items back to Europe in aircraft cargo holds after weapons had been delivered to a particular conflict zone, experts say.

Ground broken for Bush library in Dallas

By Lori Stahl and Tom Benning
The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS — Former President George W. Bush basked in the glow of a friendly audience Tuesday as former Vice President Dick Cheney and others praised his legacy during a groundbreaking ceremony at the site of his future library in Dallas.

Cheney, looking slimmed down and walking with a cane, said public sentiment is already starting to shift on Bush's eight years in the White House.

“When times have been tough and the critics have been loud, you've always said you had faith in history's judgment, and history is beginning to come around,” Cheney told Bush during an hour-long program at Southern Methodist University on Tuesday morning.

The library complex is to open in 2013. It will include a museum, a library and a policy institute. Officials expect the 225,000-square-foot Texas limestone and red brick building to draw up to 250,000 visitors annually.

Bush thanked Cheney for coming to the ceremony and said he was the “right pick” for his running mate 10 years ago. But Bush, who has given many interviews during the past week while promoting his new memoir, continued to avoid speculating about his legacy.

“I believe that the ultimate responsibility of a leader is to not do what is easy or popular, but to do what is necessary and right,” Bush told the invitation-only audience of about 3,000 people, who gathered in a giant tent for the ceremony.

The former president also made a point of not criticizing President Barack Obama, saying, “The decisions of



AP photo

Former President George W. Bush, right, kisses former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice during the groundbreaking ceremony Tuesday for the President George W. Bush Presidential Center in Dallas.

governing are on another person's desk, and he does not deserve criticism from me.”

But Cheney, who spoke before Bush, drew laughs with a jab at Obama when he said the Bush library “will be

the only shovel-ready project in America” — an apparent reference to the term used by Obama to describe projects funded through his economic stimulus program.

Meanwhile, outside the

tent, about 100 anti-war protesters gathered on the other end of campus to register their ongoing opposition to Bush's record.

While Bush supporters watched a video, sang the national anthem and saluted uniformed veterans during the ceremony, protesters stood near rows of small white crosses to symbolize the loss of life in two wars.

Demonstrators said they're doubtful that the presidential library will accurately reflect the range of viewpoints on Bush's decision to go to war with Iraq and Afghanistan.

The protesters have “every right to express themselves,” Karen Hughes, a former top adviser to Bush, said in an interview, adding, “I totally disagree with them, and most of the American people do as well.”

Hughes was one of several former top Bush advisers who attended the event, including former White House chiefs of staff Andy Card and Josh Bolten.

However, Bush's parents were not at the ceremony.

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Ohio State reopens labs targeted in bomb threat

By Julie Carr Smyth
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ohio State University reopened two labs Tuesday night that were targeted in a bomb threat that prompted the school to close four buildings, including the main library, and three streets, disrupting campus life for hundreds of students, staff and faculty.

The library and a third lab were scheduled to reopen later Tuesday. No bombs were found in the two buildings that were reopened, and an earlier search of all four turned up nothing out of the ordinary, officials said.

The threat was in a message received Tuesday at FBI headquarters in Washington, said Paul Bresson, a spokesman based there. The bureau had several leads and was continuing to investigate, its Cincinnati spokesman, Michael Brooks, said late Tuesday.

Authorities did not identify the source of the bomb threats. Bresson declined to provide information about where the e-mail appeared to come from or whether the FBI believed the threat was real.

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OPINION

QUOTE

“... there continues to be a significant misunderstanding about both the safety and the privacy concerns.”
 — **Debby McElroy, Airports Council International-North America vice president, urging a public education campaign on anti-terrorism screening procedures**

EDITORIAL

Next round of cuts at IDOC may be one too many

Idaho Department of Correction Director Brent Reinke knows how to squeeze the most out of a taxpayer dollar. He's trimmed the cost per meal for inmates to 83 cents, in part by switching from whole to low-fat milk. The agency now has three options for short-term sentencing, with three, six- and nine-month alternatives, and Reinke carefully shifts inmates among the lowest-cost beds that are appropriate for them.

He's eliminated 71 permanent positions and 32 temporary ones.

Idaho's prison system has continued to put employees on furlough this year — 90,000 furlough hours since July 1. That includes 15,000 fewer hours spent monitoring probationers and parolees in the community. The corrections department is saving \$1.89 million this year because of furloughs, pushing down the overall cost per inmate from \$57.44 per day in fiscal 2009 to \$52.22 per day in fiscal 2010.

Our view:
 Because of budget cuts and furloughs, the Idaho Department of Correction is pushing the limits of its employees. That's a threat to public safety.
What do you think?
 We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

But turnover has ballooned to 28 percent, meaning that the agency is not only short-staffed — but working with a lot of inexperienced employees.

Reinke's bag of tricks in nearly empty, and the agency — like every other part of state government — is facing yet more sharp cuts in the coming year.

It seems to us there's a limit to how much more corrections can cut and still fulfill its core responsibility: keeping Idahoans safe.

So when legislators talk about revenue enhancement — through a range of options including delaying the grocery tax credit and hiring more auditors for the Idaho Tax Commission — Reinke's agency should get first crack at extra funding.

Why? Let's say you're a supervisor working double shifts at the Idaho State Correctional Institution

near Boise. You're tired, and because there are other staff members on furlough, you're doing more than one job.

The prisoners you're guarding have nothing to do but watch your actions, day in and day out. It's not hard for them to spot lapses or inconsistencies.

In the long run, that's a recipe for trouble — and maybe worse.

Nationwide, states are releasing thousands of inmates because of the budget crises. Idaho hasn't yet, but Reinke is running out of good options.

“We want to be sure in the department that the short-term crises that we have do not lead to long-term consequences,” he told the Legislature's Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee Tuesday. We hope JFAC was listening.

TIMES-NEWS

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

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

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ONLINE: Register at Magicvalley.com, and respond to any of the local opinions or stories in today's edition.
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JOIN THE DISCUSSION: Voice your opinion with local bloggers: Progressive Voice and Conservative Corner on the opinion page at Magicvalley.com.

Olbermann, O'Reilly and the death of news

To witness Keith Olbermann — the most opinionated among MSNBC's left-leaning, Fox-baiting, money-generating hosts — suspended even briefly last week for making financial contributions to Democratic political candidates seemed like a whimsical, arcane holdover from a long-gone era of television journalism when the networks considered the collection and dissemination of substantive and unbiased news to be a public trust.

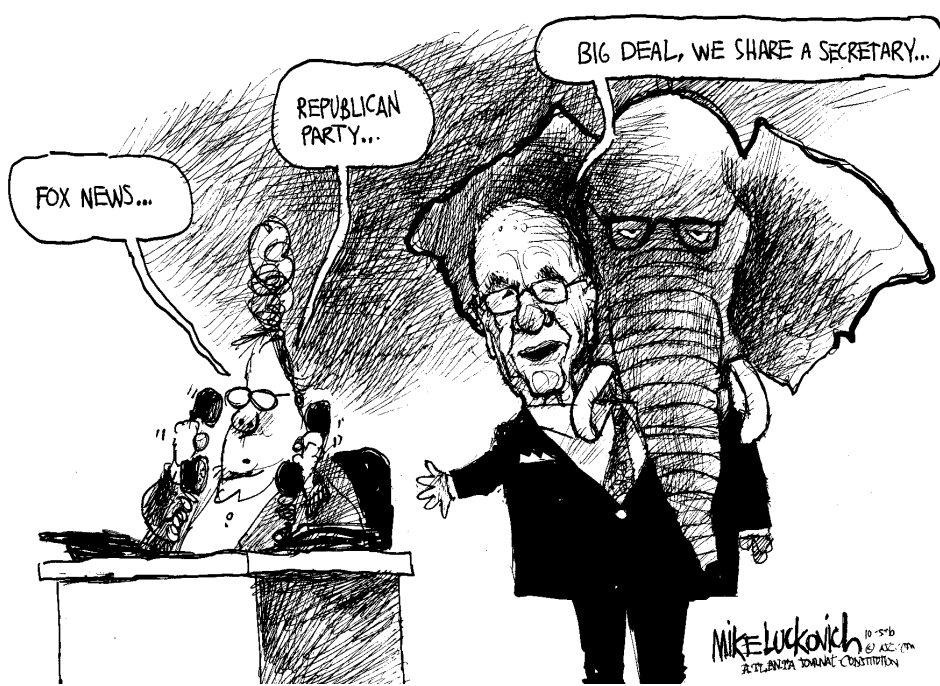


Ted Koppel

Back then, a policy against political contributions would have aimed to avoid even the appearance of partisanship. But today, when Olbermann draws more than 1 million like-minded viewers to his program every night precisely because he is awededly, unabashedly and monotonously partisan, it is not clear what misdemeanor his donations constituted. Consistency?

We live now in a cable news universe that celebrates the opinions of Olbermann, Rachel Maddow, Chris Matthews, Glenn Beck, Sean Hannity and Bill O'Reilly — individuals who hold up the twin pillars of political partisanship and who are encouraged to do so by their parent organizations because their brand of analysis and commentary is highly profitable.

The commercial success of both MSNBC and Fox News is a source of nonpartisan sadness for me. While I can appreciate the financial logic of drowning television viewers in a flood of opinions designed to confirm their own biases, the trend is not good for the republic. It is, though, the natural outcome of a grow-



ing sense of national entitlement. Daniel Patrick Moynihan's oft-quoted observation that “everyone is entitled to his own opinion, but not his own facts,” seems almost quaint in an environment that flaunts opinions as though they were facts.

And so, among the many benefits we have come to believe the founding fathers intended for us, the latest is news we can choose. Beginning, perhaps, from the reasonable perspective that absolute objectivity is unattainable, Fox News and MSNBC no longer even attempt it. They show us the world not as it is, but as partisans (and loyal viewers) at either end of the political spectrum would like it to be.

This is to journalism what Bernie Madoff was to investment: He told his customers what they wanted to hear, and by the time they learned the truth, their money was gone. It is also part of a pervasive ethos that eschews facts in favor of an idealized reality. The fashion industry has known this for years. A recent investigative report by *Esquire* magazine found that men's jeans from a variety of name-brand manufacturers are cut large but labeled small. The actu-

al waist sizes are tailored anywhere from three to six inches roomier than their labels insist.

Perhaps it doesn't matter that we are being flattered into believing what any full-length mirror can tell us is untrue. But when our accountants, bankers and lawyers, our doctors and our politicians tell us only what we want to hear, despite hard evidence to the contrary, we are headed for disaster. We need only look at our housing industry, our credit card debt, the cost of two wars subsidized by borrowed money, and the rising deficit to understand the dangers of entitlement rampant. We celebrate truth as a virtue, but only in the abstract. What we really need in our search for truth is a commodity that used to be at the heart of good journalism: facts — along with a willingness to present those facts without fear or favor.

Broadcast news has been outflanked and will soon be overtaken by scores of other media options. The need for clear, objective reporting in a world of rising religious fundamentalism, economic interdependence and global ecological problems is probably greater than it has ever been. But we are no longer a national audience receiving

news from a handful of trusted gatekeepers; we're now a million or more clusters of consumers, harvesting information from like-minded providers.

As you may know, Olbermann returned to his MSNBC program after just two days of enforced absence. He was gracious about the whole thing, acknowledging at least the historical merit of the rule he had broken: “It's not a stupid rule,” he said. “It needs to be adapted to the realities of 21st-century journalism.”

There is, after all, not much of a chance that 21st-century journalism will be adapted to conform with the old rules. Technology and the market are offering a tantalizing array of channels, each designed to fill a particular niche — sports, weather, cooking, religion — and an infinite variety of news, prepared and seasoned to reflect our taste, just the way we like it. As someone used to say in that bygone era, “That's the way it is.”

Ted Koppel was a correspondent and anchorman at ABC News from 1963 until his retirement in 2005. He hosted Nightline for 25 years.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Corruption has led to economic collapse

When government leaders use their power for their own gain, the whole country suffers. It is time to safeguard our democracy before we lose it.

Good leaders inspire entire generations to seek a greater good. They cast visions that help nations overcome tyranny and inequality. Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King Jr. are examples of this kind of leadership. We do not have to look far to find examples of bad leadership.

It is time for our own government officials to become accountable to those they serve. We must not tolerate those who are callous and indifferent to human suffering and exploit the poor. The self-interest of the wealthy elite at the expense of the poor is a violation of human dignity. We stand against a government that no longer serves its constituents.

When we pursue an illusion of peace and goodwill among the peoples of the world with dollar signs attached, the peace we will be making, according to Archibald MacLeish, will be a peace of oil, a peace of gold, a peace of shipping, a peace, in

brief... without moral purpose or human interest... This kind of corruption has now led us into an economic collapse that we have not seen since the Great Depression.

The new tea party movement reminds us when the government no longer serves the people, it is time to change the government.

When will we learn that war cannot permanently settle our conflicts or heal the wounds that brought them about? The extreme cost of war is among the many factors that have brought us to the brink of destruction.

It is time to hold our government accountable before we lose even more of the freedoms and opportunities that make America beautiful.

LOYD BAKEWELL
 Twin Falls

New building on Blue Lakes looks 'ghetto'

As I was driving down Blue Lakes a couple of weeks ago, I was appalled to see a large commercial building painted in bright purple with what appears to be neon-green security bars. I was even more upset to see a sign on the building that advertises “Adult XXX.”

This building is on the main thoroughfare through the city, and it looks as if it belongs in the ghettos of Los Angeles. I believe that whichever city government office chose to allow this did a huge disservice to our community.

NANCY BOWMAN
 Twin Falls

Jubilee House is well worth your support

We attended a graduation for four beautiful women of Jubilee House on Thursday, Nov. 4. These women had lives most of us cannot comprehend. They were drug addicts and have been through a year of intensive recovery and fought their addictions and are ready to start new lives. Jubilee House is a home for women with addictions. It has a very strict Christian structure. There are lessons, Bible and recovery studies every day. We have two or three of the women help us at the Salvation Army fixing lunches twice a month. I have mentored two of the women and they are amazing. They actually had many problems besides addiction or because of it that they had to overcome. Jubilee House

has “graduated” 11 women in the three years it has been open. There are usually around eight to 10 women in residence at any one time.

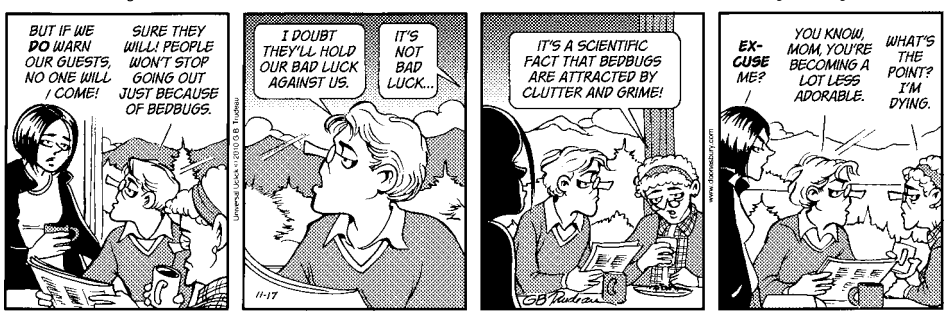
Jubilee House gets no government financial help and is run on grants and your generous contributions. Like every nonprofit, with this economy, the House is struggling. If 1,000 people would give \$10 a month, it would finance it very well and keep the house running. Maybe we could donate money that we were going to spend on the spouse or kids on that “little extra something.” We all would benefit from this but especially the women of Jubilee House.

I pray you will be able to attend the next graduation, hear the testimonies of these women and maybe volunteer or find a little extra funding to help keep it running. The women have jobs and are working to get their children back and have good lives. We hope some of you will become involved and find out what a great addition this is to our community and see what the Jubilee House is all about. For more information call, Kathryn Bausman at 736-2566.

ROSE WIMAN
 Twin Falls

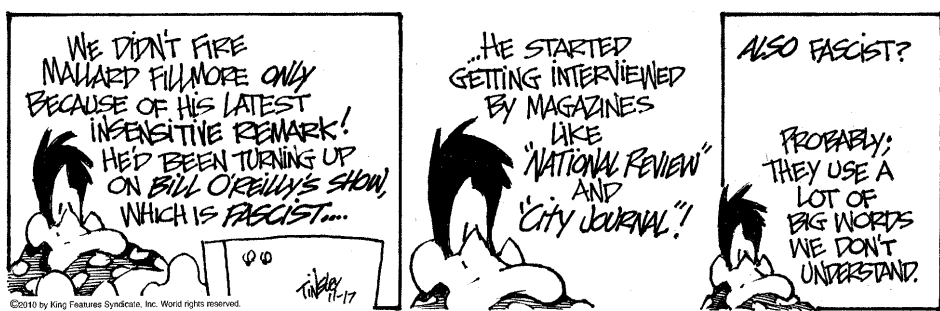
THE LIGHTER SIDE OF POLITICS

Doonesbury



By Garry Trudeau

Mallard Fillmore



By Bruce Tinsley

How Mexican are the Mexican-Americans?

MEXICO CITY — Is there one Mexico or two? That's what Mexican writer and television host Sergio Sarmiento asked me and two other Mexican-American writers Tuesday on his weekly show. It's a fundamental question that is actually about Mexicanness: How Mexican are Mexican-Americans? Are Mexicans and Mexican-Americans siblings? Distant cousins? Strangers?

It's a question befitting the historically awkward relationship between Mexico and the United States, with its long history of conflict and cooperation, affection and distrust. Historically, most Mexicans have answered it this way: You're either with us or you ought to be. They rejected the idea of a more transcendent kind of Mexicanness — a cultural identity separate and distinct from nationality. That left many Mexican-Americans in a true diaspora: not fully American by the standards of many in the U.S. and cut off from their "homeland" culture as well.

Sarmiento's inquiry, however, is just one indicator that the duality, and the



Gregory Rodriguez

restrictions of that either/or definition, is changing.

There is some distance to go, however. Most Mexicans tend to assume that emigrants and their children should remain loyal to the country they left behind, the country that in many cases failed to sustain them economically. A 2009 Zogby poll found that an overwhelming majority of people in Mexico thought the primary loyalty of Mexican-Americans — both Mexico- and U.S.-born — should be to Mexico. Just 20 percent said it should be to the United States.

It's an utterly false picture. Like all immigrants, Mexicans Americanize over generations. Language alone bears this out. Seventy-one percent of third-generation Mexican-American children speak only English. Many grow up to have no ties to Mexico, but many more find it both exotic and familiar, foreign and comforting. Like most

Americans, they recognize their roots — probably more so because Mexico shares a border with the U.S. — even if they're also as American as apple pie.

Mexico's misunderstandings about its emigrants have historically led it to reach out to its diaspora for its own narrow national interests. When the U.S. engaged in mass repatriations of immigrants in the 1930s, for example, Mexico offered assistance to the U.S. authorities. Officials in Mexico City saw the returned laborers, who had gained skills in the U.S., as a potential benefit to their own economy, and never mind that many of them had built new lives and weren't returning voluntarily.

Decades later, emigration would become a glaring symbol of Mexico's inability to take care of its people. The flip side of that is that Mexicans often saw emigrant families as renegades who cashed in their souls for material goods. They called them *pochos*, which translates to something like "watered-down Mexicans."

One early sign of a shift in attitude came from official Mexico at the beginning of the new century. In his inaugural address in

December 2000, former Mexican President Vicente Fox referred to emigrants not as traitors but as "our beloved migrants, our heroic migrants."

Sure, some of the change in attitude has to do with Mexico's desire to keep remittances flowing from the north. But Fox's welcoming words keep echoing.

"We used to see Mexican Americans as imitation Mexicans," Ricardo Salinas Pliego told me this week. Salinas is the president and chief executive officer of the conglomerate Grupo Salinas. "Now we see them as brave, and worthy of respect. We're grappling with this huge population north of the border and wondering what it means for Mexicanness."

It's impressive to hear that from Mexico's high and mighty. But what most impressed me was the trickle-down effect. On my first day here, a young man in his 20s told me he thought of emigrants and their Americanized children as "global Mexicans," the ones who reached out beyond their "homeland" to absorb and adopt the practices, customs and values of another nation, while retaining, in some sense,

Mexicanness. Not only did he not demean those who left Mexico as traitors or second-class Mexicans, he held them up as the cultural vanguard; early adapters in globalizing world.

So how did we three Americans answer

Sarmiento's question? Is there one or two Mexicos? A more fluid identity than either/or is in sight. We settled on one and a half.

Gregory Rodriguez is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times.

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Throw Carol Browner under the bus

Energy czar Carol Browner needs to go the way of disgraced green jobs czar Van Jones: under the bus and stripped of her unbridled power to destroy jobs and lives in the name of saving the planet. ASAP.

One of the Beltway's most influential, entrenched and unaccountable left-wing radicals, Browner has now been called out twice by President Obama's own federal BP oil spill commission and Interior Department inspector general. How many strikes should a woman who circumvented the Senate confirmation process and boasts a sordid history of abusing public office get?

Pushing the question — and shining a bright, hot spotlight on Browner's behind-the-scenes maneuvering — should be a top priority of the new House GOP majority. Not least of all because Washington insiders are still buzzing about possible White House plans to increase her policy role and elevate her status with Team Obama.

First, the BP oil spill panel dinged her for disseminating misleading information to the public about the scope of the disaster. In the aftermath of the spill, she falsely claimed that 75 percent of the spill was "now completely gone from the system" and falsely claimed that the administration's August report on the disaster was "peer-reviewed." The false claim "contributed to public perception" of Browner's calcula-



Michelle Malkin

tion as "more exact and complete" than it was ever designed to be, the oil spill commission concluded in October.

This week, the Interior Department inspector general singled out Browner's office for butchering peer-reviewed scientists' conclusions in a key report about the administration's preordained deepwater drilling moratorium. The scientists first blew the whistle on the administration's monkey business this summer. A federal judge sided with the misrepresented scientists and blasted the Interior Department's big green lie that its moratorium was "peer-reviewed" and endorsed by "seven experts identified by the National Academy of Engineering."

As the court concluded: "Although the experts agreed with the safety recommendations contained in the body of the main report, five of the National Academy experts and three of the other experts have publicly stated that they 'do not agree with the six month blanket moratorium' on floating drilling."

It was Browner's office behind the hatchet job. After cutting, pasting and tweaking the drilling moratorium report, one of Browner's staff members sent a 2 a.m. e-mail back to the Interior Department on

May 27 with edited versions that implied that the outside scientists endorsed the moratorium. The Interior Department inspector general tip-toed around Browner's responsibility for fudging the truth, using passive language to describe how the edited versions "caused the distinction" between what the administration wanted and what the scientists believed "to become effectively lost."

Nonsense. The distinction didn't "become" lost. Browner's office disappeared it, doctored it and obliterated it. Browner's wordsmiths played Mad Libs with the report until it fit their agenda. There was "no intent to mislead the public," Browner's office claims. But this eco-data doctoring fits a long pattern of politicized science over which Browner has presided.

While head of the Clinton administration's EPA, she ordered a staffer to purge and delete her computer files to evade a public disclosure lawsuit. Lambasted by the judge for "contumacious" behavior and contempt of court, Browner claimed it was all an innocent mistake — and blamed her young son for downloading games on her work computer that she was trying to erase.

During her tenure as EPA chief, she was also caught by a congressional subcommittee using taxpayer funds to create and send out illegal lobbying material to more than 100 grassroots environmental lobbying organizations. Browner

exploited her office to orchestrate a political campaign by left-wing groups, who turned around and attacked Republican lawmakers for supporting regulatory reform.

According to the left-leaning Atlantic, Obama has increasingly relied on Browner's counsel on issues beyond her environmental portfolio. Which means he's listening to her advice and strategizing on how to apply her truth-fudging, transparency-evading tactics to the rest of the economy and domestic policy.

Browner, a darling of left-wing billionaire George Soros' environmental justice circles and the wife of a top energy lobbyist, is a dangerous woman whose ideological zeal has helped power the Democrats' war on prosperity. Sunlight, as always, is the best disinfectant — and a much-needed monkey wrench in the Obama job-killing machine.

Syndicated columnist Michelle Malkin can be reached at writemalkin@gmail.com

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with \$50 purchase on first 14 lbs. \$1.09 lb. over 14 lbs. with \$100 purchase on first 14 lbs. \$1.09 lb. over 14 lbs.



Swensen's Store Baked Dinner Rolls
\$1.67 ea. 1 dozen



Asst. 6 oz. Stove Top Stuffing Mixes
98¢ ea.



10 lb. Bag Idaho Russet Potatoes
97¢ ea.



Marie Callender Fruit or Cream Pies
\$3.99 ea. **WOW**

QUALITY MEAT



Sugar Tree SPIRAL CUT HAM
\$1.19 lb.



Crisp CELERY
67¢ ea.

FALLS BRAND

Whole Bone-in SMOKED HAMS \$2.09 lb.	Whole or Half Boneless TAVERN HAMS \$2.79 lb.	Whole or Half Boneless PITT HAMS \$2.49 lb.	Whole or Half Boneless BUFFET HAM \$2.29 lb.
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Fresh CRAN-BERRIES 2 for \$4	Yams or SWEET POTATOES 67¢ lb.	Red Seedless GRAPES \$1.19 lb.	Large Extra Fancy APPLES 77¢ lb.
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Farmland BONELESS HAM \$1.69 lb.	Beef RIB EYE ROAST \$4.99 lb.	10 oz. Jar FRESH OYSTERS \$3.49 ea.	Boneless Beef CHUCK ROAST \$2.59 lb.
---	--	--	---

8 oz. Package Whole or Sliced MUSH-ROOMS 2 for \$4	YELLOW ONIONS 34¢ lb.	Large Bunches BROCCOLI 97¢ ea.	Radishes or GREEN ONIONS 39¢ ea.
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SWENSEN'S GROCERIES



Asst. 14-14.5 oz. SWANSON BROTH
2 for \$1



6 oz. Western Family Large or Medium OLIVES
98¢ ea.

14-16 oz. W. F. Whole or Jellied CRANBERRY SAUCE
94¢ ea.

29 oz. Western Family CANNED YAMS
\$1.33 ea.

16 oz. W.F. Mini or Regular MARSH-MALLOWES
4 for \$5

Asst. 14.5-15.25 oz. Libby's VEGGIES
69¢ ea.

6 oz. French's FRIED ONIONS
\$3.49 ea.

Asst. 4.5-6.6 oz. Betty Crocker SPECIALTY POTATOES
\$1.33 ea.

29 oz. Western Family PUMPKIN
3 for \$5

Asst. 14-16 oz. Kraft Pourable SALAD DRESSING
\$2.19 ea.

Asst. 46 oz. NALLEY'S PICKLES
\$2.19 ea.

Asst. 20 oz. DOLE PINEAPPLE
\$1.09 ea.

Asst. .6-6 oz. Jello Gelatin or PUDDING
99¢ ea.

10.5-11 oz. Western Family MANDARIN ORANGES
53¢ ea.

Asst. 64 oz. Langer's CRAN JUICES
\$1.88 ea.

10 lb. W. F. Unbleached or All Purpose FLOUR
\$2.69 ea.

Asst. 20-21 oz. Wilderness Apple or Cherry PIE FILLING
2 for \$5

Asst. 10-12 oz. Nestle BAKING CHIPS
\$2.14 ea.

Asst. 8-10 oz. Nabisco SNACK CRACKERS
3 for \$5

Asst. 10-11.5 oz. Lay's POTATO CHIPS
2 for \$4

Asst. 9-13 oz. Sun Chips or TOSTITOS
\$2.99 ea.

Asst. 7.75 - 11.12 oz. Cheetos or FRITOS
2 for \$5

10.75 oz. Campbell's Cream of Mushroom or CHICKEN SOUP
69¢ ea.

20 oz. Home Pride Wheat or WHITE BREAD
2 for \$4

Asst. 15.8-18 oz. Kellogg's Frosted MINI WHEATS
\$2.69 ea.

Asst. 27.8-33.9 oz. Folger's COFFEE
\$5.99 ea. **With in-store coupon Limit 2 Buy 4**

FRESH DAIRY/FROZEN FOODS



Big 5 qt. Bucket Western Family ICE CREAM
\$4.99 ea.

Asst. 8 oz. Western Family WHIPPED TOPPING
69¢ ea.

BEVERAGES



Asst. 12 pk 12 oz. or 6 pk 24 oz. PEPSI
4 for \$12

Asst. 2 liter PEPSI
4 for \$5

Asst. Varieties RHODES ROLLS
2 for \$6

16 oz. Pict Sweet Corn, Peas, Beans, Spinach or Mixed VEGGIES
99¢ ea.

32 oz. Regular or Lite Meadow Gold EGG NOG
\$1.79 ea.

1 lb. Cubes Western Family BUTTER
\$2.19 ea.

Dozen Western Family EGGS
\$1.19 ea.



Asst. 2 liter COKE
88¢ ea.

24 pk. .5 liter DASANI WATER
\$3.99 ea.

Open till 1 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day!



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Swensens
The stores that feel like home.

DELI/BAKERY



Store Baked Apple or PUMPKIN PIES
\$2.97 ea.

Asst. 8 in. Store Baked FRUIT PIES
\$4.47 ea.



2 slices of Turkey Breast, Mashed Potatoes & 2 rolls TURKEY MEAL
\$4.97 ea.

Store Made Cranberry CRUNCH SALAD
\$4.97 lb.



Government cracks down on thefts of benefits

By David Pitt
Associated Press writer

The Department of Labor says the recession is financially stressing business owners, and in a few cases they're pilfering employee contributions to 401(k) and health benefits accounts.

The department said Wednesday that it has filed civil lawsuits against 24 companies and business owners alleged to have kept money withheld from paychecks that was meant for retirement or health accounts.

"We've seen an increase in the

number of these cases as economic times get more difficult and companies are struggling," said Phyllis Borzi, the assistant secretary of labor.

The agency oversees 708,000 pension plans and 2.5 million health plans in addition to a few million life insurance, short-term disability, and similar plans.

The companies range in size, from fewer than 10 workers to more than 100.

The largest case involves more than \$6 million in worker contributions. It is filed against Northern

Rhode Island Anesthesia Associates PC and its owner. The Labor Department alleges contributions to the company's pension plan were not deposited into the plan and were used to benefit the company, which had subsidiaries in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

The owner filed for bankruptcy protection in December 2008, the Labor Department said.

Most of the 24 lawsuits involve 401(k) contributions. Federal laws require money withheld from worker paychecks to be deposited in the retirement fund within a

specified period of time. For small companies with fewer than 100 workers, it's typically within seven business days. Larger companies must deposit the money no later than the 15th business day of the month following the month in which the money was received.

In some cases, the money was diverted for other uses, costing workers lost investment gains. In other cases, the money was never deposited and used for company expenses or for personal use by the company owner.

In addition to civil lawsuits,

which attempt to recover the employee money, the Labor Department has begun a program to file criminal cases against some employers or plan administrators.

So far this year, the government has initiated 191 criminal investigations, referring 97 cases to federal prosecutors. It has obtained 20 indictments and seven guilty pleas.

Assets returned total more than \$385,000 so far.

A criminal case is pursued in the cases where the intent was clearly to divert the employee money for personal use.

EXPLORING BIG POTENTIAL



Photos by ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Stan Craig looks at one of the engines Tuesday that produces electricity at Cargill's anaerobic digester at a dairy near Hansen.

Small business accelerates as jobs precede easy money

By Shobhana Chandra
and Anthony Feld
Bloomberg News writers

Ultimate Golf Seating in Elkhart, Ind., has hired five workers to expand its staff to 10 as orders increase for its custom-made golf-cart seats, which start at \$745.

"Demand is starting to improve," co-owner David Vahala said. "We're definitely making a turn this year."

Small businesses are bouncing back as access to lending eases and consumers ramp up purchases. This would be welcome news for policymakers struggling to spur the world's largest economy and bring down unemployment stalled near a 26-year high, because small companies account for 60 percent of job creation, according to Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke. The Fed said Nov. 3 it plans to buy another \$600 billion of Treasuries, citing "disappointingly slow" progress in the recovery.

The Russell 2000 Index, which tracks the small-cap segment of U.S. equity markets, has risen 19.5 percent since August 31, compared with a 14.3 percent gain in the Standard & Poor's 500 Index.

See **GROWTH**, Business 2

Alternative energy attracts business interest

By Blair Koch
Times-News writer

HANSEN — Cutting winds couldn't stop a small group of Idaho businessmen and citizens from visiting one of the largest energy-producing manure digesters in the state on Tuesday.

Attendees of the two-day Sustainable Energy Conference, which continues today, had opportunity to visit one of five renewable energy projects in southern Idaho, including Cargill Inc.'s Bettencourt Dry Creek Biofactory south of Hansen.

Larry Hall, Rural Economic Development Specialist, was on the tour and said it represented a successful state-based renewable energy project.

"Exploring alternative sources of fuel and energy is popular," Hall said. "Its development is important to a myriad of other industries and services that would benefit, from engineers to manufacturing."

The digester has been turning waste from the dairy's roughly 7,500 milking cows into energy for about two and a half years. But the technology involved is still a work in progress, said Tom Powell, the Cargill employee responsible for site maintenance.

"There is not a whole lot of these in the U.S.," Powell said, adding that Idaho is behind the states of California and New York in its number of digesters.

The Hansen site, however, is unique in the fact that it is larger-scale.

"In New York, we're talking



Tom Powell, who works at the Cargill facility, talks with tour members attending a sustainable energy conference on Tuesday.

dairies with 1,000 to 2,000 cows, much smaller than this operation," Powell said.

Laren Bailey, co-owner of Meridian-based LEI, an engineering, surveying and planning firm, said renewable energy is one of the few industries with growth and profit potential.

The firm is working with clients who are exploring investments in renewable energy products.

"There is money in renewables right now," Bailey told the *Times-News*. "There are grant opportunities and federal dollars for projects as well. With industrial and

commercial developments still dragging with the economy, renewables are getting more attractive."

Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization Executive Director Jan Rogers said, "We really believe renewable energies are southern Idaho's next really big thing."

Which is why SIEDO co-sponsored the conference with the College of Southern Idaho and Idaho National Laboratory, to name a few.

"We're already producing four of the five renewable energy sec-

tors: run-of-river hydroelectric, geothermal, wind and biomass. Soon, we'll be in solar, too," Rogers said. "We want to make southern Idaho the go-to place because really, we already are."

The conference continues today, with the 100 or so registered attendees attending breakout sessions on everything from property rights and work force development to Idaho's renewable energy production potential.

Blair Koch may be reached at bkoch@magicvalley.com or 735-3295.

Social Security makes website easier to use

Times-News

Michael J. Astrue, Commissioner of Social Security, today unveiled the agency's newly redesigned home page that will help visitors more quickly and easily find the information and services they need. One of the key features of the redesigned home page is a service channeling guide, which appears in the left-hand column of the page. The guide links users directly to the most popular pages on Social Security's website — the services visitors are most likely to want to use.

"We set out to make Social Security's new home page even easier for visitors to find the services and information they need," Commissioner Astrue said, "and our new look reflects the useful feedback we received from the public during testing. Almost everyone either needs the information on our site or can use it to help a relative or neighbor."

See **WEBSITE**, Business 2

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Con Agra	21.14	▼ .47	Dell	13.40	▼ .11	Idacorp	35.90	▼ .62	Int. Bancorp	1.51	▼ .22
Lithia Mo.	12.74	▼ .40	McDonald's	77.42	▼ 1.65	Micron	7.22	▼ .20	Supervalu	9.90	▼ .28

COMMODITIES

For more see Business 2

Live cattle	98.45	▼ .78	Dec. Oil	82.20	▼ 2.66
Nov. Gold	1,340.20	▼ 28.30	Nov. Silver	25.43	▼ .67

MARKET SUMMARY

Table with 3 columns: NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ. Each column lists Most Active, Gainers, Losers, and Diary. Includes volume, price change, and percentage change.

INDEXES

Table of market indexes including Dow Jones Industrials, Dow Jones Transportation, NYSE Composite, etc., with values and percentage changes.

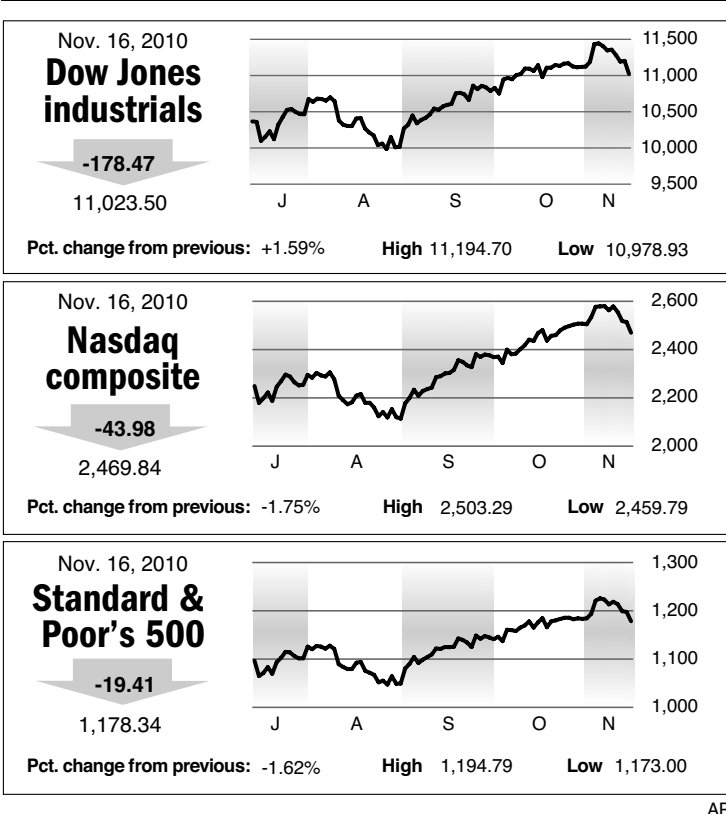
STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table listing local stocks such as AlliantEgy, AlliantTch, AmCasino, etc., with columns for price, change, and volume.

HOW TO READ THE REPORT

Stock Footnotes: cc - PE greater than 99. dd - Loss in last 12 mos. d - New 52-wk low during trading day. g - Dividend in Canadian \$. Stock price in U.S. \$. n - New issue in past 52 wks. q - Closed-end mutual fund, no PE calculated. s - Split or stock dividend of 25 pct or more in last 52 wks. Div begins with date of split or stock dividend. u - New 52-wk high during trading day. v - Trading halted on primary market. Unless noted, dividend rates are annual disbursements based on last declaration. pf - Preferred. pp - Holder owes installment(s) of purchase price. rt - Rights. un - Units. wd - When distributed. wi - When issued. wt - Warrants. ww - With warrants. xw - Without warrants. Dividend Footnotes: a - Also extra or extras. b - Annual rate plus stock dividend. c - Liquidating dividend. e - Declared or paid in preceding 12 mos. f - Annual rate, increased on last declaration. i - Declared or paid after stock dividend or split. j - Paid this year, dividend omitted, deferred or no action taken at last meeting. k - Declared or paid this year, accumulative issue with dividends in arrears. m - Annual rate, reduced on last declaration. p - Init div, annual rate unknown. r - Declared or paid in preceding 12 mos plus stock dividend. t - Paid in stock in last 12 mos, estimated cash value on ex-dividend or distribution date. x - Ex-dividend or ex-rights. y - Ex-dividend and sales in full. z - Sales in full. vv - In bankruptcy or receivership or being reorganized under the Bankruptcy Act, or securities assumed by such companies. * Most active stocks above must be worth \$1 and gainers/losers \$2. Mutual Fund Footnotes: e - Ex-capital gains distribution. f - Previous day's quote. n - No-load fund. p - Fund assets used to pay distribution costs. r - Redemption fee or contingent deferred sales load may apply. s - Stock dividend or split. t - Both p and r. x - Ex-cash dividend. Source: The Associated Press. Sales figures are unofficial.

YESTERDAY ON WALL STREET



COMMODITIES REPORT

Table of commodity prices including Closing Futures (Livestock, Grains, Cheese, Potatoes) and Livestock prices. Includes columns for commodity name, high, low, close, and change.

Immigrant-focused lender not quite bank, not quite payday lender

5-year-old business will reach \$100M in loans this year

By E. Scott Reckard Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES - Customers jam the lime-green booth at a Latino supermarket near downtown Los Angeles. Clutching pay stubs and IDs, they're applying for small loans, enough to cover a car repair or an emergency trip to Mexico or El Salvador. Standing behind counters, tapping furiously on laptop computers, three polo-shirted account executives do the initial screening in about two minutes. "How many dependents live with you?" they ask in rapid-fire Spanish. "How often do you send money home?" Latino immigrants are at

the center of one of the nation's most heated political debates. But for James Gutierrez's young company, Progreso Financiero, they are the heart of a booming business. At a time when many banks are grappling with mountains of bad debt and foreclosures on million-dollar homes, Gutierrez's company is growing fast by making loans with no collateral to dishwashers, factory workers and others, regardless of their immigration status. "We're solving a gap in the market," the 32-year-old entrepreneur says. Gutierrez started Progreso Financiero, which translates to Progress Financial, as a "social entrepreneuring" research project six years ago while earning an MBA at Stanford University. The proposition: If poor people from Bangladesh to Bolivia can be good credit



James Gutierrez, second from right, started Progreso Financiero five years ago. This kiosk in a supermarket in Los Angeles is one of its 39 locations in California and Texas.

proved, why not the millions of immigrants working in the United States? Gutierrez was convinced

he could find enough low-income customers with the "moral collateral" to pay him back. Based in Mountain View, Calif., the 5-year-old firm will have made 100,000 loans, averaging \$1,000 each, for a total of \$100 million by the end of this year, Gutierrez said. Of those, 70 percent will have been made in 2010, "our breakout year?" Progreso's typical 26 percent interest rate, plus its \$50 origination fee for loans, works out to an average annual percentage rate of 36 percent. That's twice the average APR for bank credit cards. But it's well below interest rates that can top 450 percent at some payday lenders or pawn shops, often the only options for low-income borrowers. Most mainstream lenders avoid such small sums, finding them more hassle than they're worth.

Growth

Continued from Business 1

The outperformance signals investors' rising confidence in smaller companies and those that cater to the sector, including Administaff Inc., which provides human-resource services to small and mid-size businesses. The shift is echoed in announcements by larger companies ranging from SAP, the world's largest maker of business management software, to Dell Inc., the world's third-biggest personal computer manufacturer. Small-business sentiment also is heating, according to the optimism index of the National Federation of Independent Business in Nashville, Tenn., which jumped in October to a five-month high.

One source of relief for small companies is the thaw in lending, reinforced by the Fed's quarterly survey of senior loan officers, released Nov. 8. Fed officials have held more than 40 meetings this year to try to reverse the drop in credit, and Bernanke said in an Oct. 15 speech that regulators have "seen some positive signs." The revival in stock portfolios also helps by giving consumers the wherewithal to spend, said Ultimate Golf Seating's Vahala, who is setting his sights on southern California, Arizona, Texas and the Carolinas after his first year of selling luxury seats in retirement communities such as The Villages in Florida.

"More retired customers are saying, 'Now I can buy this seat; it's been on my wish list for some time,'" said Vahala, 52. He sees the possibility of adding "one or two people through the end of this year and some more next year as the sales come in." He and his brother, Dan, also run Vahala Foam Inc., a 20-year-old company whose products go into car seats, recreational vehicles, boats and furniture. Their business, which cut staff to 65 in 2009 from about 120 before the recession, has 80 workers now and spent about \$100,000 on new equipment this year. Hiring and investment would have been higher in normal years, Vahala said.

Website

Continued from Business 1

Other features of the new home page include a rotating "showcase" that provides high visibility for significant agency initiatives that benefit the American public. Redesigned subpages for the major Social Security benefit programs - Retirement, Disability, Survivors, SSI, and Medicare - are easily accessed by clicking on the row of horizontal blue buttons at the top of the home page. An additional button - Business Services - links to a portal with information and services Social Security offers to businesses. A news section keeps readers up to date on important Social Security announcements, and a large question mark on the right side of the page takes visitors to frequently

asked questions. While the look of the website may have changed, the bookmarked links to users' favorite pages have not. According to the American Customer Satisfaction Index, Social Security has the three highest rated online services in all of government - the Retirement Estimator,

online benefit application, and the Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs application. The customer satisfaction scores for these online services exceed the top-rated commercial site, Netflix. To visit Social Security's redesigned home page, go to www.socialsecurity.gov.



BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Partially clearing skies. High 49.

Tonight: Becoming windy. Low 34.

Tomorrow: Windy at times. High 52.

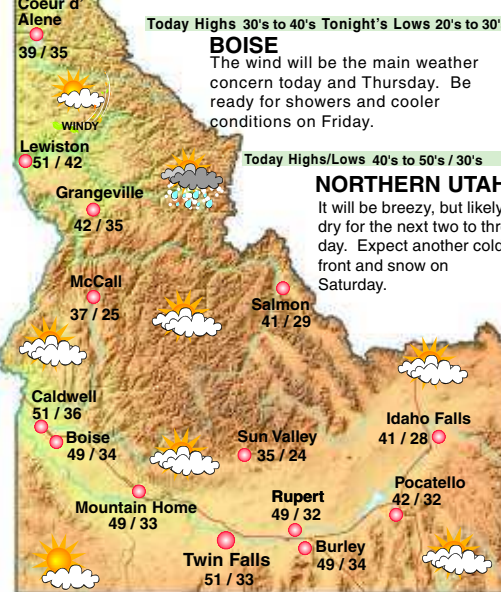
ALMANAC - BURLEY

Table with 2 columns: Temperature and Precipitation. Includes Yesterday's High/Low, Normal High/Low, Record High/Low, and other weather statistics.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.

The wind will increase later today. The wind will be accompanied by snow on Thursday. Expect winter driving conditions.



TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Five-day forecast table for Twin Falls with columns for Today, Tonight, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, including weather icons and temperature ranges.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 4 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, and Barometric Pressure. Includes Yesterday's High/Low, Normal High/Low, Record High/Low, and other weather statistics.

MOON PHASES



REGIONAL FORECAST

Regional forecast table listing cities and their weather conditions for Today and Tomorrow.

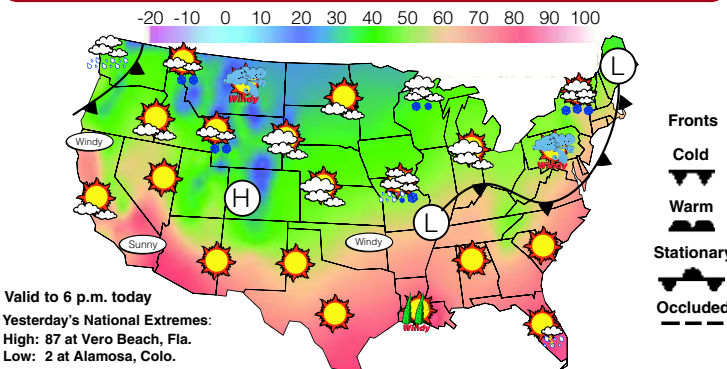
NATIONAL FORECAST

National forecast table listing cities and their weather conditions for Today and Tomorrow.

WORLD FORECAST

World forecast table listing cities and their weather conditions for Today and Tomorrow.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



Gregg Middlekauff's Quote of the Day: 'Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try one more time.'

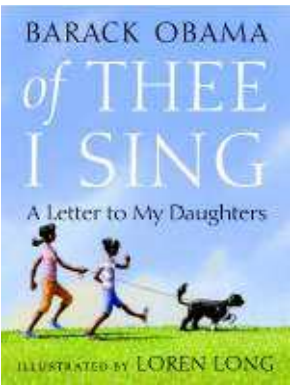
CANADIAN FORECAST

Canadian forecast table listing cities and their weather conditions for Today and Tomorrow.

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

Book for daughters could endear Obama to voters

By Peter Nicholas, Tribune Washington Bureau



The cover of 'Of Thee I Sing: A Letter to My Daughters,' by Barack Obama.

'This author writes his own content. It was written totally by him, every word.'

- Robert Barnett, who represented Obama in the book deal

WASHINGTON - When speaking to voters in recent months, President Barack Obama was apt to criticize scheming Republicans who wrecked the economy and deserved a "back seat" in American politics.

But a softer, gentler Obama emerges in the pages of a new children's book that he authored, perhaps the first step in a reinvention that Democrats hope will win back some of the female voters turned off by the cool, lecturing partisan who got a "shellacking" in the midterm elections.

Obama's picture book, 'Of Thee I Sing: A Letter to My Daughters,' was released in bookstores on Tuesday, his third book and one that might prove every bit as useful to his political career as the first two.

With illustrations by Loren Long, the cover shows Obama's two daughters, Malia, 12, and Sasha, 9, walking their dog Bo on a sun-dappled lawn.

'Have I told you lately how wonderful you are?' the book opens. 'How the sound of your feet running from afar brings dancing rhythms to my day?'

Obama wrote the book himself, his attorney said, submitting the manuscript before he took office in January 2009.

'This author writes his own content,' said Robert Barnett, who represented Obama in the book deal. 'It was written totally by him, every word.'

The book is Obama's second installment in a three-book contract he signed in 2004. The first book, 'The Audacity of Hope,' helped propel Obama's presiden-

ential election. A Gallup poll released earlier this month showed Obama's approval rating among women at 46 percent - down from 70 percent in the weeks after he took office.

A survey released earlier in the month by Lake Research Partners, a Democratic polling firm, digs deeper into the numbers, showing that only 40 percent of married women rated Obama as either excellent or good, compared to 59 percent who judged him fair or poor.

The White House wants to drive those figures back up. To that end, Obama and the first lady next week will appear on an hourlong Barbara Walters show dubbed, 'A Thanksgiving Visit with President and Mrs. Obama.' ABC will air the interview on Nov. 26 - the day after Thanksgiving.

Pollsters who have stud-

ied Obama's ups and downs said the children's book, in particular, may prove important to Obama's recovery.

Celinda Lake, president of Lake Research Partners, said in an interview that

Obama tends to talk in big-picture, macroeconomic terms that don't resonate with female voters.

'Women tend to respond more to the personal, to the micro,' Lake said. 'One of the voting groups that he

did quite poorly with was married women - including married moms - so this book is a wonderful opportunity.'

The text has a lyrical tone reminiscent of Obama's autobiography, 'Dreams From My Father.' It celebrates 13 Americans - Sitting Bull and George Washington; Jackie Robinson and Martin Luther King Jr., among them.

The Herrett Forum presents The Heyburn Collection. Renowned local artist LaVar Steel discusses this remarkable art collection that was acquired at the Heyburn School from 1933 - 1952. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 17th. Admission is free of charge. Rick Allen Community Room of the Herrett Center for Arts and Science. Located on North College Road in Twin Falls.

Advertisement for Sav-Mor Drug featuring David Nelson, Owner/Pharmacist. Text: 'what does first best mean to you? ...we get good feedback on our regular ad campaign and we know people are reading it...'. Includes a photo of David Nelson on a bicycle.

Advertisement for ID'S TREASURE CHEST. Now Open. 112 Main Street West, Wendell, Idaho. Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 Am-5:00 P.M. Evenings by appointment. Call Janice Hawkins for appointments (208)358-1046. Plan a Group Party. See our huge selection of individually priced beads. Browse many handmade gifts.

Advertisement for First Best Times-News. David rides his bike to work every day and especially enjoys the Times-News coverage of the Tour de France. He starts each day with the paper in his hands. First. Best. It's what David expects. It's what we deliver... Includes icons for print, online, and mobile services.



1 week remains: Sign up to compete for Cookie Champ title



Times-News

This December, someone will earn the title of southern Idaho's Cookie Champ.

It could be you.

That is, if you can bake the cookie that most impresses the *Times-News'* features department and our panel of cookie connoisseurs.

In 2008, our cookie contest drew 22 contestants, with Rupert's Ron Lowe and Buhl's Jean Nodacker narrowly beating out the other

goody gladiators to claim top honors.

One week remains to sign up. To compete for the 2010 title, sign up by calling Mirela Sulejmanovic at 735-3278 or e-mailing her at mirelas@magicvalley.com. She'll give you the instructions and location for our Nov. 29 cookie-tasting panel.

We'll ask contestants to bring a half-dozen homemade cookies — from a single recipe of their choice — to wow our judges that day.

The deadline to sign up: 5 p.m. Nov. 24.

The taste of victory: sweet, sweet, sweet.

ONE-DISH WONDERS



The winning dish in the *Times-News'* Comfy Casserole Contest: Laura Lee Carlisle's one-pot stovetop Chicken Penne Parmesana.

Photos by ARIEL HANSEN/
Times-News

MORE ONLINE



WATCH video of the winning casserole being made, and an interview with the cook. MAGICVALLEY.COM

WINNER

Chicken Penne Parmesana

From Laura Lee Carlisle of Jerome



Carlisle

- 3 to 4 chicken breasts, cut into bite-sized chunks
- 1 onion, chopped (or 1/4 cup dried onions)
- 4 1/2 cups chicken broth (divided)
- 1 can condensed milk (or 1 1/2 cups fresh milk)
- 2 cans condensed creamed soup (Carlisle uses celery and chicken)
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder (or 1 fresh clove, crushed)
- 1/2 teaspoon ground pepper
- 3/4 teaspoon poultry seasoning
- 2 teaspoons celery flakes (optional)
- 1 teaspoon parsley flakes (optional)
- 2 tablespoons fresh basil, or 2 teaspoons dried basil (optional)
- 1 16-ounce package penne pasta (or another small pasta)
- 1 cup Parmesan cheese, grated

Additions:

- 1 16-ounce package frozen vegetables (Carlisle prefers broccoli or mixed vegetables), or 2 to 3 cups fresh broccoli florets, steamed until al dente
- 3 to 4 tomatoes, sliced into 1/4-inch wedges, or about 20 grape tomatoes, halved
- 1 1/2 cups artichoke hearts (1 can, drained), cut into 1/2-inch wedges

Optional topping:

- 1/4 cup Italian bread crumbs
- 1 tablespoon melted butter
- 1 tablespoon fresh chopped basil

Turn a stovetop burner to high. In a large skillet or medium pot, cook onion, 1 cup broth and chicken until broth is mostly evaporated. Chicken will not be fully cooked.

Mix remaining broth, milk, soups and spices in a large bowl. Add to the chicken and onion mixture in the skillet, and bring to a boil. Add pasta, reduce heat to a bubbling simmer, and cook for 13 minutes, stirring every 3 minutes.

If using frozen vegetables, microwave them until they are warm. Add vegetables and Parmesan when the pasta and chicken has simmered for 13 minutes, and stir thoroughly. If desired, mix topping ingredients and sprinkle over the casserole. Serve immediately.



Laura Lee Carlisle adds a can of condensed milk to the liquid for her Chicken Penne Parmesana, which she said creates a richer flavor than fresh milk.

The Comfy Casserole Contest winners

By Ariel Hansen
Times-News writer

JEROME — Opting to make a casserole when the weather turns chilly might be an easy choice for home cooks, but I recently faced a decision that was anything but easy: I had to choose finalists and a winner from among all the mouthwatering recipes contributed to our Comfy Casserole Contest.

We got about 15 entries, with the requirement that the recipes be relatively easy to make, use commonly found ingredients and be versatile. Extra points were possible for casseroles that were unexpected in flavor or construction and those that had a good story. From these entries, I chose three finalists:

Rebecca Henning of Twin Falls submitted the recipe she always turns to when she's feeling blue or getting sick. Her aunt discovered it when Henning was little, and it quickly became Henning's ultimate comfort food.

Although Laura Lee Carlisle of Jerome based her recipe on one she found the back of an American Beauty macaroni box, she modifies it with canned and fresh ingredients to make it her own and please her family.

A breakfast casserole was the entry of Jenni Cooper of Hagerman, who loves that preparing it the night before allows her to spend time with her kids and husband on Saturday mornings as it bakes.

To decide on a victor, I visited the home of each of these cooks and watched her prepare her



Before baking, the Make-Ahead Breakfast Casserole must chill overnight — or longer — in the refrigerator, so the liquids are absorbed into the bread.

casserole. I tasted a freshly finished dish, and then brought home samples to have as leftovers — because one of the great things about casseroles is that they're often better the second day.

And the winner? It's Carlisle, whose one-pot stovetop casserole was filling but tasted fresh and not too heavy.

Although it was a little salty for my taste — probably due to the canned creamy soup that provides the majority of the liquid base — the fresh tomatoes and basil brightened the rich sauce.

"This is cooking and assembly all at once," Carlisle said. "It's one of the most forgiving recipes; it's pretty fail-proof."

Like Carlisle, I appreciate that the recipe provides the proper ratios of liquid to pasta to cook the noodles as the dish comes together, rather than having to cook them separately. Confident in this ratio, she has made several variations on the basic recipe, like substituting green chilies for chicken, shell macaroni for penne, and ground jalapeno and cumin for the recipe's spices.

THANKSGIVING 2010

Italian flavors create addictive turkey, stuffing

By Alison Ladman
For The Associated Press

There is nothing subtle about the flavors of this turkey. But it is so intensely good, you won't be able to stop eating it, or its salami-studded stuffing.

And really, isn't the whole point of Thanksgiving to be unable to stop eating?

To create this amazing bird, we rubbed it with a puree of oil-poached garlic. The volume of garlic called for in the recipe may seem excessive, or even obscene (a mere 14 heads), but poached garlic has a far milder flavor than raw (the process produces garlic similar to roasted). The resulting puree is rubbed liberally under the skin of the turkey.

To create a stuffing worthy of this bird, we blend toasted bread with a blend of mushrooms, herbs, salami, artichokes and cheese.

The garlic and herb rub can be made a day or two ahead, and even the step of rubbing it into the bird can be done the day before. The garlic is poached in oil, most of which will not be used afterward. Save it for dipping your bread or tossing with veggies.

Also, if the idea of peeling 14 heads of garlic isn't appealing, most grocers sell jars of peeled garlic cloves.

ROASTED GARLIC AND HERB TURKEY WITH FOREST MUSHROOM AND SALAMI STUFFING

Start to finish: 5 1/2 hours.
Makes a 12- to 14-pound turkey with stuffing to serve 12.

For the roasted garlic and herb rub:
4 cups peeled garlic cloves



Roasted garlic, forest mushrooms, salami: There is nothing subtle about the flavors of this turkey.

AP photo

(about 14 to 16 heads)

3 cups vegetable or canola oil

1 bunch fresh rosemary, leaves only, minced

1 bunch fresh marjoram or oregano, leaves only

1/2 bunch fresh thyme, leaves only

For the turkey:

12- to 14-pound turkey

Salt and ground black pepper, to taste

For the stuffing:

1-ounce package dried porcini mushrooms

3 cups chicken or turkey broth

8 ounces sliced genoa salami, finely chopped

1 large yellow onion, diced

1 stalk celery, diced

1/4 cup chopped shallot

1 pound mixed mushrooms, sliced (such as trumpet, oyster, crimini, shiitake, maitake)

1 teaspoon salt

1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper

14-ounce can quartered artichoke hearts, roughly chopped

8 ounces fontina cheese, grated and divided

2 eggs, beaten

1 loaf stale country bread, cubed and toasted (about 8 cups)

To make the roasted garlic and herb rub, heat the oven to 350 degrees.

Place the garlic and the oil in a small baking dish (a loaf pan works well). Ensure that all of the garlic is covered with oil. Cover the pan with foil and roast for 1 1/2 hours, or until the garlic is very soft and golden brown. Remove from the oven and allow to cool.

Once the garlic has cooled, drain the oil. Reserve 1/4 cup of the oil for the stuffing and the rest for another use.

In the bowl of a food

processor, combine the garlic, rosemary, marjoram and thyme. Process until smooth. Reserve 1/4 cup of the mixture for the stuffing.

To make the turkey, heat the oven to 350 degrees.

Place the turkey in a roasting pan fitted with a roasting rack. Gently loosen the skin of the turkey, being careful not to tear it. Rub the roasted garlic mixture under the skin and inside the cavity of the bird. Be sure to rub it on both the legs and the breasts, turning the bird as needed.

Rub more of the mixture on the outside of the skin, then season the entire bird with salt and black pepper. Roast for 2 1/2 to 3 hours, or until the breast reaches 160 degrees and the thickest part of the thigh reaches 170 degrees.

During roasting, turn the pan occasionally to encourage even cooking. If the turkey begins to brown too much, tent with foil, as

needed. Allow the turkey to rest in the pan for 10 minutes before moving to a platter.

When the turkey is halfway through roasting, begin the stuffing. Coat a large casserole dish or a 9-by-13-inch baking pan with cooking spray.

In a medium skillet over high heat, combine the porcini mushrooms and broth. Bring to a boil, then remove the skillet from heat and allow to cool.

In a large saute pan over medium-high, heat the reserved 1/4 cup garlic oil. Add the salami and saute until crisped and lightly browned, about 8 to 10 minutes. Add the onion, celery and shallot and continue to cook until the onion is soft and translucent. Add the

sliced mushrooms, salt and pepper. Continue to cook until the mushrooms are tender and beginning to brown, about 5 to 7 minutes.

Remove the saute pan from heat and stir in the reserved roasted garlic puree, porcini and broth mixture, the artichoke hearts, three-quarters of the fontina and the eggs. Add the bread cubes, toss well, then spoon into the prepared casserole dish. Top with the remaining fontina and bake for 35 to 45 minutes.

Per serving: 1,052 calories; 552 calories from fat (52 percent of total calories); 63 g fat (16 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 291 mg cholesterol; 37 g carbohydrate; 81 g protein; 3 g fiber; 1,350 mg sodium.

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Casserole

Continued from Food 1

And it's quick, in both preparation and cooking time. "If I'm really in a hurry, by the time the chicken is done, I can pretty much get everything else ready," she said. "It's just a good standby. Company likes it, and it looks harder than it is."

Carlisle's daughter, Becca, said she likes it even better the second day, when the ingredients have gelled together, and I agree — it was my favorite of the leftovers.

Also holding together well the second day was runner-up Cooper's Make-Ahead Breakfast Casserole, although it was distinctly drier than when it was fresh.

The dish is a standby in the Nebraska town where both Cooper and her husband grew up, and after she married, Cooper got the recipe from her mother. Her husband, who works outdoors, loves how filling even a small portion is, she said, and the flavors please picky children's palates.

Perhaps the most important caution, she said, is to use dry bread — stale would be fine — so it doesn't dissolve too much when you add the liquid. More time in the oven is needed if you use ham, because that adds a little wateriness, and she likes to add additional spices like onion powder, garlic powder and paprika to give it some kick.

The recipe's versatility is great, Cooper said, because she likes to substitute in whatever is fresh from her garden or the farmers market. "Whatever's in my refrigerator at the time, to kind of get rid of stuff," she said. "It's the whole theory of the casserole anyway."

That is, unless your favorite casserole evokes memories of childhood — then you want it just the same as it was back then, like runner-up Henning's Chicken Divan. "I just loved it, I always asked for it on my birthday," she said. "It's my favorite comfort food."

Because it's so creamy and full of cheese, she doesn't have it often, saving that comfort for when she needs it most. When she tells her husband Chicken Divan is on the menu, he responds, "Did you have a bad day?" she said, laughing. "Am I that transparent?"

Occasionally, she'll freeze a half-finished, unbaked batch, leaving off the crackers and cheddar to add later. She acknowledged that Cheez Whiz and Ritz are unusual additions to a casserole, and ones she doesn't often have on hand for other recipes, but said they are what makes this recipe special.

"Most of the time I'll play with recipes, but I don't know how to improve on this one," she said.

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

RUNNER-UP

Chicken Divan

From Rebecca Henning of Twin Falls

- 1/4 cup butter
- 6 tablespoons flour
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 1/2 cup whipping cream
- 1/2 cup Cheez Whiz
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon poultry seasoning
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 2 to 3 cups cooked, cubed chicken (Henning usually uses precooked rotisserie chicken)
- 2 to 3 cups steamed, chopped broccoli (Henning usually uses frozen)
- 1 sleeve of Ritz crackers, crumbled (Henning uses a meat pounder to crumble the crackers in the sleeve before opening it)
- 1 1/2 cups cheddar cheese, grated

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.

Stir together butter and flour in saucepan over low heat until smooth, then add the next six ingredients in order, through salt and pepper. Bring to a low boil, stirring often, then reduce to a simmer. Cook until thick. Meanwhile, layer the broccoli and chicken in a 9-by-12-inch pan. Cover with the sauce, crumbled Ritz crackers and grated cheddar.

Cover with foil and bake for 20 minutes. Remove foil and switch to broil for a couple of minutes to crisp the cheese, if desired.



Photos by ARIEL HANSEN/Times-News
Cheez Whiz is the most unexpected ingredient in Rebecca Henning's Chicken Divan, and she said she rarely buys it for anything except this casserole.



A shredded rotisserie chicken eases the preparation of Chicken Divan, said Henning, who adores the casserole for its comfort and childhood memories.



A few minutes under the broiler crisps up the cheese on the Chicken Divan — but be sure to use enough cheese to cover the Ritz crackers, or they might burn.



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Local eggs and cheese, with fresh vegetables from the garden or farmers market, are main ingredients in Jenni Cooper's Make-Ahead Breakfast Casserole. She has even used her homemade bread in the dish.

RUNNER-UP

Make-Ahead Breakfast Casserole

From Jenni Cooper of Hagerman

- 12 slices bread (a little on the dry side)
- 1 pound ham, bacon or sausage (or a combination)
- 12 eggs
- 2 teaspoons dry mustard
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 2 cups grated cheese (Cooper prefers cheddar and pepper jack, but says nearly any medium or soft cheese will work)
- 3 cups milk
- 1 cup vegetables (Cooper prefers broccoli, cauliflower or whatever her garden has an abundance of)
- 1 cup chopped shallots or onions

Cube the bread, and place it in the bottom of a greased 9-by-12-inch baking dish. Brown and crumble the bacon or sausage, or cube the precooked ham. In a large bowl, beat together the eggs, mustard, salt, cheese and milk, and set the mixture aside.

Sprinkle meat, vegetables and onions over bread cubes, then pour the egg mixture over the other ingredients.

Cover tightly and chill overnight, or longer. Place in a cold oven; bake at 350 degrees for 1 1/2 hours or until done.



Cooper



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THANKSGIVING 2010

A creamier, richer winter squash for Thanksgiving

By Jim Romanoff
For The Associated Press

You could argue that winter squashes like acorn, butternut and buttercup already are so sweet and creamy they don't really need any adornment.

And most days of the week that's fine. But for a major holiday such as Thanksgiving, why not push it to the max?

So in this recipe, simmered, golden chunks of acorn squash are dressed with butter that has been browned until it has an almost nutty flavor. The dish then is infused with crispy bits of fried sage leaves, which have a mellow, savory flavor.

Fried sage leaves are simple to make. And while in this recipe they are used as a seasoning and garnish, they're also good enough to serve on their own as an elegant, light appetizer.

To make this dish easy to prepare on Thanksgiving day, cook the squash ahead of

time, then reheat it in the sage-infused brown butter just before serving. And note that when peeling acorn squash, it is important to peel deeply enough to remove the tough veins that sit just below the skin.

ACORN SQUASH WITH BROWNED BUTTER AND FRIED SAGE LEAVES

Start to finish: 40 minutes (20 minutes active). Servings: 8.

5 1/2 pounds acorn squash, seeded, peeled and cut into 1-inch chunks
5 tablespoons butter
16 large fresh sage leaves
Salt and ground black pepper, to taste

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Add the squash and simmer until tender, 10 to 15 minutes. Drain well in a colander, then return the squash to the pot, cover and

set aside.

In a medium skillet over medium-high heat, melt the butter. When the butter begins to bubble, add the sage leaves.

As the butter browns, fry the sage leaves on both sides (turning them as needed) until crispy, skimming any solids off the butter as needed, 3 to 6 minutes. Remove the pan from the heat and use a slotted spoon to transfer the sage leaves to a paper towel to drain. Set aside.

Coarsely chop half of the sage leaves and add, along with the browned butter, to the reserved squash. Stir over medium heat until the squash is well coated with butter and heated through. Season with salt and pepper. Serve the squash garnished with the reserved whole fried sage leaves.

Per serving: 191 calories; 67 calories from fat (35 percent of total calories); 8 g fat (5 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 19 mg cholesterol; 33 g carbohydrate; 3 g protein; 5 g fiber; 130 mg sodium.



AP photo

The already sweet and creamy flavor of acorn squash is taken to an even higher level in this recipe.

Roasted turkey glazed with cider and maple syrup

By Alison Ladman
For The Associated Press

The goal here was a deliciously moist roasted Thanksgiving turkey with tons of autumnal flavor.

So we started with that most classic of fall beverages — apple cider. But to get the greatest flavor from it, we decided to boil it down until we had reduced 8 cups to just 4, thereby concentrating the sweet-tart flavors. That reduction is used as both a glaze for the turkey as well as to flavor the stuffing and gravy.

And therein lies an important Thanksgiving turkey lesson. It's always good to have at least one common element between the turkey and the stuffing and gravy. While the seasonings between the three items don't need to be identical (in fact, it would be boring if they were), a commonality helps tie the meal together.

While this recipe is written to cook the stuffing in a casserole dish alongside the turkey, you can cook it in the cavity of the bird if you prefer. If so, you'll need to adjust the cooking time and closely monitor the internal temperature. Stuffed birds take longer to cook. For safety, the center of the stuffing should reach an internal temperature of 165 degrees.

Alternatively, if you like the appearance and presentation of a stuffed bird, you can cook the stuffing separately, then stuff it on the serving platter just before bringing it to the table.

MAPLE-CIDER GLAZED TURKEY WITH GRAVY AND APPLE-ONION STUFFING

Start to finish: 4 1/2 hours. Makes a 12- to 14-pound turkey with gravy and stuffing to serve 12.

For the glaze:
2 cups maple syrup
8 cups (1/2 gallon) apple cider



AP photo

The flavors of the season are front and center in this recipe.

2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
Salt and ground black pepper, to taste

For the turkey:
4 medium yellow onions, quartered
12- to 14-pound turkey

For the stuffing:
4 tablespoons (1/2 stick) butter
2 medium yellow onions, diced

2 large shallots, finely chopped

2 leeks, trimmed and sliced

3 celery stalks, diced
1 medium carrot, diced

3 apples, peeled, cored and diced

1 tablespoon minced fresh sage

1 tablespoon minced fresh thyme

1 cup walnuts, toasted and chopped (optional)

3 cups chicken or turkey broth
2 eggs, beaten

16-ounce bag stuffing cubes

For the gravy:
2 cups chicken or turkey broth
5 tablespoons cornstarch
Salt and ground black

pepper, to taste

To prepare the glaze, in a large saucepan over medium-high, combine the maple syrup and cider. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat to medium-high and simmer for 45 minutes to an hour, or until the liquid is reduced by half. Whisk in the mustard, then season with salt and pepper.

Reserve 3 cups of the glaze to use with the gravy and stuffing (cover and refrigerate until needed). This can be done the day before, if desired.

Heat the oven to 350 degrees.

In a large roasting pan, scatter the onion quarters. Place the turkey, breast up, on top of the onions. Pour the unreserved (about 2 cups) maple cider glaze all over the turkey. Be sure to pour some in the turkey's cavity and some under the skin.

Roast for 2 1/2 to 3 hours, or until the internal temperature of the breast reaches 160 degrees and the thickest part of the thigh reaches 170 degrees. During roasting, every 30 to 45 minutes baste

the turkey with the juices in the pan. If the turkey begins to brown too much, cover the pan with foil.

Allow the turkey to rest in the pan for 10 minutes before moving it to a serving platter and covering it with foil. Set aside the roasting pan, leaving the drippings and onions in it.

When the turkey has an hour left to roast, make the stuffing. Coat a large casserole dish or 9-by-13-inch baking pan with cooking spray.

In a large skillet over medium-high, heat the butter. Add the onions, shallots and leeks. Sauté for 8 to 10 minutes, or until tender and translucent. Add the celery and carrot and sauté for another 8 to 10 minutes, allowing the vegetables to slightly caramelize.

Remove the skillet from the heat and stir in the apples, sage, thyme, walnuts (if using), broth, eggs and 2 cups of the reserved maple cider glaze. Add the stuffing cubes and toss well. Transfer the mixture to the prepared pan. Bake for 30 to 40 minutes, or until golden and hot.

When the turkey is resting on the platter, make the gravy. Place the roasting pan with the onions and any remaining juices on the stove top. Add the remaining 1 cup of maple cider glaze. Bring to a boil, scraping up any browned bits from the bottom of the pan.

In a bowl, stir together the broth and cornstarch, then add it to the pan. Continue cooking, stirring constantly, until thickened. Strain the gravy through a mesh strainer, discarding the solids. Season with salt and pepper. Serve alongside the turkey and stuffing.

Per combined serving of turkey, stuffing and gravy: 1,011 calories; 182 calories from fat (18 percent of total calories); 20 g fat (6 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 377 mg cholesterol; 92 g carbohydrate; 11 g protein; 5 g fiber; 1,165 mg sodium.

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THANKSGIVING 2010

Asian take on the traditional American stuffing

By Alison Ladman
For The Associated Press

Turkey may not be a common ingredient on Asian menus, but it pairs well with many of the savory ingredients that are. So we took a traditional stuffing and blended it with Japanese ingredients, including shiitake mushrooms, soy sauce, toasted sesame oil and sesame seeds.



AP photo

Try an unusual pairing with this year's turkey, an Asian-inspired stuffing.

- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 2 leeks, sliced
- 8 ounces shiitake mushrooms, stems removed and discarded, sliced
- 1 small head bok choy, cut into bite-sized pieces
- 8-ounce can sliced water chestnuts, drained
- 1/4 cup soy sauce
- 2 tablespoons toasted sesame oil
- 2 cups low-sodium chicken or turkey broth
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 loaf stale country bread, cut into cubes (about 8 cups)
- 1 tablespoon sesame seeds

Heat the oven to 350 degrees. Spray a large casserole dish or a 9-by-13-inch baking pan with cooking spray.

In a deep skillet over medium-high, heat the oil. Add the leeks and saute until soft and translucent, about 8 to 10 minutes. Add the mushrooms and bok choy

and continue to cook until tender, another 8 to 10 minutes.

Remove from the heat and stir in the water chestnuts, soy sauce, sesame oil, broth and eggs.

In a large bowl, toss together the leek mixture with the bread cubes, then spoon into the prepared pan. Sprinkle with the sesame seeds and bake for 40 to 50 minutes until golden on the top and hot in the middle.

Per serving: 250 calories; 73 calories from fat (29 percent of total calories); 8 g fat (1 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 43 mg cholesterol; 37 g carbohydrate; 8 g protein; 4 g fiber; 904 mg sodium.



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THANKSGIVING 2010



AP photo

Caribbean flavors find their way onto your Thanksgiving table with this carrot recipe.

A reason – other than guilt – to eat the carrots

By Alison Ladman
For The Associated Press

Face it, carrots are the Thanksgiving side dish you force yourself to eat so you don't feel quite so guilty indulging in the rest of the meal.

So we aimed to come up with a recipe that makes you want to eat them. Because on the day we eat to give thanks, no dish on the table should be consumed purely to mitigate guilt.

This adaptation of the traditional glazed carrots adds a punch of Key lime and fresh cilantro for a touch of Caribbean flavor. If you prefer, large carrots may be used; just peel and cut them into bite-size pieces prior to starting the recipe.

KEY LIME CILANTRO CARROTS

Start to finish: 40 minutes. Servings: 10.

- 4 tablespoons (1/2 stick) butter
- 2/3 cup honey
- 1/4 cup Key lime juice
- 3 pounds baby carrots
- Salt and ground black pepper, to taste
- 1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro

In a large, deep saute pan over medium-high, heat the butter, honey and lime juice until the butter is melted. Add the carrots and cook, uncovered and stir-

ring occasionally, until the glaze is thick and the carrots are firm but tender, about 30 minutes. Let stand for 10 minutes to thicken.

Season with the salt and pepper, then stir in the cilantro.

Per serving: 178 calories; 41 calories from fat (23 percent of total calories); 5 g fat (3 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 12 mg cholesterol; 33 g carbohydrate; 2 g protein; 3 g fiber; 169 mg sodium.

Almost effortless pull-apart herbed dinner rolls

By Alison Ladman
For The Associated Press

Even if you don't have the time (or know-how) to make bread from scratch, you still can bake up delicious Thanksgiving dinner rolls.

This savory monkey bread uses frozen white bread dough that is shaped into small balls, dunked in butter, herbs and cheese, then mounded into a pan and baked. The result is deliciously easy. So easy, in fact, it's a good project for the kids while you focus on the bird and more complicated sides.

Just be sure to buy frozen dough, not par-baked bread (which already has been partially cooked). The easiest way to thaw the dough is to leave it in the refrigerator overnight.

HERBED MONKEY BREAD

2 hours (30 minutes active). Servings: 12.

- 1 1/2 cups grated Parmesan or pecorino cheese
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1 tablespoon dried parsley
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 4 tablespoons (1/2 stick) butter, melted and cooled
- 3 pounds purchased frozen white bread dough, thawed



AP photo

Thanks to using frozen white bread dough, this recipe can be made by anyone in no time flat.

each in the herbed cheese mixture.

Lightly coat a large, smooth Bundt pan or ring cake pan with cooking spray.

In a small bowl, mix together the cheese, oregano, thyme, parsley and black pepper. Place the butter in a bowl.

Cut the dough into about 60 walnut-sized pieces. Dunk each piece into the melted butter, allowing the excess to drip off, then roll

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GOP senator deals setback to nuke treaty

By Jonathan S. Landay
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — A senior Republican senator on Tuesday downplayed prospects for a vote this year on a new nuclear-arms accord with Russia, the centerpiece of an Obama administration effort to “reset” relations with Moscow that has the support of U.S. military commanders and national security experts of both parties.

Sen. Jon Kyl of Arizona, the second-highest-ranking Republican senator and the GOP’s leading voice on nuclear-weapons issues, said the lame-duck Senate had too many other issues before it, leaving insufficient time to consider the New START treaty.

“When (Senate) Majority Leader Harry Reid asked me if I thought the treaty could be considered in the lame-duck session, I replied I did not think so, given the combination of other work Congress must do and the complex and unresolved issues related to START and modernization,” Kyl said in a statement.

The statement comes as the Obama administration tries to win a vote by meeting Kyl’s demand for more funds to modernize the facilities that maintain U.S. nuclear warheads.

Kyl appeared to reject the offer, but at the same time left an opening for a deal.

“I appreciate the recent effort by the administration to address some of the issues that we have raised, and I look forward to continuing to work” with it, he said.

Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said he thought that a vote could still be held.

“I talked with Sen. Kyl today, and I do not believe the door is closed to considering New START during the lame-duck session,” Kerry said. “Ratifying New START is not a political choice; it’s a national security imperative.”

Sen. James Inhofe, R-

Okla., a conservative member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and the Foreign Relations Committee, went beyond Kyl, saying, “It’s time to start over with START.”

“Historically, no major nuclear arms control treaty has ever been taken up in a lame-duck (Senate), and, as I have pointed out repeatedly, the one-sided nature of the hearings before the Senate has not begun to adequately examine this treaty’s ramifications,” Inhofe said.



Kyl

Kyl, Inhofe and other conservative lawmakers contend that the accord would constrain the development of U.S. anti-missile defenses, an assertion denied by the Obama administration, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and other top U.S. commanders, who have called for its swift approval.

Obama and Russian President Dmitri Medvedev signed the treaty in April. U.S. officials viewed it as the main pillar of an initiative to “reset” relations with Moscow that had sunk under former President George W. Bush to their chilliest level since the Cold War ended in 1991.

The treaty would slash the sides’ deployed warheads by about 30 percent and reduce their nuclear-armed bombers and land- and sea-launched ballistic missiles over a seven-year period.

The treaty would also allow each side to resume monitoring the other’s nuclear arsenal under a new inspection system. Inspections have been suspended for nearly a year, worrying the U.S. intelligence community.

Despite Kyl’s statement, the administration refused to abandon its campaign to win a vote before the Senate adjourns before year’s end.

Vice President Joe Biden warned that a “failure to pass the New START treaty this year would endanger our national security” because the suspension of U.S. monitoring of Russia’s nuclear arsenal would continue.

Pink diamond sells for record \$46M at auction

By Frank Jordans
Associated Press writer

GENEVA — A rare pink diamond smashed the world record for a jewel at auction Tuesday, selling for more than \$46 million to a well-known gem dealer.

London jeweler Laurence Graff paid \$46,158,674, for the 24.78-carat “fancy intense pink” diamond, which he immediately named “The Graff Pink.”

“It is the most fabulous diamond I’ve seen in the history of my career and I’m delighted to have bought it,” Graff said in a statement released by auction house Sotheby’s, which offered the stone at its Geneva sale.

The sale price was almost double the \$24.3 million achieved by the blue 35.56-carat Wittelsbach-Graff diamond in 2008. That was also bought by Graff.

“This is the highest price ever bid for a jewel at auction,” said David Bennett, the head of Sotheby’s jewelry division, as the auction room in Geneva’s luxury Beau Rivage hotel erupted into applause.

“Everybody was surprised it went that high,” Mart van Drunen, a jeweler from Amsterdam, commented after the sale. “He clearly wants to have all the rarest diamonds in the world.”

Rich buyers from developing countries have been

dipping their hand in the high end of the market in recent years, but experts say emerging middle classes particularly in India are doing as much if not more to lift prices. Ongoing doubts about the stock market have also helped drive up the value of gold and precious jewels, said van Drunen.

Four bidders competed for the pink diamond, which was last sold 60 years ago by New York jeweler Harry Winston. The seller chose to remain anonymous, said Sotheby’s.

Graff had the blue diamond recut after purchase, to the displeasure of purists who considered it an act of vandalism against a unique object. It wasn’t immediately known whether he planned to alter the pink diamond, which Sotheby’s says has a flaw unnoticeable to the naked eye but may be graded as internally flawless after re-polishing.

Sotheby’s said it sold jewels worth \$105.1 million Tuesday, also a world record for a single sale. The auction included items once belonging to Christina Onassis, the daughter of the Greek shipping tycoon Aristotle Onassis, and Cristiana Ford, the second wife of Henry Ford’s grandson Henry Ford II.

“I think this tells you a bit about the health of the market,” Bennett told reporters after the sale.



Britain’s Prince William and his fiancée Kate Middleton pose for the media after announcing their marriage at St. James Palace in London on Tuesday.

AP photos

Another fairy tale?

Prince William, Kate announce royal wedding next year

By Gregory Katz
Associated Press writer

LONDON — Thirty years after the fairy-tale nuptials with the unhappy ending, Britain will finally have another big royal wedding: its dashing helicopter-pilot prince — second in line to the throne — will marry the lovely commoner who may someday become queen.

Prince William and Kate Middleton bubbled with joy Tuesday evening in their first public appearance since the palace announced their engagement after more than eight years of dating. Their wedding will be next spring or summer.

In a poignant symbol for William, his betrothed wore the sapphire and diamond engagement ring that belonged to his late mother, Diana.

“I thought it was quite nice because obviously she’s not going to be around to share any of the fun and excitement of it all. This was my way of keeping her close to it all,” William said.

While the romance of the two 28-year-olds is the stuff that dreams are made of, it is no exaggeration to say that the future of the Windsor dynasty depends to no small degree on the success of their

union.

“We’re massively excited,” William said in the televised interview that marked the first time they have spoken publicly about the trials and tribulations of their love affair, which dates back to their days as university freshmen. “We’re hugely excited. We’re looking forward to spending the rest of our lives together.”

The interview reminded many of a similar TV appearance by William’s parents, Prince Charles and Diana, shortly after they became engaged.

At that time, Diana seemed frightened of the limelight and withdrawn; by contrast, Middleton seemed at ease in front of the cameras. She said she wished she had met Diana, who died in a car crash in 1997.

“I would love to have met her. She’s an inspirational woman,” Middleton said as William looked on.

The royal wedding represents a chance for the Windsors to start anew. Middleton brings youth and glamour to a monarchy tarnished by divorce and scandal. There is already warm public support for William.

A strong, stable marriage — one that lasts decades and produces heirs — could go a



Kate Middleton wears her engagement ring which once belonged to Diana, Princess of Wales, in London on Tuesday.

long way toward undoing the damage from the ugly squabbling and televised confessions of adultery that marred the final years of Charles and Diana’s tortured marriage, which began on such a high note with their spectacular wedding in 1981.

“This is their chance to rejuvenate the dynasty,” said Patrick Jephson, former private secretary to Princess Diana. “This is an opportunity for a welcome national celebration.”

News of the engagement was greeted with enthusiasm — and relief — in Britain. Queen Elizabeth II and her husband, Prince Philip, said they were “absolutely delighted for them both,” Buckingham Palace said. Prince Charles said he was “thrilled.” Middleton’s parents, Carole and Michael, also gushed.

“We all think he’s wonderful. We’re extremely fond of him,” Michael Middleton said, standing near the cou-

ple’s large house in the affluent Berkshire countryside.

Royal officials said that while Middleton is commonly known as Kate, her official name is Catherine Elizabeth. She will be named Queen Catherine if William, as expected, eventually takes the throne.

Middleton, in a royal blue dress that matched the engagement ring, said she had suffered when their relationship was in trouble — including a separation that left her unhappy — but that they had grown stronger in the years they’ve been together.

“You go through the good times, you go through the bad times,” she said, promising to “learn quickly” in her new royal role.

William proposed during a vacation in Kenya last month and gave Middleton the oval blue sapphire surrounded by diamonds from the jeweler Garrard that Charles had given his mother.

Rescue hopes fade in Indian building collapse

By Katy Daigle
Associated Press writer

NEW DELHI — Anna Halder sat on a patch of packed mud and dialed her cell phone Tuesday, clinging to the hope that her parents or sisters somehow survived under the wreckage of their collapsed apartment building and would pick up.

“It’s ringing,” she said. No one answered. She dialed again.

At least 66 people were killed and 73 were injured after the crude brick building crashed down in a congested New Delhi neighborhood. By Tuesday evening, as rescue workers continued to tear through the pile of broken bricks, twisted iron rods and concrete slabs, hope for finding more survivors was fading.

The building collapsed Monday about the time families were cooking dinner. Halder, 18, had not yet returned from her job as a housekeeper. Her working-class family, like millions of other migrants, moved to New Delhi hoping to get jobs in the growing Indian capital.

They, and many others



An Indian woman reacts to the death of a relative who was killed in the collapse of a four-story apartment building Monday in New Delhi, India.

AP photo

from West Bengal, found housing in the crude brick building in the Lalita Park neighborhood near the Yamuna River because it was one of the rare homes they could afford amid the skyrocketing real estate prices in the crowded city.

But the building was two floors higher than legally allowed, and its foundation appeared to have been weakened by water damage following monsoon rains. The soil near the river is too weak to support such tall buildings, New Delhi Lt. Gov. Tejendra Khanna said.

Poor construction material and inadequate foundations often are blamed for building collapses in India. In New Delhi, where land is at a premium, unscrupulous builders often break building laws to add additional floors to existing structures.

While the collapse was still being investigated, New Delhi’s top elected official blamed poor construction and maintenance and vowed to punish those who had allowed the extra floors to be built.

“The scale of the tragedy is unprecedented,” Sheila

Dikshit said.

The building’s owner, Amrit Singh, was arrested Tuesday evening after fleeing the area, the Press Trust of India reported. Officials evacuated another of Singh’s buildings next door, after finding its basement was also flooded.

When the building fell, residents said they heard a rumble like thunder. They sprinted to the site and tried to reach those inside by digging with their hands into the piles of concrete, bricks and mortar before police and rescue teams arrived.

“There were so many dead bodies, there was no movement at all,” said Dil Nawaz Ahmed, a 25-year-old journalist who lives nearby. He said he managed to help free five injured residents, but mainly pulled out bodies, which he carried to waiting ambulances. “There were many women and children.”

Rescuers sawed through iron rods and shifted concrete with a bulldozer. Sniffer dogs searched out people. Ambulances parked nearby at the ready. Women crying over lost loved ones were led away.

Helen Meyers

Helen Regina Meyers, 87, of Twin Falls, died Sunday, Nov. 14, 2010, after a short illness.

She was born Aug. 8, 1923, in Boise, Idaho, to Harry and Jessie Hansen. On Nov. 9, 1938, she married Edward Meyers Jr.

Helen is survived by three sons and two daughters, Victor (Diane) Meyers of Jerome, Lenny (Bev) Meyers of Jerome, Dwaine (Linda) Meyers of Twin Falls, Flora (Don) Bellomy of Boise and Julene (Ken) Pearson of Twin Falls; her brother, Leonard Hansen of California; her sister, Valarie Lukens of Twin Falls; as well as 30 grandchildren; 53 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Edward Meyers; son, Merlin Meyers; grandson, Teddy Meyers; her parents; one brother; and one sister.



She was a member of the Church of God in Jerome until 2001 when she moved to Twin Falls and attended the Faith Assembly of God until her death.

A private family burial will take place Friday, Nov. 19, at Sunset Memorial Park. A celebration of Helen's Life will be held as a memorial service at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 20, at the Community Christian Church, 303 Grandview Drive in Twin Falls. Services are under the direction of Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

Condolences may be left for the family by visiting www.reynoldschapel.com.

Ginger Marie Cutler-Davis

WOODLAND, Wash. — Ginger Marie Cutler-Davis, age 44, from Woodland, Wash., passed away in her sleep Monday, Nov. 8, 2010.

Ginger was born Dec. 20, 1965, in Burley, Idaho, to Jim and Carmen Cutler.

She is survived by her husband, Gary Davis; her father, Jim Cutler; stepfather, Alan Adams; two stepsons, Brad and Bryan Davis; brother, Mike Cutler; and sister, Julie Cutler.

Ginger graduated with a BA from Idaho State University, received her Master of Business and her Doctorate of Science in computer science from Rochville



University. She was on the board for the Cowlitz County Public Health, Hazel Dell Grange and the Evergreen Square Dance Council.

She enjoyed square dancing, traveling, camping, boating, fishing, crafts, gardening, community service and spending time with her family.

A celebration of life ceremony will be held at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20, at Clark County Square Dance Center, 10713 NE 117th Ave. in Vancouver, Wash.

Remembrances may be sent to the Susan B. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, 1400 SW 5th Ave., Suite 530, Portland, OR 97201.

SERVICES

Viola Ellen Baldwin Regan of Twin Falls, visitation from noon to 2 p.m., with a prayer service at 2 p.m. today at White Mortuary in Twin Falls; graveside service at 2:30 p.m. today at the Elmwood Cemetery in Gooding.

The Rev. Delbert Paul Remaley of Twin Falls, funeral at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Twin Falls United Methodist Church, 360 Shoshone St. E.; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. today and 1 to 1:48 p.m. Thursday at the church.

Perdita Carmahum Humphreys of Fairfield, funeral at 10:30 a.m. Friday at the Fairfield Community Church; burial service at 3:30 p.m. Friday at the Cloverdale Memorial Park

Cemetery in Boise; visitation from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday at Demaray Funeral Service Gooding Chapel and one hour before the funeral Friday at the church.

P. Chad Bailey of Burley of Rupert, memorial celebration at 11 a.m. Friday at Peterson's Barn in Rupert (Hansen-Payne Mortuary in Burley).

Leon Rex Street of Boise, military rites at 11 a.m. Friday at Idaho State Veterans Cemetery in Boise (Cloverdale Funeral Home in Boise).

Thelma N. (Durfee) Weldin of Burley, memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday at the LDS Chapel, 2210 Parke Ave. in Burley; a luncheon will follow (White Mortuary in Twin Falls).

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3266 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 3 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magicvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magicvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

Allan R. Sandage, top cosmologist, dies at 84

Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — Astronomer Allan R. Sandage of Pasadena's Carnegie Observatories, one of the most prominent cosmologists of the 20th century who spent the better part of his lifetime trying to determine the precise age of the universe, died Saturday at his home in nearby San Gabriel. He was 84 and had been suffering from pancreatic cancer.

Beginning in the early 1950s, when he served as the illustrious Edwin Hubble's observing assistant at the Mount Wilson and Palomar observatories in Southern California, Sandage single-mindedly sought the elusive Hubble constant, named after his mentor.

Hubble revolutionized astronomy by discovering that the universe is expanding, and the Hubble constant is a measure of how long that expansion has been going on. When Sandage began his work, the best estimates for the age of

the universe were about 1.8 billion years. Today, work by NASA using the Hubble Space Telescope has shown that the Hubble constant is about 70 kilometers per second per megaparsec, which translates to an age of about 12 billion years.

Sandage, however, had been convinced for years that the true value was actually 55, which would put the age of the universe closer to 15 billion years, and he remained convinced of that at the time of his death. His disputes with the scientific community over the age of the universe were often so heated that they were sometimes known as the "Hubble Wars."

Sandage regularly noted that the community at large had, until recently, used much larger numbers than 70 and had gradually been coming closer to his own preferred value. His assumption up until his death was that eventually everyone else would agree with him.

Army sergeant is awarded Medal of Honor for valor in Afghanistan

By Darlene Superville
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Ambushed in Afghanistan, Staff Sgt. Salvatore Giunta stepped into a "wall of bullets" and chased down two Taliban fighters who were carrying his mortally wounded friend away.

Three years after acts of battlefield bravery, Giunta on Tuesday became the first living service member from the Afghanistan and Iraq wars to receive the nation's top military award, the Medal of Honor. He's the first living medal recipient in nearly 40 years.

Far from the perilous ridge where his unit was attacked on a moonlit night in October 2007, Giunta stood in the glittering White House East Room, in the company of military brass, past Medal of Honor winners, his surviving comrades and families as President Obama hung the blue ribbon cradling the medal around Giunta's neck.

"I'm going to go off script here and just say, 'I really like this guy,'" Obama said, calling him "a soldier as humble as he is heroic."

"When you meet Sal and you meet his family, you are just absolutely convinced that this is what America is all about, and it just makes you proud."

For Giunta, the tribute was bittersweet. It was a bloody day in Afghanistan's Korengal Valley and the two soldiers he rescued later died.

"Although this is so positive, I would give this back in a second to have my friends with me right now," the 25-year-old from Hiawatha, Iowa, said afterward on the rain-soaked White House driveway.

Obama said Giunta "charged headlong into the wall of bullets." The sergeant at first pulled a soldier who had been struck in the helmet to safety, then sprinted ahead to find two Taliban fighters dragging away the

"When you meet Sal and you meet his family, you are just absolutely convinced that this is what America is all about, and it just makes you proud."

— President Obama

stricken Sgt. Joshua C. Brennan.

"Sal never broke stride," Obama said. "He leapt forward. He took aim. He killed one of the insurgents and wounded the other, who ran off."

As bullets rained, Giunta dragged Brennan by his vest to cover and worked feverishly to stop the bleeding until the wounded Americans were flown from the ridge. Brennan and another platoon member, medic Hugo V. Mendoza, died. Five were wounded.

Forty-two Americans have died in Afghanistan's Korengal Valley, a deadly sliver of eastern Afghanistan that insurgents use to move weapons and fighters from Pakistan. U.S. troops pulled out of the perilous valley and other remote areas about seven months ago after commanders decided it was best to use forces to protect civilian population centers.

Despite years of clashes and airstrikes, U.S. and Afghan forces failed to subdue the Korengal Valley — one of the most staunchly anti-American regions in Afghanistan.

In June 2005, three Navy SEALs were killed when militants ambushed their four-man team. A helicopter sent to rescue the SEALs was shot down with a rock-



AP photo

President Obama smiles after presenting the Medal of Honor to Army Staff Sgt. Salvatore Giunta during a ceremony Tuesday in the East Room of the White House in Washington.

et-propelled grenade. Sixteen American troops aboard were killed in what is one of the deadliest single attacks on the U.S. military since the war began in 2001.



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Irene Chapa, CNA
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Homeless woman charged in L.A. train track death

By Thomas Watkins
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Betty Sugiyama was rushing to catch a train for a shopping trip when authorities say the unthinkable happened: A homeless woman leapt from a bench and shoved the 84-year-old Little Tokyo resident onto the tracks.



Sugiyama

Witnesses said the suspect then calmly returned to her seat as Sugiyama lay on the tracks with a cracked skull. The victim died soon after, and the suspect was arrested on murder charges.

A sister of Sugiyama who witnessed the attack remained stunned Tuesday that anyone would want to kill her friendly younger sibling, a Japanese-American who had grown up in the shadow of World War II and was sent to an internment camp as a child.

"I didn't see any anger or expression on her face," Mary Sugiyama said as she recalled how the woman in a black dress jumped up from a bench and rushed her sister. "She didn't look like she was upset or anything."

Sheriff's deputies

arrived moments after the attack and arrested Jackqueline Pogue. Prosecutors on Tuesday charged her with murder.

Los Angeles County sheriff's Lt. David Coleman said investigators were trying to establish a motive. He said it was unclear if Pogue, 44, is mentally ill or if she had been using drugs, but she seemed

coherent when detectives spoke with her. Family member Elmer Pogue told KCAL-TV that Jackqueline had recently been released from a psychiatric hospital and had been taking powerful medications.

"(She) needs to be at a hospital and not a jail," Elmer Pogue said. "She was ... just out of her mind with all this psychiatric medication that she took for five days, and I want to apologize."

Mary Sugiyama, 86, said she and her sister had been trying to catch a downtown train then make a connection and ultimately head to Long Beach, where they planned on spending the day shopping.

The sisters grew up in a family of six kids, the children of Japanese immigrants.

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



Minico's Dayna Phillips (23) scores inside against Pocatello Tuesday night at Minico High School.



RYAN HOWE/Times-News

Phillips keys Spartan victory in home opener

By Ryan Howe
Times-News writer

RUPERT — Dietrich's loss is Minico's gain. Former Blue Devil and current Spartan Dayna Phillips' transition from Class 1A Division II to 4A basketball has been fairly smooth so far. On Tuesday, the senior post gave Minico a spark off

the bench with 10 points and 10 rebounds to help the Spartans earn their first win of the season, 53-43 over Pocatello. "It's a lot more intense here, there's a lot more completion and the girls are a lot more after it," said Phillips. "When you're from a smaller school there's not as many girls to choose from."

Phillips, who scored eight of her points in the first half, didn't start against Pocatello (1-1) due to the Indians' guard-oriented lineup, but she exploited their lack of interior presence. Two games in, Minico coach Joe D. Shepard is glad to have Phillips and is optimistic about her potential. "There are some things she

needs to work on, but Dayna Phillips played really well tonight to give us some inside play," said Shepard. "I figured we'd have the guard play, and now they just have to play together and get some varsity experience." The guard play, as Shepard pointed out, was led by

See SPARTAN, Sports 2

Phils' Halladay wins NL Cy Young

By Ben Walker
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Roy Halladay arrived in Philadelphia to a standing ovation, a \$60 million contract extension and the billing as baseball's top ace. That was before he threw a single pitch.

Doc delivered, and then some. Halladay added another victory to an almost perfect season Tuesday, unanimously winning the NL Cy

Young Award and becoming the fifth pitcher to earn the honor in both leagues.

"It's by far the most fun I've ever had playing this game," he said on a conference call from Mexico, where he was golfing with Phillies teammate Mike Sweeney, Cardinals star Chris Carpenter and pitcher Chris Young.

"It was everything I hoped it would be," Halladay said.

In the Year of the Pitcher, he became the only one ever to throw a perfect game and no-hitter in the same season.

Halladay was an easy choice after going 21-10 with a 2.44 ERA and 219 strikeouts. He led the league in wins and topped the majors in innings (250 2-3), shutouts (4) and complete games (9).

Halladay received all 32 first-place votes in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America.

Adam Wainwright of St. Louis was second and Ubaldo Jimenez of Colorado was third. San Francisco ace Tim Lincecum, who won the past two NL Cy Youngs, finished 11th.

"It's surprising," Halladay said. "There could have been a lot of cases made, strong cases."

See HALLADAY, Sports 4

BSU walk-on Shoemaker thriving in shadow of Pettis, Young

By Jason Chatraw
Times-News correspondent

BOISE — The next time Boise State wide receiver Tyler Shoemaker leaps for a pass across the middle at risk of being drilled by an opposing defensive back, don't cringe or feel sorry for him.

"Shoe" is always up for a risky proposition, especially when he knows the reward far outweighs the risk.

After all, it's how the junior willingly started his career at Boise State.

Unsatisfied with a handful of offers to play football on the NCAA Division II level, the (Meridian) Mountain View High School product was convinced that his skills weren't being properly appreciated by larger programs. So, he spurned all his offers and walked on at Boise State.

"Turning down scholarship offers to walk on at another school is kind of like a slap in the face, but I didn't mean it like that," Shoemaker said. "I wanted to play football at the highest level I possibly could. And once I got here, it was make or break time. I knew I had to make it work or this could be the end of my career."

After redshirting his first season, Shoemaker has gone from walk-on to scholarship player, to part-time starter, to quarterback Kellen Moore's legitimate third threat behind Austin Pettis and Titus Young in the Broncos' potent offense.

"Tyler has done a nice job since he's been here," Boise State head coach Chris Petersen said. "He has worked hard and gotten better for the most part week in and week out."

Shoemaker doesn't shy away



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from any question, exuding the confidence level of a player who has transitioned from being a question mark to exclamation point in the minds of his coaches.

"Once I set my mind to something I usually get it done," Shoemaker said. "It wasn't a question for me of if I was going to get it done, but when it was going to happen. And once I got here, I knew I was going to be fine."

This season, Shoemaker has been more than fine, nearly eclipsing his receiving yards from

his previous two seasons in the Broncos' first nine games of this season.

Entering Friday night's WAC showdown with Fresno State, Shoemaker has 23 catches for 416 yards and four touchdowns. He has caught one touchdown pass in each of Boise State's home games this season.

"In order to have a really complete package in your wide receivers, you need a good third and fourth receiver option," Petersen said. "And if they're making plays, we're going to get those guys the ball — and Tyler has made a lot of plays this year. He really adds a lot to our offense."

Growing up in Tennessee, Shoemaker hasn't lost perspective on what the Broncos have been able to accomplish over the past five years.

"Once I moved here, I grew to

be the biggest fan of Boise State," Shoemaker said. "I always thought they were a good team but never realized how serious they were as a program. Being a part of it, I know it's taken very seriously."

And with relatives entrenched in the heart of SEC country, Shoemaker is also reminded of the impact the program is having on college football's landscape when he travels east to visit family.

"Before I moved here, I had heard of Boise State but I never really followed the program," Shoemaker said. "Back there, nobody knew about it. But now when I go to visit, that's all anybody wants to talk to me about."

"Now, I have a cult following of Boise State fans back in Tennessee. It's exciting to see how Boise State has stepped onto that national platform and has continued to prosper."

Just like Shoemaker has.

Boise State's Tyler Shoemaker (89) heads up the field during a game against Hawaii on Nov. 6.

AP file photo

Canyon Ridge coaches honored by ISP

By Stephen Meyers
Times-News writer

Coming back home from its junior varsity game against Mountain Home Oct. 28, the Canyon Ridge High School football coaching staff had no idea it would be called to service.

But the men were ready.

After seeing a rollover crash caused by a wrong-way driver on Interstate 84, the team parked its bus on the side of the highway as the bus driver called 911. Coaches Mike Bagley, Jacoby Fox, Justin Alsterlund, Ben Benoit and athletic trainer Brooke Rey ran the quarter-mile to the site of the accident to find Harold Carroll sitting on the shoulder of



STEPHEN MEYERS/Times-News

ISP Region 4 Capt. Rob Storm presents a plaque to Canyon Ridge coaches Jacoby Fox, Ben Benoit, Justin Alsterlund and Mike Bagley for responding to the scene of an accident on I-84 Oct. 28. The coaches stayed with Harold Carroll (far right), who rolled his car, for more than an hour before EMTs arrived.

the freeway.

Carroll had rolled his truck traveling in the wrong direction.

"It was quite the experience. I remember being in shock and trying to wave people down to stop. Nobody would. But they did," Carroll said.

Rey immediately checked Carroll for serious injuries and held his neck in place to prevent any further neck injury. She sat with him in that position in the cold and howling wind without a coat or sweatshirt as Bagley, Fox and Benoit held up a tarp to attempt to block the wind. The coaches gave Carroll their coats to keep him warm.

The six stayed out there, cold, huddled together on the side of the freeway,

See HONORED, Sports 2

U.S. cycling probe comes to France

The Associated Press

LYON, France — U.S. investigators interviewed French anti-doping officials at Interpol headquarters Tuesday as part of a probe into allegations of drug use by cyclists, including Lance Armstrong, a French official told The Associated Press.

The investigation shifted its focus to France, with an American delegation seeking information from police officials and the national anti-doping agency (AFLD) that has stored some of Armstrong's samples from the Tour de France. Armstrong won cycling's

storied race seven straight times, from 1999 to 2005.

Francoise Lasne, director of the AFLD lab, and testing director Jean-Pierre Verdy were heard as witnesses Tuesday at Interpol, an official with knowledge of the meeting told the AP. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly on the case.

Interpol, the international police agency, is acting an intermediary between the U.S. and French officials.

Before the meeting, a French official said the

See CYCLING, Sports 4

Redskins have out clause in McNabb's new contract

LANDOVER, Md. — Nothing is straightforward about Donovan McNabb these days. It turns out the \$40 million he is supposed to be guaranteed in his new contract could turn out to be a mere \$3.5 million.

McNabb's agent, Fletcher Smith, clarified some of the details of McNabb's deal Tuesday. He says while the contract is worded so that it has "\$40 million in guarantees," the Redskins do have an option to cut McNabb at the end of the season with no further money due.

McNabb receives a \$3.5 million bonus this year as part of the new agreement, but the rest of the five-year, \$78 million package would come to naught if the team decides to cut ties.

The clause essentially gives the Redskins seven more games to decide if McNabb is truly the quarterback to lead the team under coach Mike Shanahan. Shanahan infamously benched McNabb in the final 2 minutes of a loss to Detroit two weeks ago, but the contract extension was supposed to solidify the relationship between the team and the quarterback.

Asked about his chances of not being with the Redskins next season, McNabb said Tuesday on his



AP photo

Washington Redskins quarterback Donovan McNabb watches from the sidelines during Sunday night's loss to the Philadelphia Eagles in Landover, Md.

weekly radio show on ESPN980 that there is language in the deal that was necessitated by the possibility of a lockout.

"That doesn't mean I won't be a Redskin," McNabb said. "I will be here next year. ... Not just next year, but after that as well."

STEELERS CUT KICKER REED

PITTSBURGH — For eight years, the Pittsburgh tolerated Jeff Reed's off-field incidents and had no issues with his platinum-dyed hair and quirkiness. What they

couldn't forgive were his misses.

Reed, who began the season as one of the 10 most accurate kickers in NFL history but has been erratic all season, was cut Tuesday and replaced by former Redskins and Cowboys kicker Shaun Suisham.

Suisham was signed immediately after working out at Heinz Field, where Reed blamed the slippery, unstable turf for his 26-yard miss against the Patriots on Sunday.

The Steelers won two Super Bowls with Reed, who was 8 for 8 during the 2005 and 2008 playoffs. He had one of his best seasons last year, going 27 of 31, but has struggled since missing twice during a 15-9, season-opening overtime victory over Atlanta.

Reed has missed seven of 22 attempts overall, including all four between the 40- and 49-yard lines. He was 4 of 9 at Heinz Field, where swirling winds and mushy grass make kicking difficult.

ATTORNEY: CHARGERS' MINORITY STAKE FOR SALE

SAN DIEGO — San Diego Chargers owner Alex Spanos is looking to sell a minority stake to help with estate planning.

Attorney Mark Fabiani,

who has led the Chargers' push for a new stadium since 2002, said Tuesday that the percentage to be sold will be determined by negotiations with a potential buyer. The 87-year-old Spanos and his wife, Faye, own 36 percent of the team. Their four children each own 15 percent. Two minority owners own the other 4 percent.

"To be clear, this is a sale of a minority stake only; the Spanos family will continue to hold a controlling majority stake in the team under all circumstances," Fabiani said in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

The sale was first reported by FanHouse.com.

Spanos, a billionaire developer who lives in Stockton, revealed two years ago that he suffers from dementia. His son, Dean, is president of the Chargers, the only NFL team in Southern California.

Fabiani said the sale of the minority share has nothing to do with efforts to get a new stadium built in San Diego. The team is currently exploring options to build a \$750 million stadium east of Petco Park in downtown. The team could eventually seek hundreds of millions of dollars in public assistance.

— The Associated Press

Cycling

Continued from Sports 1

AFLD would make its information available to the Americans. The official also spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to publicly discuss the meeting.

He said the agency would share "everything we know, everything we have, in the fridges, in the freezers, everything, everywhere" and is prepared to answer "everything that they ask."

The U.S. probe is being conducted by U.S. Food and Drug Administration Agent Jeff Novitzky and others. Approached in the lobby of his hotel, Novitzky declined comment. The French official said he believed the American delegation also included U.S. federal prosecutor Doug Miller and U.S. Anti-Doping Agency CEO Travis Tygart.

Miller had been booked at the same hotel as Novitzky, but canceled the reservation. He couldn't immediately be reached for comment. His office voicemail said he would be out of the country from Monday to Thursday. Thom Mrozek, a spokesman for the U.S. attorney's office, declined comment.

Reached by e-mail, Tygart declined comment. In a recorded phone message at USADA headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colo., Tygart said he was

out of the office on business.

French police officials whose job it is to investigate sports doping in France are also meeting later this week with the Americans, a senior police official said Tuesday. That official spoke on condition that he not be identified because he was not authorized to discuss the meeting publicly.

The meeting will also be in Lyon, the south-central city where Interpol is located, and was organized through the police agency, the official said. He said he expects the meeting would cover, among other subjects, disgraced cyclist Floyd Landis' allegations that Armstrong and members of his former U.S. Postal team systematically doped.

The police officials work for a French agency that, separately, has also been investigating syringes and transfusion equipment found in a trash container after the 2009 Tour de France that French officials say belonged to the Astana cycling team that included Armstrong and Tour winner Alberto Contador.

The American, who retired in '05 before coming back for the '09 and '10 Tours, has repeatedly denied allegations he took performance-enhancing drugs.

Halladay

Continued from Sports 1

This year's AL Cy Young Award winner will be announced Thursday. It could be a much more complicated race.

Felix Hernandez went 13-12, but topped the majors with a 2.27 ERA, led the AL in innings and was second in strikeouts. His Seattle

Mariners had the worst record in the league and were either shut out or held to one run in 10 of his 34 starts.

CC Sabathia of the Yankees went 21-7 with a 3.18 ERA and Tampa Bay's David Price was 19-6 with a 2.72 ERA.

"Obviously, Felix's numbers are very, very impressive," Halladay said.

"Ultimately, you look at how guys are able to win games. Sometimes, you find a way to win games."

Acquired from Toronto last December, Halladay quickly adjusted to a new league and added to the 2003 AL Cy Young he won with the Blue Jays.

Halladay threw a perfect

game at Florida on May 29, then tossed a no-hitter against Cincinnati in his postseason debut.

Voting for the award ended after the regular season. Three days later, Halladay completely overmatched the Reds, the top-hitting team in the NL, in their playoff opener.



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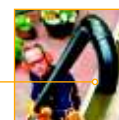
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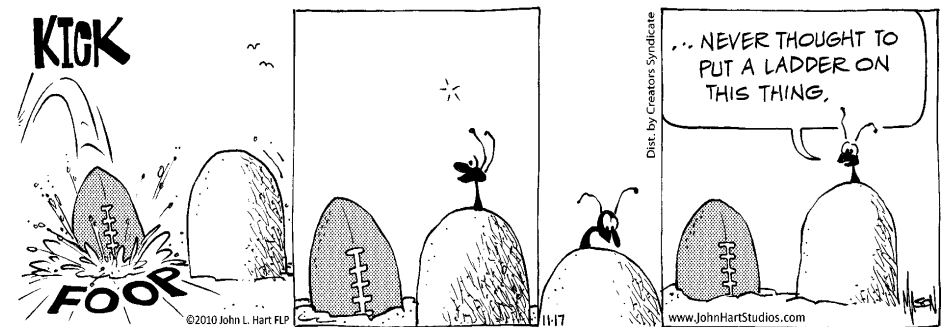
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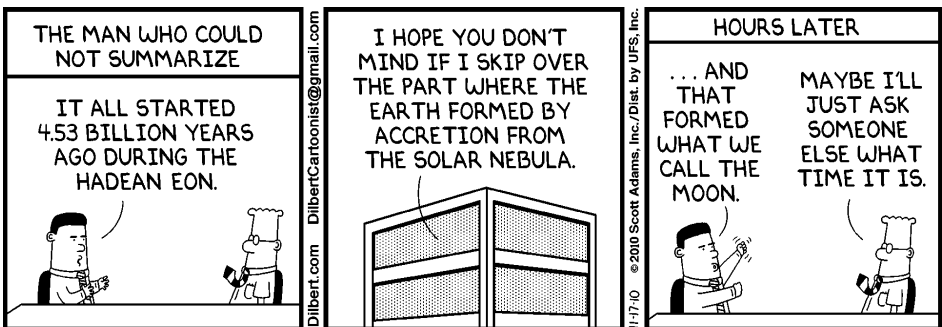


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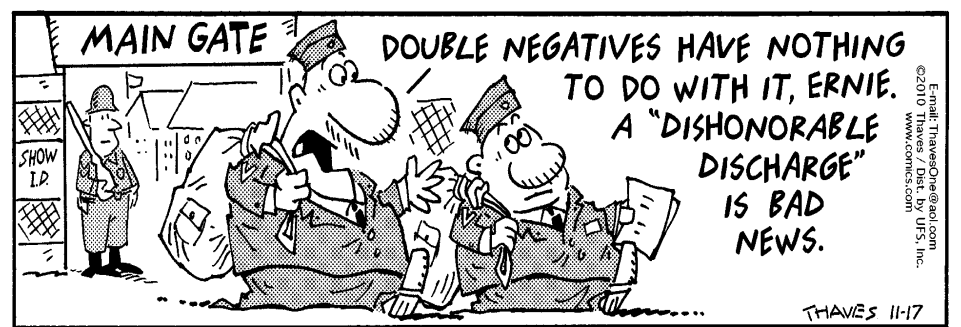
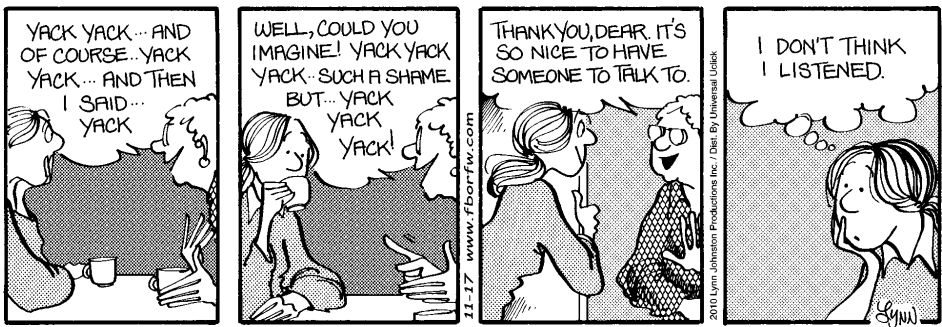


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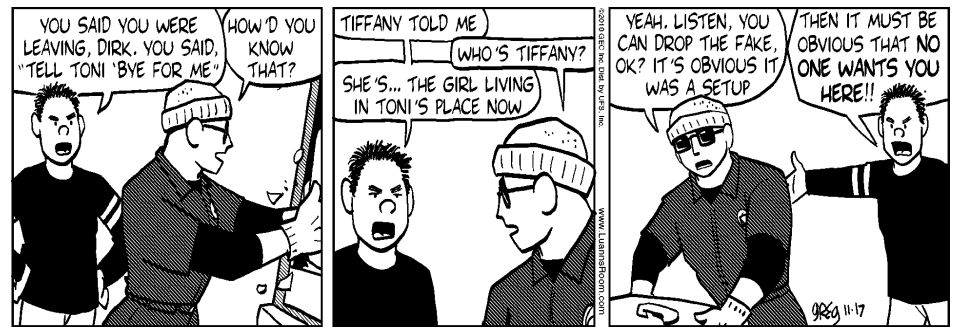


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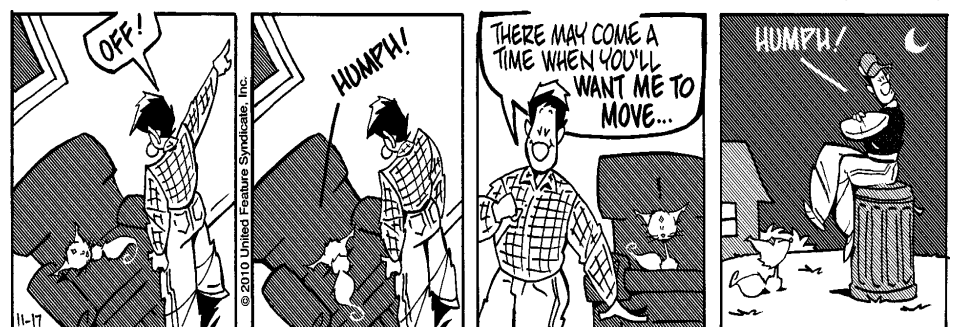


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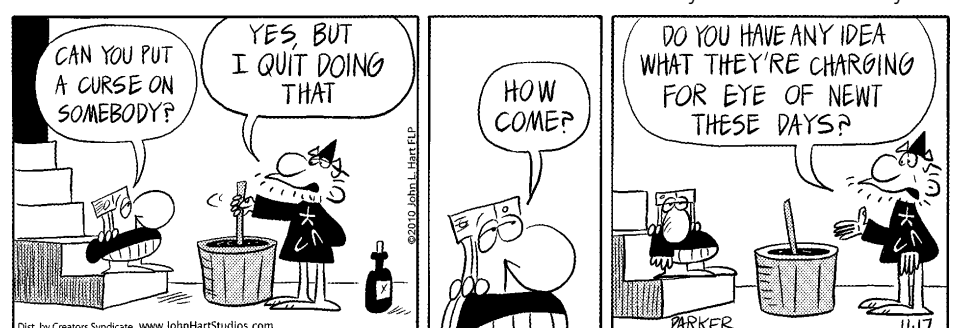
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