

THREE IN A ROW

Boise State Wins Vegas Bowl » S1

Sunday • December 23, 2012

www.magicvalley.com

\$2.00

TIMES-NEWS

Magic Valley Churchgoers Sew and Crochet Clothes for Dolls Offered at Christmas • O8

'TIS THE SEASON

Magic Mountain
Opens for Ski and
Snowboarding Season



BY KIMBERLEE KRUESI
kkruesi@magicvalley.com

HANSEN • Magic Mountain Resort's Christmas miracle came early this year.

Just days before the holiday, there was snow on the mountain and the ski lifts were running. Gary and Suzette Miller were thrilled.

"It's good to be open," said Suzette, co-owner of Magic Mountain. "We've been prepping for a while now."

Magic Mountain opened last Friday. It's not the earliest it has ever opened, but thankfully it's not the latest either. Last ski season, low snowpack levels led to a delayed ski resort opening. Gary and Suzette weren't able to open until mid-January. They missed the holiday season, which is a critical source of income for the resort.

Yet, even though the slopes are open now, Suzette is still praying for more snow.

"When you run a ski resort, you're always doing a snow dance in the parking lot," she said. "We would like to see the snow keep coming."

But on Saturday, just 24 hours after the resort opened, a lack of snow wasn't an issue. Young skiers and snowboarders were quick to hit the slopes and families were piling their kids onto tube lifts.

"This is a family resort," Suzette said. "People usually come here first to learn how to ski or snowboard and then go somewhere else later on but we get to see them learn how here."

Derek Davis was at Magic Mountain with his son, Brody, 4, enjoying the tubing runs just behind the resort's lodge.

"We come up here a few times a year," said Derek Davis, who was at Magic Mountain on Saturday. "The Millers are great people, we're happy to be here."

However, there is one downside to opening so close to Christmas, Gary said.

"I haven't bought any Christmas presents yet, we've been too busy," he said. "It's good to have people out here, I just don't know when I'm going to be able to do that."



(TOP) Tate Stanger, 5, rides an inner tube down a hill Saturday at Magic Mountain Resort near Hansen. (ABOVE) A snowboarder hits the slopes Saturday at Magic Mountain Resort.

PHOTOS BY DREW NASH • TIMES-NEWS

How to Get There

Magic Mountain Resort is open every day 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. except for Christmas. The resort will be open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Christmas Eve. Ski and snowboarding passes cost \$31 for adults and \$22 for children. Children ages 6 and younger get in free with an adult. For more information, call the resort at 736-7669.

Idahoans Brace
for Possible
End of Federal
Unemployment
Extensions

BY KIMBERLEE KRUESI
kkruesi@magicvalley.com

TWIN FALLS • Hundreds of south-central Idahoans receiving unemployment benefits might get their final check sooner than they expected.

Congress has until Dec. 31 to decide if it will continue to fund extended federal benefits for the country's long-term unemployed. If it doesn't, more than 740 claimants in the Magic Valley will stop receiving payments intended to help tide them over until they find employment. Nationwide, the extension program helps nearly 2 million people.

Ending the extended federal benefits is one of the lesser-known decisions Congress must make as it faces the pending "fiscal cliff," or the moment when a variety of tax hikes and spending cuts begin to take place by the end of the year. Earlier this year, Congress renewed the extended benefits through the end of this year, but phased in some added requirements to qualify for them. Since then, close to 560 Magic Valley residents have already exhausted their federal extensions benefits this year.

Please see **BENEFITS, A5**

Coming
Tuesday

Idaho unemployment drops again; read it in Business.

By the Numbers

- 6,200** • Total job-seekers in south-central Idaho as of Oct. 12
 - 738** • Magic Valley claimants who have collected extended unemployment benefits in December
 - 561** • Estimated total of south-central Idahoans who have already exhausted their federal extension benefits in 2012
 - \$592,785** • Amount spent on federal benefits extensions in the Magic Valley in 2012
 - \$7,747,173** • Amount spent on federal benefits extensions statewide in 2012
- Source: Idaho Department of Labor

IF YOU DO ONE THING TODAY ...

Holiday fun: Go on a wagon ride, sing Christmas carols and drink hot chocolate at 4:30 p.m. at Gooding United Methodist Church, 805 Main St.; followed by chili (by donation).

THE FORECAST

High **40°**
Low **28°**
Light Snow.
Details on page O12.

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Annual Fowl Count
Gives Scientists
Climate Clues
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Technology Helps Magic Valley
Producers Keep an Eye on Their
Spuds While They're in Storage
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Where Are the Magic Valley’s Students of the Week?

Triple A: Academic, Athletic and Artistic achievement piece will make its return in Sunday editions after the holidays.

Blaine County Schools Want to Hear from Alumni

TIMES-NEWS

HAILEY • The Blaine County School District is inviting alumni and parents to take a survey during the next couple of weeks.

The school district is looking for feedback about whether Carey School, Silver Creek High School or Wood River High School graduates felt prepared for college and careers.

District officials hope the timing of the survey will allow parents to base responses on conversations with their recent graduate. Parents: If you didn’t already receive the survey via

email, contact communications director Heather Crocker at HCrocker@blaineschools.org. The survey — which has fewer than five questions — closes Jan. 7.

5TH DISTRICT COURT NEWS

CASSIA COUNTY

FELONY SENTENCING Ruby Maria Castro; controlled substance-possession of (felony), \$615.50 costs, 7 years probation, 2 years determinate time, 5 years indeterminate time, penitentiary suspended; drug paraphernalia-use or possess with intent to use (misdemeanor), dismissed on motion of prosecutor.

FELONY DISMISSALS Skyler James Edwards; controlled substance-possession of (felony), dismissed on motion of prosecutor; controlled substance-possession of (felony), dismissed on motion of prosecutor. **Theresa K. Staker;** controlled substance-possession of (felony), dismissed on motion of prosecutor. **Martin J. Becker;** controlled substance-possession of (felony), dismissed on motion of prosecutor; drug paraphernalia-use or possess with intent to use (misdemeanor), \$22.50 fine, \$177.50 costs, \$313.38 restitution, 12 months probation, 180 days jail, 153 days suspended, 27 days credited, 30 days suspended community service; probation violation (misdemeanor), guilty.

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE SENTENCINGS Alejandro Salinas; driving under the influence (misdemeanor), \$315 fine, \$282.50 costs, 90 days driver’s license suspended, 12 months probation, 60 days jail, 58 days suspended, 2 days credited; driving without privileges, dismissed on motion of prosecutor. **Benjamin Gorodo Castro Jr.;** driving under the influence (second offense) (misdemeanor), \$500 fine, \$197.50 costs, 365 days driver’s license suspended, 18 months probation, 180 days jail, 180 days jail, 170 days suspended, 2 days credited, must report to jail 11/17/12 @ 5 pm each Saturday until 7 days are served-release Sunday @ 5 pm. **Manuel P. Sanzon;** driving under the influence (second offense) (misdemeanor), \$302.50 fine, \$197.50 costs, 365 days driver’s license suspended, 18 months probation, 180 days jail, 180 days jail, 170 days suspended, 2 days credited, must report to jail 11/16/12 @ 5 pm for 8 days. **Ryan W. Perkett;** driving under the influence-commercial vehicle with a BAC of .04 to .08 (misdemeanor), \$500 fine, \$197.50 costs, 180 days driver’s license suspended, 12 months proba-

tion, 180 days jail, 164 days suspended, 16 days credited time, 30 days McWork suspended. **Arturo Rios;** driving under the influence (misdemeanor), disposition withheld. **Jose Chavez Del Toro;** driving under the influence (misdemeanor), \$300 fine, \$197.50 costs, 90 days driver’s license suspended, 12 months probation, 60 days jail, 58 days suspended, 2 days credited; alcoholic beverage-unlawful transport (misdemeanor), dismissed on motion of prosecutor; driver’s license-fail to purchase or invalid (misdemeanor), \$47 fine, \$152.50 costs. **Makayla Ann Dansie;** driving under the influence, \$300 fine, \$197.50 costs, 90 days driver’s license suspended, 12 months probation, 60 days jail, 58 days suspended, 1 day credited, 2 days community service. **Candelario Salarazar Isiordia;** driving under the influence (second offense) (misdemeanor), \$400 fine, \$197.50 costs, \$100 restitution, 365 days driver’s license suspended, 12 months probation, 90 days jail, 80 days suspended, 3 days credited time, 14 days community service, 7 days to serve; driving without privileges (second offense) (misdemeanor), dismissed on motion of prosecutor. **Thoreau Valiant McKee;** driving under the influence (second offense) (misdemeanor), amended to driving under the influence (misdemeanor), \$500 fine, \$197.50 costs, \$100 restitution, 180 days driver’s license suspended, 180 days driver’s license suspended, 18 months probation, 90 days jail, 75 days suspended, 1 day credited, defendant to serve 14 days jail time; driver’s license or commercial driver’s license violation (misdemeanor), \$100 fine, \$152.50 costs, \$100 restitution. **Amanda Diaz;** injury to a child-adult transports minor while under the influence (misdemeanor), 12 months probation, 180 days jail, 150 days suspended, 21 days credited, defendant to serve 9 days jail time; false information provided on own identity to an investigating law enforcement officer (misdemeanor), dismissed on motion of prosecutor; driving under the influence (misdemeanor), \$500 fine, \$200 suspended, \$222.50 costs, 90 days driver’s license suspended, 12 months probation, 180 days jail, 150 days suspended, 21 days credited, defendant to serve 9 days jail time; driving without privileges (misdemeanor), 90 days driver’s license suspended, 12 months probation, 180 days jail, 150 days suspended, 21 days credited time, defen-

dant to serve 9 days jail time. **Jose M. Garcia-Preciado;** driving under the influence (misdemeanor), \$200 fine, \$247.50 costs, 90 days driver’s license suspended, 18 months probation, 90 days jail, 75 days suspended, 15 days credited; drug paraphernalia-use or possess with intent to use (misdemeanor), dismissed on motion of prosecutor; driver’s license or commercial driver’s license violation (misdemeanor), dismissed on motion of prosecutor. **Juan Antonio Saucedo Jr.;** driving under the influence (misdemeanor), \$300 fine, \$234.50 costs, \$100 restitution, 90 days driver’s license suspended, 12 months probation, 60 days jail, 58 days suspended, 1 day credited, 1 day to serve, must be served within 30 days; controlled substance-possession of (misdemeanor), dismissed on motion of prosecutor. **Edith Jodene Thompson;** driving under the influence (misdemeanor), disposition withheld. **Juan Daniel Bobadilla-Zetina;** driving under the influence (misdemeanor), \$500 fine, \$197.50 costs, 90 days driver’s license suspended, 18 months probation, 60 days jail, 55 days suspended, 3 days credited, 2 days to serve; driver’s license-fail to purchase or invalid (misdemeanor), dismissed by court.

MINIDOKA COUNTY

FELONY SENTENCINGS Richard Thomas Carpenter; fraud-no account check (felony), \$225.50 costs, \$598.76 restitution, 1 year determinate time, 2 years indeterminate time, 15 days credited, retained jurisdiction; fraud-no account check (felony), dismissed on motion of prosecutor. **Justin Gabriel Pague;** check, draft or order drawn on account without funds or credit (felony), amended to forged check-possession of (felony), \$225.50 costs, \$3100 restitution, 2 years determinate time, 3 years indeterminate time, 40 days credited, retained jurisdiction.

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE SENTENCINGS Dennis James West; driving under the influence (excessive) (misdemeanor), amended to driving under the influence (misdemeanor), \$700 fine, \$500 suspended, \$297.50 costs, 180 days driver’s license suspended, 24 months probation, 180 days jail, 175 days suspended, 1 day credited, 30 days other time, 80 hours community service, serve balance of 4 days jail on weekend beginning 11/16/12 @ 6 pm, 30 days community service hours/20 days suspended; driving-offense by person owning or controlling vehicle (misdemeanor), \$500 fine, \$500 suspended, 180 days jail, 180 days suspended. **Efrain Arteaga Jr.;** driving under the influence (misdemeanor), amended to driving under the influence (misdemeanor), \$200 fine, \$197.50 costs, 180 days jail, 1 day credited, report to jail at noon on 02/16/13 if in non-compliance with CR-2011-2671. **Keith Allen Leininger;** driving under the influence (misdemeanor), 90 days driver’s license suspended,

60 days jail. **Kelli Marie Barnes;** driver’s license or commercial driver’s license violation (misdemeanor), amended to controlled substance-possession of (felony), dismissed on motion of prosecutor; driving under the influence (misdemeanor), amended to controlled substance-possession of (felony), dismissed on motion of prosecutor; controlled substance-possession of (misdemeanor), \$200 fine, \$200 suspended, 24 months probation, 180 days jail, 178 days suspended, 30 days other time, 1 day credited, 30 days community service ordered/28 days suspended, 2 days in lieu of 1 day jail; driving under the influence (misdemeanor), \$400 fine, \$200 suspended, \$247.50 costs, 90 days driver’s license suspended, 180 days jail, 178 days suspended, 30 days other time, 1 day credited, 30 days community service ordered/28 days suspended, 2 days in lieu of 1 day jail; driver’s license or commercial driver’s license violation (misdemeanor), dismissed on motion of prosecutor; probation violation (misdemeanor), 2 days jail, 2 days credited. **David Wayne Horton;** driving under the influence (third or subsequent offense) (felony), amended to driving under the influence (second offense) (misdemeanor), \$1,000 fine, \$700 suspended, \$297.50 costs, 365 days driver’s license suspended, 24 months probation, 365 days jail, 355 days suspended, 2 days credited time, 120 hours community service, 15 days community service in lieu of 8 days jail. **Oliver K. Bryan;** controlled substance-possession of (felony), dismissed on motion of prosecutor; driving under the influence (misdemeanor), \$500 fine, \$300 suspended, \$197.50 costs, 90 days driver’s license suspended, 18 months probation, 180 days jail, 176 days suspended, 4 days credited. **Angelia Marie Morgan;** driving under the influence (misdemeanor), \$300 fine, \$100 suspended, \$197.50 costs, 90 days driver’s license suspended, 12 months probation, 90 days jail, 88 days suspended, 30 days other time, 2 days credited; property-placing debris on public or private property (misdemeanor), dismissed on motion of prosecutor; vehicle insurance-fail to provide proof of insurance (infraction), dismissed on motion of the prosecutor. **Benjamin Vega Castro;** driving under the influence (second or subsequent offense) (felony), amended to driving under the influence (second offense) (misdemeanor), \$800 fine, \$500 suspended, \$197.50 costs, 365 days driver’s license suspended, 24 months probation, 365 days jail, 355 days suspended, 1 day credited, remanded for service of 9 days; vehicle insurance-fail to provide proof of insurance (misdemeanor) (second or subsequent offense), dismissed by court. **Daniel Curtis Quilimaco;** driving under the influence (misdemeanor), \$200 fine, \$297.50 costs, 90 days driver’s license suspended, 12 months probation, 120 days jail, 118 days suspended, 30 days other time, 1 day credited time, 16 hours community service, 16 hours community service hours, 30 days community service ordered, 28 days suspended.

STORK REPORT

St. Luke’s Jerome

Quinlyn Valarie Rogers, daughter of Erica and Scott Rogers of Jerome, was born Dec. 3, 2012. **Giovany Marez Ayala,** son of Arturo and Luz Matez of Wendell, was born Dec. 9, 2012. **Daniel Guadalupe Serrato,** son of Kimberly McLaughlin and Juan Ramon Serrato Avila of Gooding, was born Dec. 12, 2012. **Nikoda Tyler Glosser,** son of Tiffany Brianne and Christopher Glosser of Jerome, was born Dec. 12, 2012. **Carlos Vicente Estrada,** son of Kristeen Lynn Tomason and David Estrada Jr. of Jerome, was born Dec. 12, 2012.

St. Luke’s Magic Valley

Jaiden Dallas Wicks, son of Sheena Ann and Larry Wayene Wicks of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 7, 2012. **Borna Jabal Adadi,** son of Míad Saboori and Mehrzad Jabal Abadi of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 11, 2012. **Smith Bradford Garrard,** son of Lindsay Jane and Brady Tim Garrard of Jerome, was born Dec. 12, 2012. **Kate Robyn Moffitt,** daughter of Carli Robyn and Shawn Gary Moffitt of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 12, 2012. **Waylon Chuck Weaver,** son of Afton Alice and Cory Slade Weaver of Wendell, was born Dec. 12, 2012. **Alaia Grace Bengoechea,** daughter of Sarah Lorene and Jose Antonio Bengoechea Jr. of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 12, 2012. **Auston Lee Helsley,** son of Heidi Lynn and Jeramie Lee Helsley of Heyburn, was born Dec. 12, 2012. **Havanna Jewl Bagley,** daughter of Jewel and Konan Van Bagley of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 13, 2012. **Tyke Thomas Callen,** son of Erin Elizabeth and Dolphy Ralph Callen of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 13, 2012. **Yelena Ann Levdanskiy,** daughter of Megan Nicole and Anton Petrovich Levdanskiy of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 13, 2012. **Brett Michael Craner,** son of Hailey Ann Hall and Jacob Ukame Craner of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 13, 2012. **Zayne Patrick Gonzales,** son of Crystal Dawn Worth and Joel Rodriguez Gonzales of Gooding, was born Dec. 14, 2012. **Hailey Lopez,** daughter of RosaElia and Nestor Omar Lopez of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 14, 2012. **Brett Michael Unruh,** son of Janae Ellen and Brandon Keith Unruh of Buhl, was born Dec. 14, 2012. **Nya Nathalee Ray Kinyon,** daughter of Belinda Jacqueline Lee Kinyon and Joshua Villaro of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 14, 2012. **Trenton William Lee-Brinuman,** son of Ashley Elizabeth Airoso and Berry Anthony Lee-Brinuman of Hansen, was born Dec. 15, 2012. **Kaylee Guadalupe Landeros,** daughter of Simona Rojas and Juan De Dios Landeros of Murtaugh, was born Dec. 15, 2012. **Tate Tyrell Simpson,** son of Whitney Michelle and Tyrell C Simpson of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 16, 2012. **Ilahni Nayan Ibarra,** daughter of Yasmin Nayan and Richardo Javier Ibarra of Filer, was born Dec. 16, 2012. **Emma Jo Codner,** daughter of Katelyn Nicole and Joseph Lee Codner of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 17, 2012. **Zayelli Rojas,** daughter of Rosita and Luis Javier Rojas of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 17, 2012. **Regan Lynn Shoemaker,** daughter of Stephanie Kay Conner and Shadrick James Shoemaker of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 17, 2012. **Avery Elisa Alvarado,** daughter of Laura Zamora and Juan Francisco Alvarado Jr. of Rupert, was born Dec. 17, 2012. **Evan Ender Prado,** son of Teran Jayne Dente and Jose Santiago Prado of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 18, 2012. **Isaiah Angel Miller,** son of Cassandra Ann Miller of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 18, 2012. **Diederick Michael Evans,** son of Cheyann Mardell and Randy Michael Evans of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 18, 2012. **Hanna Marlis Weeks,** daughter of Christine Wedemeyer and David Arron Weeks Jr. of Hansen, was born Dec. 18, 2012. **Angely Ramirez Alvarez,** daughter of Maria Trinidad Alvarez and Eusebio Ramirez of Jerome, was born Dec. 18, 2012. **Ayleen Jaazbel Garcia Barajas,** daughter of Maria Isabel Barajas-Chavez and Jose Luis Garcia Alcavter of Buhl, was born Dec. 18, 2012. **Briella Rose Hudson,** daughter of Samira Nichole and Tyrel Jay Hudson of Gooding, was born Dec. 18, 2012. **Jamison Michael Baughman,** son of Michelle Ann and Michael Todd Baughman of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 19, 2012. **Annaleah Jeslyn Holloway,** daughter of Amber Dawn Smith and Andrew Lewis Holloway of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 19, 2012. **Isaiah Robert Lawrence Padillo,** son of Ashtyn Shanai Jones and Omar Christopher Angel Padilla of Twin Falls, was born Dec. 20, 2012.

SNOWPACK

| Seasonal percentage | | Little Lost | |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Watershed | % of Avg. peak | Henry's Fork/Teton | 154% 57% |
| Salmon | 128% 44% | Upper Snake Basin | 123% 42% |
| Big Wood | 156% 53% | Goose Creek | 79% 29% |
| Little Wood | 178% 61% | Salmon Falls | 71% 25% |
| Big Lost | 196% 68% | | <i>As of Dec. 22</i> |

LOTTERY

| | |
|---|---|
| Powerball <i>Saturday, Dec. 22</i> 01 18 35 39 44 (11) | Wild Card 2 <i>Saturday, Dec. 22</i> 01 05 13 24 30 Wild Card: Jack of Diamonds |
| Hot Lotto <i>Saturday, Dec. 22</i> 03 15 19 23 39 (10) | <i>In the event of a discrepancy between the numbers shown here and the Idaho Lottery's official list of winning numbers, the latter shall prevail.</i> |
| Idaho Pick 3 <i>Dec. 22</i> 8 7 4 <i>Dec. 21</i> 4 0 2 <i>Dec. 20</i> 5 0 9 | www.idaholottery.com 334-2600 |

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Man Arrested for Stealing Car, Making Knife Threat

BY ALISON GENE SMITH
alismsmith@magicvalley.com

TWIN FALLS • Police say a Twin Falls man was on the phone with 911 dispatchers about his car being stolen when the alleged thief drove by his home and threatened him with a knife.

Joseph Cossette, 27, was arrested on a charge of receiving or transferring a stolen vehicle and arraigned on the charge Wednesday in Twin Falls County 5th Dis-

trict Court.

On Tuesday, at about 4:10 p.m., police were dispatched to the 500 block of Main Avenue West in Twin Falls for a call about a stolen vehicle. The caller told police he knew Cossette took his vehicle, a 1997 silver Honda Accord. According to a police report, the man said Cossette was at his house the night before and when he left, the keys were gone.

According to the report, while the man was on the

phone with police, Cossette drove down the alleyway in the man's vehicle and pulled out a large hunting knife and told him to get in the car. The man said he refused, and Cossette allegedly said, "you're not getting your car back until I get my stuff back," the report states.

While police completed the stolen vehicle report with the alleged victim, the man got a call from Cossette, the report states.

With the phone on speaker, Cossette kept asking if the alleged victim called the cops on him and repeated that he was not going to give the vehicle back until he received his property back, the report states.

According to the report, police went to Cossette's home in the 400 block of Ash Street North and found the missing vehicle and Cossette. Police also allegedly discovered the knife the victim said he was

threatened with.

Police arrested Cossette and he was held on a \$10,000 bond.

In July, Cossette was shot by a man who claimed self-defense. In September, he was arrested on a robbery charge for allegedly fracturing a women's jaw and taking money from her. That case was dismissed by prosecutors. While in jail for that case, he was accused of fighting with another inmate and charged with battery. He is scheduled to be sentenced for that case on Jan. 8.

A preliminary hearing in the stolen vehicle case is scheduled for Dec. 28.

Counselors Assist Those Affected by Conn. School Shootings

BY LAURIE WELCH
lwelch@magicvalley.com

BURLEY • Only a couple of people took advantage of a free counseling session Thursday in the aftermath of the Newtown, Conn., school shootings that claimed the lives of 20 children and six adults.

"I think everyone in the country was affected by the shootings," said Velma Reed of Burley. "I was listening to Christmas carols today and started crying because I thought those families won't have Christmas. Those were little children and those emotions are hard."

Bill Jensen of Options Counseling led the session using a tapping technique called Emotional Freedom Technique that hones in on the Chinese meridian system on which acupuncture and acupressure is based.

"It's horrible, horrible and I think of the families," said Reed. "I have little grandchildren. What's going to say that can't happen at their schools?"

Jensen said people may never find a satisfactory answer to the question of why the shootings happened, but they can learn to diffuse the feelings of sadness, grief and anger over the event.

"Newtown was a town of about 20,000 in population," Jensen said. "It could be any-town U.S.A It could happen here. I have 10 grandchildren and it kind of hit me in the gut."

"I think it's better to think about it and try to balance it than it is to bury it," said Linda Croft of Heyburn. "I feel a lot of sadness; for the one's who have gone on, I think they'll be taken care of. But the trauma they suffered before they died. They must have suffered terribly. And I think of the fear of those who saw what happened and I have some anger. Just the horror of what those poor people must have suffered."

She also feels some empathy for the shooter.

"I pray for him, too, because no one knows what was in his mind and what that terrible hurt was," Croft said.

Croft said the family has been damaged and God taken out of the schools.

"It's a reflection of what's going on in our society," Croft said. "We are creating an emotionless society."

Christmas Brings Closures Around the Magic Valley

TIMES-NEWS

TWIN FALLS • Many offices and facilities are closed Tuesday for Christmas.

County and city offices are closed Tuesday. Many offices will close early Monday.

State and federal offices are closed.

Post offices are closed Tuesday; regular mail delivery Monday.

Banks are closed Tuesday. Many banks will close early Monday.

College of Southern Idaho is closed through Jan. 1.

Herrett Center for Arts and Science is closed Monday and Tuesday.

Twin Falls Public Library is closed Monday and Tuesday.

YMCA/Twin Falls City Pool is open until 1 p.m. Monday; it's closed Tuesday.

Hagerman Fossil Beds Visitor Center is open until

5 p.m. Monday; it's closed Tuesday.

Magic Valley Mall is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday; it's closed Tuesday.

Trash collection follows the regular schedule Monday, but will be delayed by one day the rest of the week. Trash will not be picked up Tuesday.

Hosman-Roes

Brent and Farah Hosman of Buhl are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Tia to Alan Roes, son of R. Alan and Roxie Roes of Holbrook Arizona on Friday, December 21, 2012 in the Mesa, Arizona LDS temple. Friends and family are invited to a reception held in their honor this Saturday, December 29, 2012 at the 8th Street Center (200 8th



Tia Hosman and Alan Roes

Ave N) in Buhl from 6-8 pm.



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TWIN FALLS COUNTY

FELONY SENTENCINGS

Aaron Steven Carlson, 19, Twin Falls; burglary, \$445.50 fine, 6 years penitentiary, 2 years determinate penitentiary, 4 years indeterminate penitentiary, restitution; grand theft charge dismissed.

Devon Jovey Merritt, 20, Twin Falls; possession controlled substance-with intent to manufacture or deliver, 365 days retained jurisdiction, \$2,365.50 fines and fees, 7 years penitentiary, 3 years determinate penitentiary, 4 years indeterminate penitentiary, suspended sentence, 2 years supervised probation, restitution.

Brandy Lee Corey, 37, Hansen; possession of a controlled substance, \$690.50 fines and fees, 4 years penitentiary, 2 years determinate penitentiary, 2 years indeterminate penitentiary, suspended sentence, 2 years supervised probation, restitution.

Jennifer Annabel Miner, 18, Buhl; possession of controlled substance, retained jurisdiction, \$1,630.50 fines and fees, 5 years penitentiary, 2 years determinate penitentiary, 3 years indeterminate penitentiary, restitution.

Aaron Reyes Torres, 25, Twin Falls; drug-trafficking in marijuana, retained jurisdiction, \$1,530.50 fines and fees, 5 years penitentiary, 1 years determinate penitentiary, 4 years indeterminate penitentiary, restitution. delivery of a controlled substance , \$1,350.00 fines and fees, 5 years penitentiary, 1 years determinate penitentiary, 4 years indeterminate penitentiary, drug-trafficking in marijuana and delivery of a controlled substance charges dismissed.

Jesse Lyn Heck, 25, Twin

Falls, delivery of a controlled substance, \$2,265.50 fines and fees, retained jurisdiction, 7 years penitentiary, 2 years determinate penitentiary, 5 years indeterminate penitentiary, restitution; 2nd delivery of a controlled substance charge dismissed.

Jonathan Denton, 18, Twin Falls; burglary and grand theft charges, \$70.00 fines and fees, 12 months supervised probation.

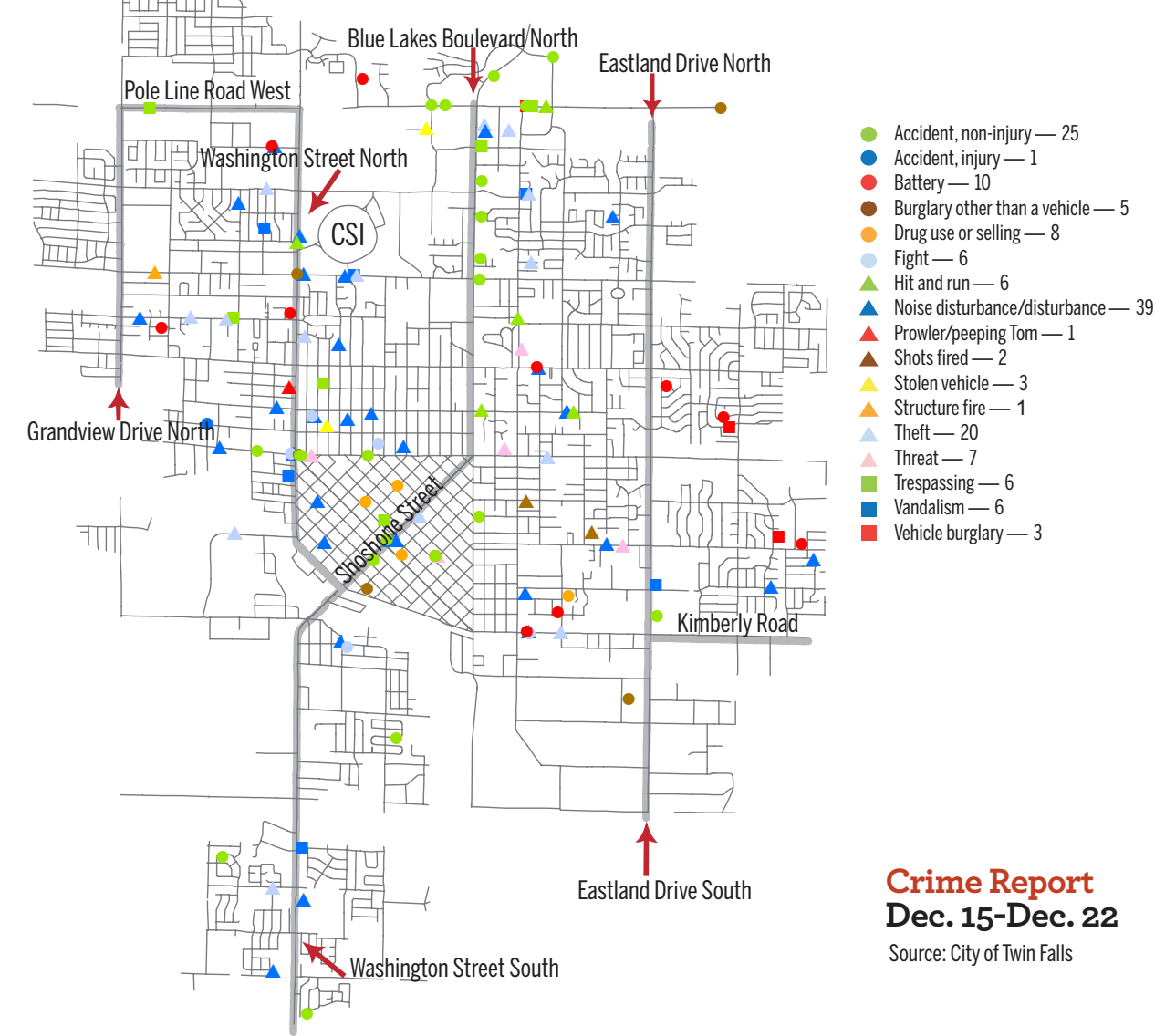
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE SENTENCINGS

Jerrid Dee Hranac, 37, Kimberly, DUI(second offense), \$1000 fine, \$800 suspended, \$197.50 costs, \$75 public defender, 365 days jail, 355 suspended, 5 days credited, 5 days work detail, 365 suspended drivers license, 24 months supervised probation, alcohol school, treatment and interlock device; open container and invalid drivers license charges dismissed.

Heide Ann Tweedy, 29, Hagerman; DUI, amended to inattentive driving, \$500 fine, \$400 suspended, \$137.50 costs, 30 days jail, 29 suspended, 1 day credited, 12 months supervised probation, alcohol school.

Jeffery Scott Newman, 37, Twin Falls; DUI, amended to DUI(second offense), \$1000 fine, \$1000 suspended, 197.50 costs, 180 days jail, 175 suspended, 2 days credited, 3 days work detail, 365 suspended drivers license, 12 months supervised probation and 12 months medical probation, alcohol school, interlock device.

Jordyn Mae Neerdaels, 21, Twin Falls; DUI, \$1000 fine, \$1000 suspended, 197.50 costs, 180 days jail, 175 suspended, 1 day credited, 4 days community service, 365 days drivers license



Crime Report
Dec. 15-Dec. 22
Source: City of Twin Falls

suspension, 24 months supervised probation with a school to work allowance, alcohol school and interlock device.

Joel Stewart, 51, Twin Falls; DUI, amended to DUI(excessive), \$1000 fine, \$800 suspended, \$197.50 costs, \$75 public defender, \$100 restitution, 365 days jail, 255 suspended, 104 days credited, 365 days drivers licens suspension, 12 months supervised probation and 12 months otherwise, alcohol school.

Marey D. Savage, 36, Twin Falls, DUI(second offense), \$400 fine, \$197.50 costs, \$75

public defender, 365 days jail, 354 suspended, 11 days credited, 365 days suspended drivers license, 12 months supervised probation.

DIVORCE CIVIL FILINGS

Eric Foster v Melanie Foster
Deborah Crawford v Charles Crawford
Josepha Wood v John Wood
Brenda Bourgeois v David Bourgeois
Tiffany Storey v Carl Storey
Lori Ann Ross v Kevin Ross

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Hearing for Mom Accused of Fake Pregnancy Delayed

BY ALISON GENE SMITH
alismsmith@magicvalley.com

TWIN FALLS • A court hearing for a woman who police say faked being pregnant with triplets and took \$1,435 in money and gifts from church members in her community was delayed Friday morning.

Lisa Holley, 44, was scheduled to have a preliminary hearing Friday morning so Twin Falls County 5th District Judge Roger Harris could decide if prosecutors have enough evidence to take the case to trial. Holley is charged with one count of grand theft by deception in the case.

Holley did not appear in court, but her attorney Timothy Williams said he and prosecutors were discussing the possibility of making a deal in this case and another theft by deception case Holley is charged in. In the other case, Holley and her husband Michael Holley, 54, were charged with two counts each of grand theft by deception for having a fundraiser for their daughter, whom they allegedly

claimed had cancer. Police say the child does not have cancer and lives with family in Washington.

During Friday's hearing, Williams also said he was working on mental health issues with Holley.

Harris delayed the hearing for three weeks to give attorneys time to work on a deal and said the hearing would not be delayed again.

In a November interview with the *Times-News*, the

Holleys denied the charges and maintained Lisa was pregnant and miscarried.

A preliminary hearing is scheduled for Lisa Holley for Jan. 11 in the pregnancy fraud case and she is scheduled for a jury trial on Jan. 15 for the cancer fraud case. Michael Holley is scheduled to go to trial for the cancer fraud case on Jan. 3.

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Benefits

Continued from **the front page**

A year ago, Idaho's laid-off workers could collect up to 99 weeks of both state and federal unemployment benefits. If the federal extensions are not renewed, laid-off workers will only be able to collect 26 weeks of state unemployment benefits.

Critics of the federal benefits program argue the extension encourages prolonged joblessness and it does little to keep the unemployment rate down. Those in favor of the program point out that the extended benefits are one of the few alternatives to help the chronically unemployed get by. They also claim that the money is immediately spent, making it an effective form of stimulus for the economy.

Cutting Close to Home

As lawmakers continue to dispute the federal budget in Washington, D.C., Barbara Arambula is just waiting to see if her job application will be accepted.

The Twin Falls resident has received federal extension benefits since October. The only work she could find over the past six years was a temporary position at an accounting firm for six months at a time. For the remainder of the year, Arambula spends her weeks applying for jobs. So far, nothing has turned into something permanent.

"I've been applying for jobs around here but if it doesn't look up anytime soon, I would be willing to move," Arambula said.

She hasn't applied for any other form of government assistance and hopes she never has to in the future. This means the single mom's budget remains constrained month to month.

The Unemployed

Arambula's story isn't unlike those of many other long-term unemployed folks in the area.

Close to 6,200 individuals were out of work as of October



Brenda Arambula poses for a portrait next to a picture of her daughter Saturday at her home in Twin Falls.

DREW NASH • TIMES-NEWS

of this year in south-central Idaho, according to the Idaho Department of Labor. Out of that total, almost 560 of those have exhausted both their state and federal unemployment benefits this year.

However, extending the benefits isn't always the best solution for an area, said Jan Roeser, a regional economist with the Department of Labor.

"There will be some people who will be hurt but they are a limited number," Roeser said. "The more you're off work, the harder it is to get back. It's harder to get back into the regime."

Magic Valley employment is fairing better than the rest of the state. But Roeser acknowledged that depending on a person's skills set, the job market can look grim at times.

The department tracks the amount of job listings posted to its website. It's not all-inclusive — it's estimated that about 25 percent of Idaho employers use the system — but it does show continued job growth in the Magic Valley over the past four years.

According to the report, job sectors that are showing growth are health care practitioners, production and manufacturing and transportation.

"Chobani has contributed to the Magic Valley office totals while the state is also showing an uptick over that same time period," Roeser said in an email. "There are more opportunities for job seekers but they are not necessarily perfect fits."

In the Magic Valley, most people who have a hard time finding a job usually face an unusual barrier, Roeser said. This could include being incarcerated, being charged with driving under the influence or having a limited job.

Uncertain Future

For Tammy Duncan, the possible end of the federal benefits extension is troublesome. The Jerome resident started receiving unemployment in October after filing for wrongful termination. She's ready to apply for new jobs but

is worried about losing the safety net of the extended benefits in case the job market remains low.

"We paid into unemployment, we should get it back when we need it," she said. "They shouldn't stop it."

Arambula also has concerns for the future.

"I found out that I might not be receiving my checks three weeks ago," she said. "It's stressful. I need a job. It's just me and my daughter and it's tight."



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12/24 Monday 12:00 p.m.

Crash Causes Double Fatality Near Gooding

TIMES-NEWS

GOODING • Two people are dead after an automobile accident Friday night near Gooding. Idaho State Police investigated the crash that happened a little before 7 p.m. on Interstate 84 near milepost 135. Chelsea L. Sorensen, 22, of Twin Falls was driving west on I-84 in a 2007 Chevrolet Cobalt, when, for unknown reasons, she lost control of the vehicle, drove into the median and overturned. The vehicle continued into the eastbound lanes of travel, colliding with a 2010 Nissan Maxima, driven by Ryan W. Bowen, 23, of Burley.

Bowen was pronounced dead at scene, according to ISP. Sorensen was transported by air ambulance to St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise, where she later died. Franklin D. Bowen, 52, Nedra G. Bowen, 50, and Lorelee Bowen, 17, all of Burley, were passengers in Bowen's vehicle. All three also were transported by air ambulance to St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise. Both drivers and all passengers were wearing seat belts. Both eastbound lanes were blocked for about four and a half hours while the crash was cleaned up. The crash is still under investigation.

Two-vehicle Crash Causes Road Blockage on U.S. 93

TIMES-NEWS

JEROME • Traffic was blocked for about 90 minutes Friday evening while Idaho State Police investigated a two-vehicle crash at 400 South and U.S. Highway 93. A little before 5:30 p.m., Jose J. Zarazua Zavala, 60, of Twin Falls was traveling west on 400 South in a 2003 Dodge Durango. Antonio H. Gomes, 17, of Twin

Falls was traveling north on Highway 93 in a 1990 Chevrolet Sport Van. Zarazua Zavala failed to stop at the stop sign on 400 South, striking the passenger's side of Gomes's vehicle. Both lanes on U.S. 93 were blocked for 90 minutes while ISP investigated; both lanes were re-opened to normal traffic around 9 p.m. The crash is still under investigation.

A 'Magic'-al Time of Year



DREW NASH • TIMES-NEWS

Darrick Cooke teaches his daughter, Marlee Cooke, 4, how to ski Saturday at Magic Mountain Resort near Hansen.

No Mayan Doom in Yellowstone, Science Continues

BY MEAD GRUVER
Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. • A massive volcanic eruption did not happen in Yellowstone on Friday as Hollywood and others had suggested might mark the final "X" on the ancient Mayan calendar. The doomsday scenario of a cataclysmic eruption of the Yellowstone volcano, killing untold millions and bringing about civilization-ending climatic shifts has been among the most widely discussed at the end of the ancient Mayan calendar. The generally agreed-upon date for the end of the calendar was Dec. 21, 2012, a day that proved to be a cold, clear winter day in the sprawling national park. "It's a typical day for this time of year. Sunny, chilly, snow," Yellowstone spokesman Al Nash, who is based at Mammoth near the park's north entrance, said Friday. Not exactly the outlandish scene in the 2009 movie, "2012," in which actor John Cusack fled fireballs from an erupting Yellowstone by RV and airplane. Still, serious geologists watched closely Friday, just as they do every day, for borygmi in the guts of the massive supervolcano beneath Yellowstone National Park to gain their clearest understanding yet about what's down there. A recent upgrade to the array of sensitive monitoring equipment that informs the Yellowstone Volcano Obser-

vatory is poised to accelerate scientists' understanding of the volcano and its associated geology, said Bob Smith, the University of Utah coordinating scientist for the observatory. "We treat it as a telescope looking down. What this is giving us is many, many times the capability we had before. It's an enormous increase in our ability to look down in the earth," Smith said Friday.

"Where better to be if the world's going to blow up, right? Right in the middle of it."

Kathie Tiedje, winter season location manager for the Old Faithful area for park concessionaire Xanterra Parks & Resorts

The improvements are yielding new ability to decipher from the smallest earthquakes the movement of magma within the volcano, he said. In 2012, Yellowstone has been unusually quiet if anything, lately averaging one or two earthquakes a day. Most quakes have been too small to be felt. Far from bracing for a volcanic eruption in Yellowstone — something that hasn't happened in as many as 70,000 years — Smith spent Thursday and Friday tending to a plumbing leak in his home in Jackson Hole, south of Yellowstone. Recent events uphold Yellowstone's reputation for having incredibly active and dynamic geology, however. Swarms of thousands of tiny earthquakes rattled the park over a couple distinct episodes from 2008-2010.

Some of those swarms apparently were associated with hot water or magma flowing deep beneath Yellowstone, Smith said. "At deeper depth, it was probably magma," he said. New and improved seismographs brought online in the past couple years, he said, will help scientists discern which very small quakes are tectonic, or caused by shifting faults, and which are volcanic, or caused by magma.

From 2004-2010, scientists measured significant bulging in the vast caldera beneath Yellowstone Lake, Old Faithful and other features of central Yellowstone. The ground lifted by as much as 3 inches a year before subsiding somewhat over the past couple years. "With some frequency, somebody out there starts a rumor about Yellowstone

and the caldera and some potential impacts," Nash said. "We're glad they're interested. We just wish they'd check out the actual science first." Yellowstone has had three major cycles of volcanic activity over the past 2 million years, each of which climaxed in massive eruptions that formed large calderas. The last truly epic Yellowstone eruption happened 640,000 years ago, according to the U.S. Geological Survey, which coordinates the multi-agency Yellowstone Volcano Observatory. Lava flows have been much more common in Yellowstone, but aren't known to have occurred within the last 70,000 years. Much more common, and occasionally as powerful as a volcanic eruption, are underground blasts of steam called hydrothermal explosions. A hydrothermal explosion created a 1.5-mile-wide crater visible along the north shore of Yellowstone Lake about 13,800 years ago. Smaller hydrothermal blasts, such as one that left a 15-foot-wide crater in the Norris Geyser Basin in

1989, are much more common. "It's possible that something like that could happen at any time," said Jake Lowenstern, scientist in charge of the Yellowstone Volcano Observatory. Major earthquakes, too, strike Yellowstone, such as the magnitude 7.5 Hebgen Lake earthquake that killed 28 people. The long list of geological dangers in Yellowstone doesn't seem to preoccupy most visitors to the park, said Rich Jehle, south district resource education ranger for Yellowstone. Most aren't even aware that Yellowstone is a huge volcano

until he tells them. "I can't say that I've ever personally talked to somebody who's come in with that deer in the headlight look, that they just found out they were sitting on top of this gigantic volcano, and do I need to get out of here? No," Jehle said. At Old Faithful, staff at the Snow Lodge planned to celebrate their survival with an end of the world party Friday night, said Kathie Tiedje, winter season location manager for the Old Faithful area for park concessionaire Xanterra Parks & Resorts. "Where better to be if the world's going to blow up, right?" Tiedje said. "Right in the middle of it."

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Nonprofit Group Plans Teaching Info Sessions

TIMES-NEWS

JEROME • Interested in becoming a teacher? A nonprofit certification organization is hosting information sessions in Jerome and Gooding.

Information sessions are scheduled for 3 and 4 p.m. Dec. 27 at Gooding City Hall. In Jerome, sessions are

scheduled for 11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m. Jan. 5 at the Jerome Public Library.

More Jerome sessions are also scheduled for 3 and 4 p.m. Jan. 11 at the library.

The American Board will provide information about how experienced professionals and career-changers can earn an Idaho teaching certification.

Event registrants will receive career counseling and will be advised on a personalized path to certification.

The American Board offers an online program, allowing participants to work at their own pace.

Interested participants should register in advance at www.abcte.org/teach/events.



PHOTO COURTESY UNITED WAY SOUTH CENTRAL IDAHO

South Idaho Tree Service and United Way are collecting Christmas trees to recycle into mulch.

Tree Service Offers Christmas Tree Recycling

TIMES-NEWS

TWIN FALLS • Need to dispose of your Christmas tree after Tuesday? Snake River Tree service can help.

The service is partnering with United Way of South Central Idaho to collect used trees from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 29. Bring used trees to DL Evans Bank, 906 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. in Twin Falls. The

service is free for drop-off, though donations for United Way SCID will be accepted.

Snake River Tree service will also pick up your tree. Call Bret Dixon, 316-5759, or the United Way office, 733-4922, for information or to make arrangements.

Snake River Tree service will turn the Christmas trees into mulch.

Information: Bill Knopp, 733-4922.

N. IDAHO POWERBOAT COLLISION CASE HEADED FOR TRIAL

SANDPOINT (AP) • A case involving a northern Idaho man who police say violated numerous laws by crashing a powerboat into a moored sailboat appears to be going to trial.

The Bonner County Daily Bee reports no resolution was reached Thursday at a pretrial hearing and that a trial

date is pending for 37-year-old Jonathan Richard Beckley of Sandpoint. He's been charged with grossly negligent operation of a vessel, child endangerment and three violations of Idaho's Safe Boating Act.

Authorities say Beckley on Aug. 12 at about 10:30 p.m. crashed a 1978

Thompson Cuddy cabin powerboat into a moored and unoccupied sailboat, heavily damaging both boats.

A female passenger aboard the powerboat told investigators she suffered a fractured tailbone. Court records say a 4-year-old boy aboard the powerboat wasn't injured.

SW Idaho Man Arrested at Animal Shelter

CALDWELL (AP) • A southwestern Idaho man who showed up at the Canyon County Animal Shelter to check on 30 dogs seized from his home at the same time police were at the shelter holding a news conference about the case was taken into custody on suspicion of growing and selling marijuana.

The Idaho Press-Tribune reports that 65-year-old Jerry Krebs was taken into custody Friday about 4 p.m. Police say he will likely make a court appearance Monday.

Authorities seized 30 dogs from Krebs' Caldwell home Thursday where they say they also found what appeared to be a marijuana growing operation, leading to a search warrant but no arrest.

That changed Friday when Krebs was taken into custody. He also faces 30 counts of animal cruelty.

Former Teen Detention Worker Pleads Not Guilty

BOISE (AP) • A former safety and security supervisor at the Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections facility in Nampa has pleaded not guilty to sexually abusing a juvenile offender.

The Idaho Press-Tribune reports that 31-year-old Julie McCormick pleaded not guilty Friday in 3rd District Court to felony lewd conduct with a minor.

Judge Gregory Culet lowered McCormick's bond

from \$200,000 to \$75,000 on the condition she wear a GPS device and remain within a specified area.

Authorities say McCormick engaged in a sexual relationship with a 15-year-old male inmate at the Nampa facility.

McCormick was charged in early November. The Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections said she was fired from her job in August after seven years with the department.

WANTED

Rebecca Ann Uker

Age: 19
Description: 5 foot 1 inch, 136 pounds, brown hair, hazel eyes
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The Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office asks anyone with information about Uker's whereabouts to call 735-1911 or Crime Stoppers at 732-5387, where tipsters can remain anonymous and may be eligible for a cash reward.



Uker



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Thanks to all of you who participated in this years Holiday Lights Contest. Just wait 'til next year!

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Landowners Sue Government Over Eastern Idaho Refuge

BOISE (AP) • A lawsuit has been filed against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by seven individuals and corporations seeking to take back thousands of acres that form the core of Grays Lake National Wildlife Refuge in southeastern Idaho.

The *Idaho Business Review* reports in a story published Tuesday that the lawsuit contends the federal government failed to hold up its end of an agreement signed in 1965.

In that contract landowners conveyed control of about 13,000 acres of Grays Lake to the Wildlife Service for the wildlife refuge. In return, the federal agency agreed to build a watertight dike around the refuge. But the dike was never completed.

“The (U.S Department of the Interior) constructed only a small portion of the dike that served only to exacerbate spring flooding on (landowners’ property),” the lawsuit states.

The lawsuit seeks to have the Wildlife Service leave the land and take any buildings or infrastructure with it. The lawsuit also seeks an unspecified amount in damages for the lost cattle feed and crops over the intervening years.

The 19,400-acre refuge, according to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, is the largest hardstem bulrush marsh in North America and is surrounded mostly by wet meadows and grasslands.

The agency said the refuge is a bird-watching destination that attracts as many as 1,200 greater sandhill cranes at a time as well as rare trumpeter swans.

Bill Smith, refuge manager, said the government attempted to build dikes after the agreement was signed but discovered the peat was too thick in the marsh for the dikes to be effective.

Idaho Hunters Kill Fewer Wolves So Far This Season

LEWISTON (AP) • Idaho Department of Fish and Game officials say hunters have killed 116 wolves this hunting season through Dec. 15, about the halfway

point of the 2012-2013 wolf hunting season.

The Lewiston Tribune reports that’s down from 162 wolves killed by hunters at this time

last year.

Jay Crenshaw of Fish and Game says it’s not possible to draw many conclusions from year to year on harvest rates be-

cause Idaho hunters haven’t been pursuing wolves long enough for biologists to establish trends.

So far this wolf trapping

season, which started Nov. 15, hunters have taken 10 wolves.

Last season, hunters killed 255 wolves and trappers took an additional 124.

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CSI Student

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Paxti



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Police: 2 Utah Students Arrested after Threat

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)

• Two junior high students in Roosevelt were arrested after threatening to bring a gun to school and “do what they did in Connecticut,” authorities say, and five Syracuse high schoolers were suspended following a bomb hoax that prompted extra security at their school.

The events capped a week in which a sixth-grader brought a gun to his suburban Salt Lake school — telling administrators he wanted to be able to defend himself in case of an attack similar to last week’s mass shooting in Connecticut — and schools across the state were on heightened alert due to the Newtown rampage and buzz about doomsday scenarios based on the Mayan calendar.

On Thursday, bomb-sniffing dogs and police were sent to Syracuse High after school officials say a student brought an old video game system to school and claimed it was a bomb. The student was suspended and referred to juvenile court, along with four others accused of being involved in the hoax.

“It was the wrong thing at the wrong time,” Davis School District spokesman Christopher Williams told the Deseret News. “You can’t yell ‘fire’ in a crowded movie theater.”

Five bomb-sniffing canines from Hill Air Force Base were sent to the school before classes began Friday morning, Syracuse Police Chief Brian Wallace said. Extra patrols were visible at the school throughout the day, including security police from the base, Ogden’s *Standard-Examiner* reported.

Coming Together to Give



PHOTO COURTESY CITY OF TWIN FALLS
The Twin Falls Police Department and Twin Falls firefighters donated more than \$900, as well as turkeys and food items to the Salvation Army for needy families. While the police department organizes the effort, the donation is made from all of the employees of the city of Twin Falls, said city spokesman Joshua Palmer. The Twin Falls Police Department has been organizing food drives for the city for the past eight years. The police department alternates the donations between several charities that provide food to local families in need.

FUTURE OF MONT. STATE PARK UP IN THE AIR

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) • Montana State Parks is taking comments on a plan to turn over management of Madison Buffalo Jump State Park near Three Forks to the state Department of Natural Resources and Conservation.

The DNRC recently found out it owns the land and, by law, is required to make money from state trust lands. So it asked the state parks division to pay \$4,272 annually to lease the property with a 2 percent annual increase. State parks says it pays about \$15,000 a year to maintain the site that only takes in about \$1,800 from fewer than 2,000 visitors annually.

“We have been trying to trim down the number of parks,” said Parks Division Director Van Genderen. “The Madison Buffalo Jump is significant, but we already have a buffalo jump in our park system. So let’s open this for public comment so they can get involved and

provide commentary on whether it should stay a state park or some other agency should manage it.”

Montana State Parks also

manages the First Peoples Buffalo Jump, which is one of the largest such sites in the country and located west of Great Falls.

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THIS IS 40 (R) DLP 12:50, 4:05, 7:05, 10:10
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TWILIGHT: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (PG13) DLP 11:50, 4:50, 9:40
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(New This Week) **Jack Reacher** (13) Today [1:00 4:10*] 7:00 9:40
(New This Week) **This is 40** (R) Today [1:00 4:10] 7:00 9:40
ALL SEATS \$1 for Hotel Transylvania (PG) Today [12:30 2:45]
(New Times 12/25) **Rise of the Guardian** (PG) Today [12:15 2:30 4:45] 7:00 9:15
(New Times Dec 25) Disney's **Wreck It Ralph** (PG) Today [12:15 2:30 4:45] 7:00 9:15
(New Times Dec 25) **James Bond Skyfall** (13) Today [1:00 4:00] 6:45 9:45
(New Times Dec 25) **Red Dawn** (13) Today [12:45 3:00 5:15] 7:30 9:45
Walt Disney's **Monster Inc** in 3D (G) Today [12:15 2:30 4:45] 7:00 9:15
(Ends Dec 24) **Playing for Keeps** (13) Today [12:15 2:30 4:45] 7:00 9:15
Guilt Trip (13) Today [12:45 3:00 5:15] 7:30 9:45
-----New Movies on December 25-----

(Opens Dec 25) **Django Unchained** (R) Tuesday 12:30 4:00 7:30
(Opens Dec 25) in Luxury Cinema #11 **Les Misérables** (13) Tuesday 12:30 4:00* 7:30
(Opens Dec 25) **Parental Guidance** (PG) Tuesday 12:45 3:00 5:15* 7:30 9:45
Matinees Daily from December 21 to January 1
Showtimes in [XXXX] are for December 24th only

Opens December 25th

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PG-13
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DJANGO
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R "Life, liberty and the pursuit of vengeance."
Opens Dec 25th at Twin Cinema 12

Paul Rudd, Leslie Mann, Megan Fox,
THIS IS 40
R
The Sort of Sequel to Knocked Up
Now at the Twin Cinema 12

Heavy Rain, Snow in Northern California Forecast

BY JOHN S. MARSHALL
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO • Heavy rain, pounding waves and plenty of snow in the mountains were all in the forecast as Northern Californians braced for a weekend of wintry weather and potential delays in holiday travel.

As one storm system moved through the region Saturday, a second, more powerful system was expected to hit the area Sunday, forecasters said.

The first storm drenched the region, dropping more than an inch of rain in Redwood City, about 24 miles south of San Francisco, in a little more than six hours early Saturday, said National Weather Service forecaster Diana Henderson.

The second storm was expected to arrive early Sunday. "It's expected to bring some sustained winds, with a possibility of thunderstorms and moderate to heavy rain," Henderson said.

The weather was causing



KENT PORTER, THE PRESS DEMOCRAT • ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sandy LeDuc braves floodwaters on Friday to gather her mail on Piner Road in Santa Rosa, Calif., as a large winter storm barreled into Northern California.

delays Saturday at San Francisco International Airport but was affecting mostly regional flights, airport duty manager Shannon Wilson said.

Arriving flights were being delayed up to 45 minutes Saturday afternoon, and about 12 flights had been canceled be-

cause of a change in the direction of prevailing winds, Wilson said.

With the wind coming from the south instead of the west, only two of the airport's four runways were being used for takeoffs and departures, Wilson said.

"It's an unusual wind for us," he said.

North of San Francisco, more than 6 inches of rain fell Friday in the tiny Sonoma County community of Vena-do. And with a second storm approaching, officials were paying close attention to the rising levels of the Russian River.

The river was expected to peak just below "monitor stage" on Christmas Eve, said National Weather Service hydrologist Allan Takamoto. That's about 3 feet below flood stage but high enough that officials had a "heightened awareness of what's going on," Takamoto said.

The heavy rain caused problems on local highways, forcing officials to close a section of Highway 128 in Napa

County near Lake Berryessa.

In Mendocino County, Highway 162, which connects the community of Covelo with Highway 101, was closed because of a washout.

Along the beaches, waves up to 16 feet were expected. Forecasters were urging people walking along beaches or jetties to watch for large breaking waves.

In the mountains, where up to 5 feet of snow was expected in the higher elevations of the Sierra Nevada, the storm was causing major delays Saturday for holiday travelers.

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Milk Production Up, Prices Down

BY CINDY SNYDER
For the Times-News

TWIN FALLS • Mild weather is likely responsible for an increase in milk production that caught the market by surprise this week.

Based on cull rates and the previous estimate, Wilson Gray, University of Idaho extension livestock economist, was expecting to see a half percent drop in milk production when the U.S. Department of Agriculture released the latest figures on Wednesday. Other analysts were looking for production to be up slightly compared to the previous year.

Instead, USDA forecasters pegged November production up 1.1 percent to 14.9 billion pounds. That's still slightly under October's production of 15.2 billion pounds, but not the trend that producers were expecting.

Idaho milk production totaled 1.09 billion pounds in November, a 2.3 per-

Idaho milk production totaled 1.09 billion pounds in November, a 2.3 percent increase over November 2011 but 4.2 percent less than October 2012.

cent increase over November 2011 but 4.2 percent less than October 2012. Average milk production was 1,880 pounds per cow in November, up 40 lbs. from last year.

Mild fall weather is getting most of the credit for the increase in production. Cows that aren't burning energy to stay warm can make more milk.

But dairies are also starting to add more cows to their milking strings.

Cow numbers are up nearly 1 percent from the October report. "Is that the start of a new herd building cycle?" Gray asked.

The numbers seem to indicate that. Eleven of the top 23 milk producing states increased numbers compared to a year ago, and six of the states, including Idaho, increased numbers compared to October. Though Idaho added 2,000 head since October 2012, the state's herd is equal to that of November 2011 at 579,000 head.

The turnaround in production sent milk prices lower. CME Class III futures prices lost 9 cents the day the report was released. First-half 2013 prices now average \$18.51 per hundredweight, still \$2.45 per cwt. over the first half of 2012 but 47 cents per cwt. under the second half of 2012.

Before the November report was released, Gray expected to see milk production continue to fall through most of next year. Though corn and hay prices have softened after spiking late last summer, milk prices of \$20.83 per cwt. in November are still only \$2 to \$3

Please see MILK, AG2



ASHLEY SMITH • TIMES-NEWS

Dan Moss, of Moss Farms in Rupert, walks through one of his potato storage barns near Rupert on Thursday. Moss and his employees use Apple iPads to help control remotely the temperature and humidity of the barns to optimize the storage process.

POTATO STORAGE GOES HIGH TECH

Technology helps producers keep an eye on their spuds while they're in storage.

BY ANDREW WEEKS
aweeks@magicvalley.com

RUPERT • Last year, Dan Moss or one of his employees would travel across the Magic Valley every day to check on things at his 16 potato storage barns.

Because of technology, they now do it about every third day, which cuts travel costs and the stress of visiting so many barns every week.

His barns now are monitored 24/7 by remote. Moss's barns became automated in September — thanks, he said, to technology that wasn't available just a few years ago.

"It's made it much, much easier than it used to be," Moss said Thursday at one of his three Rupert barns. "I can check the fans, the humidity, the temperature, the outside air, the refrigeration on all my cellars. It's all done remotely."

Computer panels sit inside his barns to control and monitor their atmospheres. If a problem arises, such as if a fan stops working or the humidity level drops, Moss is alerted by computer.

The computer's margin of error is within a 10th of a degree, he said.

Moss can keep track of things at all of his storage facilities, even when an employee enters or exits, through software on his iPad, and is alerted to problems through text messages the computer panels send to his smartphone.

If a fan stops working in the middle of the night, Moss said, the manager over that barn can fix the problem right away instead of waiting until daylight.

But while technology on the farm might make a producer's job easier, it wouldn't mean a whole heck of a lot if it didn't have dividends for the consumer.

Better Potatoes?

When it comes to spuds, whatever happens

to potatoes in the field stays with the tubers once they're stored.

"There's not much you can do about that," said Nora Olsen, potato specialist with the University of Idaho Extension office in Kimberly.

It's important to closely monitor potatoes the first few weeks after they're stored. That's where the human element — the eyes and nose — still play a vital factor when producing healthy taters, she said.

But with technology, monitoring the atmosphere that produces healthy spuds in storage barns is much easier than it used to be.

Randy Hardy, owner of Hardy Farms in Oakley, said the computerized panels in his two storage bins help him keep a healthier stock.

It better monitors the humidity level, for instance. Potatoes, he said, need to be kept clean, dry and cool with a high humidity level.

"We try to get the humidity level as close to 100 percent as we can," Hardy said.

One of the more common diseases among potatoes — which are about 85 percent water, he said — is soft rot, where the spud basically turns to mush from the inside out. Pink rot, when skin around the eyes turns pink, is another problem.

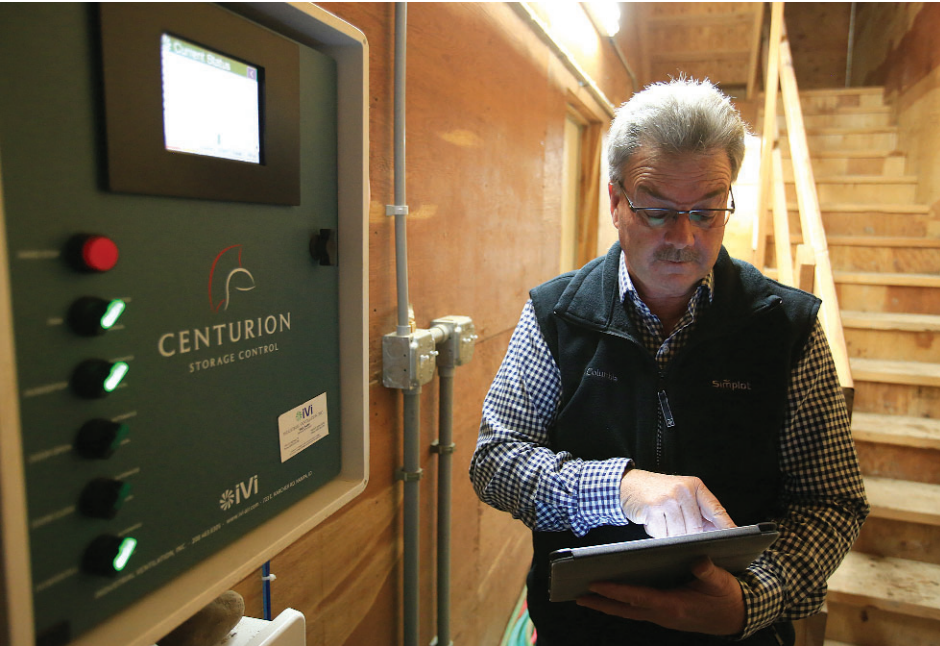
Hardy, who said tubers are fairly temperamental, hasn't yet gotten the smartphone application Moss uses, but plans to do that next season.

Moss calls taters "little living animals."

"They can (breathe), they can dehydrate, they can change depending on their surroundings," he said.

An example: "Take a potato, put it on a shelf, and leave it there. It'll shrivel up," Moss said. "We have the ability, with this technology, to keep them prime, at specific colors and temperatures."

Please see POTATO, AG2



ASHLEY SMITH • TIMES-NEWS

Dan Moss and his employees use Apple iPads to help control the temperature and humidity remotely of the barns to optimize the storage process.

At-home Storage

If you plan to store potatoes at home for any length of time, here are a few tips to help keep your spuds stay healthy:

- **Wash Your Taters:** Potatoes store better if they are washed. They should be clean and free of debris.
- **A Cool Place:** A root cellar is the best place to store your tubers, but if you don't have one a cool basement or garage works, too. Or, if you have an extra refrigerator sitting around, store your potatoes inside with the unit set at a slightly higher temperature. The ideal storage conditions for Russet potatoes are 45 F with 95 per-

cent relative humidity. You can increase the humidity level of a refrigerator by placing open pans of water inside. High humidity decreases shrinkage and keeps taters firm.

- **Protect the Spuds:** Make sure your taters do not freeze, and keep them out of the sunlight so they don't turn green. Green potatoes are not healthy to eat because they may contain the toxin solanine. Spuds usually start to sprout 60 to 120 days after harvest, depending on the variety and temperature. If stored at a higher temp, they'll sprout sooner.

Source: University of Idaho Extension, Kimberly

COMMODITIES WRAPUP

Soft white wheat (Magic Valley avg.)

Nov. 30 — \$8.25/bu.
Dec. 6 — \$8.00/bu.
Dec. 13 — \$7.75/bu.
Dec. 20 — \$7.12/bu

Hard red winter wheat (Magic Valley avg.)

Nov. 30 — \$8.42/bu.
Dec. 6 — \$8.35/bu.
Dec. 13 — no quote
Dec. 20 — no quote

Feed Barley (Magic Valley ave.)

Nov. 29 — \$12.75/cwt.
Dec. 6 — \$12.78/cwt.
Dec. 13 — \$13.05/cwt.
Dec. 20 — \$13.05/cwt.

Idaho Hay Report — Dec. 21

Supreme — \$215-\$225/ton
Premium hay — \$210 to \$225/ton
Good hay — \$190/ton
Fair hay — \$170/ton

March 2013 corn futures (CME)

Nov. 30 — \$7.5875/bu.
Dec. 6 — \$7.5150/bu.
Dec. 13 — \$7.2025/bu.
Dec. 20 — \$6.9650/bu.

May 2013 corn futures (CME)

Dec. 6 — \$7.53/bu.
Dec. 13 — \$7.24/bu.
Dec. 20 — \$6.9975/bu.

Dec. 2013 corn futures (CME)

Dec. 6 — \$7.43350/bu.
Dec. 13 — \$6.26/bu.
Dec. 20 — \$6.0375/bu.

Class III Jan. 2013 2012 futures contract (CME)

Nov. 30 — \$18.79/cwt.
Dec. 7 — \$18.51/cwt.
Dec. 14 — \$17.75/cwt.
Dec. 20 — \$18.05/cwt.

Class III Feb. 2013 futures contract (CME)

Dec. 7 — \$18.07/lb.
Dec. 14 — \$18.25/lb.
Dec. 20 — \$18.25/cwt.

Spot cheddar cheese block price (CME)

Nov. 30 — \$1.7600/lb.
Dec. 7 — \$1.76000/lb.
Dec. 14 — \$1.7250/lb.
Dec. 21 — \$1.7400/lb.

Spot cheddar cheese barrel price (CME)

Nov. 30 — \$171.25/lb.
Dec. 7 — \$1.6600/lb.
Dec. 14 — \$1.6250/lb.
Dec. 21 — \$1.6550/lb.

Dec. 2012 live cattle futures contract (CME)

Nov. 30 — \$126.725/cwt.
Dec. 7 — \$125.850/cwt.
Dec. 13 — \$126.900/cwt.
Dec. 21 — \$129.275/cwt.

Feb. 2013 live cattle futures contract (CME)

Nov. 30 — \$130.400/cwt.
Dec. 7 — \$130.375/cwt.
Dec. 13 — \$132.600/cwt.
Dec. 21 — \$133.575/cwt.

Jan. 2013 feeder cattle contract (CME)

Nov. 30 — \$145.625/cwt.
Dec. 7 — \$148.775/cwt.
Dec. 13 — \$153.075/cwt.
Dec. 21 — \$152.150/cwt.

March 2013 feeder cattle contract (CME)

Nov. 30 — \$148.425/cwt.
Dec. 7 — \$151.150/cwt.
Dec. 13 — \$155.025/cwt.
Dec. 20 — \$154.775/cwt.

Idaho Lentil Market Moderate

Trading activity in the Idaho/Washington pea and lentil market was moderate to active on moderate buyer demand last week.

Dealers reported split green peas and whole green peas were steady to \$2 per hundredweight higher to \$32 to \$34/cwt. for split green peas. Brewer lentils and Pardina lentils were steady on light demand. Yellow split peas, Austrian winter peas and yellow peas were not established.

Growers reported green peas were steady to \$1/cwt. higher. Yellow peas, Austrian winter peas, brewer lentils and Pardina lentils were mostly steady.

Pinto beans are \$45 to \$48/cwt. and pinks are \$54 to \$56/cwt., both dealer prices.

More Cattle on Feed in Idaho

The U.S. Department of Agriculture said Friday that placements of younger cattle onto feedlots were down 6 percent on Dec. 1 from the same date a year earlier, reflecting continued tight supplies and higher beef prices.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.3 million head on Dec. 1, 2012.

The inventory was 6 percent below Dec. 1, 2011. Placements in feedlots during November totaled 1.92 million, 6 percent below 2011.

However, cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in Idaho from feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head on Dec. 1, 2012, totaled 245,000 head, up 4 percent from the previous year. The cattle on feed inventory is up 2 percent from Nov. 1, 2012. Placements of cattle in feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during November totaled 40,000 head, down 6,000 head from November 2011 placements. Marketings of cattle from feedlots with 1,000 head or more during November totaled 34,000 head, down 1,000 head from last year. Other disappearance totaled 1,000 head during November.

— Cindy Snyder

Hello Friend



ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Jersey cow stares down a chicken Dec. 13 in the milking parlor of Hedgebrook Farm south of Winchester, Va. The chicken was eating spilled feed for the cows.

Md. Chicken Farmer Prevails in Pollution Lawsuit

BY ERIC TUCKER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON • A Maryland farmer who raises chickens for poultry giant Perdue Farms did not discharge pollution into a nearby river, a federal judge ruled Thursday in a case that had been closely watched by environmentalists and the poultry industry.

U.S. District Judge William Nickerson sided with Alan Hudson in a 50-page ruling, saying a New York-based environmental group that sued the farmer and Perdue for pollution had failed to prove its case.

The organization, Waterkeeper Alliance, alleged that chicken litter from the Hudson Farm in Berlin was discharged into a river that ultimately flows into the Chesapeake Bay, and that Perdue, which owns the chickens and monitors their growth, should be responsible for the pollution.

Nickerson said that while he agreed the bay was a vital resource of the state, and that citizens should feel empowered to protect the waterway in instances when regulators won't or can't, legal challenges must be brought "responsibly and effectively."



ASSOCIATED PRESS

This aerial photo released Nov. 30 pictures the Hudson Farm in Berlin, Maryland. Attorneys have finished their closing arguments in a closely watched trial pitting environmentalists against an Eastern Shore farmer and poultry giant Perdue.

gal challenges must be brought "responsibly and effectively."

"The court finds that in this action, for whatever reason, Waterkeeper did not meet that obligation," Nickerson wrote.

He chastised the group for bringing the lawsuit without doing adequate sampling to identify the source of the pollution, saying that given the amount of time and resources spent on the court

case, it was indefensible that Waterkeeper "would not have conducted the straightforward testing and sampling that could have established a discharge from the poultry operation, if there was such a discharge."

Waterkeeper said in a statement that it disagreed with the judge's decision and would consider an appeal. Perdue called the ruling a "good day for Maryland and for agriculture."

"We congratulate the Hudsons on their long-overdue exoneration. We are also pleased that the judge upheld existing law that safeguards the contractor relationship and confirms the independence of thousands of family farms who choose to raise poultry and livestock," spokeswoman Julie DeYoung said in a statement.

Waterkeeper alleged during a non-jury trial that chicken litter was being discharged from the farm into a tributary of the Potomac River, spread either by ventilation fans in the chicken houses or the shoes of people who come in and out of the houses.

The federal suit was filed in 2010 after representatives from Waterkeeper flew over the farm and identified what they initially believed to be a large uncovered pile of chicken manure. The piles were eventually found not to be chicken manure. Lawyers for Perdue and the Hudson family said the chicken manure wasn't getting out in great enough amounts to pollute, and Hudson testified that he took steps to avoid pollution and to keep the manure in the houses.

Potato

Continued from Agriculture 1

The sugar levels of potatoes are determined by how white they are, he said.

"All of those French fries at McDonald's are the same color," Moss said. "By controlling the temperature and a few other things in storage, we can keep our potatoes all the same color."

On Thursday, hundreds of thousands of potatoes were piled 20 feet high inside Moss' storage barn.

He sells fresh, fry and dehydrated potatoes to markets in Idaho, other states and even in Canada. His Rupert storage barn holds 150,000 sacks of tubers.

"We fill and empty the storages every year," he said.

Longer Life

Because of technology, potatoes can now enjoy longer lives inside the storage barn.

"These potatoes put into storage in October, sometimes they'll stay in storage until August," said Travis Blacker, industry relations director for the Idaho Potato Commission. "It didn't used to be that way. When May and June came around, we'd be working on getting them out. But there's so much research that has gone on — what type of floor and fans to



ASHLEY SMITH • TIMES-NEWS

Moss and his employees use Apple iPads to help control the temperature and humidity of the barns.

put in, what temperature you should keep them at, all sorts of different things."

It's amazing, he said, how much things have improved for potato farmers within just the past two or three years.

A Farmer's Cost

Moss said he put his storage barns online at harvest time in September. Each of the Centurion computer applications, manufactured by Industrial Ventilation Inc., cost around \$15,000.

The dividends, he said, outweigh the costs.

"The payout is about one year, really," Moss said, noting he's also saved 10-15 percent on his electricity bill. And neither he nor his employees have to travel to each facility every day, saving money on fuel.

Attached to the outside of his barns are small satellite-like dishes that help run the computer programs.

"It's kind of funny," he said. "If you ever need an Internet hot spot, stop near a potato storage."

Moss, who grows potatoes on farms in Bliss and Hagerman, said he's excited about the prospects of his storage barns being online.

"But," he said, a computer tablet sitting not far away, "we're just farmers."

Farmers gone high-tech.

Milk

Continued from Agriculture 1

per hundred over breakeven costs. That may sound profitable, but many producers are still paying off debts incurred when feed costs spiked in 2008 at the same time that milk prices crashed.

Gray thought a sustained period of \$19 to \$20 per cwt. would be needed to entice dairies to increase production year-over-year. But with production already increasing, analysts may have to revise their forecasts for the coming year. Futures prices for 2013 are trading in the \$18 to \$19 range now, or a \$1 to \$2 above the breakeven mark for most dairies in the Magic Valley.

The size of the 2013 corn crop could put the brakes on the buildup. Last year's drought depleted soil moisture across much of the Corn Belt and could limit yields next year. If ethanol production ramps back up, some analysts think corn prices could reach \$8 per bushel next year.

Another unknown going into the new year is what dairy policy will look like. Congress is likely to extend the 2008 Farm Bill before Dec. 31, but should the Farm Bill lapse dairy support prices will revert immediately to the so-called permanent law. Those 1949 provisions require milk to be supported at 75 to 90 percent of parity. As of November, parity was \$52.10 for the all-milk price.

All the unknowns going into 2013 point indicate that dairy producers should be prepared for another volatile year. Gray recommends using any opportunity to protect margins between feed costs and milk price as a regular management practice.

"Volatility is going to be our friend for the long term, not just this year," he said.

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Peace, Purpose & Love

The following is a quote from Dale Evans Rogers about her friend's children. It's from her book, "The Women at the Well."

"At Christmastime, they had a beautiful group photograph of themselves that they presented to their parents with a letter of appreciation, and a scrapbook of their lives together as a family. The letter was a masterpiece of gratitude for the home and hope they had been given by their parents. A home where good character, peace, purpose and challenge — and love were transplanted in them."

I'm four square for Mom and Dad. Also, harmonize with Apple Pie, the Flag and the Bible, and I agree with Dale that God is a good God! The indescribable joy He has given me to let me experience the raising my family as I was raised and also for the writing of several books and many short stories.

Speaking of stories, this week, as a family tradition, my husband and I went bank fishing at Magic Dam. If you think you're going to

W. Lenore Mobley

get a fishing story — read on.

When we arrived at the reservoir, the water was as smooth as glass — there was not a ripple as the winter sun shown on it, giving out a bright flow that we had not witnessed there all year. We had been fishing several hours (yes, we caught some nice ones) when we heard some high pitched honking in the sky. We looked up to see a flight of Canadian Geese form a perfect V in their journey. Their black heads and necks were stretching out and the white patches on their face and breast were visible to us. I loved the sound of rushing wings in their passage as they flew south to escape the cold. While we stood there watching them vanish into a twilight that was motionless and very far away, I told Bill it reminded me of a day that my dad and I "caught" a goose.

Here is the story:

"It was late December and often, when the weather permitted, on my Christmas break, my dad and I would pitch out tent along this bank and stay for a full day of fishing. One day, when we had just set up camp, we heard a noise that sounded like a bird flapping along the water's edge. I went over and found a young goose that was caught up in a fish line. She hissed at me and struck out with her wing when I approached. Her brownish-grey body was wet and muddy. I told my dad about the poor bird and her fright of me. He said I would have to get her gentler before we could handle her without hurting her and that she was just defending her territory.

"I decided to win her over by feeding her some bread from my sandwich. As I did this, I talked to her. I had named her Princess from a story that I had read about a Snow Goose. That afternoon, I ended up feeding her most of my lunch. (My dad teased me about this and told my mom this story when we got home.)

It was almost dark when dad came over to help me free the bird — my Princess. When he turned her loose, she made for the water's edge, and in that split second of alarm she seemed motionless before she took to flight. She circled to the south and faded away in the evening sun-down."

When I finished telling Bill my story, we heard geese that were across the lake doing a lot of honking. It sounded like Christmas bells were ringing.

Yes, we got a taste of Christmas that day as we were reminded to be thankful for a good home where peace, purpose and love were passed down to us.

As the psalmist wrote, "My heart overflows with a good theme and my tongue is the pen of a ready writer." And I pray this is true in my life.

Merry Christmas to you all.

W. Lenore Mobley's new book is titled, "Enjoy the Journey of Women and Their Horses along the Snake River Plain."

Report: Close 1 Ag School, Convert 1 and Keep 1

BY JEFF AMY
Associated Press

JACKSON, Miss. • One of Mississippi's independent agricultural high schools would be closed under a recommendation by the state Board of Education, while another could see its mission reworked or be given to a local school district.

The board approved a report Thursday calling for the closure of Hinds Agricultural High School in Utica. The report calls for changing Coahoma Agricultural High School north of Clarksdale into an early college high school where students could earn a high school diploma and college credits. And it says Forrest County Agricultural High School in Brooklyn should continue as it is currently structured. All three now operate as independent school districts. The Hinds and Coahoma schools are run by community colleges, while the Forrest school has an independent board.

The Legislature mandated a report on consolidating the agricultural high schools in the 2012 session after turning back efforts to merge them. Lawmakers could move again to abolish them. Under two other scenarios, 20 percent of voters in a county could petition for a referendum to abolish an agricultural school, or districts could merge voluntarily.

The state Department of Education paid \$6,000 to the Denver-based consulting firm of Augenblick, Palaich and Associates for

the report. The same consulting firm produced a 2010 report on school consolidation produced by a commission appointed by then-Gov. Haley Barbour. At that time, the company said all three agricultural high school districts should be consolidated into the county school districts where they are located. That's what happened to Itawamba AHS, which was rolled into the Itawamba County school district in 1997.

Augenblick wrote that neither the Hinds nor the Coahoma schools have a specific focus on agriculture any more, while the Forrest school runs a farm and ranch. It also wrote that enrollment was falling at the Coahoma and Hinds schools while it has risen over the last seven years at the Forrest school. The Forrest school's academic outcomes are about average for the state, while Coahoma's are below average and Hinds' are among the very worst.

That combination of factors led the consultants to suggest closing the Hinds school.

However, they suggested a new birth for the Coahoma school, merging it and considering making it a dual-enrollment "early college high school" to keep its links with the community college.

Hinds Community College President Clyde Muse declined to comment, saying he hadn't read the report yet. Coahoma Community College President Vivian Presley could not be reached for comment.

COMING UP

Caramel Creator

Reporter Tetona Dunlap talks with a Twin Falls woman who started a caramel business in her kitchen.

Wednesday in Food

Citizen Scientists

Reporter Tetona Dunlap hikes with bird watchers participating in the 113th annual Christmas Bird Count in Hagerman.

Thursday in Outdoors



Catchy Cocktails

Reporter Paul Dunn talks to local bartenders about their newest signature drinks.

Friday in Entertainment

AGRICULTURE CLASSIFIEDS

204 Drivers

DRIVER
The Times-News has a part-time opening for a **Single Copy Rack Specialist and Delivery Driver** in our Circulation Department.

This position will require an individual who can work flexible hours and has a strong work ethic. The individual will be responsible for servicing single copy racks including repair and relocating. Mechanical aptitude a must. Individual will be responsible for loading, unloading and delivery of newspapers to another newspaper location. Ability to lift 50 lbs required and 25 lbs repeatedly required. Some daytime and nighttime travel required. Typical hours for a week Tue, Wed, 9am - 4pm Thurs. 10pm - 8am, Fri. 7pm to 7am. (36 hours a week).

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(Please include a cover letter and resume with salary history. Candidates chosen for an interview will be contacted by phone).

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207 General

GENERAL
The Times-News has a part-time opening for a **Single Copy Rack Specialist** in our Circulation Department.

This position will require a highly motivated individual who has a strong work ethic. Individual will be responsible for servicing single copy racks including repairing and relocating. Mechanical aptitude a must. Ability to lift 50 lbs required. Some daytime travel required. Hours vary between 8am-5pm Monday-Friday (15 hours a week).

Looking for a service oriented individual who is at least 18 years of age with a valid driver's license, a good driving record and reliable vehicle. Company vehicle will be used for all work related travel. Starting wage for this position is \$9.69 per hour.

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213 Operations

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- ➔ Participate in emergency response hazmat team
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DOT

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COMING SUNDAY DECEMBER 30 in the TIMES-NEWS magicvalley.com FEATURES

Campaign Finance in Idaho
Read the third installment of Reporter Melissa Davlin's look at campaign finance in Idaho. Her in-depth series begins Friday, Dec. 28.



“Meet Your Neighbor”
Read the latest installment of Reporter Tetona Dunlap's “Your Neighbor” column where she introduces us to a new person in the community each week.

The Long Road
Reporter Paul Dunn talks to a local soldier going through rehabilitation for injuries sustained while deployed.

In PARADE on December 30
“How Al Roker Lost 135 Pounds and Gained Faith in Himself”
By Meryl Gordon
In his new book, *Never Goin' Back: Winning the Weight-Loss Battle for Good*, the Today's show's Al Roker opens up about his lifetime struggle with weight and how he finally broke the yo-yo cycle for good.



Father, Son Make Living Fishing Carp

BY JIM MCAULEY
Daily Herald

PROVO, Utah • A Utah County family of fishermen faces an enormous task — ridding Utah Lake of an invasive species.

Fifth generation Utah Lake fisherman Bill Loy Jr., his son Cody Loy and their fishing crew of six men cast their nets daily to pull millions of pounds of wriggling carp in each year.

Loy's crew is contracted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the state of Utah as part of the June Sucker Recovery Program.

The program was formed in 1986 to seek the recovery of the endangered June sucker species and to restore the shallow water ecological balance of the lake. Loy received the contract two years ago to begin mass fishing carp, the invasive species that contributed to Utah Lake's ecological shift.

According to the June Sucker Recovery Program, the non-native carp were introduced to Utah Lake in the late 1880s to provide a new fishing population. The carp population quickly grew to become more than 90 percent of the lake's biomass and, with some other fac-

tors, altered the lake ecosystem's balance from a clear water state to a turbid one. The June sucker popula-

tion, one unique to Utah Lake that once numbered in the millions, now stands at less than 1,000 fish.

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OPINION

The Social Event of the Season

The air was crisp and it was windy. A school band was playing something that sounded like a victory song. It felt like a bowl game.

An area the size of a football field was sheltered in a large white tent. Men and women wearing clean, black trenchcoats looked down excitedly at their iPhones. The parking lot was filling up.

I heard estimates that 2,100 people were expected to attend the Chobani grand opening. I don't have a head count, but I would say that was a pretty accurate estimate.

If there's such a thing as "the social event of the season" in the Magic Valley, this was it. The auditorium was divided into sections. On the stage were seats for dignitaries, Chobani's management team and the economic developers involved in bringing Chobani to Idaho. In the center of the auditorium was a section of seats for "stakeholders" — a lot of them from Magic Valley dairies.

And then there were the rest of us — the proud observers. I say "proud" because it was hard not to feel that way. Maybe it was the swelling music or the bright lights or all the beaming faces from New York. Maybe it was the three Chobani-sponsored Olympians sitting at the front of the room. Maybe it was the fact that CNN, The New York Times, Fox Business and NBC were there shining a spotlight on Twin Falls.

Whatever it was, there was a sense of accomplishment in that room, as if we'd all done something great that day.

It's been interesting to see how excited and welcoming the people of Twin Falls have been to Chobani.

On Monday, Chobani wasn't just a company coming into town. It wasn't just a yogurt-making factory, a place to work, another name on our expanding list of manufacturers in southern Idaho. It was something more.

In his speech that day, Twin Falls Mayor Greg Lanting called it "a beacon of hope" and a "game-changer."

Kyle O'Brien, executive vice president of sales for Chobani, told the crowd the plant is the "largest milestone in the company's history."

Chobani founder and CEO Hamdi Ulukaya said the factory in Twin Falls was another reminder that manufacturing is seeing a resurgence in the United States.

"To make it in America, make it in America," he said.

As he talked, audience members posted it all to Twitter. The Chobani opening was the first time I have seen the Twitterati out in full force since I moved to Idaho. About a tenth of the audience spent the entire ceremony posting photos and comments and quotes to their Twitter pages. And when they weren't tweeting, they were reading tweets from other people in the room. (I know because I found myself doing the same thing. It was infectious, I couldn't stop myself.) The tweeting created a kind of sub-ceremony happening simultaneously to the actual ceremony.

We/they tweeted as Gov. Otter gave a speech thanking Chobani for coming to Idaho.

Please see EDITOR, O2

Autumn Agar

From the Editor

Americans are once again facing the consequences of presidential and congressional inaction. If we fall off the fiscal cliff in the coming days, then every American taxpayer will face a tax increase. Here is a review of some of the most damaging potential tax increases.

Income tax rates will increase to as high as 39.6 percent if the fiscal cliff is not addressed.

Mike Crapo

U.S. Senator

The Tax Foundation analyzed how the fiscal cliff would affect typical families across the country and included Boise, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho Falls, Lewiston and Pocatello in its review. According to the report, the average family of four living in these areas would face a nearly

\$3,000 tax hike. Additionally, the Congressional Research Service estimates that 69,663 more Idahoans, nearly eight times those currently affected, will face the Alternative Minimum Tax, which was originally targeted at wealthy taxpayers and has since ensnared many middle-income taxpayers.

The Death Tax, a frequently changing tax that is especially burden-

some for family farmers and small businesses, would jump from its current maximum rate of 35 percent, with a \$5 million exemption, to 55 percent, with a \$1 million exemption. This tax on income, already taxed when first earned and the uncertainty around its levels and applicability, make it difficult for families to plan, which can result in the sale of their farms or small

Please see CRAPO, O3



(TOP LEFT) President Barack Obama speaks to reporters about the fiscal cliff in the Brady Press Briefing Room at the White House in Washington on Friday. (TOP RIGHT) In this Aug. 2 photo, Gabrielle Douglas, of the United States, acknowledges the crowd after receiving her gold medal in the artistic gymnastics women's individual all-around competition at the 2012 Summer Olympics in London. (BOTTOM RIGHT) Russia's President Vladimir Putin addresses the media, at the end of the EU-Russia summit, at the European Council building in Brussels on Friday. (BOTTOM LEFT) Syrians chant anti-Bashar Assad slogans in front of the Syrian embassy in Amman, Jordan on Friday.

Worst Predictions of 2012

The World Will End in 2012 — The Mayans (But Not Really)

Let's get one thing clear: The ancient Mayans did not believe the world was going to end on Dec. 21, 2012, and it's not even certain the date had any significance for them. Some archaeologists believe that Dec. 21 will mark the end of the "Great Cycle" of 13 baktuns, the 1,872,000-day periods that are the largest unit of time on the ancient Mayan calendar, which is no longer in use among the Mayans' descendants. Others believe it will be Dec. 23 or a different day entirely. So where did the idea that Dec. 21 [equals] the apocalypse come from? Author Michael Coe first popularized the theory that the Mayans believed this date is when the world would end — for what it's worth, he didn't actually believe they were right — but later archaeologists disputed his interpretation and recently discovered calendars that show dates thousands of years past 2012.

None of that has stopped

a cottage industry of doomsday prophets from cashing in on the phenomenon, often connecting it to similarly crackpot ideas about solar flares, shifting global polarities, extraterrestrials, and the phantom planet Nibiru (and of course, that movie).

It's easy to laugh at the 2012ers, though the hysteria has had occasionally tragic consequences. An Ipsos poll conducted in 21 countries this year found

Joshua E. Keating

Foreign Policy

that 8 percent of respondents were experiencing anxiety over the "prophecy." In Russia, there have been several documented cases of "collective mass hysteria" over the date, with worried citizens raiding stores to stock up for the apocalypse. In China, more than 1,000 members of a doomsday cult preparing for the apocalypse on Dec. 21 were arrested.

In any event, if you're reading this, it appears we made it.

One-Term Proposition — Barack Obama

"You know, I've got four years. . . . And, you know, a year from now I think people are going to see that we're starting to make some progress. But there's still going to be some pain out there. If I don't have this done in three years, then there's going to be a one-term proposition." — Feb. 1, 2009

U.S. President Barack Obama underestimated either the patience of American voters or his own political skill in this response to a question from Matt Lauer on his economic plans, including buying toxic assets from banks and increasing stimulus spending. The quote became a favorite applause line for Republican candidate Mitt Romney during the 2012 presidential campaign. As Obama himself admits, his administration's efforts to help the United States recover from the Great Recession are certainly not "done" — and the stimulus did not create nearly as many jobs as his economists projected — yet he is decidedly now a two-

term proposition.

The Fall of Putin — Masha Gessen

"With Russians taking to the streets to protest the recent flawed parliamentary elections, Prime Minister Vladimir Putin has suddenly ceased to be an inevitable leader. He may think that this spring he will be elected president — the job he held from 2000 to 2008 — and serve up to 12 more years in that office. But I, like many Russians, think the regime will fall before the March election or soon after" — Dec. 22, 2011

Masha Gessen, a Moscow-based journalist and author of this year's highly acclaimed "The Man Without a Face: The Unlikely Rise of Vladimir Putin," is normally an astute and clear-eyed observer of Russian politics, which made this overly rosy prediction about Russia's pre-election protests all the more surprising. Despite signs of growing opposition, Putin was easily re-elected in March and has taken steps to even further

Please see PREDICTIONS, O3

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Why Is the NRA So Afraid of the Truth About Gun Violence?

Bloomberg News

A week after the gun massacre in Newtown, Conn., the National Rifle Association is speaking out. As well it should. If only the NRA believed in the right to free speech as fervently as it believes in the right to bear arms.

Faced with government-funded research that contradicts NRA claims on gun safety, the gun lobby moved to defund the research and silence the researchers. When news reporters tried to learn which gun shops repeatedly supply violent criminals with firearms, the NRA lobbied to have gun-trace data exempted from the Freedom of Information Act. When advocates of transparency in campaign finance proposed the Disclose Act in Congress to require disclosure of top donors to political advertising campaigns, the NRA once again marched to the beat of its own 100-round drum: The organization obtained an exemption to keep its information secret.

The list goes on. The NRA-backed Tiahrt Amendment requires the Justice Department to destroy records after gun-purchase background checks, making it harder to identify and catch straw buyers who work for criminals. As part of its war on information, the gun lobby has blocked efforts to put sales records into an integrated database, making the data more difficult for law enforcement officers to retrieve and organize, and complicating efforts to analyze gun trafficking patterns.

After visiting the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' National Tracing Center in West Virginia, which is the nation's sole facility tracing guns used in crimes, *Washington Post* reporter James Grimaldi described the place as "something like out of the movie 'Brazil,' where you could literally see boxes and boxes of documents that pile up."

You might think, as we do, that the gun lobby's aversion to information, and its success in securing congressional support for secrecy, poses a threat to public health and law enforcement (not to mention democracy). There is surely a case to be made to that effect. Yet it's harder to document that argument thanks to the successful suppression of information.

That, of course, is the point. In a study published in 1993 in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, researchers found that the presence of a gun in a home significantly increased the risks of homicide and suicide. (A finding seemingly borne out in the case of Nancy Lanza, the mother of the Newtown killer, who was murdered with her own gun.) The study was compelling, thought-provoking and attention-grabbing. Was it conclusive? Hardly. But rather than trust in scientific principle and a free marketplace of ideas to sort through the data, the gun lobby mobilized to snuff out such research altogether.

The effort was remarkably successful. In 1996, Republican Rep. Jay Dickey of Arkansas pushed an amendment cutting \$2.6 million from the budget of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The import of the amendment was lost on no one. The CDC had spent \$2.6 million on gun research the year before. Thereafter, the CDC was expressly prohibited from using funds to "advocate or promote gun control." A subsequent effort, by Republican Rep. Denny Rehberg of Montana, applied similar restrictions to the National Institutes of Health.

These are the results of the gun lobby's storied political muscle. They are not, however, the actions of a political movement confident that history, data or reason itself can support its agenda. Truth doesn't fear information.

The Newtown massacre may mark a turning point in America's tragic gun politics. Yet even under the most optimistic scenario, the quest for reasonable gun laws will be a lengthy, difficult battle. It's best if all sides are well-armed with facts.

Editor

Continued from O1

"Idaho moves at the pace of business," Otter said.

Still new to Idaho, it was my first time to be around the state's governor. He seemed to be just as proud of Twin Falls as we were of ourselves. I watched as he smiled, shook hands and gave a few people bear hugs. It was strange to see after spending years in Texas, where the governor keeps a large security detail and is pretty inaccessible to the general public. Watching the bear-hugging governor made me like Idaho even more than I already did. As the mayor, governor and the management team spoke, the wind picked up. The tent walls flapped and the ceiling made loud whip-cracking noises that drowned out some of the celebration. Cold air seeped into the tent with each gust.

The wind reminded us where we were. That we were in Idaho. That winter is coming. And, more importantly, that everyone in that tent had things to do — cows to milk, orders to fill, trucks to wash and send out for another load.

Ulukaya thanked everyone for coming to the celebration. Now, he said, it's time to get back to work.

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READER COMMENT

With the impending federal deadline for a decision on creating an insurance exchange, your Legislature now faces a difficult choice. We can either create an Idaho state exchange or let the federal government install one. At first blush, it might seem that creating an Idaho exchange will allow us to have more flexibility and control. However, as I will explain, that is not necessarily the case.

Currently 25 states have rejected creating a state insurance exchange, three headed by Democrats as of Friday. The governors of these states have been quite clear about the implications of creating an exchange. In fact, our own governor issued an executive order stating, "No executive branch department, agency, institution or employee of the State shall provide assistance or resources of any kind to any agency, public official, employee or agent of the federal government to implement or enforce the PPACA (Obamacare)." Why are these states rejecting state insurance ex-

Rep. Mike Moyle

District 12, Ada County

changes? The first is cost. The costs are large and will undoubtedly grow. Federal subsidy dollars will become increasingly scarce as the nation deals with a massive unsustainable deficit. All federal subsidies for the state insurance exchanges will cease by 2015, leaving the taxpayers of Idaho to pay for the entire cost of administering the exchange. Unlike Washington, D.C., Idaho's constitution mandates that the Legislature balance the budget, and budgeting for Obamacare is simply not possible, which brings up the second objection: uncertainty.

Uncertainty has been a hallmark of Obamacare from the beginning. Former Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) famously told us that to find out what is in the bill, they would have to first pass it. Well, the bill was passed, and we still don't really know what is in it. Many key parts of the bill are not spelled out. Details

are to be provided by decrees from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, details which can change at any time with no congressional approval required. HHS regulations on the formation of state exchanges use the word "shall" 381 times, "must" 13 times and "requirement" more than 200 times. These edicts will supposedly have the force of law and trump any acts of state legislatures.

Many other state officials share my deep concerns. Gov. Chris Christie of New Jersey well understands the "blank check" a state insurance exchange represents and last week vetoed a bill to implement a state exchange, stating: "I will not ask New Jerseyans to commit today to a state-based exchange when the federal government cannot tell us what it will cost, how that cost compares to other options and how much control they will give the states over this option that comes at the cost of our state's taxpayers." Gov. Rick Perry of Texas said, "It is clear there is no such thing as a state exchange. Instead, this is a federally mandated ex-

change with rules dictated by Washington."

These are serious concerns that much be addressed before we can commit to any kind of an insurance exchange. When the Democratic Congress passed Obamacare in 2010, the Legislature passed and Gov. Otter signed the Idaho Health Care Freedom Act. At the time, Gov. Otter proclaimed: "What the Idaho Health Care Freedom Act says is that the citizens of our state won't be subject to another federal mandate or turn over another part of their life to government control." That was well said, and I will continue to stand with anyone willing to preserve freedom.

With all the costs and uncertainty, not to mention the fiscal cliff faced by the nation, why not let the feds establish this exchange and see how or if it works? Let's not buy a pig in a poke. It's good business sense and good government sense to wait and see how it all works out.

Rep. Mike Moyle (R-Star) serves in House Seat A, District 14, Ada County and is the Majority Leader.

Why I Taught My 13-Year-Old Daughter to Shoot

Ken Ringle

Special to the Washington Post

A few years ago, I taught my 13-year-old daughter to shoot. She had asked to learn, so we took my brother's single-shot .22 rifle out in the woods, set a beer can against a stump and began plinking away.

She had already been taught, as I had been from the age of 6, about handling guns safely, never pointing them at anyone, shooting only in a safe area and so on. What we were concentrating on now was marksmanship: learning to sight on the target, exhale half a breath and squeeze the trigger s-l-o-w-l-y. One shot at a time.

Hunting and target shooting, as generations of Americans used to be told, are not about releasing one's emotions and physical tension with guns, but about mastering them in order to steady the hand and shoot accurately. Schools and summer camps once promoted marksmanship for this reason, as an exercise in self-discipline. This kind of instruction declined in the 1960s, but it used to be as valued and routine a part of growing up as learning to swim.

My daughter knew much of this intuitively. Her corporate-executive aunt shot pheasants in Texas. Her oceanographer mother, who had hunted with her own father as a girl, was a capable wing shot. Her paternal grandfather had led the rifle team at the U.S. Naval Academy and later served as a coach of the U.S. Olympic rifle team. She occasionally wore one of his many marksmanship medals as a necklace pendant. I had been a gun owner all my life,

and though I rarely hunted anymore, I prized what proficiency I possessed. For several years, we spent Thanksgiving with friends in the Berkshires. A regular feature was a high-spirited skeet shoot rivalry in a field while the turkey cooked. For a boy in the South, where I was raised and still in much of rural America acquiring his first shotgun or rifle was a rite of passage. It signified that a young man had been judged responsible by his parents. He had been taught safe gun handling and marksmanship, and had learned enough self-discipline so as not to be a hazard with his firearm to himself or anyone else.

But that culture is under attack, and the changes go well beyond the dramatic urbanization that has made safe shooting environments harder to access. They are about what guns have come to represent, especially to young men. We've witnessed the insidious growth in recent years of films, television programs and video games glorifying the splattering of human bodies with multiple-shot firearms as a sort of badge of manhood the macho antidote for even petty annoyances. This is not John Wayne and Annie Oakley with quick-draw six-shooters and trick-shot accuracy.

There is no escaping it. Even as we were weeping over the slaughter of the innocents in Newtown — the assault-rifle butchery of those exquisite little

children and their teachers ads on our television sets were urging us to rush to the latest zillion-dollar creations in blow-them-apart moviemaking. Timed to open for Christmas!

Obviously, not everyone who sees a Quentin Tarantino film turns into a mass murderer, but children constantly bombarded with these images and the incessant, rapid-fire promos for these movies are almost worse than the movies themselves grow up conditioned not to the idea of handling firearms safely and responsibly but to fantasies about their blow-it-apart potential. And some of the less mentally stable, like Adam Lanza, will act on them. To prevent another Newtown, we clearly need better policies on mental health, particularly in tracking behavior and personality problems in adolescent boys. We need faster and more thorough background checks for firearm purchasers. We need more reasoned talk from organizations like the NRA about the responsibilities of gun ownership and less shrieking about Second Amendment rights.

But the problem is not guns alone. Those who believe it is often tell us that there are more guns per capita in the United States now than ever before. Almost anyone who was alive during the late 1940s will dispute that claim. Virtually every serviceman who served in World War II returned with at least one firearm, and many brought home dozens. If you doubt that, ask a veteran. Though most were hunting shotguns, there were plenty of

handguns as well. But deaths and accidents were rare so much so that the FBI didn't even keep figures on gun deaths until the 1950s.

When I was at the University of Virginia in the late 1950s, a great many students had guns in their dorm rooms or cars. Most were shotguns used for hunting after class, but handguns were kept, even in bedside tables, as valuable possessions. There were no rules against them because, as amazing as it seems today after massacres such as those at Newtown and Virginia Tech, I never heard before, during or after my four years there of any gun at the university used or even displayed as a weapon. We drank as much and had as many fights then as young men do now, but to have produced a weapon to settle one would have been considered both appalling and unmanly. It was just unthinkable.

The biggest change is not in the availability of guns but in the culture that surrounds them. Let's suppose some of those Hollywood superstars who have made mega-millions from splatter-shot movies held a news conference and announced that they wouldn't do it anymore. Tom Cruise, Sylvester Stallone, Angelina Jolie, Brad Pitt and others have more than just influence: If they turned down gratuitously violent films, producers couldn't raise money to make them. Many of these stars have been active politically some self-righteously, some earnestly in save-the-world efforts. Why not ask them to save our world? Isn't it worth a try?

READER COMMENT

Looming Legislative Health Care Battle

Many people understandably thought the great health-care battle was settled by this year's U.S. Supreme Court decision on NFIB v. Sebelius, which upheld the constitutionality of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, more popularly called Obamacare.

Suzanne Budge

National Federation of Independent Business

Not so. An action taken this month by Gov. Butch Otter sets the stage for an almost certain legislative skirmish next month. Idaho is not alone in trying to make sense of the poorly crafted law, one a former speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives said would have to be passed before anyone could know what was in it.

One of the never-ending devils in the details of Obamacare was a requirement that states either set up their own state-based, health insurance exchange or the federal government would impose a federally facilitated exchange on them. In concept, health insurance exchanges can be looked at as central marketplaces where insurers must compete for individual and small-business customers whom the exchanges are primarily aimed at serving. Small businesses employ more than half of America's private-sector workforce, yet less than half of these businesses can afford to provide health insurance for their employees, because of the high costs.

Before there was a President Obama, a health-insurance exchange was built in Utah, under an effort led by former state House Speaker David Clark and other Republican lawmakers. The key elements were voluntary participation and plenty of choices of insurers. Ironically, the Utah exchange may not qualify as a state exchange under Obamacare.

Many Idaho legislators are adamantly against establishing a state-based, health insurance exchange. Their belief is that because the federal government imposed this on states, it can figure out how to establish and run it. Although sympathetic to the sentiment, Gov. Otter opted to have the state build its own health insurance exchange.

"Our options have come down to this: Do nothing and be at the federal government's mercy in how that exchange is designed and run, or take a seat at the table and play the cards we've been dealt," said the governor in his Dec. 11 news release. "Obamacare is not the answer. In fact, it very likely will do little or nothing to reduce costs while force feeding us coverage and increasing the size and scope of government. But it is an unfortunate and unwelcome reality, and it would irresponsible of me to simply abandon the field to federal bureaucrats."

Should the Legislature and governor coalesce around a state-built exchange, here is small businesses' (the intended beneficiaries) wish list. Real Choice: There should be many insurers offering a variety of plans and competing for small business customers based on cost and quality. New Opportunities: Health insurance arrangements should be offered to small businesses in new ways. Small-business owners should be able to select one plan, multiple plans, or contribute a defined amount and allow employees to select a plan that best meets their individual health needs.

Flexibility: The consumer should also be offered choices to purchase such products as high-deductible plans, defined-contribution plans, health savings accounts, and limited-mandate plans. For years states have helped drive up the cost of health insurance by requiring insurers to include specific mandated benefits and services in their basic policies. Insurers must be allowed to tailor policies to the individual needs of their customers and not have the legal straitjacket of sameness clamped on them.

Obamacare is now the law of the land. And whether Idaho builds its own state-based exchange or punts the job to the federal government, without the three ingredients above, a health insurance exchange and all the swirl of debate around it will have been just a noisy exercise in nothingness. To date, the individuals and small businesses that will be required to buy on the insurance exchange have had the least input in the whole discussion. The most adamant supporters of Idaho forming its own health insurance exchange include health insurers, health care providers and big businesses — none of whom will be required to purchase health insurance from the exchange.

Furthermore, federal funds to set up an exchange run out at the end of 2014. That's when state health care exchanges are expected to be self-sustaining. Small businesses should not be charged for something that was designed as a resource and benefit for them. Health insurance fees for participation should not be passed along.

Suzanne Budge is the Idaho State director for the National Federation of Independent Business.

STAR TRIBUNE
SACK



The Capital-Gains Tax: Tragedy in Two Acts

Critics of the capital-gains tax are absolutely correct when they say that a tax on capital hurts our economy by reducing the incentive to save and invest. They say the same thing about the tax on investment interest, and they're right about that, too.

Unfortunately, this is true of every method of taxing capital, just as any tax on labor reduces everybody's incentive to get up in the morning and go to work. When you tax something, you discourage whatever it is you're taxing. That is the tragic nature of taxation.

But you have to tax something if you want to spend on something else. You

Michael Kinsley

Bloomberg News

wouldn't know this from listening to liberals in the current debate, protecting every penny of current entitlements.

You wouldn't know it from conservatives as they defend past tax cuts and argue for more. Nor would you know it from listening to conservatives and liberals as they defend the loopholes and special rules that litter the tax code. Even if you borrow instead of taxing today, you'll have to tax tomorrow to pay for that borrowing. Recently, after

an untold number of editorials endorsing austerity and calling for tax reform that closes loopholes and lowers tax rates, the *New York Times* ran an editorial saying, in effect: "Of course, we don't mean messing with the deduction for state and local taxes. That's different." Sadly, everyone has a favorite deduction that's "different": Charitable contributions, anyone? Home mortgages?

So, given that all taxes are disincentives, what kinds of taxes do we want? The answer is that most of the time, if we believe in free-market capitalism, we want taxes that affect behavior as little as possible. Or, to put it another way, we want a tax

system that replicates the incentives of a world with no taxes.

Sometimes we do want to affect behavior. That is the explanation for "sin taxes" such as the heavy taxes on cigarettes. But attempting to affect the general economy's behavior by playing games with tax rates is a fool's errand, like an individual trying to beat the stock market. Or at least, this is what you ought to believe if you believe in free markets. So what kinds of taxes affect behavior the least?

A good tax — one that has minimal effect on behavior — has two qualities. First, it is as low as possible. Second, it is as consistent as possible.

Crapo

Continued from O1

businesses to pay the unfair burden when they lose a loved one. It penalizes productivity and should be permanently and fully eliminated.

If action is not taken, the percentage of Idaho farms subject to this penalty would increase from 3 percent to 18 percent. Nationwide, according to the Joint Committee on Taxation, there will be a 2,200 percent increase in the number of farmers and ranchers and a 900 percent increase in the number of small business owners who may be required to forfeit more than half of their assets to the federal government through the Death Tax.

Beyond income tax hikes and

Death Tax hikes, seniors would also be among those most affected by a more than doubling of taxes on dividends. The tax would jump from their current rate of 15 percent to 39 percent. This increase combined with Obamacare's 3.8 percent Medicare tax on passive income, including dividends, would nearly triple dividend tax rates for some Americans.

Many seniors rely on dividends for support during their retirement. The Tax Foundation analyzed Internal Revenue Service data and reported that the "lion's share of dividend income — 48 percent — is earned by those over 65." The Joint Committee on Taxation found that approximately 9 million seniors will be affected by the loss of an average tax benefit of \$1,700.

In addition to the increased tax liability, seniors along with millions of other Americans will likely be impacted through a decrease in the value of their stocks held through mutual and pension funds and 401(k) plans and other policies.

It is remarkable to think about how burdensome, complex, anti-growth and anti-competitive the tax code has become. Americans deserve immediate action to avoid the fiscal cliff and prevent the imminent tax hike, and we also deserve long-term comprehensive tax reform that provides Americans with some certainty. I will continue to press for tax reform as part of comprehensive plan to put our nation on a more competitive and productivity-friendly fiscal path.

Predictions

Continued from O1

limit the activities of government opponents. The unprecedentedly large street protests that greeted his reelection have now mostly fizzled, though in Russian politics, it's always wise to expect the unexpected.

The Romney Landslide — Dick Morris

"It will be the biggest surprise in recent American political history . . . It will rekindle the whole question as to why the media played this race as a nail-biter where in fact I think Romney's going to win by quite a bit." —Nov. 4

Foreign Policy did a full list of bad election predictions, but Dick Morris, the Fox News talking head and political consultant whose insights on voting behavior once guided President Bill Clinton's policy decisions, probably took the biggest hit to his reputation with his 325-electoral-votes-

for-Romney call. Morris, who has since been put on probation at the conservative network, later said he had "mistakenly believed that the 2008 surge in black, Latino and young voter turnout would recede in 2012 to 'normal' levels."

Of course, the famed polling guru could always have consulted some actual polls — but that's not how you sell books.

Assad Is Cooked — The Economist

"Syria's President Bashar Assad is unlikely to last the year in office, as the Sunni majority, including senior military men and businessmen, decide that rule by the president's Alawite minority, which makes up about a tenth of the population, cannot be sustained." —Nov. 17, 2011

As usual, the venerable British weekly *The Economist* was more right than wrong in its "The World in 2012" projections written at the end of last year, but they misjudged one of the biggest political questions of the year: how long Syria's president could hang

on. Most observers have been a bit more cautious, though in recent weeks, a number of prominent players, including Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu and NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen have been predicting Assad's imminent fall. According to some media reports, the CIA believes Assad will fall in a matter of weeks. We'll see.

The Coming Collapse of China (Redux) — Gordon Chang

"Not long ago, everything was going well for the mandarins in Beijing. Now, nothing is. So, yes, my prediction was wrong. Instead of 2011, the mighty Communist Party of China will fall in 2012. Bet on it." —Dec. 29, 2011

Author and commentator Gordon Chang made the list last year for his 2001 book, "The Coming Collapse of China," which predicted that Communist Party rule would fall in 2011. Chang acknowledged that he had jumped the

gun, but in an article for Foreign Policy, he simply moved his prediction forward one year. Nevertheless, despite a year of transition, scandal and uncertainty, the mandarins in Beijing are still there.

We've Solved the Greece Problem — Angela Merkel

"We Europeans showed that we are able to reach the correct conclusions. We found agreement on a complete package." —Oct. 27, 2011

It's a well-rehearsed ritual at this point. European leaders meet to discuss measures needed to bail out Greece and preserve the eurozone, announce that they have finally reached a breakthrough, and then several months later are at it again. Despite German Chancellor Angela Merkel's assurances that European leaders had finally turned the page after reaching an agreement to reduce Greece's debt in the fall of 2011, the continent is still at odds over how much aid to extend to Greece. Germany was dragged into support-

ing a bailout for Greece and other aid-stricken countries by European Central Bank chief Mario Draghi this fall, but it's still very much touch-and-go. The chancellor recently griped, "In all my life I have never thought so much about Greece."

The Olympics Will Be a Disaster — Der Spiegel

"London and the Olympic Games are clearly not made for each other. Visitors will need determination and, most of all, patience to reach the venues at all. And, for the locals, it all can't end soon enough." —July 17, 2012

The German weekly *Der Spiegel* wasn't alone in suspecting that Britain's economic woes, security concerns, labor unrest and poor infrastructure would turn the London Games into "one big, soggy mess." In the run-up to the Olympics, everyone from novelist Nick Hornby to *The New York Times* to Republican presidential

candidate Mitt Romney was questioning whether London was really up for it. Comedian Russell Brand summed up the feelings of many of his compatriots when he predicted that, compared with the impressive Beijing Games, London 2012 would be a "right balls up."

Of course, by nearly any standards, the London Games were a smashing success. They were the most watched event in TV history, the facilities held up, security concerns proved overblown, and the home team took home a record number of medals.

London followed the Beijing Games and South Africa's World Cup as events that were widely expected to be disasters but turned out just fine. Maybe we can cut Brazil some slack this time?

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Don't be Fooled by January Pay — Higher Taxes Loom

STEPHEN OHLEMACHER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) • Workers probably won't feel the full brunt of next year's tax increases in their January paychecks, but don't be fooled by the temporary reprieve.

No matter what Congress does to address the year-end fiscal cliff, it's already too late for employers to accurately withhold income taxes from January paychecks, unless all the current tax rates remain unchanged, which is an unlikely scenario.

Social Security payroll taxes are set to increase on Jan. 1, so workers should immediately feel the squeeze of a 2 percent cut in their take-home pay. But as talks drag on over how to address other year-end tax increases, the Internal Revenue Service has delayed releasing income tax withholding tables for 2013.

As a result, employers are planning to withhold income taxes at the 2012 rates, at least for the first one or two paychecks of the year, said Michael O'Toole of the American Payroll Association.

If employers don't withhold enough taxes in January, they will have to withhold even more taxes later in the year to make up the difference. Otherwise, taxpayers could get hit with big tax bills, and possibly penalties, when they file their 2013 returns.

The tax increases could be steep. If Congress fails to act, workers at every income level face significant tax increases next year as part of the year-end "fiscal cliff."

A taxpayer making between \$50,000 and \$75,000 would get an average tax increase of \$2,400, according to the Tax Policy Center, a Washington research group. If the worker is paid every two weeks, that's about \$92 a paycheck, on average.

Someone making between \$75,000 and \$100,000 would get a tax increase averaging nearly \$3,700. If the worker is paid

every two weeks, that's about \$142 a paycheck.

O'Toole said it would take most employers two weeks to four weeks to update their payroll systems, once new tax withholding tables are released. For some small businesses, it could take longer.

"Employers can't really just come up with withholding tables on their own, depending on what the rates are," O'Toole said. "The smaller companies that do not use a payroll processing service probably would have more problems than anyone else."

On Friday, the IRS said it plans to issue guidance by the end the year, though it won't be early enough to affect paychecks in early January.

"We are aware that employers have questions with respect to 2013 withholding," the agency said in a written statement. "Since Congress is still considering changes to the tax law, we continue to closely monitor the situation. We intend to issue guidance by the end of the year on appropriate withholding for 2013."

About three-quarters of taxpayers got tax refunds this year, averaging \$2,707, according to the IRS. That gives most taxpayers some leeway to manage their income tax withholding. However, many people rely on tax refunds to pay bills or make major purchases.

"The reality is, the vast majority of Americans do live paycheck to paycheck and that tax refund is their most significant payday of the year," said Bob Meighan, vice president of TurboTax, an online tax preparation service.

Most of the expiring tax breaks were first enacted under President George W. Bush and extended under President Barack Obama. Obama campaigned for reelection on extending the tax cuts on incomes below \$200,000 for individuals and \$250,000 for married couples. Obama would let the tax cuts expire on incomes above those amounts.

In all, taxes would go up by about \$536 billion next year.

Effect of looming 'fiscal cliff' tax increases

A big package of tax cuts first enacted a decade ago are set to expire at the end the year, unless Congress and the White House reach a deal to extend them. How the looming tax increases would affect households at different income levels.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Annual income: | \$20,000 to \$30,000. |
| Average tax increase: | \$1,064. |
| Annual income: | \$40,000 to \$50,000. |
| Average tax increase: | \$1,729. |
| Annual income: | \$50,000 to \$75,000. |
| Average tax increase: | \$2,399. |
| Annual income: | \$75,000 to \$100,000. |
| Average tax increase: | \$3,688. |
| Annual income: | \$100,000 to \$200,000. |
| Average tax increase: | \$6,662. |
| Annual income: | \$200,000 to \$500,000. |
| Average tax increase: | \$14,643. |
| Annual income: | \$500,000 to \$1 million. |
| Average tax increase: | \$38,969. |
| Annual income: | More than \$1 million. |
| Average tax increase: | \$254,637. |

Source: Tax Policy Center



Russia Says It Won't Host Assad

MOSCOW (AP) • Russia's foreign minister says Moscow would welcome any country's offer of a safe haven to Syrian President Bashar Assad, but underlined that Moscow itself has no intention of giving him shelter if he steps down.

Russia has repeatedly used its veto right along with China at the U.N. Security Council to protect its old ally from international sanctions, but it has increasingly sought to distance itself from Assad.

Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov told reporters late Friday that countries in the region he wouldn't name publicly had asked Russia to convey their offer of a safe passage to Assad. He said that Russia responded by telling them to go directly to Assad: "We replied: 'What do we have to do with it? If you have such plans, you go straight to him.'"

Asked if Moscow could offer a refuge to Assad, Lavrov responded that "Russia has publicly said that it doesn't invite President Assad."

"If there is anyone willing to provide him guarantees, they are welcome!" Lavrov told reporters on board a plane returning from Brussels where he attended a Russia-EU summit. "We would be the first to cross ourselves and say: 'Thank God, the carnage is over! If it indeed ends the carnage, which is far from certain.'"

Lavrov also said the Syrian government has pulled its chemical weapons together to one or two locations from several arsenals across the country to



ASSOCIATED PRESS
Russia's Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov speaks Dec. 4 at a media conference at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium.

keep them safe amid the rebel onslaught.

"According to the information we have, as well as the data of the U.S. and European special services, the government is doing everything to secure it," he said. "The Syrian government has concentrated the stockpiles in one or two centers, unlike the past when they were scattered across the country?"

U.S. intelligence says the regime may be readying chemical weapons and could be desperate enough to use them. Both Israel and the U.S. have also expressed concerns they could fall into

militant hands if the regime crumbles.

Lavrov gave no indication that Moscow could change its opposition to sanctions against Assad. He assailed the West for failing to persuade the opposition to sit down for peace talks with the government, saying that "the Syrian president's head is more important for them than saving human lives."

Lavrov added that U.N. peace envoy for Syria, Lakhdar Brahimi, would visit Moscow for talks before the year's end.

He said that Moscow has also invited the revamped Syrian opposition leadership to visit.

FOR THE BIRDS

Annual Fowl Counts Give Scientists Climate Clues



ASSOCIATED PRESS
Rich Kostecke, a bird expert and associate director of conservation, research and planning at the Nature Conservancy in Texas, looks through his spotting scope during an annual 24-hour Christmastime ritual to count birds along the Texas Gulf Coast in Mad Island, Texas.

BY RAMIT PLUSHNICK-MASTI
Associated Press

MAD ISLAND, Texas • Armed with flashlights, recordings of bird calls, a small notebook and a stash of candy bars, scientist Rich Kostecke embarked on an annual 24-hour Christmastime count of birds along the Texas Gulf Coast. Yellow rail. Barn owl. Bittern. Crested Cara-Cara. Kostecke rattled off the names and scribbled them in his notebook.

His data, along with that from more than 50 other volunteers spread out into six groups across the 7,000-acre Mad Island preserve, will be analyzed regionally and then added to a database with the results of more than 2,200 other bird counts going on from mid-December to Jan. 5 across the Western Hemisphere.

The count began in 1900 as a National Audubon Society protest of holiday hunts that left piles of bird and animal carcasses littered across the country. It now helps scientists understand how birds react to short-term weather events and may provide clues as to how they will adapt as temperatures rise and climate changes.

"Learning the changes of habit in drought could help us know what will happen as it gets warmer and drier," said Kostecke, a bird expert and associate director of conservation, research and planning at the Nature Conservancy in Texas.

Scientists saw birds change their habits during last year's historic drought that parched most of Texas. Some birds that normally winter on the coast — such as endangered whooping cranes — arrived and immediately turned back when they couldn't find enough food. Other



ASSOCIATED PRESS
An American bittern hides in the grass Dec. 17 during an annual 24-hour Christmastime ritual to count birds.

birds didn't even bother flying to the coast. Snowy owls, who sometimes migrate from the Arctic to Montana, suddenly showed up as far south as Texas.

There has been some rain this year, but Texas still hasn't fully recovered from the drought and many areas remain unusually dry. Wetlands, a crucial bird habitat, have been damaged. Trees and brush are dead or brown. There are fewer flooded rice fields, prime foraging grounds for birds. And sandhill cranes, for the second winter in a row, are staying in Nebraska.

An initial report on the 24-hour count that began midnight Monday and ended midnight Tuesday included 233 different species — a drop of 11 from last year when 244 were counted on Mad Island. While the area likely still has one of the United States' most diverse bird populations, the species that were missing raise questions.

Where are the wild turkeys? Why were no black rails found? What about fox sparrows and the 13 other species that are commonly counted on the preserve? Where have they gone?

"There are several possibilities," Kostecke surmised. "Conditions may be better in the east, like Louisiana. Some may still be north, because it's been mild, and they tend to follow the freeze line."

Similar changes in bird behavior could be seen this year in the Midwest and parts of the South, areas that have been gripped by a massive drought that covered two-thirds of the nation at its height. The drought's severity is unusual, but scientists warn that such weather could become more common with global warming. Birds — as well as other animals — will have to adapt, and the data collected in the Christmas count gives crucial insight on how they might do that.

Conn. Town in Mourning Inundated with Gifts, Money

BY PAT EATON-ROBB
Associated Press

NEWTOWN, Conn. • Peter Leone was busy making deli sandwiches and working the register at his Newtown General Store when he got a phone call from Alaska. It was a woman who wanted to give him her credit card number.

"She said, 'I'm paying for the next \$500 of food that goes out your door,'" Leone said. "About a half hour later another gentleman called, I think from the West Coast, and he did the same thing for \$2,000."

Money, toys, food and other gifts have poured in from around the world as Newtown mourns the loss of 20 children and six school employees at Sandy Hook Elementary School a little over a week ago. The 20-year-old shooter, Adam Lanza, killed his mother before attacking the school then killing himself. Police don't know what set off the massacre.

Saturday, all the town's children were invited to the Edmond Town Hall in Newtown to choose from among hundreds of toys donated by individuals, organizations and toy stores — and funeral services for victims continued.

The giving is a way for people beyond Newtown to deal with their own grief over the shooting.

"It's their way if grieving," said Bobbi Veach, who was fielding donations at the town hall building. "They say, 'I feel so bad, I just want to do something to reach out.' That's why we accommodate everybody we can."

The basement of the building resembled a toy store, with piles of stuffed penguins, Barbie dolls, board games, soccer balls and other fun gifts. All the toys were inspected and examined by bomb-sniffing dogs before being sorted and put on card tables. The children could choose whatever they wanted.

"But we're not checking IDs at the door," said Tom Mahoney, the building administrator, who's in charge of handling gifts. "If there is a child from another town who comes in need of a toy, we're not going to turn them away."

The United Way of Western Connecticut said the official fund for donations had \$2.6 million in it Saturday morning. Others sent envelopes stuffed with cash to pay for coffee at the general store, and a shipment of cupcakes arrived from a gourmet bakery in Beverly Hills, Calif.

The Postal Service reported a six-fold increase in mail in town and set up a unique post office box to handle it. The parcels come decorated with rainbows and hearts drawn by school children.

Some letters arrive in packs of 26 identical envelopes — one for each family of the children and staff killed or addressed to

the "First Responders" or just "The People of Newtown." One card arrived from Georgia addressed to "The families of 6 amazing women and 20 beloved angels." Many contain checks.

"This is just the proof of the love that's in this country," said Postmaster Cathy Zieff.

The funerals for the victims were wrapping up after a wrenching week of farewells in Newtown. Services were scheduled Saturday in Connecticut for Josephine Gay, 7, and Ana Marquez-Greene, 6. A service was also planned in Utah for 6-year-old Emilie Parker.

Many people have placed flowers, candles and stuffed animals at makeshift memorials that have popped up all over town. Others are stopping by the Edmond Town Hall on Main Street to drop off food, or toys, or cash. About 60,000 teddy bears have been donated, said Ann Benoure, a social services caseworker who was working at the town hall.

"There's so much stuff coming in," Mahoney, of Newtown, said. "To be honest, it's a bit overwhelming; you just want to close the doors and turn the phone off."

Mahoney said the town of some 27,000 with a median household income of more than \$111,000 plans to donate whatever is left over to shelters or other charities.

Sean Gillespie of Colchester, who attended Sandy Hook Elementary, and Lauren Minor, who works at U.S. Foodservice in Norwich, came from Calvary Chapel in Uncasville with a car filled with food donated by U.S. Foodservice. But they were sent elsewhere because the refrigerators in Newtown were overflowing with donations.

"We'll find someplace," Gillespie said. "It won't go to waste."

In addition to the town's official fund, other private funds have been set up. Former Sandy Hook student Ryan Kraft, who once babysat Lanza, set up a fund with other alumni that has collected almost \$150,000. It is earmarked for the Sandy Hook PTA.

Rabbi Shaul Praver of Congregation Adath Israel is raising money for a memorial to the victims. He said one man wrote a check for \$52,000 for that project.

Several colleges, including the University of Connecticut, have set up scholarship funds to pay for the educations of students at Sandy Hook and the relatives of the victims.

Town officials have not decided yet what to do with all the money. A board of Newtown community leaders is being established to determine how it is most needed and will be best utilized, said Isabel Almeida with the local United Way, which has waived all its administrative fees related to the fund.



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CLEANING

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Mexico's Maya Heartland Greets Dawn of New Era

BY MARK STEVENSON
Associated Press

MERIDA, Mexico • Dec. 21 started out as the prophetic day some had believed would usher in the fiery end of the world. By Friday afternoon, it had become more comic than cosmic, the punch line of countless Facebook posts and at least several dozen T-shirts.

At the ruins of the ancient Mayan city of Chichen Itza, thousands chanted, danced and otherwise frolicked around ceremonial fires and pyramids to mark the conclusion of a vast, 5,125-year cycle in the Mayan calendar.

The doomsayers who had predicted apocalypse were nowhere to be seen. Instead, people showed up in T-shirts reading "The End of the World: I Was There"

Vendors eager to sell their ceramic handicrafts and wooden masks called out to passing visitors, "Buy something before the world ends"

And on Twitter, (hash)EndoftheWorld had become one of the day's most popular hash tags.

For the masses in the ruins, Dec. 21 sparked celebration of what they saw as the birth of a new and better age. It was also inspiration for massive clouds of patchouli and marijuana smoke and a chorus of conch calls at the break of dawn.

The official crowd count stood at 20,000 as of mid-afternoon, with people continuing to arrive. That surpassed the count on an average day but not as many as have gathered at the ruins during equinoxes.

The boisterous gathering Friday included Buddhists, pagan nature worshippers, druids and followers of Aztec and Maya religious traditions. Some knelt in attitudes of prayer, some seated with arms out-

stretched in positions of meditation, all facing El Castillo, the massive main pyramid.

Ceremonies were being held at different sides of the pyramid, including one led by a music group that belted out American blues and reggae-inspired chants. Others involved yelping and shouting, and drumming and dance, such as one ceremony led by spiritual master Ollin Yolotzin.

"The world was never going to end, this was an invention of the mass media," said Yolotzin, who leads the Aztec ritual dance group Cuautli-balam. "It is going to be a good era. ... We are going to be better."

Ivan Gutierrez, a 37-year-old artist who lives in the nearby village, stood before the pyramid and blew a low, sonorous blast on a conch horn. "It has already arrived, we are already in it," he said of the new era. "We are in a frequency of love, we are in a new vibration!"

But it was unclear how long the love would last: A security guard quickly came over and asked him to stop blowing his conch shell, enforcing the ruin site's ban on holding ceremonies without previous permits.

Similar rites greeted the new era in neighboring Guatemala, where Mayan spiritual leaders burned offerings and families danced in celebration. Guatemalan President Otto Perez Molina and Costa Rican President Laura Chinchilla attended an official ceremony in the department of Peten, along with thousands of revelers and artists.

At an indigenous South American summer solstice festival in Bolivia, President Evo Morales arrived on a wooden raft to lead a festival that made offerings to Pachamama, Mother Earth, on a small island in the middle of Lake Titicaca.



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Contact Alice Elwood, 208.814.0039 or elwooda@slhs.org

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Hepatitis C Tests Continue After NH Tech's Arrest

BY HOLLY RAMER
Associated Press

CONCORD, N.H. • Hospitals across the country recommended hepatitis C testing for about 7,900 patients last summer after a traveling medical worker was accused of stealing drugs and infecting patients with tainted syringes in New Hampshire. But five months later, nearly half of those who were possibly exposed to the liver-destroying disease in other states have yet to be tested.

Described by prosecutors as a "serial infector," David Kwiatkowski is accused of stealing syringes of the powerful painkiller fentanyl from the cardiac catheterization lab at New Hampshire's Exeter Hospital and replacing them with saline-filled syringes tainted with his own blood. In jail since his arrest in July, he pleaded not guilty to 14 federal drug charges earlier this month and is expected to go to trial next fall.

Before April 2001, when he was hired in New Hampshire, Kwiatkowski worked as a traveling cardiac technologist in 18 hospitals in seven states, moving from job to job — despite being fired twice over allegations of drug use and theft.

Thirty-two people in New Hampshire have been diagnosed with the same strain of hepatitis C that Kwiatkowski carries, along with six in Kansas, five in Maryland and one in Pennsylvania. At least 3,700 people outside New Hampshire have yet to be tested, hospitals and public health officials told The Associated Press.

For example, in Michigan, where Kwiatkowski grew up and started his career, about 2,300 patients at five hospitals were notified that they may have been exposed to hepatitis C by Kwiatkowski. As of early December, only about 500 had gone in for testing, none of whom were diagnosed with a strain linked to the New Hampshire outbreak, according to the Michigan Department of Community Health.

In Pennsylvania, 2,280 patients at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Presbyterian were notified that they should get tested, but only 840 have, one of whom was diagnosed with a matching strain of hepatitis C.

Kwiatkowski was fired a few weeks into his temporary job at UPMC in 2008 after a co-worker accused him of swiping a fentanyl syringe from an operating room and sticking it down his pants. Citing a lack of evidence, hospital authorities didn't call police, and neither the hospital nor the medical staffing agency that placed him in the job informed the national accreditation organization for radiological technicians. Within days, Kwiatkowski was starting a new job at the Baltimore VA Medical Center, where one patient also has since been diagnosed with hepatitis C linked to Kwiatkowski.

Though the VA center initially said it had identified 168 patients who may have been exposed, that number was later lowered, and 68 patients ultimately were tested. Two other Maryland hospitals where Kwiatkowski worked also have completed their testing, with



Employees of the New Hampshire state health department set up a temporary clinic at the middle school in Stratham, N.H., to test hundreds of people for hepatitis C related to an outbreak at nearby Exeter Hospital.

no diagnosed cases of hepatitis C matching Kwiatkowski. But at the fourth, The Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, four patients have been diagnosed with the strain of disease linked to Kwiatkowski.

About 500 of the 1,567 patients notified by Johns Hopkins have yet to be tested, according to hospital spokeswoman Kim Hoppe. Kwiatkowski had been referred by a staffing agency that assured Johns Hopkins that it had followed a vigorous vetting process, Hoppe said. He worked there for two 13-week stints, from July 2009 to January 2010.

Saint Francis Hospital in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., where Kwiatkowski worked in late 2007 and early 2008, notified and tested 31 patients without finding any linked cases to Kwiatkowski. In Kansas, nearly all of the 416 patients who may have been exposed at Hays Medical Center have been tested and six have been diagnosed with infections linked to the New Hampshire outbreak.

There have been no cases linked to Kwiatkowski in Arizona, where about 300 patients from two hospitals have been asked to get tested and about 280 have done so. Kwiatkowski worked at Maryvale Hospital in Phoenix in 2009 and the Arizona Heart Hospital in 2010. He was fired from the latter job after 10 days after a co-worker found him passed out in a bathroom stall with a stolen fentanyl syringe floating in the toilet.

That incident was reported to police, Kwiatkowski's staffing agency, a state regula-

tory board and the national accreditation organization, but the accreditation group dropped its inquiry after learning police hadn't filed charges.

Days later, Kwiatkowski landed a new job filling in for striking technicians at Temple University Hospital in Philadelphia. That hospital has recommended testing for 312 patients but won't say how

many have followed through or have been diagnosed with hepatitis C. A hospital spokesman referred questions to the city health department, which did not return calls.

Testing also is still under way in the last place Kwiatkowski worked before heading to New Hampshire — Houston Medical Center in Warner Robins, Ga. According to the hospital, fewer than 100 people have yet to be tested, and there haven't been any cases yet linked to Kwiatkowski.

In New Hampshire, where about 3,300 patients were tested, Kwiatkowski is charged with seven counts of illegally obtaining drugs and seven counts of tampering with a consumer product, though prosecutors have said further charges are possible. Although New Hampshire cannot charge him for possible violations in other states, it can use evidence gathered in those jurisdictions in its trial, U.S. Attorney John Kacavas said. Other states are waiting to see the outcome of New Hampshire's case before deciding whether to file charges, he said.



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PEOPLE

YOUR NEIGHBOR



TETONA DUNLAP • TIMES-NEWS

Theater lover Erica Littlefield is the Youth Services Department head at the Twin Falls Public Library.

The Librarian Who Collects Broadway Playbills

BY TETONA DUNLAP
tdunlap@magicvalley.com

When We Met

I met Erica Littlefield while doing research for my story on the Radio Rondevoo. I went to the Twin Falls Public Library to see what I could find on this downtown venue, and a poster advertising the “Tidbits and Treasures from the Idaho Room” series caught my eye. There was a lecture by Littlefield about Twin Falls theaters, so I came back a few days later and sat in the audience.

Littlefield graduated from Buhl High School in 2002 and was involved in drama for four years.

“It’s the magic of the live performance and it’s the same on stage, you are right there in front of the audience,” Littlefield said. “It makes the story, emotions and acting that much more real.”

In high school, Littlefield worked part-time at the Buhl Public Library. During that time in her life she thought she wanted to be a writer.

“I have always loved to read,” she said. “When I went to college I majored in English, journalism and theater.”

After graduating from the College of Idaho in Caldwell with a degree in all three subjects she moved across the country to New York to attend graduate school at Syracuse University. She enrolled in the arts journalism program, geared to train journalists to be writers and critics of the arts.

“It combined my love of writing and theater,” she said.

However, when she graduated in 2007 she said it was hard to find a job in that field or any journalism field because of the recession.

So Littlefield moved back to Buhl.

How You Might Know Her

Today Littlefield is the Youth Services Department head at the Twin Falls Public Library.

“I’m a big believer that things work out the way they are supposed to,” she said.

Littlefield recently added another master’s degree to her resume by finishing an online master’s degree program in library science from the University of Northern Texas.

And though Littlefield is a couple of thousand miles away she still finds time to get back to New York City and Broadway. She has a black binder filled with playbills from 19 Broadway shows. In her office at home hang photocopies of the playbill covers so she can see them all the time.

Every show is a memory, from “The Drowsy Chaperone” to “Equus” starring Daniel Radcliffe from the Harry Potter movies.

Her New York City trips are also a way to visit friends from college.

On Dec. 19, Littlefield spoke to an audience of 17 about how almost as soon as Twin Falls was established theaters started popping up.

Main Avenue was theater row, and she showed the group a black-and-white photograph of cars lining the streets and three or four theaters aglow with their latest acts and shows.

Littlefield hasn’t been able to see a Broadway show this year, but now that her online master’s degree is completed, she looks forward to seeing the stage again — from the audience and from behind the curtain.

What’s Next for Her

Littlefield is a member of a local theater group called Out-Cast that she started with two friends in 2010. She said it is in a period of transition as they look to recruit new board members next year.

Since its inception, OutCast has staged three shows, and Littlefield said the group always donates its profits to a local charity.

“Theater is really powerful. Before you perform I was told to leave your baggage at the door,” Littlefield said. “It’s the same with watching. I tend to get swept up in the show.”

Tell Tetona Dunlap whom she should meet next for her weekly column: 735-3243 or tdunlap@magicvalley.com.



“ Just knowing that maybe Christmas Day, or even an hour of that day, we’re helping the kids be happy is a great joy for me. ”

Nancy Zimmerman, Immaculate Conception parishioner



PHOTOS BY ASHLEY SMITH • TIMES-NEWS

Nancy Zimmerman works with friends and fellow members of Buhl’s Immaculate Conception Catholic Church parish to make clothes for dolls that are given to foster children in the Magic Valley. Each doll comes with about 30 handmade dresses and accessories made by Dolly Kulik, Joy Poling, Lee McGovern and others.

Deck the Dolls

Every year, half a dozen or so parishioners and friends of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church sew and crochet clothing for dolls offered at Christmas to Magic Valley foster parents through the Foster Kids Christmas Project.

BY PAUL DUNN
pdunn@magicvalley.com

BUHL • It’s Christmastime, and Olivia was the last to be placed in a foster home.

This week, a couple of gratified foster parents in the Magic Valley opened their arms, hearts and home to the smiling, clear-eyed adolescent.

And it’s a good bet that come Christmas Day, Olivia will also put a smile on the face of the couple’s other foster child, who may hug her new petite playmate with unabashed joy.

Olivia, incidentally, is a doll.

And she dresses quite stylishly; that’s what makes her especially charming.

Olivia — that was her name on the box she originally came in — is among 10 dolls offered at Christmas to Magic Valley foster parents through the Foster Kids Christmas Project of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church.

For the past eight years, parishioners and friends of the Buhl church have donated the dolls to the Twin Falls-based Children & Family Services in the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. From there, department caseworkers distribute the dolls to foster families in the Magic Valley.

But’s that only part of the story.

Every year, half a dozen or so parishioners and friends of the church sew and crochet clothing for the dolls.

Immaculate Conception parishioner



Please see DOLLS, O9 Each doll has a collection of handmade clothing and accessories.

Dolls

Continued from Opinion 8

Nancy Zimmerman, who has lived in Buhl for 13 years, is the “pushy old lady” who heads the project. She gets the ball rolling every year by purchasing the dolls and delivering them to Children & Family Services.

“I’ve already begun buying dolls for next year,” she said this week.

Zimmerman, 65, is quick to credit the two primary clothing wizards, the women she calls “chiefs.” They are Dolly Kulik of Buhl and Zimmerman’s aunt, Joy Poling of Monticello, Ill. Filer resident Lee McGovern is the “queen of crochet,” and other helpers include Lucy Fait of Buhl, Fay Oliver of Filer and Barbara Miller of Las Vegas.

“They take a lot of pride in what they do,” Zimmerman said. “They devote a good six months a year, darn near every day, to this project. It’s therapeutic and fulfilling for them.”

And the folks at Children & Family Services are thrilled to receive the donations, said Pam Harris, Region 5 child welfare chief of social work. The gorgeous, one-of-a-kind dolls benefit welfare employees, foster parents and foster children.

“There is a feeling of well-being for our caseworkers being able to share special gifts for the children,” Harris said. “And the dolls certainly



ASHLEY SMITH • TIMES-NEWS

Doll-sized backpacks are a new item the group made this year.

benefit the foster parents by providing a resource for them to ensure the holidays are joyous for the children. And, of course, the ultimate benefits are to the children, themselves.”

Zimmerman purchases the 18-inch-tall Springfield-brand dolls throughout the year at a local discount store. She uses coupons for 40 percent off to significantly reduce their \$22 price tags. The plastic dolls, which have eyes that open and close, moveable arms and legs and brushable hair, are just the

right size for youngsters — and for chiefs, she said.

“The 18-inch size is good for the seamstresses to work with because they are pretty large,” she said. “You couldn’t pay them to work on Barbie dolls because they are too small.”

Imagine, for instance, constructing a backpack for a Barbie doll, and you’ll get the picture. That’s one of the many unusual items foster children find in the bag of clothing that accompanies each doll when it is delivered. They’ll also find coats,

dressess, hats, shoes, camisoles, jeans, shorts and tops, ponchos, nightgowns, quilts and — of course — sleeping bags.

This Valley of the Dolls story began innocently one day about eight years ago. Zimmerman was at the Health and Welfare office delivering Immaculate Conception’s Christmas toys — parishioners collect them every year for foster children, in addition to the dolls — when a caseworker happened to show her a doll with fancy clothes.

“Then I thought: We have people who can sew. Why can’t we do this?” Zimmerman recalled.

So, the pushy old lady got her charm on, and soon the chiefs were getting the newly purchased dolls ready for the red carpet. Zimmerman applauds the efforts of everyone in her parish.

“The generosity of the people in my church is unbelievable,” she said. “And it just gets better every year.”

Though the doll project requires monumental effort, Zimmerman isn’t planning to slow down. She cherishes the dolls as much as anyone, she said.

“Just knowing that maybe Christmas Day, or even an hour of that day, we’re helping the kids be happy is a great joy for me,” she said. “Maybe some little girl will go to bed with that doll who will be her best friend forever.”

COMING WEDNESDAY

Caramel Creator

Reporter Tetona Dunlap talks with a Twin Falls woman who started a caramel business in her kitchen. **Wednesday in Food**

NEXT WEEK

The Rehab Road

Paul Dunn writes about the long recovery of an injured Magic Valley soldier. **Next Sunday in People**

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LOW-WATER RIVERS OFFER GLIMPSE OF HISTORY

PST. LOUIS (AP) • From sunken steamboats to a millennium-old map engraved in rock, the drought-drained rivers of the nation’s midsection are offering a rare and fleeting glimpse into years gone by.

Lack of rain has left many rivers at low levels unseen for decades, creating problems for river commerce and recreation and raising concerns about water supplies and hydropower if the drought persists into next year, as many fear.

But for the curious, the receding water is offering an occasional treasure trove of history.

An old steamboat is now visible on the Missouri River near St. Charles, Mo., and other old boats nestled on river bottoms are showing up elsewhere. A World War II minesweeper, once moored along the Mississippi River as a museum at St. Louis before it was torn away by floodwaters two decades ago, has become visible — rusted but intact.

Perhaps most interesting, a rock containing what is believed to be an ancient map has emerged in the Mississippi River in southeast Missouri.

The rock contains etchings believed to be up to 1,200 years old. It was not in the river a millennium ago, but the changing course of the waterway now normally puts it under water — exposed only in periods of extreme drought. Experts are wary of giving a specific location out of fear that looters will take a chunk of the rock or scribble graffiti on it.

“It appears to be a map of prehistoric Indian villages,” said Steve Dasovich, an an-

thropology professor at Lindenwood University in St. Charles. “What’s really fascinating is that it shows village sites we don’t yet know about.”

Old boats are turning up in several locations, including sunken steamboats dating to the 19th century.

That’s not surprising considering the volume of steamboat traffic that once traversed the Missouri and Mississippi rivers. Dasovich said it wasn’t uncommon in the 1800s to have hundreds of steamboats pass by St. Louis each day, given the fact that St. Louis was once among the world’s busiest inland ports. The boats, sometimes lined up two miles deep and four boats wide in both directions, carried not only people from town to town but goods and supplies up and down the rivers.

Sinkings were common among the wooden vessels, which often were poorly constructed.

“The average lifespan of a steamboat on the Missouri River was five years,” Dasovich said. “They were made quickly. If you could make one run from St. Louis to Fort Benton, Mont., and back, you’ve paid for your boat and probably made a profit. After that, it’s almost like they didn’t care what happened.”

What often happened, at least on the Missouri River, was the boat would strike an underwater tree that had been uprooted and become lodged in the river bottom, tearing a hole that would sink the ship. Dasovich estimated that the remains of 500 to 700 steamboats sit at the bottom of the

Missouri River, scattered from its mouth in Montana to its convergence with the Mississippi near St. Louis.

The number of sunken steamboats on the Mississippi River is likely about the same, Dasovich said. Steamboat traffic was far heavier on the Mississippi, but traffic there was and is less susceptible to river debris.

Boiler explosions, lightning strikes and accidents also sunk many a steamboat. One of the grander ones, the Montana, turned up this fall on the Missouri River near St. Charles. The elaborate steamer was as long as a football field with lavish touches aimed at pleasing its mostly wealthy clientele. It went to its watery grave

after striking a tree below the surface in 1884.

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Anniversaries

The Schoettgers

John and Pat Schoettger of Gooding will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary on December 26th. John and Pat were high school sweethearts in Ainsworth, Nebraska. After graduation, John attended the University of Omaha before joining the Air Force in 1941. While serving our country as a Lieutenant, he was a pilot flying a B-25 Bomber. John and Pat were married December 26, 1942. After the service, John went to work for the First National Bank of Springfield, Nebraska in 1946 while Pat was a stay at home mother. In 1948 John and Pat moved to Gooding, Idaho to go into business with John’s parents. In December of 1948 they purchased the Gam-

ble’s Store in Gooding which later became Western Auto. John and Pat ran a successful business and made many friends in Gooding and the surrounding communities until their retirement in 1986. They have enjoyed travel and their cabin north of Fairfield as well as their church activities during the time they have been in Idaho. They had two children, Carol (deceased) and Jim (Becky) as well as two grandchildren, Lisa Schoettger (Cody Miller) and John Schoettger (Joey). John and Pat, being the non-assuming people they are, have elected not to have a large celebration to mark this remarkable achievement.

For information on how to place your announcement in the *Times-News*, please call Janet at 208-735-3253 or email announcements@magicvalley.com Deadline is 10 a.m. Thursday to be published in the following Sunday’s edition.

Engagements

Garn-Richards

Val and Ann Garn of Burley are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter, Shaylyn Garn to Skyler Edward Richards, son of Edward and Debra Richards of Filer, Idaho. Shaylyn is a 2006 graduate of Burley High School and is currently in her third year of Pharmacy at Idaho State University. Skyler is a 2001 graduate of Filer High School. He served an LDS mission to Belem, Brazil and graduated from Utah State University in Biology and is in his second year of Pharmacy at Idaho State University. The couple will be married December 28th in the Twin Falls LDS Temple. A reception will be held December 27th at Sweetheart Manor in Burley from 6 - 8 p.m. and December 28th at the Filer LDS Stake Center from 6 - 8 p.m. The couple will reside in Pocatello Idaho.

Shaylyn Garn and Skyler Edward Richards

Smith-Turnage

Mike and Shanna Farwell are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Faith Smith to Ryan Turnage the son of John and Peggy Price. Family and friends are invited to a reception which will be held on Saturday January 5, 2013 at the Sweetheart Manor in Burley, Idaho from 6-8 pm.

Faith Smith and Ryan Turnage

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ASK POLICEMAN DAN

First of all, I want to say that my heart goes out to the many responders and victims of last week's savage murders in Connecticut. The stories of sacrificial heroics in a time of crisis should not be forgotten, either.

If I was selected for jury duty and refused to show up, what kind of trouble would I get into?
— Rita

You would be forced to watch 300 hours of the "Fun watching paint dry" show. The real answer is that you could get into trouble, and the penalties might not be worth skipping your service.

The laws reads: A person summoned for jury service who fails to appear or to complete jury service as directed shall be ordered by the court to appear forthwith and show cause for his/her failure to comply with the summons. If he/she fails to show good cause for non-compliance with the summons, he/she is guilty of criminal contempt and upon conviction may be fined not more than \$300 and imprisoned not more than three days, or both.

I might be wrong here, but usually jail time means county and jail and imprisonment means the State of Idaho Prison.

Your chances of serving on a jury are almost as much a possibility as winning money from a scratch lottery ticket. I guess if you are lucky with scratch tickets, that might not be the answer you want.

I received a package in the mail, mistakenly, the other day. Some of my friends told me that I



could keep the package, but others told me that I could get into trouble if I did. Would I get into trouble if I kept the package? —Brian

This sounds like another case of "if a tree falls in the forest" story. If you got caught, then you could be charged with theft because it's a crime to knowingly keep abandoned property that is known not to belong to the possessor.

The best bet here is either find the owner, return it to whichever package service delivered it, or take it to your local police. The best bet would be to not keep what you know legally is not yours.

Officer Down

Please put these officers, killed in the line of duty, and their families in your prayers. God bless these heroes.

- Patrolman Martoiya Lang, Memphis Police, Tennessee
- Deputy Chris Parsons, Washington County Sheriff, Missouri
- K9 Ivan, Tucson Police, Arizona

They fought the good fight, now may they rest in peace.

Have a question for Policemandan? Email your question(s) to police-mandan@yahoo.com or look for Ask Policemandan on Facebook and click the like button. Mail to: Box 147, Heyburn, Idaho 83336.

New Officers



COURTESY PHOTO

The Minidoka County 4-H Teen Association recently elected officers for the 2012-2013 4-H year. Left to right, back row: Kolbee Tibbets, president; Kelsey Rogers, secretary; Jordyn Hulet, teen representative; Jessica Woodward, sergeant-at-arms; Shelbie Draper, teen representative; and Justin Borden, treasurer. Front row: Jordin Kavert, historian and Kaitlyn May, vice president.

Local Students Nominated to Attend Military Academies

WASHINGTON • Sen. Jim Risch announced his nominations to the United States military academies for the 2013 school year.

Nominees were selected from dozens of applicants and will now be considered by each of the four academies for final selection.

Nominees include David Borden of Rupert to the U.S. Naval Academy; Molly Prins of Twin Falls and Connor McClellan of Mountain Home Air Force Base to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point; and Skyler Podsek of Mountain Home to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.

LIBRARY NEWS

Filer Library

The Filer Public Library, 219 Main St., announced the schedule for its 2013 "Let's Talk About It" book discussions.

Those interested in joining the discussions can check out the books from the library, read and return them, and join the sessions. The theme is "Living in the Rural West" with each talk starting at 7 p.m.

Jan. 15: "Bitterbrush Country" by Diane Josephy Peavey

Jan. 29: "Winter Range" by Claire Davis

Feb. 12: "Close Range" by Annie Proulx

Feb. 26: "In the Wilderness" by Kim Barnes

March: 12: "Traplines" by John Rember

Information: 326-4143.

DeMary Memorial Library

Mystery
"Fragile," by Lisa Unger. Maggie pursues her own leads into Charlene's disappearance and exposes a long buried town secret—one that could destroy everything she holds dear.

"The Buzzard Table," by

Margaret Maron.
"The Twelve Clues of Christmas," by Rhys Bowen.

Fantasy
"Hounded," by Kevin Hearne. Atticus O'Sullivan, last of the Druids, lives peacefully in Arizona and wields a magical sword. Unfortunately, a very angry Celtic God wants that sword and he's hounded Atticus for centuries.

Fiction
"The Judge," by Randy Singer. A judge on trial. His life on the line.

"Threat Vector," by Tom Clancy.

"The Sins of the Mother," by Danielle Steel.

"Nano," by Robin Cook.

DVDs
"Barbie in a Mermaid Tale"
"Barbie: The Princess & the Popstar"
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Gooding Troop Strives to Earn United Way Patch

GOODING • Setting and achieving goals is a tenet of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, and earning a patch for their sash is an outward sign of the progress each girl has made. The United Way recently established guidelines for earning a special patch, and the members of Gooding Girl Scout Troop 11 are striving to qualify for the award.

Bill Knopp, executive director of the United Way of South Central Idaho, visited with the troop and assisted the girls with the first steps towards earning their patch.

The girls were enthusiastic about learning what the United Way does, and whom it serves in Idaho, especially in the Gooding area.

They learned about the four areas of emphasis the United Way addresses: Emergency Services, Crisis Intervention, Youth and Senior services, and how their agency partners ad-

dress those needs.

The troop had recently completed a project of gleaning a local field for potatoes, and donated the 800 pounds they harvested to the Helping Hearts and Hands food bank, which serves their community. Troop leader Renea Kelley said, "The girls worked hard and got tired, but were excited to see that their efforts helped to feed the hungry in our community."

The troop members have completed the major portion of their requirements through service to their community, and learning about the United Way, and plan to receive the patches at their next Court of Awards in June, 2013. For more information about the United Way patch program, troops may click here.

For more information on how you can support your community through the United Way, please contact them at 208-733-4922.

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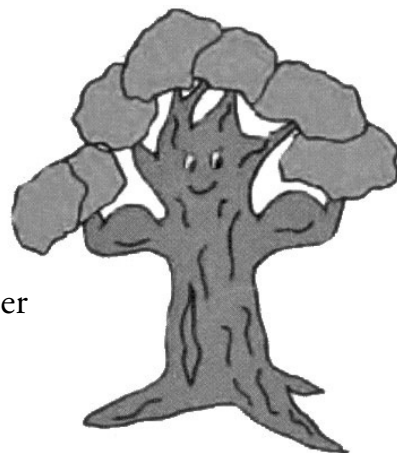
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Students Make Honor Roll at Oregon State

CORVALLIS • The names of students who have made the Scholastic Honor Roll fall term have been announced by Oregon State University. A total of 728 students earned a 4.0 grade point average. Another 3,379 earned a 3.5 or better. To be on the Honor Roll, students must carry at least 12 graded hours of

course work. Students on the Honor Roll included:

Filer
3.5 or Better: Tora J. Cobb, Sophomore, Chemistry.
Jerome
3.5 or Better: Blair A. Cox, Freshman, Pre-Mechanical Engineering.
Twin Falls
3.5 or Better: Caitlin H. Slette, Freshman, Sociology.

Christmas Tree



COURTESY PHOTO

Cassia Regional Medical Center and Intermountain Homecare would like to thank Paul Stanger of Festive Glow for the generous donation of his time that he makes year after year to light the "Lights for Life" tree in front of the hospital

Five Generations



COURTESY PHOTO

Stromire, LaPierre and Tefft families get together for great-great-grandmother Esther Stromire's birthday in August. From left to right, back row: Terry Stromire, great-grandfather, of Grand Junction, Colo.; Kyle Tefft, father, of Kennewick Wash., holding 4-month-old daughter, Kinleigh. Front row: Gayla LaPierre, grandmother, of Kennewick, holding 4-year-old granddaughter Kambrie; Esther Stromire, great-great-grandmother, of Rupert.

Five Generations



COURTESY PHOTO

Five generations of the Haberman family gathered recently. From left are grandmother, Kim Rhoads of Minot, N.D.; great-great-grandmother, LaRae Haberman, and great-great-grandfather, Ardell Haberman of Jerome, holding Leon Slater; mother, Stephanie Slater of Newport News, Va.; and, standing great-grandmother, Renee Lancaster of Jerome.

Missoula Students Collect Thousands of Pounds of Food

MISSOULA (AP) •

Along with doing the dishes for a week, 8-year-old Maddy Lindsley brought Top Ramen noodles, soup and some popcorn as contributions to her third-grade class holiday food drive.

"My mom and me and my dad think it's nice to help out people who don't have enough food to sur-

vive," Maddy said Friday.

The Lindsleys weren't the only ones who gave generously this year.

Of the more than 43,000 pounds of food donated for the Missoula Food Bank's annual holiday food drive so far, the kids at Chief Charlo Elementary School contributed 900 pounds.

Students across the city came up with particularly

creative ways to help out this year, said Jessica Allred, community relations director at the Missoula Food Bank.

To mention a few: Hellgate High School students distributed paper donation bags around a Grant Creek neighborhood and collected them again, contributing more than 700 pounds of food to the holiday drive.

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BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Rain and snow showers. High 41.

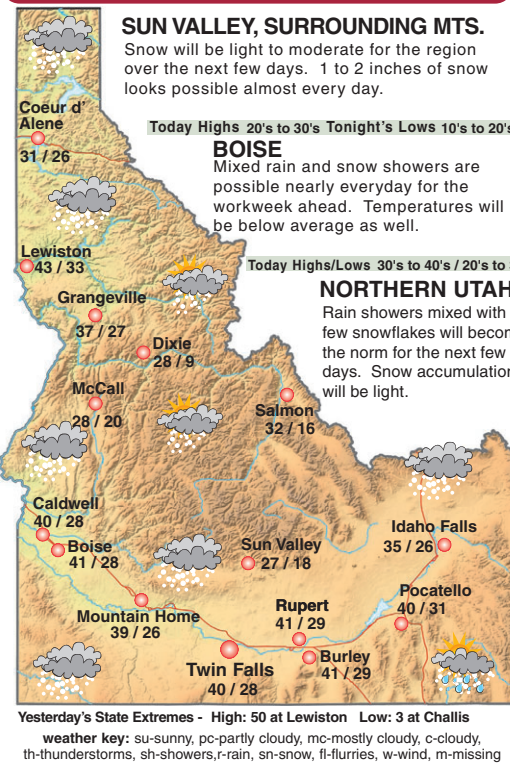
Tonight: More mixed showers overnight. Low 29.

Tomorrow: Light snow. High 33.

ALMANAC - BURLEY

| Temperature | Precipitation |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Yesterday's High 43° | Yesterday's 0.00" |
| Yesterday's Low 23° | Month to Date 1.91" |
| Normal High / Low 35° / 19° | Avg. Month to Date 0.76" |
| Record High 58° in 1964 | Water Year to Date 3.38" |
| Record Low -21° in 1990 | Avg. Water Year to Date 2.49" |

IDAHO'S FORECAST



TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

| Today | Tonight | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday |
|------------|----------------|-----------------------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| | | | | | |
| Light snow | A few flurries | Mostly cloudy, snow showers | Partly cloudy | Snowfall is expected | Another round of snow |
| High 40° | Low 28° | 38° / 17° | 34° / 17° | 34° / 26° | 37° / 22° |

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

| Temperature | Precipitation | Humidity | Barometric Pressure | Sunrise and Sunset |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| Yesterday's High 48° | Yesterday's Trace | Yesterday's High 68% | 5 pm Yesterday 29.82 in. | Today Sunrise: 8:06 AM Sunset: 5:09 PM |
| Yesterday's Low 25° | Month to Date 1.89" | Yesterday's Low 20% | | Monday Sunrise: 8:06 AM Sunset: 5:10 PM |
| Normal High / Low 35° / 19° | Avg. Month to Date 0.96" | Today's Forecast Avg. 72% | | Tuesday Sunrise: 8:06 AM Sunset: 5:10 PM |
| Record High 62° in 1969 | Water Year to Date 2.97" | | | Wednesday Sunrise: 8:07 AM Sunset: 5:11 PM |
| Record Low -22° in 1990 | Avg. Water Year to Date 2.96" | A water year runs from Oct. 1 to Sept. 30 | | Thursday Sunrise: 8:07 AM Sunset: 5:12 PM |

Moon Phases

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Full Dec. 28 | Last Jan. 5 | New Jan. 11 | First Jan. 19 |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|

REGIONAL FORECAST

| City | Today | Tomorrow | Tuesday |
|--------------------|---------|----------|---------|
| Boise | 41 / 28 | 39 / 18 | 37 / 18 |
| Bonnors Ferry | 31 / 23 | 27 / 16 | 26 / 16 |
| Burley | 41 / 29 | 33 / 19 | 29 / 19 |
| Challis | 29 / 16 | 27 / 5 | 26 / 5 |
| Coeur d'Alene | 31 / 26 | 29 / 19 | 28 / 19 |
| Elko, NV | 36 / 25 | 32 / 1 | 29 / 1 |
| Eugene, OR | 44 / 35 | 45 / 38 | 44 / 38 |
| Gooding | 36 / 26 | 34 / 14 | 29 / 14 |
| Grace | 34 / 23 | 30 / 11 | 25 / 11 |
| Hagerman | 41 / 28 | 39 / 13 | 34 / 17 |
| Hailey | 31 / 19 | 29 / 5 | 26 / 5 |
| Idaho Falls | 35 / 26 | 31 / 12 | 27 / 12 |
| Kalispell, MT | 32 / 20 | 20 / 7 | 22 / 7 |
| Jerome | 36 / 26 | 34 / 16 | 30 / 16 |
| Lewiston | 43 / 33 | 40 / 27 | 36 / 27 |
| Malad City | 35 / 26 | 29 / 11 | 25 / 11 |
| Malta | 37 / 29 | 31 / 14 | 27 / 14 |
| McCall | 28 / 20 | 27 / 7 | 25 / 7 |
| Missoula, MT | 38 / 23 | 25 / 12 | 25 / 12 |
| Pocatello | 40 / 31 | 33 / 17 | 27 / 17 |
| Portland, OR | 43 / 33 | 44 / 38 | 42 / 38 |
| Rupert | 41 / 29 | 33 / 17 | 30 / 17 |
| Rexburg | 34 / 23 | 29 / 10 | 24 / 10 |
| Richland, WA | 38 / 29 | 36 / 27 | 35 / 27 |
| Rogerson | 30 / 23 | 25 / 13 | 23 / 13 |
| Salmon | 32 / 16 | 27 / 7 | 25 / 7 |
| Salt Lake City, UT | 43 / 34 | 39 / 25 | 35 / 25 |
| Spokane, WA | 37 / 25 | 33 / 19 | 28 / 19 |
| Stanley | 30 / 17 | 25 / -2 | 25 / -2 |
| Sun Valley | 27 / 18 | 24 / -1 | 21 / -1 |
| Yellowstone, MT | 22 / 13 | 22 / -1 | 14 / -1 |

Moonrise and Moonset

| |
|--|
| Today Moonrise: 2:04 PM Moonset: 3:49 AM |
| Monday Moonrise: 2:41 PM Moonset: 4:47 AM |
| Tuesday Moonrise: 3:22 PM Moonset: 5:41 AM |

NATIONAL FORECAST

| City | Today | Tomorrow |
|----------------|-----------|----------|
| Atlanta | 56 / 43 | 60 / 41 |
| Atlantic City | 46 / 37 | 44 / 40 |
| Baltimore | 43 / 32 | 43 / 32 |
| Billings | 29 / 11 | 13 / -2 |
| Birmingham | 58 / 51 | 61 / 44 |
| Boston | 41 / 29 | 40 / 28 |
| Charleston, SC | 59 / 46 | 62 / 50 |
| Charleston, WV | 46 / 35 | 45 / 35 |
| Chicago | 35 / 30 | 34 / 27 |
| Cleveland | 37 / 28 | 36 / 31 |
| Columbus | 50 / 25 | 36 / 14 |
| Des Moines | 25 / 12 | 26 / 10 |
| Detroit | 35 / 27 | 35 / 28 |
| El Paso | 66 / 39 | 63 / 37 |
| Fairbanks | -19 / -20 | -3 / -3 |
| Fargo | 10 / 2 | -7 / -10 |
| Honolulu | 80 / 69 | 80 / 69 |
| Houston | 75 / 60 | 74 / 55 |
| Indianapolis | 42 / 30 | 39 / 26 |
| Jacksonville | 63 / 43 | 71 / 54 |
| Kansas City | 29 / 16 | 27 / 17 |
| Las Vegas | 55 / 39 | 58 / 33 |
| Little Rock | 63 / 47 | 58 / 35 |
| Los Angeles | 62 / 50 | 63 / 46 |
| Los Angeles | 62 / 50 | 63 / 46 |
| Memphis | 60 / 50 | 54 / 35 |
| Miami | 72 / 63 | 78 / 66 |
| Milwaukee | 31 / 22 | 31 / 21 |
| Nashville | 51 / 45 | 54 / 32 |
| New Orleans | 68 / 61 | 72 / 64 |
| New York | 49 / 35 | 42 / 32 |
| Oklahoma City | 49 / 22 | 46 / 24 |
| Omaha | 21 / 9 | 9 / 20 |

CANADIAN FORECAST

| City | Today | Tomorrow |
|------------|----------|----------|
| Calgary | -4 / -19 | -5 / -10 |
| Crabbrook | 22 / -18 | 13 / -16 |
| Edmonton | -2 / -26 | -5 / -23 |
| Kelowna | 25 / -8 | 19 / 1 |
| Lethbridge | 6 / -10 | 2 / -10 |
| Regina | 1 / -11 | -1 / -24 |
| Saskatoon | -5 / -13 | -4 / -26 |
| Toronto | 31 / 22 | 28 / 22 |
| Vancouver | 37 / 29 | 34 / 30 |
| Victoria | 43 / 39 | 42 / 39 |
| Winnipeg | -1 / -9 | -2 / -8 |

Yesterday's Weather

| City | Hi | Lo | Precip |
|---------------|-----|-----|--------|
| Boise | 49 | 41 | 0.00" |
| Challis | 22 | 3 | Trace" |
| Coeur d'Alene | 37 | 32 | 0.01" |
| Idaho Falls | 36 | 14 | 0.00" |
| Jerome | 42 | 22 | Trace" |
| Lewiston | 50 | 35 | 0.00" |
| Lowell | 41 | 32 | 0.00" |
| Malad City | n/a | n/a | n/a" |
| Malta | n/a | n/a | n/a" |
| Pocatello | 42 | 12 | 0.00" |
| Rexburg | 33 | 13 | 0.00" |
| Salmon | 25 | 5 | 0.00" |
| Stanley | 31 | 21 | 0.02" |
| Sun Valley | 29 | 15 | 0.00" |

| Today | Sunrise: 8:06 AM | Sunset: 5:09 PM |
|-----------|------------------|-----------------|
| Monday | Sunrise: 8:06 AM | Sunset: 5:10 PM |
| Tuesday | Sunrise: 8:06 AM | Sunset: 5:10 PM |
| Wednesday | Sunrise: 8:07 AM | Sunset: 5:11 PM |
| Thursday | Sunrise: 8:07 AM | Sunset: 5:12 PM |

Today's U. V. Index

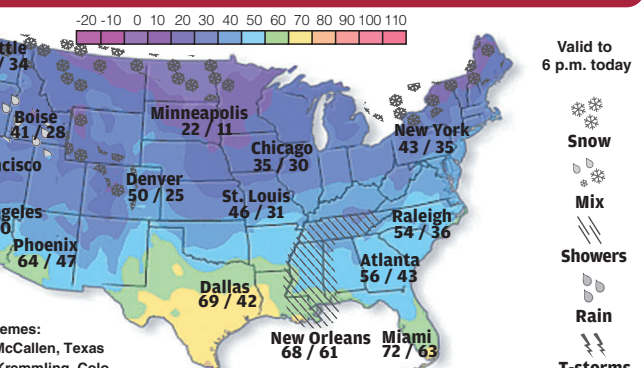
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|-------|------------|--------|---|----|
| Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | 7 | 10 |
|-------|------------|--------|---|----|

The higher the index the more sun protection needed

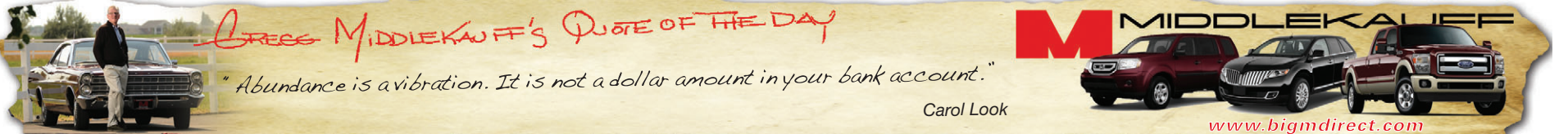
WORLD FORECAST

| City | Today | Tomorrow |
|----------------|----------|----------|
| Acapulco | 86 / 71 | 84 / 72 |
| Athens | 52 / 50 | 55 / 51 |
| Auckland | 73 / 66 | 74 / 66 |
| Bangkok | 89 / 70 | 85 / 69 |
| Beijing | 14 / -2 | 16 / -1 |
| Berlin | 41 / 38 | 45 / 43 |
| Buenos Aires | 88 / 74 | 91 / 64 |
| Cairo | 67 / 50 | 64 / 46 |
| Dhahran | 75 / 69 | 76 / 70 |
| Geneva | 51 / 41 | 52 / 37 |
| Hong Kong | 63 / 52 | 63 / 62 |
| Jerusalem | 66 / 49 | 65 / 48 |
| Johannesburg | 86 / 60 | 82 / 61 |
| Kuwait City | 69 / 57 | 71 / 63 |
| London | 53 / 46 | 52 / 42 |
| Mexico City | 70 / 41 | 70 / 41 |
| Moscow | -5 / -12 | -2 / -2 |
| Nairobi | 75 / 53 | 76 / 54 |
| Oslo | 24 / 20 | 18 / 18 |
| Paris | 56 / 47 | 53 / 46 |
| Prague | 43 / 42 | 46 / 39 |
| Rio de Janeiro | 84 / 71 | 86 / 71 |
| Rome | 57 / 51 | 59 / 54 |
| Santiago | 81 / 53 | 77 / 51 |
| Seoul | 21 / 9 | 21 / 8 |
| Sydney | 87 / 69 | 93 / 63 |
| Taipei | 68 / 64 | 67 / 65 |
| Tokyo | 44 / 34 | 41 / 31 |
| Vienna | 35 / 34 | 34 / 34 |
| Warsaw | 19 / 16 | 36 / 34 |
| Winnipeg | -1 / -9 | -2 / -8 |
| Zurich | 43 / 35 | 44 / 34 |

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



Weather Report
Sponsored By:



ASIAN TOAD STOWAWAY GETS NEW HOME IN SOUTH AFRICA

JOHANNESBURG (AP) • They say cats have nine lives. Now a Chinese toad has joined that club of wily survivors.

South Africans are marveling at the endurance of a toad that got trapped in a cargo shipment from China to Cape Town after jumping in to a porcelain candlestick that

was made there. South African officials reportedly planned to put down the creature, fearing it would cause harm as an invasive species if it were let go in the wild.

But the toad got a last-minute reprieve. Mango Airlines, a South African airline, transported the toad on Fri-

day to Johannesburg for delivery to an animal sanctuary after officials decided to find a way to let the globe-trotting toad live. The two-hour flight was a breeze compared to the trip from China, an odyssey of many weeks and thousands of miles across the Indian Ocean.

Airline spokesman Hein

Kaiser said the toad got "first-class treatment," sitting in the cockpit in a transparent plastic container with escort Brett Glasby, an animal welfare inspector. There was even a mock ceremony in which the toad's boarding pass was handed to Glasby.

"He was the star of the show on the flight," Kaiser

said of the amphibious passenger. "I think every passenger stopped to have a look."

On landing in Johannesburg, the toad, dubbed Jack B Nimble, was brought out of his container for a celebrity-style photo call.

Observers said the mottled brown toad seemed like a cool customer. "Pretty chilled," as

Kaiser put it.

It belongs to the Asian Gold Toad species, which breeds during monsoon season. It is believed to have survived the trip from China by hardening its skin to prevent it drying out and also slowing its breathing and heart rate, methods that help the species survive in times of drought.

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STORY OF THE YEAR

No. 8



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Boise State kicker Michael Frisina, center, is surrounded by teammates as he celebrates after they defeated Washington at the MAACO Bowl NCAA college football game on Saturday in Las Vegas. Frisina kicked the go-ahead field goal in the fourth quarter for a 28-26 final score.

Boise State Wins Vegas Bowl, Beating Washington

BY TIM DAHLBERG
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS • The last two times Boise State played in the Las Vegas Bowl, there were other places the Broncos wanted to be. Not so on Saturday, when the smallest player on the team came up big in a 28-26 victory over Washington.

After two straight blowouts in the Las Vegas Bowl, the Broncos had to work hard for a win sealed by a 27-yard field goal by 5-foot-5 Michael Frisina with 1:16 left. It left them feeling good about a game and a season when, unlike the last two years, there was hardly any talk about Boise State being in a BCS game.

“The most satisfying thing about this season was each week you’d see us get just a little bit better,” Boise State coach Chris Petersen said. “These guys, they don’t go through the motions. They have a chip on their shoulder.”

The win capped another strong year for the No. 20 Broncos (11-2), who had to overcome a 205-yard rushing game by Bishop Sankey against their normally stingy defense. Sankey also had 74 yards receiving, giving him 279 of Washington’s 447 yards from scrimmage.

But it was Frisina who came up with the biggest game of his career in his final game. He kicked three field goals.

Please see BOWL, S2



DREW NASH • TIMES-NEWS FILE PHOTO

Gooding's Ivan Sarabia moves the ball against Weiser during the 3A Soccer State Championships Oct. 18 at Sunway Soccer Complex in Twin Falls.

Gooding was cruising in its 3A boys soccer state quarterfinal game against Weiser, when Ivan Sarabia turned on the style with a goal that earned him a spot on SportsCenter’s Top 10 plays of the day.

Editor’s note: The following is the third in a series of stories written from the perspective of someone involved in a story voted by Times-News readers as the top local stories of 2012. This is the No. 8 story, with stories appearing in reverse order each day until No. 1 is unveiled Dec. 30.

After ‘Rico (Mendez) crossed the ball into the box, I noticed the none of the defenders would be able to reach the ball. The ball was coming a little behind, me and I thought that I should try the bicycle kick. What was the worst that could have happened?

After I was in the air, I knew I had timed it perfectly and I struck the ball perfectly. Once it had gone in I was thinking to myself, ‘Wow, it actually went in.’”

The next morning, a couple friends told me that the goal had been on ESPN. I didn’t believe them — not one bit. Once we got to the soccer complex where state was being held, a couple people that I didn’t know told me that I had been on ESPN, and that’s when I knew that I really had been. They showed me the video and I was just thinking about how incredible that was.

It was truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience — well, being on ESPN was, because maybe a goal like that will happen again.

I have two more years of high school soccer, so I will do everything I can to bring back another state championship to our town.

— Gooding midfielder Ivan Sarabia



ECU Falls to La.-Lafayette in New Orleans Bowl
Page S3.



ED GLAZAR • FOR THE TIMES-NEWS

Reigning world champion disc golf player, Sara Hokom, watches her disc fly toward the basket Saturday at the Rock Creek Park disc golf course in Twin Falls. Before joining local players on the course, the native Idahoan made an appearance at Disc Golf DC on Falls Avenue to sign autographs and answer questions.

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NBA



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Utah Jazz's Derrick Favors (15) is fouled by Miami Heat's Joel Anthony (50) during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Miami, Saturday. The Heat won 105-89.

James Scores 30, Heat Win Again

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI • LeBron James scored 30 points, Dwyane Wade added 21 points and seven assists, and the Miami Heat rode the strength of a big third-quarter run to beat the Utah Jazz 105-89 on Saturday night.

James added nine rebounds and seven assists for the Eastern Conference-leading Heat, who won their fourth straight game and next play on Christmas against Oklahoma City in a rematch of last season's NBA Finals. Shane Battier scored 15 and Ray Allen added 13 for Miami, which opened the second half on a 22-6 run to build a 69-49 lead.

Marvin Williams scored 16 for Utah, which got 15 from Gordon Hayward and 11 from Paul Millsap. The Jazz played the second half without Mo Williams, who appeared to hurt his right thumb. Miami was without Chris Bosh, home with what the team said was a cold.

HAWKS 92, BULLS 75

ATLANTA • Al Horford had 20 points and 10 rebounds, and every Atlanta starter scored in double figures as the Hawks snapped a two-game losing streak.

Lou Williams added 16 points in his first start, and the Atlanta native led the way as the Hawks outscored the Bulls 61-33 in the second and third quarters combined. Both teams played on Friday, but the Bulls were the only one that looked tired a night later.

Luol Deng paced Chicago with 11 points, but the Bulls (15-11) couldn't build on its 110-106 victory over the Knicks in New York on Friday. The Hawks (16-9), however, bounced back from a poor fourth-quarter performance in a 99-80 loss at Philadelphia. Atlanta starters outscored Chicago's starters 72-39 in Hawks coach Larry Drew's 100th victory (100-73).

ROCKETS 121, GRIZZLIES 96

HOUSTON • James Harden scored 31 points with eight assists, and the

Houston Rockets earned their third straight win.

The Grizzlies entered the game allowing an NBA-low 89.2 points a game. But they had no answer for Harden. He did all his scoring in the first three quarters and reached at least 20 points for an eighth straight game.

Houston used a big run midway through the second quarter to take the lead, and didn't trail after that to break a four-game winning streak by the Grizzlies.

Mike Conley had 16 points for the Grizzlies on a night when leading scorer Rudy Gay finished with a season-low six points. Memphis hadn't allowed 100 points since the Clippers scored 101 in the season-opener — an NBA-best streak of 23 games.

PISTONS 96, WIZARDS 87

WASHINGTON • Charlie Villanueva scored 19 points, Rodney Stuckey added 18 and the Detroit Pistons got their second win in as many nights over the Washington Wizards.

It was only the second time this season that Detroit had won consecutive games.

The Wizards, who trailed throughout the game, have lost seven straight and dropped to an NBA-worst 3-22.

For the second straight night, Detroit had 58 rebounds, a season high.

The Wizards closed to 88-81 with 6:15 to play, but didn't score for nearly four minutes as Detroit built a 94-81 lead with 2:55 to play. Jordan Crawford, who scored his only point of the first half with 1:05 to play, scored 20 in the second half to lead Washington with 21. Emeka Okafor had 14 points and tied a season high with 14 rebounds.

PACERS 81, HORNETS 75

NEW ORLEANS • David West scored 25 points, Paul George added 17 and Indiana held New Orleans to seven points in the third quarter.

Robin Lopez had 24 points in the loss for the Hornets.

Bowl

Continued from the front page

goals, including the first game winner he could ever recall booting.

"It's every kicker's dream to win a big game with a field goal," Frisina said. "For this one to come on the last game of my career, you couldn't ask for anything more."

Washington (7-6) had taken the lead for the first time on a 38-yard field goal by Travis Coons with 4:09 left when No. 20 Boise State got a big kickoff return by freshman Shane Williams-Rhodes to the Washington 42. Joe Southwick guided the team to the 12 before Frisina hit the winning kick.

"I was just focused on what I had to do," Frisina said. "I'm there as the insurance guy, I guess you'd say."

Boise State sealed the win when Jeremy Ioane intercepted Keith Price's pass as the Huskies neared midfield.

"To their credit they found a way to win the game in the end," said Washington coach Steve Sarkisian. "Our inability to finish is pretty blaring."

Sankey, who was third on the depth list when fall practice began, rushed 30 times and caught six passes in the biggest game of his career. He scored one touchdown and was the MVP of the game, despite being on the losing side.

"There's a lot of mixed emotions going on," Sankey said. "The MVP doesn't mean so much when you come out a loser."

Frisina was only 12 for 17 on field goals coming into the game, but kicked three of them, including a 34-yarder to open the scoring that was his first field goal over 30 yards



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Boise State Matt Miller (2) holds the ball for kicker Michael Frisina (84) who boots the ball during the final minutes of the MAACO Bowl NCAA college football game on Saturday in Las Vegas. The field goal was the go-ahead for Boise State to defeat Washington 28-26.

for the year.

Southwick, meanwhile, had another efficient game, completing 26 of 38 passes for 264 yards and two touchdowns for a Boise State team that struggled offensively through much of the season before improving over its last three games.

"All year I knew I could play at this level," he said. "It's just a lot of work, a lot of moving parts to put the puzzle together. The last three games it's really showed. We've just been executing at a high level in the offense."

Southwick, a junior who took over from the departing Kellen Moore, also ran for 39 yards and had a punt that pinned Washington by its goal line in the fourth quarter.

Boise State, which outscored Utah and Arizona

State 82-24 in its two previous Las Vegas Bowl wins, looked headed for a third straight blowout when Holden Huff scored on a 34-yard pass with 5:25 left in the second quarter for an 18-3 lead. But Sankey scored on a 26-yard run on Washington's next possession, and Price scrambled for another score with 3 seconds left to make it 18-17 at halftime.

The teams traded long drives in the third quarter, with Boise going 74 yards in 15 plays to open the second half, and Washington responding with a 75 yard, 12 play drive. The Huskies went for a 2-point conversion that would have tied it, but the pass was incomplete.

Sankey kept Washington in the game almost by himself in the first half, scoring

the first touchdown for the Huskies and gaining huge chunks of yardage against the normally stingy Bronco defense.

Of the 238 yards Washington gained in the half, Sankey had 178 of them. He ran 16 times for 130 yards and stretched out two short passes for another 48 yards.

Boise State was playing without starting defensive end Demarcus Lawrence, the team's sack leader. Lawrence was sent home Thursday for violating unspecified team rules, his second suspension of the season.

The two teams had met only once before, but they won't have to wait long to meet again. They will play in the opener of Washington's new stadium next August.

Single-season Record for Receiving Yards



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Detroit Lions wide receiver Calvin Johnson (81), defended by Atlanta Falcons cornerback Dunta Robinson (23), prepares to make a 20-yard reception during the first quarter of an NFL football game at Ford Field in Detroit on Saturday. Johnson surpassed Jerry Rice's single-season record for receiving yards in the fourth quarter. Atlanta led 31-16 in the fourth quarter at press time.

LOCAL ROUNDUP

RIVERHAWK BOYS LEAVE NAMPA EMPTY-HANDED

TIMES-NEWS

NAMPA • Canyon Ridge's search for its first basketball win of the season will continue into 2013.

Despite 14 points from Cody Gates, the Riverhawks were held under 10 points in the first three quarters of Saturday's 47-28 loss to Ontario, Ore., in their last game of the Elite Eight Tournament.

Canyon Ridge (0-7) fell behind 18-9 after the first quarter and never recovered from there against the Oregon 4A Tigers.

The Riverhawks are back in action after the Christmas break when they host Kimberly on Jan. 2.

ONTARIO, ORE. 47, CANYON**RIDGE 28**

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|----|---|----|----|-----|
| Canyon Ridge | 9 | 6 | 3 | 10 | -28 |
| Ontario | 18 | 5 | 10 | 14 | -47 |
| CANYON RIDGE (28) | | | | | |

Burke 6, Bastian 1, Bishop 2, Gates 14, Summers 1, Marin 2, Clark 2. Totals 12 2-6 28.

ONTARIO (47)

Hussey 5, Waite 2, Alexander 8, Haueter 13, Martin 4, DeLeon 3, Hawker 9, Vogt 2. Totals 20 2-4 47.
3-point goals: Canyon Ridge 2 (Gates 2); Ontario 5 (Haueter 3, Hussey, DeLeon). Total Fouls: Canyon Ridge 8, Ontario 9. Fouled out: Burke.

Girls basketball**ELKO, NEV. 45, CANYON RIDGE 35**

NAMPA • The Riverhawks squandered an 11-point halftime lead and went home from the Elite Eight Tournament without a win.

Caitlyn Joslin scored 14 points to lead Canyon Ridge (3-9), which led 27-16 at the half but didn't hit a field goal in the third quarter and only scored three points.

The Riverhawks are back in action Jan. 3 when they host Jerome.

Elko Canyon Ridge

| | | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Elko | 3 | 13 | 15 | 14 | -45 |
| Canyon Ridge | 14 | 13 | 3 | 5 | -35 |
| ELKO (45) | | | | | |

Elquist 5, Harris 2, Danner 12, Nielson 12, Diganan 4, Forcella 4, Dubois 6.
CANYON RIDGE (35)
Packham 5, King 1, Strauss 6, Joslin 14, Miller 2, Sagers 7.

LOCAL BRIEFS

CSI Christmas Hoops Camp

The College of Southern Idaho men's basketball program will host its annual Christmas basketball camp Dec. 27-28 from 9 a.m. to noon in the CSI main gym. All participants will work directly with the CSI staff and players while learning in a variety of drills and games. Every participant will also receive a free T-shirt and team poster. Cost is \$45 before Dec. 18, \$55 after.

Information: Colby Blaine at 340-7588 or Alex Wells at 316-5905.

Southern Idaho Baseball Camp

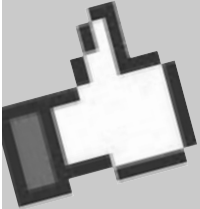
The 30th annual Southern Idaho Baseball Instructional Camp will be held Dec. 27-29 at the College of Southern Idaho. Campers will receive quality instruction in pitching, hitting, fielding and catching from pro, college and high school coaches. The camp will be held indoors at the Eldon Evans Expo Center. Information: 732-6491.

Frozen Stones Event

The Scottish American Athletic Association is hosting the sixth annual "Frozen Stones" Highland Games at Shoshone Falls Park on Jan. 1. The event is free to the public and begins at 10 a.m. — *Staff reports*

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SCOREBOARD

Odds

NCAA FOOTBALL

| Tomorrow Hawaii Bowl At Honolulu | | | | | |
|--|------|-----------------------|-----|--------------|--|
| FAVORITE | OPEN | TODAY | O/U | UNDERDOG | |
| Fresno St. | 11½ | 12½ (59½) | | SMU | |
| Wednesday Little Caesars Pizza Bowl At Detroit | | | | | |
| W. Kentucky | 6 | 5½ (58)Cent. Michigan | | | |
| Thursday Military Bowl At Washington | | | | | |
| San Jose St. | 7½ | 7 (45)Bowling Green | | | |
| Belk Bowl At Charlotte, N.C. | | | | | |
| Cincinnati | 11 | 7½ (60) | | Duke | |
| Holiday Bowl At San Diego | | | | | |
| UCLA | +1 | 1 (80½) | | Baylor | |
| Friday Independence Bowl At Shreveport, La. | | | | | |
| Louisiana-Monroe | 6 | 7½ (61) | | Ohio | |
| Russell Athletic Bowl At Orlando, Fla. | | | | | |
| Virginia Tech | 1 | 2½ (41) | | Rutgers | |
| Meineke Car Care Bowl At Houston | | | | | |
| Texas Tech | 13 | 13 (57) | | Minnesota | |
| Saturday Armed Forces Bowl At Fort Worth, Texas | | | | | |
| Air Force | +1 | 1 (61) | | Rice | |
| Flight Hunger Bowl At San Francisco | | | | | |
| Arizona St. | 13 | 14½ (56) | | Navy | |
| Pinstripe Bowl At New York | | | | | |
| West Virginia | 3½ | 4 (74) | | Syracuse | |
| Alamo Bowl At San Antonio | | | | | |
| Oregon St. | 1 | 2 (57) | | Texas | |
| Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl At Tempe, Ariz. | | | | | |
| TCU | 1 | 2½ (40) | | Michigan St. | |
| Dec. 31 Music City Bowl At Nashville, Tenn. | | | | | |
| Vanderbilt | 5 | 7 (52) | | NC State | |
| Sun Bowl At El Paso, Texas | | | | | |
| Southern Cal | 10 | 10 (64) | | Georgia Tech | |
| Liberty Bowl At Memphis, Tenn. | | | | | |
| Iowa | +3 | 1 (51) | | Tulsa | |
| Chick-fil-A Bowl At Atlanta | | | | | |
| LSU | 3 | 4½ (59) | | Clemson | |
| Jan. 1 Heart of Dallas Bowl At Oklahoma St. | | | | | |
| Oklahoma St. | 18 | 17 (70) | | Purdue | |
| Gator Bowl At Jacksonville, Fla. | | | | | |
| Mississippi St. | 2 | 2 (52) | | Northwestern | |
| Outback Bowl At Tampa, Fla. | | | | | |
| South Carolina | 4 | 6 (47½) | | Michigan | |
| Capital One Bowl At Orlando, Fla. | | | | | |
| Georgia | 8 | 10 (60½) | | Nebraska | |
| Rose Bowl At Pasadena, Calif. | | | | | |
| Stanford | 6 | 6½ (47½) | | Wisconsin | |
| Orange Bowl At Miami | | | | | |
| Florida St. | 15 | 13 (58½) | | N. Illinois | |
| Sugar Bowl At New Orleans | | | | | |
| Florida | 13½ | 14 (45½) | | Louisville | |
| Jan. 3 Fiesta Bowl At Glendale, Ariz. | | | | | |
| Oregon | 9½ | 9 (75½) | | Kansas St. | |
| Jan. 4 Cotton Bowl At Arlington, Texas | | | | | |
| Texas A&M | 3 | 4½ (72) | | Oklahoma | |
| Jan. 5 Compass Bowl At Birmingham, Ala. | | | | | |
| Mississippi | 1½ | 3½ (52½) | | Pittsburgh | |
| Jan. 6 GoDaddy.com Bowl At Mobile, Ala. | | | | | |
| Arkansas St. | +1 | 4 (61½) | | Kent St. | |
| Jan. 7 BCS National Championship At Miami | | | | | |
| Alabama | 7½ | 10 (41½) | | Notre Dame | |

NFL

| FAVORITE | OPEN | TODAY | O/U | UNDERDOG | |
|---------------|------|-----------|-----|-----------------|--|
| at Green Bay | 10½ | 12½ (44½) | | Tennessee | |
| at Carolina | 8 | 9 (46½) | | Oakland | |
| at Miami | 5 | 4½ (41½) | | Buffalo | |
| at Pittsburgh | 5 | 3½ (42) | | Cincinnati | |
| New England | 14 | 14½ (50½) | | Jacksonville | |
| Indianapolis | 6 | 7 (44½) | | at Kansas City | |
| at Dallas | 3 | 2½ (52) | | New Orleans | |
| Washington | 4 | 6½ (45½) | | at Philadelphia | |
| at Tampa Bay | 3 | 3 (44) | | St. Louis | |
| N.Y. Giants | +1 | 2½ (47½) | | at Baltimore | |
| at Houston | 12 | 12½ (44) | | Minnesota | |
| at Denver | 4 | 5½ (36½) | | Cleveland | |
| Chicago | 5½ | PK | | at Arizona | |
| at Seattle | 2½ | PK (39) | | San Francisco | |
| at N.Y. Jets | 3 | 2 (37½) | | | |

NCAA BASKETBALL

| FAVORITE | LINE | UNDERDOG | |
|---------------------------------|------|----------|---------------|
| at Northwestern | 15 | | Brown |
| at Akron | 11½ | | Cleveland St. |
| San Diego-x | 3 | | James Madison |
| at Ball St. | 10 | | IUPUI |
| at Fordham | 6½ | | Siena |
| Saint Mary's (Cal) | 2 | | at N. Iowa |
| at Penn St. | 2 | | New Hampshire |
| x:at MGM Grand Arena, Las Vegas | | | |

Basketball

NBA

At A Glance
All Times MST
EASTERN

| ATLANTIC | W | L | Pct | GB |
|--------------|----|----|------|----|
| New York | 19 | 7 | .731 | — |
| Brooklyn | 13 | 12 | .520 | 5½ |
| Boston | 13 | 13 | .500 | 6 |
| Philadelphia | 13 | 14 | .481 | 6½ |
| Toronto | 9 | 19 | .321 | 11 |

| SOUTHEAST | W | L | Pct | GB |
|------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Miami | 18 | 6 | .750 | — |
| Atlanta | 16 | 9 | .640 | 2½ |
| Orlando | 12 | 14 | .462 | 7 |
| Charlotte | 7 | 19 | .269 | 12 |
| Washington | 3 | 22 | .120 | 15½ |

| CENTRAL | W | L | Pct | GB |
|-----------|----|----|------|----|
| Chicago | 15 | 11 | .577 | — |
| Indiana | 16 | 12 | .571 | — |
| Milwaukee | 14 | 11 | .560 | ½ |
| Detroit | 9 | 21 | .300 | 8 |
| Cleveland | 5 | 23 | .179 | 11 |

| WESTERN | W | L | Pct | GB |
|-------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Memphis | 18 | 7 | .720 | ½ |
| San Antonio | 20 | 8 | .714 | — |
| Houston | 14 | 12 | .538 | 5 |
| Dallas | 12 | 15 | .444 | 7½ |
| New Orleans | 5 | 22 | .185 | 14½ |

| NORTHWEST | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---------------|----|----|------|----|
| Oklahoma City | 21 | 5 | .808 | — |
| Minnesota | 14 | 11 | .542 | 7 |
| Denver | 13 | 13 | .519 | 7½ |
| Portland | 12 | 12 | .500 | 8 |
| Utah | 14 | 14 | .500 | 8 |

| PACIFIC | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---------------|----|----|------|----|
| L.A. Clippers | 20 | 6 | .769 | — |
| Golden State | 18 | 9 | .667 | 2½ |
| L.A. Lakers | 12 | 14 | .462 | 8 |
| Phoenix | 11 | 15 | .423 | 9 |
| Sacramento | 8 | 18 | .308 | 12 |

| | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Friday's Games Philadelphia 99, Atlanta 80 Toronto 93, Orlando 90 | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|

Milwaukee 99, Boston 94, OT
Chicago 110, New York 106
Indiana 99, Cleveland 89
Detroit 100, Washington 68
Memphis 92, Dallas 82
San Antonio 99, New Orleans 94
Golden State 115, Charlotte 100
L.A. Clippers 97, Sacramento 85
Saturday's Games
Atlanta 92, Chicago 75
Detroit 96, Washington 87
Miami 105, Utah 89
Houston 121, Memphis 96
Indiana 81, New Orleans 75
Cleveland at Milwaukee, late
Charlotte at Denver, late
Phoenix at Portland, late
L.A. Lakers at Golden State, late
Sunday's Games
Philadelphia at Brooklyn, 1 p.m.
Minnesota at New York, 3 p.m.
Utah at Orlando, 4 p.m.
Dallas at San Antonio, 5 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Phoenix, 6 p.m.
Portland at Sacramento, 7 p.m.

Grizzlies 96, Rockets 121
MEMPHIS (96)
Gay 3-6 0-0 6, Randolph 5-8 0-0 10, Gasol 4-7 3-4 11, Conley 7-12 2-16, Allen 5-8 1-2 11, Pondexter 6-13 0-0 14, Spenglis 3-4 0-0 6, Bayless 2-6 1-2 5, Arthur 4-8 0-0 8, Ellington 1-2 0-0 2, Selby 1-4 3-4 5, Haddadi 1-1 0-0 2, Totals 42-79 10-14 96.
HOUSTON (121)
Parsons 3-7 0-0 7, Morris 6-8 1-1 16, Asik 5-9 4-6 14, Lin 5-12 4-4 15, Harden 9-13 10-12 31, Smith 5-6 0-0 10, Douglas 4-13 1-1 14, Delfino 4-9 0-0 11, Aldrich 0-1 0-0 0, Motiejunas 1-2 1-2 3, Cook 1-1 0-0 2, Machado 1-1 0-0 2, Totals 44-82 21-26 121.

Memphis 32 22 24 18 — 96
Houston 33 31 30 27 — 121
3-Point Goals—Memphis 2-13 (Pondexter 2-6, Allen 0-1, Gay 0-2, Selby 0-2, Bayless 0-2), Houston 12-28 (Harden 3-3, Morris 3-4, Delfino 3-8, Parsons 1-3, Douglas 1-4, Lin 1-5, Motiejunas 0-1), Fouled Out—None, Rebounds—Memphis 41 (Randolph 10), Houston 43 (Asik 12), Assists—Memphis 23 (Conley 6), Houston 32 (Lin 11), Total Fouls—Memphis 19, Houston 13, A—18,029 (18,023).

Pacers 81, Hornets 75
INDIANA (81)
George 6-15 4-5 17, West 11-20 3-4 25, Hibbert 3-8 0-0 6, Hill 3-8 3-4 12, Stephenson 5-10 0-0 10, Mahinmi 3-7 0-1 6, T.Hansbrough 2-3 0-0 4, Young 0-2 0-0 0, B.Hansbrough 0-1 0-0 0, Augustin 0-3 1-2 1, Totals 33-77 11-18 81.

NEW ORLEANS (75)
Thomas 1-2 0-0 2, Davis 5-14 0-0 10, Lopez 11-16 2-2 24, Vasquez 6-17 1-14, Rivers 3-12 1-7, Anderson 9-20 0-0 6, Mason 2-3 0-0 4, McGuire 0-0 0-0 0, Roberts 1-4 0-0 3, Henry 2-5 1-2 5, Totals 33-82 5-7 75.
Indiana 18 28 7 22 — 81
New Orleans 18 28 7 22 — 75
3-Point Goals—Indiana 4-17 (Hill 3-5, George 1-5, Young 0-1, Augustin 0-1, B.Hansbrough 0-1, West 0-2, Stephenson 0-2), New Orleans 4-11 (Anderson 2-5, Roberts 1-1, Vasquez 1-4, Mason 0-1), Fouled Out—None, Rebounds—Indiana 54 (George 12), New Orleans 48 (Lopez 11), Assists—Indiana 20 (Hill 6), New Orleans 18 (Vasquez 8), Total Fouls—Indiana 21, New Orleans 14, A—15,042 (17,188).

Bulls 75, Hawks 92
CHICAGO (75)
Deng 5-14 1-1 11, Boozer 2-6 4-4 8, Noah 5-9 0-0 10, Hinrich 3-11 0-0 7, Bellinelli 2-5 0-0 4, Butler 4-5 0-0 9, Gibson 2-5 0-0 4, Robinson 3-8 1-1 9, M.Teague 4-8 0-0 8, Mohammed 1-3 0-0 2, Radmanovic 1-2 0-0 3, Totals 32-76 6-8 75.
ATLANTA (92)
Korver 4-8 2-13, Smith 6-12 0-0 12, Horford 9-12 2-2 20, J.Teague 5-12 0-0 11, Williams 6-12 1-1 16, Morrow 3-7 1-7, Tolliver 0-1 1-2 1, Pachulia 2-6 2-2 6, Johnson 3-4 0-0 6, Scott 0-1 0-0 0, Jenkins 0-2 0-0 0, Totals 38-77 1-0 92.

Chicago 21 16 17 21 — 75
Atlanta 17 36 25 14 — 92
3-Point Goals—Chicago 5-14 (Robinson 2-4, Butler 1-1, Radmanovic 1-2, Hinrich 1-4, Bellinelli 0-1, M.Teague 0-1, Deng 0-1), Atlanta 7-19 (Williams 3-6, Korver 3-6, J.Teague 1-2, Smith 0-1, Tolliver 0-1, Morrow 0-1, Jenkins 0-2), Fouled Out—None, Rebounds—Chicago 38 (Noah 9), Atlanta 48 (Horford 10), Assists—Chicago 20 (Robinson 5), Atlanta 24 (J.Teague 8), Total Fouls—Chicago 14, Atlanta 9, Technicals—M.Teague, Morrow, A—17,782 (18,729).

Jazz 89, Heat 105
UTAH (89)
Ma.Williams 7-12 0-0 16, Millsap 3-9 5-6 11, Jefferson 2-8 2-6, M. Williams 2-3 0-0 5, Foye 1-9 0-0 2, Favors 2-8 6-6 10, Hayward 5-8 3-3 15, Watson 1-3 0-0 2, Carroll 1-4 1-2 3, Kanter 2-2 0-0 4, Tinsley 2-3 2-2 8, Roberts 2-3 1-5, Evans 0-1 2-2 2, Totals 30-73 22-26 89.

MIAMI (105)
James 11-20 7-10 30, Battier 4-8 3-3 15, Haslem 3-6 0-0 6, Chalmers 2-5 0-0 5, Wade 8-14 5-6 21, Allen 4-5 3-3 13, Miller 2-3 0-0 6, Cole 2-6 0-0 5, Anthony 2-4 0-0 4, Harris 0-1 0-0 0, Pittman 0-0 0-0 0, Jones 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 38-73 18-22 105.
Utah 28 18 20 26 — 89
Miami 28 19 26 32 — 105
3-Point Goals—Utah 7-16 (Hayward 2-2, Tinsley 2-3, Ma.Williams 2-5, M. Williams 1-1, Carroll 0-1, Foye 0-4), Miami 11-24 (Battier 4-8, Allen 2-2, Miller 2-3, James 1-1, Cole 1-3, Chalmers 1-4, Jones 0-1, Wade 0-2), Fouled Out—None, Rebounds—Utah 40 (Jefferson 11), Miami 46 (Haslem, James 9), Assists—Utah 18 (Ma.Williams, Watson 4), Miami 22 (Wade, James 7), Total Fouls—Utah 18, Miami 19, Technicals—Utah Coach Corbin, James, Miami delay of game, A—20,087 (19,600).

Pistons 96, Wizards 87
DETROIT (96)
Prince 3-6 1-2 7, Maxiell 5-10 2-2 12, Monroe 6-11 1-13, Knight 3-12 3-10, Singler 1-6 0-0 2, Stuckey 4-12 9-10 18, Drummond 2-8 0-0 4, Daye 2-6 0-0 6, Villanueva 8-13 0-0 19, Bynum 2-4 0-0 5, Totals 36-88 16-20 96.
WASHINGTON (87)
Webster 1-6 2-2 4, Nene 2-8 6-6 10, Okafor 5-9 4-6 14, Crawford 4-13 11-12 21, Beal 7-17 0-0 14, Seraphin 3-8 0-2 6, May 4-9 0-0 10, Vesely 2-5 2-2 6, Livingston 1-2 0-0 2, Totals 29-77 25-32 87.

Detroit 22 32 22 29 — 87
Washington 13 22 29 23 — 96
3-Point Goals—Detroit 8-19 (Villanueva 3-6, Daye 2-6, Bynum 1-1, Stuckey 1-3, Knight 1-4, Singler 0-3), Washington 4-21 (Martin 2-5, Crawford 2-8, Webster 0-3, Beal 0-5), Fouled Out—None, Rebounds—Detroit 64 (Drummond 11), Washington 47 (Okafor 14), Assists—Detroit 22 (Stuckey 8), Washington 20 (Crawford 6), Total Fouls—Detroit 25, Washington 18, Technicals—Washington defensive three second, A—13,104 (20,308).

TOP 25 FARED

Saturday
1. Duke (11-0) did not play. Next: vs. Santa Clara, Saturday.
2. Michigan (12-0) did not play. Next: vs. Central Michigan, Saturday.
3. Syracuse (10-1) lost to Temple 83-79. Next: vs. Akron State, Saturday.
4. Arizona (9-0) vs. East Tennessee State. Next: vs. Hawaii or Miami, Sunday.
5. Louisville (10-1) vs. Western Kentucky. Next: vs. Kentucky, Saturday.
6. Indiana (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. Jacksonville, Friday.
7. Ohio State (9-2) lost to No. 9 Kansas 74-66. Next: vs. Chicago State, Saturday.
8. Florida (8-1) vs. Kansas State. Next: vs. Air Force, Saturday.
9. Kansas (10-1) beat No. 7 Ohio State 74-66. Next: vs. American, Saturday.
10. Illinois (12-1) lost to No. 12 Missouri 82-73. Next: vs. Auburn, Saturday.
11. Cincinnati (12-0) beat Wright State 68-58. Next: vs. No. 16 New Mexico, Thursday.
12. Missouri (10-1) beat No. 10 Illinois 82-73. Next: at UCLA, Friday.
13. Minnesota (12-1) beat Lafayette 75-50. Next: vs. No. 20 Michigan State, Monday, Dec. 31.
14. Gonzaga (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. Baylor, Friday.
15. Georgetown (10-1) beat American 65-49. Next: at Marquette, Saturday, Jan. 5.
16. New Mexico (12-1) lost to South Dakota State 70-65. Next: at No. 11 Cincinnati, Thursday.
17. Creighton (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. Evansville, Saturday.
18. San Diego State (10-1) beat San Francisco 80-58. Next: vs. Mississippi or Indiana State, Sunday.
19. Butler (9-2) beat Evansville 75-67. Next: at Vanderbilt, Saturday.
20. Michigan State (11-2) beat Texas 67-56. Next: at No. 13 Minnesota, Monday, Dec. 31.
21. UNLV (10-1) vs. Canisius. Next: at No. 23 North Carolina, Saturday.
22. Notre Dame (12-1) did not play. Next: vs. Seton Hall, Saturday, Jan. 5.
23. North Carolina (9-3) beat McNeese State 97-63. Next: vs. No. 21 UNLV, Saturday.
24. Oklahoma State (11-1) beat Tennessee Tech 78-42. Next: vs. No. 14 Gonzaga, Monday, Dec. 31.
25. N.C. State (9-2) beat St. Bonaventure 92-73. Next: vs. Western Michigan, Saturday.

Football

NFL

| At A Glance All Times MST AMERICAN | | | | | | |
|---|----|---|---|------|-----|-----|
| EAST | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
| y-New England | 10 | 4 | 0 | .714 | 506 | 315 |
| N.Y. Jets | 6 | 8 | 0 | .429 | 255 | 320 |
| Miami | 6 | 8 | 0 | .429 | 264 | 279 |
| Buffalo | 5 | 9 | 0 | .357 | 306 | 402 |

An Ugly Year in Sports — Or Was It?

Good riddance, 2012. The year that almost was left us with a string of hideous story lines.

From the ongoing repulsiveness of the sexual abuse scandal at Penn State to Lance Armstrong being stripped of his Tour de France titles for injecting himself with everything but the kitchen sink.

There was the New Orleans Saints' cash-for-hits bounty scandal, and Commissioner Roger Goodell being slapped down by his predecessor for the way he handled the whole thing. And the sad, sad plights that emerge almost every day from ex-football players who took far too many blows to the head while playing America's most popular sport.

Those were the top four in The Associated Press' annual survey of the year's sport stories.

Thanks a lot, 2012. Your legacy is pain and misery — if we allow it to be.

This year could be a turning point on so many vital fronts.

Maybe when we reflect back years from now, we'll remember 2012 as a time when we decided sexual abuse was no longer an embarrassing problem to be swept under the rug, that doping was a scourge we needed to address no matter who it took down, that football players must be taken care of physically and emotionally if our national



A New Orleans Saints fan holds a sign referencing NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell in the second half of an NFL football game against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome in New Orleans on Sunday.

Paul Newberry
Associated Press

sport is to survive. If we could pick one figure who we hope will epitomize this year more than any other, it would be Cy Young Award-winning pitcher R.A. Dickey. A journeyman who became a star in his late 30s after taking up the knuckleball. A victim of childhood sexual abuse who summoned the courage to talk about his plight in a candid autobiography. Someone who triumphed in the end after all the pain. “One of the hopes I have

for the book is that people will be able to draw something from it that might be able to help them,” Dickey said during spring training after it was published, “whether it’s to talk about it more, to not be afraid, to be open with what’s happened, that there are people available that will love you no matter what.” That would be a worthy legacy for 2012. Of course, it’s terrible what happened at Penn State, which was voted the top sports story for the second year in a row. But who knows how many kids will be saved in the years to come because the next time a child is raped in the

shower by a dirty old man, the police will surely be called. Pennsylvania Attorney General Linda Kelly spoke hopefully of the guilty verdict against Jerry Sandusky persuading “other victims of abuse to come forward.” And that’s a good thing. Of course, it’s shocking to learn of the lengths Armstrong was willing to go to away from his bike, all to make sure he climbed to the top step of the podium on the Champs-Elysees year after year. But who knows how many future cyclists will decide it’s not worth the risk of getting caught or having to deal with the inner turmoil of

knowing they are a cheat. “Our mission is to protect clean athletes by preserving the integrity of competition not only for today’s athletes but also the athletes of tomorrow,” U.S. anti-doping chief Travis Tygart wrote in the voluminous case file against Armstrong. And that’s a good thing. Of course, the Saints scandal exposed the dirty little secret in the NFL that apparently wasn’t much of a secret to those who play the game, the idea that money changes hands when someone doles out a hit that leave the other guys crumpled on the turf. While former commissioner Paul Tagliabue overturned the punishments against four players, he doled out enough blame that one can only hope this is the last time we hear of anyone using the word “bounty” or intentionally trying to hurt someone. And that’s a good thing. Of course, it’s heartbreaking to see former greats of the gridiron, like the late Alex Karras, withering away in their golden years, unable to recognize friends and loved ones because the game they played turned their brains into mush. But everyone from the NFL to Pop Warner leagues finally seem to be addressing this wrenching issue, providing a glimmer of hope that future generations will be better protected. “He is interested in

making the game of football safer,” Karras’ actress-wife, Susan Clark, told the AP a few months before he died, “and hoping that other families of retired players will have a healthier and happier retirement.” And that’s a good thing. Oh, sure, there were some triumphant tales from these last 12 months. The London Olympics were a sight to behold. Michael Phelps went out in splash of glory, Usain Bolt blazed down the track, Gabby Douglas and Missy Franklin stole our hearts. LeBron James finally claimed a ring after a season that even his critics had to concede was one of the most dazzling in NBA history. The San Francisco Giants kept us up late at night, winning baseball playoff games in the most unfathomable of ways. Quarterback Peyton Manning made an inspiring comeback from career-threatening injuries, leading Denver to a division title. All were events worth celebrating. But they’re unlikely to have the far-reaching impact of those that made us cringe. Now, if we can do better, maybe 2012 won’t be such a bad year after all. Paul Newberry is a national writer for The Associated Press. Write to him at pnewberry@ap.org or www.twitter.com/pnewberry1963.

Leagues Poised to Challenge N.J. Over Sports Betting

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEWARK, N.J. • Four major professional sports leagues and the NCAA are poised to move forward with their legal fight over New Jersey’s plans to allow sports gambling. That comes after a judge on Friday rejected arguments that the leagues couldn’t prove they would be harmed if the state proceeds with the plans. In denying the state’s request to dismiss the lawsuit by the NBA, NHL, NFL, Major League Baseball and the NCAA, U.S. District Judge Michael Shipp agreed that they have standing to file the suit because expanding legal sports betting to New Jersey would negatively affect perception of their games. In his ruling, Shipp cited studies offered by the leagues that showed fans’ negative attitudes toward game-fixing and sports gambling. NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy declined to comment on the ruling, telling The Associated Press on Saturday that “the decision speaks for itself.” Stacey Osburn, director of public and media relations for the NCAA, said the association was “pleased with the court’s ruling. The NCAA has long maintained that sports wagering threatens the well-being of student-athletes and the integrity of college sports.” Phone messages left Saturday for officials with the NBA and NHL were not immediately returned. A voicemail for a MLB spokesman was full and would not accept messages. New Jersey also has argued in court papers that a 1990s law prohibiting sports gambling in all but four states is unconstitutional, and Shipp ordered that a date for oral argument on that issue will be set after Jan. 20.

The federal law prohibited sports gambling in all states but Nevada, where bettors can gamble on single games, and three other states that were allowed to

offer multi-game parlay betting. New Jersey has argued the law usurps the authority of state legislatures and discriminates by “grandfathering” in some states. U.S. Rep. Frank Pallone Jr., D-N.J., who has worked in the House to change the federal law, decried Shipp’s decision. “It is absurd for the professional sports leagues and the NCAA to claim that they will suffer injuries as a result of the legalization of sports betting in New Jersey,” Pallone said Saturday. “That these organizations claim that the sports they represent will somehow have their reputation impacted is naïve at best and assumes that illegal gambling is not currently occurring in lieu of legal sports betting,” he added. “The fact is that the presence of illegal betting and the crime that goes with it has a far greater impact on the legitimacy of sports organization.” The leagues filed suit in August after Gov. Chris Christie vowed to defy a federal ban on sports wagering. The Republican governor signed a sports betting law in January, limiting bets to the Atlantic City casinos and the state’s horse racing tracks. New Jersey has said it plans to license sports betting as soon as January, and in October it published regulations governing licenses. But the state agreed to give the leagues 30 days’ notice before it grants any licenses and hasn’t done so yet, the state attorney general’s office said last week. The state, represented by former U.S. Solicitor General Theodore Olson, had argued before Shipp last Tuesday that the leagues are as popular as they’ve ever been despite the existence of legal gambling in Nevada and more widespread illegal gambling. The NCAA has said it will relocate several championship events scheduled to be held in New Jersey next year because of the state’s sports gambling push.

49ers Try to Claim NFC West vs. Surging Seahawks

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEATTLE • Dynamic young quarterbacks. Bullying running backs. Rock-solid defenses. Coaches who don’t much like each other. Throw in playoff implications and no wonder the San Francisco 49ers and Seattle Seahawks were given a prime-time showcase. “There is something about them, man. They’re basically the same team as us and I just hate that fact,” Seattle safety Kam Chancellor said. The 49ers and Seahawks’ fierce rivalry will be in full view before a national TV audience on Sunday night. And the stakes are high. San Francisco (10-3-1) needs one win in its final two games to clinch a second straight NFC West title. Nearly 20 years ago was the last time the 49ers claimed consecutive division crowns, and wins the final two weeks would assure the San Francisco at least the No. 2 seed and a first-round playoff bye. Seattle (9-5) needs one victory to clinch at least a wild-card berth. Two wins and an unlikely San Francisco loss in the finale against Arizona would give the Seahawks the division title, although hopes of a division crown all but ended when the 49ers held on to beat New England last week.

Sunday night provides an opportunity for Seattle to prove its legitimacy. The Seahawks’ three consecutive wins and two 50-point outbursts caught the NFL’s attention. But those three victories came against fading Chicago, Arizona and Buffalo. Beat the 49ers and Seattle becomes one of those teams no one in the NFC wants to see in the postseason. “In December you want to be the hot team,” San Francisco running back Frank Gore said. “We know that if we get the win we can win the division. They’ve been playing great. I think they got better as a team each week since they played us. We want to claim the division and the playoffs.” The 49ers must avoid any letdown from last week’s wild 41-34 win at New England and solve Seattle’s impenetrable home-field advantage. The Seahawks are 6-0 at home, their last loss at CenturyLink Field coming in Week 16 of 2011 to the 49ers. It’ll be Colin Kaepernick’s



Seattle Seahawks running back Marshawn Lynch (24) is tackled by Buffalo Bills strong safety George Wilson (37) during the first half of an NFL football game Dec. 16 in Toronto.

first venture into the loudest environment in the NFL, another chance for Seattle QB Russell Wilson to strengthen his late-season surge into top offensive rookie consideration, and another meeting between coaches Pete Carroll and Jim Harbaugh. “It feels good to know that you’re playing for something,” 49ers linebacker Patrick Willis said. “We have a playoff berth, but we want the division. And we also

want to have that first-week bye, and we know we have to win this week first.” The reunion of Harbaugh and Carroll brings together a pair with similar coaching beliefs and diametrically opposite personalities. They share a love of khakis, winning and not caring what others think about their coaching styles. The two coaches traded barbs this week about not sharing Christmas cards with one another. Undoubtedly there won’t be any birthday gifts waiting for Harbaugh when he shows up at CenturyLink Field even though he turns 49 Sunday. “I understand they didn’t get our Christmas card yet. I have to check the list,” Carroll joked this week. While there are little similarities in the demeanor of their coaches, there is no denying after 15 weeks how much the teams mirror each other. Statistically, they are nearly the same. They are Nos. 2 and 3 in the league in rushing the ball, and in total defense, the base principles each preach. They rank Nos. 1 and 2 in scoring defense, with the 49ers slightly ahead by allowing one less point. Even numbers like time of possession average, penalties and sacks are even or nearly the same. They’ve even punted al-

most exactly the same number of times: 49 for the Seahawks, 50 for the 49ers. “I can’t help but see that because they believe in playing big-time defense as well as us, they believe in the running game, which we do, and they have a very strong emphasis on special teams, which we do,” Carroll said. “I think that’s really the three pillars of what we’re trying to put together here, that’s what I know we’re dealing with. I don’t know how they speak it or how they talk about it, but it’s certainly what’s obvious about their team.” The belief about the Seahawks has morphed over the past three weeks as they have suddenly grown into a scoring machine. Beginning with the fourth-quarter of their overtime win at Chicago in Week 13, the Seahawks have outscored their opponents 121-20 in the last nine quarters plus an overtime. The offensive potency has been a mixture of Wilson’s running and passing, and gashing runs from Marshawn Lynch, who has just 21 carries the last two weeks but rushed for 241 yards combined in those victories. “It’s a championship game. That’s the way we approach it this week,” Wilson said. “It’s a championship game and we’re going to have to prepare and play like it.”

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The Times-News has a part-time opening for a **Single Copy Rack Specialist and Delivery Driver** in our Circulation Department.

This position will require an individual who can work flexible hours and has a strong work ethic. The individual will be responsible for servicing single copy racks including repair and relocating. Mechanical aptitude a must. Individual will be responsible for loading, unloading and delivery of newspapers to another newspaper location. Ability to lift 50 lbs required and 25 lbs repeatedly required. Some daytime and nighttime travel required. Typical hours for a week Tue, Wed, 9am - 4pm Thurs. 10pm - 8am, Fri. 7pm to 7am. (36 hours a week).

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General

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General

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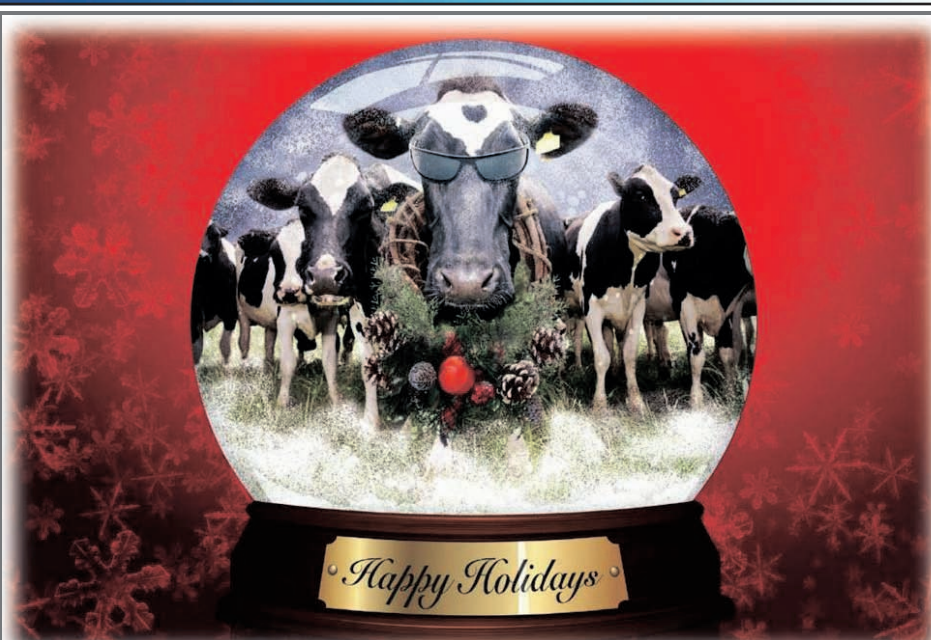
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211 Medical

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The Circulation Director will manage an expense and revenue budget, as well as manage the distribution of home-delivered products and newsstand copies to ensure customer satisfaction. They are responsible for preparing the annual budget and performing annual circulation audits for our paid products, as well as developing and executing a marketing plan to grow circulation for our paid products.

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- Manages sales plan for home delivery to ensure sales initiatives are in place and on target with stated plan;
- Manages day-to-day operations of in-house sales, service and retention efforts
- Maintains thorough understanding of Audit Bureau of Circulations rules, regulations, and guidelines
- Works closely with all departments
- Has frequent contact with customers and suppliers
- Prepares fiscal budgets and ensures accuracy and achievement
- Ensures service levels meet or exceed customer expectations; recruits, hires, trains and manages circulation staff.
- Provides regular and timely feedback about progress toward goals and professional development
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This position requires three to five years experience managing and developing employees; previous experience in sales, marketing, and circulation; general knowledge of newspaper operations; basic accounting knowledge and familiarity with Microsoft Office programs; excellent organizational skills; excellent written and verbal communication skills. Past experience overseeing newspaper mailroom is a plus. A Bachelor's degree in Business or Management is desired.

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Monday, Dec. 24th by 3pm.

Tuesday, Dec. 25th by 4pm.

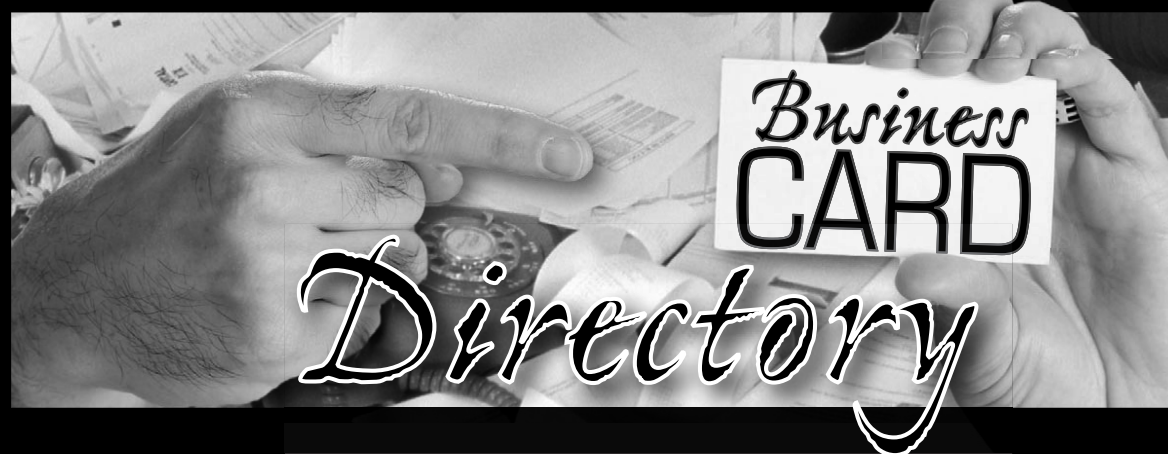
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Today is Sunday, Dec. 23, the 358th day of 2012. There are eight days left in the year.

Today's Highlight:

On Dec. 23, 1972, in what became known as football's "Immaculate Reception," Franco Harris of the Pittsburgh Steelers caught a pass thrown by Terry Bradshaw and scored a touchdown after the ball had been deflected during a collision between Jack Tatum of the Oakland Raiders and the Steelers' John Fuqua; the Steelers won the game (and an AFC divisional playoff) 13-7, despite controversy over the exact circumstances of the play.

TODAY IN HISTORY

On this date:

In 1783, George Washington resigned as commander in chief of the Continental Army and retired to his home at Mount Vernon, Va.

In 1788, Maryland passed an act to cede an area "not exceeding ten miles square" for the seat of the national government; about 2/3 of the area became the District of Columbia.

In 1823, the poem "Account of a Visit from St. Nicholas" was published anonymously in the Troy (N.Y.) Sentinel; the verse, more popularly known as "Twas the Night Before Christmas," was later attributed to Clement C. Moore.

In 1893, the Engelbert Humperdinck opera "Haensel und Gretel" was first performed, in Weimar, Germany.

In 1928, the National Broadcasting Company set up a permanent, coast-to-coast network.

In 1941, during World War II, American forces on Wake Island surrendered to the Japanese.

In 1948, former Japanese premier Hideki Tojo and six other Japanese war leaders were executed in Tokyo.

In 1962, Cuba began releasing prisoners from the failed Bay of Pigs invasion under an agreement in which Cuba would receive more than \$50 million worth of food and medical supplies.

In 1968, 82 crew members of the U.S. intelligence ship Pueblo were released by North Korea, 11 months after they had been captured.

In 1972, a 6.2-magnitude earthquake struck Nicaragua, destroying most of the capital, Managua; the disaster claimed some 5,000 lives.

In 1986, the experimental airplane Voyager, piloted by Dick Rutan and Jeana Yeager, completed the first non-stop, non-refueled round-the-world flight as it returned safely to Edwards Air Force Base in California.

In 1991, fire destroyed a house in Corsicana, Texas, killing three young children; their father, Cameron Todd Willingham, was convicted of starting the blaze and was executed in 2004, although some experts raised questions about whether the fire had been deliberately set.

Ten years ago: Senate Republicans unanimously elected Bill Frist to succeed Trent Lott as their leader in the next Congress. A Ukrainian passenger plane crashed in central Iran during a flight from Turkey, killing 44 people.

Five years ago: The New England Patriots set an NFL record with their 15th win, the best start in league history, as they beat the Miami Dolphins 28-7. Jazz pianist Oscar Peterson died in Mississauga, Canada, at age 82. Choreographer Michael Kidd died in Los Angeles. (His age was reported as 88 or 92.) Britain's Queen Elizabeth II launched her own special Royal Channel on YouTube.

One year ago: After days of stalemate and rancor, the U.S. Congress approved a two-month renewal of payroll tax cuts for 160 million workers and unemployment benefits for millions. Two car bombers blew themselves up in Damascus outside the heavily guarded compounds of Syria's intelligence agencies, killing at least 44 people and wounding dozens more in a brazen attack on the powerful security directorates.

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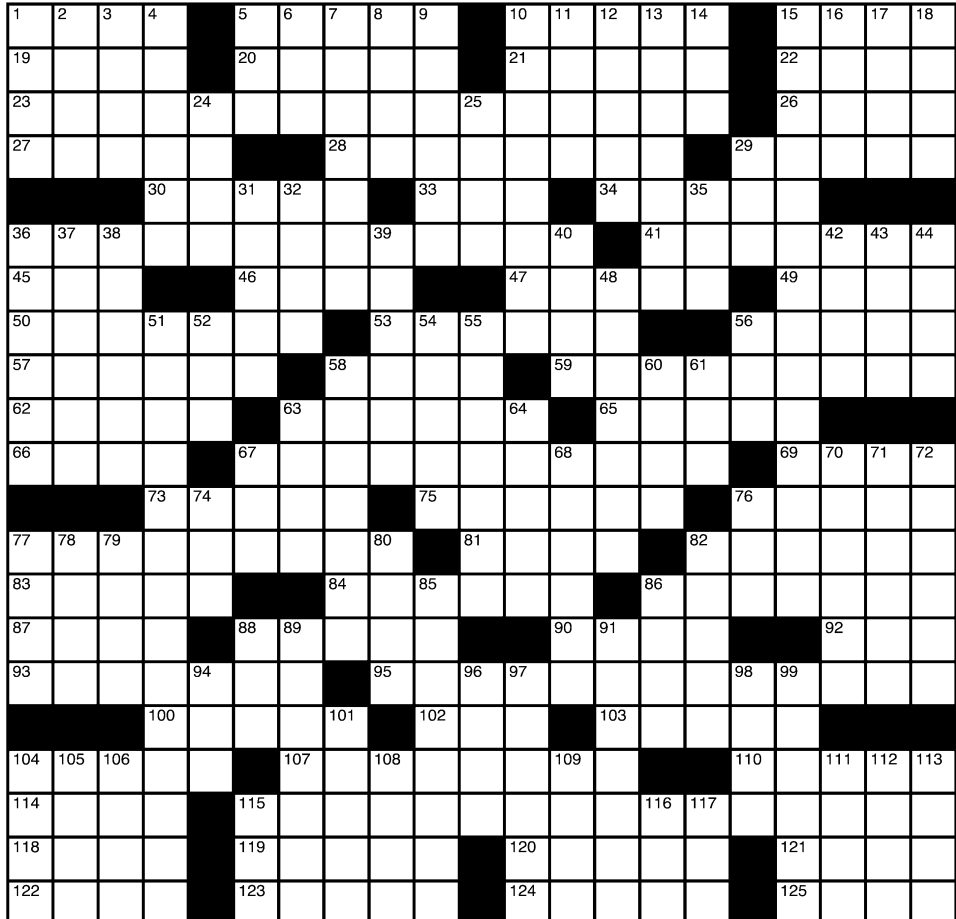
Sunday Crossword

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

SECRET AGENT By Erik Agard

ACROSS

- 1 To be, to Balzac
- 5 Perfume oil
- 10 "It ___ to me ..."
- 15 Classic pop favorite?
- 19 Number on le menu
- 20 "Next week on ..." ad
- 21 It's blocked by sunblock
- 22 Gives the sack
- 23 *Scenic souvenirs
- 26 Slow roller on a baseball diamond?
- 27 Cuddle, in a way
- 28 Delivered a sermon
- 29 Little green man?
- 30 Place for a pin
- 33 "Eww, more than I need to know!"
- 34 Take exception
- 36 *Acupuncturist's target
- 41 One way or another
- 45 "Malcolm in the Middle" dad
- 46 Get rid of
- 47 Egyptian Christians
- 49 Prefix with cab
- 50 Flips (through)
- 53 Oscar-winning foreign language film based on a Fugard novel
- 56 Sap
- 57 Fesses up to
- 58 Memorable tumbler
- 59 *Nonconformist, idiomatically
- 62 Browns quickly
- 63 To-do list items
- 65 Aptly named fruits
- 66 Shore flier
- 67 *Cookies sent from home, say
- 69 "¿Cómo ___ usted?"
- 73 Apt to mope
- 75 Sofa cushion concerns
- 76 Legal right
- 77 *Repair shop item
- 81 Old-style "once"
- 82 One just starting
- 83 Intense passion
- 84 Van Gogh masterpiece
- 86 Totals
- 87 Fall guy
- 88 Three-star mil. officer
- 90 Wheel with a knife nearby



12/23/12
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- 92 ___ de Cologne
- 93 Seventh-inning ritual
- 95 *Tense subject?
- 100 Space ___
- 102 Zip
- 103 "It's the Hard-Knock Life" musical
- 104 Singer LuPone
- 107 Didn't go along
- 110 Guitar parts
- 114 Et ___
- 115 *British Sunday meal staple
- 118 O'Brien predecessor and successor
- 119 Video game plumber
- 120 Looks for a vein
- 121 Pierre's South Dakota?
- 122 Eight-legged team
- 123 Rhett's last words
- 124 Actress MacDowell
- 125 Agents "hiding" in the answers to starred clues

- 4 Lauds
- 5 Earth Day mo.
- 6 Afternoon ora
- 7 Brings down
- 8 Love of Latin
- 9 Faced head-on, as a challenge
- 10 To the point
- 11 Cole Porter's "Well, Did You ___?"
- 12 Put one's foot in it
- 13 Most miffed
- 14 Part of MS-DOS: Abbr.
- 15 *Protected area
- 16 Teacher's handout
- 17 Rosemary, e.g.
- 18 "___ with my little eye ..."
- 24 Señor's "some"
- 25 Author Hoag
- 29 Mess (up)
- 31 Whines
- 32 Oldest of the gods, in Plato's "Symposium"
- 35 Cal. pages
- 36 Put into words
- 37 Takeover engineer
- 38 Composer of the "Beetlejuice" score
- 39 Diminutive

- 40 Chuck
- 42 Rattletrap
- 43 Garfield's pal
- 44 Building addition
- 48 Agreeably sharp-tasting
- 51 *Smokey Bear's bailiwick
- 52 NYPD ranks
- 54 Typos and such
- 55 Fatty-acid esters
- 56 Soft & ___: Dial product
- 58 MacGyver, so to speak
- 60 Trendy fleece-lined boots
- 61 Malt beverage
- 63 It's often raw
- 64 Goosebump raiser
- 67 Target on the green
- 68 Mouth
- 70 "Evidently"
- 71 "Fresh entertainment" mint
- 72 Eschewed cooking
- 74 On top of, to poets
- 76 Abbey title
- 77 Yields to gravity
- 78 Bapt. or Meth.

- 79 Feast of Esther month
- 80 Nonkosher
- 82 Certain club restriction
- 85 Together
- 86 Cereal box title
- 88 HDTV feature, often
- 89 Pulitzer-winning Cormac McCarthy novel
- 91 Like a McJob
- 94 Mai ___
- 96 Wednesday's mom, to Gomez
- 97 Last syllable
- 98 Fruit discard
- 99 Thing out on a limb
- 101 Caesar's land
- 104 ___ Alto
- 105 Michael's "Family Ties" role
- 106 Pea piercer
- 108 Milk choice
- 109 Leprechaun's turf
- 111 Mention
- 112 Sack opener?
- 113 Boot camp NCOs
- 115 Soprano Sumac
- 116 I.M. with plans
- 117 Employ

Sunday Crossword Puzzle Answers on Classifieds 8

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Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | | | | 7 | | 3 | | |
| | 9 | | | 5 | | | | |
| | 2 | | 8 | | | | | |
| | | 1 | | 5 | | | | 9 |
| | | 9 | 7 | | 8 | 6 | | |
| | 5 | | | 2 | | 8 | | |
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Difficulty Level ★★★★★

12/23

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Answer to previous puzzle

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 4 | 7 |
| 2 | 9 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 5 |
| 5 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 4 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 9 |
| 7 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 1 |
| 1 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 2 |
| 6 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| 8 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 6 |
| 9 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 8 |

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 12/22

0602 Unfurnished Homes

FILER 3 bdrm, 2 bath mobile home on small private lot, clean, no pets/smoking. \$600. **208-720-4255**

FILER Cute & clean 1 bdrm mobile on quiet city lot w/storage, \$395 incl. water. No pets. Refs. **326-5887**

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Judy McCurdy 208-308-8253

DEAR ABBY: While searching for two of my husband's childhood friends, with his knowledge, I believe I may have found a child he doesn't know is his. I'm not positive that the child is his, but the time frame and location indicate that he could be, and there's a strong resemblance to my husband's brother. (I have seen photos on the Internet.)



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

I am curious whether my hunch is correct, but I'm afraid of asking the questions, not knowing how they would be received. My husband is a kind and caring person, a great husband and father. The child could have been conceived during a casual, one-night stand before we started dating.

I now wish I had never found this information because by not asking, I feel like I'm in denial, and by not saying anything to him, I feel like a terrible person. If the child is his, the mother has kept this from him for more than 10 years.

I'd really appreciate some input. What's the right thing to do?

— **WONDERING IN THE SOUTHWEST**

DEAR WONDERING: I see nothing to be gained by withholding this from your spouse. Tell your husband about your research, and what you think you may have turned up. Then ask if he is acquainted with the child's mother. The resemblance could be coincidental, or the child could have been fathered by another family member.

DEAR ABBY: One of my fond memories of my father when I was growing up was that he would always order my mom's meal when we were out for dinner. Of course, she decided what she wanted to eat, but when the waiter came, my dad would always say, "My wife would like the...." Now that I'm older and married, my husband does the same for me.

One couple we dine out with regularly gives me a difficult time about this "tradition." They make comments like, "Oh, Susan's not allowed to speak in a restaurant." The wife has also told me she thinks it's disrespectful to me when my husband orders my food. I have explained that it was a cherished memory of mine and not something forced on me. It's like when a man opens a door for a woman. I can definitely open the door myself, but I appreciate the sweet gesture.

I try to respect opinions that differ from my own, and I don't expect everyone to do as I do. Do you think I'm living in the Stone Age?

— **SUSAN IN VIRGINIA**

DEAR SUSAN: No, I do not; you appear to be living quite happily in the present. While the tradition you and your husband are observing is "antiquated," you are hurting no one.

Please allow me to make an observation: When couples dine out together socially, they are supposed to relax, entertain each other and have a good time. Giving you "heartburn" regarding who orders your dinner is rude, particularly since this couple has done it more than once and has been given an explanation. From my perspective, you might enjoy your evenings out more if you shared them with this particular couple less often.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

THE ACES ON BRIDGE®

Bobby Wolff

Dear Mr. Wolff:

My RHO pre-empted to two diamonds and I held ♠ A-Q-7-3, ♥ K-4-2, ♦ K-4, ♣ A-Q-3-2. I chose to double rather than to bid two no-trump, and raised my partner's two-spade response to three spades, but he passed, and we missed game. Should I have done more?

Hanging Back, San Francisco, California

ANSWER: Your initial double was better than a two-no-trump call (even a 4-3 major-suit fit could be best here). After your partner responds two spades, which tends to have an upper limit of 8 HCP, your choice is to pass, which would be a little pessimistic, to rebid two no-trump (which you might do over a two-heart response) or to raise to three spades. There is certainly no case for doing more.

Dear Mr. Wolff:

Is there an unambiguous rule as to when to respond in a major as opposed to a minor, or even when to bypass a four-card suit in response to an opening bid of one club?

Miss Manners, Orlando, Fla.

ANSWER: With a four-card major and less than invitational values, you should generally bid it, rather than diamonds. One exception comes if the major suit is very weak and you have an absolutely flat hand with honors in each of the other suits and about 8-10 points, when bidding one no-trump in response to one club makes sense. You can also bypass a major if the second hand doubles, though. Incidentally, with game-forcing values, I tend to bid my best suit first, if holding four cards in diamonds and a major.

Dear Mr. Wolff:

I was dealt ♠ A-Q-7-6-5, ♥ Q-4, ♦ Q-7-3-2, ♣ 9-4, and made a one-spade overcall over my opponent's one-heart opening bid. My partner bid two hearts, which I took as asking me to describe my hand, so I bid three diamonds. When we got too high, my partner told me I should have rebid my spades. Is that right with only a five-card suit? If so, how do I show extras?

Busy Bee, Albany, Ga.

ANSWER: A cue-bid in response to an overcall implies values and support for partner. So, with a minimum overcall, just repeat your suit, rather than taking the auction up an extra level. If your partner simply has a good hand with a suit of his own, he will make a descriptive call next. Bid three diamonds with the diamond king instead of the two.

Dear Mr. Wolff:

In third seat, when I picked up ♠ A-J-4-3-2, ♥ Q-J-7-3, ♦ Q-J-2, ♣ 5, I elected to jump to four spades facing a one-spade opener. My partner held a 5-4 pattern with 16 points and four little clubs so slam was where we belonged. He said I was too strong, while I thought with three aces he owed me a bid. Who is right?

Stumbling by the Wayside, Portland, Maine

ANSWER: I am sorry to say that your partner was right. Typically, when you hold game-going values with a big trump fit and side-shortage as you did, the modern technique is to jump in your shortage at the four-level — though your hand is dead minimum for this action. This is called a splinter bid, and that would let your partner judge if he had the right hand to stay low or aim high. Today, he'd know what to do.

Dear Mr. Wolff:

What are the restrictions on the use of the support double? Which players can use a double to show three-card support, and how late in the auction do such doubles apply?

Backbones, Seneca, S.C.

ANSWER: To clarify the question, if support doubles are in use, then at opener's second turn to speak, in a contested auction, his double shows precisely three-card support for his partner's suit. The conditions are rigid: the bidding must be at or below two of partner's suit, and it applies only to opener at his second turn to call. For higher intervention, opener's double tends simply to be real extra values.

For details of Bobby Wolff's autobiography, "The Lone Wolff," contact kay19072@aol.com. If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, email him at bobbywolff@mindspring.com.

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SKI-DOO '07 800 Summit X, 159" track, \$4200. **Ski-Doo '05** 800 Summit Adrenaline, 151" track, \$2900. **208-420-0459**

908 Utility Trailers



DOUBLE R '11 40' triple axle trailer, like new, only \$8995.

ASSIST AUTO BROKERAGE 275 South Idaho Street Wendell • 208-536-1900

AUTOMOTIVE

1001 Aviation

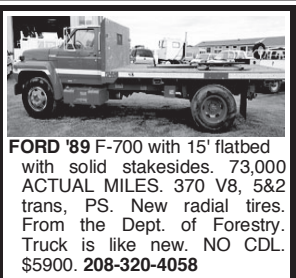
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Sunday Crossword Puzzle Answers

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| P | I | C | T | U | R | E | P | O | S | T | C | A | R | D | S | T | A |
| S | P | O | O | N | P | R | E | A | C | H | E | D | G | U | M | B | Y |
| L | A | P | E | L | T | M | I | D | E | M | U | R | | | | | |
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| H | A | L | L | O | S | E | | | C | O | P | T | S | | P | E | D |
| R | I | F | F | L | E | S | | T | S | O | T | S | I | | D | R | A |
| A | D | M | I | T | S | | J | I | L | L | | S | Q | U | A | R | E |
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| E | R | N | E | | C | A | R | E | P | A | C | K | A | G | E | S | T |
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| G | O | A | T | | L | T | G | E | N | | E | D | A | M | | E | A |
| S | T | R | E | T | C | H | | F | U | T | U | R | E | P | E | R | F |
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| O | X | E | N | | A | D | A | M | N | | A | N | D | I | E | R | E |

1005 Semis/Heavy Equipment



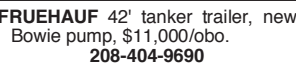
FORD '89 F-700 with 15' flatbed with solid stakesides. 73,000 ACTUAL MILES. 370 V8, 5&2 trans, PS. New radial tires. From the Dept. of Forestry. Truck is like new. NO CDL. \$5900. 208-320-4058



FORD '99 F-450 service truck 2WD, 7.3 diesel, AT, V-Mac underhood air compressor, 1 owner fleet maintained, drives like new, \$7900. 208-320-4058



FREIGHTLINER 2000 FL 112 tractor 167,000 ACTUAL MILES 330 HP Cummins M11 Diesel. 10 speed trans, Jake, PS, AC. Clean one owner truck. \$21,900. 208-320-4058



FRUEHAUF 42' tanker trailer, new Bowie pump, \$11,000/obo. 208-404-9690



IHC '84 1800 with 8 yd dump bed, 9.0 diesel, 5&2 trans, PS. New radial tires. Low miles. Very clean and well maintained truck from the Dept. of Forestry. Must see. \$8900. 208-320-4058



IHC '86 2574 with 15' dump bed. Electric load tarp. 239K ACTUAL MILES. Cummins 350 diesel. 8LL transmission. PS and AC. Like new rubber. Well maintained one owner truck. \$15,900. 208-320-4058



VOLVO '95 with 15' dump bed. Scissor hoist. Load tarp. Shaker. 70,000 ACTUAL MILES. Cummins Diesel, ALLISON AUTOMATIC 5 spd Transmission. 58,000 GVW. 4.68 ratio. PS & AC. Like new rubber. Well maintained one owner municipal truck from Southern Calif. \$26,900. 208-320-4058

1006 Trucks



1999 Dodge Ram 2500 SLT Bedliner, Tow pkg, AM/FM/Tape/CD \$13,999



208-734-3000



CHEVY '06 Silverado Ext-Cab LT, 4x4, black, shell, custom wheels & tires, \$16,995. Stock #67141302 208-733-3033



CHEVY '10 Silverado, Regular Cab, Certified, 31K miles, auto, V6, \$14,500. Stock#AZ201607 208-733-3033



1006 Trucks



CHEVY '08 Avalanche LTZ, leather, sunroof, 20" wheels, only 39K miles, \$31,995. Stock #8G182861 208-733-3033



CHEVY '87 30, 4x4, 8' service box with ladder rack, 454 eng, \$2500. 208-404-9690



2006 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 HD LT, 4X4, Turbo Diesel \$26,988. 1155 Florence Ave Twin falls 208-734-3000



DODGE '08 Ram 1500 4x4, Quad Cab SXT, super low miles, PW, PL, tow, Chrysler Certified, great truck at a great price! Stock#S605274DC 208-733-5776



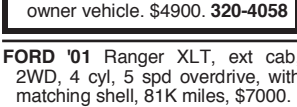
DODGE '09 Ram 2500 4x4 SLT, 6.7L turbo diesel, low miles, beautiful truck! Don't pass this one up! \$32,999. Stock#9G509447D 208-733-5776



FORD '01 F-150, 2WD, long box. 74,000 ACTUAL MILES. Dual fuel 4.7L V8. AT, AC, PS. Very clean well maintained truck. \$5900. 208-320-4058



FORD '01 Ranger 4x4, 4.0 V6, AT, PS, AV. Good rubber. Clean and well maintained one owner vehicle. \$4900. 320-4058



FORD '01 Ranger XLT, ext cab, 2WD, 4 cyl, 5 spd overdrive, with matching shell, 81K miles, \$7000. 208-431-3464



FORD '07 F-150 SuperCrew 4X4, XLT, premium wheels, running boards, only \$18,999. Stock#7KC51399D 208-733-5776



FORD '07 F-150 SuperCrew 4x4, Lariat, 20" wheels, hard tonneau cover, leather, \$21,999. Stock#7KA70314D 208-733-5776



FORD '91 Ranger XLT, xcab, 2WD, V6, AT, only \$2995.



GMC '00 '04 Ton, White, regular maintenance. Contact Filer Mutual Telephone Co. for more information at 208-326-4331. All Sealed bids need to be in by Jan 4th, 2013.



GMC '09 Sierra 1500 4x4, SLE, Z-71, 5.3L, power seat, alloys, AC, CD, great buy! Only \$21,999. Stock#9Z291352D 208-733-5776



JUMBLE

Answer :
MOTHER FALLEN SCENIC
UNTOLD TODDLE AUTHOR

After spotting the loose change on the ground, he —

**TURNED
ON A DIME**

1006 Trucks



GMC '10 Sierra SLT, black, Z-71, heated leather, Certified, 23K miles, \$32,995. Stock#AG140089U 208-733-3033



GMC '94 original owner, 170,000 miles, great condition, needs paint, \$3800/obo. 208-539-0221



GMC '96 ¾ Ton, 4x4, Blue, regular maintenance. Contact Filer Mutual Telephone Co. for more information at 208-326-4331 All Sealed bids need to be in by Jan 4th, 2013.



HONDA '07 Ridgeline RTL, leather, loaded, this truck has it all, come drive it! Only \$18,999. Stock#7H538237D 208-733-5776



2008 GMC Sierra 3500HD SLE Crew Cab, 4x4, Diesel, Tow Pkg \$31,999. 1155 Florence Ave Twin falls 208-734-3000



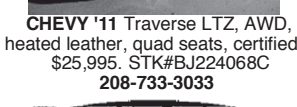
2003 Ford Explorer XLT Sun Roof, Leather, 3rd Row Seating \$6,988. 1155 Florence Ave Twin Falls 208-734-3000



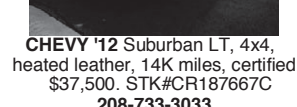
2008 Subaru Forester XT Ltd. Leather, Sun Roof, CD Changer \$19,477 1155 Florence Ave Twin Falls 208-734-3000



CHEVY '11 Traverse LTZ, AWD, heated leather, quad seats, certified, \$25,995. STK#BJ224068C 208-733-3033



CHEVY '12 Suburban LT, 4x4, heated leather, 14K miles, certified, \$37,500. STK#CR187667C 208-733-3033



FORD '96 Bronco XLT, 5 spd, 4X4, very clean, only \$4495.



2008 GMC Acadia SLT Bose Sound, DVD, Heated Seats \$15,988. 1155 Florence Ave Twin Falls 208-734-3000



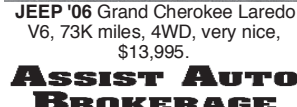
1008 SUVs



HUMMER '06 H3, 4x4, PW, PL, alloys, fun and utility! Sale price \$17,999. Stock#68134761D 208-733-5776



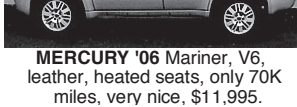
JEEP '06 Grand Cherokee Laredo V6, 73K miles, 4WD, very nice, \$13,995.



JEEP '97 Grand Cherokee 4x4, sale price \$2,999. Stock#VC592421D 208-733-5776



MERCURY '06 Mariner, V6, leather, heated seats, only 70K miles, very nice, \$11,995.



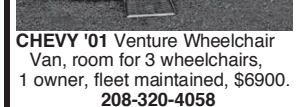
CHEVROLET '03 Astro Mini Van. Third seat. V6, PS, AC, CC, PW, PDL. Well maintained one owner van. 20 MPG. Clean as new. \$4900. 208-320-4058



CHEVY '01 Venture Wheelchair Van, room for 3 wheelchairs, 1 owner, fleet maintained, \$6900. 208-320-4058



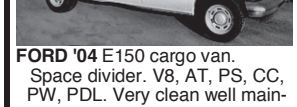
CHRYSLER '07 Town & Country LX stow-n-go, garaged, super clean, local trade, only \$6995.



FORD '04 E150 cargo van. Space divider. V8, AT, PS, CC, PW, PDL. Very clean well maintained one owner van that is work ready. \$7500. 208-320-4058



FORD '10 Transit Connect XLT Cargo Van, side & rear door, privacy glass, 50K miles, \$17,995. Stock#AT027149 208-733-3033



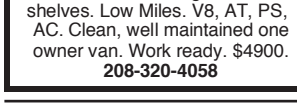
FORD '98 E-250 Cargo Van with shelves. Low Miles. V8, AT, PS, AC. Clean, well maintained one owner van. Work ready. \$4900. 208-320-4058



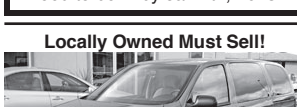
GMC '02 Safari Cargo Van, low mileage, regular maintenance. Contact Filer Mutual Telephone Co. for more information at 208-326-4331. All Sealed bids need to be in by Jan 4th, 2013.



2007 Chevrolet Uplander LS 7 Passenger, OnStar, AM/FM/CD \$8,988 1155 Florence Ave Twin Falls 208-734-3000



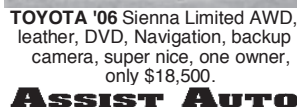
TOYOTA '06 Sienna Limited AWD, leather, DVD, Navigation, backup camera, super nice, one owner, only \$18,500.



2001 Audi TT Quattro Leather, Bose Sound, 6 speed \$11,999. 1155 Florence Ave Twin falls 208-734-3000

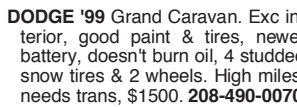


CHEVY '10 Cobalt LT, 4 door, auto, alloys, PW, PL, "4 to choose from", \$10,995. Stock#A7183752 208-733-3033



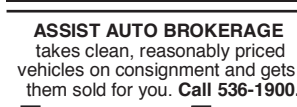
TOYOTA '09 Venza Wagon, AWD, 4-cylinder, 56K miles, \$20,995. Stock#9U005526 208-733-3033

1009 Vans and Buses



DODGE '99 Grand Caravan. Exc interior, good paint & tires, newer battery, doesn't burn oil, 4 studded snow tires & 2 wheels. High miles, needs trans, \$1500. 208-490-0070

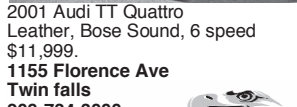
1010 Autos



ASSIST AUTO BROKERAGE takes clean, reasonably priced vehicles on consignment and gets them sold for you. Call 536-1900.



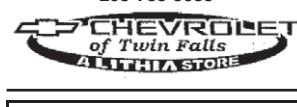
ASSIST AUTO BROKERAGE 275 South Idaho Street Wendell • 208-536-1900



2001 Audi TT Quattro Leather, Bose Sound, 6 speed \$11,999. 1155 Florence Ave Twin falls 208-734-3000



CHEVY '10 Cobalt LT, 4 door, auto, alloys, PW, PL, "4 to choose from", \$10,995. Stock#A7183752 208-733-3033



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DODGE '05 Magnum R/T, V8 Hemi, leather, moon roof, multi disc CD, only 58K miles, \$25,995. Stock#5H676718D 208-733-5776