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# mes-News

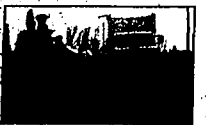
Twin Falls, Idaho/95th year, No. 110 Thursday, April 20, 2000 50 cents

## GOOD MORNING

### WEATHER

Today: Partly cloudy, light winds, high 68. Same tonight, low 43.

### MAGIC VALLEY



**Road swap:** City officials are looking at the details of a road maintenance swap with the state.

**Prosecutor's race:** Twin Falls County's incumbent prosecutor is dismissing several claims made by his opponent.

### MONEY

**Cheap:** A few prices were up but overall the valley's cost of living dipped below the national average late last year.

### OUTDOORS



**Three bad birds:** The house sparrow, the starling and the feral pigeon are among Idaho's most despised birds.

### SPORTS

**Charles in charge:** The Round Mound of Rebound returned for a final game Wednesday, determined to leave on his own terms the game he loves.

### OPINION

**Yield right-of-way:** Trans IV's woes could be good news for Magic Valley's public transportation, today's editorial says.

### SECTION BY SECTION

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### CLASSIFIED

Log on to...  
The Times-News  
733-0931  
677-1182

# Craters proposal irks delegation

By Michael Journee  
Times-News writer

**TWIN FALLS** - Any initiative to expand Craters of the Moon National Monument should take into account local public opinion, aides for Idaho's congressional delegation said Wednesday.

## But Clinton has the authority to make the change

Little their Republican bosses can do to stop any Clinton administration move that could put more of the unique lava landscape south of Arco under more strict federal management.

Wallace said, referring to the unilateral ability Babbitt and Clinton have to declare the Great Rift a federal monument. "The communities involved have to deal with all these federal regulations; so they've got to be included."

land into a national monument has worried Idaho's congressional delegation for years.

They watched apprehensively as the president signed orders to add more than 1 million acres in Arizona and California under national monument protection this year. And led by Craig, they blasted Clinton's 1996 designation.

# WHERE TERROR BEFELL A NATION



Part of the Oklahoma City National Memorial in Oklahoma City includes duplicate chairs, each with the name of one of the 168 victims of the bombing.

# Families, Clinton help dedicate memorial

**OKLAHOMA CITY** - Church bells chimed on streets that once rang with a bomb's blast. Children saw their reflections in a calm pool where there was once an ugly crater. And families found serenity Wednesday in a place that has haunted them for five years.

**Another anniversary - A3**  
The name of her late father, bombing victim Paul Broxerman. The chairs soon overflowed with flowers as thousands came for the first of two ceremonies to dedicate the Oklahoma City National Memorial at the site of the federal building.

Clinton dedicated the memorial with the promise that "America will never forget" the suffering inflicted by the bombing.

Just blocks away, Terry Nichols sat isolated in an Oklahoma County Jail cell awaiting an August preliminary hearing on 160 state counts of first-degree murder in the attack.

# Corps reportedly held dam report

Top official ordered engineers to delay

**WASHINGTON** - Just before the Army Corps of Engineers was scheduled to recommend against breaching four Snake River dams, senior Army officials last fall ordered the corps to withhold the recommendation, officials said Wednesday.

# High court confronts challenge to Miranda ruling

**WASHINGTON** - The Supreme Court seemed split Wednesday as it considered whether police still must warn criminal suspects of their "right to remain silent" when questioned or else risk getting confessions excluded as evidence.

**'You have the right...' - A2**  
Kennedy, wrestled with whether such warnings, required since the court's landmark 1966 ruling in *Miranda v. Arizona*, are constitutionally mandated.

Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist and Justice Antonin Scalia seemed willing to jettison the *Miranda* warnings.

A federal appeals court last year threw the warnings' future into doubt, ruling that Congress effectively overturned the *Miranda* decision by enacting a long-ignored 1968 law known as Section 3501.

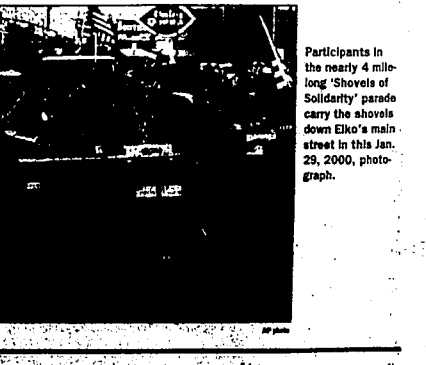
# Elko County donates shovels

Liability fears result in gift to Jarbidge road organization

**ELKO, Nev.** - Citing liability concerns, Elko County commissioners have decided to give more than 10,000 shovels to the Jarbidge Shovel Brigade Corp.

**Final...**  
A... and rifle...  
online at jarbidge@ctnla.com.

and suggested it was time to give them away.



Participants in the nearly 4-mile-long 'Shovels of Solidarity' parade carry the shovels down Elko's main street in this Jan. 29, 2000, photograph.

# THE REGION

### Camas Prairie

High: 60 Low: 36  
Partly cloudy today and tonight with chance of showers. Same Friday, but warmer, high 65.

### Treasure Valley

High: 72 Low: 46  
Partly cloudy today and tonight with light winds. Same Friday, but warmer, high 78.

### Sawtooth Mountains/Wood River Valley

High: 65 Low: 37  
Partly cloudy today with some clearing tonight. Partly cloudy Friday, high 69.

### Eastern Idaho

High: 67 Low: 40  
Partly cloudy today, mostly cloudy and breezy. Some clearing tonight. Partly cloudy Friday, high 75.

### Northern Idaho

High: 65 Low: 44  
Partly cloudy today with some clearing tonight. Partly cloudy Friday, high 69.

### Northern Utah

High: 68 Low: 47  
Partly cloudy today and tonight with good chance of showers. Partly cloudy Friday, high 77.

### Northern Nevada

High: 69 Low: 42  
Partly cloudy today and tonight with light winds. Same Friday, but warmer, high 77.

# MAGIC VALLEY FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Today	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
High 68 Low 43 Partly cloudy with light winds. Same tonight.	High 75 Low 45 Partly cloudy and warmer.	High 60 Low 40s Mostly cloudy.	High 60s Low 40s Mostly cloudy with chance of showers.	High 60s Low 40s Mostly cloudy with chance of showers.

# YESTERDAY'S WEATHER

Twin Falls	Precipitation	Yield in Twin Falls
Wind: 58-41	0.00	15
Last year: 60-45	0.00	14
Normal: 66-36	0.00	61
	Water year to date:	6.86
	Normal year to date:	8.74

# Idaho

City	Max	Min	Pcp	Idaho High/Low
Boise	66	48	16	degrees at Lowell.
Burley	55	44	25	Low: 32 degrees at
Coeur d'Alene	70	43	...	Staley, Idaho.
Grangeville	m	...	...	Nations High: 102 at
Hagerman	m	...	...	Lattus, Texas, low.
Idaho Falls	58	39	110	21 at Craig, Colo. 11
Leaviston	70	51	...	
Malad	56	m	...	
Malia	57	41	...	
McCall	59	32	04	Comfort factors
Pocatello	56	41	23	Noon humidity: 80%
Salmon	66	46	...	Noon barometer: 30.08
San Valley	48	32	02	Pollen and mold counts:
Stanley	m	...	...	Pollen: 166, high oak,
				box elder, arbor vitae,
				cherrybloss, Mold: 870,
				low moldspores,
				Asthma & Allergy

# Idaho weather

Thursday, April 20  
AccuWeather forecast for daytime conditions, high/low temperatures

AccuWeather forecast for 6-day time conditions, high/low temperatures

AccuWeather, Inc.

# National weather

The AccuWeather forecast for noon, Thursday, April 20.  
The internet address for Idaho Transportation Department road reports is: <http://www.state.id.gov/tra-road/index.html>

FRONTS: High, Low, Showers, Rain, Extreme Heat, Snow, Ice, Stormy, Pt. Cloudy, Cloudy

Tune to the National Weather Service radio band at VHF-FM 162.4 or 162.55 MHz. The internet address for Idaho Transportation Department road reports is: <http://www.state.id.gov/tra-road/index.html>

# The Nation

City	Max	Min	Pcp
Albuquerque	65	44	...
Anchorage	44	26	02
Atlanta	62	43	...
Boston	43	41	53
Chicago	57	47	06
Dallas	69	49	...
Denver	56	38	11
Des Moines	53	54	m
Detroit	57	43	...
Honolulu	82	72	...
Houston	69	49	...
Indianapolis	64	49	...
Kansas City	64	49	...
Las Vegas	69	51	...
Los Angeles	89	69	...
Memphis	85	61	m
Miami Beach	86	61	m
Milwaukee	46	40	50
Minneapolis	51	47	28
New Orleans	66	64	...
New York	59	43	...
Oklahoma City	67	47	...
Omaha	77	67	...
Phoenix	79	58	...
Pittsburgh	53	48	m
Portland, Me.	43	48	m
Portland, Ore.	63	44	...
Reno	63	40	m
St. Louis	55	57	...
Salt Lake City	84	43	...
San Francisco	64	40	...
Seattle	60	45	...
Spokane	67	47	...
Washington	67	47	...
Yuma	81	55	...

# UV INDEX

Index: 2 (minimal)  
Sun: 15-20  
60 minutes

# ROAD INFORMATION

Call the following number for road conditions in Idaho: 1-888-IDA-ROAD (1-888-432-7623).

# SKYWATCH

Sunset today: 8:25 p.m.  
Sunrise tomorrow: 6:49 a.m.  
Lunar phase: Last quarter, April 20; new, May 3; first quarter, May 10; full, May 18.

# ACROSS THE NATION

Idaho: The low pressure system that brought the rain to southern Idaho Tuesday was moving eastward on Wednesday. High pressure has moved into the western part of Idaho but will be slow to reach the eastern areas. Warmer weather with mostly sunny skies is expected late this week. Elsewhere: Clouds darkened much of the Northeast on Wednesday, while the Southeast was partly clear. Rain fell on the Plains. A low pressure system off the Atlantic Coast continued to push farther away from the United States. Skies remained mostly cloudy along the Mid-Atlantic Coast northward into New England. High pressure centered over the Tennessee Valley brought mostly clear to partly cloudy skies and dry conditions to the Southeast, lower Ohio Valley, lower Mississippi Valley and western Gulf Coast, and into the eastern Great Lakes regions. Further west, more showers and clouds spread through the northern Plains and central Rocky Mountains. Snow showers continued to fall over portions of western South Dakota and Nebraska. —The Associated Press

# Court keeps Elian in U.S. for now

MIAMI (AP) — Chastising the government for ignoring the wishes of a 6-year-old boy, a federal appeals panel on Wednesday ordered that Elian Gonzalez must remain in the United States until the court decides whether he should get an asylum hearing. The court action, extending an earlier stay granted by one of the judges, marked the latest in a series of victories for Elian's Miami relatives, who have been battling his Cuban father in an international tug-of-war over the child. The order, however, does not prevent the government from reuniting father and son in the United States.

# Craters

Continued from A1  
of 1.7 million acres in southern Utah as a national monument, calling it a unilateral action that ignored public wishes. But there's little they can do. A 1906 law, approved by Congress, gave then-President Teddy Roosevelt the authority to protect the land that eventually became Grand Canyon National Park. Fourteen of Roosevelt's 17 successors have used the power to make 100 designations around the country. Clinton is using his executive power in an attempt to create an environmental legacy during his last months in office. All along, the delegation vocally sympathized with counterparts across the West who struggled to have the administration consider local residents' and politicians' opinions when designating federal land as national monuments. Babette's visit Tuesday to the Great Basin National Park Craters brought the national monument issue closer to home. "It's business as usual," Craig's press secretary Mike Tracy said. "They're just doing it on their own." The Idaho delegation has tried to blunt the president's power by flooding legislation to amend the Antiquities Act — the law giving the president power to designate national monuments. They want a congressional check on the president's authority. In fact, a bill drafted by Simpson is under consideration in a House committee. But prospects for Simpson's bill are slim. A similar bill, drafted by Simpson two years ago, died in a Senate committee. Although 22 House members have signed on as co-sponsors of Simpson's bill, Tracy said any measure dealing with the Antiquities Act won't make it past Clinton's veto. "We'll continue to work on it. And if a new, more sympathetic administration comes in, we'll be able to move on it early next year," Tracy said. Times-News political reporter Mike Journee can be reached at (208) 733-0931 Ext. 231 or by e-mail at mjournee@magicvalley.com

# Court

Continued from A1  
tion's top-ranking courtroom lawyer, told the justices that Section 3501 must be struck down because "the case has not been able to override Miranda." But Paul Cassell, University of Utah law professor, argued that police procedures need not necessarily change if the court is to rule that Miranda's guidelines have been superseded. "Congress has now stepped in ... (with) a more nuanced approach," he said. "You don't have to satisfy every jot and tittle in Miranda." He came under repeated questioning from Ginsburg, who said she viewed the Miranda ruling as an attempt to protect "a discrete right — a procedural right if you will, but a constitutional right." Far more liberal in 1966 than it is today, the nation's highest court sought to remedy "inherent

# Pentagon chief says he'll assist, not hinder, soldiers getting food stamps

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense Secretary William Cohen rejected a proposal that would have made some of the lowest-paid soldiers ineligible for food stamps, saying he would do the opposite. In a three-paragraph statement, Cohen said he will work with the Agriculture Department to try to get a change in the way eligibility is calculated. The announcement followed a howl of disapproval from soldiers and others over a proposal that would have made the income of service members already getting food stamps look higher on paper — and so get them kicked off assistance rolls. Vice President Al Gore weighed in, saying he will make his own recommendations to "eliminate the kinds of conditions that require soldiers to make ends meet by relying on food stamps." Republican rival George W. Bush has deplored the idea that any U.S. soldier would have to receive such assistance. Critics suggested the earlier idea was designed to nip a problem that has caused embarrassment for the military — the specter of uniformed members of the service of the country found to seek help to feed their families.

# Dams

Continued from A1  
"It appears to us the administration stopped the corps of engineers from making a major faux pas," he said. George Frampton, who heads the White House Council on Environmental Quality, declined to comment Wednesday after the story was first reported in The Washington Times. Officials at the corps' northwest office in Portland, Ore., also declined to comment and referred media inquiries to the Army. The National Marine Fisheries Service in 1995 ordered the corps to study the possible removal of the Snake River dams to help what at the time were three Snake River salmon stocks listed under the Endangered Species Act. Thirteen fish stocks are now listed in the Columbia Basin. The scenarios the corps examined in a four-year, \$20 million study were to leave the Ice Harbor, Lower Monumental,

# Shovels

Continued from A1  
determined first. Esperance also asked if some of those whose shovels could be kept out of the donation, and used for other purposes. One specially painted shovel came from a long-time ranching family in western Nevada. Esperance said he would like to display it at his residence in Humboldt County. Marion McKenzie, a volunteer for the Shovel Brigade, said shovels would be taken to Jarbidge for the opening. But after that, the shovels' future is unclear. They might be auctioned off after July 4, she said, but no firm decision has been made. The U.S. Forest Service decision to close South Canyon Road, an attempt to protect habitat for scarce bull trout in the Jarbidge River, turned Jarbidge into a flashpoint in the debate over federal land policies in the West. Last week's decision to donate shovels comes as organizers are making plans to try to reopen the South Canyon Road on July 4 and as law enforcement is sounding some concerns about the potential for trouble at the event. Demar Dahl, an organizer of the event, said a large crowd is expected, and organizers are starting to look at security, medical aid and cleanup issues. One concern, he said, is a possible "logjam" of people and vehicles in the narrow canyon. Organizers are hoping to have participants meet at a meeting near the Teton Creek School in southern Twin Falls County. From there, participants will be transported by small groups into the canyon where, he said, people will be "able to take shovels in hand and move some dirt." Meanwhile, Elko County Sheriff Neil Harris said he is concerned that the event could attract other groups into the area, increasing the potential for trouble. With the holiday, and the reopening, falling on a Tuesday, some participants may make a four-day event out of it, arriving in Jarbidge during the weekend. "I don't have enough personnel to cover a four-day event," he said. Dahl said the shovel brigade group wants to pay its own way, and try to limit the reopening to one-day event. He said he will meet with Nevada and Idaho law enforcement agencies to discuss details.

### Circulation

Daniel Waloek, circulation director  
Circulation phone lines are open between 7 and 10 a.m. only. If you do not receive your paper by 7 a.m., call the number for your area:  
Burley-Rupert: Paul Oakley 677-4042  
Twin Falls: 733-0931  
and other areas: 733-0931

### Subscription rates

Home delivery: daily and Sunday, \$4 per week; Sunday only, \$2.00 per week. Mail subscriptions must be paid in advance and are available only where delivery is not maintained. Mail rates: All Idaho residents, daily and Sunday \$6.00 per week, daily only \$4.00 per week, Sunday only \$3.00 per week. Out of state rates: daily and Sunday \$7.00 per week, daily only \$5.00 per week, Sunday only \$3.50 per week. Sales included in all above rates. A \$15.00 charge will be levied for all returned checks.

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<b>SKI INFO LINE</b>	<b>LOTTERY NUMBERS</b>	<b>WEATHER FORECAST</b>
Free 1	Free 2	Free 3

### LOTTERY UPDATE

As of Monday, March 27, The Idaho Lottery scratch game Riverboat Riches has ended.

You have until Sept. 23, 2000 to claim any remaining prizes.

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### POWERBALL

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2000  
3 8 9 20 49  
POWERBALL NUMBER 22

# Study: Healing improves if victims can't sue

The Associated Press

No pain, no gain? People hurt in traffic accidents actually recover better when they can't collect money for their pain and suffering, researchers say.

The Canadian researchers say policy makers should consider no-fault insurance as a prescription for treating whiplash.

The study, which analyzed whiplash claims when the province of Saskatchewan switched to a no-fault system, supplies a strong medical argument for such a system, the researchers said in their report, published in today's issue of The New England Journal of Medicine.

A total of 13 U.S. states have adopted no-fault auto insurance laws, which generally let policy holders recover, benefits regardless of fault and restrict the right to sue. Massachusetts was the first to adopt such a system in

1971. Dr. Richard Deyo, who does cost-benefit analyses at the University of Washington, wrote in a journal editorial that there may be several reasons that people report fewer symptoms under no fault. He said some people fraudulently exaggerate whiplash when they can win pain and suffering awards.

Conversely, under no-fault, some may feel - consciously or not - that it's not worth fussing about pain with no financial return, and they suffer in silence. But Deyo said many also seem to feel better. "It seems axiomatic that if you have to prove you are ill, you can't get well," he said.

## NATION

# Cost estimates jump for nation's nuclear weapons program cleanup

WASHINGTON (AP) - Cleaning up environmental damage from the nation's nuclear weapons program will cost between \$168 billion and \$212 billion, or up to 44 percent more than the Energy Department estimated two years ago, a new agency report says.

The figures include a 31 percent rise to \$21.4 billion at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory - a \$5.1 billion increase from 1998. Cost estimates for handling highly radioactive waste there shot up by \$7.5 million to follow recommendations in a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers report. The cleanup deadline of 2050 remained unchanged.

Seventeen nuclear sites will take as much as a decade longer to clean up, while the department hopes to clean up five more quickly than its 1998 estimates, according to the report released last week.

Energy Department officials say their estimates changed because they now have a better idea how contaminated the sites are and what it will take to clean them up.

"The numbers this year were more accurate and realistic. That was the difference," department

### Cleanup estimates

-\$1.2 billion to clean up Hanford, where the estimated end of the cleanup in 2045 was unchanged.

-\$39.6 billion to clean up Savannah River, down from \$46.3 billion in 1998. The cleanup deadline of 2038 was unchanged.

-\$7.7 billion to clean up Rocky Flats, where the plutonium triggers for nuclear weapons were made until 1992. The latest estimate is up from \$7.3 billion in 1998, while the department hopes to finish the

-\$2.9 billion to clean up Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico, up from \$1.2 billion in 1998. Plans now call for the cleanup to be finished in 2015 instead of 2017.

-\$284 million to clean up the Sandia National Laboratories in New Mexico, more than double the 1998 estimate of \$103 million. The cleanup deadline has been moved back to 2005 from 2001. The report said officials found more contamination at Sandia, driving up costs and delaying the cleanup.

tons of weapons-grade plutonium. The increased cost estimates are no surprise, said David Adelman, a lawyer for the Natural Resources Defense Council.

"The DOE has had to admit some failures... and be a little more realistic about the complexity of the problem," said Adelman, who monitors the nuclear cleanup for the environmental group. Those failures, he said, included attempts to use new cleanup technology at Savannah River, Hanford and Idaho that did not work.

spokesman Tom Welch said Wednesday.

The current and former nuclear weapons sites include some of the most highly radioactive areas in the country, such as the INEL, Hanford nuclear reservation in Washington state, Savannah River in South Carolina and Rocky Flats near Denver.

The department is responsible for cleaning up 1.7 trillion gallons of contaminated groundwater, 100 million gallons of highly radioactive liquid, 2,000 tons of spent nuclear fuel and 18 metric

# Columbine families ask networks to show restraint

NEW YORK (AP) - Television networks are wrestling with how to mark today's first anniversary of the Columbine school massacre while responding to pleas from some families of victims to show restraint.

ABC, CBS and NBC are all expected to devote much of their morning news shows to Columbine High School, where two teen gunmen killed 12 students and a teacher before killing themselves on April 20, 1999. Students and school officials in Littleton, Colo., have asked that cameras and all outsiders be kept away from Columbine, where a private memorial service will be held. Public remembrances are planned for the adjacent Clement Park and Denver. Some parents of shooting victims have also

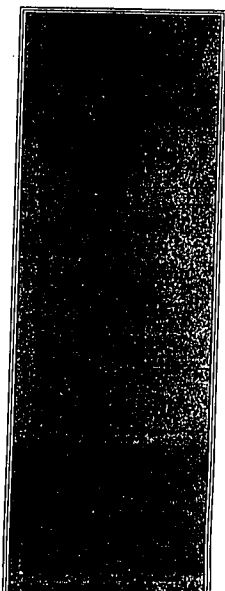
asked the news media to refrain from showing pictures of the attack.

CNN and ABC's "Good Morning America" will have reporters in Littleton, but both decided not to send anchors.

Some family members affected by the tragedy have simply decided to leave town rather than mark the anniversary, ABC's Ross said.

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NATION

# White House plan could mean fewer water projects

Know the score  
Times-News sports

WASHINGTON (AP) - The potential environmental damage caused by government construction along fragile rivers and coastlines would play a larger role in the approval of levee, dam and other water projects under a proposal being circulated by the White House.

The proposed policy changes intended to preserve wetlands were included in a draft memorandum from President Clinton

that was obtained this week by The Associated Press. The memo was sent late last month to several top administration officials for their review.

It is especially aimed at the Army Corps of Engineers, the beleaguered agency that oversees river construction and flood control but has recently been buffeted by charges that top officials triggered data to make a \$1-billion Mississippi River lock-expansion project appear economically justified.

Entitled "Enhanced Protection of Wetlands and Water Resources," the draft memo calls for environmental impact to receive as much attention as economic benefit when new projects are considered, likely meaning fewer would be approved. Several dozen members of Congress from both parties, most of them from the upper

Mississippi River region, sent a letter to Clinton objecting to the proposal. "The new revisions would make it impossible to build another port authority, improve another levee or maintain existing drainage structures," Rep. Jo Ann Emerson, R-Mo., said last week at a Mississippi River Commission hearing.

Though the proposal was in the works long before the allegations

about the Mississippi River project became public, Scott Faber with the conservation group American Rivers said those charges make the memo more timely.

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# Gore announces tougher standards for water heaters

WASHINGTON (AP) - The government is proposing tougher efficiency standards for residential water heaters, Vice President Al Gore announced Wednesday, the latest in a number of environmental initiatives from Gore's office as Earth Day approaches.

Earlier in the week, the

Democratic presidential candidate announced a proposal to protect drinking water.

The new standards for water heaters, being developed by the Energy Department, will reduce costs for consumers and keep millions of tons of greenhouse gases from reaching the atmosphere, Gore said in a statement.

The final water heater standard, if finished later this year, would go into effect in 2004.

Gore says the more-efficient water heaters will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 35 million metric tons over 20 years, equal to taking 28 million cars off the road, and help curtail the prospects of global warming.

Americans spend \$20 billion a year to heat water, which accounts for 14 percent of all household energy requirements, Gore noted in a news release. Over the typical 12-year life of a water heater, the average consumer would save about \$100, the Energy Department estimates.

# Report: Home lending to poorer Americans rises

WASHINGTON (AP) - Lending to poorer Americans to buy homes rose sharply during the 1990s, according to a Treasury Department report released Wednesday.

The report, required by Congress, found that banks and other financial institutions covered by a community lending law made a total of \$467 billion in mortgage loans to low- and moderate-income borrowers between 1993 and 1998.

In just 1998, these institutions made \$135 billion in mortgage loans to these borrowers, an 80 percent increase over such lending in 1993, the report said.

Banks, thrifts and other financial institutions that are federally insured are covered by the 1977

law called the Community Reinvestment Act. It requires banks to make loans in low-income and minority areas in which they operate.

The report said that in 84 percent of the metropolitan areas reviewed, lenders covered by the CRA raised the share of their mortgage lending to poorer borrowers and communities.

"This study is further evidence that a strong Community Reinvestment Act is critical to ensuring that all neighborhoods are part of our national economic prosperity," said Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers.

A dispute over the community lending law last year threatened to scuttle legislation overhauling the financial services industries.

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# Drug czar launches early strike

WASHINGTON (AP) - National drug policy director Barry McCaffrey, a former Army general, is defending himself against allegations that his troops committed war crimes in the Persian Gulf - before any accusations have been made publicly.

McCaffrey is trying to head off a planned article by Seymour Hersh for The New Yorker magazine that the retired four-star general believes may contain "alarming and defamatory allegations."

McCaffrey said Tuesday that Hersh, who won a Pulitzer Prize in 1969 for exposing the My Lai massacre in Vietnam, has been spreading false stories during interviews with friends and former military colleagues.

Among them: assertions that troops led by McCaffrey killed Iraqi prisoners of war and committed other crimes covered up by the Army; that McCaffrey committed several unspecified felonies in the Vietnam War; and that he acted inappropriately in developing the Clinton administration's proposal for a \$1.6 billion anti-drug aid package for Colombia.

Hersh said Tuesday he had no comment about work not yet published. A New Yorker spokeswoman said the magazine stands by his reporting but wouldn't say what the story was about.

McCaffrey concedes he doesn't know what will end up in the magazine, but accuses Hersh of malice and "journalistic stalking."

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# Canadian boy faces cyber-attack charges

**MONTREAL** - A 15-year-old boy working under the computer name *Maifinity* has been charged with two counts of mischief for disabling the CNN Internet site for four hours, police said Wednesday.

The Feb. 8 attack was one of several on major international Web sites in recent months that highlighted the security risks of the high-tech age.

The young suspect - arrested Saturday in a joint investigation with the FBI - boasted in Internet chat rooms frequented by hackers that he was responsible for a number of the attacks, Inspector

### World in brief

**Yves Roussel** of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police said. But despite his on-line boasts, he so far has only been charged in the attack on CNN.

### Searchers find Philippine aircraft's voice recorder

**SAMAL**, Philippines - With plastic garbage bags wrapped around his hands as makeshift gloves, Mike Salaguinto searched smoldering debris and coconut palms for charred remains of the

131 victims of Wednesday's Air Philippines crash.

"I have a friend in this plane. But I'm not thinking any more of whether I will find her, I'm just picking up whatever I can find," the airman said. "I can't count how many bodies I've found."

The Boeing 737-200 crash's cause was uncertain, but officials said there were foggy conditions in the area. Searchers found the plane's voice recorder, but the flight data recorder remained buried.

Many of the passengers were traveling home for Easter.

- compiled from wire reports

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# Stress Awareness

## Techniques for Handling Stress from the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center

### Physical Exercise

Many people who engage in athletics, be it jogging, tennis, racquetball, golf, bowling, etc., will tell you that there is nothing more relaxing than strenuous exercise. Not only does it provide valuable physical fitness, but allows your mind to free itself from stress - unless you become stressed because your performance is not up to par.

### Take Walks

Walking is an excellent way to overcome stress. Not only is it a form of physical activity, but when done in soothing surroundings (i.e. park, country lane, lake) you can allow your mind to wander as your feet do.

### Avoid Fatigue

Get your normal sleep requirements each night.

### Warm Water

Shower or bathe with warm water to soothe and calm your nerves.

### Balance Work & Play

"All work and no play can make Jack pretty uptight." Plan some time each week (each day if possible) for hobbies and recreation.

### Learn Acceptance

Sometimes a difficult problem is out of our control. When this occurs it is best to accept it until changes can be made.

### Help Others

We tend to concentrate too much on ourselves when distressed. Sometimes getting away from our own needs and helping another person is the perfect remedy for whatever is troubling us.

### Temporary Escape

When you feel you are getting nowhere with a problem, a temporary diversion can be helpful. Such things as going to a movie, reading a book, visiting a museum, taking a drive, etc. can help you get out of a rut.

### Scramble Your Day

Alter your stress trigger mechanisms by doing things differently. Juxtapose your daily routines.

### Talk About Your Troubles

It sometimes helps to talk over difficulties with a friend or relative. When a serious problem is involved, a professional may be the one to see. Another person can often help you see a problem from a different perspective.

### Laughter is a fun way to relieve stress!

- Pop some popcorn without putting the lid on.
- When someone says "Have a nice day!" tell them you have other plans.
- Forget the Diet Center and send yourself a candygram.
- Make a list of things to do that you've already done.
- Tattoo "out to lunch" on your forehead.
- Pay your electric bill in pennies.
- Drive to work in reverse.
- Polish your car with ear wax.
- Read the dictionary upside down and look for secret messages.
- Bill your doctor for the time spent in the waiting room.
- Write a short story, using alphabet soup.
- Make up a language and ask people for directions.
- Braid the hairs in each nostril.

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## EDITORIAL

### Trans IV's grant loss could aid MV public transportation

No one should grieve over news that the Trans IV bus system has lost a \$60,000 federal grant for transporting senior citizens. An inefficient bus system has lost a key subsidy, but its nimble and more customer-oriented competitors have gained a golden opportunity.

The result can only be good news over the long haul.

You've probably seen Trans IV buses around Twin Falls. They're the ones with few passengers or none at all. Using large vehicles to transport small number of people is no way to run a railroad, particularly when fuel prices are high.

Since 1997, Trans IV has gotten federal grants which subsidize the cost of transporting senior citizens. Eligibility requirements for the grant changed this year, and Trans IV didn't apply. The upshot is that four smaller entities - three of them with a direct focus on senior citizens - will share the money; the fourth is a Twin Falls cab company. Instead of just a bus at the curb, these companies will likely provide better customer service for seniors.

That's what smaller, nimbler competitors do when they're wrestling business away from larger, less-responsive enterprises. Instead of operating a big bus, the grant's new recipients will use smaller vehicles and provide additional

services that patrons really need - helping them to their door, carrying their groceries and providing service as needed.

Fortunately, this evolution can occur in the Magic Valley with relatively little pain. Twin Falls and other communities have not made the mistake of underwriting public transportation systems in a large way. That's appropriate because private vehicles are the transportation mode of choice in this valley.

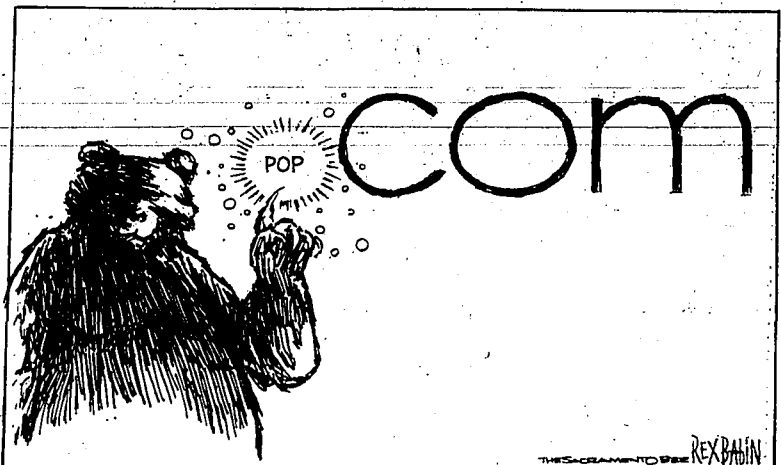
Public transit systems often are black holes for public money. To operate on a sustainable basis, their prices must reflect the actual cost of doing business.

Local patrons of public transportation are fortunate because they aren't wedded to an outdated system. Because of that, they can look forward to innovative new providers that meet their needs.

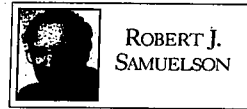
The fundamental change is to tailor service to fit the customer's needs. Trans IV is less flexible than some of its competitors, so it will lose out on this year's grant. That will make life tougher for Trans IV, but it will give nimbler transportation providers a chance to show what they can do.

Some of the grant's new recipients may flourish, others may founder. The only way to find out is to give them a chance. Each of them should make the most of it.

*Though Trans IV lost out on a \$60,000 federal grant, nimbler transportation providers now have a chance to show what they can do.*



## Is trouble brewing on Wall Street?



ROBERT J. SAMUELSON

Since the mid-1990s, the American economy has adhered to a pleasurable cycle of higher confidence, spending, jobs and profits. The rising stock market has played a critical role in this chain reaction, transforming growing confidence into greater financial wealth, which in turn improved consumer spending, job creation, profits and investment. Good news fed on itself. Governments at all levels enjoyed unexpected tax windfalls. Federal budget deficits turned into surpluses. The central economic question now is whether the weakening stock market has broken this comforting cycle and, if so, what are the possibilities.

Generally speaking, there are four possibilities: (a) nothing much changes - confidence and stock prices rebound, sustaining strong consumer spending and job growth; (b) the cycle is broken, but the effects are mild and helpful - slower consumer spending diminishes inflationary pressures; (c) the cycle is broken, but instead of a sharp recession, the economy settles into a long period of sluggish growth (much like Japan's stagnation in the 1990s); or (d) the economy experiences a sharp recession - falling stock prices depress confidence, consumer spending, profits and investment.

No one knows which possibility will occur. Since World War II, most business cycles have submitted to the strengths and weaknesses of government policies (easy credit, tight credit and the like). By contrast, private passions and private markets have largely regulated this cycle. That's one reason why it's been so unpredictable. Given the economy's record of resilience, the first possibility that nothing happens is conceivable. After all, Asia's financial crisis barely disturbed growth, and previous stock plunges had little lasting effect. Recall: on Oct. 27, 1997, the Dow dropped 554 points, or 7.2 percent; on Aug. 31, 1998, it declined 513 points, 6.4 percent.

Still, this latest episode is troubling. Since market indexes hit historic highs earlier this year, there seems to be a pattern. Some bit of bad news causes a sharp drop. The market recovers some (but not all) of its losses. Then something else re-triggers the pattern. Other factors also argue against the kindest outcome. For starters, market speculation had intensified over the past year. Prices of some stocks (famously, many dot-coms) rose to preposterous levels, on the faith that stocks could be sold at ever-higher prices. This implies that the confidence (and wealth) based on some recent stock gains was increasingly artificial.

Lower stock prices also threaten the huge flow of cheap capital to high-tech companies. It has financed new hiring, computer purchases, office construction and splashy advertisements. This spending may slow. Some start-up companies will exhaust funds. Presumably, they will go out of business or merge into wealthier firms. Finally, there's the Federal Reserve. In 1999, it lowered interest rates to offset the effect of the economic crisis abroad. By contrast, the Fed has been raising rates since mid-1999 to prevent the spending boom from igniting inflation.

All this suggests that the economy will weaken - but not by how much. Considering its strength (in the fourth quarter, gross domestic product grew at an annual rate of 7.3 percent, a slight slowdown would be a godsend if it restrained inflation. But a severe slowdown would be something else. The "how much" question may depend largely

ly on two factors. The first is the rest of the world. Elsewhere, the economic outlook has improved. In 2000, Europe's economy may grow 3.2 percent, forecasts the International Monetary Fund. Asia's (outside of Japan) may grow roughly 6 percent. This growth - assuming it no longer depends exclusively on exports to the United States - would help. American exports would strengthen just as domestic spending was softening.

But what counts more is the psychology of the American consumer. Almost everything that's supposed to be "new" about the New Economy has happened before. Despite computers, productivity gains (increases in efficiency) were larger in the 1950s than in the 1990s. Unemployment was lower in the late 1960s than now. The one truly distinctive feature of the New Economy is that consumers - as a group - have virtually stopped saving. In 1991, the personal savings rate (savings as a share of after-tax income) was 8.3 percent; in 1999, it was 2.3 percent.

Every percentage point drop in the savings rate is worth about \$66 billion in extra consumer spending. Americans may still make deposits in savings accounts or 401(k) plans. But consumers offset these savings by borrowing or by spending stock profits. It is this spending spree - based heavily on people's stock wealth - that has expanded the economy, profits and hiring.

The point is that the stock market's drop can't be dismissed because "the economy's fundamentals are strong." The market is one of the fundamentals. If the market doesn't upset consumers, the boom continues. If the market terrifies consumers, the boom stops. Between those extremes, there are endless possibilities.

Robert J. Samuelson is a Newsweek columnist.

## The Times-News

Stephen Hartgen, Publisher  
Clark Walworth, Managing Editor  
Mike Smith, Advertising Director  
The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Stephen Hartgen, William Brock, Clark Walworth, Steve Crump, Kevin Richert and Dan Fields.

## LETTERS

### Officials conceal violations

The headline article of April 14 addressing the serious problem of nitrates in the flowing springs in Gooding County raises certain questions.

It should be noted that the county has zoning laws requiring minimum construction standards including the intended purpose of protecting ground waters.

However, why are we creating more expense to the taxpayers while allowing certain privileged persons to violate the zoning in the interests of personal gain? It is very provable by public records that certain persons do not need required permits, do not have to meet minimum standards of construction and they may also receive a permit for development that is in violation of the zoning ordinance.

A further question is why nothing is done in these cases by the responsible officials to enforce the zoning ordinance when complaints are made. In fact, they actively pursue the concealment of said violations that obviously benefit select persons at the expense of the general public.

RICHARD DAHL  
Hagerman

### Reid stands for what's right

Shame on Jim Weaver and his people for resorting to name-calling and character attacks on Chief Reid in the North Side News this week. Perhaps Mr. Colley should accuse Chief Bill. Then he would realize Bill is a veteran of the Vietnam War, a husband of his wife Linda for more than 30 years, a devoted Idaho lawman, and a true Republican. He belongs to the National Rifle Association and supports the rights of

free people; he does what is right and good for Jerome city and county, and that he perhaps is out of the norm of what we have seen in the recent past as sheriff and we need that.

Knowing Bill and his family over the past years, I can say that he is a fine and honorable man. His word is as good as written contracts, and he will support his friends, co-workers and subordinates regardless of the personal costs when the cause is just. I have seen this in action.

Bill believes that Jerome County's taxes should not pay for Jerome County patrol cars to sit at the out-of-county vacation homes of wealthy out-of-state campaign contributors where a deputy lives rent free and drives back and forth to work on our tax dollars. As sheriff, I know Bill Reid would put Jerome back into the sheriff's office in a lot of respects. That must be the type of "different drummer" Mr. Colley says Bill Reid marches to. I think he should march ahead, head held high and unrepentant, don't you?

When I look at the two Republican candidates for sheriff, I see one who ran once on the Democratic ticket against Elna Hall a few years back, lost and returned to his home state for a few more years. Bill Reid worked as a deputy under Sheriff Hall and was a pallbearer for Sheriff Hall in death. I see Bill Reid as a man who has remained steadfast in the political wind's direction. Bill is devoted to his beliefs, stands by his decisions and fights for what is right. Not everyone can say that in the current campaign, can they? On May 23 when I cast my vote for Bill Reid to be our next sheriff in Jerome County, I'll know my vote counted for something.

RHONDA CHATTERTON  
Jerome

### Add these to the list

Fifteen years ago, I was walking in the desert and saw red spots in the snow. It was rabbit urine. To be exact, jackrabbit urine. The federal government has concocted a urinary disease that affects only rabbits.

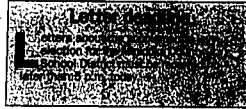
Today, the Snake River Canyon around Twin Falls is devoid of golden eagles. To help our ranchers, you can add two more species to the list of Indians, buffalo, grasslands and mustangs.

BOB BERENTZ  
Jerome

### No respect for the dead

It is appalling that anyone would drive a vehicle in a funeral procession for an ex-sheriff which had plastered to the windshields on both sides a placard, "Vote for Bill Reid for sheriff." No respect for the dead! I know he has no respect for women (the sexual harassment, etc.; law-

## LETTERS



suit is pending). As of Friday, he had no POST certification. How much longer will the mayor and City Council play games and let him draw \$36,000 or more per year? We taxpayers are being robbed.

I've been told by the mayor there will be a meeting to review the recent proposed pay raises for city employees on Wednesday. All citizens should attend this meeting and give "input", \$41,220 plus benefits for a clerk salary is outrageous (regardless of how efficient and terrific an employee the clerk is). Not even the sheriff or our great chief of

police make that much! Compare responsibilities! Or is there some favoritism? Other city clerks in this area earn from \$20,000 to \$30,000. Surely the mayor and City Council know any large increases will result in increased taxes again. And everybody in town received property tax increases for the city except Mayor Moore (he says he didn't get an increase).

Every citizen in Jerome should show up on Wednesday and keep taxes from exploding.

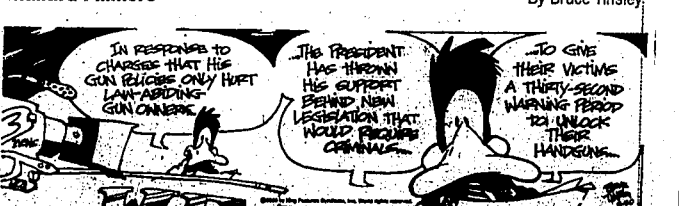
XENIA WILLIAMS  
Jerome

Big mistake at Smith & Wesson. Ed Shuler, in my humble opinion, you at Smith & Wesson made a big mistake. You tried to take the rest of the firearms industry with you. Shame, shame on you! KEN CLIVER  
Twin Falls

### Doonesbury



### Mallard Fillmore



OPINION

# Making the case for marriage



ANDY ROONEY

About half the people who are married every year end up getting divorced. In the past 20 years, young people, often leery of marriage after having seen their parents' divorce, have been living together for a few years first, to see if it works. It's sort of a compromise between a legal marriage that's hard to get out of and just sleeping together, which isn't approved of by the churches, governments or the families.

Recently, the French Parliament legalized a new relationship between two people that's halfway between marriage and a simple sexual relationship. A couple can go to a courthouse and, without getting married, sign something called a civil solidarity pact.

Once so joined, but not in holy matrimony, the parties are responsible for each other's debts, eligible for their work benefits and, after three years, they get tax benefits. There's no such thing as a divorce under this arrangement. All one of the parties has to do is say it's over and, in three months, that's the end of it. No lawyers.

This began in the French Parliament as a move to legalize the relationship between gay couples without actually condoning their marriage. After the law was passed, and quite unexpectedly, men and women who were not gay said they didn't want to get married but they'd like to have the same legal benefits the law gave gays in this officially sanctioned union.

I personally doubt that this or any other idea will solve the problem of how two people can live together their whole lives

without having serious problems. The basis has to be that they like each other. It's not easy to know for certain that you love someone. It's different from "being in love." When you're young, with raging hormones, it's easy to confuse sexual desire with true love and the two don't have much to do with each other.

For a long while now, religion has dominated and failed matrimony and it ought to get out of the marriage business. It is foolish for a couple to go to a church, swear before their God that they'll "love, honor and obey until death do us part" and think that's going to help their marriage. If a church can marry a couple and half of them get divorced, the church ought to be responsible for handling the divorce, too.

You can't promise you're always going to love someone forever. Love doesn't work that way. It isn't a decision you make. You do or you don't and no amount of determination will affect how you feel. Neither can you be certain it's going to last. One of my heroes is the testy and cantankerous Bertrand Russell. At some time in his life, he tackled almost every question imaginable and he had an opinion about marriage. "My own view," Russell wrote, "is that the State and the law should take no notice of sexual relations apart from children and that no marriage ceremony

should be valid unless accompanied by a medical certificate of the woman's pregnancy. Once there are children, I think that divorce should be avoided except for very grave cause. I should not regard physical infidelity as a very grave cause, and should teach people that it is to be expected and tolerated but should not involve the begetting of illegitimate children - not because illegitimacy is bad but because a home with two parents is best for children. The main thing in marriage is not

the feeling of the parents for each other; the main thing is cooperation in raising children." Like most of what Bertrand Russell wrote, I agree with about half of it. I wouldn't so quickly dismiss "the feeling of the parents for each other." Margie and I have been married for 58 years. We raised four children for fewer than half of them.

Andy Rooney is a Tribune Media Services columnist.

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# food fun & entertainment



THE GUESS WHO  
APRIL 18-23

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734-6780; Fax 734-3003  
In Washington:  
220 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
Email: lamz\_craig@senate.gov  
(202) 224-2752  
**Rep. Mike Simpson**  
In Twin Falls, call or write:  
Charlie Barnes, agriculture field director  
628 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.  
Twin Falls, ID 83401  
734-7219; Fax 734-7244  
In Washington:  
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## MORNING LINE

### SPORTSQUOTE

“I just want to walk off under my own power.”

”

— *Rehabilitated Houston Rockets forward and NBA star Charles Barkley, who retired after Wednesday night's game against Vancouver*

### TODAY'S SCHEDULE

- High school track**  
Northside Meet at Carey Monte Andrus Invite, at Twin Falls, 1 p.m.  
Second Annual Buhl Rotary Meet, 1:30 p.m.
- High school baseball**  
Pocatello at Jerome, 4 p.m.  
Minico at Century, 4:30 p.m.
- High school tennis**  
Century at Jerome, 4 p.m.  
Declo at Burley, 4 p.m.  
Minico at Twin Falls, 4 p.m.
- High school softball**  
Burley at Jerome (1V, 1 JV), 4 p.m.

### IN BRIEF

#### TF Legion banquet, auction is today

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls American Legion Baseball Association will hold its annual banquet and auction fund-raiser at the Turf Club today.

Tickets are \$15 for the dinner, and raffle, a silent auction and a live auction are planned. A no-host bar starts at 6 p.m., with dinner and the live auction following. For more information, call Randy Gregersen at 733-7441.

#### Annual Buhl Rotary Track Meet is today

BUHL — The Second Annual Buhl Rotary Track Meet is today at Buhl High School. Net proceeds from the meet will be donated to the Special Olympics. Last year's donations topped \$1,800.

Schools expected to attend include American Falls, Filer, Gooding, Glenns Ferry, Jerome, Kimberly, Minico, Valley, Raft River, Wendell, Wood River and Spring Creek (Nev.). Preliminaries start at 1:30 p.m., with finals around 4:30.

#### Monte Andrus meet set for this afternoon

TWIN FALLS — The 22nd Annual Monte Andrus Memorial Invitational track and field meet will be held today at Twin Falls High School.

Field events start at 1 p.m., with running finals slated for 2:15. Expected to attend are the Twin Falls JV, Castleford, Valley, Hines, Hagerman, Murtaugh, Oakley, North Fremont, Wells, Nev., and Glenns Ferry high school track and field teams.

#### Twin Falls Traveling All-Stars hold tryouts

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls All-Star baseball clubs are holding tryouts at the College of Southern Idaho's Frontier Field Friday and Saturday for Little League.

Tryouts for 11-and 12-year-old boys begin at 4:30 p.m. Friday. Tryouts for 9- and 10-year-olds are Saturday at 10 a.m.

For more information, call Gary Cook at 733-1915 or 733-1804.

Compiled from staff reports

# Bruins rally for win at Burley

## TF coach isn't satisfied with 11-3 victory

By Matt Peterson  
Times-News writer

BURLEY — Medocre describes a lot of things. But if Twin Falls baseball coach Mike Federico has any say in the matter, his team won't be one of them.

Bolstered by a domeheader sweep of Pocatello Tuesday, the Bruins collected one more Region III victory Wednesday, downing Burley 11-3. But the style in which they did it had the coach shaking his head.

"I just thought we played mediocre," Federico said. "Coming off probably two of our best games of the year, I thought we played just mediocre baseball. That's what we talked about after the game. We don't want to be mediocre."

Up 3-2 after four innings, Twin Falls broke the game open with eight runs in the final three frames to take the lopsided victory. Eight of the Bruins' 14 hits came in those innings, as did three of Burley's five errors.

Twin Falls pounded Burley 24-6, and scored 20 runs in one inning, in the two teams' last meeting March 14 in Twin Falls. Nonetheless, Federico insisted his team entered the game

Please see BRUINS, Page B2



Burley High School's Parker Lyons dives back to first base as Twin Falls first baseman Brandon Miller awaits the pickoff attempt from pitcher Colt Jones. Lyons was safe on the play, but Jones pitched a complete game as the Bruins beat the Bobcats 11-3 on Wednesday.

LOGAN CANTON/Times-News

## Senators stay alive in Stanley Cup

The Associated Press

KANATA, Ontario — The Ottawa Senators tied its series against the Toronto Maple Leafs and gained some confidence in doing so.

Andreas Dackell scored twice as the Senators beat the Maple Leafs 2-1 Wednesday night to tie their first-round Eastern Conference best-of-seven series at 2-2.

"Our confidence is a little better now than after our first two games," said Dackell, who scored his first two goals of the series on nearly identical 2-on-1 breaks.

Game 5 will be Saturday night in Toronto.

"It's a new series now," Dackell said. "It will be a great battle on Saturday. We know they play better at home. It will be a great series now."

Sergei Berezin scored with 3:50 remaining for the Leafs, who outshot the Senators 32-22 but were stymied by goalie Tom Barasso. The Leafs looked dominant in

taking the opening two games at home, but the tables were turned in Ottawa. Still, they hit three goalposts in each game, coming within inches of a possible sweep.

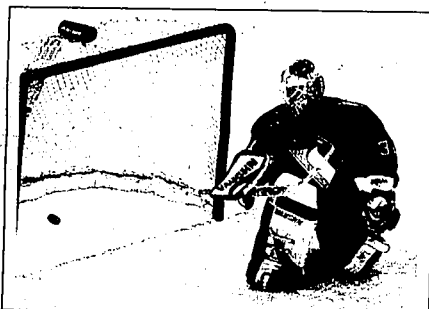
"I thought we had a chance to win both games here," Leafs captain Mats Sundin said. "We didn't play that badly tonight. We just had two turnovers that cost us."

"What worries me is that when we're down a goal or two, we don't have that momentum that was our strength all year to keep coming at them."

It was another shaky night for Toronto goalie Curtis Joseph, who accidentally knocked down referee Mick McGeough in Game 3 on Monday while protesting interference on Rob Zamuner's winning goal.

The Senators were written off by many after the opening two games, but the Maple Leafs expected a tough time in Ottawa, where they are 1-4 this season.

"We were the last ones to think we'd win in four," said



Pittsburgh goalie Ron Tugnutt watches a shot by Washington's Jeff Halpern go in for the game-winning goal during the third period of the Capitals' 3-2 win in Game 4 of the first round of the Stanley Cup playoffs Wednesday.

Leafs forward Kris King, who saw his first action replacing injured center Nik Antropov. "This is no surprise to us."

"We just have to go home and use what we worked for all season — home-ice advantage."

#### Senators 2, Maple Leafs 1

KANATA, Ontario — Andreas Dackell scored twice as Ottawa

beat Toronto to even its NHL playoff series.

The first-round Eastern Conference best-of-seven series is tied 2-2 heading into Game 5 in Toronto on Saturday night. Tom Barrasso's bid for a seventh career playoff shutout was spoiled with 3:50 remaining when Sergei Berezin scored for the Maple Leafs, who outshot the Senators 32-22.

On Monday, despite a trio of bogeys, he was the only player to break par in Round 1 at Blue Lakes Country Club. Then, on a blustery and miserably drenched Tuesday, he fired a sizzling round of 62 at his home course.

John Boyle led the amateur Division I tournament at Sand Creek Golf Course in Idaho Falls and Jon Stein of Farm City Driving Range in Caldwell each burned Muni for second-round 65s, but that wasn't enough to catch Hamblin, who recorded eight birdies and just two bogeys during the final round of the Rocky Mountain Section event.

"I played good both days," said Hamblin, who also anchored the tournament's winning four-man team at the city course. "I got lucky on Tuesday with an afternoon tee time — it had pretty much stopped raining when I went out."

Tad Holloway of Meridian's Cherry Lane Golf Club and John Schooner of Divot Discount Golf and Range in Boise tied for second among Regular Division PGA pros at 140.

John Boyle led the amateur first flight gross with a 73, and Bruce Thomason and Stuart Sundberg checked in with matching 64s for low first-flight net. Todd Jones won the second flight with a gross 73, while Dave Len captured second-flight net honors with a 61.

George Millward fired an 81 for low gross in the third flight, with Bob Cook taking third-flight net honors with a 64.

Please see NBA, Page B2

## Golfers sizzle at Pro-Am

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Twin Falls Municipal Golf Course PGA professional Mike Hamblin soared in two days of local golf competition this week, firing a formidable 70-62-132 to win this year's Snake River PGA Pro-Am by a decisive eight strokes at Twin Falls Muni and Blue Lakes Country Club.

In amateur competition, Tracy Frank hammered out a 2-under-par 66 to win low gross in the championship flight by six strokes at Twin Falls Municipal Golf Course.

Carl Sklavos took low net honors in the amateur championship flight with a 64.

**More results — B3**

Muni PGA senior pro John Weckes and Jerome Country Club professional John Peterson tied for first in the Seniors Division with identical two-day, 155s — 83-72-135 for Weekes, 82-73-155 for Peterson.

Yet Hamblin was clearly the professional to beat.

## Spurs, Hornets clinch home cooking

The Associated Press

The San Antonio Spurs and Charlotte Hornets will open the playoffs at home, and the Detroit Pistons will get the post-season matchup they wanted — Miami rather than Indiana.

The Spurs, Hornets and Pistons were among the few teams with something to gain on the final night of the regular season, and all of them did.

San Antonio overcame a 17-point fourth quarter deficit to beat the Los Angeles Lakers 103-98 in overtime despite the absence of Tim Duncan. The defending champions will open the best-of-five first round at the Alamodome against the Phoenix Suns.



Houston's Charles Barkley waits to enter his last NBA game Wednesday in Houston. Barkley was reactivated from the injured list after missing 61 games with a torn quadriceps tendon.

with six minutes of playing time, two points, one rebound, one assist and a blocked shot.

Barkley returned to the sidelines for the second half, where a fluffy recliner awaited him. The Rockets almost had another thrill with a fourth-quarter comeback, but the Grizzlies held on for a 96-92 victory to snap a

seven-game losing streak. Former Rocket Michael Dickerson led Vancouver with 20 points.

The Rockets trailed 84-71 with 7:59 left, but tied it at 90-90 with 1:27 to play. The Grizzlies hit six straight free throws to hold on. Walt Williams led Houston with 20 points.

## 'Sir Charles' leaves on own terms

### Barkley determined to go out standing up

The Associated Press

HOUSTON — Charles Barkley ended his 16-year career the way he wanted to.

Determined to go out standing up, the Houston Rockets forward thrilled the hometown crowd with 7:26 to go in the second quarter Wednesday night when he reported into the regular season finale against the Vancouver Grizzlies.

Barkley, out since Dec. 6 with a ruptured knee tendon, received a standing ovation amid shouts of "Barkley, Barkley, Barkley." Fans waved cardboard cutout Barkley masks and cheered when Barkley missed his first shot with 6:10 left in the half.

Rockets coach Rudy Tomjanovich obviously was trying to get Barkley in the scoring column. Barkley missed his next two shots before he finally got a rebound and scored with 1:24 left in the second quarter.

That got him another standing ovation, and Tomjanovich took him out with 1:15 left.

Barkley left smiling, finishing



SPORTS IN BRIEF

Summer registration deadline set for Friday
TWIN FALLS - The Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Department is registering children in kindergarten through second grade for baseball and softball until Friday.

Sun Valley golf course opens Friday
SUN VALLEY - The Sun Valley Resort Golf Course, driving range and pro shop will open at noon Friday for the summer season - two days before Baldy closes.

Couples golf night planned in Burley Friday
BURLEY - The Burley Golf Course will host a "Couples Golf Night"

Friday at 5:30 p.m.
The nine-hole round will be followed by a potluck. There is a \$10 per-couple entry fee. To register, call the Burley pro shop at 678-9807.

Jerome extends softball deadline
JEROME - The Jerome Parks and Rec Department has extended its adult softball registration deadline through Friday.

Men's day will be Saturday at Rupert C.C.
RUPERT - Rupert Country Club will hold a men's day Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. The format will be a 4-person best ball.

There is a \$6 per person entry fee. On April 29, the Country Club will host its 2-person scramble. The entry fee is \$60 per team with a seven stroke maximum difference between handicaps. Men's Twilight League sign-ups are being taken in the pro shop. Play will begin May 10. The entry fee is \$40.

Pomerelle closes for season on Saturday
ALBION - Pomerelle Mountain Resort will operate through Saturday, then shut down for the season.

As Wednesday, the resort was reporting a 47-inch base depth and two inches of new snow. All lifts were open, and roads were clear.

Ladies open season at country club
BUHL - The Clear Lake Country Club ladies opened play April 13 with an 18-hole round of golf.

Gross winners were Oleta Roberts with an 83, Linda Fennen with an 86 and Edie Whitney with a 91. On the net side, Brenda Walden shot a 71 and Deb Richards, Tamara Yost and Rose Blacka all tied at 74. All winners were presented with a ball. Fewest putts went to Oleta Roberts with 27 and Donna Fennell had the only bogey. The ladies' next event will be Thursday at 10 a.m.

Compiled from staff reports

SCORES AND STATS

BASKETBALL

NBA standings EASTERN CONFERENCE table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, GB

AL standings

AL standings table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, GB

NL standings

NL standings table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, GB

ON THE AIR

TELEVISION table listing various sports events and their broadcast channels and times.

BASEBALL

BASEBALL table with sub-sections for Wednesday's AL boxes, Boston, Cleveland, and Oakland.

PHILIPPS

PHILIPPS table with sub-sections for Red Sox, Yankees, and Mets.

PHILIPPS

PHILIPPS table with sub-sections for Braves, Phillies, and Cardinals.

PHILIPPS

PHILIPPS table with sub-sections for Dodgers, Astros, and various other teams.

GOLF

Snake River PGA Pro-Am
Twin Falls Snake River PGA Pro-Am...

WEDNESDAY'S BOXES

WEDNESDAY'S BOXES table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, GB

THURSDAY'S BOXES

THURSDAY'S BOXES table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, GB

THURSDAY'S BOXES

THURSDAY'S BOXES table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, GB

WHITE SOX, MARINERS

WHITE SOX, MARINERS table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, GB

PHILIPPS

PHILIPPS table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, GB

PISTONS 112, BULLS 92

PISTONS 112, BULLS 92 table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, GB

BUCKS 102, WIZARDS 95

BUCKS 102, WIZARDS 95 table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, GB

MAJIC 104, RAPTORS 100

MAJIC 104, RAPTORS 100 table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, GB

WEDNESDAY'S NL BOXES

WEDNESDAY'S NL BOXES table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, GB

PHILIPPS

PHILIPPS table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, GB

MAJIC 104, RAPTORS 100

MAJIC 104, RAPTORS 100 table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, GB

MAVRECHICKS 131, TWOLVES 107

MAVRECHICKS 131, TWOLVES 107 table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, GB

MAVRECHICKS 131, TWOLVES 107

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MAVRECHICKS 131, TWOLVES 107

MAVRECHICKS 131, TWOLVES 107 table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, GB



Paving deteriorates:  
Officials look at damage to  
Howell Canyon Road.

Page C3

# MAGIC VALLEY

INSIDE

Obituaries ..... C2  
Magic Valley/West ..... C4

City Editor: Kevin Richert - 733-0931, Ext. 234

The Times-News

Thursday, April 20, 2000

Section C

## AROUND THE VALLEY

### Turley says he is innocent of charges

**TWIN FALLS** - Twin Falls County Coroner Gene Turley pleaded innocent Wednesday to charges of battery and disturbing the peace.

Turley was charged following a February confrontation with skateboarders at the Lynwood Shopping Center. Turley, the manager of the State Security, was enforcing the mall's zero-tolerance policy toward skaters when he confronted a group and tackled one of the teen-aged skaters.

Turley was seen hitting the teenager in the head and yelling profanities, according to police reports. Turley has said he was hit in the head by a skateboard during the incident.

A May 30 pretrial date and a June 7 trial date were set following the plea to the misdemeanor charges.

### Area schools receive nutrition, fitness grants

**TWIN FALLS** - Three area schools were among the 25 in Idaho to receive a portion of more than \$106,000 in nutrition and fitness grants from the Idaho Department of Education's Child Nutrition Program.

Local grant recipients announced by the Education Department are Glenns Ferry Elementary School, \$8,000; East and West Minico junior high schools in Minidoka County, \$11,000; and St. Edwards Bi-Parish School in Twin Falls, \$8,000.

The grants may be used for comprehensive projects that include classroom instruction, school food service programs, schoolwide events, home activities, community events and community outreach through the news media that promote nutrition education.

"Our goal is to create effective programs that teach children to make wise decisions about what they eat, and what activities they do to maintain a healthy body," said RoseAnna Holliday, team nutrition project director. "We are thrilled when these districts were chosen as models for the nation."

Idaho is one of 16 states to share in \$4.2 million in federal Team Nutrition grants from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

### Twin Falls Sheriff's office will hold open house

**TWIN FALLS** - The Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office will hold an open house Saturday that includes a jail tour and K-9 police dog demonstrations.

The public is invited to attend the open house, which begins at noon at the Twin Falls County Courthouse.

Jail tours and K-9 demonstrations will be held throughout the event, which ends with a 3:30 p.m. briefing. No one under 13 is allowed on the jail tour without a parent or guardian.

### Sex offenders fall to register with officials

**BOISE** - The Idaho Department of Law Enforcement has listed the following Magic Valley locations as having failed to register for the sex offender registry:

- Jens A. Artega, 18, Rupert.
- Dean Earl Lehmann, 18, Twin Falls.

### Cassia P&Z Commission to discuss Big Sky Farms

**BURLEY** - The Cassia County Planning and Zoning Commission will meet tonight to decide whether to reopen a hearing on the conditional-use permit application by Big Sky Farms LLC, a proposed 50,000-hog farm in the Raft River area.

The meeting will begin at 8 p.m. in council chambers at City Hall. The commission will also review and sign a resolution granting a confined animal feeding operation permit to Ida-Gold Farms, a proposed dairy that could have up to 10,220 dairy cows.

Also on tonight's agenda are public hearings on conditional-use permit applications for a cell-site telecommunications facility at the intersection of Highway 20 and Highway 10, proposed by the company. The commission will also consider granting a variance to Ida-Gold Farms.

The meeting is open to the public.

Continued from staff reports



Charles Simpson directs traffic around Filmore Street at the intersection of Pole Line Road in Twin Falls, where a traffic light is being installed. The Twin Falls City Council this week adopted a resolution giving control of Pole Line to the Idaho Transportation Department, as part of the state's plan for an alternate route for U.S. Highway 93.

## Trading pavement City and state road swap raises questions

By John T. Huddy  
Times-News writer

**TWIN FALLS** - The city's plan to give up control of Pole Line Road - part of a deal with the Idaho Transportation Department, which plans to turn Pole Line into a four-lane

alternative U.S. Highway 93 route - will likely give Twin Falls total control of Blue Lakes Boulevard and Addison Avenue.

But while most city officials agree an alternate route is a good idea, questions still surround the trade between the city and the state.

Part of the deal, approved by the City Council Monday, was for the city to eventually take over Blue Lakes and Addison. The state and city have shared maintenance responsibilities of those two roads, said Devon Rigby of the state transportation

Please see ROAD, Page C3

## Prosecutors race will be decided on records, says incumbent

By Brian Haynes  
Times-News writer

**TWIN FALLS** - The race for Twin Falls County prosecutor will be decided on the candidates' records, not the challenger's claims of prosecutorial failures, incumbent prosecutor Grant Loebis said.

Challenger Mark Murphy "doesn't know what he's talking about," Loebis told The Times-News editorial board Tuesday. "He didn't live here. He doesn't have all the facts..."

"I don't think this campaign is

about him or anything he says."

Loebis and Murphy - a former Bannock County deputy prosecutor, who moved here in August 1999 - will face off in the May 23 Republican primary. No Democrat is running, so the primary winner will become the county's next prosecutor.

Murphy has criticized the job Loebis has done, and thinks he can do better.

"I think the election is about my record vs. his record," Murphy said. "Frankly, is the job being done now? By the present prosecutor? I say no."

To see the job Loebis is doing, the public should check court records and talk to law enforcement around the county, Murphy said.

Murphy has said Loebis dismissed or reduced to misdemeanors nearly half of the felony cases filed in 1999, a figure that Loebis says is nowhere near the truth.

"If his claims about my felony record were true, I wouldn't have all those people supporting me," said Loebis, who said he has the support of nearly every police officer and sheriff's detective in

the county.

Murphy has also criticized Loebis' record on asset forfeiture, which allows law enforcement to take property from drug dealers.

"I can't go out and find assets to seize any more than I can find crimes to prosecute," Loebis said. "I do what they bring to me. There's no way I can do more."

Murphy disagrees, saying the prosecutor's office can be proactive and work with law enforcement agencies throughout a major drug investigation to target property for forfeiture.

Since becoming the county's

prosecutor in 1997, Loebis has stabilized the office by hiring lawyers who are committed to prosecution and are likely to stay in the Magic Valley, Loebis said.

That stability means more experience, better professionalism in the quality work, he said.

Loebis said he wants to continue prosecuting for as long as possible, and he will stay in office as long as voters or term limits don't end him packing. "This is the best job I can think of," Loebis said. "The only way I would leave this job is involuntarily."

Please see REPORT, Page C3

## Levy would keep schools up to date

By Loraine Cavener  
Times-News writer

**RUPERT** - Minidoka County School District voters will be asked Tuesday to support a levy that officials say will help keep schools in working order.

A proposed supplemental maintenance levy would bring in \$1.89 million over the course of two years. It would replace an existing levy that expires this year.

The levy, requiring a simple majority to pass, would go to property owner's taxes unless the property's appraised value increases, said George MacDonald, a School Board member.

An 18-member facility committee of district residents recommended the levy to the School Board, district Superintendent Nick Hallert said.

Dan Lloyd, a member of the committee, said the levy could not be used to increase teacher pay. It would help the district replace aging school buses, provide major building maintenance and repairs and replace and acquire equipment and maintain and improve district sites, Hallert said.

"We have old buildings to work with," Lloyd said. "We obviously aren't going to get new ones."

Over the past 10 years, maintenance staff has done a good job getting schools into shape and creating a maintenance pattern, Lloyd said.

"We need the levy to keep it in place and maintain what we have," he said. "We would be in a world of hurt if it did not pass."

School Board chairwoman Norma Claridge said the levy

### A few details

• The levy would be levied on property owners in the district's vote at the home of Lola Nelson, northeast of Rupert.

• Lincoln County voters within the district's vote at the John Otman residence west of Paul.

• Lincoln County voters within the district can vote at the Wayne Maughan residence north of Paul. The levy requires a simple majority to pass.

To figure the levy, multiply taxable property by .0011537. The annual tax bill for the current levy is \$43.61 for a house with a market value of \$70,000, after accounting for a homeowner's exemption.

levy, it would not have the same impact as a bond issue, said Jim Horner, vice president of the Farm Bureau Insurance Co. in Burley.

The bureau's board, which took no stand on last year's bond issue proposal, has not had much of a chance to discuss the supplemental levy, Horner said.

"But I believe most of the board would vote for it," he said. "We do have to keep the buildings up."

Another bond issue would be a different story, he said.

"Right now I probably would not vote for a bond issue," Horner said. "Farmers are in dire straits with the crops."

Bruce Nelson, president of the Mini-Cassia Association of Realtors, said the group has not addressed the supplemental levy. The Realtors' group supported last year's bond issue.

## Idaho playgrounds report card shows room for improvement

The Times-News

**TWIN FALLS** - A national group's survey of Idaho's playgrounds at schools, parks, and child-care centers said the state scored average for adult supervision, but needs to do more work on designating age-appropriate equipment for children.

The nonprofit National Program for Playground Safety - based at the University of Northern Iowa and started by a 1995 grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - surveyed playgrounds in all 50 states and awarded the country an overall C grade.

### Here's how Idaho fared

- **Supervision:** Overall grade, C+.
- **Adults present:** B.
- **Children easily viewed:** D.
- **Crimes reported:** B.
- **Rates posted:** F.
- **Age-appropriate design:** Overall grade, C.
- **Separate play areas for younger and older children:** D.
- **Signs indicating appropriate age:** D.
- **Signs of danger or directions to get out:** D.
- **Signs of climbing outside the play area:** D.
- **Signs of climbing on supporting structures:** D.

The study concluded that America's children are at potential risk while at play, particularly in regard to two of the lowest scoring elements of the study: supervision and age-appropriate design.

Children playing on equipment not appropriate for their age might be the leading cause of the nearly 200,000 playground-related injuries each year, the safety program says.

The report was released this week, but details of Idaho's grades were not available until Wednesday.

Please see REPORT, Page C3

- **Surface:** Overall grade, C.
- **Appropriate surfacing:** B.
- **Appropriate surfacing in 6-foot use zone:** D.
- **Appropriate depth of loose fill:** F.
- **Covered concrete footings:** A.
- **Surfaces free of foreign objects:** D.
- **Equipment maintenance:** Overall grade, C.
- **Free of broken parts:** B.
- **Free of missing parts:** B.
- **Free of rotting bolts:** C.
- **Free of noticeable gaps:** F.
- **Free of dead entrapments:** C.
- **Free of rust:** D.
- **Free of splinters:** F.
- **Free of cracks:** B.
- **Free of holes:** C.
- **Source:** National Program for Playground Safety, a nonprofit group, based at the University of Northern Iowa.

Continued from staff reports



MAGIC VALLEY

# Rupert writes off bad debt

By Lorraine Cavener  
Times-News writer

**RUFERT** - The Rupert City Council has approved a \$33,000 bad debt write-off after the city was unable to collect that much in overdue utility bills.

During Tuesday's council meeting, Carmia Maxey, a city clerk, presented the council a number of unpaid utility bills dating back to 1996. Maxey requested allowing the billing department to write off the debt.

The council allowed the write-off, but that does not necessarily mean those who owe on old bills off the hook. About half of the \$33,009 in uncollected debt will be turned over to a collection agency, she said. City clerks will continue to work on the rest of the debt.

Money collected will be returned to the city budget as recovered debt, Maxey said, not

ing that clerks have worked through a lengthy process to collect.

Attempts to collect have included a series of letters, which have not drawn much of a response, City Administrator Roger Bagley said.

"Thirty-three thousand dollars is a lot of money," he said. "It doesn't make a heck of a lot of sense to continue."

The last write-off occurred about three years ago, Bagley said. Financially, it makes sense to write off bad debt more frequently.

"We are carrying that on the books as revenue we don't really have," Bagley said.

Many collection attempts have been referred to city attorney Rick Bollar. Attempts to collect from estates of people who have died have been unsuccessful, because estates have a priority list of obligations and city utility

bills are normally near the end of the list, Bollar said. Funeral expenses and other bills take precedence over city bills.

Other bills on the write-off list include many bankruptcy cases and many other cases where mail is returned. City clerks have been unable to locate many people on the list. In addition to bills in the bad debt category, the clerks continue to work on more recent delinquent bills, Maxey said. The department has worked many hours on the project.

When people with uncollected debt come back and ask for services to be hooked up again, the city will collect back debts before setting up new service, Maxey said.

Times-News staff writer Lorraine Cavener can be reached at the Mini-Cassia Bureau in Burley at 677-4042 or by e-mail at [lcavener@magicvalley.com](mailto:lcavener@magicvalley.com)

# Federal, local officials explore possible solutions to fix Howell Canyon Road

By Ruth Streeter  
Times-News writer

**BURLEY** - Chip-sealing the deteriorating Howell Canyon Road would provide a temporary fix while officials explore permanent solutions.

Federal Highway Administration officials came to Burley this week to visit the site and meet with county and highway district officials and local engineers to discuss what to do about the \$3.7 million paving job that began showing signs of deterioration less than two years after the Federal Highway Administration completed it.

According to a letter from Chicago Testing Laboratories, Inc., an asphalt specialist examined the road earlier this month and determined portions of the road are crumbling and need to be replaced.

The Federal Highway Administration disagrees with local engineers on what the most significant problems are as well as the causes of those problems.

The Federal Highway Administration, which funded the project, said the most significant problem is longitudinal cracking from frost heave. However, J-U-B Engineers of Pocatello, hired by the Burley

Highway District to provide a second opinion, said the most significant problem is not cracking, but crumbling. J-U-B brought in Chicago Testing Laboratories, Inc., to help study the situation.

Wednesday's meeting included county commissioners, representatives from the Burley Highway District, the Albion Highway District and the U.S. Forest Service, and a few residents. Some people at the meeting said they noticed the road has deteriorated even more since last year.

The problems will only get worse if not dealt with soon, said Jodi Chew, a transportation planning engineer with the Federal Highway Administration.

The county only has a small window of time during the summer to do the chip sealing and prevent further deterioration, said Stephen Freiberger, area manager for J-U-B Engineers.

If you've got that severe condition and don't do anything, you'll have two years' left," Freiberger said. The next step will be an engineering analysis to find out exactly which areas of the road need the most work.

The county suggested the Federal Highway Administration place a five-year warranty on whatever remedy officials decide on, but Chew said that isn't possible.

The middle ground would be to do an immediate chip seal and a study to see exactly what areas need to be fixed and what further action is needed.

The Federal Highway Administration would reimburse the county for any work the federal agency agreed to pay for, Chew said she knows there are funds available for chip sealing but isn't sure if funds are available for other repairs.

Freiberger estimated a seal coat would cost about \$50,000. Chew said she was fairly confident the Federal Highway District would provide the funding.

County attorney Stephen Bywater said even if the problems can't be solved right away, it is important to identify them.

There may not be the money to solve the problems this year, but we need to know what all the problems are," Bywater said.

Federal Highway Administration officials were unprepared to talk about other issues such as inadequate drainage, a "slide" area and how a new road would affect the watershed, Chew said she would take those concerns back to her office.

Times-News reporter Ruth Streeter can be reached at the Mini-Cassia Bureau at 677-4042 or by e-mail at [rstreeter@magicvalley.com](mailto:rstreeter@magicvalley.com).

## Road

Continued from C1

department.

But its unclear when the state will take control of Pole Line, and when the city will take control of Blue Lakes and Addison - and at what cost. That's still being discussed.

One City Council member has questions about the exchange.

"Are we trading mile for mile? It seems that it's more in mileage and pavement," City Councilwoman Glenda Thompson said.

Both roads are at least three miles in length. But while the section of Pole Line in the trade is only two lanes now, Blue Lakes, for most of its length, is four lanes with turn lanes at various intersections.

Once the city takes over Blue Lakes Boulevard, it will no longer be deemed a part of Highway 93.

"We would be looking at

working with the city to turn that over to them, because it doesn't serve as a state highway, it serves as a local road," Rigby said.

The state will likely take over Pole Line Road when the alternative route construction begins, Rigby said.

The state has scheduled the first phase of construction on the new Pole Line alternative route for the fall of 2001.

That phase includes construction west on Pole Line from Blue Lakes to Grandview Drive and Washington Street.

Before Blue Lakes and Pole Line are handed over to the city, the two roads could see some upgrades, Rigby said.

"There may be some work that we do on those roads before we turn them over," Rigby said.

The state has already done con-

struction work on Blue Lakes, including the Blue Lakes-Pole Line intersection overlay.

It's unclear whether the city would pay more to maintain Blue Lakes and Addison, as opposed to Pole Line.

"That's part of the negotiations," he said. "Right now we don't have those numbers pulled together."

The city budgeted more than \$400,000 in road construction projects for 1999-2000. The city's street fund budget - including construction projects, salaries and material costs - totals more than \$2 million.

The city budgeted \$250,000 in construction and maintenance materials for 1999-2000.

Times-News staff writer John T. Huddy can be reached in Twin Falls at 733-0931, Ext. 259 or by e-mail at [jhuddy@magicvalley.com](mailto:jhuddy@magicvalley.com)

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## Hagerman

Continued from C1

deductible.

Police investigating last week's incident said they believe someone entered the library through the "business window" stole the cash box and lit a small fire. The fire burned the area where it was lit but the fire didn't spread. Heavy rain and soot caused most of the damage to the library, according to investigators.

Also Tuesday, council member Jim Scott asked city leaders to con-

sider holding a management workshop to map out the city's long-term goals and objectives.

"Think about it because it would really worth our time if we're going to get ahead of the curve on roads all those sorts of things we never have the money for," Scott said.

Other City Council business:

The council approved waiving the \$100 per day park rental fee for the Hagerman Valley Chamber of Commerce's annual

Fossil Days celebration scheduled May 27-28. Fossil Days Chairwoman Christy Davis said she made the request because the two-day event includes several youth-sponsored activities.

The council approved a catering permit for the All-School Reunion scheduled May 27 at the American Legion Hall.

Times-News correspondent Gina Mulder can be reached in Wendell at 536-6649.

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## Report

Continued from C1

Comments on Idaho's report card indicate the state is doing an average job providing adult supervision on the playgrounds but could improve by posting signs that say adult supervision is recommended.

The safety group suggests that Idaho also should offer separate play areas for 2- to 5-year-old children and 5- to 12-year-old children.

The state received an A- for providing areas where children can turn around and change direction to get off a structure. But the national group recommends improvements to prevent children from climbing on the parts of structures not intended for play.

In terms of surfacing in fall areas, the report said most of the state's playgrounds have the appropriate surface materials but many do not have them in a "safe" zone or at the appropriate depth. And the report said a lot of debris was found in the surface materials.

Maintenance of playground equipment revealed splinters on wooden equipment and rust on metal equipment.

Some equipment had noticeable gaps, possible areas where a child's head can become trapped, and protruding bolts.

The report covers playgrounds not just at schools. In the growing debate over school building safety has been raised as an issue.

School playground conditions in Idaho were included in a 1999 statewide survey of safety issues commissioned by Gov. Dirk Kempthorne.

Of the \$48 million in needs identified by the governor's committee, about \$1 million addressed playground safe-

**Budget Sales**



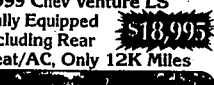
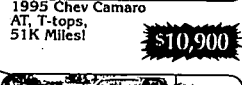





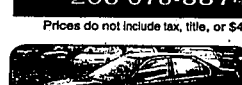

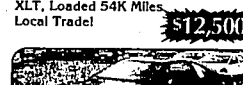
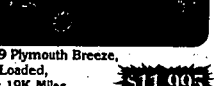
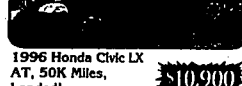


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IDAHO/WEST

Sheriff suspects man of mass murder

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) - An aluminum smelter worker who flies helicopters for the Army National Guard has been charged in the death of a 16-year-old prostitute and is a suspect in as many as 17 other similar slayings, Spokane County Sheriff Mark Sterks said Wednesday.

"We feel like we've arrested the person responsible for up to 18 prostitute homicides in our community," Sterk told reporters about an hour after Robert L. Yates Jr., 47, was charged with first-degree murder in the slaying of 16-year-old Jennifer Joseph, whose body was found Aug. 26, 1997.

Authorities used DNA blood evidence to link Yates to Joseph's slaying. She was among 10 confirmed victims of a single killer and eight others listed as possible victims. The common link among the victims was a lifestyle involving drugs or prostitution. Joseph was shot to death, as were most of the victims.

Yates, the married father of five children, was ordered held on \$1.5 million bond during an appearance Wednesday in a



Robert L. Yates Jr. Prostitute slayings confound police

Spokane County Jail courtroom. Preliminary results of a DNA analysis of blood smears found in a white 1977 Corvette that Yates formerly owned matched Joseph's blood, Sterk said. A serial killer task force said in February it had DNA evidence from the killer that was found on the bodies of several victims.

"We're very confident Mr. Yates is a suspect in 12 of our homicides, up to 18," Sterk said. He declined to say which other victims might be linked.

Yates was arrested Tuesday. Joseph, of Spanaway near Tacoma, had been in Spokane a short time before disappearing. She was last seen Aug. 16, 1997, in an area known for prostitution, getting into a white Corvette driven by a white male in his 30s or 40s, court documents indicate.

About a month later, Yates was stopped for speeding a few blocks from where Joseph was last seen, the documents indicate. Sterk said detectives have other evidence, besides the DNA results, linking Yates to the Joseph homicide. He declined to say what that evidence was.

A sample of Yates' blood was obtained through a search warrant, sheriff's spokesman Cpl. Dave Reagan said. Investigators Wednesday continued looking for evidence at Yates' home, working behind tall blue tarpaulins they erected around the two-story house in a tree-lined neighborhood.

Officers questioned neighbors in as many as 100 homes near the nearby kept beige residence where Yates and his family have lived since March 1997.

Police also seized seven vehicles, including the Corvette and two vans formerly owned by Yates. Evidence found in the Corvette, seized last week, "heightened our interest" in Yates, Reagan said.

Detectives began round-the-clock surveillance of Yates after he returned to Spokane Sunday from a two-week Army National Guard camp at Fort Lewis, near Tacoma. He was arrested early Tuesday as he drove to his job at a Kaiser plant where he has worked since December 1998, several months after United Steelworkers of America struck in an ongoing labor dispute.

Yates left the Army in 1996 after an 18-year career, records indicate. He joined the Washington Army National Guard as a pilot with the 66th Signal Brigade, which trains once a month at the base near Tacoma, spokesman Lt. Col. Rick Patterson said.

Larry Kerner Neighbors FARM AUCTION Sat. April 22, 2000 • 11 a.m. • Lunch by Lola... TRACTORS COMBINE PICKUP HAY EQUIPMENT... AUCTIONEERS Merv May 208-436-5735 Ron Rogge 208-886-2911

Lawmakers will discuss session

TWIN FALLS - Magic Valley legislators will hold a television roundtable discussion tonight to discuss the this year's legislative session that wrapped up earlier this month. Sponsored by the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce, the two-hour program will feature lawmakers from four southern Idaho legislative districts. It will air at 7 p.m. on cable access channel 10.

Lawmakers will talk about the session and issues that will affect people in southern Idaho. Legislators also look ahead at the 2001 session. The public is invited to sit in on the live event at Twin Falls City Hall.

Republican women plan candidate forum Monday TWIN FALLS - Last-minute reservations for the Twin Falls Republican Women's candidate forum luncheon must be made today. The luncheon will be held Monday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. inside the Oak Room at the Canyon Springs Canyon Hotel. Tickets are \$10.

Blaine planners to discuss new medical building HAILEY - The Blaine County Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a special meeting at 6:30 p.m. today to review St. Luke's Wood River Medical Center's request for a conditional-use permit to construct a medical office building.

Utah foster kids moved to cut costs SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - With no new money coming its way following the 2000 Legislative session, the state's child welfare division has relocated more than 100 foster children in an effort to cut costs.

Utah foster kids moved to cut costs SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - With no new money coming its way following the 2000 Legislative session, the state's child welfare division has relocated more than 100 foster children in an effort to cut costs. Already struggling with a \$1.1 million shortfall, the Utah Division of Child and Family Services has moved the children from high-cost treatment centers to less expensive foster homes since December.

The survey, conducted by the Graduate School for Social Work at the University of Utah, showed only 7 percent of the division's work force feel they get paid enough. Starting pay for child workers in Utah is close to \$40,000 in Colorado and Idaho, but \$30,000 in Idaho. In Utah, the pay scale starts at just over \$22,000.

Valley in brief

highway improvement project between Timber Way and Serenade Lane. The hearing will be held upstairs in the old county Courthouse at 206 First Ave. S.

Kimberly School Board agenda includes science KIMBERLY - The Kimberly School Board will discuss math and science curriculum, among other issues, at its meeting tonight.

Earth Day activities set for Wood River Valley KETHUM - The Environmental Resource Center will celebrate Earth Day this week with a variety of events, including a slide show titled "Southeast Asia on a Shoestring."

Sun Valley City Council to review hospital budget SUN VALLEY - The Sun Valley City Council will review Wood River Medical Center's budget and set a date to adopt

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Time-News marketplace

the city's budget at its meeting today. The council will also consider setting an Aug. 17 date to adopt the budget. Today's meeting will begin at 4 p.m. in the Sun Valley City Hall council chambers. The meeting is open to the public.

K-8, new teacher standards top Ed Board agenda IDAHO FALLS - Standards for kindergarten through eighth grade and standards for teacher certification will be introduced in draft form to the State Board of Education at its monthly meeting today in Idaho Falls.

Lydia Guerra, state existing standards coordinator, will introduce kindergarten through eighth grade standards to the board. Board approval will be requested in June. Lawmakers this year adopted high school standards.

ERC will launch its new website - erc.org - with a party at the center for the whole community from 3 to 7 p.m. Saturday at the center, Sixth and Leadville streets.

That same day it will unveil its Teen Art Show, featuring art from the Community School, Wood River High School and the Alternative School. Refreshments will be served.

Sun Valley City Council to review hospital budget SUN VALLEY - The Sun Valley City Council will review Wood River Medical Center's budget and set a date to adopt

Democrats donate tax refund to schools

REXBURG (AP) - Showing their disapproval for a last-minute state Legislature decision, some Madison County Democrats handed over their meager surplus refunds to the school district. Superintendent Brent Orr collected 18 checks totaling \$199 Tuesday evening. All but one check was for \$11, the average amount each Idaho taxpayer receive under the Legislature's \$28.9 million tax relief bill.

"Republican or Democrat, we can use the money," Orr said. The money will help pay for a new community recreation center being built at Madison High School. Lee Terry, a Democrat running for state representative, said the \$28.9 million tax relief money could have been better spent as a lump sum instead of giving everyone \$11.

"We know it's a token amount, but we feel like the tax relief bill was a token too," Terry said.

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ELLIS ESTATE AUCTION SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2000 Located from the northwest corner of Bluff, Idaho, (Jacksons County Cafe) 7 miles northwest on US 10 to 4500 ft. (Hershey School House) then east and north for 1 1/2 miles to the end of the road. Sale Time: 11:00 AM Lunch by Filer Mennonite Youth

PICKUP - TRUCKS - TRACTOR 1970 Chevrolet 1/2 ton pickup, 400 V8 recently overhauled, automatic, P.S., P.B., long wide body box with hi camper shell... HORSE MACHINERY 3 McCormick Deering single row corn cultivators... MIDDLE AGED EQUIPMENT Hesston 200 12' swather, draper platform, Wisconsin engine... COLLECTIBLES Good 4 wheel wooden wheeled wagon running gears... SHOP ITEMS Hallett stationary air compressor... MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS Old military 4 cylinder flathead gas generator on rubber... NOTE: Jess accumulated a lot of stuff. He operated a repair garage for many years. All of his old cars have been sold. Farm has been sold. New owner wishes to clean it all up. OWNER: JESS ELLIS ESTATE

ANTIQUE AND COLLECTIBLE AUCTION April 20, 21, 22, 2000 Thurs. Fri. Sat. • 1:00pm Each Day Best Western Burley Inn & Convention Center • Burley, Idaho The following items will be sold on Saturday, April 22, 2000 Dazey Butter Churns • Redwing Crocks • Noritake China Indian Arrowheads and Points • Wedgewood China 5 Antique Display Cabinets • Autographed Memorabilia Roy Rogers and Dale Evans Paper Dolls Call to confirm sale session of any other items of interest Lucky Bourn 436-6315 or 670-6315 or Tom Williams 532-4348 We reserve the right to sell two rings if needed. Announcements on sale day take precedents over printed material. Bourn Auction Service Lucky Bourn - 670-6315 • Tom Williams - 532-4348 Guest Auctioneer Norm Shaw • Indianapolis, IN www.bournauctions.com



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- Watered, as the lawn
- Message
- Blow or Barton
- Deaf letters
- Resource available
- Deaf letters
- Cornic bits
- Finagle
- Market
- Texas shrine
- Market
- Creative work
- High RFA
- Comprehend
- Fleeing trace
- Stench
- Sides of "Cocoon"
- Makes the first bid
- Head first place
- Machado
- Game in neutral
- Nights before
- Life of a region
- Work on manuscripts
- Riot
- Slope side
- Escaping scanty
- Heart of a dynamo
- Stare fixedly
- Inhabitant of a hill
- Teheran native
- Swallow
- Sun speech
- Masses of ice
- Scarlett's Butler
- Make an effort

**DOWN**

- nap
- Downy
- \_\_\_\_\_ borealis
- Bill's companion
- Psychologist
- Playlists
- Lateral parts
- Mis-lite decade
- Taken by surprise
- Herring's kin
- Employ
- Crises or Attack
- Put two and two together
- Covertly
- Wailing
- Wetland
- Youngster
- Protest
- Catch sight of
- Any — time
- Legislative body
- Additional
- Mimicked member
- First name in denim?
- More pungent
- Woodwind
- More pungent
- Well-plum'd
- 58 "OB VII" author
- 60 Mailed
- 61 Meet out
- 62 Mine find
- 63 Clorox
- Grab hold of
- 58 Sarson's
- 59 "OB VII" author
- 60 Mailed
- 61 Meet out
- 62 Mine find
- 63 Clorox

**Wednesday's Puzzle Solved**

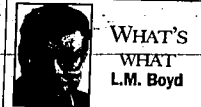
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## Redbook survey may surprise some readers

Item 179C in our Love and War man's files is this conclusion Redbook magazine editors drew from their 1975 survey of 100,000 women: "The religious female is the most sexually satisfied, the most sexually active...woman in the country."

Woody the Woodpecker, or I should say his kind of bird, the pileated woodpecker with its scarlet crest and maniacal laughter, mates for life and builds a new nest every year.

Even some of the finest minds in Pierre remain ignorant of the fact that humans were native to the South Dakota.



WHAT'S L.M. BOYD

slip that ties with drawstrings. Remarkable costume, the sari. Believe I mentioned it takes the production 6,000 silkworms to make one.



Looking for Abby? She's on C2

Q. I know a little about Robert de Niro, Jr., the actor, but nothing about Robert De Niro, Sr. ...  
A. List the father as a painter, sculptor and poet. And the mother, Virginia Admiral, as a painter.

Wings of a male mosquito bent faster than the wings of a female mosquito. But not much.

Q. Understand a few early settlers of the Jamestown colony went immemorially to live with the Indians. Why?  
A. To find out what wild foods they could eat safely.

Q. What does the woman of India wear under her sari?  
A. A sort of vest that doesn't cover the waist. And a long half-

Academy Award Winner-Hillary Swank  
Best Actress

**BOYS DON'T CRY**

Daily 7:00, 9:30 PM  
Sat.-Sun. 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30 PM

LAMPHOUSE THEATRE  
Art Cinema & Video

## Your Movies

Showtimes 731-2100 21 Hours

**Twin Cinema 12**  
101 East Main Street, Twin Falls, 731-2100

Thursday 4:00-7:15-9:45  
 • High Fidelity  
 • American Beauty  
 • Erin Brockovich  
 Thursday 5:15-7:30-9:45  
 • Romeo Must Die  
 • 28 Days  
 • Skulls  
 Thursday 5:15-7:15  
 • Here on Earth  
 Thursday 4:55-7:00-9:15  
 • Mission to Mars  
 • Ready to Rumble  
 Thursday 5:00-7:00-9:15  
 • Return to Me  
 • Road to El Dorado  
 Thursday 4:15-7:00-9:30  
 • Keeping the Faith  
 Thursday 9:45  
 • Black and White

**Jerome Cinema**  
300 West Main Street, 731-2100

Daily 7:00-9:30  
 • Sat-Sun 1:00-4:00-7:00-9:30  
 • Rules of Engagement  
 • Erin Brockovich  
 Daily 7:15-9:15  
 • Road to El Dorado  
 • Ready to Rumble

All Prints Before 9:30 pm, \$3.99

Another cast. Another song. Another day.

## WHERE THE MONEY IS

PAUL NEWMAN  
LINDA FIORISTONO  
DERMOT MULRONEY

the ORPHIUM Daily 7:00-9:30  
 215-700-9999

Mormon Cinema is Born! "Two Very Big Thumbs Up!"

Two Great Movies - Adults Only \$4.50

**GOD'S ARMY**

THE TRAILER - www.mormon.com

Twin Cinema 12 Starts Friday Jerome Cinema 4

FOR EVERY BREATH THERE'S A PRICE OF GLORY

JIMMY SMITS

**PRICE OF GLORY**

www.priceofglory.com

In Digital Surround in Both Towns

YOU WON'T COME UP FOR AIR UNTIL IT'S OVER!

**U-571**

Twin Cinema 12 Starts Friday Jerome Cinema 4

Feature #1 Fri - Sat - Sun at 8:30

"A TOUCHING LOVE STORY"

**Here on Earth**

Two Great Movies - Adults Only \$4.50  
 Kids Under 14 FREE - PAI Stereo in Your Car

Feature #2 Fri - Sat - Sun at 9:00

**READY TO RUMBLE**

www.readytorumble.com

Feature #1 Fri - Sat - Sun at 8:30

**MISSION TO MARS**

For centuries we've been looking for the origin of life on earth.

Two Great Movies - Adults Only \$4.50  
 Kids Under 14 FREE - PAI Stereo in Your Car

Feature #2 Fri - Sat - Sun at 9:00

PIERCE BROSNAN AS IAN FLEMING'S JAMES BOND

**The World is Not Enough**

007

## Today's your birthday? You have fatal attraction

**IF APRIL 20 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY:** You are sensitive, emotional and too often you attract people who take advantage. Capricorn, Cancer persons play major roles in your life - could have these letters, initials in names: B, K, T. People who think you are a pushover will learn hard, valuable lessons. Some social contacts recently made require a follow-up. Travel in June; money and romance in September.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Dive into areas previously neglected. Be an independent explorer. Be ready for an unusual, exciting assignment.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20):** Break through to new dimensions. Study Aries message for vital hints. Don't follow others. Tell one you love of your true feelings.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Catch up with individual who made promises that so far have not been kept. Display wit, wisdom, charm.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** You are released from obligation that was not your own in the first place. Valuable lesson learned: Don't do favors for those not enthusiastic. Sagittarius involved.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Utilize showmanship, color coordination to gain attention for talent, product. Real estate, property requires more attention, especially in connection with plumbing.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Your kind of day. Analyze, investigate, prepare written report. Your efforts appreciated by higher-ups.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Music plays: Dance to your own tune. Attention revolves around home, security, decisions relating to marriage, where to live.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Do! Fine tunes. Heed inner voice. Follow instincts and your heart. Follow words of love. Don't be persuaded to go against principles.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Be ready for power play. Some envious people want you out of the picture. Do not oblige. You have allies behind the scenes. Capricorn, Scorpio involved.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** You could be knocking on doors of fame, fortune. Open lines of communication. Individual in another country wants to talk to you.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Lead the way to unique study group. Original approach to manic arts proves refreshing. Stress independence, scholarship.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Focus on cooperation with one who can be charming when needed to. Question arises concerning legal partnership, marriage. Play cards close to chest.

**FREE GIFT CERTIFICATES**

SPRING 2000

Spend \$125 on cotton purchases from April 15 - 22 and receive a \$10 mall gift certificate good at participating retailers. See customer service for details.

Get a digital photo taken w/the Easter Bunny everyday through Easter in Center Court!

**Magic Valley Mall**  
POLE LINE ROAD & BLUE LAKES BLVD.  
TWIN FALLS • 733-3000

**Take it from SPOT...**

**BABELS CLEANERS**  
doggone good at removing spots. Bring us all the "old friends" hanging out in your closet!

THURSDAY ONLY

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225 Spokane St., e.  
Twin Falls, Idaho 83401  
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## RMC will offer DSL to valley

The Times-News

**TWIN FALLS** - Vancouver, Wash.-based New Edge Networks, a wholesale DSL provider, Wednesday announced it is teaming up with RMC Internet Services to provide high-speed DSL access to the Internet for its customers in Twin Falls, Halley, Ketchum and nine other Idaho communities.

A Boise-based longtime Internet service provider, RMC plans to begin signing up customers immediately for high-speed Internet access powered by New Edge's technology. Customers can choose among various DSL service options and speeds to meet their individual or business needs, New Edge said.

RMC will offer DSL service - Digital Subscriber Line, which uses existing phone lines to let a customer use a phone and the Internet at the same time - from New Edge Networks also in the greater Boise area, Nampa, Caldwell, Meridian, Eagle, Idaho Falls, Pocatello, Lewiston and Coeur d'Alene as the company expands its network throughout the state.

Using standard phone wires in homes and businesses, DSL technology can provide access to the Internet and corporate LANs at speeds up to 100 times faster than traditional analog modems, New Edge said. Other key benefits include continuous "always on" connections eliminating dial-up or waiting, secure access using dedicated facilities, and reliability because the network is monitored around the clock.

For business customers with dedicated leased lines from local telephone companies, business-class DSL technology generally provides the same speed at half the monthly cost, New Edge said. Monthly DSL rates range from \$60, which includes the monthly ISP access charge, local telephone charges and unlimited usage.

"Broadband or high-speed Internet access will fundamentally change how communities we serve conduct business and how consumers will learn, work and play," said Michael A. Lukes, CEO of RMC Internet Services. "By providing and expanding DSL service in Idaho, RMC and New Edge Networks are helping to close the digital divide that separates those who have ready access to technology from those who do not."

Stuart Eastman, general manager of the northwest region for New Edge, said: "Our success in negotiating agreements with local, regional or national ISPs demonstrates the strong demand for high-speed Internet access in small, midsize and semi-rural areas, as is evident in Idaho."

## Cost of living drops slightly

### Low utility prices help TF consumers

By Virginia S. Hutchins  
Times-News writer

**TWIN FALLS** - Twin Falls consumers paid more for transportation and for certain goods and services than the national average, but low utility prices pushed the city's cost of living three percentage points below the average in the fourth quarter of 1999.

That's according to the latest cost-of-living report from the American Chamber of Commerce Research Association, a nonprofit organization based in Alexandria, Va.

The overall cost-of-living index, which takes into account groceries, housing, utilities, transportation, health care and miscellaneous goods and services. For October through December, Twin Falls' index dropped to 97 percent of the average for cities surveyed -

after falling exactly at the national average for the first three months of 1999, inching up to 100.9 percent in the second quarter and falling to 98 percent in the third.

By a small margin, this was Twin Falls' best fourth quarter in a while. The city's fourth-quarter composite cost measure was at 97.3 percent in 1996, 97.7 percent in 1997 and 102.4 percent in 1998.

Please see COSTS, Page C7

### Twin Falls fourth-quarter cost of living

Energy Index	100.9
Housing	97.3
Utilities	79.2
Transportation	107.4
Health care	83.4
Misc. goods and services	101.6
Composite index	97.0

## Surveys turn up shifts

By Virginia S. Hutchins  
Times-News writer

**TWIN FALLS** - Fewer Twin Falls-area companies plan expansion than a decade ago. More prefer leasing to building ownership than in the past, and the search for potential employees has emerged as an obstacle to doing business here.

Those are some of the noteworthy results of the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce's most recent

"Business Information Survey," the chamber's executive Vice President Kent Just said this week.

The chamber's expansion committee in 1999 mailed surveys to a cross-section of 90 chamber members and received 29 responses.

So the survey is by no means a comprehensive picture of Twin Falls commerce. But comparisons to the chamber's similar 1989 and 1994 surveys yield these insights:

• Among surveyed businesses was a significant shift from building ownership to leasing. In 1999,

Please see SHIFTS, Page C8

## POUR SOME MORE

### Milk goes to new packaging

The Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** - Hoping to juice up its sales, the dairy industry is making big changes in the looks of the plastic jug, created half a century ago.

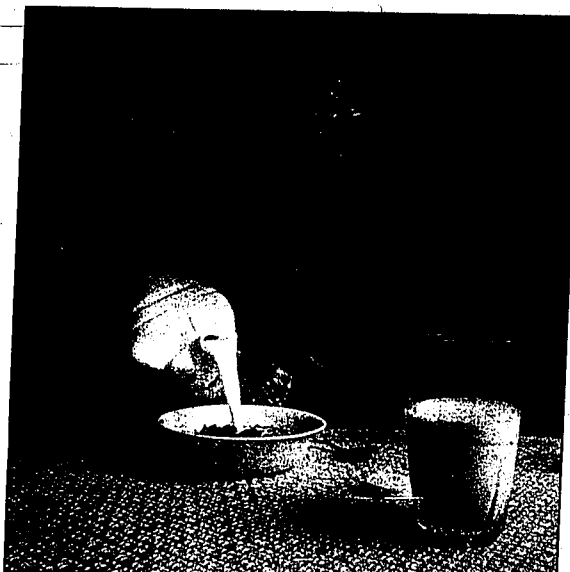
New on the market are a pitcher-like jug so easy to pour from that a 4-year-old can use it - without spilling - and jazzy single-serving bottles of flavored milk aimed at teenage boys that would replace the half-pint cartons that are the staple of school cafeterias.

"The milk industry realized some years ago that it had to perk up its act a bit, or appear more relevant to consumers, especially young consumers," said John Siche, editor of Beverage Digest.

For years, milk has been steadily losing market share to soft drinks, juice, bottled water and other beverages. Milk consumption dropped from 19.4 gallons per person in 1988 to 18.2 gallons in 1998.

Enter the Milk Chug, single-serve bottles of flavored milk introduced by the nation's second-biggest dairy processor, Dean Foods Co. of Franklin Park, Ill. Sales totaled \$100 million in 1999 and are projected to double to \$200 million this year as the product is introduced nationwide, thanks to a new technology that the company says triples the shelf life of milk to six weeks or more.

Now mostly in convenience stores and supermarkets, Milk Chugs will soon be sold in vending machines in Philadelphia. A smaller competitor, Smith Dairy of Orville, Ohio, has a similar product called Mover selling in convenience stores in New Jersey and several Midwest



states. The drinks give kids a healthy alternative to soda, said Eric Blanchard, a Dean Foods spokesman.

"That's the main goal, to get people to drink a healthier product that is still fun and tastes good," Blanchard said. "For years, you didn't have the convenience or the portability or the re-sealability with the standard half-pint or a pint of milk."

The new three-liter milk jugs are aimed at younger kids - and their parents. First introduced

in Canton, Ohio, last year, the new jug was designed so a child could pour a glass by tilting the bottle rather than lifting it up. So far, the "rock and pour" jug can only be found in limited markets, primarily in Ohio, Michigan and New York, but it soon will be available in Virginia and North Carolina as well.

"I love it, it's really a neat design," said Eric Tim, who manages a Churchill supermarket in Toledo, Ohio, that recently started selling the new bottles. "My 12-year-old doesn't

spill it all over the counter anymore."

Dallas-based Suiza Foods, the nation's biggest dairy processor, is test marketing an oval-shaped jug of its own in New England, Nevada and Michigan.

"It's been sort of a long time coming," said Art Jaeger, assistant director of the Consumer Federation of America. "I think it's a positive step."

Jaeger's one concern is that retailers will price the three-liter bottles - which contain about 101.5 ounces - the same as gallon jugs with 128 ounces.

Four-year-old Alexandria Jansen adds milk to her cereal from a new three-quarter quart milk bottle at her parents' home in Galtherburg, Md. The dairy industry, in an attempt to boost sales, has introduced a pitcher-like bottle to make pouring milk easier for young children.

### Planning - C8

The chamber's expansion committee in 1999 mailed surveys to a cross-section of 90 chamber members and received 29 responses.

So the survey is by no means a comprehensive picture of Twin Falls commerce. But comparisons to the chamber's similar 1989 and 1994 surveys yield these insights:

• Among surveyed businesses was a significant shift from building ownership to leasing. In 1999,

Please see SHIFTS, Page C8

## Downtown board declines money request

The Times-News

**TWIN FALLS** - The Historic Downtown Business Improvement District declined a request by fired executive director Randy Bombardieri that he be compensated an additional 10 days beyond his original compensation package.

The board came out of executive session Wednesday to vote not to meet Bombardieri's request, BID board member Keith Hanifen said.

"We just felt we had been very fair in the package that was given to him," she said.

In other business, the board chose six board members to help narrow down the 16 applicants for executive director to five.

From downtown, Lillis Anderson, Hanifen, Donna Skinner, Gordon Curd, Norman Wright and Richard Crowley will participate. From the Old Towne Business Improvement District board, Steve Soran and Jim Vickers will participate.

The group meets at noon today to decide on the five strongest candidates, Hanifen said.

## Make a Good Look... What Do You See?

It's your home, right? At Idaho Central we see a Powerline Home Equity Line of Credit... the last loan you may ever need. What if you could just write a check for... say, a new car.. a boat.. a vacation... or, home improvements and never again have to fill out a loan application?

Make the right choice for your home equity loan and call Idaho Central Credit Union! We'll help you put your equity to work and save you money. Rates are as low as Prime Rate plus 0% APR\* with no set up fees, so now is a great time. And remember, the interest you pay may be tax deductible. Don't wait, call or stop by today. We want your business!



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\*Prime Rate as published 10 days before the end of each month. As of 3/21/00 the regular APR was 3.75%. Prerequisite requires \$10,000 of liquidity equity in order for fees to be paid. The Powerline Home Equity Line of Credit is subject to credit review and approval by Idaho Central Credit Union. A \$60 annual membership fee will be charged on all Powerline with no activity during the preceding 13-month period. All fees will be waived during the first year. Offer valid through 10/31/00.

MONEY

Accolades
A DIME AT A TIME



Photo courtesy Heilig Meyers

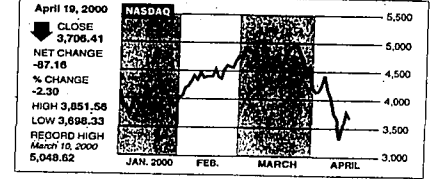
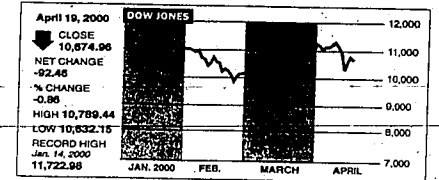
A Twin Falls furniture business is raising money for March of Dimes WalkAmerica, and it's looking for help from customers and others. Heilig Meyers said it has placed a bed in its showroom that it wants to completely cover with dimes for the fund-raiser in time to take it to the WalkAmerica starting line in City Park April 29. Pictured are the company's Christine, Dave and Myril. In the back row; Holly, Wiley and Dawn in the middle; and Cynthia in the front. Heilig Meyers gave only employees' first names.

What it's about

Business Special
We've submitted photos of ribbon cuttings, grand openings, honored employees and the like. Send photographs, and informa-

Stocks close lower as IBM, Intel decline

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks fell Wednesday as investors took some profits from a powerful two-day run and shares that failed to live up to high expectations for corporate earnings. Mild volume and modest losses for major market indicators made for one of the calmest sessions of the year, in sharp contrast to the violent market swings of recent weeks. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 92.46 to close at 10,674.96, having gained up a solid midday gap. The Nasdaq composite index fell 87.16 to close at 3,706.41. Broader stock barometers also closed lower. The Standard & Poor's 500 fell 14.14 to 1,427.47. The decline reminded investors that last week's devastating sell-off has left the market vulnerable. So-called mixed reports on corporate earnings and a sense that the rally on Monday and Tuesday may have been overdone sparked selling on Wednesday, analysts said. "More than anything else, we had a negative reaction to the two strong days that came before," said Ricky Harrington, technical analyst at Wachovia Securities in Charlotte, N.C. "The market has had a strong technical rally but it might not yet be sustainable."



Costs

Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce participates in the survey every quarter. Over the past 10 years, local cost-of-living numbers have fluctuated greatly. The numbers moved mostly upward during the 1990s, fueled by increases in housing costs. ACOCA's report is based on 59 items priced in 311 urban areas around the nation. Chambers of commerce, economic development organizations and other groups collect prices quarterly. Twin Falls residents in the fourth quarter paid higher prices for haircuts, newspapers, movie admission, tennis balls and Monopoly games than their counterparts in Boise, Pocatello and

Idaho cities in the recent report. But locals shelled out less than other city-dwelling Idahoans visit the beauty salon, bowl with friends, see a doctor or grab a quick hamburger or chicken meal. They paid smaller energy prices than cities with power and less for Polysporin medicine or hospital room than residents of the three other cities. The news was mostly positive at the grocery store. T-bone steak, ground beef, spuds, bananas, tomatoes, cereal, Kleenex tissues, frozen corn and baby food cost less in Twin Falls. But tuna, eggs, Cascade soap and Crisco shortening had higher

price tags here than in Boise, Pocatello or Idaho Falls. A house that sold for \$137,667 in Twin Falls would have cost \$137,470 in Idaho Falls, \$124,259 in Pocatello or \$131,300 in Boise, the report said. Twin Falls' mortgage interest rates, however, were just second-highest among the four cities. Of the four Idaho cities surveyed, Twin Falls had the second-highest principal and interest on home mortgage payments; \$749 in Twin Falls, \$725 in Pocatello and \$710 in Boise. Apartment rent of \$545 in Twin Falls fell between the corresponding \$419 in Pocatello and

\$692 in Boise. But consider yourself fortunate; that same type of apartment rented for \$1,248 in Washington, D.C. For other items on the list, Twin Falls' prices fell somewhere in the middle of the Idaho data. The composite cost of living in Boise came in at 96.7 percent of the national average, Idaho Falls at 98 percent of average and Pocatello at 98.6 percent in the fourth quarter. Times-News Business Editor Virginia S. Hutchins can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 242, or by e-mail at virginia@magicalvalley.com

New York Stock Exchange

Table listing various stocks on the New York Stock Exchange, including columns for Name, Div, Last, and Chg.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ markets, showing index values, gains, and losers.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table listing NASDAQ national market stocks, including columns for Name, Div, Last, and Chg.

INDEXES

Table showing various market indexes such as Dow Jones Industrial, Dow Jones Transportation, and NYSE Composite.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table listing stocks of local interest with columns for Name, Div, PE, Last, and Chg.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table listing stocks from the American Stock Exchange with columns for Name, Div, Last, and Chg.

How To Read The Market Report

Text explaining the symbols and abbreviations used in the market reports, such as 'A' for American Stock Exchange and 'D' for Dow Jones.

CLOSING FUTURES

Table of closing futures prices for various commodities including oil, grain, and metals.

BEANS

Table of closing futures prices for various types of beans.

GRAINS

Table of closing futures prices for various grains like wheat, corn, and soybeans.

CHEESE

Table of closing futures prices for various types of cheese.

POTATOES

Table of closing futures prices for various types of potatoes.

CHICKEN

Table of closing futures prices for various types of chicken.

COFFEE

Table of closing futures prices for various types of coffee.

COPPER

Table of closing futures prices for copper.

CRUDE OIL

Table of closing futures prices for crude oil.

EURO DOLLAR

Table of closing futures prices for the Euro dollar.

HEAVY METALS

Table of closing futures prices for various heavy metals.

INDIAN RUBLE

Table of closing futures prices for the Indian ruble.

INDONESIAN RUPiah

Table of closing futures prices for the Indonesian Rupiah.

IRANIAN RIAL

Table of closing futures prices for the Iranian Rial.

JAPANESE YEN

Table of closing futures prices for the Japanese Yen.

KOREAN WON

Table of closing futures prices for the Korean Won.

NEW ZEALAND DOLLAR

Table of closing futures prices for the New Zealand Dollar.

RUSSIAN RUBLE

Table of closing futures prices for the Russian Ruble.

SINGAPORE DOLLAR

Table of closing futures prices for the Singapore Dollar.

TAIWANESE DOLLAR

Table of closing futures prices for the Taiwanese Dollar.

THAI BATH

Table of closing futures prices for the Thai Bath.

MARKETS

SUGAR

Table of market prices for sugar, including NY and London futures.

LIVESTOCK

Table of market prices for various livestock including cattle and hogs.

SOYBEAN MEAL

Table of market prices for soybean meal.

SOYBEAN OIL

Table of market prices for soybean oil.

WHEAT

Table of market prices for various types of wheat.

WHITE WHEAT

Table of market prices for white wheat.

SOYBEAN MEAL

Table of market prices for soybean meal.

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Table of market prices for durum wheat.

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TF chamber starts strategic planning

By Virginia S. Hutchins Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - The Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce next week will jump full force into its strategic planning...

Country Club and golf course. The chamber won't nominate any local businesses for the Idaho Governor's Export Marketing Awards...

TF chamber starts strategic planning. The chamber also wants to know whether it is representing its members in the right areas and ideal business types for growth in job markets...

These advantages were mentioned before but not in the most recent survey: pro business climate, pro city administration, low crime rate, water and truck transportation...

Shifts

Continued from C6 37 percent said they leased their buildings. The growing professional office park - largely leased - off North College Road is another indication of that trend, just said...

On May 24, chamber board members and committee chairmen will spend an afternoon at the College of Southern Idaho's ropes challenge course, doing four hours' team-building exercises.

Respondents turned up some shifts in businesses' satisfaction with available transportation. Air service brought just 27 percent satisfaction, down from percentages in the 40s in previous surveys...

Respondents last year named one significant obstacle to business expansion within Magic Valley or Idaho that hadn't turned up in 1989 - finding potential employees in 1989, just 21 percent said they were having a problem finding workers...

Trade deficit hits record in February

WASHINGTON (AP) - The U.S. trade deficit shot up to a record \$2.2 billion in February as Americans' demand for foreign air hit an all-time monthly high while sales of exports dipped.

said Wednesday that the deficit widened by 6.5 percent in February compared to a \$2.4 billion January deficit. February's deficit was bigger than the \$2.9 billion imbalance many analysts were forecasting.

METALS/CURRENCY

Table of market prices for various metals and currencies.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Large table of mutual fund performance data, including fund names, returns, and other metrics.

## Two Swedes, an 18-foot boat, and the world

The seas turned stormy between Sweden and Denmark, and they got Roy Karlsen to thinking as his 18-foot motorboat was getting tossed about.

The Swede regularly crossed Skagerrak Sea to Denmark in the summer to purchase meat, cheese, wine and other items that were much cheaper than in his homeland.

It was during one of these trips in June 1990 - with waves crashing over his bow, tempestuous seas turning a 2-hour run into miles on that the wild notion hit him: "If I can go to Denmark in this little boat, I can go around the world."

Loony as it might sound, to Karlsen, 41, fixed his sights on setting a world record for traveling around the world in the smallest boat. Look out Guinness Book of World Records.

After years of planning, the project is off the ground and on the sea. In an open 18-foot boat with a 50-horse motor, Karlsen and Ove Herjogson, modern-day Vikings who call themselves "The Swedish Nuts," began the "Adventure Around the World" last June 5.

They have already logged 1,017 hours and 15,000 nautical miles on the water. They have traveled from Sweden to the Shetland Islands to the Faroe Islands to Iceland to Greenland, Labrador, Canada to the East Coast of the U.S. and to Cuba - where its Coast Guard tried ramming their boat. They continued through the Panama Canal to Mexico, San Diego and up the West Coast.

The plan is to proceed to Seattle, Kodiak Island in Alaska, the Aleutian Islands, Kamchatka in Russia, Japan, the Bering Sea, the Suez Canal and Mediterranean Sea, and around Europe back to home. Karlsen figures it'll take 50 months.

"You just have to stay alert and don't go out when it's too bad," he said. Safety has been a priority.

They wear floatation, foul-weather gear. They use state-of-the-art electronics and satellite navigation equipment. They e-mail ahead to the next port, obtaining weather reports from local authorities and advice from area fishermen on what conditions to expect. Each leg is 10 or 12 hours. They take 40 to 50 percent more fuel than they anticipate using, in case of an emergency. Like when they went from Greenland to Labrador. The 490-nautical-mile trip was expected to take 12 hours, a typical leg. It took 58 hours.

Despite reports of clear weather, the wind turned on them and a blanket of storm clouds. They were exposed to the cold wind in their faces. The sea was a maze of small icebergs. Lights were used to reflect those that radar didn't detect.

"If you're coming 13, 14 knots and go into a 20-knot wind, that's the Titanic big time," Karlsen said. "It was 58 hours of just fighting. It's very cold. I tell people 'I don't do it again - not in that boat.'

"But anyway, we made it. We set the record. Nobody in history has crossed the North Atlantic in an 18-foot boat with an outboard with no following boat. We are the only one."

A bigger record still looms. After closing his construction company, selling the equipment and divorcing his wife - amicably, he says - Karlsen is determined to complete the round-the-world voyage.

"I stopped my whole life back home," he said, adding that he keeps in touch with his two young sons via e-mail.

Herjogson, 38, had just returned from working the opal mines of Australia when Karlsen called. At the time, he was engaged.

Though the voyage requires determination, there are diversions - such as an invitation to go fly-fishing in the Grand Canyon, which they accepted. But the project has become a full-time job and the Swedish Nuts don't think circling the world in a motorboat sounds like a great vacation.

"It's up and down," Herjogson said of the voyage. "It's like a marriage."

Dave Stragy is an outdoors writer for The Orange County (Calif.) Register.

**BEND IN THE RIVER**  
Dave Stragy



Like a scene from an Alfred Hitchcock movie, starlings darken the sky.

STU MURRELL/The Times-News

# Friends of a feathered kind?

## House sparrows wreak havoc with Idaho's native birds, people, farms

By Stu Murrell  
Times-News correspondent

If you're looking for the bad guys of the bird world, look no further than the house sparrow, the starling and the feral pigeon. These introduced species wreak havoc with Idaho's native birds, people and agriculture.

For these reasons, they are unprotected and can be hunted year round in Idaho.

### House of horrors

The house sparrow was introduced from England in 1850 and liberated in Brooklyn, N.Y. It spread quickly throughout southern Canada, the United States and Mexico. Its primary food source was manure dropped by horses, so it followed the westward expansion.

The house sparrow is perfectly adapted to living in close proximity to man, even to the point of picking insects off the radiator of your car when you park in town.

Male house sparrows are about 6 inches long, reddish-tan on the back and tail with a black bib that extends from beak to breast.

The female is brownish with an unstreaked breast. It can easily be confused with other female sparrows or finches that are protected.

They are very adaptable birds, capable of nesting in any nook or cranny in buildings, cavities in trees, or vegetation.



Top left: The house sparrow, also known as the English sparrow, is a feisty aggressive bird.

Bottom left: Feral pigeons are sometimes known as 'rats with feathers.'

Top right: A starling by itself is a rare sight; groups of 100,000 or more have been observed at some Idaho feedlots.

### Wish upon a starling

The European starling was released in New York City's Central Park in 1850. Within 60 years, it had extended its range to California.

Now considered one of America's major pests, large flocks of starlings prove ruinous wherever they decide to roost in the fall and winter.

They typically hang around feedlots, eating what they can and fouling the rest of the livestock

feed with their droppings. Concentrations of more than 100,000 have been recorded at some large feedlots in Idaho.

Their screeching disturbs people in cities, and they give new meaning to the term "white-wash" whenever cars are concerned. They are great mimics of other birds; the call of the California valley quail is one of their favorites.

At 8 inches, starlings are similar to blackbirds in size but have shorter tails and an iridescent, speckled sheen to their black feathers. Their bills are dark in winter but turn a bright yellow when breeding season rolls around in the spring.

Starlings prefer cavities for nesting and, like house sparrows, they are quite aggressive. They have been known to mob other starling nests, kill the occupants and seize control of the nests.

Starlings flocks are fascinating to watch because several thousand birds often wheel in unison across the sky. The flocks appear as moving black clouds, but the birds never collide with one another.

They are naturally wary, so any movement will cause them to flare away from humans.

### Not so lovely dovey

Pigeons (also called rock doves) were brought to America by early settlers. Some escaped

to become wild birds. Today, they are common in the cliffs of the Snake River Canyon.

Their original color was slate gray with a white rump patch and dark terminal band on the tail. Even though some feral pigeons are white, brown or other colors, they all eventually breed back to the slate gray of their ancestors.

Attempts to control pigeon numbers in cities have largely been unsuccessful, even though they can carry a number of diseases - including hog cholera and parrot fever. Pigeon droppings deposited in air ducts at O'Leary Junior High School were thought to have caused illnesses in students a number of years ago.

Pigeons lay only two eggs in a clutch, but they usually have several broods in a season. An unusual adaptation allows adults to produce a thick, milk-like substance from the grains they eat. This is fed to the young, which allows them to develop much quicker than youngsters from other bird species. As soon as the young leave the nest, another clutch is laid. Pigeons are the favorite prey of many raptors, with falcons and golden eagles gobbling them down regularly. The endangered peregrine falcon has been introduced into cities to try to keep pigeon numbers under control. Boise has had a successful peregrine introduction, and office workers there can occasionally look out their windows to see a falcon swoop on its prey.

# The wild calls: Floral treasures abound in South Hills

Margo Schmitt  
Times-News correspondent

For those who while away their best hours enjoying the wonders of the high desert, colors that come to mind are a plethora of browns and the paler greens of the ubiquitous sage. The South Hills at this time of year can reveal delightful surprises for those of us who are willing to growl. The hills at this time are amazingly green; grass sprouts abound in the budding sage. As if the green is not reward enough, several varieties of wildflowers tug the earth and rock, sucking up the spring moisture that is so short-lived in this environment.

Most wild flowers in the South Hills blossom in the vicinity of springs. It would be folly to attempt to give directions. Anyone who knows the area "upsouth" either learns those dirt and rock tracks that pass for roads, or they leave a trail of bread crumbs to mark their way



Mountain blue bells are common at this time of year.

### Calls from the Wild

This feature is a forum for Times-News readers to share their stories outdoors. If you have an outdoors story to tell, give Outdoors editor William Brock a call at 733-0931, ext. 262. Mail written stories to Brock, % The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID, 83303, or e-mail them to wbrock@mgjvalley.com.

a loss. My experience with wildflowers is at higher elevations: the alpine plants of the Colorado high country, the July blooms of the Sawtooths - particularly the rainbow of color that covers the east shore of Sawtooth Lake. I thought it was early for the flowers I happened upon recently, but considering the short time this vegetation can enjoy moisture, it probably has little defense but to take advantage of the lengthening daylight, the warmer nights and the spring nutrients.

The prickly pear is budding. Numerous tiny, yellow, bell-shaped flowers dot areas of the hills. I found myself uttering a cry of delight when I found the mauve-blue shades of the mountain blue bell struggling from a chink in a rock escarpment.

Closer to the ground, there were small beds of white, phlox clusters. An occasional one, maybe two, pale lavender, aster-like flowers appeared. Most interesting was a small bush, maybe 6 to 8 inches high, that sported white, almost cotton-like buds.

Although I spend many leisure hours in the South Hills, I've never felt inclined to share my thoughts on what is the particular charm and beauty of the high desert. To find color, to discover that the hills do flower, I had the urge to share. Tarry not; nature won't accommodate these little beauties as cool spring days turn to the daily scorch of summer.

horns. Blue bells are located on area topo maps, but to hunt wildflowers in this fashion seems to remove the joy from the discovery. Just pull off the road, reveal in the greenness of the hills and

keep your attention low - very low, as the diminutive species that I encountered hugged the ground or groped the rocks. As for technical names of the species I found, I'm somewhat at

OUTDOORS

# Disease found at hatchery

**SALT LAKE CITY (AP)** — Signs of whirling disease have been found at the Midway fish hatchery and it will mean the loss this season of more than 300,000 catchable rainbow trout — 21 percent of the catchable fish stocked in Utah each year.

Traces of the parasitical disease were detected through new DNA testing. Standard tests continued to be negative, the state Division of Wildlife Resources said Tuesday.

It is the first time the disease has been found in a state-operated hatchery in Utah.

The affected fish were found in dirt raceways at the lowest portion of the hatchery, closest to Deer Creek Reservoir, where the parasite recently was confirmed.

It was believed the disease was introduced at the hatchery by fish-eating birds or other predators.

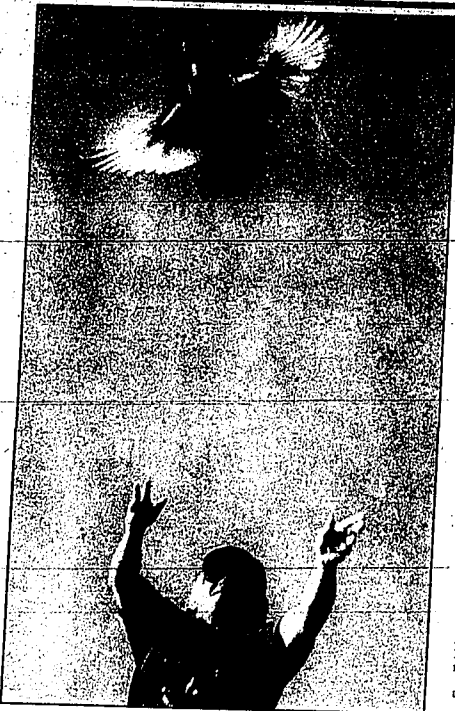
The state Fish Health Board agreed Monday to have 220,000 7- to 9-inch fish, which did not test positive for the disease, stocked in Jordanelle Reservoir, which also has tested positive for the parasite, said Tom Pettengill, DWR sport fisheries and aquatic education coordinator.

Another 600,000 2-inch fish will be released at the Jordanelle and Deer Creek reservoirs, but because of their small size, only a small percentage are expected to survive and grow large enough to be caught.

Most of the catchable fish from Midway are stocked in northern, central and northeastern waters. To lessen the impact on these waters, some of the fish that would have been stocked in southern Utah from other hatcheries will be put in the northern waters.

"People are going to notice the loss of fish statewide, not just in the northern part of the state," Pettengill said.

To make the best use of the available fish, the division will put most of them into reservoirs and lakes instead of rivers and streams.



Randy Hix, chairman of Jefferson County Chapter of Pheasants Forever, releases a pen-raised pheasant near Roberts, Idaho, earlier this month as part of a study being conducted by Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

# Hunters try to help pheasants

**IDAHO FALLS (AP)** — For a couple of hours on a recent Friday afternoon, Randy Hix felt like a teenager.

Standing on the edge of a farm field near the Snake River, the 52-year-old Idaho Falls man was surrounded by pheasants.

Some cackled and others crowded in response, raising the hair on Hix's neck.

Some flew, a burst of wings followed by a long, silent glide to a hiding point in the nearby brush. Others ran across the field, chasing hens, seemingly oblivious to Hix's presence.

"It was like a joy from my youth," said Hix, chairman of the Jefferson County Chapter of Pheasants Forever. "For a brief moment, I got to see a lot of pheasants flying around. They were everywhere. Hopefully, we will have it that way again."

Working with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Hix released more than 500 pen-raised birds at locations in Jefferson and Madison counties.

Using radio collars on some of the birds, biologists will track wild birds this year to find out when, where and why they die. That information will be used to help bolster eastern Idaho's pheasant population, which is a fraction of what it once was.

"I started hunting when I was 12," Hix said. "In October, every year, I went hunting. It was all I thought about, even more than girls for a while."

But as Hix grew older, pheasants grew rarer.

With the advent of center-pivot irrigation, more ground was cleared, tilled and irrigated. The brushy places that pheasants call home gave way to spud fields. Because there were fewer places to build nests and

hide from predators, the population declined. Birds became so rare that Hix quit hunting. He wasn't alone. At one time, 600,000 hunters killed as many as 400,000 birds; now fewer than 30,000 hunters kill about 115,000 a year.

As he pulled birds from pens and threw them into the air, Hix thought about the decline and dreamed for the return of his childhood days.

"I hope we have birds left over this fall to breed and propagate the species," he said. "If we have success, we'll be able to release birds in other areas. We'll have pheasants again."

Some Department officials share Hix's optimism. By tracking the birds, Fish and Game wildlife manager Brad Compton hopes to map areas where birds thrive. Knowing that, he said, the department can pinpoint bird transplants rather than just throwing the birds out and hoping they live.

The department is spending \$150,000 to \$170,000 this year on the pheasant release, which is also taking place in the Magic Valley. The money comes from donations and the sale of hunting licenses. While Compton hopes to find new homes for the fast-flying birds, some biologists believe the transplant will fail and reaffirm their long-held contention that farmers have chewed up too much pheasant habitat.

Tom Hemker, the state's top upland bird biologist, said

pheasants are tough and can survive on anything "but bare dirt." Pheasants need food, water and cover in small areas, he said. And because that combination isn't available in many parts of eastern Idaho, he said even with transplants pheasant populations will never return to the highs enjoyed in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

"Without major changes in farming, we'll never have enough habitat to have large pheasant populations," he said.

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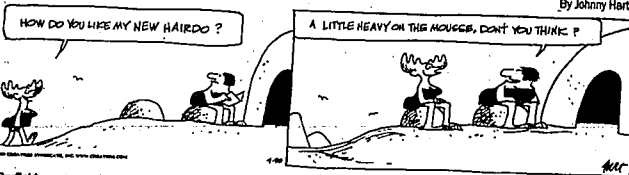
Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



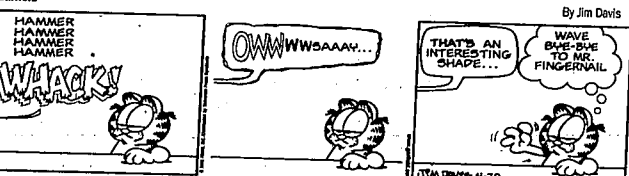
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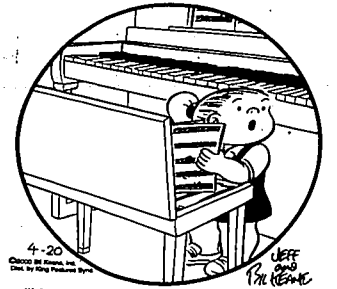
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By Chance Brown



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



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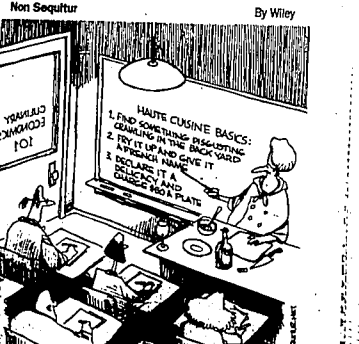
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Non Sequitur

By Wiley



OUTDOORS

# As caving interest grows in Utah, so do the injuries

Rescue squads encounter lack of knowledge, brains

By Edward L. Carter  
Deseret News

**NUTTY PUTTY CAVE, Utah**—First, you drop about 15 feet into a hole that gets progressively smaller, then you wiggle your way through a horizontal shaft so suffocatingly tiny that you probably will panic and back out.

If you haven't chickened out yet, you crawl Marine-style through several inches of water before the cavern opens up, but not much. Now you're in the Nutty Putty Cave, one of Utah County's most popular and least regulated recreation attractions.

Entrance to the cave is not restricted, and just about anybody who can find it can go inside.

The cave is located on a hilltop at the southwest end of Utah Lake.

"Make sure you wear a hard hat and bring two sources of light," said Kent Kowallis, an American Fork resident who has done his share of crawling around in dark, cold places.

"We say wear a hard hat not because we're worried about your head," joked Kowallis, "but because we don't like blood in the caves."

Indeed, cavers without a helmet are likely to get poked by a sharp, craggy rock hidden in the darkness. But most weekend cavers and hobbyists don't know about the no-blood-in-the-caves rule.

Ownership of land around the cave is shared by private individuals, the federal Bureau of Land Management and the state. Responsibility for managing the cave falls upon the state School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration, which does not advocate people entering the cave but also does not restrict access.

"It's really kind of a nightmare to manage," said Gary Bagley, a real estate specialist with the lands administration. "We don't want a public outcry about shutting it down. We just don't want somebody going in there and getting hurt."

Nutty Putty is just one of dozens of caves in Utah County, but it's also probably the most popular. It's fairly accessible by car, and word about it seems to have been passed down through generations of students at local high schools, Brigham Young University and Utah Valley State College.

As the weather warms up, outdoor enthusiasts head for the hills, water, trails and caves. And the rescue calls start coming in to the Utah County Sheriff's Office.



Joel Flory of Alpine, Utah, squeezes out of the Birth Canal, a narrow crevice in Nutty Putty Cave in Utah County earlier this month. Nutty Putty is one of the county's least regulated recreation attractions.



Members of the Alpine, Utah, search and rescue team enter Nutty Putty Cave earlier this month on a training exercise. In addition to inexperienced cavers who have needed help, the team has helped bail out motorcyclists and off-road-ers who have fallen into unmarked holes in the state's unpopulated areas.

Already week, a Provo man and his motorcycle were hoisted from a 25-foot deep mine shaft in Cedar Valley.

Kevin Dickerson, an avid caver and volunteer with the Utah County Sheriff's search and rescue team, helped bail out motorcyclist Nancy Garton, who didn't see the shaft as he rode his motorcycle up a hill.

Dickerson has also seen all-ter-

rain vehicles and even full-size Jeeps fall into big holes in Utah's sparsely populated areas.

"They see these piles of mine tailings and try to climb them," he said. "They're pretty good at getting up there but not at stopping once they reach the top."

Like many search and rescue volunteers, Dickerson and his fully equipped truck stand at the ready. He doesn't doubt he'll

soon be called to help pull someone out of Nutty Putty Cave or another hole.

Last year, two teens got stuck in the Nutty Putty Cave for 20 hours. Rescuers still reminisce about the effort to get them out of a tiny crack where they had gotten stranded.

"People don't understand the potential for things to go wrong," Kowallis said. "Just because you got in doesn't mean you can get out."

Inside the Nutty Putty Cave, visitors have myriad options of where to go. Two main shafts extend for up to a mile each, and the paths are fraught with peril and fun.

Vertical drops of up to 10 feet must be negotiated, and other spots require crawling, climbing, wriggling and plenty of holding on for dear life.

Increased use of the cave and attendant life such as camping, the prospect of injuries and four-wheel drive vehicles carving up the landscape prompted the School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration last year to begin considering how to better manage the cave.

Options include capping its entrance, installing a gate and giving keys only to a local caving club or posting signs with safety warnings.

"It is open, but if you go in there you better know what you're doing and be prepared," Bagley said.

## Utah man sets his sights on world's tallest peak

**SALEM, Utah (AP)**—A 47-year-old Orem man will try to climb Mount Everest with a Chicago man who wants to be the oldest person to reach the summit of the world's highest mountain.

Stacy Taniguchi has made Utah Valley his home for the past two years.

But it was the summer breaks from teaching biology in Alaska public schools that started Taniguchi on the trek to the roof of the world.

In 1986, Hawaiian-born Taniguchi began to spend his summers guiding in Denali National Park and Preserve in Alaska. Five years later, Taniguchi took Chicago businessman Al Hanna to the 20,320-summit of Mount McKinley.

This month, the two are on a six-member team headed to the top of the 29,028-foot mountain that straddles the Nepal-China border.

Both have completed many high-altitude ascents. It is Taniguchi's first and Hanna's third trip to Everest, and they are with the Seattle-based guide service Alpine Ascents International.

If the 68-year-old man succeeds in his summit bid, Hanna will set a record that will be almost impossible to beat. A 61-year-old Russian is the oldest man to reach Everest's summit. Hanna owns Mid-North Financial, a Fortune 400 company.

"He's (Hanna) a very unique individual," said Gordon Janow, Alpine Ascents director of programs. "He's has a passion for mountaineering. He keeps himself in excellent condition. He'll work out at 2 or 3 in the morning. It's lifestyle for him."

They were expected to arrive Saturday in Katmandu where they will depart for the Himalayas. Taniguchi expects to



Stacy Taniguchi

return to Utah

May 24. They will follow the path taken in 1953 by New Zealander Edmund Hillary and sherpa Tenzing Norgay, the first to stand

at the top of the world.

Weather and the cost of equipment, travel and permits are big obstacles to Himalayan summits.

Darick Mower, vice president of marketing for Neways Inc., can't control the weather.

But Mower expects some of the Salem-based company's products such as energy bars, protein powder and oxygenated water will ease the climb for Taniguchi and Hanna, who use Neways' products. "We're really looking at anti-

aging and longevity products," Mower said. "He (Hanna) has experience near the summit. We'll see how he feels in his ascent this time."

The family-owned company also is helping Taniguchi with equipment and expenses, Mower said.

Hanna and Taniguchi usually take to the mountains with the "Goon Squad," a group of friends who are professional guides.

Hanna has meant over the years. This time, it's just the two of them. They will be guided by

Vern Tejas who made the first winter solo ascent of Mount McKinley, Janow said.

"Stacy was Al's first guide," Janow said. "He's (Taniguchi) developed a well-known training regime for mountaineers."

Taniguchi retired from teaching and is a postgraduate student at the BYU Educational Leadership and Foundations Department. But rather than become a principal or superintendent, Taniguchi hopes to start a research center for outdoor education.

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## SAUSAGE FOR SUPPER



The Burley Presbyterian Church will serve its annual German Sausage Supper from 5-7 p.m. on May 21 at the church, 2100 Burton Ave. The men's group made 1,000 pounds of sausage for the sale. A free will offering will be accepted for the dinner. Sausage will also be sold by the package. The public is invited.

Photo courtesy Burley Presbyterian Church

## SIX GENERATIONS



This Magic Valley family boasts six generations spanning 160 years. Family members are, counter-clockwise, seated front, Katie Netz of Twin Falls, Irene Jensen of Buhl, Janice Clark of Buhl, Kim Cook of Jerome, and Wendy Reynolds and Stormy Reynolds, both of Jerome. Netz is 100-years old and Stormy is age 3.

Photo courtesy Jensen family

## THANK YOU LETTERS

### Businesses help encourage reading by Dietrich students

Thank you to all of the sponsors of the Dietrich School Read-a-thon, from the parents and community members sponsoring through pledges to the local businesses sponsoring us with their support of the prizes we collected for the students: Shoshone Taco Bell, Movieland Video, Dietrich Merc, Barnes & Noble, Shoshone Snack Bar and Shoshone Valley Co-op Convenience Store.

**CHARLENE FENELON**  
Dietrich Schools  
Dietrich

These sponsors are listed as follows: Arlene's Flowers, Epic Travel, Prescott and Craig, Giltner Trucking, Danny Vanderham, Jane George, Mark Saccoman, Long View Dairy, Idaho Power, Kurt Bradley, John and Susan Reitsma, Dr. Blake G. Johnson, Kurt and Linda Thompson and Christopher and Jennie Gibson.

Many thanks to all of my sponsors for providing me the chance to participate in a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!

**KIMBERLY MADSON**  
All-Star Cheerleader  
Jerome High School  
Jerome

### Doctor's office holds local patient in high regard

I am writing today to let everyone know all about the wonderful people at the Gooding Family Clinic. The receptionists were kind and polite, the nurse was friendly and courteous and Dr. Pryor provided exceptional care. These qualities are becoming scarce in today's society, and it is a real pleasure to find a doctor's office with such high regard for its patients. To everyone at the Gooding Family Clinic, keep up the good work and thanks for the wonderful treatment.

**BOB AND DEANNA BAILEY**  
Wendell

### Without help, Valley House could not complete its mission

Valley House is thankful to the Magic Valley for its financial support through the United Way. Valley House could not complete its mission without United Way participation.

The Magic Valley is a caring, concerned community, willing to help those in need who are working to help themselves. The United Way is an example of southern Idaho's strong, self-sufficient character. The United Way, through its governing board, employees, allocation committee members and other unselfish volunteers, is a visible example of our area's dedication to making the Magic Valley a better place to live, work and raise a family. The United Way is our area's means of combining the strengths of worthwhile charitable organizations.

The United Way has been a consistent factor in helping Valley House to stay on the course to its goal. Valley House is grateful to work with the United Way. Thank you, on behalf of the Valley House Board.

**ROGER WYATT**  
Manager  
Valley House  
Twin Falls

### Woman grateful for good care she received during illness

I would like to thank the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center staff, doctors, nurses, physical therapists and all who took such good care of me; to the Castelford Quick Response and ambulance for all prayers, cards, flowers, visits and phone calls; to the senior citizen center in Buhl who sent me cards; my friends and family who visited while I was in the hospital recovering from a heart attack. May God bless you all!

**DOLLIE WHALEY**  
Castelford

### Sponsors make trip to Paris available to cheerleader

I represented Jerome High School at the millennium celebration in Paris. This trip was made possible, in large part, due to the kind contributions I received from several local sponsors.

The Letters of Thanks column will publish letters of up to 150 words from:  
 Organizations thanking contributors or supporters.  
 Individuals thanking public agencies and businesses for extraordinary service.  
 If you would like to purchase a classified ad to express gratitude of a personal rather than public nature, call The Times-News Classified Service department at 733-0931, Ext. 270.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Buttons 'N Bows group cancels Saturday dance

EDEN - The Button 'N Bows group announced that the Saturday dance had to be canceled.

For more information, call Kenneth Stogsdill at 324-3080

### North side senior centers host Community Health Forums

FAIRFIELD - Community members are invited to a Community Health Forum, noon to 2 p.m. Friday at the Carnas County Senior Center at 127 E. Willow St. in Fairfield and from noon to 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Golden Years Senior Center at 218 Rail St. W. in Shoshone.

South Central District Health Department representatives will be available until 2 p.m. at both locations to share information and answer questions. The forums will present health information of area interest as well as strategies for promoting and protecting the health of residents, organizers say.

The forum in Fairfield includes lunch served at noon. Cost for lunch is \$3.50 for non-seniors. Lunch will be available at the Shoshone forum Tuesday for \$5 for non-seniors. Dessert will be served from 1-2 p.m.

For more information, call the health department in Twin Falls at 734-5900, Ext. 241.

### Kimberly Nurseries offers 'Right Tree for the Right Place' seminar

TWIN FALLS - Kimberly Nurseries will present a free seminar, "Choosing the Right Tree for the Right Place" at 9 a.m. Saturday at its location at 2862 Addison Ave. in Twin Falls.

Dwight Allen, nursery manager, will give advice on tree selection for the Magic Valley climate and soil conditions. In honor of Earth Day, organizers will give a free pony pack to participants who bring black pots and/or flats back to Kimberly Nurseries.

The seminar topic April 29 will be "Selection and Care of Roses." Kimberly Nurseries is holding seminars and/or workshops every Saturday through mid-December. Seminar participants are asked to pre-register.

For more information or to pre-register for a seminar, call 733-2717.

### Dietrich FFA plans annual awards banquet Tuesday

DIETRICH - The annual Dietrich FFA Awards Banquet is at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Dietrich High School gymnasium at 406 N. Park in Dietrich.

A social gathering will be held from 7-7:30 p.m. with the banquet at 7:30 p.m. Parents of FFA members with last names A-H are asked to bring a dessert and parents with last names I-Z are asked to bring a salad.

### Organizers host free Welsh Down Workshop orientation

TWIN FALLS - A Welsh Down workshop free orientation session is at 7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at the Twin Falls First Church of the Nazarene at 1231 Washington St. N. in Twin Falls.

The 12-week session shows participants how to win the diet battle and gain control over negative eating habits with a Christian approach, coordinators say. Cost is \$103 per person with second-time participants paying \$55.

For more information, call Laurelee Smith at 734-0626 or 734-2028 or Elise Christie at 734-1270 or 738-7325.

### Rock Creek Rascals sell baked goods for 4-H fund-raiser

TWIN FALLS - The Rock Creek Rascals is hosting a baked food sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at D & B Supply at 2964 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

The event is a fund-raiser for the Rock Creek Rascals 4-H organization. The public is invited to attend.

### Boy Scout Troop 68 plan community Easter breakfast

TWIN FALLS - Boy Scout Troop 68 will host its annual Easter Breakfast from 8-11 a.m. Sunday at the Immanuel Lutheran School cafeteria at 2065 Florin Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

Scouts will serve sausage, scrambled eggs, pancakes, juice and coffee. Free will donations are appreciated and the public is invited to attend.

For more information, call Jeni VanderVoet at 735-8303.

### Former Twin Falls resident celebrates 90th birthday

CYPRESS, Calif. - Tillie Bates of Cypress, Calif. and formerly of Twin Falls, will celebrate her 90th birthday Saturday with an open house in Cypress, where she resides with her daughter, Camille and son-in-law, George Rich.

Bates was a Twin Falls resident for almost 55 years and met and married John Bates there. She worked as a baker for Della, the Depot Grill and the Holiday Inn. Bates' children, Alvin, Albert and Maxine Pecks and several of her grandchildren plan to attend the celebration. She is the step-mother of Wayne Bates.

Anyone wishing to send cards or notes may send them to Tillie Bates, 10424 Cary Circle, Cypress, CA 90630

### Blaine County Senior Center hosts Easter celebration

HAILEY - The Blaine County Senior Center will host an Easter celebration at noon Friday at its location at 721 Third Ave. S. in Hailey.

Events feature and Easter bonnet parade at noon. Organizers will have decorations for Easter bonnets available before the parade and the public is invited to attend. For more information, call 788-3468.

### Gooding Elementary School holds kindergarten registration

GOODING - Gooding Elementary School will hold kindergarten pre-registration from 1-7:30 p.m. Tuesday and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday at its location at 1045 Seventh Ave. W. in Gooding.

Children who will be 5-years-old on or before Sept. 1 are eligible to attend kindergarten. Parents of children eligible for kindergarten in the Gooding School District are encouraged to attend pre-registration and skills testing Tuesday or Wednesday. Parents are asked to bring the child's official birth certificate and immunization records to pre-registration.

For more information, call Gooding Elementary at 934-4941.

## Salvation Army honors volunteer at gala dinner

TWIN FALLS - The advisory board of the Salvation Army in Twin Falls will honor a community volunteer at its second annual Heart to God, Hand to Others Gala Dinner May 6.

The volunteer of the year is Helen Arnold. Arnold moved to Twin Falls in 1971 after her husband died. She and two grade-school children were provided a free furnished home in the Salvation Army neighborhood by a woman who was confined to a nursing home, the board says.

Arnold was actively involved with the United Way and Red Cross as a volunteer during her working years at Twin Falls Bank & Trust. Her volunteer work began a way of life as she learned more about the other community agencies that work with the United Way, the Salvation Army says. When Arnold retired, she spent more time traveling as a volunteer for AARP.

In 1995, Arnold attended a special White House Conference on Aging. She was one of three delegates chosen to represent the state of Idaho, the Salvation Army says. Former Idaho Gov. Phil Batt appointed Arnold as Area IV Commissioner on Aging, a position she still fulfills today under Gov. Dirk

### Want tickets?

Tickets are available at the Salvation Army at 348 Fourth Ave. N. in Twin Falls. The cost of a chicken or chicken and tickets are \$25 per person. For more information, call the Salvation Army at 733-8720.

### Kemphorne

Silent auction bidding starts at 6:30 p.m. and dinner at 7:30 p.m. May 6 at the Turf Club on Falls Avenue in Twin Falls. The event will raise money for the Salvation Army's weekend open gym program. Activities which needed activities for community youth, organizers say.

Among the donated silent auction items are a \$50 gift basket from Kurt's Pharmacy, one week of meals from Homestyle Direct, two one-year memberships to Falls Avenue Fitness and meals from a variety of area restaurants. Live auction items include use of a cabin at Redfish Lake, breakfast or lunch with U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo, use of a condo at Elkhorn in Ketchum plus two rounds of golf at Valley Club in Hailey. Live auction will follow dinner at 7:30 p.m.

## Before adoption, there's home study assessment

Many parents feel drawn to a child they have seen in the Thursday's Child column or through another adoption recruitment program. But they are surprised to find that they need a home study before they can be considered.

A home study is a written assessment based on the interviews conducted by a licensed social worker. Home studies generally take several weeks to complete. If you are considering adoption of a child with special needs, begin this process well before you decide which child might fit in your family.

A home study focuses on family history, marriage (if applicable), community and family relationships, values, religious affiliations, reasons for wanting to adopt, feelings about adoption and related experience. A criminal history check,

physical exam and reference check are parts of the home study.

It is important to note that family income alone does not determine the placement of waiting children who

have special needs. Federal or State funded adoption subsidies may be available to offset the short and long-term costs associated with each child's individual needs.

Please note that the agency that conducts your home study and subsequent post-placement reports must be licensed to do so in Idaho. The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, as well as many other private adoption agencies, qualify individuals, are certified to perform a home study.

For the names and phone numbers of local resources, please call the Idaho CareLine at 800-326-2588.

### Thursday's Child























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FORD - '95 Taurus AC, Cruise, SW, PDU, Call 1-800-352-5002

FORD - '95 Mustang, low mil, new tires, one owner, 8800, Call 788-8810

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FORD - Mustang - '96, 401K miles, 4 dr., 5 spd, Call 800-733-4543

FORD - 1998 Contour, 54K miles, 88000, Call 843-8890

BUICK - Metro, 1992, 4 dr., AC, Cruise, Call 800-352-5002

HONDA - '93 Civic wagon, 4 dr., 110000, Call 733-8947

HONDA Accord EX, '98, 4 dr., 25K miles, 94000, Call 812-820-7014

HONDA ACCORD LX, '98, 4 dr., 31K miles, well maintained, new tires & vehicle held \$1000 offer, 878-0400

HONDA - '97 Civic, 50000 miles, AC, Pwr, auto, Call 1-800-733-4543

HONDA, Accord, '95, 4 dr., AT, 94K, 90 mpg, 88800, 847-8808 or 847-2778

HONDA Accord, 1995, 5 dr., AT, 4 dr., 130000, Call 83,000, 731-9220

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OLDS - '93 Cutlass Supreme, 4 dr., 10000, 800/offer, entry with 1000, \$14,000 offer, 734-9871

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PONTIAC Bonneville, '88, 92,000 miles, 800/offer, Call 734-6803

PONTIAC Fiero '86, 3 cyl, great cond., Sun roof, 5 spd, 80000, 800/offer, Call 733-4277

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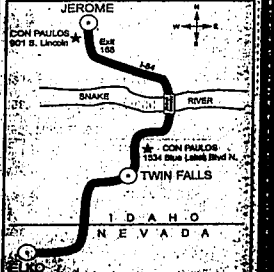
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