

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Rain and fog, High 44, low 35.
Page A2



Dear Santa,

More than 500 Magic Valley children submitted letters to Santa Claus. You'll feel a bit of the Christmas spirit when you read their delightful holiday wishes.

Today in *The Times-News*.

STILL GOING

New York transit strike doesn't derail many tech-savvy workers.

Page E1



TAKE THE TOUR

An inside look at the newly renovated College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center.

Inside TNT

COMING UP

Christmas pups

The popular outdoor dogs for Christmas this year
Friday in *The Times-News*

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Three children dead

Father faces murder charges in T.F.



Twin Falls Police Officer Matt Triner patrols the front of the house at 1831 Fourth Ave. E. where three children were found dead Wednesday morning. The father, Jim Junior Nice, 33, has been charged with three counts of first-degree murder.



Jim Junior Nice

Children previously taken from custody of parents

By Terry Smith
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Three children found dead Wednesday morning at their father's home at 1831 Fourth Ave. E. were once placed in the temporary custody of their grandparents following the drowning of a sibling in 2004.

Their father, 33-year-old Jim Junior Nice, was arrested Wednesday on three charges of first-degree murder.

According to 5th District Court records on divorce proceedings for Nice and his former wife, Leslie Raquel Nice, the three children, 6-year-old twins Justin and Spencer Nice and 2-year-old Raquel Nice, were temporarily placed in the custody of Gordon and Roberta Olsen, of Hagerman, following the drowning of 22-month-old Ian Nice.

According to *The Times-News* archives, Ian Nice was found against the grate in a small ditch at nearby Harmon Park on May 7, 2004. The child developed a heartbeat after emergency personnel performed CPR.

Ian Nice was transported by helicopter to St. Luke's Children's Hospital in Boise, where he died two days later.

According to court records: "At the time of Ian's death, both the Twin Falls City Police Department and the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare became involved in these parents' lives." The parents agreed to have the children immediately placed in the custody of Leslie's parents.

The children were later returned to the custody of their parents, who were granted joint legal and physical custody when a divorce was granted in March.

According to a March 17, 2005 divorce decree, the children were to live primarily with their mother in Hagerman while school was in session and with their father in Twin Falls during the summer months.

The divorce decree provides for visitation for the party not having residential custody every other weekend and alternate holidays. The decree also provides for evening visits on Tuesdays.

Officials won't say how the children died

By Terry Smith
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — A Twin Falls man has been arrested and charged with three counts of first-degree murder in the deaths of his children.

Jim Junior Nice, 33, was taken into custody Wednesday morning from his home at 1831 Fourth Ave. E., where police said they found the children's bodies.

Prosecuting Attorney Grant Loeb said Nice was to be arraigned today. He was being held without bond Wednesday evening in the Twin Falls County jail. According to the Sheriff's Office, Nice was examined at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center before being jailed.

Authorities declined to release information about how the children died, nor would they release the children's names.

According to 5th District Court records from divorce proceedings between Nice and his former wife, Leslie Raquel Nice, of Hagerman, the children were 6-year-old twins, Justin and Spencer Nice, and 2-year-old Raquel Nice.

The couple lost another child, 22-month-old Ian Nice, who drowned in a small ditch near Harmon Park in May 2004. Following the drowning, the other three children were temporarily placed in the custody of Leslie Nice's parents, Gordon and Roberta Olsen, of Hagerman, according to court records.

Police Chief Jim Munn said officers were sent to the Nice

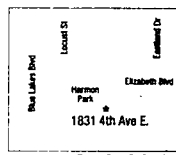


A Twin Falls police officer repositions a barricade along Fourth Avenue East in Twin Falls on Wednesday.



Chief of Police James R. Munn Jr. addresses the press at the Twin Falls City Council chambers Wednesday afternoon in a brief statement concerning three young children found dead in a Twin Falls home.

residence at 8:37 a.m. "to answer a radio call regarding the welfare of the residents." Later Wednesday morning.



An area about one-half block in size was cordoned off with yellow police ribbon while Twin Falls police detectives, Idaho State Police investigators and officers from the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms worked the scene.

Curious onlookers and traffic were prohibited from entering Fourth Avenue East between Madrona and Lenore streets.

Please see DEATHS, Page A2

UNCONSTITUTIONAL

Supreme Court rules on school funding

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

BOISE — The state's method of funding schoolhouse construction is unconstitutional, the Idaho Supreme Court ruled Wednesday but school administrators in Magic Valley remain skeptical about what will result from the ruling.

"We don't know that it will immediately help schools," said Jim Cobble, Jerome School District superintendent. "It would be a knee-jerk reaction

to say that it would." Area administrators said they will wait to see how the Legislature responds to the ruling before they consider a possible outcome from the ruling. Their skepticism is the product of a legal battle that spans more than 15 years and has left bitter debates in its wake.

The 21-page ruling scolds the Legislature for quibbling over the details of a few crumbling schools while failing to look at the big picture — that the local bonding system established by

lawmakers to pay for school buildings is insufficient under the Idaho Constitution, leaving many students without a safe place to learn.

State Rep. Bruce Newcomb, R-Barley, speaker of the House, said the ruling is not a decision, rather, it identifies a problem within the state's system for funding schoolhouse construction. He said the ruling suggests, though not explicitly, that school administrators and the Legislature must work together.

Please see FUNDING, Page A2

Patriot Act earns a last-minute reprieve

Knight Ridder News Service

WASHINGTON — Senate Republican leaders, faced with a New Year's Eve deadline for the expiration of the anti-terrorism USA Patriot Act, gave in to Democratic demands Wednesday and unanimously agreed to extend the current law by six months in order to add more civil liberties protections to a new version of the law.

Democrats block oil drilling in Alaska refuge.

See page C5

The agreement also ensures that the Patriot Act, the post-Sept. 11 law that the Bush administration credits for thwart-

Please see PATRIOT, Page A2



TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Rain and fog High 40s
 Tonight: Thin, likely freezing rain and sleet may mix in very light. Lows 30s
 Tomorrow: Receding shower activity Highs low 40s

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Rain, likely freezing rain and sleet may mix in Highs 40s
 Tonight: Glistening foggy with periods of rain mixing with snow possible. Lows 30s
 Tomorrow: A low light showers call possible. Highs 40s

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.

A fast moving storm will be on the scene today and Friday. Thin fresh powder on the slopes. The trouble will be in getting there. Slick and snow-packed roads are expected.

BOISE

Rain, fog and possibly even some sleet this night will be in the area today and Friday. This brief storm could have some effect on pre-Christmas travel plans.

NORTHERN UTAH

Late week travelers may run into some light rain and snow showers. Dry roads are expected this weekend.

City	Today	Tomorrow	HI	LO	W
Boise	36-29	37-33	36	31	mi
Idaho Falls	31-28	37-29	34	27	pc
Chubbuck	31-28	37-31	34	27	pc
Elgin	31-28	37-31	34	27	pc
Blackfoot	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Gardiner	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Hammond	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Shoshone	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Blackfoot	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Idaho Falls	36-29	37-31	34	27	pc
Chubbuck	36-29	37-31	34	27	pc
Elgin	36-29	37-31	34	27	pc
Blackfoot	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Gardiner	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Hammond	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Shoshone	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Blackfoot	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Idaho Falls	36-29	37-31	34	27	pc
Chubbuck	36-29	37-31	34	27	pc
Elgin	36-29	37-31	34	27	pc
Blackfoot	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Gardiner	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Hammond	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Shoshone	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Blackfoot	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc

Yesterday's Close Estimate: 52 at Grangeville. Low: 18 at Chubbuck. Weather: Rain, fog and possibly even some sleet this night will be in the area today and Friday. This brief storm could have some effect on pre-Christmas travel plans.

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Mail Information

The Times-News (EIP 631-080) is published daily at 132 Fairfield St. W. Twin Falls, by Lee Publications Inc., a subsidiary of Lee Enterprises. Periodicals paid at Twin Falls by the Times-News. Official city and county newspaper pursuant to Section 66-108 of the Idaho Code. Thursday is hereby designated as the day of the week on which legal notices will be published. Postmaster, please send change of address form to: P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, Idaho 83403.

TWIN FALLS 5 DAY FORECAST

Today	Tonight	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Rain and fog	Rain likely	Shower activity receding	Dry travel weather expected	A dry and nice Christmas Day expected	Clouds and showers returning
High 44	Low 36	41/31	40/28	41/27	42/28

ALMANAC TWIN FALLS

Temperature	Precipitation	Humidity	Barometric Pressure	Sunrise and Sunset
Yesterday's Low 31	Month to Date 1.0"	Yesterday's Maximum 72%	Yesterday 30.13 in.	Sunrise: 6:05 AM Sunset: 5:09 PM
Record High 81 in 1970	Year to Date 2.27"	Today's Maximum 72%	Sunday 30.13 in.	Sunrise: 6:05 AM Sunset: 5:10 PM

MOON PHASES

Temperature & Precipitation valid through 5 pm yesterday.

Dec 23	Dec 31	Jan 8	Jan 14
Waxing Crescent	Waxing Gibbous	Full Moon	Waning Gibbous

REGIONAL & NATIONAL FORECAST

City	Today	Tomorrow	HI	LO	W
Boise	36-29	37-33	36	31	mi
Idaho Falls	31-28	37-29	34	27	pc
Chubbuck	31-28	37-31	34	27	pc
Elgin	31-28	37-31	34	27	pc
Blackfoot	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Gardiner	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
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Elgin	36-29	37-31	34	27	pc
Blackfoot	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Gardiner	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Hammond	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Shoshone	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Blackfoot	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP

Temperature & Precipitation valid through 5 pm yesterday.

CANADIAN FORECAST

City	Today	Tomorrow	HI	LO	W
Calgary	36-31	41-26	mi	mi	mi
Edmonton	36-31	41-26	mi	mi	mi
Regina	36-31	41-26	mi	mi	mi
Winnipeg	36-31	41-26	mi	mi	mi
Vancouver	49-48	44-41	mi	mi	mi

MOONRISE AND MOONSET

Friday	Moonrise	12:07 AM	Moonset	12:33 PM
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U.V. INDEX

Low Moderate High

The higher the index the more sunburn potential.

WORLD FORECAST

City	Today	Tomorrow	HI	LO	W
Atlanta	47-43	48-31	47	30	mi
Boston	32-25	33-23	33	23	pc
Chicago	31-28	37-29	34	27	pc
Denver	31-28	37-29	34	27	pc
Houston	47-36	43-32	43	27	pc
Los Angeles	67-53	69-43	67	53	pc
London	54-32	67-43	mi	mi	mi
Manila	74-56	75-60	mi	mi	mi
Mexico City	49-28	44-33	mi	mi	mi
New York	40-28	41-31	mi	mi	mi
San Francisco	52-26	51-31	mi	mi	mi

Funding

Continued from A1
 to identify solutions to the problem.
 "Make no mistake about it," Newcomb said. "If the plaintiffs, or even the defendants, provide obstacles on this issue, there is a real will be that much more harsh on the party that does it."
 The lawsuit began in 1990, when 22 school districts calling themselves Idaho Schools for Equal Educational Opportunity banded together to sue the state over public school funding. The class-action lawsuit has bounced from court to court for 15 years, even making it to the Idaho Supreme Court a handful of times. In 2001, 4th District Judge Deborah Ball finally ruled the state's levy system was unconstitutional, prompting the state to bring a brief of issues on appeal to the Supreme Court.
 In a 4-1 decision, the high court's ruling Wednesday struck down those issues, stripping the case to a simple question of funding.
 In the court document, the Richfield School District is listed as one of the 22 schools involved in the lawsuit. However, the district says it resigned from the lawsuit in 2002.
 School districts throughout Magic Valley and the state have continued to follow the case. In the 15 years the case has been in litigation, almost every school district in Magic Valley went to voters for bonds to repair or build school facilities.
 Most recently, the Jerome School District struggled for 15 years to raise a school bond that would pay for two buildings to replace their deteriorating elementary and middle schools. Students would study in stifling hot classrooms with air conditioning and most of the elementary school was not wheelchair-accessible.

Patriot

Continued from A1
 ing terror plots in the United States, would remain on the books.
 "It gets us to where we want to get," said Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho, one of four Republicans who joined Democrats in blocking renewal of the law. "The majority of the United States Senate did not want to see the Patriot Act die. We wanted to see it reformed."
 - Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho
 of personal documents, ranging from medical and financial records to library lending lists.
 It requires investigators who want to seize such records to convince a court that the records are "relevant" to a terrorism investigation. That's a far lower threshold than the "probable cause" standard required to get a warrant in a criminal case.
 Opponents say the law doesn't sufficiently protect innocent Americans. Senate opponents have taken particular aim at Section 215, which allows a special judge to issue an order for "any tangible thing" that investigators want in a foreign intelligence investigation. The provision also prohibits the record holders from telling anyone about the order.
 Critics call that a "gag order" because it prohibits the holder of the records from talking to anyone about the order.
 "Giving someone an opportunity to challenge a gag order doesn't inhibit law enforcement's ability to do their job," said Sununu. "Being fair and getting rid of a punitive provision that requires you to go to the FBI, tell them if you talked to a lawyer and name that lawyer — which is nowhere else in law — doesn't undermine law enforcement's ability to do their job."
 The six-month extension would require the Patriot Act to be renewed in June. Advocates of the extension said they would be enough time to complete the work they want done and still avoid politicizing the issue with the November elections.

Deaths

Continued from A1
 A woman staying at an apartment complex across the street from the crime scene told The Times-News that emergency vehicles arrived at the home shortly after a loud noise was heard.
 "I heard what sounded like a car crash and a little bit later the ambulances arrived," Sonia

Corrections

Volunteer's community service mischaracterized
 A story published Tuesday about Cf Griffith and the East End Providers contained an error. Volunteer Kari Gier was sentenced to community service because she ran away from home.
 Names misspelled
 In Sunday story
 Elena Louder is a junior and Sean Reimier is a sophomore.

Deaths

Morris said.
 In the front yard of the Nice residence, a weeping willow tree supported a tree house. Two bicycles and a child's bike stood in front of a garage that sported a basketball hoop.
 The medium-size, older home, gray-white in color, sits among a few trees, some 75 feet away from the street.

Deaths

Munn described the incident "as a tragic event" for the community.
 "Moreover, this continues to be a complex investigation and will take time to complete," Munn said.
 "Rest assured that all of our resources are being utilized to ensure that it is thoroughly and professionally investigated."

Deaths

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 "Moreover, this continues to be a complex investigation and will take time to complete," Munn said.
 "Rest assured that all of our resources are being utilized to ensure that it is thoroughly and professionally investigated."

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IDAHO LOTTERY

Wed. December 21
 9 12 18 23 43 PPR: 27
 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

Wed. December 21
 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

WY99 CANON, KING OF THE 2000
 Picking
 Wed. Dec. 21 1 2 3
 Wed. Dec. 21 4 5 6
 Wed. Dec. 19 8 9 1

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WOMAN'S FAITH IS ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN

A Family Life story published Dec. 16 incorrectly identified Marianna Krachunov's religion. Krachunov is an Orthodox Christian, not a Greek Orthodox Christian.
 The Times-News regrets the errors.

NATION

Like some of his predecessors, Bush claims broad powers in time of war

By Ron Hutcheson
Knight Ridder News Service

WASHINGTON — The furor over President Bush's domestic surveillance program is the latest skirmish in a centuries-old battle over presidential powers in times of war.

By letting government agents eavesdrop without court oversight, Bush joined a long list of presidents who've tested the limits of their wartime authority — often to the detriment of their reputations. Most over-reached. Legal scholars who disagree with Bush's approach say he missed a vital history lesson.

In hindsight, John Adams' efforts to stifle dissent in the early years of the nation, Woodrow Wilson's revocation of free speech during World War I and Franklin Roosevelt's order imprisoning Japanese-Americans in World War II are considered blatant abuses of power. Even Abraham Lincoln carries a tarnish for his aggressive assertion of presidential authority during the Civil War.

Without consulting Congress, Lincoln suspended the right of habeas corpus, allowing for arrests in court, then ignored a federal court order challenging his decision. The president said

Analysis

he faced a painful choice between preserving constitutional rights or preserving the nation.

"Was it possible to lose the nation, and yet preserve the Constitution?" Lincoln asked in a letter defending his action. "Often a limb must be amputated to save a life; but a life is never wisely given to save a limb."

Like other presidents before him, Bush contends that his constitutional role as commander in chief gives him broad authority to deal with threats. Shortly after the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, he by-passed legal restrictions on government eavesdropping to go after suspected terrorists.

"During times of war, presidents push the envelope. They assert powers that often rise above constitutional powers," said Dave Adler, a political science professor at Idaho State University who specializes in presidential war powers.

The Constitution is vague on the limits of presidential war powers. Although the president serves as commander in chief, Congress has the power to declare war and "raise and support armies."

Many legal scholars think Bush went too far in using his war powers to order domestic surveillance without court approval. The eavesdropping targets' communications between the United States and foreign destinations.

"The founders were extremely nervous about presidential authority," said Geoffrey Stone, a University of Chicago law professor and the author of



President Bush pauses during remarks prior to signing the Gulf Opportunity Zone Act of 2005 on Wednesday.

"Perilous Times," a book about wartime restrictions on civil liberties. "It's not for the president to decide these things on his own in secret."

Bush's assertion of authority to deal with terrorism is consistent with his overall approach to presidential power. He and Vice President Dick Cheney have made no secret of their desire to resist what they see as unjustified checks on executive authority by Congress and the courts.

"I believe in a strong, robust executive authority. And I think the world we live in demands it," Cheney said Tuesday. "I do think that to some extent now we've been able to restore the legitimate authority of the presidency."

In 1987, Cheney, then a congressman from Wyoming, cited his expansive view of presidential authority in defending Ronald Reagan during the Iran-Contra scandal. The scandal stemmed from Reagan's efforts to aid to Nicaraguan Contra rebels by using the proceeds from secret weapons sales to Iran.

Reagan dismantled the secret program after it became public knowledge. However, presidents usually get their way in times of war, even if history later judges them harshly.

Four decades after the Supreme Court approved Roosevelt's order for the internment of Japanese-Americans, Congress apologized and blamed the policy on "race prejudice, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership."

The Sedition Act of 1918, supported by Wilson, Congress and the courts, made it illegal to "utter, print, write or publish any disloyal, profane, scurrilous, or abusive language about" the government, the Constitution, the American flag or "the uniform of the Army or Navy of the United States."

The law similar in spirit to the discredited Alien and Sedition

Acts of 1798, was repealed three years later.

President Harry Truman suffered a rare wartime rebuke in 1952 when the Supreme Court blocked his plan for a federal takeover of the steel industry during the Korean War. Truman wanted to avert a labor strike that he feared would disrupt war supplies, but the court concluded that he needed congressional approval.

More recently, the Supreme Court offered a mixed verdict on Bush's treatment of enemy combatants captured in the war on terrorism. The court agreed that the government could detain U.S. citizens but rejected the government's claim that it could deny a captured citizen access to the courts.

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MONDAY-SATURDAY
10AM-5PM DAILY

Appeals court balks at Padilla transfer

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a sharp rebuke, a federal appeals court denied Wednesday a Bush administration request to transfer terrorism suspect Jose Padilla from military to civilian law enforcement custody.

Richmond-based 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals also refused the administration's request to vacate a September ruling that gave President Bush wide authority to detain "enemy combatants" indefinitely without charges on U.S. soil.

The decision, written by Judge J. Michael Luttig, questioned why the administration used one set of facts before the court for 3 1/2 years to justify holding Padilla without charges but used another set to convince a grand jury in Florida to indict him last month.

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AT THE TOP OF THE HOUR IN CENTER COURT

8 AM - 10 PM

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Front Row: Shannon Hoffman; Connie Box; Trish Webster; Willie Benefiel; Susan Klein, CPA; Shawna Howe; Mariann Archibald; Scott E. Hunsaker, CPA, CMA
Not Pictured: Leslie McCurdy, CPA; Jeaneen Frazier, CPA

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WORLD

Saddam's latest claim: Torture

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Saddam Hussein again grabbed center stage at his mass murder trial Wednesday with claims that Americans beat and "tortured" him and other defendants while in detention.

The deposed leader's lengthy complaint came after witnesses graphically described how their captors administered electric shocks and used molten plastic to rip the skin off prisoners in a crackdown following an assassination attempt against Saddam in 1982.

A U.S. military spokesman in Baghdad called Saddam's allegations "completely unfounded" but said "we are prepared to investigate."

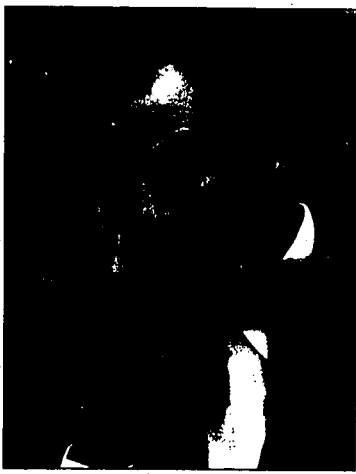
"Beyond that, we have no interest in being a part of what are clearly courtroom antics aimed at disrupting the legal process," said Lt. Col. Barry Johnson.

The trial's chief prosecutor, Jaafar al-Moussawi, said if authorities found evidence of abuse Saddam could be transferred to the physical custody of Iraqi troops.

The former Iraqi leader and seven co-defendants are on trial for the deaths of more than 140 Shiites after the attempt on Saddam's life in the town of Dujail, north of Baghdad.

The prosecution's first witness Wednesday testified about the killings and torture in Dujail. Ali Hassan Mohammed al-Haidari, who was 14 in 1982, said Saddam's regime executed seven of his brothers.

Al-Haidari said that he and other residents from Dujail —



Saddam Hussein listens to testimony as his trial resumed in Baghdad on Wednesday.

including family members — were taken to Baghdad and thrown into a security services prison, where people from 90 to 90° were held.

Blood poured from head

wounds and skin was pale from electric shocks, he testified. Security officials would drip melted plastic hoses on detainees, only to pull it off after it cooled, tearing skin off with it, he said.

"I cannot express all that suffering and pain we faced in the 70 days inside," he said.

Two witnesses later testified from behind a curtain. One of them, identified only as Witness No. 2, said security officials "attached clamps to my thumbs and toes and private areas and tortured me with electricity until foam came out of my mouth."

After sitting quietly through several hours of testimony, Saddam launched into an extended monologue, saying he'd been beaten "everywhere on my body. The marks are still there." He did not display any marks.

"I want to say here, yes, we have been beaten by the Americans and we have been tortured," Saddam told the court before gesturing toward his seven co-defendants, "one by one."

With the trial televised across Iraq, his claims of torture at the hands of U.S. troops may resonate with Iraqis who have been shocked by the abuse of detainees at the Abu Ghraib prison, a scandal which led to the convictions of nine Army reservists. More recently, U.S. troops discovered abused prisoners at secret detention centers run by the Iraqi Interior Ministry.

Earlier Wednesday before his accusations of torture, Saddam's behavior had been calmer, and he appeared clean-shaven and in fresh clothes, wearing a dark suit but no tie. On some previous occasions during the trial, Saddam appeared disheveled and complained about being held in unsanitary conditions.

Complaints over Iraq's election intensify

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Sunni Arab and secular political groups joined forces Wednesday to decide whether to call for a repeat of parliamentary elections that gave the Shiite religious bloc a larger than expected lead.

The main Sunni coalition has said the elections were tainted by fraud, including voting centers falling to open, shortages in election materials, reports of multiple voting and forgery.

The election commission, known as the IEI, has said it received 1,250 complaints about violations during the Dec. 15 elections, 25 of which it described as serious. But the commission says it does not expect the complaints will change

the overall result, to be announced in January.

U.S. State Department spokesman Sean McCormack said "there have been a number of complaints lodged with IEI, and their track record on following up on these things have been pretty good."

The election commission's initial assessment was there were "no complaints or incidents that they found that would fall into the most severe category that would throw into question the results of the election," McCormack said. "The IEI is going to work through these complaints and we'll see what they come up with."

The agreement to join forces

over registering complaints was reached at a meeting in the offices of a secular bloc headed by former Shiite Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, a U.S. favorite.

"We decided to form an operations room to collect the complaints from all the affected parties and present them to the Iraqi Electoral Commission" and international organizations such as the U.N., said Naser al-Ani of the Sunni Arab Iraqi Islamic Party.

He added that "rerunning the elections was presented by some parties at today's meeting but they were only ideas."

The bitter climate has raised questions about U.S. hopes that the election would lead to a

more inclusive government involving Sunni Arabs, the minority group that formed the core of Saddam Hussein's government, and is now the backbone of the insurgency.

In Baghdad's Green Zone, more than 50 representatives of Sunni Arab political groups met in the offices of Allawi's Iraqi National List.

Al-Ani said the election commission was "unable to fulfill its mission."

"There was tremendous fraud and it didn't do what it has to do," he said.

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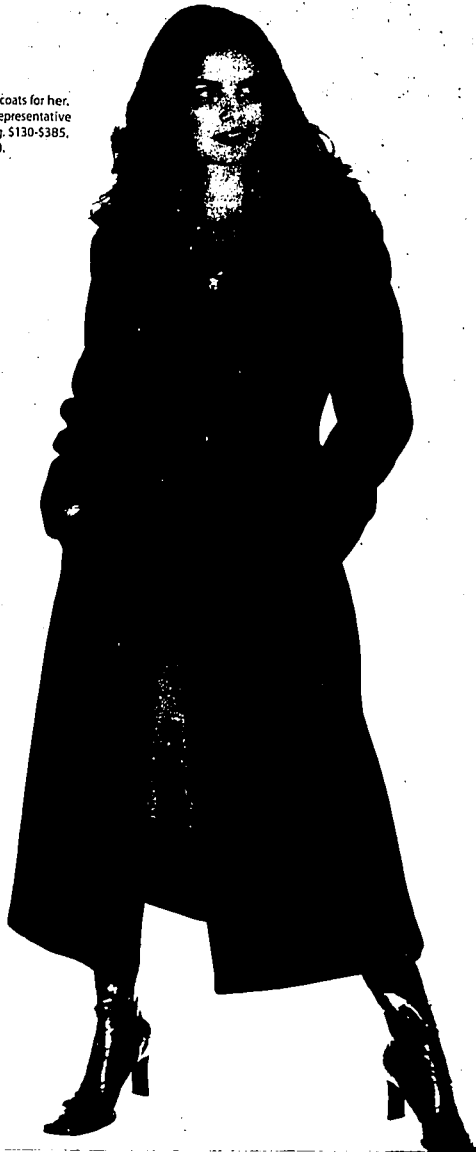
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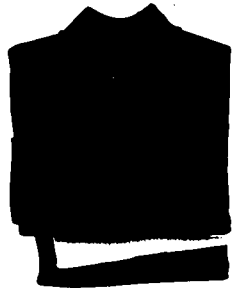
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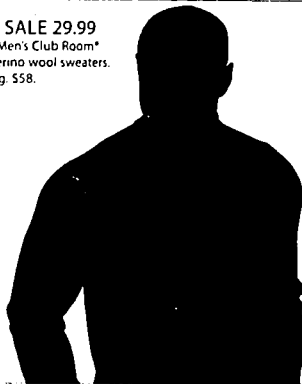
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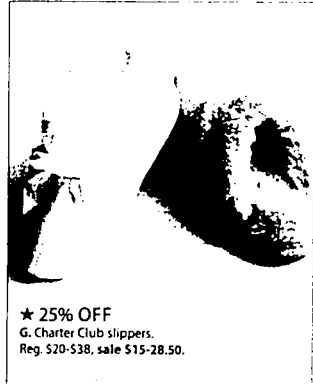
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EDITORIAL

Idaho judge Randy Smith a solid pick for 9th Circuit

Good news on the judicial home front. There may be hope yet for the 9th Circuit Court.

The White House hit the bulls-eye last Friday by nominating Idaho 6th District Court Judge Randy Smith to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Smith, who was a candidate for the 9th Circuit opening in 2003, was named by President Bush to replace senior circuit court Judge Stephen Trott.

Don't expect any filibusters on his nomination. Smith, 56, has served on the district bench in Pocatello for 10 years and built a reputation that goes above political ideologies or partisanship. Supporters include Idaho Democratic Party Chairman Richard Stallings, Republican Sens. Larry Craig and Mike Crapo, and a wide majority of Idaho's judicial community.

Sen. Denton Darrington, R-Declo, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee in the Idaho Legislature, has worked with Smith on numerous issues, and was with Smith when he received the nomination call from the White House.

"He really is the best nominee," Darrington said. "Randy Smith believes in interpreting the Idaho Constitution and not making it up on the bench, and he will be the same way on the U.S. Constitution. He is a judge's judge, and he is a leader among the judiciary in Idaho."

Skeptics may try to frown on Smith's beginnings as a Simplot corporate attorney

and his stint as Idaho Republican Party chairman in the 1990s. But in 10 years as a judge, Smith has earned solid believers on both sides of the political aisle.

Rep. Donna Boe, D-Pocatello, has worked extensively with Smith in his role as a Drug Court supervisor. When asked if his GOP background would block his circuit court chances, Boe said, "definitely, not."

"I think he's been fair and objective. I find no sense of partisanship in his role as judge. My only regret is he would not be able to continue with drug courts if he moves on."

"What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues."

In Bannock County, we've had only one offender who re-offended, and Judge Smith is a reason why. "Smith's nomination won't affect the stalled selection of William Myers III, the Boise attorney who was picked in 2003 to replace Judge Thomas Nelson. Democrats opposed Myers' nomination to the 9th Circuit citing his environmental case writings, and mounted a filibuster on a Senate vote last spring.

But Myers was a legal lobbyist with more ties to Wyoming than Idaho, and he has no experience on the bench. Smith, makes up for that with his rural Franklin County roots and a judicial resume that earns applause from voters and elected leaders.

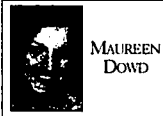
"I'm just honored that the president would honor me with this," Smith said Wednesday. "This is quite a ride for a kid who grew up in Thatcher."

Quite a ride, indeed. But Smith's colleagues are right. He's more than ready to tackle the 9th Circuit Court.

The squires of surveillance

Dick and Rummy are holed up in the den of Rummy's Chesapeake Bay retreat, Mount Misery, paying through shells of telephone taps and tapped telephone conversations, hunting for inside dope.

Chinook helicopters patrol the skies above the red-brick waterfront mansion. Rummy loves the take-no-prisoners lineage of his \$1.5 million getaway, built in the 19th century by Edward Covey, an evil slave owner.



MAUREEN DOWD

Winter weekends by a crackling fire are cozy and conspiratorial, now that the two men have nearly spread in St. Michaels, Md.

These squires of surveillance weave their evenings sipping from goblets of Glenlivet and perusing the illegally bugged phone conversations of any American they please. Getting in the holiday spirit, they're musing data to revise their naughty and nice lists.

"Check this one out, Dick," Rummy says excitedly. "I've been reading Jennifer Aniston's conversations for the last six months now and I gotta say, I don't get what she sees in this guy Vince Vaughn. 'Wedding Crashers' was funny. They shot that here in this village, you know. But I don't trust the guy. No way he's going to give up lap dancers and be true. I just don't want to see Jen get hurt again."

Dick grunts. He's deeply abashed in the classified reports on the FBI infiltration of a Vegan Community Project and a People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals protest against Inana. He's ruminating over a naked picture of Pamela Anderson emblazoned with the PEETA slogan, "I'd rather go naked than wear fur."



"Porter Goss tells me that Pam was shacking up with Mark McGrath — you know, he used to be with the band, Sugar Ray?" Rummy says. "Listen, Dick, we need to jabwone about our state-side spying operation that developed while you were on your whirlwind tour of American tourist chambers in Iraq and Afghanistan."

Dick interrupts. "More torture." "Some pansies are making unwarranted claims that we should have gotten warrants," Rummy continues. "But we can't worry about the Constitution's first print during war. Besides, it's fun to secretly blow off the super-secret court. Sure, warrants would have been no problem — the court has turned down only five government requests since 1979. Why the dickens shouldn't we go in and eavesdrop on whoever we want? Who says we can't do sneak and peak searches whenever we damn please?"

"Junior can try to model himself after Reagan, but you can't beat our old boss Nixon when it came to channeling paranoia in a productive way. Nixon and I, Edgar Hoover had it right: dark times call for dark measures. We're thinking too small, really. Let's sic the IRS on Martha, McCain and Feingold. Let's bug Condi and Liebermann — those back-stabbing sons-of-guns want our jobs. Condi has no clue who she's dealing with, right, Dick? I perfected the black art of infighting before Condi was born. And while we're at it, let's tap Biser's phone. His story in The Times about our wiretaps was an outrageous invasion of our privacy and an assault on our monarchy's — I mean, our executive branch's absolute power. We'll smoke out the rat who leaked that story."

Dick takes a sip of Scotch and nods. "More snooping," he says. "Karl's new game plan of pretending to admit that we made some mistakes in Iraq seems to be working," Rummy muses. "The kid's approval ratings are picking up. But I hope Georgie's not falling for that contrition guff he's peddling. We don't want him to go wobbly on us. We have a long way to go in Iraq. The Iraqi security forces are still curled in a fetal posi-

tion. Oh, by the way, Chalabi called today. He thinks Iran did a better job trucking in stuffed ballot boxes for the Shiites than we did for the Sunnis." He adds slyly, "You'd think we'd be better by now at stealing elections."

"More fraud," Dick ruminates. "More rigged elections." "Dick points at the flat-screen TV over the roaring fireplace. It's time for their favorite Sunday night program.

"Shut on yet, big guy?" Rummy sighs. "The kid is yacking again to the nation. He's so desperate he's pre-empting 'Desperate Housewives.' The gals won't be on for 20 minutes."

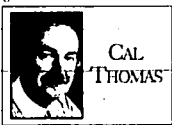
Dick glowers, slinking deep into his leather chair. "Hey, I've got a great idea!" Rummy grins. "You wanna read a phony transcript of a big cut fight between Teri Hatcher and Nicolette Sheridan? Mueller just sent it over. Hot stuff!"

Dick perks up. Had his mouth inches to the floor, indicating extreme joy. "More Nicolette Sheridan," he nods.

Maureen Dowd's e-mail is libertise@nytimes.com.

One step forward, two steps back

Iraq's huge voter turnout last week is a clear step forward for the Bush administration's policy and for a stable Iraq government. If all sides can learn to live together, but what happened in Washington last week will undercut the war on terror and encourage those who want to reprise Sept. 11, 2001 on a much grander scale.



CAL THOMAS

It was a barely coincidental that on the same day the Senate voted against extending the USA Patriot Act, The New York Times printed a story it had held for a year that contained numerous anonymous, and therefore unaccountable, sources claiming President Bush authorized the National Security Agency to eavesdrop on American citizens and others after Sept. 11. Just once it would be nice if the anonymous would leak something beneficial to their country.

In his Saturday radio address, the president said he personally supported the eavesdropping program more than 30 times since 9/11 and had so while consulting members of Congress. He also defended his decision to abuse listening in conversations of actual or potential terrorists is "crucial to our national security."

After the N.Y. Times story appeared, the Senate failed to extend the Patriot Act, falling short of the 60-vote majority needed to overcome a filibuster by Democrats. Some senators expressed concern about damage to civil liberties. But civil liberties mean nothing if you're killed by a terrorist who has manipulated the Constitution to achieve his or her objectives. The Senate's refusal to extend the Patriot Act increases the likelihood of more of us will die sooner than we should.



SENATOR... DOMESTIC SPYING IS AN ESSENTIAL TOOL IN FINDING OUT WHO'S NAUGHTY OR NICE.

You can't win a chess game when only one side plays by the rules. You can't win at the terror game when one side is preoccupied with civil liberties and charges of torture instead of victory and the other is concerned only with how many of us they can kill.

interested in winning than by having mercy. The major flaw in McCain's thinking is similar to what one sees in our dealings with Israel and her enemies. It is that what we do affects what the other side does and if we will be the one to die, they will blow us to smithereens. That is dangerous wishful thinking and there is no evidence to support it.

Surely the world has gone out to the terrorists that if they are captured they have little to fear because Americans won't torture them. When information we might otherwise have obtained is not extracted from them and thousands, or millions, more of us die, will those who favor restraining interrogators be held accountable? Jimmy Carter said he was "surprised" when Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev led him and invaded Afghanistan in 1979. Carter apparently forgot that communists lie. It is that same naïveté and failure to understand the threat confronting us now that produces the thinking which opposes monitoring evidence among us. We lower our guard at a time when it needs to be raised to new levels.

Cal Thomas accepts e-mail at www.calthomas.com or send Mr. Thomas e-mail via tsmedi@tribune.com.

OPINION

LETTERS

Story detailed struggles for row crop farms

I, too, thought the story *The Times-News* ran last week about the Chandlers was well written. This is an example of a family dealing with the loss of a husband and father with courage and strength.

Looking at it from the outside, there is also much sadness to me because of the fact the children didn't want the stress and heartache involved in row crop farming. Forty years ago, as young farmers, we looked at farming as one of the great opportunities in life. These folks know, as my children do, that there is no opportunity to make a living on a row crop farm anymore. If there is any debt on the farm, the interest and the operating inputs take all of the income.

Most homeowners have no idea what is happening on the row crop farms. Every year, our taxes, power rates, fertilizer and fuel costs go up and our income goes down. The prices being paid to farmers for commodities are at Depression Era levels. It looks as if Al Gore is going to be right after all. We will be importing our food along with the fuel we use in the near future.

It's a tragedy; there is no opportunity for the children of this hard-working family in this valley.

DEL KOHITZ
EDEN

Holiday greetings and Bush rattle roussers

It's funny I've been wishing people "Happy Holidays" as well as "Merry Christmas" for years. When I say Happy Holidays, it is just short for "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year."

But I am insulted by the idea that some stores are opposed to anyone wishing their customers Merry Christmas. How can anyone be offended by a pleasantry based on the background of the wisher. If a Jewish friend wishes me "Happy Chanukah," I appreciate the thought and the consideration, the same as any other happy wish.

Also, I am so tired of hearing the Bush rabble, accusing him of lying to get us into Iraq, when Clinton, Kerry, Edwards, and all the rest of those rabble rousers made the same claims about Saddam as President Bush did. The difference was that President Bush was willing to back up his words with actions after the final U.N. resolution to tell the truth. Granted, our intelligence was faulty due to our own Sen. Church's tying the hands of the CIA. But the intelligence of all of our allies told us the same thing — that Saddam was trying to build nuclear weapons. And we knew he had biological weapons of mass destruction and neurological weapons because he had already used them against Iran and his own people, so denial is fruitless. In 1999, I did not think



George Bush was the best candidate the Republicans could come up with. I voted for him in 2000 because his opponent was such a dishonest idiot, and George came off as a sincere man who would fulfill his promises as best he could. I still feel that way, and I thank God every day that he was in the White House on 9/11. He acted with leadership, resolve and patience. He found out who did the deed and acted accordingly. As a side benefit, we have a free Afghanistan, and now a free Iraq, who still need our help in fighting the terrorists. I am proud of what our troops have done there to help burn up that country while fighting the world terrorists there.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone.
JOHN L. THEBERT
Twin Falls

Democrats are spewing hate. First of all, just because you know one Democrat that happens to be a mean atheist does not mean every Democrat is. How can you say that only the Democrats try and "kill the messenger"? That's a lie. People that were against the war two years ago were called evil lovers of terrorists and anti-American. That is not only killing the messenger, it is also hate.

I would like to know just how many Republicans have received hate mail from Democrats lately. We have been witness to hate mail directed at us on more than one occasion. How can you say all Republicans think this way or all Democrats are this or that? Yet my son says we should follow Jesus Christ's teachings more and be gets Republican hate mail. So, who is hateful now?

Trying to say that every single Democrat, no matter who or where you are, is an evil, vile, baby-killing, child-molesting, devil worshiper is hate and a lie. It is said that Democrats voted for the war but then say Bush lied can't think for themselves. However, if someone was against the war from the start, that's probably even worse. I suppose.

The dictionary states independent means to be free from the influence, guidance or control of another or others. I

believe going against mainstream belief would be very independent. As opposed to being afraid to say something because your political party might disagree. I'm talking about either side, Democrats and Republicans. There are quite a few Republicans who are speaking out against GOP policies right now. There are some Democrats that still support the war.

Start treating people more like individuals and quit grouping everyone into one big hateful group and then spew hateful remarks yourself.

Thank you for reading our opinions. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
JAMES GLANDON SR.
Twin Falls

Rights to freely worship must withstand I sincerely hope that you will print my letter.

I am an American, but first and foremost, I am a God-fearing Christian. I believe that it is time for all Christians to take a stand for our God-given right that a "few" so-called Americans are trying to do away with. We have a right to be heard. Our country was founded on our belief in God.

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Sitting middle, left to right: Karnaiah, Gert, Hebe
Front, sitting left to right: Angie, Sheryl (owner)

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WHAT'S ON T.V.

Table listing TV programs including Basketball (Tennessee at Oklahoma St., Cavaliers at Virginia, etc.) and Football (Las Vegas Bowl, BYU vs. California, etc.).

BASKETBALL

Table showing basketball scores for various teams like Philadelphia, New Jersey, New York, etc.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Table showing basketball scores for Western Conference teams like San Antonio, Dallas, Houston, etc.

NONLEAGUE

Table showing basketball scores for non-league teams like Phoenix, LA Clippers, Sacramento, etc.

TENNIS

Table showing tennis scores for various players like David N. Patten, M. M. Garcia, etc.

NBA BOXES

Table listing NBA game boxes including Golden State vs Memphis, Dallas vs Phoenix, etc.

LA CLIPPERS

Table listing LA Clippers game boxes including Golden State vs Memphis, Dallas vs Phoenix, etc.

TUESDAY'S LATE NBA BOXES

Table listing late NBA game boxes including Dallas vs Phoenix, LA Clippers vs Memphis, etc.

Area ski report

Area ski report text: A heavy blanket of snow... 10-11 in. of snow... 10-11 in. of snow...

FOOTBALL

Football text: Las Vegas Bowl... BYU vs. California... Portland State vs. Oregon State...

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Western Conference football text: San Antonio... Dallas... Houston... San Diego...

NONLEAGUE

Non-league football text: Phoenix... LA Clippers... Sacramento... Dallas...

TENNIS

Tennis text: David N. Patten... M. M. Garcia... M. M. Garcia...

NBA BOXES

NBA boxes text: Golden State vs Memphis... Dallas vs Phoenix... Sacramento vs LA Clippers...

LA CLIPPERS

LA Clippers text: Golden State vs Memphis... Dallas vs Phoenix... Sacramento vs LA Clippers...

TUESDAY'S LATE NBA BOXES

Late NBA boxes text: Dallas vs Phoenix... LA Clippers vs Memphis... Sacramento vs LA Clippers...

ATLANTA CROSSTOWN

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Jerome Rec offers hoops tourney

Jerome Rec offers hoops tourney text: JEROME — The Jerome Recreation District will hold a basketball tournament for girls in grades 7-8 and boys in grade 6 on Jan. 6-7.

Bryant takes out anger on Mavericks

Bryant takes out anger on Mavericks text: LOS ANGELES — Kobe Bryant was seething as he met the media after a frustrating loss.

French Open finalist banned for doping

French Open finalist banned for doping text: LONDON — Mariano Puerta was a long shot when he reached the French Open final in June. Now, the Argentine is banned for doping.

Poson agrees to one-year deal with Cardinals

Poson agrees to one-year deal with Cardinals text: ST. LOUIS — Pitcher Sidney Poson agreed Wednesday to a one-year contract with the St. Louis Cardinals.

Leinart's eligibility reinstated after violation

Leinart's eligibility reinstated after violation text: LOS ANGELES — USC quarterback Matt Leinart's eligibility has been reinstated after he violated an NCAA rule.

Rach pushing Miller for overall title again

Rach pushing Miller for overall title again text: KRANJSKA GORA, Slovenia — Benjamin Raich needed just one more race and a second straight split by Bode Miller to again make himself a serious contender for the World Cup.

Bertuzzi headed to Turin; Crozza left off Vancouver

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SPORTS

Australian still enjoying the race of his life four years later

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — Many still consider it the greatest piece of Olympic luck ever.

Whatever, says Steven Bradbury.

The Australian short track skater, who won the 1,000-meter final after every other skater in the race fell down, believes it was well deserved and is still capitalizing on the fame of capturing the unlikely gold medal of the Salt Lake City Games.

His looks have changed little: hawkish nose, peroxide-bleached spiky hair and the sheen of smirks that seems to have stuck to him ever since he crossed the finish line after everybody else — including American star Apolo Anton Ohno — had literally fallen out of contention.

"You always get the people who say I won because I was lucky but that doesn't bother me in the slightest," he said. "I am a 100 percent satisfied and deserved Olympic gold medalist and the people who want to take it down are the people who are not prepared to get off their (backs) and do something for themselves."

Now he does the motivational "speech circuit in Australia with one message — never despair, no one can ever predict what will happen next."

"As I know better than anyone," he said, "anything can happen."

He'll be back at the Turin Olympics in February, this time as a television commentator after he was the team leader who led the Australian short track relay team through Olympic qualifying in the Netherlands.

Surely he will be asked to recount that fateful race Feb. 16, 2002 again. He still remembers every detail.

He came into Salt Lake a veteran at 28, bent on proving himself after three disappointing Olympics. He knew, however, he no longer had the speed to beat the top skaters.

After reaching the semifinals, he knew simply staying out of harm's way gave him his best chance to reach the final.

Short track is sometimes called the "NASCAR of the Olympics, a sport where laggards often find themselves victorious in the wake of fear-some crashes involving the race's leaders.

It was just that sort of situation that aided Bradbury.

Three skaters fell in the semis, allowing the Australian to make a surprising appearance in the final.

"I was the oldest bloke in the field and I knew that skating four races back to back, I wasn't going to have any petrol left in the tank. So there was no point in getting there and minding it up because I was going to be in last place anyway," he said, still smiling about it. "So I might as well stay out of the way and be in last place and hope that some people get tangled up."

He figured he could hope for two to crash, which would allow him to sneak away with the bronze.

"Two guys getting tangled up — I never imagined four getting tangled up," said Bradbury, who can't help but laugh when he thinks back on what happened.

Not everyone was as amused. Boos cascaded down from the American crowd, who had expected Ohno to skate away with the gold. Ohno won the silver after crawling to the finish line.

"At the time it was a difficult thing to grasp a hold of because I didn't know I wanted to be the

guy who won because everyone else fell down," Bradbury said. "I didn't know if I wanted to go out and accept the medal."

Now, he's happy he did. After all, Bradbury's had his tough times, too.

In a 1994 race, the femoral artery in his leg was sliced open by an opponent's blade, causing Bradbury to lose a significant amount of blood. He eventually needed 111 stitches. In 2000, he broke his neck in a training accident.

"If you had asked me if I believed in karma, I would have said no," he said. "Now there is a little bit in my head that says 'I built up a lot of karma over the years and it was about time I used it.'"

To the outsider, Bradbury's victory was outrageous fortune.

Bradbury wants people to take a closer look. He had been toiling at short track for a dozen years, struggling to make ends meet. He even lived in his parents' basement so he could pay

the bills, against all odds, in his last Olympics, the unthinkable happened.

"The day that I retired I started to get sponsorships and endorsements and promotions and make good money out of the sport," he said.

Now he owns his own house, has a fancy car and is a celebrity. He just published his autobiography, "Last Man Standing." He makes "a good living" as a motivational speaker.

His talks are usually peppered with thoughts on fate and self-realization. He tries to turn his lucky break into a life lesson.

"The average person can associate with that: 'If I work hard at something even if I cut my leg open or fall a math test or whatever, it is not the end of the world,'" he said. "And if I put my mind to it and keep trying — look what happened to this bloke and maybe the same thing will happen to me."



Steven Bradbury

"SENSATIONAL"
B. ERIC

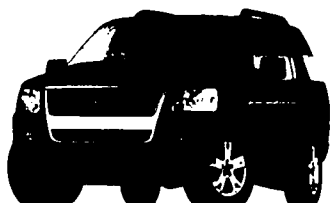
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HEART OF THE WEST
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"How can an American education become more relevant?"

"We could start using the daily newspaper in our public schools."

— Walter Cronkite

AROUND THE VALLEY

Christmas will bring closures

TWIN FALLS — Many offices and facilities will be closed for Christmas. Here's a rundown of what will be open or closed Friday through Monday.

- City and county offices will be open Friday but closed Monday.
- State and federal offices will be open Friday but closed Monday.
- U.S. post offices will be open Friday, but closed Monday.
- Local banks will be open Friday, but closed Monday.
- Twin Falls Public Library will be open Friday, but closed Saturday and Monday.
- YMCA/Twin Falls City Pool will be closed Saturday and Sunday, but open from 1 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday.
- The College of Southern Idaho will be closed Friday and Monday.
- Magic Valley Mall will be open from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, closed on Sunday, and open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday.
- Trash collection will follow the regular schedule.

Some city and county offices might close a few hours early on Friday, so call ahead to the appropriate clerk's office.

Fund makes child abuse grant available

TWIN FALLS — The Idaho Children's Trust Fund has made available a \$2,500 grant for prevention activities and events that support increased awareness of child abuse and neglect prevention.

A Community Coalition is meeting to organize and implement activities planned during the month of April, which is designated as National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Awareness Month. Interested individuals and organizations are welcome to participate.

The next planning meeting will be held at 10 a.m. Jan. 5 at the Department of Health and Welfare on Pole Line Road.

For more information, call Cheryl Lester at South Central Head Start at 736-0741, ext. 16.

Music As Medicine today at MVRMC

TWIN FALLS — A special musical event will be presented at noon Thursday in the main lobby of the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center, 620 Addison Ave. W.

Several professional musicians will be playing "Music as Medicine" for patients, visitors, staff and physicians.

"Music as Medicine" is a pilot program at the hospital to address the emotional needs of patients and families by creating a soothing, compassionate hospital environment. Musicians will be available to play in different areas of the hospital as part of the "Healing Arts" program beginning in 2006.

The Healing Arts program encourages healing through a holistic approach that uses humor, music and contact with pets to reduce stress and speed healing.

Opportunities are available for those who wish to share their time and talents as part of the program. For more information, call Loraine Devey, director of Volunteer Services, at 737-2006.

The public is invited to the event Thursday.

— compiled from staff reports

Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of Avg.	% of Norm.
Salmon	92%	30%
Big Lost	90%	27%
Little Wood	80%	26%
Big Lost	82%	29%
Upper Park/Fish	82%	29%
Henry Fork/Bein	82%	33%
Upper Snake Basin	83%	33%
Oakley	112%	34%
Salmon Falls	106%	32%

As of Dec. 21

*A comparison of basin snowpack on this date with a 50-year average.

Kicking off Christmas vacation



Photos by ASHLEY SMITH/The Times-News



Top, Sawtooth Elementary School third-grader Sierra Norman sings Wednesday with her classmates. Above, Sawtooth Elementary School music teacher Karen Sweet directs students Wednesday. The carols were part a celebration on the last day of school to begin the winter vacation.

Sawtooth Elementary students carol, visit with Santa

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

Christmas vacation

Classes resume Jan. 3 in
Twin Falls and Jerome.

TWIN FALLS — Trying to focus on school work isn't easy when Christmas break is only hours away — especially when you're in the third grade. So Sawtooth Elementary School students kicked off the holiday vacation early by singing Christmas carols and visiting with Santa.

Karen Sweet, the music teacher at Sawtooth Elementary, had been teaching the students Christmas carols since Thanksgiving, so Wednesday morning they were more than ready to sing in the holidays.

Three hundred and fifty students from kindergarten through third grade filled the school cafeteria and sang classics such as "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town," "I'm the Happiest Christmas Tree" and "I'm Getting Nothing for Christmas."

"Yeah, we already talked about that one," Sweet said. "And we agreed that song was about somebody else."

Sweet said this was the third year that students gathered to sing Christmas carols and visit with Santa. She emphasized that it was not a performance, rather it was a time when the school could celebrate the holidays together.

Unfortunately, the entire student body could not meet in the cafeteria because it's too small, so more than 300 students from the fourth through sixth grades met later in the day.

Sweet, and Sawtooth Elementary Principal Randy Rutledge, said there has been a high level of parent involvement in the music programs — something he feels contributes to a "well-rounded" education.

"There is a lot of parent investment in the music and arts here," Rutledge said. "And Sawtooth is really supportive of music."

Indeed, there was some

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Indeed, there was some

great talent Wednesday morning as the students sang carols and light voices," Sweet said. "They are learning that good singing is not yelling."

"You could still hear a few 'solos' singing with more volume, but who wouldn't get a little overzealous on the last day of school before Christmas vacation?"

Pioneer Hall of Fame loses bid for property

By Renee Wells
For The Times-News

RUPERT — It is still anybody's guess what will be built at the northwest corner of Interstate 84 Exit 208, but it won't be a Pioneer Hall of Fame.

Minkidoka County sold the property Monday for \$330,000 to Harry Clark of Declo.

About 50 people attended the auction at the courthouse, but

only a handful of people appeared prepared to bid on the property and the sale quickly narrowed to two bidders — Clark and a party from Nevada bidding by telephone.

At the auction, former Gov. John Evans offered an opening bid of the minimum required, \$180,000.

He did not bid again as the numbers quickly went out of reach for the group representing the Pioneer Hall of Fame,

and the entire delegation left the courthouse quickly and without comment.

Harry Clark was the only person bidding in person after the amount reached \$250,000. U.S. Auction partner Carl Van Tassel held a cell phone to his ear and quickly called out, "Yes," counter-bidding for a caller from Nevada.

After Clark's \$330,000 bid, Van Tassel asked his client twice, "Are you sure? It's \$340,000?"

but when the bidder turned back his chance, auctioneer Keith Caugh called out "Sold," pointing to Clark.

Asked what his plans for the property were, Clark, who owns Chevron stations at exits 208 and 211, would only say that he would know within six months what he would be putting on the property. He said it would be a commercial venture with other partners, but did not name who they were.

Restored fire truck becomes fixture in town

The Associated Press

GRANVILLE — A fire truck used to battle field fires more than 50 years ago has been converted into a moving Christmas display with Santa at the wheel, causing so much excitement that it regularly draws children out in the cold in their pajamas to watch it pass.

Area residents consider it such a unique event to see the "moving Christmas card," as firefighters call it, that one time its bells and Christmas lights caused a woman to rush out from the shower without any clothes.

"The driver almost ran off the road, he was laughing so hard," Bob Beckman, one of the fire-

fighters, told the Lewiston Tribune.

The 1944 fire truck was originally destined for London to help fight fires during World War II, but instead went to fight fires in northern Idaho. It was eventually overtaken by more powerful trucks and retired.

About 15 years ago, firefighters decided to decorate it with lights and some homemade decorations and then drive it around. The next year saw more lights and decorations.

A prison crew from the North Idaho Correctional Institute at Cottonwood worked three weeks to modify the truck for its Christmas trips.

Now, every weekend after Dec. 1, and quite a few week-

days, the truck makes its rounds, spending more than two hours heading to small towns and making detours down country roads.

"I constantly get calls from people who say this is Mom's or Dad's last Christmas and they request that you bring the truck by," Beckman said. "I've had numerous — numerous — people come up to me and say, 'It's a blessing.'"

Beckman said the truck is in some ways more like a sleigh than a motorized vehicle. It's unheated, has no top, and old-fashioned windshield wipers that don't work well.

Still, it has been driven through temperatures of at least 20 degrees below zero on its

Christmas travels.

"Light now, that truck gets more miles on it than all the other fire trucks in the Granville Fire Department put together," Beckman said. "It barks like a dog when you start it, but it purrs like a kitten once it gets going."

It costs about \$55 to put enough gas in the truck for three runs, Beckman said. All the money used to operate the truck comes from donations.

Beckman said one of the best parts of making a run is driving by a house and seeing the whole family standing on the porch in the cold, smiling and waving.

"If you had a camera you could take a picture," he said. "It's beautiful to see that."

District extends lease

Buhl Boys and Girls
Club gets land for
another 18 months

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

BUHL — The dream is to have enough money by the summer of 2007 for a clubhouse to call their own. The reality is that the Buhl Boys and Girls Club is already two-thirds of the way towards turning that dream into a reality.

"We have raised about \$400,000 of the needed \$600,000," said Don Hall, executive director of the Magic Valley clubs.

Roughly three years ago the club obtained a one-dollar lease from the school district to put away land for the project. Originally the clubhouse was planned to be constructed at the corner of 7th Avenue and Linden Street.

"The club was hoping to have already broken ground on the project, but have been unable to obtain much needed grant revenue."

Buhl Advisory Board member Jim Lante said, "I believe that it is because of Afghanistan and Iraq as well as hurricanes Katrina and Rita. There is no candy out there for any of us."

He explained that in order to cut construction costs, the clubhouse will not be built with a gymnasium.

"If we build it without the gymnasium, it will save us about \$300,000," Lante said. "During Tuesday night's school board meeting the club asked for an extension of their lease — but with the option of moving the building site to another location that might be more beneficial to the school."

New plans are floating about for considering building the facility just west of that. Nothing is perfect about where the building will be located, but a possible layout has it about 100 feet from Popplewell Elementary and within walking distance of the city pool, skate park, middle and high schools and North Park.

This would create more access to the entire district and the clubhouse would be closer to the existing gymnasium facilities at the elementary school and old middle school.

Lante explained the partnership the club would have with the district. "The possibilities for the district's use of the clubhouse include using it for classroom space," he said.

Lante added that it might be the perfect space for the preschool program the district has wanted to implement.

He said that maybe the impediment to funding was a blessing in disguise because the new proposed site would be more valuable to all involved.

School Board Chairman Ken McDonald said, "If the clubhouse is built without the gym and you use the old 1953 gym, the school would retain the rights to first access it."

The club agreed and Buhl Advisory Board President Marilyn Butler expressed that the district would also have rights to the building and land.

"We aren't going to purchase any land from the district — just perfect space for the preschool program the district has wanted to implement."

She explained that the program has grown from about 75 children participating in the summer of 2003 to about 150 students signing up during the summer of 2005.

"I think that we have proven to ourselves and the district that this is a perfect space," Butler said.

"The kids want to rebuild the school board agreed that the Boys and Girls Club is an asset to the district and passed a motion during the meeting to extend the club's lease after it expires in January."

The club will continue leasing their current property for another year with the option of moving the clubhouse in the future with the school's approval.

The school board will investigate any requirements or stipulations they must adhere to if the clubhouse is indeed built on the newly proposed site.

MAGIC VALLEY/IDAHO

OBITUARIES

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3278 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 4 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 11 a.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

Omar Lee Mann



On Dec. 20, 2005, Omar Lee Mann, our dear father, grandfather, friend and husband, passed away at his home surrounded by his loving family. Omar, the youngest of 10 children, was born Nov. 18, 1918, in Mattia, Okla. to Harvey and Thelma Mann. As a young man, he left Oklahoma with his brother Jim and found himself in Twin Falls, Idaho. There, he met Otilia Harn.

He knew instinctively that she was the one for him. They were married on April 14, 1941. Omar and Thelma had four daughters: Colleen, Jackie, Cheryl and Debbie. Being the hard working provider that he was, Omar moved his family several times following the construction market which eventually it took him, finally returning to Twin Falls in 1953. Learning carpentry from his father, Omar practiced and perfected his trade.

During his working years, Omar owned and operated a shoe repair business with his brother Jim where they fabricated custom cowboy boots; he also owned and operated a local service station for several years, as well as mastering his true passion of carpentry before taking an early retirement. Omar looked forward to spending his retirement years enjoying his family and spending quality time with his devoted wife. He was devastated

in October of 1990 when his wife, Thelma, was stricken with a debilitating illness. After dedicating 56 faithful years to his loving marriage, Omar lost his beautiful spouse. Omar was never the same. He was never alone, yet it was obvious that he was lonely. On April 15, 2000, Omar married Eva Mae Igner. She brought companionship to Omar along with love and a sense of joy that he held close until his passing.

One of Omar's final wishes was to make sure that everyone knew that he loved his family dearly. He will be greatly missed by all of those that were spending his retirement years enjoying his family and spending quality time with his devoted wife. He was devastated



Nyal Calvin Hoffman

FILED — Nyal Calvin Hoffman, of Filer, passed away on Monday, Dec. 19, 2005, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls, Idaho. Nyal was born at Castle Creek, Owyhee County, Idaho, on April 6, 1932, to Orritt Calvin Hoffman and Della Grace Stallings Hoffman. His early years were spent in the Orocopia/Castle Creek area where his father and uncles farmed and he had great memories of the times spent there. The family moved to the Buhl area and Nyal graduated from Buhl High School in 1950. On July 6, 1950, he married his high school sweetheart, Joyce Christoffersen, at Buhl.

They had five children: Linda, Dennis, Scott, Stacy and Tracy. Nyal's life work began right after high school, when he took a job working on bridge construction in northern Idaho with his uncle, Rod Harris. From that time on, it was apparent that Nyal had a talent for solving construction problems and an uncanny ability to be able to adapt or re-design equipment to suit the pressing need. With brief forays in Alaska working at a second pulp mill and five years in Utah working with his uncles Rex Stallings and Cleo Hall at Stallings and Hall Construction Co., Nyal spent the rest of his life in the Magic Valley area working in aquaculture. He worked for Snake River Trout for a few years. During that time, he, Ted Eastman and his father-in-law, Harold Christoffersen, designed and built the first automated fish eviscerating machine in Harold's garage. This was the first of many inventions Nyal can be credited for in streamlining fish producing and processing equipment.

In 1966, Nyal and Ted Eastman and a group of investors formed Clear Springs Trout Co. and began the Clear Lakes Hatchery. Nyal was instrumental in the early expansion decisions of Clear Springs Trout Co. He had a vision of the new, little company and was directly involved in the acquisition and development of Clear Canyon Hatchery and the Crystal Springs Hatchery for many of the other aquaculture businesses in the Magic Valley and in the United States, Turkey, Brazil and Guatemala. He also designed and built small hydroelectric plants. Much of his work can be observed today still being used on most of the hatcheries in the valley.

On Sept. 9, 1978, Nyal was married to Judy Bernier and gained another son, John William (Willie) Bernier. Nyal and Judy were sealed in the Boise temple on May 7, 1994. Nyal loved his family and friends. He loved animals and having them was a big part of his life. He loved to hunt. The family would like to thank Rick Eggleston for being such a good hunting buddy and making it possible for him to get to go hunting these past few years. Nyal is survived by his wife, Judy of Filer; children, Linda (Danny) Garrett of Wendell, Dennis (Tha) Hoffman, Stacy (John) Mavencamp, Shelby Mavencamp, Megan Mavencamp, Kristina (John) Krahn, Misty Pietersma, Kevin Bernier and Miranda Bernier; great-grandchildren, Makaela and Bailey; his first wife, Joyce Hoffman; two brothers, Carl (Bernal) Hoffman of Washington and Kent (Hulene) Hoffman of Utah; two sisters, LuDene Hopkins of Twin Falls, Shirley (Ralph) Sherrill of Washington; uncles, Rex (Carole) Stallings of Utah; aunts, Bertha Hall of Utah, Blanch Sherson and Fay Freeman of Alaska and Phyllis Etsell of Massachusetts. He is also survived by life-long friends, Rick and Betty Eggleston, Wayne and Betty McMurdie and James E. Richards. He will be missed by the many foster children and foreign exchange students he was blessed to know and love through the years. Nyal was preceded in death by his parents and a grandson, Joshua Carl Hoffman. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Nyal Hoffman Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o Buhl Public School Foundation, P.O. Box 108, Buhl, ID 83316, or Farmer Funeral Chapel, P.O. Box 349, Buhl. A viewing will be held from 4 to 7 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 22, at Farmer Funeral Chapel, 130 N. Ninth in Buhl. A funeral will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 23, at the Filer LDS Church on West Midway in Filer. Burial will immediately follow the funeral at the Filer Cemetery.

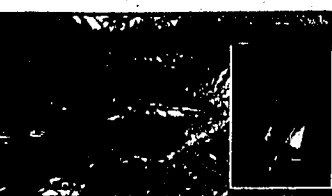
Debate opens on roadless areas in northern Idaho

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — Commissioners in Kootenai County, asked by the governor and other county commissioners in Idaho to gather public comments on roadless forest management and forward recommendations, heard all sides at a meeting. "Natural resources and roadless areas are at the heart of the region," Geoff Harvey, of Hayden Lake, told the Tuesday meeting. "They provide a retreat and real link to the past. If roads are built, this best place will become just another place," said John Walters, of Caldwell, had a different opinion of roadless areas, the Coeur d'Alene Press reported.

"Look at how many sawmills that do not exist anymore," Walters said. "There is a lack of raw materials because the U.S. Forest Service is being influenced by the environmental cult." Idaho has 9.3 million acres of remote national forest declared off-limits to road building and logging. Kootenai County has 8,100 acres of designated roadless national forest. The Spokesman-Review reported. The Bush administration threw out the roadless rule adopted by President Clinton and gave the states until the end of 2006 to come up with proposals for roadless management.

Before submitting Idaho's proposal, Gov. Dirk Kempthorne asked county commissioners to gather comments. Gus Johnson, Kootenai County commission chairman, said he was sad to see local sawmills close but doesn't know if that could be blamed on roadless forest protection. He also said he wondered if the whole process wouldn't start again with a new president. "You may go through this again in four years," he said.

Attention Teachers: Use the only "living textbook" in your classroom. Call Tiffany, our NIE coordinator, at 735-3212 to receive free newspapers for your class.



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DEATH NOTICES

Richard Lee Long TWIN FALLS — Richard Lee Long, 68, of Twin Falls, died Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2005, at his home. Arrangements will be made by White Mortuary, Twin Falls.

Willie B. Frierson BURLEY — Willie B. Frierson, a 66-year-old resident of Burley, died Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2005, at the Burley Care Center. Arrangements will be made by Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel.

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair, perhaps you sent a funeral spray, if so we saw it there; perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say; perhaps you were not there at all. Just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts, we thank you so much, whatever the part.

Joyce Ann, Bailey & Family



Give the gift of literacy this holiday season. Donate your Times-News to Newspaper in Education when you leave for the holidays. Just a week's donation will provide one area student a month of newspapers!

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Funeral services for Richard Lee Long will be held at 11 a.m. Friday at the Hansen Mortuary Chapel, 710 Sixth St. Burial will be in the Filer Cemetery. Services for Willie B. Frierson will be held at 11 a.m. Friday at the Hansen Mortuary Chapel, 710 Sixth St. Burial will be in the Filer Cemetery.

MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

'Magical Valley Christmas' airs today

TWIN FALLS — The season's first showing of the annual musical television production "A Magical Valley Christmas" will be tonight on KMYT-TV. Sponsored by First Federal Bank, "A Magical Valley Christmas" is a holiday music revue featuring bands and vocalists from throughout Idaho, this year including Peter Trillette, Steve Knapik, Virginia Porter and the Rock group, Foolshane. This year's show starts with a tribute to the region with an original song titled "Underneath the Stars" written in downtown Idaho.

Magic Valley in brief

"A Magical Valley Christmas" is directed and produced by Mark Borik. KMYT can be seen on Channel 11, or on cable Channel 12.

Albertson Foundation helps troops' families

TWIN FALLS — Governor Dirk Kempthorne on Tuesday announced a \$25,000 contribution to the Idaho Guard and Reserve Family Support Fund by the J. A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation.

families of our troops as they are called to defend our freedoms around the world." Kempthorne said in a news release from the Governor's office. "With the holiday season upon us, I'm hopeful that this gift inspires all Idahoans to make contributions to help with the needs of our soldiers and their families." The Idaho Guard and Reserve Family Support Fund was established in 2004 as a private, nonprofit organization for all Idaho guard and reserve members and their families who have sudden, unforeseen or urgent financial needs. The news release said. The majority of the assistance is provided in the form of interest-free loans with repayment of the loans helping to fund future needs. — compiled from staff reports

Couder d'Alene

She said the fund allocation puts next year's grant renewal process in jeopardy. But Upward Bound's current director, Michael Highfill, said only 52 students came to the UI campus for the program last summer. Highfill said officials with the program couldn't recruit more students because of disciplinary problems and staff turnover when Bond was running the program. "The reduction in numbers had nothing to do with an unwillingness to serve students," Highfill said. "Some schools and parents didn't want their kids to return."

Last summer Bond filed an age- and gender-discrimination complaint with the Idaho Human Rights Commission over her termination. The commission is still investigating the complaint, she said. — compiled from wire reports

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SERVICES

Virgil William Carlie of Rupert, funeral at 11 a.m. today at Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel; friends may call one hour before the service.

Fanne Haines of Oakley, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Oakley Stake Center of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 301 N. Center Ave.; friends may call from 10 to 10:45 a.m. today at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home).

Allie Maycock Shaw of Rupert, funeral at 11 a.m. today at Acquila 1st LDS Ward Chapel; friends and family may call one hour before the service at the church (Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel).

John Devan Longden of Shoshone, gathering of family and friends from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Demaray's Shoshone Chapel.

Harold Everett Patterson of Shoshone, funeral at 1 p.m. today in the Howe Robertson Funeral Chapel. Friends may call from 9 a.m. until noon today.

Lillian Gertrude Bell of Arco, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Arco Baptist Church; viewing from 10 to 10:45 a.m. today at the Hawker Lost River Funeral Chapel.

Francis Lyle Bell of Rupert, funeral at 11 a.m. Friday at the 5th LDS Ward Chapel, 324 E. 18th St. Friends and family may call from 6 to 8 p.m. today at the Hansen Mortuary Chapel, 710 Sixth St., and one hour before the service.

Gary Curtis Bower of Carson City, Nev., and formerly of Twin Falls, memorial service at 1 p.m. Dec. 28 at the American Legion Hall, 447 Seacrest. A celebration of Gary's life will follow the memorial service.

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MAGIC VALLEY/IDAHO

OBITUARIES

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3278 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 4 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magicvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magicvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

Omar Lee Mann



On Dec. 20, 2005, Omar Lee Mann, our dear father, grandfather, friend and husband, passed away at his home surrounded by his loving family.

Omar, the youngest of 10 children, was born Nov. 16, 1919, in Vinita, Okla., to Harvey and Hattie Mann. As a young man, he left Oklahoma with his brother Jim and found himself in Twin Falls, Idaho. There, he met Ollie Harr.

He knew instinctively that she was the one for him; they were married on April 16, 1941. Omar and Ollie had four daughters, Colleen, Jackie, Cheryl and Debbie. Being the family's primary provider that he was, Omar moved his family several times following the construction market whenever it took him, finally returning to Twin Falls in 1953.

Learning carpentry from his father, Omar practiced and perfected his trade.

During his working years, Omar owned and operated a shoe repair business. To his brother Jim where they fabricated custom cowboy boots; he also owned and operated a local service station for several years, as well as mastering his true passion of carpentry before taking an early retirement.

Omar looked forward to spending his retirement years enjoying his family and spending quality time with his devoted wife. He was devastated

in October of 1990 when his wife, Ollie, was stricken with a debilitating illness. After dedicating 56 faithful years of his loving marriage, Omar lost his beautiful spouse.

Omar was never the same. He was never alone yet it was obvious that he was lonely. On April 15, 2000, Omar married Eva Mae Tigner. She brought companionship to Omar along with love and a sense of joy that he held close until his passing.

One of Omar's final wishes was to make sure that everyone knew that he loved his family dearly. He will be greatly missed by all of us that were blessed to know him.

Omar is survived by his wife, Eva; his four daughters, Colleen (Keith) Robison of Twin Falls,



Idaho, Jackie (Jo) Bengoechea of Kalspell, Mont., Cheryl Johnson of Twin Falls, Idaho, and Debbie Jones of Twin Falls, Idaho; 12 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, one sister, Wanita Sweet, Baxter Spring, Ark., and Eva's daughter, Jackie Mae (Larry) Meadows along with her children and grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his loving wife, Ollie (Billie), eight sisters and brothers and one great-granddaughter, Christina.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 23, at Park's Funeral Home, 2251 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls.

Those who wish may make memorial contributions in his name to the charity of one's choice.

Nyal Calvin Hoffman



HEIR — Nyal Calvin Hoffman of Filer, passed away on Monday, Dec. 19, 2005, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls, Idaho.

Nyal was born at Castle Creek, Dwyer County, Idaho, on April 6, 1932, to Oratt Calvin Hoffman and Della Grace Stallings Hoffman. His early years were spent in the Oreama/Castle Creek area where his father and mother farmed and he had great memories of the times spent there. The family moved to the Bulli area and Nyal graduated from Rex Stalling's School in 1950. On July 6, 1950, he married his high school sweetheart, Joyce Christoffersen of Bulli.

They had five children, Linda, Dennis, Scott, Tracy and Tracy. Nyal's school work began right after high school, when he took a job working bridge construction in northern Idaho with his uncle, Rod Harris. From that time on, it was apparent that Nyal had a talent for solving construction problems and an uncanny ability to be able to adapt or redesign equipment to suit the pressing need. With brief forays in Alaska working at a wood pulp mill and five years in Idaho working with his Uncle Rex Stallings and Uncle Hall Stallings and Hall Construction Co., Nyal spent the rest of his life in the Magic Valley area working in aquaculture. He worked for Snake River Trout for a few years. During that time, he, Ted Eastman and his father-in-law, Harold Christoffersen, designed and built the first automated fish egg-crating machine in Harold's garage. This was the first of many inventions Nyal can be credited for in streamlining fish producing and processing equipment.

In 1966, Nyal and Ted Eastman and a group of investors formed Clear Springs Trout Co. and began the Clear Lakes Hatchery. Nyal's instrumental role in the early expansion of Clear Springs Trout Co. He had a vision of the new little company and was directly involved in the ac-

quisition and development of the Box Canyon Hatchery and the Crystal Springs Hatchery. In 1977, Nyal left Clear Springs to become self-employed and designed and oversaw the construction and production for many of the other aquaculture businesses in the Magic Valley and in the United States, Turkey, Brazil and Guatemala. He also designed and built small hydroelectric plants. Much of his work can be observed today still being used on most of the hatcheries in the valley.

On Sept. 9, 1978, Nyal was married to Judy Bernier and gained another son, John William (Willey) Bernier. Nyal and Judy were sealed in the Boise temple on May 7, 1994.

Nyal loved his family and friends. He loved animals and having them was a big part of his life. He loved to hunt, and the family would like to thank Rick Eggleston for being such a good hunting buddy and making it possible for him to get to go hunting these past few years.

Nyal is survived by his wife, Judy of Filer; children, Linda (Danny) Garrett of Wendell, Dennis (Tina) Hoffman, Stacy (John) Mavecamp of Hagerman, Scott (Linda) Hoffman, Bulli, Tracy (Kirk) Woolman, Gooding, and John W. Willie (Linda) Bernier of Castleford; grandchildren, Christy, LeAnn, Amanda (Janet) O'Leary, Amanda Jo (A.J.) Hoffman, Cody Hoffman, Joshua Mavecamp, Shelby

Mavecamp, Megan Mavecamp, Kristina (John) Krahn, Misty Pieterma, Kevin Bernier and Miranda Bernier; great-grandchildren, Makaela and Bailey; his first wife, Joyce Hoffman; two brothers, Carl (Berona) Hoffman of Washington and Kent (Jules) Hoffman of Utah; two sisters, LaBene Hopkins of Twin Falls, Shirley (Ralph) Sherrill of Washington; uncle, Rex (Carol) Stallings of Utah; aunts, Bertha Hall of Utah, Blanch Sherrin and Fay Freeman of Alaska and Phyllis Eschel of Massachusetts.

He is also survived by lifelong friends, Rick and Cheryl Eggleston, Wayne and Betty McFurdie and James E. Richards. He will be missed by the many foster children and foreign exchange students he was blessed to know and love through the years.

Nyal was preceded in death by his parents and a grandson, Joshua Carl Hoffman.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Nyal Hoffman Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o Bulli Public School Foundation, P.O. Box 108, Bulli, ID 83316, or Farmer Funeral Chapel, P.O. Box 349, Bulli.

A viewing will be held from 4 to 7 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 22, at Farmer Funeral Chapel, 130 N. Ninth in Bulli. A funeral will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 23, at the Filer LDS Church on West Midway in Filer. Burial will immediately follow the funeral at the Filer Cemetery.

Debate opens on roadless areas in northern Idaho

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — Commissioners in Kootenai County, asked by the governor and other county commissioners in Idaho to gather public comments on roadless forest management and forward recommendations, heard all sides at a meeting.

"Natural resources and roadless areas are at the heart of the region," Geoff Harvey, of Hayden Lake, told the Tuesday meeting. "They provide a retreat and real link to the past. If roads are built, this beautiful place will become just another place."

But John Walters, of Calder, had a different opinion of roadless areas, the Coeur d'Alene Press reported. "Look at how many sawmills that do not exist anymore," Walters said. "There is a lack of raw materials because the U.S. Forest Service is being influenced by the environmental cult."

Idaho has 9.3 million acres of remote national forest declared off-limits to road building and logging. Kootenai County has 6,100 acres of designated roadless national forest. The Spokesman-Review reported.

The Bush administration threw out the roadless rule adopted by President Clinton and gave the states until the end of 2006 to come up with proposals for roadless management.

Before submitting Idaho's proposal, Gov. Dirk Kempthorne asked county commissioners to gather comments.

Gus Johnson, Kootenai County commission chairman, said he was sad to see local sawmills close but doesn't know if that could be blamed on roadless forest protection. He also said he wondered if the whole process wouldn't start again in a few years.

"You may be surprised this again in four years," he said.

DEATH NOTICES

RICHARD LEE LONG — Richard Lee Long, 68, of Twin Falls, died Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2005, at his home.

Arrangements will be made by White Mortuary, Twin Falls.

WILLIE B. FRIERSON — Willie B. Frierson, a 66-year-old resident of Burley, died Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2005, at the Burley Care Center.

Arrangements will be made by Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel.

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair, perhaps you sent a funeral spray, if so we saw it there; perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say; perhaps you were not there at all. Just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts, we thank you so much, whatever the part.

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Our Online Guest Book allows friends and family to express condolences and share memories.

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- * Fox Floral

SERVICES

Virgil William Carlile of Rupert, funeral at 11 a.m. today at Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel; friends may call one hour before the service.

Faune Haines of Oakley, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Oakley Stake Center of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 301 N. Center Ave.; friends may call from 10 until 10:45 a.m. today at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home).

Alice Maycock Shaw of Rupert, funeral at 11 a.m. today at Acacia 1st LDS Ward Chapel; friends and family may call one

hour before the service at the church (Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel).

John Devan Longden of Shoshone, gathering of family and friends from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Demaray's Shoshone Chapel.

Harold Everett Patterson of Shoshone, funeral at 1 p.m. today in the Home Roberson Funeral Chapel; friends may call from 9 a.m. until noon today.

Lillian Gertrude Bell of Arco, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Arco Baptist Church; viewing

from 10 to 10:45 a.m. today at the Hawker Lost River Funeral Chapel.

Gregory Lyle Bell of Rupert, funeral at 11 a.m. Friday at Rupert 5th LDS Ward Chapel, 324 E. 10th St. Friends and family may call from 9 to 9 p.m. today at the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel, 710 Sixth St., and one hour before the service.

Gary Curtis Bowyer of Carson City, Nev., and formerly of Twin Falls, memorial service at 1 p.m. Dec. 28 at the American Legion Hall, 447 Seavon. A celebration of Gary's life will follow the memorial service.

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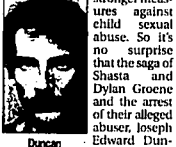
IDAHO

Groene case tops list of major 2005 stories

By Rebecca Boons
Associated Press writer

BOISE — A springtime tragedy. One May evening in northern Idaho, three people were murdered and two children were taken. For years, Shasta and Dylan Groene endured horrendous abuse, allegedly at the hands of a registered sex offender. Only Shasta escaped alive.

The story filed newscasts and newspapers around the world and galvanized local lawmakers and even Oprah to push for stronger measures against child sexual abuse. So it's no surprise that the saga of Shasta and Dylan Groene and the arrest of their alleged abuser, Joseph Edward Duncan III, was voted the state's top news story in 2005 by Idaho newspaper editors and broadcasters.



By the end of the year, a hap- pier story was leading the news, and was chosen second among the state's top 10 stories for the year. Roughly 1,800 members of the Idaho National Guard's 116th Brigade Combat Team returned home from Iraq, in time for turkey and all the trimmings. Many of the soldiers served nearly a year overseas, dodging roadside bombs and fighting insurgents.

Several families had no time to convene to celebrate. Three soldiers from the 116th died in 2005.

As support for the war in Iraq lagged nationally, President George Bush made his first visit to Idaho to address military families and rally support for the war on terror.

During the August visit, Bush spent a few days biking and boating at Tamarack resort before urging continued support for the war during his speech at the Idaho Center in Nampa.

"We will stay, we will fight, and we will win the war on terrorism," Bush told the crowd.

After the speech, Bush met privately with some military family members before returning to his Texas ranch. His first meeting was with the parents of Carrie French, the 19-year-old former high school cheerleader

Idaho's top stories of 2005

Every December, Idaho news editors and broadcasters vote on the top 10 stories of the year. Here's what they chose for 2005:

1. **Shasta Groene is found with convicted sex offender: Joseph Edward Duncan III after her family is murdered.**
2. **1,800 members of the Idaho-based 116th Brigade Combat Team return home after deployment to Iraq.**
3. **President Bush makes his first visit to Idaho since he was elected, allegedly at the hands of a registered sex offender, Only Shasta escaped alive.**
4. **The Idaho Senate completes a historic water agreement with Nez Perce Tribe and the federal government.**
5. **Qwest's phone service is deregulated by the Idaho Legislature.**
6. **The Idaho-based grocery chain Albertson's Inc. puts itself up for sale.**
7. **Nine suspected cases of a fatal brain-wasting disease are reported in Idaho.**
8. **Canyon County sues companies over hiring of illegal immigrants, only to have the lawsuit rejected in federal court.**
9. **Gov. Dirk Kempthorne vetoes eight bills to force lawmakers to support his \$1.6 billion road bonding bill.**

“ We will stay, we will fight and we will win the war on terrorism. ”

— President Bush, during an August speech in Boise

from Caldwell who was the first female soldier from Idaho to die in Iraq.

"Some jerk put a bomb on the road and detonated it as she drove by, so I don't consider it the president's fault," said her mother, Paula Hyljinski. "President Bush had tears in his eyes when he came into the room. They were both visibly upset. I mean, what do you say to parents who just lost a child?"

Another interaction between the state and federal government also ranked among the top stories of 2005: Idaho was given more authority to manage gray wolves under a new rule by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The rule gives states and private landowners more control in fighting wolf depredation of livestock, domestic animals and wild game herds.

The agency reintroduced the gray wolf into central Idaho and

Yellowstone National Park under the federal act in 1995. The wolves have thrived, and now exceed recovery goals in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. But the animals are still protected under the federal Endangered Species Act.

A sixth year of drought heightened water rights demands, but that didn't stop the Idaho Senate from completing a historic water agreement with the Nez Perce Tribe. The tribe gave up its claim to much of the water in the Snake River Basin in exchange for cash, land, environmental improvements and some water. State proponents said the agreement protects irrigators in the Upper Snake River Basin and some loggers and landowners in the Clearwater and Salmon river basins from endangered species-based lawsuits.

Other top stories of 2005:

- Qwest phone service was deregulated by Idaho lawmakers after years of legislative debate. Lt. Gov. Jim Busch cast the deciding vote in March, breaking a 17-drawlock and allowing Qwest Communications Inc. to wrest control over its pricing from the Public Utilities Commission. The bill allowed Qwest's residential landline telephone rates to increase about 10 percent a year for the next five years, after which the company will be free to set its rates.
- The homegrown grocery store chain Albertson's, suffering from competition from

lower-cost rivals such as Wal-Mart, put itself up for sale.

• The federal Centers for Disease Control and the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare launched an investigation into nine suspected cases of the fatal brain-wasting illness classic Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. The reported cases suggested to health officials that Idaho might be in the midst of a rare cluster of CJD. But the state may never get confirmation of a cluster. Of the nine deaths, four people were buried without an autopsy. Tests on the brain tissue of two people showed no evidence of CJD, but three more tested positive for the disease.

• A landmark federal lawsuit brought by Canyon County against several local businesses for hiring illegal aliens was thrown out. The lawsuit, championed by Canyon County Commissioner Robert Vasquez, claimed that the businesses had harmed the county because the aliens increased costs for county services such as jails, schools and welfare. But U.S. District Judge Edward Lodge found that such increases were simply the cost of being a government entity.

• During the legislative session, Gov. Dirk Kempthorne vetoed eight bills to force lawmakers to support his road bonding bill. The effort worked, and Kempthorne's 15-year, \$1.6 billion highway construction plan was approved just before the Legislature adjourned.

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Blackfoot man describes shooter

IDAHO FALLS — A Blackfoot man shot in the head last month by a man he let into his apartment to use the phone has recovered enough to give police a description of the shooter.

Soto Arellano, 64, was shot Nov. 27 in the head with a small-caliber handgun. Arellano told police Monday that a Spanish-speaking man shot him. Arellano said he did not know the man.

Police have said robbery did not appear to be the reason for the shooting, though the investigation is ongoing.

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Twin Falls Canal Company NOTICE

Of Regular Stockholders' Meeting

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the regular meeting of the Stockholders of the Twin Falls Canal Company will be held on Tuesday the 10th of January, 2006. The meeting will be called to order by the Directors at 9:00 a.m. in the Rick Allen Room in the Herrett Center at the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls.

Directors from District 1 (Murtaugh, Hansen and Kimberly) and District 5 (Castleford) will be elected for three-year terms.

Other business will also be transacted. There will be reports from the Company's General Manager, auditors and lawyers. There will also be reports concerning operation and maintenance efforts, 2006 water supplies, water call, and other matters of interest.

The corporate books will be closed for the transfer of stock in December 30, 2005.

The polls shall be open at the office of the Company at 357 Sixth Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, between the hours of 12:00 noon and 6:00 p.m. on January 10, 2006.

Proxies shall be filed with the Company's Assistant Secretary at the Company Office on or before January 6, 2006.

DATED this 9th day of December 2005.

TWIN FALLS CANAL COMPANY
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WEST

Senate blocks drilling in Alaska refuge

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ted Stevens won his power necktie, the one featuring the "Incredible Hulk" cartoon character. It is the one the Alaska senator reserves for his toughest fights.

"I hope the good Lord will help me hold my temper," he told colleagues as he began his final pitch for a cause he has championed for a quarter century: opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in the northeastern corner of Alaska to oil drilling.

An hour later he sat quietly in the Senate chamber, again disappointed. The tie didn't help. The Senate rejected opening the Alaska refuge to oil companies, even though Stevens had maneuvered the measure onto a must-pass defense spending bill that includes money for troops as well as billions for Katrina victims.

It was a stinging defeat for Stevens, 82, one of the Senate's most powerful members, who had hoped to garner more votes by forcing senators to choose between supporting the drilling or risking the political fallout from voting against money for the troops and hurricane victims.

Instead, Stevens found himself a few votes shy of getting his wish.

Republican leaders could not break a Democratic filibuster threat over the drilling issue, falling three votes short of the 60 needed to advance the defense spending bill to a final vote. Majority Leader Bill Frist, however, left the chamber as he, Stevens and other GOP leaders gauged their next move.

The measure was widely expected to be withdrawn and reworked without the refuge language, although Stevens warned he was prepared to stay until New Year's if necessary to fight for the drilling, a cause he



Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, second from right, followed by Senate Majority Whip Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, barrs out of the Senate chamber and quickly walks down the hall to Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist's office on Wednesday after the Senate voted to block drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

has pursued for 25 of his 37 years in the Senate.

Democrats as well as a number of Republicans were already angered by Stevens' tactic, which delayed action on the \$453.5 billion defense bill that included \$29 billion for hurricane relief, the war and border security, and \$2 billion to help low-income households pay this winter's heating expenses.

"Our military is being held hostage by this issue, Arctic drilling," fumed Democratic leader Harry Reid of Nevada.

But Stevens, the Senate's most senior member known for his tough, combative nature and fiery temper, expressed frustration, but had no apologetics.

"Every time this subject comes up ... the minority has filibustered," Stevens complained, reminding colleagues of his 25-year campaign to get Congress to allow development

of an estimated 10 billion barrels of oil beneath the coastal tundra of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

After the vote, Democrats celebrated as did environmentalists, knowing they had tangled with one of the Senate's toughest members and won.

"I took a lot of guts for a lot of people to stand up," Sen. Joe Lieberman, D-Conn., said after the vote. He said he expects the 43 senators who voted against drilling — all but four Democrats as well as GOP Sens. Mike DeWine of Ohio and Lincoln Chafee of Rhode Island — not to yield to further pressures and change their vote.

But no one believes the issue — which has galvanized environmentalists determined to protect the refuge from development — is going away.

"I expect to see it again next year," said Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., a longtime drilling

opponent. "Yes, it'll be back," agreed Lieberman.

Environmentalists rejoiced, aware that never before had drilling proponents come so close to victory. The House already had approved the defense bill with Stevens' drilling measure included and President Bush was eager to sign it. Congress approved ANWR drilling in 1995 as part of a budget package that was immune from Senate filibuster, but President Clinton, a drilling opponent, vetoed it.

The Sierra Club called it "an against-all-odds" victory.

"Drilling proponents pulled out all the stops, and tried every trick in their playbook," said Sierra Club Executive Director Carl Pope. "This is a tremendous victory for all Americans and proof that the fate of the Arctic refuge must be debated on its merits, not as part of a sneak attack."

Stevens argued that Congress in 1990 agreed to allow ANWR's oil to be developed at some future date as part of a compromise he supported that expanded the federal refuge to 19 million acres.

It was a commitment, he maintains, that has never met.

Those who advocate drilling contend the oil — an estimated 1 million barrels a day during peak production — is needed for national security to reduce the country's dependence on oil imports. Drilling opponents say ANWR's oil would do little to curtail imports.

Stevens' proposal would have required the Interior Department to issue its first oil leases in the 1.6-million-acre coastal plain of the refuge within 22 months and another package of leases in 2010. Oil was not expected to flow before 2015.

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Shark bites hand of swimmer off Maui

WAILUA, Hawaii (AP) — A 29-year-old San Diego man was attacked by a shark Wednesday while swimming in waters off West Maui, officials said.

The man was alone when a shark bit his left hand about 200 yards off Keawakapu Beach. He was taken to Maui Memorial Medical Center where he was in stable condition and could be released later in the day.

Hospital spokeswoman Carol Clark said the swimmer lost his pinky and a portion of his ring finger.

Lifeguards closed the beach following the attack, which occurred at about 11:45 a.m., said Marian Fevnsira, aquatics division chief of the state Department of Parks and Recreation.

Fire Battalion Chief Alan Pasqua said a fire helicopter spotted a 10- to 12-foot tiger shark in the area immediately following the attack.

Pasqua said the water was a little murky following recent rains on Maui.

It was the first shark attack in Hawaii resulting in injury since Oct. 9, 2004, when Day-Sanada was bitten while spearfishing off Molokai. Sanada, 35, suffered injuries to his face and left shoulder. From what he described as an 8-foot tiger shark.

There were four confirmed reports this year, including three off Maui, of sharks biting surfboarders and a kayak, but no one was injured, according to the state Shark Task Force.

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University retains Los Alamos contract

LOS ALAMOS, N.M. (AP) — Despite a string of security lapses and allegations of fraud and mismanagement, the University of California has been awarded the contract to continue managing the Los Alamos laboratory that built the atomic bomb, the Energy Department said Wednesday.

Because of the scandals at Los Alamos, the government contract to run the nation's pre-eminent nuclear lab had been put out to bid this year for the first time in the lab's 63-year history.

Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman announced that a partnership of UC and the engineering giant

Bechtel Corp. had prevailed over a rival team made up of the University of Texas and the defense contractor Lockheed Martin.

UC wins contract

OLD IS NEW: The Los Alamos nuclear lab has a turbulent recent past that includes security lapses and allegations of mismanagement. But federal energy officials selected its current manager, the University of California, to be part of a team that will run it for at least the next seven years.

BIDDING PROCESS: Because of the scandals, the Department of Energy contract to run the nation's pre-eminent nuclear laboratory was put out to bid this year for the first time in the lab's 63-year history.

THE LEADERSHIP: UC formed a partnership with Bechtel, the engineering giant, along with BWX Technologies Inc. and the Washington Group International to bid for the contract. A rival team led by the University of Texas and defense contractor Lockheed Martin.

put up for competitive bidding. This time, the university teamed up with Bechtel to give itself more managerial expertise.

The Los Alamos National Laboratory, with about 8,000 University of California employees and 3,000 contract workers, is one of the nation's three chief installations responsible for maintaining the U.S. nuclear arsenal and manufacturing weapons components.

The lab also conducts research on a host of topics of national interest, including miniaturized technology, genetics, computing, the environment and health.

In 1999, in a case that proved a major embarrassment for the government and the lab, Los Alamos scientist Wen Ho Lee was jailed amid an investigation into possible Chinese espionage. The case proved to be weak, and Lee pleaded guilty to mishandling classified information and was released with an apology from a federal judge.

The lab was rocked by other security lapses, as well as credit card abuses, theft of equipment and other instances of mismanagement.

Former lab investigator Glenn Walp, who was fired in 2002 after alleging mismanagement, fraud and cover-up at the lab, said he was disappointed that UC-Bechtel won.

"It's a blue Christmas for America," he said. Walp said UC deserves praise for the work it has done in the past, "but in the last 10 years, they're just incapable of running the lab that's so important to American security."

Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., said the new team would mark a "new era" at the lab.

"I particularly hope the new management team will clarify lines of authority and minimize bureaucracies so our scientists can focus on science," he said.

The governors of New Mexico and California also applauded the decision. New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson said it "will allow the laboratory's great work to continue, under strong leadership, well into the future" while California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger called the decision "a terrific news for UC, for our state, and for research science in this country."

"I have minimal hope and no belief that UC can reverse its record of consistent failure," he said.

DOE officials emphasized that accountability on security issues was a major part of the UC bid, and that the federal government wouldn't diminish its "robust oversight" of the lab's operations, security and high-hazard operations.

The new management team — formally dubbed Los Alamos National Security LLC — also includes several New Mexico universities. Its new director is Michael Anastasio, who has served as head of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory since 2002.

All current Los Alamos lab employees, except top managers, are guaranteed jobs at the same pay and with mostly the same benefits, Bodman said.

The university has run the lab since it was created in the New Mexico desert in 1943 as part of the top secret Manhattan Project to build the A-bomb.

But because of bitter complaints in Congress about security lapses and poor management, the contract was

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Boise won't stop Nativity scene in front of City Hall

BOISE — Officials in Boise say they won't stop a conservative Christian activist and others from displaying a Nativity scene in front of city hall Friday evening.

"We generally open the City Hall plaza to all corners as long as they're not blocking the entryway," Michael Zuzel, spokesman for Mayor Dave Bieter, said. "At this point, we don't see any problem with it."

Brandi Swindell, who has been involved in the legal fight to put a Ten Commandments monument back in a downtown park, said her plan for the nativity event at city hall was to celebrate the Christmas holiday and also make sure that her rights to practice her religion freely were protected.

"I don't think (city officials) wanted to go through another battle like they did with the Ten Commandments," said Swindell, who recently lost an election for a seat on the city council. "They know what we're capable of. This shows they're going to be smart about it."

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Idaho towns prepare for floods

Ice jams form on the Salmon, Lemhi rivers

SALMON (AP) — Ice jams on three rivers threatened homes and caused the National Weather Service to issue a flood warning for eastern Idaho and a flood watch for the center of the state.

But officials said warmer weather expected later this week would reduce the threat, and the flood warning on the Henry's Fork of the Snake River in eastern Idaho was removed late Wednesday morning.

The flood watch remains in effect on the Lemhi River in central Idaho, where water had collected near residences along the river and was nearing Highway 28 near Tendoy, about 20 miles south of Salmon.

"We are continuing with the flood watch at least through (Thursday) because there is water backed up through that section," said Ray Nickless, a hydrologist with the National Weather Service based in Missoula, Mont.

Nickless said the Lemhi, which flows north before converging with the Salmon River in the town of Salmon, was just above flood stage at 6.85 feet early Wednesday, fell below flood stage at 6.4 feet by midday.

"There was one residence that had water getting close to it, but the home wasn't flooded," Nickless said. "They did some sandbagging around it."

He said most of the flood water from the river went into ranch land and fields.

Another ice jam formed on the Salmon River about seven miles downstream of the town.

"Let's just hope it all doesn't meet in town," Janet Nelson, Lemhi County's emergency

services coordinator, told the Post-Register.

Cold snaps in 1982 and 1984 caused ice jams in the Lemhi and Salmon rivers that resulted in floods causing nearly \$3 million in damage. About 125 homes had to be evacuated during the 1984 flood, which the Army Corps of Engineers said was an event likely to occur only once every 100 years.

Nelson said the town is prepared this winter with 300,000 sandbags and sand, as well as heavy equipment to build dikes.

"I think we're as ready as we can be," Nelson said. "The good thing for us is that compared to the wildfires we face in the summer, flooding from ice is usually a slow process, so there's ample time to respond. I notified our search-and-rescue volunteers

that they may get a call on Christmas Eve asking them to fill sandbags."

The flood warning on the Henry's Fork of the Snake River near St. Anthony in eastern Idaho was announced Monday and called off late Wednesday morning. The river peaked at 7.1 feet, just above flood stage, from Monday afternoon through Tuesday before falling.

"In the last week or so we had temperatures in the single digits and at times below zero," said Bob Survick, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service based in Pocatello.

He said water flooded some farmland but no homes or buildings were threatened.

"Ice could still be there but the river level has come down," he said.

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HBO Latin America drama comes to U.S.

Los Angeles Times

HOLLYWOOD—It has all the trappings of a successful American television series: an emotionally beaten police detective, a serial killer with a particularity, a heart and CGI Insider views into the bodies of the victims.

But this isn't the latest episode of CSI: Crime Scene Investigation or "Criminal Minds." It is "Epitafios" (Epitaphs), HBO Latin America's first original series. Written and produced in Argentina with the Latin American audience in mind, U.S. Latinos—in mind.

The 13-episode thriller—which premiered in Latin America in 2004, just aired on HBO Latino, the cable network's Spanish-language channel in the U.S., and is available on HBO on Demand—now will air on HBO and Signature channel, beginning Wednesday. It is subtitled in English. The project, created by Argentine twin brothers Walter and Marcelo Slavich, is the first fictional series developed by HBO's 13-year-old Latin American division for the Spanish and Portuguese speakers of Latin America.

For its producers, that it now will be shown in the U.S. on an English-language channel is the icing on a cake as sweet as the tormented love story at the heart of "Epitafios"—the central element that distinguishes this cat-and-mouse thriller from the ever-so-popular crime procedurals on network lineups. Additionally, viewers who know who the bad guy is much earlier than the police do (in the third episode) because the series is more about a killer who is

chasing the police than a criminal being hunted by law enforcement.

Filmed in Buenos Aires but set in a generic Latin American metropolis, "Epitafios" is the story of a former policeman and his past love interest, a psychiatrist, who are reunited when several people from one of their previous cases are murdered. The killer designs epitaphs for his victims before the audience is privy to what they mean, who the victims are or when they will die.

"This is not a popular genre in Latin America, but this show proved there was definite interest," said Marcelo Slavich. "We don't know why people don't write these kinds of stories all over Mexico in Latin America, but I think it was a huge risk. But I think that worked for us that we changed the rules. We didn't treat the genre like typical TV shows, but we made it turn and turns and there was more to the story than the crimes that were committed."

For HBO Latin America, which has 2 million subscribers, "Epitafios" serves as an induction of sorts into the brand. Because of the critical acclaim the series garnered as well as its success in the 20-plus countries in which it aired, executives have been emboldened to produce more like it. Since the series premiered, HBO Latin America's development department has expanded and a second series, "Mandrake," produced in Brazil, is on the air. In a few months, another Brazilian production, "The Sounds of the Carnival," will premiere in Latin America, and several other projects in Mexico will follow.

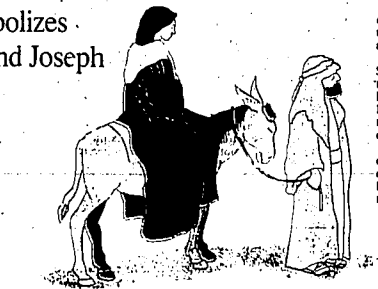
La Posada symbolizes story of Mary and Joseph

By Levi Aspietta
Times-News correspondent

Catholic churches around the valley are celebrating a Mexican tradition that symbolizes the story of Mary and Joseph seeking lodging or posada, before finding the manger in Bethlehem.

The nine-day La Posada event started on Dec. 16 and traditionally lasts until Dec. 24. The nine days are supposed to acknowledge the nine months that Mary was pregnant. The tradition began in the 16th century and was only celebrated on one day.

This year at the Little Flower Catholic Church in Bufile, children dress up as Mary and Joseph each night and recite the nativity story to the story than the crimes that were committed."



as they go door to door in the building asking for room. "Someone lets them in and they have a prayer and ceremony," explained Connie Valdez, a secretary at the church. "Each night, a different family then provides hot chocolate and bread or usually a meal."

The tradition allows people to

come together and celebrate the holiday season with friends and family.

In Twin Falls, people gather at St. Edwards Parish Hall to recite the rosary each night before having fun and sharing food. Families usually like to make tamales and posole, a kind of chili stew.

"It is an excuse to get together, sing Christmas carols and eat," said Paula Salinas of Twin Falls. "It is fun, but especially, the kids have fun."

The event can attract a lot of people to celebrate with the people who are participating in the events. At St. Jerome's Catholic Church in Jerome, people sing and pray as people ask for posada.

"We get about 200 to 250 people on the weekend, and during the week, we get about 150 to 200 people joining us," said Silvia Garcia of Jerome.

CNN aims to capture Hispanic audience

Los Angeles Times

MEXICO CITY—Her chauffeur barely has pulled into the parking garage, but Carmen Aristegui is already out the door of her silver Audi and standing through the office-tower lobby as if powered by jet propulsion. She flashes a smile at the night security guards, winks into an elevator and heads for the eighth-floor suite of CNN en Espanol.

A clock shows it's less than 20 minutes till airtime for "Arístegui," the half-hour, prime-time news talk show that since its July 4 debut has made its host one of the best-known Spanish-speaking journalists in the hemispheres. But Aristegui is all-grown-up case as she flops into a chair and submerges her makeup assistant's ministrations. Then, later than you can say "Anderson Cooper," she races onto the studio set, introduces her guest—the Mexican presidential candidate Felipe Calderon of the ruling National Action Party—and makes him squirm as she politely but firmly presses for his views on abortion and euthanasia.

It's all in an evening's work for Aristegui (pronounced all-NEE-STEI-gee), a veteran radio and television news anchor-analyst during her 15-year career has gained a large, respectful following in her native Mexico. Now her bosses at CNN

are betting that this genial but no-nonsense journalist can dramatically expand her fan base in South and North America.

CNN hopes that "Arístegui" can help create a community of Spanish-language news junkies across a vast area stretching from Los Angeles, to Tierra del Fuego. Broadcast live from CNN en Espanol's Mexico City bureau at 11 p.m. EST, the show reaches 12.4 million household subscribers in Mexico, Central and South America and the Spanish-speaking Caribbean, plus another 3 million in the United States. Although "Arístegui" focuses heavily on Mexican political and social affairs, it aims for a pan-Latin American perspective on issues such as immigration, human rights and global trade. E-mail about the show flies in from Mexico, Argentina, Chile and most points in between.

It is believed that Mexico is a location that has a lot of information that can be interesting in Latin America, especially in the United States for the great quantity, the millions of Mexicans that are in the United States," Aristegui says. "This doesn't excuse us from dealing with hurricanes, or dealing with terrorist attacks, or discussing the human rights of the subjects that we cover as that are of the world—from the perspective of Mexico."

HOT TOYS



Luibeth Sanchez, 6, walks past a Dora the Explorer display at a Toys-R-Us store in Doral, Fla. Toys featuring Hispanic characters and themes are hot this holiday season as manufacturers vie to win the dollars of the nation's fastest growing population. The animated character, Dora, speaks English and Spanish.

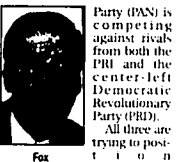
In Mexico, junkyard dogfight for presidency

The Washington Post

MEXICO CITY—The race for Mexico's presidency has featured mudslinging, backstabbing, revelations of a questionably obtained Miami penthouse, videotapes of cash-filled suitcases and allegations of communist leanings. All this before the campaign has even officially begun—and with the election almost seven months away.

Political analysts predict the mud will continue to fly and the vote in July, with three major candidates in a virtual dead heat to succeed Vicente Fox in a contest that many view as a crucial test of Mexico's democratic progress.

Fox's watershed election in 2000 broke the 71-year rule of the Institutional Revolutionary Party or PRI. This time, a candidate from his National Action



Fox

Party (PAN) is competing against rivals from both the PRI and the center-left Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD). All three are trying to position themselves as the man to move Mexico's economy ahead, even if they have to stoop to personal attacks in the process.

"Now we have a democracy, and people are interested in having a better standard of living," said Sergio Sarmiento, a political columnist. "The big question in 2006 is whether we will get the reforms to make the economy more competitive."

Party (PAN) is competing against rivals from both the PRI and the center-left Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD). All three are trying to position themselves as the man to move Mexico's economy ahead, even if they have to stoop to personal attacks in the process.

At this point, Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, 52, the left-wing former mayor of Mexico City and past president of the PRD, sits atop public opinion surveys by a slight margin among likely voters and is in a statistical lead with his competitors—Felipe Calderon, 43, of the PAN and Roberto Madrazo, 53, of the PRI—among the general populace.

Last spring, Lopez Obrador's opponents tried to strip him of his legal immunity as mayor so he could be indicted for ignoring a court order in a minor legal dispute. An indictment would have prevented him from running for president, and the move was widely viewed as an attempt to remove the favorite from the race before it began. Instead, the controversy boosted his name recognition, and his favorability ratings remain high.

But Calderon has also been rising in the polls since he won his party primary in October. The tough-talking lawyer, who was energy secretary under Fox, holds a master's degree from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and made his way up through the PAN to become party president at 33. He is the least-known candidate, but he does not appear to have been seriously felled by widespread public disapproval in Fox, who came to be viewed as an ineffective leader.

Lengthy holiday trips to Mexico took issue for schools

Standard-Examiner

OGDEN, Utah—They miss grandma's cooking and grandpa's hearty hugs. They miss the warm weather and the family festivities.

But they are also going to miss a lot of school. Many Ogden-area Hispanic students plan to take several weeks off to travel to Mexico during the holiday break. Educators discourage the extended trips, saying they are detrimental to the children's learning. But they respect the fact that their students are a large part of the Hispanic culture.

"It's a difficult issue. The children need to know their family and where they came from, and they also need an education," said Suzanne Buchanan, Davis

School District student services truancy specialist.

"There is no easy answer." With schools being judged by federally mandated No Child Left Behind testing and students being held to graduation requirements such as the Utah Basic Skills Competency Test, educators are feeling even more pressure to help their students learn and succeed.

But going to Mexico for the holidays is a big draw for Hispanic families. Festivities began last week with "El Virgen de Guadalupe" (the appearance of the Virgin Mary) and end Jan. 6 with "El Dia de Reyes" (the day of kings). There are several weeks of fiestas, dances, food and family. Ogden School District, which

has a 43 percent Hispanic student population, is hard hit by this trend.

Ben Lomond High School expects as many as 20 teens to leave before Christmas and be gone up to six weeks.

At Lewis Elementary School, 10 students have notified the school that they will be taking an extended holiday break. Last year, 17 students took time off to trek to Mexico.

Mount Ogden Middle School may have up to 25 students gone this month for a long holiday break. Some left before Thanksgiving and want return until January.

Ogden District's holiday break is from Dec. 19 to Jan. 2. It includes two full weeks of school and three weekends. Administrators at other

Northern Utah school districts, such as Weber, Davis and Box Elder, say only a small number of their students are traveling to Mexico for the holidays.

This may be the only time during the year, or for several years, that they can visit their relatives.

"I almost never see them. Yes, it is worth it," said Francisco Becerra-Cortez, a fourth-grader at Ben Lomond High. He speaks with a reporter using his ESL teacher as an interpreter.

Becerra-Cortez said he is a bit worried about getting behind in schoolwork while he is gone for about four weeks. His family plans to make the several-day pilgrimage to Michoacan, Mexico, by car or bus.

Local daily newspapers reach

66% of Hispanics in any 7-day week.*

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Comunidad
publicidad y noticias para la comunidad hispanica

COMICS

B.C. By Johnny Hart

TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE AND ALL THROUGH THE NIGHT NOT A [redacted] WAS STIRRING, NOT EVEN A [redacted] THE [redacted] WE'RE HUNG BY THE [redacted] WITH CARE, IT'S A CHRISTMAS STORY BY A GUY WHO HAS AN AVERSION TO NOUNS.

WHAT'S HE READING?

Baby Blues By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott

ALWAYS GET PUNCHED!

THAT'S A BURN! YOU KNOW THE WAY YOU LOOK THE WAY YOU TALK THE WAY YOU MOVE! YOU'VE GOT TO GET A LITTLE MORE TOGETHER!

YOU'VE GOT TO GET A LITTLE MORE TOGETHER!

YOU'VE GOT TO GET A LITTLE MORE TOGETHER!

Baldo By Hector D. Cantu and Carlos Castellanos

CRACK!

Beverly By Guy & Rodd

"IT'S ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL MOTIVATIONAL POSTERS OF ALL TIME, OR WHATEVER... I DON'T LIKE TO MAKE A BIG DEAL OUT OF IT... TOP FIVE IF YOU HAVE TO KNOW."

Hang in there!

Hang in there!

Hang in there!

Dilbert By Scott Adams

OUR NEW PRODUCT IS A CABLE THAT DOESN'T ATTACH TO ANYTHING.

WE HOPE TO CREATE DEMAND VIA A SERIES OF COMMERCIALS SHOWING YOUNG PEOPLE DANCING.

AND THEN WE'LL ALL GO STRAIGHT TO HELL.

HE DIDN'T TAKE THE LAST ROUND OF BUDGET CUTS WELL.

Doomsday By Garry Trudeau

A PERSONAL SENTIMENT ABOUT SO THE DING DING THE BONG THAT I AM THE WINNER OF [redacted]

"THE TRUTH IS I DON'T THAT CONVERTIBLE SHOULD BE [redacted] BUT IT'S A [redacted] YOU'VE GOT TO GET A LITTLE MORE TOGETHER!"

INTERESTING CUTE-IE-SC.

OH, YEAH, YOU'VE GOT TO GET A LITTLE MORE TOGETHER!

The Elderberries By Phil Frank and Joe Troise

We were so hoping you'd play Santa this year, Dusty.

False hope, I'm afraid.

Well... There's always Vinnie, I guess.

Vinnie!

Why did I look like a fine, store-bought Santa next to that four-mouthed, two-bit, bawkin' weasel!

Oh, Evelyn! He's got his Christmas spirit back!

Hmmp!

For Better or For Worse By Lynn Johnston

LOOK! I KNOW WE WENT TO EISENBERG EACH OTHER FOR VERY LONG, BUT I'M NOT SURE IT'S THE RIGHT ONE AND... GUY IT!

ELIZABETH, I'M CRAZY ABOUT YOU! THEN, PULL OVER.

WHAT'S WHY?!

BECAUSE IT'S HARD TO DRIVE. YOU'RE DYING.

Frank and Ernest By Bob Thaves

FOR EVENTUAL SERVICE, PLEASE TAKE A NUMBER

73

Luann By Greg Evans

THANK YOU, SANTA.

HOHOHO! YOU'RE WELCOME, LITTLE LADY.

Y'KNOW, BOB, I DON'T LIKE THAT YOU'RE OVERSOCIATIVE, A BIT TUCKERED AND KIND OF SLOPPY, BUT YOU HAVE A HEART OF GOLD, AND I LOVE THAT!

SANTA GOT A GIFT!

Mallard Fillmore By Bruce Tinsley

MALLARD'S CHRISTMAS-GIFT IDEA FOR REPUBLICAN LAWYERS?

A DONKEY MASK... MOST OF YOU OUGHT TO GET ONE OF THESE LITTLE HATS.

YOU ALREADY VOTE LIKE EM... WHY NOT LOOK LIKE DEMOCRATS?

Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis

I HEAR YOU'RE WRITING HOROSCOPES FOR PAPER AS WELL AS FOR A CLIP?

TEAM, HERE'S THE GEMIN: "IF YOU THINK THE PROBLEMS OF YOUR SAD LITTLE LIFE CAN BE SOLVED BY LAMING TO THE STARS, YOU MIGHT AS WELL JUMP OFF A CLIFF!"

WHOA WHOA WHOA... THAT'S JUST AN INSULT. AS AN ASTROLOGIST, YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO MAKE A PREDICTION.

DESPITE YOUR FRANTIC ARM-FLAPPING, YOU WILL NOT FLY.

Pickles By Brian Crane

GEE, MOM, WHERE ARE YOUR CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS? YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE A TREE.

WE DECIDED TO KEEP IT SIMPLE THIS YEAR AND FORGO ALL THE THINSEL AND COMMERCIALISM OF THE SEASON.

HO, HO, HO! MERRY CHRISTMAS, GWINA!

WHEN I SAID "MERRY" OF COURSE, I MEAN ME AND THE CAT.

Rose Is Rose By Pat Brady

THEY'RE NIP AND TUCKER!

WINKING AT A NIP AND TUCKER!

7th By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott

THINKING BUT I'M HAPPY WITH THE LITTLE DANCING TOOTHBRUSH LOGO! HANG ON MY BUSINESS CARD, PEECE.

THIS WOULD BE COOLER.

Non Sequitur By Wiley

LIBIDO...

WHY SANTA ONLY TALKS TO KIDS

Beware of disruptions, Aries

HOROSCOPE
Jeraldine Saunders

IF DEC. 22 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Expect to rest on some recently earned laurels in the year to come. It may be important to get into better physical shape in March and April. The first three days of April are particularly beneficial for launching important projects. Caution is necessary during the last half of February, June and August, when deals and contracts can backfire and testing new waters can prove expensive. Stabilize your finances by seeking solid investments or habitually tucking some pennies away.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Ignore the urge to make a change of alter traditions. Disruptions to routines can cause you more work in the end. Stick with plans that are already made and go along with the crowd.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Business affairs might not go as expected. Keep your cool and eventually things will work out if you refuse to be goaded into reactions. Minor emergencies and upsets can't spoil your plans.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't make unexpected. Take minor tensions and surprises in stride and don't be upset if others are a bit unpredictable.

Stay snug as a bug at home and wrap presents or bake cookies.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Relax at home. Small conflicts are possible when people are stressed by a long list of holiday tasks. Avoid being part of the holiday rush and take a detour around high-traffic areas.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A refusal to cooperate could cause a minor struggle at work or in business. Hang out at home and string popcorn. Last-minute shoppers could cause traffic jams at the mall.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Be smart. Simply refuse to accept changes to your evening plans. Purchases made tonight might not be as satisfying as your cash in your pocket tonight.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Play to the right audience. What was attractively amusing yesterday may be shocking today. Don't be determined to act independently when cooperation with others is called for.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Unintentional political incorrectness can put people at odds. Be a peacemaker and don't take sides. You're filled with the gentle holiday mood and easily bemused by sentimentality at home.

Beetle Bailey By Mort Walker

AS I SEE IT, YOU HAVE THREE MAIN PROBLEMS. YOU'RE IMPATIENT, YOU SWEAR TOO MUCH, AND YOU OVERTALK!

GREY CULLIVER: CAN I GO NOW? I'M HUNGRY!

Blonde By Dean Young & Stan Drake

OPEN THIS DOOR RIGHT NOW!!

OPEN THIS DOOR!!

PUTTING THAT LOCK ON THE BREAK ROOM DOOR LAST WEEK WAS ONE OF THE SMARTEST THINGS WE'VE EVER DONE.

The Born Loser By Art Sansom & Chip

I LOVE WATCHING TV DURING THE HOLIDAYS—FONDLY REVISITING MEMORIES OF MY YOUTH!

YOU MEAN CLASSIC MOVIES LIKE 'T'S A WONDERFUL LIFE' AND SPECIALS LIKE 'A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS'?

I MEAN CLASSIC COMMERCIALS LIKE 'HORSES DRINKING BEER' THROUGH SHOWY VILLAGES AND LITTLE SANTA'S SLEDDING ON ELECTRIC RAZORS!

Garfield By Jim Davis

NOW BACK TO 'ENOS GUMALOT,' THE ELEVATOR OPERATOR WHO SAVED CHRISTMAS.

MERRY CHRISTMAS, SANTA...

WHAT FLOOR, PLEASE?

ROOF!

YOU DA MAN, ENOS!

Nagar the Horrible By Chris Browne

OPEN THAT DOOR OR WE'LL BREAK IT DOWN!

ARE YOU SANTA CLAUS, MISTER?

Hi and Lois By Chance Browne

WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS, SANTA?

A WEEK OFF!

MY LAP IS KILLING ME!

Classic Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz

I'VE DECIDED I'M NOT GOING TO COLLEGE. I THINK I'LL TRAVEL INSTEAD...

ALL OVER THE WORLD, HUH?

NO, JUST AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

The Wizard of Id By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart

FOUR ME FIVE SHOTS OF VODKA AND ONE SHOT OF WATER.

IT'S HIS VERSION OF RUSSIAN ROULETTE.

Dennis the Menace By Hank Ketcham

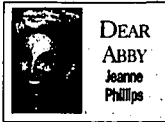
'D' LIKE A MAGIC WAND... AND THIS YEAR, 'D' LIKE ONE THAT WORKS.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bill Keane

"I'm trying to sound this one out."

Smart women search for love

DEAR ABBY: Several of my friends and I were bemoaning our status as single women in our late 20s/early 30s, and discussing an article we had read in *The New York Times* about how smart women are less likely to get married. We'd all like to find Mr. Wonderful and be married. But if we have to curtail our professional wherewithal and IQ to do it, how can a person even begin to do such a thing?



traits is attractive to either sex.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I recently had a baby. We chose a mature, Christian couple to be our child's godparents. However, my brother-in-law is infatuated over the fact that he's not the godparent. He has disowned my husband and wants nothing to do with us.

I have a feeling you'll say to be ourselves and it will all work out, but thus far it has not worked out, and we're starting to worry. Personally, I think we'd be better off to take jobs as "administrators" in a large company somewhere and hope for the best.

Help, Abby! What's the answer for us, four women who have their acts together? How can we best poison ourselves to find true love while being true to ourselves?

off is often a matter of luck and timing — being in the right place at the right time.

Eligible members of both sexes can be found in places of common interest — places that are intellectually rewarding, culturally stimulating, athletically challenging or financially advantageous. As to whether you should downgrade your job level in order to appear less "threatening," I guarantee that if you don't take financial care of yourselves while you can, you will regret it later. To paraphrase Abraham Lincoln, you could fool some of the bachelors some of the time, but you couldn't fool all of them all of the time.

Behavior such as this in the past is part of the reason he wasn't chosen. However, I need to know this: Did we have an obligation to choose him as a godparent? How should we handle his immaturity and controlling behavior? — **NEEDS TO KNOW IN OHIO**

DEAR NEEDS TO KNOW: A godparent can either be a relative or a close friend, and you were not obligated to choose over the other. Your godfather-in-law may be hurt that he wasn't chosen, but his subsequent behavior has been so childish that it's apparent you made the right decision. The way to handle his immature and controlling behavior is to forgive him for it, and go on with your lives.

— LOSING FAITH IN FINDING MR. RIGHT

DEAR LOSING FAITH: The truth is, there are no guarantees that ANYONE (male or female) will land a mate. It's sad on these days because people are commitment-phobic. And this applies to individuals at all economic and educational levels, not just you at the top. Pairing

There are worse things than not finding Prince Charming, and one of them is spending your life pretending to be something you're not. So my advice is to stop reading defeatist newspaper and magazine articles. They'll only make you desperate, clingy and depressed — and none of those

CONFIDENTIAL TO EDWARD PHILLIPS IN MINNEAPOLIS: Happy Birthday, baby brother! I hope you're enjoying your special day.

Columbus brought home the bacon

Christopher Columbus brought the first pigs to the Americas (Cubi, actually) on his second voyage in 1493. Hernando de Soto first brought pigs to North America, landing in Florida with 13 of the little oinkers in 1539. The ones that escaped from his herds into the swamps became the first razorbacks.



that? Not that solid. The rock is mostly soft gray limestone and contains more than 100 caves carved by wind and water.

The skin isn't the only thing that continually renews itself. Your colon sheds its lining every seven days.

All mammal moms give milk, but not all have nipples. Australia's duckbilled platypus and spiny anteater express milk through pores in the skin and the young sip it off their fur.

Velcro comes in different strengths. The strongest will hold from 10 to 14 pounds per square inch. Theoretically, an average person could stick to a wall with a 4-inch by 4-inch square.

This day in history: On Dec. 22, 1884, having nothing better to do in the wintry days, a group of New York City golfers got together and founded the United States Golf Association.

Ice-creamers (brand: Haagen-Dazs) may sound Scandinavian, but it's made in America and its name means nothing in any known language. It came out during the "imported" food craze of the 1930s — you might say it was "artificially sweetened."

Depending on the source you consult, a "jiffy" is either 1/60 of a second or 1/100 of a second.

"Snoop" comes from the Dutch word "snopen," it originally meant "secretly consume sweets."

The main gases in flatulence are nitrogen, methane and hydrogen. Two of the three are flammable, and one is pretty stinky.

Perhaps you've heard the expression, "solid as the Rock of Gibraltar," but just how solid is

Eric Barrett and Jack Mingo can be reached at factmatters@mingo-barrett.com.

Banana Boy forced to write essay

HUDSON FALLS, N.Y. — Banana Boy and the rest of his bunch have apparently found a new superpower: escaping community service.

The local television character, who goes by the name Chris Phelps when he's not donning a large yellow banana crime-fighting costume, and two others pleaded guilty last week to staging a fake brawl on a busy street.



They were sentenced to 40 hours of community service. But after a community uproar, a judge on Tuesday allowed Phelps, 20, his brother Jonathan and friend Luke Van Scoy to rescind their guilty pleas.

Instead, each will be required to write a 1,000-word essay about the case and its legalities.

"They all like to write, so an essay won't be a big deal," Dick Phelps, Chris and Jonathan's father, told the Glens Falls Post-Star.

The trio was arrested at gunpoint Dec. 8 on disorderly conduct charges when police mistook their skit for a real-life knife fight. The skit was being filmed for their TV show "The Ravacon," which chronicles the adventures of Banana Boy.

Banana Boy, a local television character in Glens Falls, N.Y., whose real name is Chris Phelps when he's not donning his yellow banana crime-fighting costume, poses with his disorderly conduct ticket on Dec. 8.

'Christmas' replaces generic holiday names

GREENCASTLE, Ind. — Christmas and Good Friday are going back on the city's calendar after vocal opposition to a City Council decision to adopt generic holiday names.

Odds & Ends

Nearly 200 people, many singing "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" — filled the council's chambers before a 4-0 vote to reverse the policy after less than a week on the books.

"I believe this was political correctness run amok," Councilman Mark Hammer, who was absent for last week's original vote, said during Monday's meeting. "When we use the terms 'winter holiday' and 'spring holiday,' we're not being inclusive, we're being exclusive."

The council's initial 4-0 vote to change the name of the employee holidays caused an outcry in the community of 10,000 people about 40 miles west of Indianapolis.

Council members said they received many telephone calls

e-mails and letters from residents who were upset about their decision.

"I am so sorry," Councilman John Lanie said. "I want to show tolerance. (But) renaming the holidays is not the answer."

Cajundome seeks volunteers to flush toilets

LAFAYETTE, La. — The Cajundome is seeking volunteers to flush more than 200 toilets in the arena.

sands of evacuees for weeks took a toll on the arena's plumbing system.

"We don't know what ended up in the (sewer) system," Cajundome Director Greg Davis said.

Operations manager Phil Aburst said officials have already found pieces of brick wrapped in a towel, a T-shirt and diapers in the pipes.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency denied a request to inspect the sewer system with a camera, Davis said. So to test the plumbing before holding an event in January, a minimum of 70 volunteers are needed to spend 15 to 20 minutes flushing toilet paper down 220 or so toilets and testing urinals, he said.

"We can't afford to find out we have a problem at a sold-out concert," Davis said.

— compiled from wire reports

NATION

If someone seems not to see you ...

By Jessal Milligan Knight Ridder News Service

They stride right past you. They look right through you. People Who Pretend Not To See You are the most frustrating people in the world.

So now, in this season of giving, we take a look at the people who won't give you so much as a glance, and we turn to a few anthropological experts to help understand the meaning of snubs, both real and imagined.

Problem: You stand in line at a store in a boiling puddle of your own frustration while a shop clerk helps the man in front of you and then the man behind you.

Tricky Christmas music plays loudly. Children cry. The clerk finally discovers you are not invisible.

"Happy Holidays," you say happily to the clerk after the transaction is complete. You congratulate yourself for being able to rise above what may have been an intended snub.

The clerk does not respond. Your analysis: You guess the clerk thinks all women in line are with the man in front of them or the man behind them. You also guess that she is in need of glasses and a little help.

Expert's insight: She's likely overworked. "Retail Traffic" magazine reports that more than 2 million people shopped at Wal-Mart across the nation between 5 and 7 a.m. the day after Thanksgiving this year. Not all the 2 million were in your line. It just seemed like it.

proper response: "Excuse me, I think I was next." That's all you have to say, says Peter Post, great-grandson of manners master Emily Post and author of three books on etiquette, including the newly released "Essential Manners for Couples" (\$21.95, Collins).

Say it in a nice tone of voice, he advises.

Problem: You approach a woman on your church cookie committee while walking through the mall parking lot. The two of you have had many cookie discussions, most of them pleasant. You know she's seen you, yet she does not make eye contact.

Your analysis: You guess that the last discussion about sprinkles at a little edgy and that she is still not over it.

Expert's insight: She may be furious with you. Ignoring other people is a form of punishment, says Purdue University professor Kipling Williams, who has spent the last 12 years exploring such social noninteraction. Ostracism is very common, it's powerful and painful. It gets away with it, Williams said in a telephone interview.

"It's deniable. It's a nonbehavior. How do you get in trouble for not looking at someone?" Williams says.

Ignoring other people damages their self-esteem, and thus gives power to the person doing the ignoring, he says.

He might be the cookie committee lady is trying to get full control over the sprinkles issue.

Your proper response: "Let them go on by," says Williams. We have to decide what fights we want to fight, he says. This one may not be worth it.

Problem: The school choir is sounding a little off-key. You discuss this with the choir director and she turns her back on you.

Not only is the problem not solved, but you feel first angry, then sad for a few days.

Your analysis: The director failed to recognize your brilliance. This is her loss, you say. But why do you feel so bad?

Expert's insight: You feel pain at being seen briefly and ignored. Purdue University professor Williams of Purdue says. His research shows that even four minutes of being ignored is enough to cause the brain's pain detector — the intricate cingulate cortex — to kick in.

"We seem pre-wired to detect it," Williams says. "If ignored in prehistoric times, you'd probably die."

Pet of the Week

Hi, my name is Achilles. I'm a male yellow Lab, and I'm looking for a home, and I could have a great Christmas together. All you have to do is come get me! PLEASE? (I'll bark jingle bells for you...) TWIN FALLS ANIMAL SHELTER 422 W. Main Street 736-2299

Homeward bound

A longtime Idaho priest is headed home — to Spain. Saturday in Religion

Your proper response: "In that situation, I'm going to give her the benefit of the doubt and just let it go." Post says. The alternative is to become confrontational in front of a crowd.

Problem: You walk down the sidewalk in a holiday mood. A Santa Claus walks out of a store and right past you. Your children jump up and down and wave. The Santa doesn't pay a bit of attention. He appears derailed and he is talking to himself.

Your analysis: You tell your children that Santa is just busy memorizing his list, but you suspect he's on his cellphone.

Expert's insight: Actually, Santa is on a cellphone and the roaring charges are killing him.

Technology is enhancing our ability to be rude, says Lynne Truss, British wit and author of the recently released "Talk to the Hand, The Utter Bloody Rudeness of the World Today or Six Good Reasons to Stay Home and Bolt the Door" (\$20, Penguin).

"People will have conversations with people who aren't even there," Truss said in a telephone interview. "You may not realize that they have a little clip in their ear and they are talking on the cellphone."

People conduct their business on commuter trains. They talk about their love lives in cafes. And why does this enrage this mannerly author?

Your thoughts are interrupted by the on-air conversation. You turn to the speaker and realize he is not speaking to you.

"You realize they are engaged in a different world that doesn't include you," Truss says.

Your proper response: You are not going to change the cellphone Santa. Think about your children. Keep it positive.

"Wasn't that fun. I just saw Santa Claus." That's what Post would say to his kids. If the children seem sad, he'd say: "He was probably talking to his elves."

SKI/SNOWBOARD TUNE-UP SPECIAL CRYSTAL GLIDE DIAMOND FINISH HAND FILE - HOT WAX \$20.00 Special with Coupon 1585 Fillmore St. • Twin Falls, ID 83301 • (208) 733-2000

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Movie listings for various theaters including Wolf Creek, Chicken Little, King Kong, Harry Potter, and The Family Stone. Includes showtimes and theater names like Twin 12 Cinema, Orpheum Theatre, and Jerome 4 Cinema.

BRIEFLY IN MONEY
Broad product line boosts Micron

BOISE — Micron Technology Inc. on Wednesday announced results for its first quarter of fiscal 2006. Micron posted a net income of \$63 million — \$0.29 per diluted share based on 707 million shares — on net sales of \$1.46 billion. These quarterly results compare to net income of \$43 million (\$0.07 per diluted share) based on 650 million shares for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2005.

"Micron's financial results were enhanced by our success in broadening our product portfolio which significantly reduced the impact of a 15 percent decline in industry PC DRAM average selling prices," said Steven R. Appleton, Micron's chairman, CEO and president. "Our manufacturing lines also showed strong execution for the quarter. Even as we dedicated additional production capacity to CMOS image sensors, megabit production of semiconductor memory products increased seven percent compared to the fourth quarter."

Despite PC DRAM price pressure in the quarter, Micron's gross margin remained stable at approximately 23 percent as a result of increasing sales of higher gross margin products, including CMOS image sensors, specialty DRAM and NAND Flash. In addition, the Company's gross margin was enhanced by lower costs achieved through further manufacturing efficiencies.

Firm fined for selling drug for off-label uses

WASHINGTON — The maker of a widely used women's osteoporosis drug has agreed to plead guilty to illegally pushing the drug for such "off-label" uses as the prevention of breast cancer.

In a criminal and civil settlement announced Wednesday by the Department of Justice, Eli Lilly and Co. agreed to plead guilty to a criminal misdemeanor count of violating federal drug laws through its promotion of Evista, a blockbuster drug with 2004 worldwide sales of just over \$1 billion.

In addition to the criminal plea, Lilly agreed to pay \$35 million in criminal and civil penalties and enter into a wide-ranging consent decree to prevent improper marketing.

In a statement, Lilly's chairman and chief executive, Sidney Taurel, said, "We deeply regret the improper marketing conduct. While the company says it is not in any way aware of the government's allegations, it agreed to settle the dispute to close the matter."

The Food and Drug Administration approves drugs to treat specific illnesses in certain people. Drugmakers are allowed to market drugs only for those approved uses.

Consumer Reports launches service

People who choke at the idea of making a major purchase without consulting Consumer Reports can now indulge in impulse buys — and still consult the magazine's reviews. Consumer Reports launched a service for mobile phones last week. The ShopSmart service, which costs \$3.99 a month, provides thousands of reviews of electronics, appliances and home garden products. The offering is available on Verizon and Sprint. Nexted cellular service will launch on Cingular next month.

Consumers can sort reviews by price, the magazine's ratings or the reliability of the brand. The mobile-phone service also indicates prices and availability of products at stores via Yahoo Shopping.

"We felt that wouldn't be the perfect thing to do. We have information for people who are actually shopping, at the point of sale, at the store buy — like a digital camera or a vacuum or something like that," says Carol Lappin, business development director of Consumer Reports.

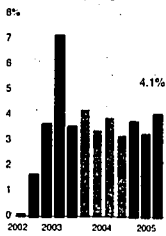
Those who still want the impulse purchase can e-mail themselves detailed reports or favorite products for easy retrieval later. The service also provides shopping tips and articles.

— compiled from wire reports

GDP

The gross domestic product measures the value of all goods and services produced within the United States:

Annualized quarterly change



SOURCE: Department of Commerce AP

Storms don't stop economy

Summer growth hits 4.1 percent, but slowdown expected

WASHINGTON — The U.S. economy grew at the fastest pace in 1.5 years in the summer as booming auto sales offset the adverse effects of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. But the year is expected to end with much slower growth.

The Commerce Department reported Wednesday that the gross domestic product, the broadest measure of economic health, grew at a 4.1 percent annual rate from July through September.

That was down from a 4.3 percent estimate made a

month ago but it was still the fastest pace since early 2004. The gain was even more remarkable considering that the country was hit by devastating hurricanes and gasoline prices that topped \$3 per gallon.

"The bottom line is that we had a very strong quarter of growth," said David Wyss, chief economist at Standard & Poor's in New York.

Wyss said he believed the hurricanes had shaved about a half-percentage point from growth in the third quarter, having less of an impact than economists had originally feared.

The Bush administration, which has been trying to highlight the economy's strengths as a way to bolster the president's approval ratings, said the 4.1 percent GDP growth rate was evidence of a vibrant economy.

"The economy demonstrated its resilience in the last several months," said Commerce Secretary Carlos Gutierrez.

Analysis believe growth has slowed substantially in the current quarter to between 3 percent and 3.5 percent, reflecting slower increases in consumer spending. The slowdown includes a slump in auto sales reflecting falling populat-

ty for some sport utility vehicles now that gas prices are much higher.

Asha Bangalore, an economist at Northern Trust Co., Chicago, forecast that consumer spending would slow significantly to a growth rate of just 0.5 percent in the current quarter. Consumer spending accounts for two-thirds of total economic activity.

While rebuilding in the hurricane areas will offset some of the slowdown in consumer demand, analysts don't expect that stimulus to be felt until next year, given the delays in reconstruction efforts.

Technology lessens strike chaos



People make their way across the Brooklyn Bridge during the evening rush on day two of a crippling system-wide mass transit strike Wednesday in New York.

Laptops, cell phones make crisis more bearable

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The last time the city had a transit strike, in 1980, a fax machine was considered cutting-edge. Fast forward 25 years, and it is a world of wireless laptops, Internet-enabled cell phones and telecommuting from your living room.

And that, some say, is a big reason the bus and subway strike has not caused the utter chaos that many people had expected.

"We're open for business as usual," said Selena Morris, spokeswoman for Merrill Lynch & Co. The financial management company had some employees working from home, while others could go to various regional offices if getting into Manhattan was too difficult.

"It makes it a lot easier for people to function when you have a crisis like this, just to log in from wherever you are," she said. "It's inconvenient, obviously, but I think we've been able to work around it."

Comparing NYC transit strikes

The New York City transit strike is heading into its third day with no clear end in sight. Past strikes in 1966 and 1980 lasted 12 or 11 days, respectively

Table with 4 columns: COMMUTERS, DATES, DAYS, UNION FINES. Rows for 1966, 1980, and 2005.

* Taylor Law was passed in 1967, prohibiting union employees from striking, in addition, workers are fined two days pay for every day of the job.

SOURCE: Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Commuters also have Internet technology to find rides or a couch to sleep on, and to fire off e-mails from home or the car.

Clearly, there are a lot of jobs in New York City for which working from home is not an option, such as in retail and the service industry. But for segments like the financial

industry, technology makes a big difference, said Frank Lichtenberg, professor of economics at Columbia Business School.

The strike "does still represent a significant disruption," he said, but "clearly this information technology has reduced the risk of this kind of disruption and made it somewhat easier to bear."

Commuters have posted ads on Web sites like Craigslist, looking for offering rides to meet the four-person-per-car rule for cars entering a large portion of Manhattan, and offering to rent out space to anyone looking for a place to crash for the night.

A one-bedroom apartment near Times Square was being offered for \$140 per night, while a studio near Grand Central Terminal was going for \$145.

Dennis C. Heischmann, managing partner of the Bryan Cave law firm's New York office, said the strike was having a "minimal" effect, with most employees able to get in and others working from home.

"These days in our business, between e-mail and voice mail, you can function reasonably well from a remote location," he said. "In terms of productivity we don't really lose very much."

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China aiming to catch up to West in aviation industry

By Alan Bjerge Knight Ridder News Service

XIAN, China — The centuries-old farmsteads outside the historic city of Xian look nothing like the model community displayed outside Jim Qiansheng's office. Give them time.

Xian, better known for the ancient terra cotta warriors found there, is China's aerospace hub. There are 130,000 of these workers in Shaanxi province, which includes Xi'an.

In five years, the Xi'an Yangliang National Aviation Hi-Tech Industrial Base could employ 500,000 of these workers in a brand-new facility, handling everything from design and flight testing to final assembly of

commercial aircraft.

In 20 years, it could employ 500,000 workers — half in aerospace, half in manufacturing other goods such as automobiles and household appliances. That's the govern-

ment plan, but he needs the new facilities and a low-cost work force will lure foreign companies.

"We would love to work with and learn from a company like Boeing," said Jin, deputy director of the base's administrative committee.

But whether the model city becomes real will depend on how it handles steep challenges. "Many of our manufacturing procedures are not standard," Jin said. "We could have an energy shortage. Our reconkneeling is not as good. We need to learn more about management."

Evidence of China's rise in low-tech manufacturing is abundant: The country makes two-thirds of the world's shoes

and nearly all its toys.

Aircraft is another matter. The country's aviation sector, while employing nearly as many workers as America's, is dramatically less productive.

America's aerospace industry, under stress from global competition, may not have to worry as much about China as the experience of other industries might indicate. For all its growth, China still has far to go to improve its technology and train its work force before it can compete with the West in aircraft.

"I don't know if it's that easy for them to catch up," said David Dixon, Asian sales vice president for Montreal-based Bombardier, which makes Learjets and regional passenger jets.

It's also becoming a destination for airplane parts work.

Western companies hope that creating jobs in China will encourage the Chinese to buy their airplanes. China already is a major investor in the industry to become the world's second-largest aircraft market in the next 20 years, with \$213 billion in plane purchases expected, according to the latest Boeing forecast.

Boeing has spent \$500 million on Chinese-made parts, dating to the company's opening of a foreign investment center in 1970s. It plans to spend \$750 million more in the next five years.

Airbus is pledging that 5 percent of its orders on its new A350 jet will go to China.

2009. See COMPUTERS, Page E3

MONEY

Shell Oil Company has hopes for shale

Los Angeles Times

MALICIANO TEST SITE. Colo.—Tucked into a ravine and hidden behind rising stands like stony sentinels is the site of Shell Oil Company's test site...

Here, on this sweeping plateau in western Colorado, the Bush administration has fixed its hopes for the next big energy source...

Legislation recently signed by President Bush instructs the Interior Department to lease 35 percent of the federal government's oil shale lands within the next year...

located and compresses lengthy environmental assessments into a single analysis good for 10 years.

Oil shale is immature rock that, left alone, would require millions of years of natural heating to produce oil...

But some experts warn that the process could use more energy than it yields, and conservationists and many local residents point to the massive amounts of water it will consume...

Blanco County, which has a population of 6,000, about 250 miles west of Denver.

On a single "lick," said Scott Bryndelson, a rancher who also owns a plumbing company...

Most of this area is rangeland with more sheep than people, its rolling hills studded with cedars and stands of Douglas fir.

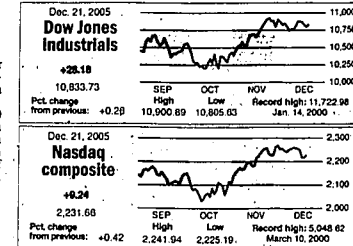
Wangtine residents have watched boom and bust cycles of gas, oil and oil shale come and go, and oil shale boom and bust cycles of gas, oil and oil shale come and go...

and laid off 2,200 workers, after producing hundreds of thousands of barrels of oil, seldom recovering the costs.

Oil shale is located in 16,000 square miles of rugged western range land known as the Green River Formation...

By Shell's reckoning, the denser oil shale formations here could produce a billion barrels of oil per square mile...

Gov. Ryan Connor, Shell's vice president of external relations, said the company would decide by 2010 whether to pursue commercial production.



Buyouts, GDP send stock market higher

NEW YORK (AP)—Wall Street overcame its recent caution Wednesday, with a raft of acquisitions propping up stocks and lower-than-expected gross domestic product growth easing inflation fears.

termion trading, giving up more substantial gains from earlier in the session. While stocks are not expected to give up the year's modest gains, a further substantial push higher remains in doubt.

Acquisitions in the technology and pharmaceutical industries promised to reinvigorate the lagging sectors.

While the third-quarter GDP was lower than anticipated, with the economy growing at an annualized rate of 4.1 percent instead of the expected 4.3 percent...

"We're definitely picking up some momentum going into year's end, but that's not really translating into any sense of urgency," said Hugh Johnson, chairman and chief investment officer at Johnson Illington Advisors in Albany, N.Y.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 28.18, or 0.26 percent, to 10,633.73. The Dow had been more than 94 points higher earlier in the session.

Broader stock indicators also moved higher. The Standard & Poor's 500 index climbed 3.17, or 0.25 percent, to 1,262.79, while the Nasdaq composite index added 9.24, or 0.42 percent, to 2,231.66.

How to check out home-improvement contractors

By Marshall Loeb MarketWatch

NEW YORK — Winter is a popular time for home-improvement as leaks, drafty windows and water in basements become noticeable. Unfortunately, home repairs are among the most common sources of customer complaints, according to the Consumer Federation of America.

A simple procedure will help in avoiding common problems, said Lou Morsberger, chief executive officer of ValueStar, which tracks customer

satisfaction for businesses in the San Francisco area.

The first step is to find out how long the business has been in operation by asking for a copy of its operating license. Home-improvement contractors survive on the merit of their work, so older firms are less likely to be in trouble.

ValueStar also researches contractors' financial status to make sure they have the financial resources to finish the job and any follow-up work.

want to make sure that a contractor's going to be around for at least the next 12 months in case more time is required for the work or for additional services.

Morsberger also recommends asking for three to five references from past projects. These should include information on the contractor's ability to meet project deadlines and estimates, without sacrificing quality.

If the references are positive, then ask for a detailed estimate of the work to be performed including materials needed, the completion date and possible reasons why more money

might be needed.

"The customer needs to sign off on any changes that require more money and materials than what was in the original quote," said Morsberger. "And when the full contract work is completed, according to the original specifications."

Finally, make sure that the contractor has proper insurance. Workers' compensation, the homeowner is liable for injuries on the job. ValueStar also recommends that contractors have at least \$1 million in general liability to cover any damages that result from accidents.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of New York Stock Exchange data including columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg, and various market indices like S&P 500, Dow Jones, etc.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ, showing Most Active, Gainers, and Losers for each exchange.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table of NASDAQ National Market data including columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg, and various market indices.

INDEXES

Table of various market indices including S&P 500, Dow Jones, and others, with columns for Name, Last, and Chg.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

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

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of American Stock Exchange data including columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg, and various market indices.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Here are the 525 most active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange, the 400 most active on the American National Market and the 100 most active on the American Stock Exchange.

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CLOSING FUTURES

Editor's note: Commodities quotes were not available from CME on Wednesday.

Table with columns for contract type (e.g., Soybean, Corn), price, and change. Includes sub-sections for BEANS and GRAINS.

MARKETS

Table with columns for market type (e.g., Wheat, Soybean), price, and change.

COMMODITIES

Table with columns for commodity (e.g., Oil, Natural Gas), price, and change.

NEW YORK

Table with columns for market type (e.g., Treasury, Euro), price, and change.

Computers

Continued from E1. ture support services," including hardware maintenance. Is expected to grow to \$9.1 billion, in 2006 from \$8.1 billion in 2003...

WHEAT

Table with columns for wheat type (e.g., No. 1), price, and change.

CHEESE

Table with columns for cheese type (e.g., Cheddar), price, and change.

SOYBEAN

Table with columns for soybean type (e.g., No. 1), price, and change.

NEW YORK

Table with columns for market type (e.g., Treasury, Euro), price, and change.

FOSSIL FUELS

Table with columns for fuel type (e.g., Gasoline), price, and change.

TECHNOLOGY

Bay Area Techs was founded in late 2003 by Matt Reichenborn, 29, and now has four technicians who make house calls.

POTATOES

Table with columns for potato type (e.g., Russet), price, and change.

SUGAR

Table with columns for sugar type (e.g., No. 11), price, and change.

METALS/MONEY

Table with columns for metal type (e.g., Gold, Silver), price, and change.

NEW YORK

Table with columns for market type (e.g., Treasury, Euro), price, and change.

NEW YORK

Table with columns for market type (e.g., Treasury, Euro), price, and change.

NEW YORK

Table with columns for market type (e.g., Treasury, Euro), price, and change.

LIVESTOCK

Table with columns for livestock type (e.g., Cattle, Hogs), price, and change.

NEW YORK

Table with columns for market type (e.g., Treasury, Euro), price, and change.

NEW YORK

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MUTUAL FUNDS

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Season's Greetings Building Dreams Since 1981. Goffin Real Estate & Construction. Includes contact information and a list of services.

Mutual Funds section with various fund listings, including names like American Funds, Fidelity, and Vanguard.

Something missing? We are able to customize our market reports. Includes contact information for Ramona Jones at 733-0931.

COMMUNITY

Community Editor: Pat Marcantonio - 735-3288

The Times-News

Thursday, December 22, 2005

Page E-4

COMMUNITY

EASTERN STAR

Local singer helps health foundation to raise funds for prostate screening

EVENTS

CSI M-C center offers enrichment classes

BURLEY — The College of Southern Idaho Mini-Cassia Center will be closed for the holidays now through 8 a.m. Jan. 3.

But starting in January, the Mini-Cassia enrichment program has numerous courses.

"Gymnastics for Children" has three sections, ages 4 to 5 from 4 to 4:50 p.m., ages 6 to 8 from 5 to 5:50 p.m. and ages 9 to 12 from 6 to 6:50 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Jan. 3-28. Children will run, tumble and cartwheel into fitness while developing balance, coordination, agility and self-confidence. Each class is limited to 12 children placed according to age and ability. The cost is \$30 monthly. Classes will be offered from January through April.

"Snow Much Fun Scrapbooking" will be held from 7 to 8 p.m. Jan. 3. The cost is \$15, plus a \$7 kit from the instructor. Participants will need to bring some supplies, such as scissors.

"Computers for Beginners" will be held L 6m to 8 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, Jan. 4 to 12. Students will learn to set up programs, create and manage files, customize windows, change desktop displays and discover great shortcuts. The cost is \$40.

"Learn to Crochet" will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays, Jan. 4-25. Beginners will learn to chain, slip-stitch, single and double crochet to do simple projects before starting on a baby afghan. Participants will need a crochet hook and yarn. The cost is \$40.

"Simple Spanish Basics" will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursdays starting Jan. 5. The class will cover pronunciation, the alphabet, numbers, how simple words fit together and Spanish/English similarities and differences. The cost is \$40.

To register for classes, mail checks and a note with registration information to CSI Mini-Cassia Enrichment, 1600 Parke Ave., Burley, Idaho 83318. Necessary information includes name, address, phone number and course name.

Libraries offer 'Let's Talk About It' program

KIMBERLY — The Kimberly Public Library is hosting the Kimberly-Hansen "Let's Talk About It" Reading Program for 2006.

The series, "Autobiographies," begins on Jan. 26, 2006, at 7:30 p.m. at the Kimberly Public Library and continues every other Thursday for five sessions, ending March 23, 2006. The books that will be discussed are available for checkout at both libraries.

Jan. 26 — "West with the Night" by Beryl Markham recalls her childhood in East Africa. She grew to be accomplished horsewoman, but in the 1930s Markham turned to aviation, flying mail, passengers, and supplies to remote corners of Africa.

Feb. 9 — "Black Elk Speaks" by John G. Neihardt is venerated by many who have become alarmed at the declining spiritual and material quality of life in the age of computers and Star Wars.

Feb. 23 — "Letters of a Woman Homesteader" is by Elinore Pruitt Stewart who homesteaded in Wyoming in the early 1900s.

March 9 — "Desert Edge" by Yoshiko Uchida is a chronicle of courage to preserve normalcy and humanity in the face of irrationality and inhumanity during interment.

March 23 — "One Writer's Beginnings" by Eudora Welty focuses simultaneously on Welty's archetypal turn-of-the-century childhood in Mississippi and on her development as a writer.

This series is part of a statewide "Let's Talk About It" project, sponsored by Idaho State Library with funding by Idaho Humanities Council and U.S. Bankcorp.

For more information, call the Kimberly Public Library at 423-4556 or e-mail kimlib@cafefire.net or www.kimlib.org or call the Hansen Community Library at 423-4122 or e-mail hanslib@cablenet.net.



Photo courtesy of Ann Borelli

Victory Chapter No. 60 Order of the Eastern Star welcomed the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron. Pictured are, from left, Worthy Grand Matron Jo Ellen Reynolds of Wallace, Worthy Matron Ann Ridgely of Twin Falls, Worthy Patron David 'Skip' Owen of Glens Ferry, Worthy Grand Patron Jim Carr of Horseshoe Bend, Grand Elector Lucy Meredith of Boise, Ruth Vickie Reynolds of Boise, Warden Ethelwyn Campbell of Glens Ferry, Adah Yonda Toombs of Glens Ferry, Martha Carol Austin of Wendell, Esther Joyce Roland of Filer, Treasurer Dorothy Jakes of Glens Ferry, Associate Matron Laura Meyer of Glens Ferry, Associate Patron Donald McNulty of Glens Ferry, Secretary Joyce Sandstrom of Glens Ferry, Grand Marshal Teri Nealla of Boise, Sentinel Russell Sandstrom of Glens Ferry, Associate Conductress Betty Brown of Glens Ferry, Conductress Darlene Owen of Glens Ferry and Organist Dorothy Nichols of Glens Ferry.



Donna Lancaster, past grand matron of Wendell, and Dorothy Nichols, organist of Glens Ferry, share a laugh while discussing the entertainment segment of the meeting.



Those attending the Victory Chapter welcome included, from left, Worthy Grand Matron Jo Ellen Reynolds; Worthy Matron Ann Ridgely; Worthy Patron David 'Skip' Owen; Worthy Grand Patron Jim Carr; Past Grand Matron Donna Lancaster; Past Grand Matron Joyce Roland of Filer; Grand Representative of North Dakota, Betty Brown of Glens Ferry; Past Grand Matron Maxine Machamer of Twin Falls; and Grand Representative of Oklahoma, Don Miller of Mountain Home.

Chapter welcomes Eastern Star officers

GLENN'S FERRY — Officers and members of Victory Chapter No. 60, Order of the Eastern Star in Glens Ferry welcomed Worthy Grand Matron Jo Ellen Reynolds of Wallace and Worthy Grand Patron Jim Carr of Horseshoe Bend at a chapter meeting.

Worthy Matron Ann Ridgely of Twin Falls presided.

Grand officers in attendance were Carol Burbank, associate grand matron from Caldwell; Mary Lynn Nealis, grand conductress, Kuna; Hazel Sutton, associate grand conductress, Priest River and Pocatello; Teri Nealis, grand marshal, Kuna; Lucy Miller, grand matron, Mountain Home; Lucy Meredith, grand elector, Caldwell; and LeRoy Austin, grand sentinel, Wendell.

Past grand matrons Madeline Machamer of Twin Falls, Donna Lancaster of Wendell and Joyce Roland of Filer were welcomed by the worthy matron.

The worthy grand matron spoke about her fundraising project for diabetes research and the worthy grand patron talked about his plans to raise money for Alzheimer's disease research.

Longtime member of the Victory Chapter, Ethelwyn Campbell, was recognized as a Shining Star for her efforts and support of the chapter throughout the year.

Past Patron Larry Allan of Boise presented the worthy matron with a toy race car in recognition of her love of NASCAR.

FOCUS ON PEOPLE

Heyburn Scout earns Eagle at Court of Honor

Tyrel Kyle, son of Laura and Kendall Kyle of Heyburn, received his Eagle Scout award at a Court of Honor held at the Heyburn Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Tyrel has completed 27 merit badges. For his Eagle project, he repaired a wildlife guzzler and surrounding fence on Cottrell Mountain. He is a member of

Troop 48 sponsored by the Heyburn 2nd Ward of the LDS Church.

Tyrel is a senior at Minico High School where he played varsity soccer. He has also earned his Duty to God Award.



RUPERT — The Mindoka Health Care Foundation recently teamed up with a local singer to assist with cancer screening in the community.

Mindoka Memorial Hospital provides blood screenings and prostate cancer screening services in conjunction with a fall community health fair. This year, Collin Marriott of Rupert offered the proceeds of his CD sales to the foundation to use for prostate screening.

Marriott had approached the foundation with the idea of raising funds to assist with cancer screening.

"I want the money to stay right here in the area to assist with cancer screening and detection," he said.

And, he offered proceeds from the sale of his CD to that cause.

Marriott's recording is a CD of love songs after the style of crooners like Dean Martin, Tom Jones and Frank Sinatra.

"His recording is a wonderful gift for anyone looking for romantic mood music," said



Photo courtesy of Mindoka Health Care Foundation

Patti Hansen, left, Mindoka Health Care Foundation director, with Collin Marriott of Rupert, who offered sales from his CD to the foundation to assist with cancer screening in the community.

Patti Hansen, director of the health care foundation, "I purchased one myself and like to put in on for nice, mood music." So far, the sales have raised more than \$300 for the project.

The CDs are available from Marriott by calling the foundation office at 436-0181, ext. 255. The cost is \$10 and all of the proceeds will go toward prostate cancer screening.

LETTERS OF THANKS

Nursing home courtesy appreciated by family

We'd like to express our thanks to the staff at BridgeView Nursing Home.

The courtesy of the staff during admission, telling us about the residents' rights, responsibilities, long-term care environment, etc., was very helpful.

We've found that the condition of the equipment, safety of the facility, courtesy of maintenance staff, housekeeping services and cleanliness of the individual rooms is excellent. Also that it has a variety of menus plus a relaxed dining room atmosphere and excellent staff help during these meal times. The friendliness of leadership, business office staff, nursing staff and their response gets an excellent A-plus from our check of list.

Thanks again, BridgeView. You certainly are making life easier for those of us that have this responsibility. So, Twin Falls residents, feel fortunate to have this facility at your disposal. Choose this facility because of an overall good reputation.

JEAN AND BOB EGBERT
Twin Falls

Donations benefit East End Providers

The Hansen Centennial Committee would like to thank all of those who supported our various fundraising projects this year with their generous contributions and purchases. Thank you for helping Hansen's Centennial Year and thereby supporting the East End Providers.

With your support, these two committees are able to give more than \$2,300 to the East End Providers to help meet

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.
- For more information, call 733-0931, Ext. 288
- To express gratitude of a personal rather than public nature, call The Times-News Classified department at 733-0931, Ext. 270.

their needs for this year.

Thanks from all of us!
LINDA OATMAN
Community Library and Centennial Committee
Hansen

Owner thanks anonymous person for returned wallet

On Sunday, the day of the home tour, I lost my wallet. Some wonderful person found it and turned it in to the police. I am very grateful and would like to thank the anonymous person.

Thank you so much.
SHELLEY PEERSEN
Hansen

Local volunteer group grateful for award

Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers of Magic Valley — a Faith in Action Program Inc. would like to express its heartfelt gratitude to Cactus Petes Resort Casino for awarding IVC-FIA with the prestigious "2005 Strengthening the Community Award."

Cactus Petes' continuing dedication to community is to be admired by all. Without supporters like Cactus Petes, IVC-FIA would not exist. Nominate your neighbor.

Thank you to the community for the award. Contact us at 324-8283, or visit our Web site at www.gvocities.com/tomorrow_sleaders.

This project connects us all and brings out the best in everyone.

DR. LAURIE L. DAY
Veterinarian and
Puppy Raising Leader
Tomorrow's Leaders 4-H Club
Guide Dog Puppy Raisers of
Southern Idaho
Jerome

FOCUS ON PEOPLE

Idaho 4-H Hall of Fame inducts new members

The Idaho 4-H Hall of Fame has inducted several new members who have made significant contributions to the development of the 4-H program or young members in Idaho.

Mary Amende of Albion has served as a Cassia County volunteer leader for 42 years and has spent most of her 80 years involved in 4-H service as a member, 4-H mom and as a leader, organizers say.

The late James W. Belevue began working for the University of Idaho Cooperative Extension Service in 1956 and spent 15 years working with 4-H young people throughout Blaine County. He also helped establish the Central South Idaho 4-H Camp north of Ketchum, organizers say.

Amende and Eakin were nominated by colleagues, community leaders and others.

GERMAN DINNER



Bill Novacek enjoys the German sausage supper at the Little Flower Catholic Church in Burley. Linda Mabry and other members of the church served the annual dinner family style.

Letters to Santa

You'll be delighted with the thoughts of local children. Check out our special section. Today in The Times-News

Foot Clinic

• Arch / Heel Pain • Toe / Joint Pain
• Ingrown Toenails • Other Foot Problems
• Corns / Calluses • Other Foot Problems

Timothy G. Tomlinson, DPM
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LINE AD DEADLINES

Publication of classified advertising is subject to the following deadlines:
Public Notices: 10:00 a.m. Monday
Real Estate: 10:00 a.m. Monday
Business: 10:00 a.m. Monday
Wednesdays: 10:00 a.m. Monday
Thursdays: 10:00 a.m. Monday
Fridays: 10:00 a.m. Monday
Saturdays: 10:00 a.m. Monday

100 Announcements

200 Employment

300 Financial

400 Education

500 Real Estate for Sale

600 Real Estate Rentals

700 Agriculture

800 Merchandise

900 Recreation

1000 Transportation

BUSINESS HOURS

Monday - Friday
8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.



ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR 2005 Harrison Pumping Station Electrical Upgrade

Sealed proposals will be received in the office of the Deputy City Clerk at 321 Second Avenue East, Twin Falls, Idaho until 10:00 A.M. on Monday, December 22, 2005, at which time they shall be publicly opened and read in the City Hall Conference Room located at 321 Second Avenue East of the Twin Falls City Hall. Bids will be received for the electrical upgrade. Contract Documents with specifications and/or plans are available at the office of the City Engineer, 321 Second Avenue East, Twin Falls, Idaho, a TWENTY-TWO AND 50/100 DOLLARS (\$22.50 contract fee plus a TWENTY-FIVE DOLLAR (\$25.00) mailing fee is required. By Sharon M. Bryan Deputy City Clerk
City of Twin Falls
321 Second Avenue East
P.O. Box 1907
Twin Falls, ID 83303-1907
(208) 735-7245

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Twin Falls City is seeking proposals from qualified solid waste collection companies to provide solid waste and recycling collection services. Qualified solid waste companies are defined as companies that are currently providing solid waste and/or recycling collection services, primarily using roll-off equipment and containers. Proposal packets are available for pickup at the Twin Falls County Commissioners' Office.
An informational meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 4, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. in the Office of the Twin Falls County Commissioners, 425 Shoshone St. North, Twin Falls, Idaho, to discuss the scope of solid waste services requested. Proposals are to be delivered to the Twin Falls County Commissioners Office in a sealed envelope marked "Roll Off Collection Services" before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, January 18, 2006. Proposals will be opened on Monday, January 23, 2006.
DATED this 16th day of December, 2005
By: Gary Grundstaf
Gary Grundstaf, Chairman
ATTN: () Kristina Glascock
Kristina Glascock, Clerk
PUBLISH: December 22, 2005

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS

Case No. CV-2005-5218
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the Matter of the Estate of:
GARY L. KREFT,
Deceased.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named decedent. All persons having claims against the decedent or his estate are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to the undersigned at the address indicated below, and filed with the Clerk of the Court.
By: Penelope Parker
PARKER LAW OFFICES, P.C.
2034 Addison Avenue East
Twin Falls, ID 83301
DATED this 30th day of November, 2005
By: Penelope Parker
Penelope Parker, Attorney for Personal Representative
PUBLISH: December 22, 29, 2005 and January 5, 2006

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Twin Falls Highway District Board of Commissioners, Twin Falls County, State of Idaho, that a public hearing will be held on Wednesday, January 4, 2006, at 2:00 P.M., in the Office of the Highway District located at 1234 Highland Ave. East, Twin Falls, Idaho, for the purpose of hearing public comments regarding the imposition of user fees beyond the limits prescribed by Idaho Code Section 63-1311A.

Application and Permit to Use Right-of-Way	Present fee	Proposed Increase
New Permit	No Charge	\$50.00
New Approach - Highway	No Charge	\$25.00
New Approach Subdivision	\$1000 deposit	\$500 plus a \$1000 deposit
Road Cut - Paved Road	\$1000 deposit	\$400 plus an \$800 deposit
Road Cut - Gravel Road	\$1000 deposit	\$100 plus a \$1000 deposit
Road Bore	No Charge	\$100 plus a \$300 deposit
Misc. Work in Right-of-Way	No Charge	\$100 plus a \$300 deposit
Utilities	No Charge	Financial Agreement
Subdivision Road Development Plan and Improvement	No Charge	\$100
Drawing Review	No Charge	\$400
Construction Observation	No Charge	\$400
Other Applications Pertaining to Right-of-Way	Actual Costs	\$200 plus Actual Costs
Violation or Violation	No Charge	Actual Costs
Variance	No Charge	Actual Costs

Fee and Deposit shall be Separate, but both payable at time of Application. All work in the public Right-of-Way shall be performed in accordance with the Highway Standards and Development Procedures for the Highway Districts of Twin Falls County, Idaho 2005. This increased revenue is necessary to cover the increasing volume and higher costs associated with the application, inspection and issuance of permits to use the Highway District's Right-of-Way. Dated this 16th day of December, 2005
By: Sharon Osterkamp, Chairman and Commissioner
PUBLISH: Thursday, December 22 and 29, 2005

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS MAGISTRATE DIVISION

Case No. CV-05-5180
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
I.C. § 15-3-801
In the Matter of the Estate of
ELLISON K. PICKENS,
Deceased.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that MARVIN D. CHAMBERLAIN has been appointed personal representative of the above-named decedent. All persons having claims against the decedent or the estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to the undersigned at the address indicated and filed with the Clerk of the Court.
STEPHEN, KVANVIG, STONE & TRAINOR
By: Russell G. Kvanvig
Attorneys for Personal Representative
PO Box 83
Twin Falls, Idaho 83303-0083
Telephone: 208-733-2721
PUBLISH: December 22, 29, 2005 and January 5, 2006

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS

Case No. CV-05-4580
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the Matter of the Estate of
ELEDEN HAL MECHAM and
HARRIET P. MECHAM,
Deceased.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Janet M. Peck has been appointed personal representative of the estate of the above-named decedents. All persons having claims against the decedents or their estate are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to the personal representative's attorney at the address indicated below, and filed with the Clerk of the Court.
DATED this 30th day of November 2005
VOORHEES LAMURE LLP
By James A Lamure
Attorneys for the Personal Representative
112 Shoshone Street East
PO Box Z
Twin Falls, ID 83303-0090
PUBLISH: December 8, 15 and 22, 2005

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS MAGISTRATE DIVISION

Case No. CV-05-5071
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the Matter of the Estates of
RONALD DEAN GOERTZEN
Deceased.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estates. All persons having claims against the said decedent are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to the undersigned Personal Representative of the above-named estates, All persons having claims against the said decedent are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to the undersigned at the address indicated below, and filed with the Clerk of the Court, in the form prescribed by rule DATED this 15th day of November, 2005
i/s/E. Bonne Mahannah
PUBLISH: December 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2005

AMENDED NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On Wednesday, April 27, 2006 at the hour of 10:30 o'clock AM, on said day of the office of Alliance Title & Escrow Corp. located at 1411 Falls Avenue East, Suite 1315, Twin Falls, Idaho 83303. Alliance Title & Escrow Corp., as trustee, will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash, certain check, certified check or money order, (from a bank which has branches in this community at the site of the sale), money order, State of Idaho check or local government check, or cash equivalent in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the same time of sale, the following described real property, situated in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho, and described as follows, to wit:
Lot 2 in Block 8 of Twin Falls Townsite, according to the official plat thereof, filed in Book 1 of Plats at Page 7, Official Records of Twin Falls County, Idaho.
THE TRUSTEE HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF A MORE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION OF THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED REAL PROPERTY, BUT FOR PURPOSES OF NOTICE WITH IDAHO CODE, SECTION 60-113, THE TRUSTEE HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT THE STREET ADDRESS OF: 453 3rd Ave. North, Twin Falls, ID 83301 and 453 1/2 2nd Ave. North, Twin Falls, ID 83301, MAY SOMETIME BE ASSOCIATED WITH SAID REAL PROPERTY.
If the successful bidder cannot provide the bid price by means of one of the above means of payment, the sale will be postponed for 10 minutes only to allow the high bidder to obtain payment in a form prescribed herein above. If the high bidder is unsuccessful in obtaining payment as directed within 10 minutes, the sale will be re-held immediately and any bid by the high bidder in the previous sale, will be rejected, all in accordance with Idaho Code 45-1502 et Sec.
Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty regarding title notwithstanding its obligations to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the deed of trust executed by Daniel E Green and Shana M. Green, Husband and Wife, as Grantor to Alliance Title & Escrow Corp., as Trustee, for the benefit and security of Ralph L. Bowman and Eva M. Bowman as trustee for the Ralph L. Bowman Trust also shown of record as Ralph L. Bowman and Eva M. Bowman as trustees for the Ralph, as Beneficiary, recorded November 22, 1997 as Instrument No. 1927-019357, Mortgage records of Twin Falls County, Idaho. THE ABOVE GRANTORS ARE NAMED TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 45-1506(a)(1), IDAHO CODE NO REPRESENTATION IS MADE THAT THEY ARE, OR ARE NOT, PRESENTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS OBLIGATION.
The default for which this sale is to be made is failure to Make principal and interest payments as set forth on said Deed of Trust and Promissory Note. The original loan amount was \$55,000.00 together with interest thereon at the rate of 7.5% per annum, as evidenced in Promissory Note dated November 20, 1997. Payments are in default for the months of March 2005 through and including July 2005 in the amount of \$443.08 per month and continuing each and every month thereafter until date of sale or reinstatement. The principal balance as of August 5, 2005 is \$42,062.32 together with accrued and accruing interest thereon of \$143.08 per month and continuing each and every month thereafter, less any late charges, advances, escrow collection fees, attorney fees, or any costs associated with this foreclosure.
The balance owing on this obligation as of said date of August 5, 2005 is \$42,062.32, excluding interest. Costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligations thereunder or in said sale, as trustee's fees and/or reasonable attorney's fees as authorized in the promissory note secured by the aforementioned Deed of Trust, Dated: November 18, 2005
Alliance Title & Escrow Corp.
By: Michelle Ambroz, Trust Officer
(877) 947-1553
PUBLISH: December 22, 29, 2005, January 5, and 12, 2006

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given by the Planning and Zoning Commission for the City of Twin Falls, Idaho, that a public hearing will be held on January 10, 2006, a Tuesday, at the hour of 7:00 o'clock, P.M., in the City Council Chambers, located at 305 Third Avenue East, Twin Falls, Idaho, to hear a request by:
TODD OSTROM
Requests a Zoning Change and Zoning Map Amendment from R-4 to R-4 PUD to develop a duplex housing development for 19 acres on property located on the west side of the 800 block of Morningside Drive. The applicant will make a preliminary P.U.D. presentation before the Planning and Zoning Commission on Tuesday, January 10, 2006 at 7 p.m. in the Twin Falls City Council Chambers. A complete description is on file with the Twin Falls City Planning and Zoning Administrator at City Hall, 321 Second Avenue East, 735-726. Any and all persons desiring to comment may appear and be heard at the appointed time. Persons needing special accommodations at a public meeting are asked to contact the City of Twin Falls at 735-7267 at least five (5) working days prior to the meeting.
By: Patrick V. Carraway, Acting Planning & Zoning Director
PUBLISH: Thursday, December 8 and 22, 2005

PUBLIC NOTICE

Actions planned and taken by your government are planned in public notices. They are part of your right to know and to be informed of what your government is doing. As self-government charges all citizens to be informed, this newspaper urges every citizen to read and study these notices. We advise those citizens who have further information to exercise their right to access public records and public meetings.
IMPORTANT
Please address all legal advertising to:
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PO Box 648
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83303-0548
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legals@magicvalley.com
Deadline for legal ads: 3 days prior to publication, noon on Wednesday for Sunday, noon on Thursday for Monday, noon on Friday for Tuesday and Wednesday, noon on Monday for Thursday and noon on Tuesday for Friday and Saturday. Holiday deadlines may vary. If you have any questions call Ruby, legal clerk, at 208-735-3324.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS MAGISTRATE DIVISION

Case No. CV-2005-000595
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the Matter of the Estate of
LUCILLE QUESNELL aka
ORA LUCILLE QUESNELL,
Deceased.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that RICHARD QUESNELL has been appointed personal representative of the above-named decedent. All persons having claims against the decedent or the estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to the undersigned at the address indicated and filed with the Clerk of the Court.
STEPHEN, KVANVIG, STONE & TRAINOR
By: Russell G. Kvanvig
Attorneys for Personal Representative
PO Box 83
Twin Falls, Idaho 83303-0083
Telephone: 208-733-2721
PUBLISH: December 22, 29, 2005 and January 5, 2006

Make principal and interest payments as set forth on said Deed of Trust and Promissory Note. The original loan amount was \$55,000.00 together with interest thereon at the rate of 7.5% per annum, as evidenced in Promissory Note dated November 20, 1997. Payments are in default for the months of March 2005 through and including July 2005 in the amount of \$443.08 per month and continuing each and every month thereafter until date of sale or reinstatement. The principal balance as of August 5, 2005 is \$42,062.32 together with accrued and accruing interest thereon of \$143.08 per month and continuing each and every month thereafter, less any late charges, advances, escrow collection fees, attorney fees, or any costs associated with this foreclosure.
The balance owing on this obligation as of said date of August 5, 2005 is \$42,062.32, excluding interest. Costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligations thereunder or in said sale, as trustee's fees and/or reasonable attorney's fees as authorized in the promissory note secured by the aforementioned Deed of Trust, Dated: November 18, 2005
Alliance Title & Escrow Corp.
By: Michelle Ambroz, Trust Officer
(877) 947-1553
PUBLISH: December 22, 29, 2005, January 5, and 12, 2006

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS MAGISTRATE DIVISION

Case No. CV-2005-0005102
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
I.C. § 15-3-801
In the Matter of the Estate of
GERALD E. HEIDEMANN,
Deceased.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that DAVID H. HEIDEMANN and MARTHA A. HACKER have been appointed co-personal representatives of the above-named decedent. All persons having claims against the decedent or the estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to the undersigned at the address indicated and filed with the Clerk of the Court.
STEPHEN, KVANVIG, STONE & TRAINOR
By: Russell G. Kvanvig
Attorneys for Personal Representative
PO Box 83
Twin Falls, Idaho 83303-0083
Telephone: 208-733-2721
PUBLISH: December 22, 29, 2005 and January 5, 2006

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS MAGISTRATE DIVISION

Case No. CV-05-5201
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
I.C. § 15-3-801
In the Matter of the Estate of
BEVERLY J. HACKNEY, aka
BEVERLY JONES HACKNEY,
Deceased.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that JOE G. (GAR) HACKNEY, JR. has been appointed personal representative of the above-named decedent. All persons having claims against the decedent or the estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to the undersigned at the address indicated and filed with the Clerk of the Court.
STEPHEN, KVANVIG, STONE & TRAINOR
By: Russell G. Kvanvig
Attorneys for Personal Representative
PO Box 83
Twin Falls, Idaho 83303-0083
Telephone: 208-733-2721
PUBLISH: December 15, 22 and 29, 2005

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS MAGISTRATE DIVISION

Case No. CV-05-5207
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the Matter of the Estate of
MARJORIE C. DIAMOND,
Deceased.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed representative of the above named decedent. All persons having claims against the decedent or her estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to the undersigned at the address indicated, or filed with the Clerk of the Court.
DATED this 9th day of December, 2005.
Al/Bruc Clark
co Jeff Stork
PO Box 1597
Twin Falls, Idaho 83303-1597
PUBLISH: December 15, 22 and 29, 2005

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Legal NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING... Notice is hereby given by the Planning and Zoning Commission for the City of Twin Falls, Idaho, that a public hearing will be held on January 10, 2006, a Tuesday, at the hour of 7:00 o'clock P.M. in the City Council Chamber, located at 305 Third Avenue East, Twin Falls, Idaho, to hear a request by: KATHRYN PIERCE... Requests a Special Use Permit to operate a beauty salon as a home occupation on property located at 524 Monroa Street.

Legal NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING... Notice is hereby given by the City Council for the City of Twin Falls, Idaho, that a public hearing will be held on Thursday, December 27, 2005, at the hour of 8:00 o'clock P.M. in the City Council Chambers, located at 305 Third Avenue East, Twin Falls, Idaho, to hear a request by: B&B MONEY PURCHASE PENSION PLAN AND B&B PROFIT SHARING, CO DAVID PRICE... Requests the acquisition of utility easement, approximately 655.83' x 15' of land, located along the western boundary of Lots 1 through 12, Block 2, and the southern boundary of Lot 22, Block 2 of the Flamingo Estates Subdivision, Phase 1.

Legal NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGE TO WATER RIGHTS... Notice is hereby given that two Applications for Transfer have been filed with the Idaho Department of Water Resources for changes to water rights on the property owned by: JEFFREY DAWN E. WENDLAND, 3378 N 3300 E; KIMBERLY ID 83341 filed Application No. 71718 on 12/17/06... This application splits the water right and adds a point of diversion for the land owned by the applicants. It also reduces the place of use slightly to reflect the building of the new irrigation system on the land that was formerly irrigated.

Legal NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGE TO WATER RIGHTS... Notice is hereby given that an Application for Transfer has been filed with the Idaho Department of Water Resources for changes to water rights within Cassia County. RUSSELL ZOLLINGER 3359 E 1519 S MALTA ID 83342 and RYLAND ZOLLINGER 1513 S 3350 E MALTA ID 83342... This application proposes changing the place of use of portions of two groundwater rights pursuant to a farm located south of the Sublet Road approximately 10.0 - 12.0 miles due east of the center of Malta. The rights allow for a total diversion of 10.0 cfs of groundwater for the irrigation of acres. The change in place of use consists of moving a 214 acre portion of the two rights to other locations on the farm and adding a possible future sale of the property.

Legal IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS MAGISTRATE DIVISION... Case No. CV-05-4906... NOTICE TO CREDITORS... In the Matter of the Estate of ROY LOONEY JR. and Dora May Looney Deceased.

Legal NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to the undersigned Personal Representative of the estate of Steven D. Peterson, P.C., PO Box 5827, Twin Falls, Idaho 83303-5827, and filed with the Clerk of the Court, in the form prescribed by rule.

Legal NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING... Notice is hereby given by the City Council for the City of Twin Falls, Idaho, that a public hearing will be held on Thursday, December 27, 2005, at the hour of 8:00 o'clock P.M. in the City Council Chambers, located at 305 Third Avenue East, Twin Falls, Idaho, to hear a request by: THE CITY OF TWIN FALLS... Requests a Zoning Amendment that would amend Twin Falls City Code, Title 10, Zoning and Subdivision Regulations.

Legal IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS... Case No. CV 05-5066... NOTICE TO CREDITORS... In the Matter of the Estate of MARIE R. MCGUIRE, Deceased.

Legal NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Norman E. McGuire has been appointed personal representative of the estate of the above-named decedent. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or said claims will be forever barred.

Legal IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS MAGISTRATE DIVISION... Case No. CV 2004-4890... ORDER, NOTICE, AND SUMMONS FOR HEARING... In the Matter of: JAMES LAMMAN d.o.b. 6/6/89

Legal IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS MAGISTRATE DIVISION... Case No. CV 2004-4890... ORDER, NOTICE, AND SUMMONS FOR HEARING... In the Matter of: JAMES LAMMAN d.o.b. 6/6/89

Legal NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE... Case No. CV-05-8234... A Petition to change the name of Lloyd Keith Robinson from 02279 in American Falls, Idaho, residing at 779 Academic Dr., Twin Falls, Idaho, has been filed in Twin Falls County District Court, Idaho. The name will change to Keith Robinson, because the first name is outdated.

Legal IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS... Case No. CV 05-5021... NOTICE TO CREDITORS... In the Matter of the Estate of EUGENE EDWARD MORROW, Deceased.

Legal NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR EXCHANGE OF WATER NO. 7272... Notice is given that the Progressive Irrigation District, 2285 N Armon Rd, Idaho Falls, ID 83401 and Idaho Irrigation District, 496 E 14th St, Idaho Falls, ID 83402, are applying for an exchange of water within the Snake River and Jefferson County.

Legal IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS MAGISTRATE DIVISION... Case No. CV 2004-8251... CHILD PROTECTIVE ACT SUMMONS... In the Interest of: ASHLEY P. HUBLE d.o.b. 04-02-89

Legal THE STATE OF IDAHO SENDS GREETINGS TO: GENE PRINGLE... YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT: A Petition, a copy of which is attached, has been filed in the District Court and is pending in the Magistrate's Division of the District Court of Twin Falls County, Idaho, by the Prosecuting Attorney, alleging the above-named children come under the Court's jurisdiction under the Child Protective Act.

Legal THE STATE OF IDAHO SENDS GREETINGS TO: DENNIS CLOUGH... YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT: A Petition, a copy of which is attached, has been filed in the District Court of Twin Falls County, Idaho, by the Prosecuting Attorney, alleging the above-named children come under the Court's jurisdiction under the Child Protective Act.

Legal IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS MAGISTRATE DIVISION... Case No. CV-05-5154... NOTICE TO CREDITORS... In the Matter of the Estate of WYRTLE LORRAINE CALL, Deceased.

Legal IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS MAGISTRATE DIVISION... Case No. CV-05-4538... ALTON MOTHERSHEAD, Plaintiff, v. MARIA G. MOTHERSHEAD, DEFENDANT.

Legal YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that in order to defend this lawsuit the appropriate written response must be filed with the above designated court within twenty (20) days after service of this Summons on you. If you fail to so respond the court may enter judgment against you as demanded by the Plaintiff in the Complaint.

Legal IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS... Case No. CV 2005-3537... CHILD PROTECTIVE ACT SUMMONS... In the Interest of: ASHLEY P. HUBLE d.o.b. 11-04-87

Legal THE STATE OF IDAHO SENDS GREETINGS TO: DENNIS CLOUGH... YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT: A Petition, a copy of which is attached, has been filed in the District Court of Twin Falls County, Idaho, by the Prosecuting Attorney, alleging the above-named children come under the Court's jurisdiction under the Child Protective Act.

- 200 Employment**
- 200 Employment**
- 200 Employment**
- 200 Employment**
- 200 Employment**
- 200 Employment**
- 200 Employment**
- 200 Employment**
- 603 Tutoring**
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**Any grade up to grade
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Lv. m. to 5:45.
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WESTERN STATES

Truck Engine Technician
Western States Equipment-CAT
Dealership in Twin Falls has an opening for a Truck Engine Technician for night shift.
Requires 2 years experience in diagnosis, repair, disassembly, and assembly of ON-Highway Trucks and Engines. Previous dealer experience and CDL preferred. Proven ability in customer service, troubleshooting and working independently. Offering excellent benefits and compensation.
Please reference Job #244-2005 when applying. See our website at www.wseco.com for job and application details. An Equal Opportunity Employer.

CAT

Truck Engine Technician
Western States Equipment-CAT
Dealership in Twin Falls has an opening for a Truck Engine Technician for night shift.
Requires 2 years experience in diagnosis, repair, disassembly, and assembly of ON-Highway Trucks and Engines. Previous dealer experience and CDL preferred. Proven ability in customer service, troubleshooting and working independently. Offering excellent benefits and compensation.
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Youth Specialist to
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Competitive salary &
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email
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Both positions are
part-time. Must be
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motivated people for
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opportunities for
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Diesel Heavy Truck
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Technician
needed full-time.
Outfitted candidate
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WAREHOUSE
(2) Warehouse posi-
tions - must be able
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Full-time, 40+ hours,
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Barclay Mechanical
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term with overtime
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Res. 208-733-1000.
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All Applicants subject
to background check
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Drug Free Workplace.
EOE

WESTERN STATES

Field Technician
Western States Equipment-CAT
Dealership in Twin Falls is seeking a Field Technician.
Requires 5 years minimum experience in diagnosis and repair of CAT equipment. Degree in Diesel Technology preferred. Proven ability in customer service, troubleshooting and working independently. Current CDLw air brake and acceptable driving record. Must be computer literate. Offering excellent benefits and compensation.
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Action Network is hir-
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skills, working knowl-
edge of issues and
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be a team player. EOE. Email re-
sumes to leann@icn.org
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83701

South Idaho Press
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speed 45 wpm.
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multiple tasks
work in a high en-
ergy environment
with changing
multiple deadlines.
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include:
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act with a variety of
customers.
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tience and profes-
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extensive landscaping,
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Call Jim 5475,000

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home. Excellent heater
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No experience necessary

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Call now for more information about routes available in your area!

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Twin Falls East & Kimberly: Bryna Guro 735-3346
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301 Business Opportunities

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
Big profits usually
made big risks
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business with a
company, check it
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Business Bureau
For fee information
about avoiding
scams, write to the
Federal Trade
Commission,
Washington, DC
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We want to make
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• \$100 -
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Convenient Loan
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108 hours begins
2/3/06 Runs 12
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403 Tutoring

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w/alc., finished basement,
s/cap., \$159,000,
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45 acre in town,
New construction, Asking
\$149,000, call owner,
Call 208-640-1240.**

**TWIN FALLS 3 bdrms.,
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home on permanent
foundation, approx. 1568
sq. ft. New electrical
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sprinklers, electric,
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**TWIN FALLS Beautiful
4 bdrms., 2 bath,
3270 sq. ft., 358-1453.**

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Double 100 parcel,
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240, 2 homes,
Hagerman GOOD
FOR
HEIFERS!
830 1/4 LCO for
800 head, good
Filer.
Double 10 LCO for
800 head 168
acres, 118 head of
home NW of Paul
Double 12 parcel,
1003 head LCO,
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homes, Shoshone.
Double 12 parcel,
1003 head, 3
homes, Filer.
Double 12 parcel,
700 head, 80
acres, spacious
modern home, 2
additional homes,
In Jerome.
For details call
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JEROME 100 Pine St.
\$535 month + deposit.
GOODING
2nd floor, 3 bdrms.,
deposit, 1598 East
Lozano, 24' trailer
in park 731-4952.

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w/bath, 2 car garage,
w/erms W/D hookup,
\$525 + dep, no pets
Avail 11/16/05 ref. 1975

LIVAN 2 bdrms
w/dep & refs req
No. pets, \$500 mo.
Avail 11/16/05 ref. 1977

HOLLISTER 4 bdrms
bath, all electric home,
2356 Main St. \$650
mo No pets 208-
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JEROME 1 bdrms
W/D hookup, stove, refrigerator,
washer, most pet ok
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JEROME 1 bdrms
with stove & refrigerator,
\$385 month + deposit
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JEROME 2 bdrms
2 bath mobile home,
appls incl, Lincoln
Court Space F \$430
mo + dep No pets
Call 208-543-8256

JEROME 2 bdrms
bath modular home
on large lot, huge
kitchen, open
great room Lots of
storage space
throughout \$750 +
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208-242-0366.

JEROME West
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home on 1 1/2 acres, avail-
able 1-10-06. Pets
okay Can have up to
7 dogs, 2 cats, No
\$800 month + \$800
deposit, Day phone
324-3300, cell phone
call 208-837-6390

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1 bath, w/attached 2 car
garage, FV pool, auto
alarm, No pets. No
appls included No pets
+ dep Call 208-543-4238.

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2 bath, home on per-
manent foundation 1/2
acre lot, 4 bedrooms,
kitchens 2 car garage,
possible pet with
financing 563
Pascadero 737-8169

TWIN FALLS income
property, 40 acres w/2
houses- both are rent-
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ter, 208-326-5490

614 Income Property

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laundry service for
sale. Please call 208-
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618 Commercial Property

TWIN FALLS
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2nd overhead door
and additional
office space available,
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8000 + box room,
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on 2.5 lot, 10x50,
8000 + box room,
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819 Mobile Homes

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Main 2 bdrms., 1 bath
on 2.5 lot, 10x50,
8000 + box room,
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See Classifieds Business
and Service Directory to
locate phone numbers
735-0931.

Sudoku Answers:

Grid of numbers for Sudoku answers, including rows of numbers like 2, 4, 8, 7, 5, 9, 1, 3, 6.

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SCOOTER Amigo 3 wheel electric, new battery, adjustable seat and charger. \$1200. 324-3697 eve

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BENELLI auto, Super Black Eagle, 28 barrel, 5 chokes, \$700. Call 208-208-0317

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WANTED TO buy duck and goose leg bands. Will pay \$10 each I will call. Call 208-934-5632 in message

WANTED TO BUY king size mattress with boxspring and bed. Call 208-733-3317

WANTED TO BUY large dog house. Good condition. Call 208-323-3313

WANTED TO BUY machine, Bernina 1090 or similar. Call 208-326-3313

WANTED TO Buy stock. Call 208-734-4172 after 6pm.

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ARCTIC CAT '02 Mountain Cat 800ESI, 1512, custom heads, triple carb, 4" riser, front doors, 4" riser, lithium clutch kit, front suspension & brake! \$35,000. 731-5092

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Trucks

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CHEVY '96 S10 ext. cab, V-6 5 speed, 4x4, good condition, extras, 52,700. Clay 208-308-2404 or 208-324-3318

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DODGE '92 Dakota, extra cab, 4x4, V8, 118,000 miles. Cummins diesel, 315,000 or best offer. Call 208-678-8125-1126

DODGE '98 1500, quad cab SLT with 5.2 V8, 4x4, 58,800 Call 539-3390

FORD '00 F-250 Lariat crew cab, leather, diesel. Reasonable offer. Call 733-6656 or 208-420-0119

CHEVY '96 S10 ext. cab, V-6 5 speed, 4x4, good condition, extras, 52,700. Clay 208-308-2404 or 208-324-3318

DODGE '01 Dakota, Quad cab, SLT, V-8, moon roof, custom wheels, cloth. \$14,488

FORD '01 F150 super crew short bed, 4 door, V8 4.1 liter, 21 WD, AC, PS, AM/FM stereo, dual air bags. \$13,613. MIDDLE KAUFFAUF 208-738-2480

FORD '04 F150 Supercrew V-8, leather, 6' suspension lift, 18" custom wheels. \$26,488.

FORD '01 F150 super crew short bed, 4 door, V8 4.1 liter, 21 WD, AC, PS, AM/FM stereo, dual air bags. \$13,613. MIDDLE KAUFFAUF 208-738-2480

FORD '04 F150 Supercrew V-8, leather, 6' suspension lift, 18" custom wheels. \$26,488.

FORD '01 F150 super crew short bed, 4 door, V8 4.1 liter, 21 WD, AC, PS, AM/FM stereo, dual air bags. \$13,613. MIDDLE KAUFFAUF 208-738-2480

FORD '04 F150 Supercrew V-8, leather, 6' suspension lift, 18" custom wheels. \$26,488.

Trucks

FORD '01 F150, super duty, quad cab, XLT, 4x4, 100K miles. Very clean. Call 208-539-5570 or 324-5813

FORD '03 F-250 Super Crew Lariat, 7.3 diesel, leather, multi CD, 95K original miles, great shape. \$27,500/offer. Call 208-878-8927.

FORD '75 F-250, 4x4, 4 ton with flat bed, exc. cond. 68K original miles. \$4,500/offer. Call 208-324-4824

FORD '89 Taurus GL sedan, 4 door, V6 3.0 liter, AT, FWD, air conditioning, PW, AM/FM stereo. \$995. MIDDLE KAUFFAUF 208-738-2480

FORD '92 F-250 super duty, 4x4, 5 spd, new tires, 5 speed manual, custom, AC, single compact disc, optional fuel tank, premium wheels \$3274. MIDDLE KAUFFAUF 208-738-2480

FORD '92 F-250 super duty, 4x4, 5 spd, new tires, 5 speed manual, custom, AC, single compact disc, optional fuel tank, premium wheels \$3274. MIDDLE KAUFFAUF 208-738-2480

FORD '93 F150 XLT, 5.8L, 4x4, AT, ext. cab, long bed, spray on bedliner, chrome, 44K miles. \$3795. Call 208-308-5139 dir.

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TOYOTA '05 Tacoma, 4WD, dbl. cab short bed, 4 door, V6, 4.0L, AT, TRD Off Road Pkg. SR5, AC, PW, power door locks, tilt wheel, cruise control, AM/FM stereo, single compact disc, ABS (4 wheel), sliding rear window, bed liner. \$27,536. MIDDLE KAUFFAUF 208-738-2480

GMC '01 Topkick, gas, runs great, good tires. Asking \$7,500/offer. Call Scott at 208-734-0516.

Trucks

GMC '95 K1500 ext. cab, 4x4, AT, 350, V8, 6 cyl, 130K, super clean, #12703A. Only \$7,977.

JEEP '04 Wrangler unlimited sport utility, 2 door, 8 cylinder, 4.0 liter, AT, 4WD, AM/FM stereo, dual front airbags, privacy glass. \$19,547. MIDDLE KAUFFAUF 208-738-2480

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NISSAN '95 Pathfinder, 4x4, 5 spd, new tires, 93K miles. \$4,995.

NISSAN '96 K1500, 4x4, 5 spd, new tires, 93K miles. \$4,995.

SUZUKI '94 Sidekick, JX, 4x4, auto, AC, 4 door, 76,000 miles. \$3,795. Call 208-308-5139 dir.

NISSAN '98 Frontier extra cab, 4x4, long extra cab, 44K miles. \$4,477.

CHEVY '02 Suburban SL, loaded, CD towing pkg. \$19,450 735-2251 or 736-0322

DODGE '05 Durango SL Red, V-8, Limited, 126,800 miles, 3 seat. \$25,888

PRACTICAL CAR SALES 736-4481

JEEP '05 Grand Cherokee White, V-6, Laredo pkg. Nice, 21K miles. \$18,995

PRACTICAL CAR SALES 736-4481

DODGE '04 Durango Hem. 4x4, CD towing pkg., 21K miles, excellent condition. \$26,600. Call 208-312-1541

Trucks

TOYOTA '04 Solara SE coupe 2 door, 4 cylinder, 2.4 liter, AT, FWD, AC, PS, PW, tilt, cruise, dual front airbags. \$18,532. MIDDLE KAUFFAUF 208-738-2480

TOYOTA '04 excellent condition. \$2,500 or best offer. Call 208-734-8731 or 316-1558

TOYOTA '91 4WD, ext. cab, 5 speed, V6, 123,000 miles. \$4,200. Call 208-280-0545.

SUVs

CHEVROLET '02 Suburban 4x4 LS, fully loaded, TV, DVD system, #2669 Only \$20,977.

CHEVROLET '03 Suburban LS #1886974 \$24,988. Call 208-735-3900 dir.

CHEVY '02 Suburban SL, loaded, CD towing pkg. \$19,450 735-2251 or 736-0322

DODGE '05 Durango SL Red, V-8, Limited, 126,800 miles, 3 seat. \$25,888

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DODGE '04 Durango Hem. 4x4, CD towing pkg., 21K miles, excellent condition. \$26,600. Call 208-312-1541

Old Towne Motors NOW OPEN In House Financing GREAT SELECTION OF CARS, TRUCKS, VANS, AND SUVs. PRICED FOR EVERYONE'S BUDGET! Register to win a NEW XBOX 360 Drawing to be held Dec. 31. No Credit Checks! New Inventory Daily! See Us Today For Details. 404 Shoshone St. West, Twin Falls • 732-5300 • 1st Blocks East of Depot Grill 9am - 6pm Mon. - Sat. Sunday by Appointment • Se Habla Espanol

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5 LINES \$15
10 DAYS

For items under or adding up to \$1000 (Maximum of 4 items)

1: each additional line. Private Party only. Fees and merchandise only

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www.thetimesnews.com

Bag Up These Savings

1006 SUVs	1009 Vans And Buses	1010 Autos	1010 Autos	1010 Autos	1010 Autos	1010 Autos	1010 Autos
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CHEVY '72 Suburban, 3 door, 4x4, V8, AT, \$1,850. 208-420-5504

FORD '00 Expedition XLT Sport, white, 6 CD changer, aluminum wheels, rear air, \$10,500. Please call 208-266-0366

FORD '00 Explorer L2X4 AWD, leather, roof, super clean. #T2079 Only \$11,999

732-8099 or 734-3800

FORD '00 Explorer XLT, #1837, \$15,988

208-735-3900 dr

FORD '02 Explorer Sport Utility, 4 door, V8 4.0L, AT, 4WD, 3' seat, XLT, AC, rear air, PW, power door locks, tilt wheel, cruise control, single compact disc, power seat, roof rack, privacy glass, running boards. Lower pig, \$11,587.

732-8099 or 734-3800

FORD '03 Explorer, CD, remote starter, all new, new W/CD country radials, AT, PS, cruise, needs \$2,000 offer.

#1208-670-2236

FORD '99 Explorer Loaded Bauer 4x4, loaded, leather, well maintained, \$7,650

Call 208-788-0903

FORD '99 Explorer XLT moonroof, multi-CD and cassette, leather, 107,000 miles, great shape, \$8,200 offer.

Call 208-678-0297

HONDA '99 CRV EX, AWD, AT, AC, extras, 1 owner, 129K miles, etc. car, \$8,500

#1m.208-733-5187

JEEP '04 Wrangler Sport

Barge, 5 speed, hardtop, 6 cylinder, LOADED \$11,488

PRACTICAL CAR SALES 732-4811

JEEP '99 Cherokee 4x4, 4.0 liter, 6 cylinder, auto, super clean.

#K246B Only \$3,995

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JEEP '92 Cherokee Sport, 4x4, P.V., PL, tow package, runs good.

\$2,300 offer. Call 208-734-4725

NISSAN '96 Pathfinder LE runs like new, looks good \$4,800 offer.

Call 423-5455

Vans And Buses

AWD, AT, AC, extras, 1 owner, 129K miles, etc. car, \$8,500

#1m.208-733-5187

CHEVY '05 Venture LS, extended, #1381, \$18,988. Call 208-324-3800 dr

CHEVY '97 luxury, 7 passenger van Green on gold, Vortec V8, mags, mpg of 18mpy mini vans with the power and utility. 208-423-5634

FORD '84 Econo Van, black, \$12,000 offer. Call 308-8584.

FORD '99 150 Conversion Van, 28,000 miles, \$10,950. Call 208-733-8486

PONTIAC '95 sport van, AT, all power, red, nice van over 30 mpg. 208-326-8656

HONDA '03 Accord EX coupe, fully loaded, \$15,900. Call 208-539-8306 or 308-4892

HONDA '03 Accord EX 4 door, 4 cyl., 5 spd., leather, sunroof, custom wheels, 84,000 miles, \$12,500. Call 208-280-0345

HONDA '90 Accord, excellent shape, AT, PW, \$2,650. 539-6000 days / 208-837-6561 after 6 pm.

HONDA '91 Civic, 4 door, 5 speed, white, runs well, \$1,900. Ford Firebird, V6, \$1,100. 208-731-1009.

HONDA '97 Civic LX, 5 speed, 135K hwy. miles, sound system, snow tires, in great shape, \$5,500 firm. Call 208-412-2939.

JAGUAR '02 X-Type, AWD, in style, off lease, what a buy! #C1590 Only \$17,977

732-8099 or 734-3800.

MAZDA '02 Protege LX, white, 58,000 miles, \$7,000. New tires, great car. Call 208-490-1660, Steve.

CHEVY '05 Impala, 10K miles, #1833, \$14,988. Call 208-324-3900 dr

CHEVY '05 Impala, beautiful burgundy, power everything, keyless entry, all options, 21K, mags. MUST SEE! \$13,995. Call 208-731-0693.

CHEVY '88 Camaro, V-6, 92-631 miles, 2 door, great like new inside, good cond, \$2,700. 208-764-2328

CHEVY '95 Corsica, 175,000 miles. Engine runs great, needs tranny work. \$275 "As Is". Please call 208-312-1414

CHRYSLER '88 Le Baron, 2.5, 4 cyl, exc. cond., \$850. Call 208-308-8261

MAZDA 046 Wagon White, V-6, automatic, cloth, alloy wheels, \$18,488

PRACTICAL CAR SALES 732-4811

WHO can help YOU sell your car? Classifieds

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WARNING: When purchasing a vehicle, make sure that the title is in the name of the seller. Under Idaho motor vehicle code a vehicle cannot be sold unless the title is in the name of the seller. (exception: Idaho licensed dealer). The seller shall provide the new purchaser a signed bill of sale showing the following: Full description of the vehicle, vehicle identification number, amount paid and name(s) and address of the new purchaser. The bill of sale must be signed, dated and show actual mileage at the time of sale. If you have any questions, please contact your local assessor's office.

MAZDA '02 Outback AWD, fully loaded, 5 speed, more power, #C1575 Only \$14,977

732-8099 or 734-3800

VW '99 Passat, #1855, \$14,988. Call 208-735-3900 dr

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Require pre-payment prior to publication. Must credit/debit cards, & cash accepted.

Check processing over the phone

733-0931 The Times-News

DODGE '02 Neon, good condition \$7000 or best offer. Please call 208-308-5264

DODGE '02 Stratus, 4 dr, loaded Exc. cond, \$6,800 offer. Call 736-8469 or 212-5687

DODGE '03 Neon SE, 4 door, loaded, brand new condition, 27K miles. Best offer. Call 208-734-4725

DODGE '94 1/2 T 4 WD, regular cab \$4200. Dodge '98 Neon, \$2500. 208-678-6022

FORD '06 Taurus SE, Axi, CD, PW, PL, Zhuso, alloy wheels, \$15,200. 280-0751

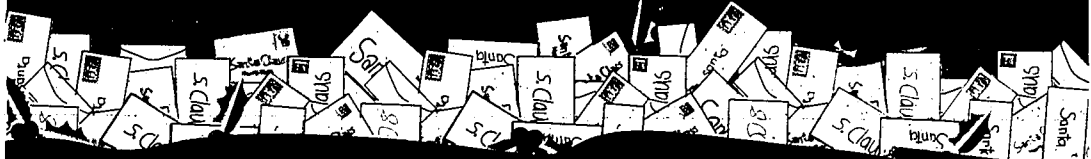
FORD '94 Taurus, all options, AT, nice car, 33 mpg, \$2400. Call 208-326-8656



<p>2001 DODGE NEON</p> <p>Was \$8588</p> <p>Now \$5288</p>	<p>2002 CHEVY CAVALIER</p> <p>Was \$8788</p> <p>Now \$6388</p>	<p>2000 MAZDA PROTEGE</p> <p>Was \$9488</p> <p>Now \$6388</p>
<p>2001 PONTIAC SUNFIRE</p> <p>Was \$9988</p> <p>Now \$6388</p>	<p>2000 MERCURY GR MARQUIS</p> <p>Was \$11688</p> <p>Now \$9388</p>	<p>1999 NISSAN QUEST</p> <p>Was \$11788</p> <p>Now \$9488</p>
<p>2000 CHEVY BLAZER 4X4</p> <p>Was \$11788</p> <p>Now \$9488</p>	<p>2000 ISUZU RODEO</p> <p>Was \$13988</p> <p>Now \$11488</p>	<p>2000 CHEVY 2500 4x4</p> <p>Was \$14388</p> <p>Now \$11588</p>

<p>2006 JEEP LIBERTY 4X4</p> <p>Price \$18202</p> <p>You Save \$5200</p>	<p>2006 DODGE 2500 QUAD 4X4 DIESEL</p> <p>Price \$29483</p> <p>You Save \$9000</p>
<p>2006 DODGE DAKOTA EXT CAB</p> <p>Price \$14350</p> <p>You Save \$5800</p>	<p>2006 DODGE DURANGO 4X4</p> <p>Price \$22140</p> <p>You Save \$10900</p>

Dear Santa,



... Just in the "Nick" of time, it's our letters to Santa Section!
 These letters were written by area children and submitted to
 The Times-News Classified "Elves" and are now on their way to the North Pole!

Dear Santa,
 I would like a box of make-up for Christmas.
 Love, Belinda

Dear Santa,
 For Christmas I would like a Play Station.
 Love, Eduardo

Dear Santa,
 Thank you for all the presents. I would like a Gameboy for Christmas.
 Phillip

Dear Santa,
 I would like a truck for Christmas.
 Love, Jesus

Dear Santa,
 I hope my Mom and Donny got along. I want something for the children that were in Hurricane Katrina. Please give them food to eat.
 Love Tristan Taylor
 Age 7

Dear Santa,
 Hope you liked your cookies. Thank for the Air Hockey Table. Please get me an Xbox 360. I would like my mom, but it's \$500.00. It would be cheaper for you to make it. I'll leave cookies.
 Shunon Seward
 Age 10

Dear Santa,
 Hi my name is Alexis and I am 6 years old. I would really like a remote controlled black truck.
 Thanks, Alexis

Dear Santa,
 I would like a fighting robot.
 Israel

Dear Santa Claus,
 I have been a good girl. I am seven. I want a camp set, Care Bear and a chair.
 Your friend
 Miriam



Dear Santa,
 I think my Mom wants a necklace... a beautiful necklace. My Dad wants two new mirrors on his truck. Zach wants a rifle. Dillon I think a real pistol. I will get what I want Merry Christmas.
 Love Kaleb White
 Age 7

Dear Santa Claus,
 How is it up in the North Pole? It's freezing down here. The coldest it has been is 9° below zero. I was really hoping you could bring me some clothes or girl stuff. Thank you! Sincerely, Shelby.
 P.S. I'll leave you some cookies and milk by the fire place. Enjoy them!

Dear Santa,
 I would like a skateboard for Christmas.
 Ivan

Dear Mrs. Claus and Santa,
 How are the elves? I would like a Play Station and a monster truck, that's all.
 Good Bye,
 Dylan Williamson
 Age 7 2005

Dear Santa,
 I have been a good girl for Christmas. I would like a Doodle Bear.
 Love, Sadio

Dear Santa,
 My name is Bayleigh. How are the elves? How are you? I love my class because there are very much kids to play with. My teacher has been very nice this year and I hope she will always. My brother and sister have been very nice to me. I would like you to bring me a new Bratz set. I hope you have a fun Christmas.
 Love Bayleigh
 Age 7

Dear Mrs. Claus,
 I wish everyone would give joy to everyone else. I wish I could have a puppy for my dog to play with. I would like to have a new pair of moon shoes for Christmas.
 Love, Kye Age 7

Dear Santa,
 I would like some toys for Christmas.
 Love, Diego

Dear Santa,
 How are you doing Santa Claus? I want a Game Cube. How are the reindeer doing, are they doing good?
 Love,
 Omar Orozco

Dear Santa,
 Please bring me a little puppy for me and a Fudd toy for me and a air hockey table and a Bratz baby and a new nobere and a new backpack.
 Love,
 Joana Vivanco

Dear Santa,
 I want a Belle Barbie doll. I love puzzles and I did a puzzle at school. I want an Ariel puzzle. I want a felt board and pictures. I want Christmas number cards.
 Love, Rachel Fields

Dear Santa,
 For Christmas I would like a remote Monster Truck.
 Love, Noe

Dear Santa,
 I love you Santa. All the Power Ranger toys and their enemies.
 Thank you,
 Gage Plew

Dear Santa,
 I would like some horses. I would like a baby too. I would like some coloring books. I like you. Thank you for the presents.
 Brenna

Dear Santa,
 I would like a car track, tractors, PlayStation 2, PlayStation games, Scooby Doo movies, race car game, remote control, snow mobile, Small 4 wheeler remote control dirt bike.
 Chase

Dear Santa,
 I want a Belle Barbie doll. I love puzzles and I did a puzzle at school. I want an Ariel puzzle. I want a felt board and pictures. I want Christmas number cards.
 Love, Rachel Fields

Dear Santa,
 I would like a Bratz Rocking Angel.
 Taylor

Dear Santa,
 Am I on the good list? If I am I want a remote control snowmobile. I want playing cards and Yu-Gi-Oh cards.
 Your Friend,
 Garron Aguado

Dear Santa,
 I would like a baby doll and a flower for Christmas.
 Love, Samee

Dear Santa Claus,
 Please get me a Xbox 360 and a game to play in it. And also want an electric Benettonote and three batteries packs and an extra motor that will go 44 miles per hour. I also want a model truck. I hope you can make it this year.
 Sincerely, Zach Wildman
 P.S. I also need a lot of candy!!!!
 And also drink the milk please.

Dear Santa,
 How are you and Mrs. Claus? How are your elves? Have they gotten their Christmas songs done? Santa, can I have a poodle for Christmas?
 Love,
 Brittany Green

Dear Santa,
 I would like some toys for Christmas.
 Love, Diego

Dear Santa,
 I would like a collection of Power Rangers for Christmas.
 Love, Cooper

Dear Santa,
 My name is A.J. and I am 5 years old. What I would really like for Christmas is a remote controlled turtle that can roll in the mud.
 Thanks A.J.

Dear Santa,
 I would like a Polar Express train. I would like a black one that is slick on the ice.
 Love, Zachary

Dear Santa,
 I would like perfume for Christmas.
 Yussif

Dear Santa,
 I want Call Of Duty 2 The Big Red One like Thomas. Thank you for the toys you bring to us. Hope you get her safe. I know the Rudolph song.
 Caleb

Dear Santa,
 For Christmas I would like a doggy.
 Love,
 Amardo
 Ago 5

Dear Santa I would like a meringue y Dora.
Paula

Dear Santa, I would like a computer for Christmas please.
Thank you Rachel

Dear Santa, How are you and Mrs. Claus? For Christmas I would like to have a player and new CD's.
Thank you, Gabriel Age 7

Dear Santa, I would like a real Pikachu.
Izzyk

Dear Santa, Thank you for all of my presents. I would like a big Bratz.
Nikki

Dear Santa, I would like a scruffy dog for Christmas please.
Reese

Dear Santa Claus, How are you doing at the North Pole? How are the reindeer doing? I think I would be nice if I could have a Steel Shaker or a Game Cube. You don't have to, but it would be nice, because I have friends and my brother and me would like to have fun and not fight.
Sincerely, Joshua Simpson

Dear Santa, I would like an Xbox Game, Game, Cube, a Robo to a Darth voice mask, a reindeer puzzle and a sled.
I hope you have a good time
Byce Plammer

Dear Santa, I would like a Teen Titan set for Christmas.
Thank you, I-

Dear Santa, How are you doing? I hope the elves are working hard for the children. You can give me anything you think is best for me.
Your friend, Jakabi Age 8

Dear Santa, My name is Paul. How are you? I hope you have a Merry Christmas. I want Hot Wheels, Rescue Heroes, snow pants, gloves, Power Rangers, X-Box, some games for the Box, and a TV.
Love, Paul

Dear Santa, Thank you for all of the presents. I would like a boy Barbie.
Alyssa

Dear Santa I like Christmas so much and I do not want one thing for Christmas. I just want to have a big box of money to pay bills.
Cherokee

Dear Santa, I would like a Game Boy for Christmas.
Love, Raman

Dear Santa, How are Mrs. Claus and everything else doing? Can you get me a ticket to the Indianapolis Colts Super Bowl, Madden 04, and backyard football. How are you?
Your Best Friend, Ben Age 7

Dear Santa, I want a Game Boy Advance. Please get me it and a big remote control car. The thing I really want is an Xbox 400. How is Mrs. Claus doing? Even the elves?
Love, Kayla 7 years old

Dear Santa, Thank you for all of the presents. I would like a Darth Vader Plug and Play.
Jake

Dear Santa, I would like a Game Boy for Christmas please.
Emilia



Dear Santa Claus, How are your reindeer, elves, and Mrs. Claus? I want a pony, Cinderella dress, and a flying fairy.
Your friend, Taylor Lauritsen Age 7

Dear Santa, Thank you for bringing presents to me because you know I like them in the morning.
Love, Stephanie Age 7

Dear Santa, I want a puppy, bike, hat, teddy bear. How is your family Santa Claus? How are your reindeer? Santa, could you bring toys to my brother and some things to my family?
From, Jose

Dear Santa, Thank you for all of the presents. I would like a cat.
Tori

Dear Santa, Thank you for all of the presents. I would like a farm.
Timothy

Dear Santa, I would like a Barbie doll for Christmas please.
Thank you, Kara

Dear Santa, I would like a Motorcyle guy for Christmas please.
Caden

Dear Santa, How are you? I hope you bring a water bottle, I would get thirsty. Thank you for Spiderman 2 last year. This year I'm hoping for an A1 Hummer Sled, I will have milk and cookies for you, please. I'll stay up all night on Christmas Eve.
6 year old Eather Age 9

Dear Santa Claus, How are your reindeer and Mrs. Claus? I want a pony, Cinderella dress, and a flying fairy.
Your friend, Taylor Lauritsen Age 7

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Love, Stephanie Age 7

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Timothy

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Thank you, Kara

Dear Santa, I would like a Motorcyle guy for Christmas please.
Caden

Dear Santa, How are you and Mrs. Claus? This is what I want for Christmas. A Game Boy, an Xbox, Peppa and a bike. Love, your friend, Raman, 8 years old.
Alderson, 8 years old.

Dear Santa Claus, Please may I have a Helicopter for Christmas. Thank you, Paula

Dear Santa, I would like a toy Car for Christmas.
Love, Roberto

Dear Santa, I would like a marker, Barbie with a castle, a basket, a farmer, and a motorcycle for Christmas please.
Anna Rios

Dear Santa, Thank you for all of the presents. I would like a Batman Car.
Isaiah

Dear Santa, I would like a new Coue Coue for Christmas and some nail polish for my finger nails. I want some food for my family. I want a doll for my baby sisters and a present for my teacher.
Sincerely Jessica Holloway Age 8

Dear Santa, I would like a Gameboy and a baby puppy and a mini motor bike.
Love, Hannah

Dear Santa, I would like a Barbie doll for Christmas please.
Thank you, Kara

Dear Santa, I like Santa Bartley for Christmas and a turtle costume.
Love, Kaleb

Dear Santa, Please may I have a Helicopter for Christmas. Thank you, Paula

Dear Santa, I would like a monster truck for Christmas please.
Thank you, Trey

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Thank you, Kara

Dear Santa, I like Santa Bartley for Christmas and a turtle costume.
Love, Kaleb

Dear Santa, I would like a Play Station portable and a Xbox.
From, Alex

Dear Santa, How are you? I am fine. I have been good this year. I would like a new bike for Christmas.
Your friend, Cole Stubbs

Dear Santa, How are the elves, Mrs. Claus, and you? Could you bring me a computer, a CD case, a red Game Boy, and a few CD's.
Love your friend, Samantha Kay Moncur Age 8

Dear Santa, I would like a big doll, some makeup, vampire movies, Chuckie movies and a sparkly dress.
Merry Christmas, Melissa Bingham

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Love, Kaleb

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Merry Christmas, Melissa Bingham

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Love, Hannah

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Thank you, Kara

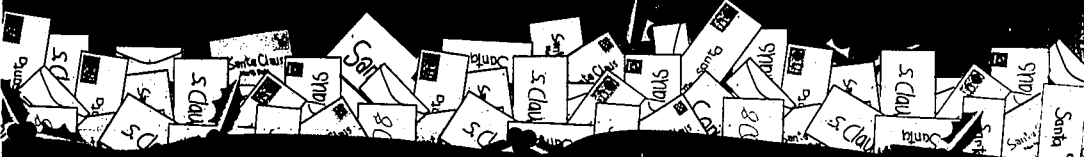
Dear Santa, I like Santa Bartley for Christmas and a turtle costume.
Love, Kaleb

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
Wishing you all things bright and beautiful at Christmastime.
Thank you for putting your trust in us.

WAITE ELECTRIC CO
Electric Motor Repair
Night Service Calls - Jeff Hopkins, Owner

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208-733-1901 • 208-543-5912 (Baby)
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Dear Santa,




... Just in the "Nick" of time, it's our letters to Santa Section!
 These letters were written by area children and submitted to
 The Times-News Classified "Elves" and are now on their way to the North Pole!


Dear Santa,

 I would like a PlayStation for Christmas, Please!
 Thank you, Kennedy

Dear Santa,

 I would like a horse for Christmas. Jenny
 Thank you, Spencer

Dear Santa,

 I would like a motorcycle for Christmas.
 Thank you, Spencer


Dear Santa,

 I would like a turtle for Christmas please.
 Thank you, Emma

Dear Santa,

 Thank you for all the presents. I would like a car.
 Thank you, Keanu


Dear Santa,


 For Christmas I would like a doll.
 Thank you, Cheyenne


Dear Santa,

 I would like a remote control Big Foot for Christmas please.
 Thank you, Connor


Dear Santa,


 Thank you for all my presents. I would like a Brat Barbie doll.
 Thank you, Natalie


Dear Santa,

 I wish to have a PS2 and a Gameboy and some gloves and a big Raiders football.
 Love Jau S.

Dear Santa,

 Thank you for all the presents. I would like a Dora playhouse.
 Thank you, Sara
 ☆☆☆☆☆

Dear Santa,

 Thank you for all my presents. I would like a skateboard for Christmas.
 Thank you, J-


Dear Santa,

 I would like a Barbie for Christmas.
 Thank you, Anna


Dear Santa,

 Crash Ben Q motorcycle game. Cortez has a lazer gun. Christmas decorations. A real turtle like Fred at school.
 Thank you, Michael Martindale

Dear Santa,

 Thank you for all the presents. I would like a Doodle Bear, a Furbie and a trampoline.
 Love, Kellie

Dear Santa,

 Thank you for all the presents. I would like a bike.
 Love, Kellie

Dear Santa,

 For Christmas I would like a Doodle Bear, a Furbie and a trampoline.
 Love, Kellie


Dear Santa,

 I want a race car and Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer. I want a bouncy ball. I love you. I like you.
 Cory


Dear Santa,


 I would like a doll for Christmas please.
 Thank you, Emily

Dear Santa,

 I would like a Light Saber for Christmas please.
 Thank you, Terrell

Dear Santa,

 I have been a very good boy. For Christmas I would like a Light Saber.
 Love, Brock

Dear Santa,

 All I want for Christmas is a guitar, 3 toy Hummers, 3 toy motorcycles an Xbox 360 and a snowmobile.
 Love Tyler Price
 Age 7

Dear Santa,

 Thank you for all the presents. I would like a Baby Shoo-Shoo.
 Love, Kelcey

Dear Santa,


 I would like a monster truck.
 Thank You! Kobey

Dear Santa,

 I want a Star Wars Fozzball table for Christmas. Merry Christmas, Trenton.


Dear Santa,


 I would like a doll for Christmas please.
 Thank you, Katelyn Ellis


Dear Santa,

 Somethings I would enjoy is a CD Player and some clothes. How cold is it up at the North Pole? It is 13° here in Kimberly.
 Sincerely,
 Ashley Burkhardt


Dear Santa,


 I would like a doll house for Christmas.
 Love, April
 Age 5


Dear Santa,

 I would really like a doll for Christmas.
 Thank you, Danielle


Dear Santa,

 A doggy and new tennis shoes. A new Rudolf and uh thais all.
 Thank you, Beth Hepner


Dear Santa,

 I would like a snow and some new gloves for Christmas.
 Love, Amy


Dear Santa,

 I would like a snow globe and some new gloves for Christmas.
 Love, Amy


Dear Santa,

 I would like a monster truck for Christmas please.
 Thank you, Jared


Dear Santa,

 I would like a PlayStation 2 for Christmas please.
 Thank you, Luke


Dear Santa,

 How are the reindeer doing? And the elves and the workshop? Can you please bring me a PSP, Jac2 and a snowboard. Your friend, Jake, Age 7

Dear Santa,

 How are you and your reindeer? I've listen to my Mom and Dad. I've been nice to my brothers.
 Can I please have a beaded jump rope? And a skip ET? Christmas isn't just about presents. It is really about Jesus
 Merry Christmas Your friend Alexa

Dear Santa,

 How is Mrs. Claus? I would like a 22 squirrel gun, 22 Henry gun, a necklace for my Mom and some gloves for my Dad. Backyard sports and a colander for Mrs. Watkins. Your friend, Jacob Henry
 Age 8

Dear Santa,

 All I want for Christmas is my brother and also my cousin to have their best first Christmas, plus I want a chat now phone and a video now camcorder.
 Sincerely Shantell

Dear Santa,

 How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? What I want for Christmas is an X-box 360 and a four wheeler, and how are your elves doing?
 Love, Allie Gallegos

Dear Santa,

 How are you doing? Santa, I want Laser Tag! How are the reindeers? How are the elves? I'm going to put cocoa on a plate.
 Love, Cody
 I'm from Kimberly

Dear Santa,

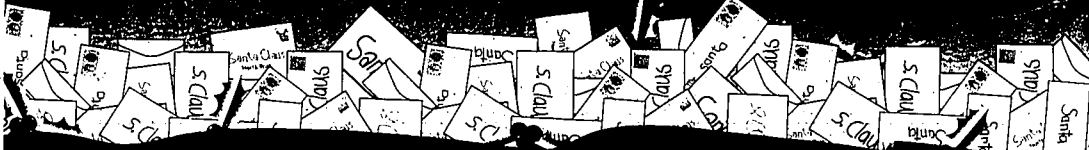
 I want a scooter because I've never had one before. I always remember to take out the trash.
 Your Friend Princy

Dear Santa,

 I would like a little snowman toy for Christmas.
 Love, Abbie

Call us today
 539-6880
 IRWIN REALTY

Dear Santa,



... Just in the "Nick" of time, it's our letters to Santa Section!

These letters were written by area children and submitted to The Times-News Classified "Elves" and are now on their way to the North Pole!

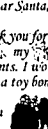
Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like a real cute little puppy.
Love, Megan



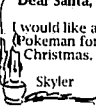
Dear Santa,
I've been a good boy and I want a zero gravity and a kit that you can build motorcycles and durable buggies with.



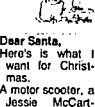
Dear Santa,
Thank you for all the presents. I would like a toy bomb.
Logan



Dear Santa,
I would like a Pokemon for Christmas.
Skyler



Dear Santa,
Here's what I want for Christmas. A motor scooter, a Jessie McCartney CD, Totally beautiful jewelry maker. I've been really good this year, and I hope I don't get coal! Sabryna



Dear Santa,
Have I been good this year? I have a big list so here it is. I would like an Xbox 360, a dog and cat, computer and desk that opens.
Sincerely Justin W Age 8

Dear Santa;
I promise to make my bed if you bring me some Pokemon cards. I need a bigger desk.
Love, Tyson



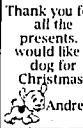
Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like a toy Amanda doll that eats food. I would also like a bear.
Love, Jade



Dear Santa,
My name is James Martin. How are the reindeer and the elves? I made up a song. I call Santa the Sleight Rider. I would like a remote controlled truck please. My Brother has been nice to me Your friend, James, Age 7



Dear Santa,
Thank you for all the presents. I would like a dog for Christmas.
Andrew



Dear Santa,
I want: Horse set, art kit, more charms for my charm bracelet, toy cat, books, toy puppy, coloring book and my family to be safe
Sincerely Sabryna Age 8



Dear Santa,
Hi Santa! I would love a cash register full of cash, and a Rudolph hat with a nose that glows.
Kayleigh

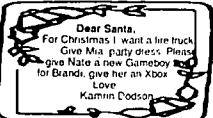
Dear Santa,
I would like a trip to the North Pole. I want a remote control car for Christmas this year please.
Love, Jimmy Valenzuela



Dear Santa,
I go the dishes and then go play with my friends. Please bring me a Doodle Bear and a bell from your sleigh
Love McKyla

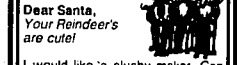


Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a fire truck Give Mia party dress. Please give Nate a new Gameboy for Brando, give her an Xbox
Love Karmm Dodson



Dear Santa,
Thanks you for all the presents. I would like a Easy Bake Oven.
Thank you, Tylin

Dear Santa,
I would like a slushy maker. Can you please give my brother a bear.
Love, Alex Dayley Age 7



Dear Santa,
Hope you had a good year and Thank you for the Game Boy SP last year. This year I was wishing for a Carv Bear that reads and Carv Bear game for my Game Boy. I would also like a Gabbage Patch doll. I will leave you milk and cookies. Thank you.
Love, Kenzie Watts, age 9

Dear Santa,
I would like some toy horses. A Dora doll with a magic wand. I like school and Mrs. Sherrets and my friends. Brng me some shiny purple snow boots.
Love, Sofia Valle



Dear Santa,
I'm not sure what I want for Christmas. Please bring me something nice. Thank you Santa.
Your friend, Grant Woverton

Dear Santa,
Thank you for presents. I would like a Barbie Salon.
Madasun



Dear Santa,
Will you come to my house after Christmas? I want to drive your sled at my house. What is your favorite food to eat?
Sincerely, Joey Berks



Dear Santa,
I would like a telescope. I would like a microscope, a magnifying glass and science clothes.
Love, Josh - age 7 1/2



Dear Santa,
Hope you had a good year. This year I want a Gravity Car. Thanks for those glow in the dark magneticks last year and the sleepers, they keep my feet warm. I'll be asleep when you come.
From your friend, Coy R age 9

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. Only one time my brother and I didn't clean my room. Please bring me a Polly Pocket.
Madison



Dear Santa,
How nice you and your reindeer and Mrs. Claus? How is Guss, or is he even real? Is the book Kringle... really real? I want a cute Beagle with black, brown, and white all over. Dacia needs a dog bowl for Buster and his name on it. Also, I would like some "Bainley Only" books.
Love, Blake Hunter Age 7



Dear Santa,
Thank you for all the presents. I would like a car for Christmas.
Brayden



Dear Santa,
Can you get me a Video Now XP at Target and a Furby. They are also at Target. Please get my Mom a diamond necklace for Christmas
Love Kinley Carlson Age 7

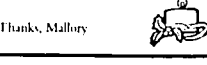


Dear Santa,
I want a Game Cube and a puppy. Merry Christmas!
Love, Colby



Dear Santa,
Hope you're feeling good! Thank for the presents last year. Can you get me a Game Boy, jacket, shoes, bike and basket ball?
Billy Bales Age 10

Dear Santa,
Hi, my name is Mallory and I am 5 years old. I would really like a toy kitchen set and a baby doll with clothes.
Thanks, Mallory



Dear Santa,
This year I want a game board like Candyland, a Dick and Jane book, a puzzle like my animal ones, and Easybake Oven, or the Cinderella one and some ice skates that fit me. I want a card maker.
Your Friend, Hadley Kimball

Dear Santa,
I want a toy Dinosaur. I like Dinosaur very much! I want five presents please.
Thank you Santa.
Love, Caleb Pereira



Dear Santa,
I would like a remote control super boat.
Love, Adam

Dear Santa,
My name is Jennifer and I am 5 years old. I really want a Bratz doll with clothes.
Thanks Jonny



Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. I want a bear for Christmas. My bubba needs his own CD player so he will leave mine alone. Santa can you also bring my grandma a pair of mouse slippers so she will stop wearing mine. Could you also bring my Grandpa a new pickup and my aunt Jennifer a Dale Jr. race car number 8.
Thank you ShealyN



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Happy Holidays!
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Fax: 733-9564

Dear Santa,
I love you so much. I would like a truck for Christmas. I would like a car truck too. And a toy that looks like the North Pole with a Santa in it.
Lane

Dear Santa,
I want a Bratz Doll and a Barbie. I have been good by helping my Mom.
Love, Elmedina



Dear Santa,
How is Mrs. Claus? I want Bratz dolls, a Poodle dog, and a TV for Christmas. I will have my Christmas tree up for you to see.
Love, Amber Rogers



Dear Santa,



... Just in the "Nick" of time, it's our letters to Santa Section!
 These letters were written by area children and submitted to
 The Times-News Classified "Elves" and are now on their way to the North Pole!

Dear Santa,
 Hope you've had a good year. Thank you for the Pokemon Cards last year. They were cool. This year I would like twenty pucks of Yu-Gi-Oh Cards. If it wouldn't be trouble, I would like a Play Station 3. I'll leave milk and cookies.
 Sincerely,
 Zachary Curkin
 Age 9

Dear Santa,
 How are you and Mrs. Claus? I've done good things like cleaning my room and been nice. Then I want an outfit and roller skates.
 Your Friend
 Cyndle

Dear Santa,
 Please bring me a Playstation 2. I have been very good. I listen to my Mom & clean up my toys.
 Love
 Isalah

Dear Santa,
 I would like some gloves, some games, a Doodle Bear, a D.V.D. player, and a kitten.
 Love,
 Rebeka Gilbert

Dear Santa,
 How are you and your reindeer? Have I been good or bad, you look busy today. I wish I could have an Xbox 360 and my dog would have puppies to. I love you a lot. I hope you have a Merry Christmas this year.
 Your friend Derek

Dear Santa,
 I want a sky dance, a little pony and play house. HOI HOI Santal! Merry Christmas!
 Love, Reagan Bowyer

Dear Santa,
 How are you and your reindeer? I have been really good this year. Are you really busy this year? May I please have a bow saw, a 410? That is a small shotgun. May I please have a PS2?
 Your Friend
 Hunter

Dear Santa,
 How are you and your reindeer? I would like a race track for Christmas.
 Love, Tyron

Dear Santa,
 I would like a real car like for boys. I want some chocolate chip cookies.
 Thanks,
 Jacob Farnsworth

Dear Santa,
 How are you doing? Well I'm doing good. How warm is it up there? How is Mrs. Claus doing? How are your elves doing? Is your elf making good stuff. You better suit up cause on Christmas night your sled is going to be running. I'm nice.
 Your Friend Brady

Dear Santa,
 I want a sky dance, a little pony and play house. HOI HOI Santal! Merry Christmas!
 Love, Reagan Bowyer

Dear Santa,
 I want a race car with a remote control and fishing pole. I love Santa. Thank you for my Christmas tree. Thank you for the snow. I want a cat that can open the gate and go over rocks.
 Dariu

Dear Santa,
 How are you and your reindeer. I think I've been good. I want a Gameboy and vans and some games for it. Merry Christmas. I know the true meaning of Christmas. It's Jesus, friends, and family.
 Your Friend Jacob

Dear Santa,
 How are you and your reindeer? I have been good this month. I help my Mom and Dad do dishes in the morning. I help my sister with her baby boy. I want for Christmas a rat that is black and white.
 Merry Christmas
 Your friend
 Amy

Dear Santa,
 How are the reindeer? I would like a tool box and tools for Christmas. I hope you don't fall off the roof like you did in 2003.
 Love, Cheyenne

Dear Santa,
 How have you and Mrs. Claus been doing? Is everything doing all right? I want you to please bring me three Bratz, two Barbie dolls, some make-up and a house for Barbies and Bratz too.
 Your friend, Maria Sanchez

Dear Santa,
 How are you and your reindeer? I have helped Ryne and Reader Rabbit. May I have a Shell Shocker and a couple of Brown-coat movies in the super bowl? Merry Christmas Old Saint Nick
 Your friend
 Brett

Dear Santa,
 How is everything going at the North Pole? How is your family at the North Pole? How is Rudolph and the other reindeer? I hope you have a Merry Christmas! I really want the poor to have a good Christmas. Can I have a very fragile doll.
 By, Brielle Age 7

Dear Santa,
 How are you and your reindeer? I have helped Ryne and Reader Rabbit. May I have a Shell Shocker and a couple of Brown-coat movies in the super bowl? Merry Christmas Old Saint Nick
 Your friend
 Brett

Dear Santa,
 How are you and your reindeer? I have been good this month. I help my Mom and Dad do dishes in the morning. I help my sister with her baby boy. I want for Christmas a rat that is black and white.
 Merry Christmas
 Your friend
 Amy

Dear Santa,
 How are your reindeer? Are the reindeer's noses red?
 I want a bike, a motorcycle, a remote control car and a soccer ball.
 Love, Jesus Mora

Dear Santa Claus,
 I want a Playstation, I want games for my Playstation or a X Box 360 and can you get me Call of Duty. I want some Yu-Gi-Oh! trading card game gift set. I want a camera, I want Lego Star Wars for the Playstation and a cordless controller.
 Thanks! Tyler

Dear Santa,
 How are you and your reindeer? I have helped Ryne and Reader Rabbit. May I have a Shell Shocker and a couple of Brown-coat movies in the super bowl? Merry Christmas Old Saint Nick
 Your friend
 Brett

Dear Santa,
 How do you get a lot of presents all round the world? I do the dishes for my Mom sometimes and do my chores like feeding the pets. The true meaning of Christmas is Jesus's birthday not only presents. All I want for Christmas please is the Fantastic Four set.
 Your friend Jonny

Dear Santa,
 I would like snow boots and a scarf for Christmas.
 Love, Shyanna

Dear Santa,
 I have been a very good girl. I want my two front teeth.
 From,
 Jessica

Dear Santa,
 Kiero cem, Tragias un Gameboy negro, yun trampoline y una. Pelota de fut bol, y un carrito de control remoto.
 Gracias,
 Juan Carlos Rocha

Dear Santa,
 It feels like we are in Alaska because it was 0° degrees outside. It would be very awesome if I could have a Barbie set. How is the North Pole? Christmas is going to be fun this year because we are going to my Grandma's house. P. S. I'll be sleeping on the couch, just to let you know.
 Sincerely, Jessica Lerohl

Dear Santa,
 I want a Playstation, I want games for my Playstation or a X Box 360 and can you get me Call of Duty. I want some Yu-Gi-Oh! trading card game gift set. I want a camera, I want Lego Star Wars for the Playstation and a cordless controller.
 Thanks! Tyler

Dear Santa,
 I want a remote control car and a T.V. with a remote.
 Love,
 Justin Hinton

Dear Santa,
 I would like Spider webs for Christmas. I would also like Silly-String.
 Love, Nathan

Dear Santa,
 I really want a Roporapter and one of Axl's CD's and a Play Station 3.
 Love,
 Stan Torres

Dear Santa,
 I would like a PS2 for Christmas. Say hi to your reindeer for me. Is Mrs. Claus doing ok? Hopefully you can say hi to her for me too.
 Love,
 Codye Luker

Dear Santa,
 I have been a good boy. For Christmas I would like a light saver.
 Love,
 Ryan Brook

Dear Santa,
 I want a remote control car and a T.V. with a remote.
 Love,
 Justin Hinton

Dear Santa,
 I really want a Roporapter and one of Axl's CD's and a Play Station 3.
 Love,
 Stan Torres

DEAR SANTA,
 I think December would be better if people went around town with suitcases full of things they don't need. They go around town and stop at houses and let people pick out of it.
 From, Kaden Koepnick

Dear Santa,
 I really want a Roporapter and one of Axl's CD's and a Play Station 3.
 Love,
 Stan Torres

Dear Santa,
 I was a good boy. For Christmas I would like a Light Saver.
 From Jacob

Dear Santa,
 I have been a good boy. For Christmas I would like a light saver.
 Love,
 Ryan Brook

Dear Santa,
 I want a remote control car and a T.V. with a remote.
 Love,
 Justin Hinton

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 Love,
 Stan Torres

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Dear Santa,
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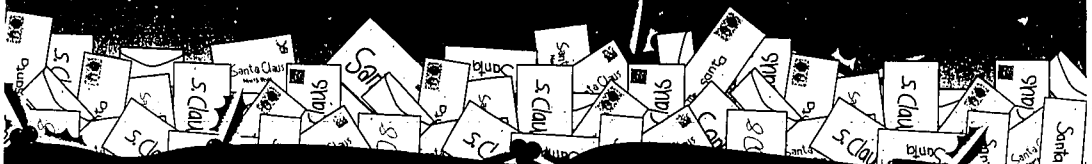
Dear Santa,
 I was a good boy. For Christmas I would like a Light Saver.
 From Jacob

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

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 YOUR BEST VALUE EVERYDAY

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 Twin Falls • 734-9560

Dear Santa,



... Just in the "Nick" of time, it's our letters to Santa Section!

These letters were written by area children and submitted to The Times-News Classified "Elves" and are now on their way to the North Pole!

Dear Santa, How is Rudolph? I helped clean the classroom. May I have slippers and a scarf? Love Your Friend Anna Merry Christmas

Dear Santa, How long are your trips? I do laundry and dishes. I would like more make-up and more film, a new coat and gloves. I hope your trip is not that cold. Merry Christmas

Dear Santa, I have been a very good girl. For Christmas I would like a new Game Boy. Love, Vanessa

DEAR SANTA, All I want for Christmas is a doll, toy car and a Dor's kitchen Sincerely Alex

Dear Santa, I would like a Barbie for Christmas. Lejip

Dear Santa Claus, Thank you for the presents last year. Can I have a pretend vacuum cleaner and a Scooby Doo bath toy and a jumping lady bug.

Your Friend, Danielle

Your Friend, Danielle

Dear Santa, I would like some Polly Pockets and maybe some school supplies. I would like you to surprise me the most. From, April

Dear Santa, I want a Hot Wheels bike with a fire picture on it and it needs to be all red. Please bring my new little brother Nick some neat baby toys, some fun games, and motorcycle game. Thanks Zack Wilson

Dear Santa, I enjoyed my presents last year. I hope you had a good year. I would like Wish Bear the Care Bear. I would appreciate some American Girl stuff for my American Girls. I love hearing about the reindeer and elves. All Helder, Age 9

Love, Ashley-age 5

P.S. I forgot to tell you that I have been very, very good

Dear Santa, How was your year. I had a great year. Thank you for 2nd season of Spongebob I got last year. A year 2003 I want a Tomagachi so I can feed snacks to him. I also want a PSP that I can watch movies on. I will leave pizza. Austin Jones, Age 10

Dear Santa, I will be nice on Christmas Eve. Christmas is my favorite Holiday. My birthday is only eight days away. My Mom said that we'll visit you this weekend. See you on Saturday. Sincerely, Callon Taylor

Dear Santa, Could you please bring me a Cheetah girl CD and a coloring book. Love, Jacky

Dear Santa, I would like a car for Christmas. Love, Antonio

Dear Santa, I have been doing good this year. I want this for Christmas. This is what I want. A soccer ball and a football that is what I want for Christmas. Your friend, Rodrigo 8 years

Dear Santa, For Christmas I want a Video New XP and a Gameboy, and a basketball and Christmas clothes. Are you Mrs. Santa being good? Love, Cara Malone

Dear Santa, My name is Shano. How many elves do you have? Can I have one of your reindeer? Most of all I want to ride on your sled and a bag of trains. Will you go down our chimney because it is dirty. There are 25 kids in my class can you give them all a present and cookies and milk for you. Sincerely, Shano-age 7

Dear Santa, How cold is it in the North Pole? How do you get around the world in Sunset? Do you have a time machine? I want an Xbox 360, a BB gun, a motorcycle and cool clothes. From, Mark

Dear Santa, Are you ready for Christmas? Are the elves putting the presents in your sled? Are the reindeer ready for the journey? Is everything under control? This year a tangram and a bike would be nice to have, but if it's too expensive, please just get me a tangram puzzle. Have a safe journey. Merry Christmas Love Omar Age 7

Dear Santa, I have been doing good this year. I want this for Christmas. This is what I want. A soccer ball and a football that is what I want for Christmas. Your friend, Rodrigo 8 years

Dear Santa, I want Yu-Gi-Oh cards and don't forget my friend Esteban's Yu-Gi-Oh cards. Love, Steve

Dear Santa Claus, How are you doing up at the North Pole? It's like in the North Pole here in Kimberly, now that there is 13 more days 'til the first day of winter. I was just wondering if I was a good girl this year and could you bring me an Xbox 360. Sincerely, Bailey JoAnn Harwood Age 9 1/2

Dear Santa Claus, I have been a good girl. I want the Magic of Pegasus DVD and doll horse and I want the Bratz studio. I'm seven years old and I hope you have a good time delivering the presents to the children on Christmas Eve. Love, Ava

Dear Santa, How is the weather? Is it cold? I would really like it if you got me a Jake the PS2 game. Will you bring me a Game Cube and the game called Mario Party 5. Sincerely, Kynn Williams P.S. Thank you for the money and Bratz. Hope you get me something good.

Dear Santa, I hope you've had a wonderful year. Thank you for the basketball and hoop you got me last year. I really want a CD Player and some CDs. I will leave some milk and cookies for you. How is Mrs. Claus? Thank you Santa Claus. Merry Christmas! Brytin Johnson Age 9

Dear Santa, How are your reindeer and Mrs. Claus doing? How are you doing? I have toys I want. A fuzzy box, Doodle Bear with smelly markers, and a Doodle Bear with glow in the dark markers. Your friend, Love, Mckayla Dillman 8 year old.

Dear Santa, Thank you for being so nice. Am I on the good girl list? I like your famous laugh 'Ho! Ho! Ho! Merry Christmas'. I would like a CD player and CDs. I would also like to see my Aunt Lisa and all of my family. I also like Bratz dolls and a CD holder. Hannah Johnson

Dear Santa, I have been a very good girl. For Christmas I would like a Barbie. Love, Annie

Dear Santa, Do I have to move? I want a Robosabien, poodle, ping-pong table, SoulCaliber 3, Darkwatch, X Box 360 and please get a Randy Moss statue. Love, Zane Zeller

Dear Santa, I hope you've had a wonderful year. Thank you for the basketball and hoop you got me last year. I really want a CD Player and some CDs. I will leave some milk and cookies for you. How is Mrs. Claus? Thank you Santa Claus. Merry Christmas! Brytin Johnson Age 9

Dear Santa, I want a PSP. Please, please, please bring me a PSP. I promise to clean my room. Love, Leo

P.S. I will try to spread holiday cheer. Remember to bundle up and stay warm.

Dear Santa Claus, My name is Bobby. I am 8 years old. I have a white house with 8 cats. If you can't see 8 cats, they are hiding. I want a Game Boy DS, Game Boy PS. I also want a Math work book. How many reindeer do you have? How many Elves? Yours truly, Bobby Hudson

Dear Santa Claus, The first thing on my wish list this year is a puppy. The second thing is a pair of walkie talkies. The third thing is Spy Gear. The fourth thing is a Beta fish. The fifth thing is a snow day. The sixth thing is a rock climbing kit also could you throw in a pair of fuzzy massage slippers for my mom. Sincerely, Kole Bailey Oh! and Santa one more thing, How fast does your sleigh go?

Dear Santa, I hope you've had a wonderful year. Thank you for the basketball and hoop you got me last year. I really want a CD Player and some CDs. I will leave some milk and cookies for you. How is Mrs. Claus? Thank you Santa Claus. Merry Christmas! Brytin Johnson Age 9

Dear Santa, I want a PSP. Please, please, please bring me a PSP. I promise to clean my room. Love, Leo

Dear Santa, I would like a Cinderella doll. A play kitchen my old one is broken. I want a play hard pink puppy to play with. A pink ribbon. A jump rope for me to jump. A toy Kitty to play with. Thanks Santa, MacKenzie Smetzer

Dear Santa, I haven't been good all the time this year but I am a very nice girl. Can you please bring me a big Barbie jeep! Anything else would be good too. Love, Hannah Cooper

Santa's helpers are here to help you... Don't let your debt ruin your holiday!

CCMS
Consumer Credit Management Services
A Local Non-Profit Community Service

- Solve Debt Problems
- Avoid Bankruptcy
- Manage Money

We Can Help You!
800 Falls Ave. Suite 11
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301
(208) 733-2227
Toll Free (877) 733-2267



Dear Santa,



I really want some Yu-Gi-Oh cards and don't forget my friend Steve. He wants some Yu-Gi-Oh cards too. And my friend PJ, he wants a Gameboy and a game of Yu-Gi-Oh.

From, Esteban

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl for Christmas. I would like a Barbie video camera.

Love, Sarah



Dear Santa,

Please bring me presents for Christmas. I am happy. I want a new blue hat.

Love, Karls

Dear Santa,

I want a garbage truck, a hay baler, a potato digger, and a yellow pickup. These are all things I would like. Christmas is Jesus' birthday. Happy birthday Jesus.

Love, Trajan Holtzen

Dear Santa,

I want a jeep. I want a Rudolph. I will play with him. I want a leaf. I will swing it around outside. I want a Santa Claus.

Chase

Dear Santa,

I wish to have a real working Hot Wheels with a charger. I also want a toy fire truck. I also want an Air Hogs (a real flying airplane). I want a boat that has batteries and goes in real water. I also want a rocket to shoot off with my Dad, because I've been a good boy this year!

JW, Age 7

Dear Santa,

I would like a big car with a control for Christmas.

Love, Austin

Dear Santa,

I want a Lego Star Wars for Gameboy. Advance. Anikan versus Obel One Lego set. Ex Sela drome. I wish you a Merry Christmas.

Thank you, Jacob Hillarides

Dear Santa,

I want a Barbie house for Christmas.

Love, Sara

Dear Santa:

I'm 7 years old and yes I have been a good kid. This year I would really like to get a Big Pink Bear with a purple bow with white polka-dots. I would like the bear to be as big as a real bear. I will set out some cookies and milk.

From: Emily Manker

Dear Santa,

My name is Kyle. How are your reindeer doing. I wish you could come to our classroom. I want a new jump bike. You are the best Santa.

Love, Kyle

Dear Santa Claus,

Do you know what I want? Whatever you bring. My name is Wyatt. I live on a farm and it is very fun. The funnest thing of all is playing with my dog and playing with my pony. My llama almost trampled me. I love my farm. I love you Santa Claus. Have a good Christmas.

Your pal, Wyatt 7 years

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I will wish for a dog. Mom never spansks me, yells at me, or done anything mean. So I guess I've been good.

Love, Sierra

Dear Santa,

I want a remote control monster truck. I want some snow clothes.

Merry Christmas, Jacob Zapata

Dear Santa,

I don't want much this year. I would like everyone at Mountainview Care Center to get their wish. Mrs. Claus, it would be cool to meet you!

Sincerely, Makayla Muir age 9 1/2

Dear Santa,

My name is Sebastian Rodriguez. I am 5 years old. I live in Jerome, Idaho. I have not been a good boy all year. All I'm asking is for a train.

Thank You, Sebastian

Dear Santa,

My name is Justin and I am 6 years old. I really want a Shooter gun and a big yellow truck.

Thanks, Justin

Dear Santa,

How are you? I hope you are fine. What I want for Christmas is Braz, Polly Pockets and drums. You are a very special man. You are very nice too. I hope I've been a nice girl so at least I get one or two presents. Well I really want to get a lot of presents this year and I am trying to be a good girl. Well Merry Christmas And Ho! Ho! Ho!

Sincerely, Christy Marez Age 9

Dear Santa,

I have a very good girl. For Christmas I would like a mini Christmas tree. I will leave you cookies and milk.

Love, Cynthia

Dear Santa,

I want a bunny rabbit and a puppy. Please give my Mom a new dress and shoes and give my Dad a new hat. How is Mrs. Claus, the reindeer and the elves? Jaycee Age 8

Dear Santa,

I love you Santa and I want a pony and a turtle.

Thank you

Dear Santa,

I hope that everybody is good. I helped my Mom when her belly hurt. So... can you get me a Gameboy. Merry Christmas Santa Jeffrey

Age 7

Dear Santa,

I hope you've had a good year. Thank you for the game you brought me. This year I want a Play Station 2, a Nintendo DS, and a Xbox 360. I will leave you milk, cookies and cheese.

Andrew Merkle, Age 9

Dear Santa,

I love you Santa. My name is Jayde. I would like a cop car that goes "WOOOO!" and a truck as tall as me.

From Cedric

Dear Santa,

I love you Santa. I want a race car track that has 3 spinners and a snowman that goes on the tree.

Love You Landen

Dear Santa,

I need a guitar that plays loud and a Monkey Game.

Love You Landen

Dear Santa,

I want \$10,000 to help all my family because they are broke. So I want to help them so they could have what is needed.

To Santa my favorite man Sincerely Michael Age 9

Dear Santa,

I want a Gameboy and three video games. The only other thing I want is a chopper bike. I hope my sister can come up this Christmas. I hope my Dad will get his job done.

Love Kade Snucek Age 7

Dear Santa,

My name is Harlie Titus. I am nine years old I want a brown luv cub. (2) A stuff reindeer wireless video camera. (3) A dolphin stuff animal. (4) A movie. (5) CD Spirit Barbie. (6) A pet bird deskoro. (7) Bratz phone, knitting machine. (8) Fabulous shoes. (9) A pup. (10) Sewing kit. (11) Shining star dance mat. (12) Real Karaoke video camera.

Dear Santa,

My name is Stockton and I am 5 years old. I would like a huge soccer ball that I can crawl through.

Thanks! Stockton

Dear Santa,

I hope you will make it to my house because it is in Twin. After Christmas I will move to a different house. I want a remote control car, a bike and a scooter.

Merry Christmas, Julius Haddox

Dear Santa,

How are your reindeer? I wish I had Hobosablen and how are your elves?

Love, Tyler Black

Dear Santa,

I have been very good. I am seven years old and I am a boy. I want a Four wheeler and a joke box. I like your sled.

Your Pal, Garrett

Dear Santa,

My name is Xander. How are the reindeer and how is your old friend Frosty The Snowman? Tell Rudolph I hope he has a Happy Christmas every year and you too Santa.

Your friend, Xander Age 8

Dear Santa,

I have been waiting for this holiday all year. It is my favorite. What I would like for Christmas is a remote control motorcycle.

Your biggest fan, Tanner Wheeler

Dear Santa,

I want to make wishes come true for children all over the world. Please bring the children medicine. Please bring food to the hungry children. Please bring presents for kids all over the world. How are you, the elves and your reindeer. I would like a remote control boat please.

Merry Christmas, Garrett Cox, Age 6

Dear Santa,

I want a Gameboy and three video games. The only other thing I want is a chopper bike. I hope my sister can come up this Christmas. I hope my Dad will get his job done.

Love Kade Snucek Age 7

Dear Santa,

Where do you live?

I want a Bratz doll and a Poodle and a Light Saber and a air hockey table.

Love, Abilene Hernandez

Dear Santa,

My name is Eddie. How are you Santa? Can you wait until the day before Christmas? My two brothers and I would like to have a EPSN Game Station for Christmas because I don't want to keep you working all night long. I drew you a Christmas Tree for a napkin. Your friend, Eddie Age 7

Dear Santa,

How are you and the elves? Does the North Pole have a lot of snow? It would be awesome to have a pair of pajamas, socks, snow boarding boots and a couple pairs of pants, that is all! Have a Happy and Merry Christmas this year. Thank you! Sincerely, Alee Creed Koepnick

Dear Santa,

I would like a Power Ranger for Christmas.

Love, Sergio

Dear Santa,

I want a Barbie doll. A Dora car. A Mrs. Sherrets costume. A Dear Santa car. A snowman statue. I like Santa's elfs. A button nose for my snowman. A clip chick for my nose. A big real carrot. I wish I had real glue. I wish I had a real snow bells. I want some present earnings. Santa's beard that is real and Santa hands.

Thank you, Megan Butcher

Dear Santa,

I want to make wishes come true for children all over the world. Please bring the children medicine. Please bring food to the hungry children. Please bring presents for kids all over the world. How are you, the elves and your reindeer. I would like a remote control boat please.

Merry Christmas, Garrett Cox, Age 6

HAVE A HOLLY, JOLLY CHRISTMAS!

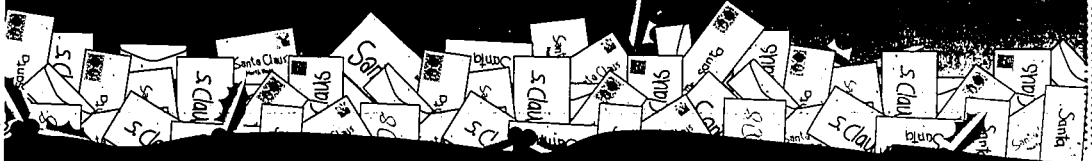
Our sincere wishes for a glorious holiday that gladdens your heart and leaves you with wonderful memories to last a lifetime. Customers like you have given us so much to be thankful for, and we greatly appreciate your patronage.

S&D AUTOMOTIVE
Owned & Operated by Jeff Willis

734-2267

139 Blue Lakes Blvd. S. Twin Falls

Dear Santa,



... Just in the "Nick" of time, it's our letters to Santa Section!
 These letters were written by area children and submitted to
 The Times-News Classified "Elves" and are now on their way to the North Pole!

Dear Santa:
 My name is Chesnie. I am 5 years old. I really want a black stuffed animal cat and a Cinderella with a wand.
 Thanks, Chesnie

Dear Santa,
 My name is Trace, I am 3 years old. I have been a good boy. (sometimes) I would like a gas station, guns, bike, tool set, kitchen and a playhouse.
 Thanks, Trace

Dear Santa,
 I want Yu-Gi-Oh cards and don't forget my friends Dragonballz toy and a Gameboy for my best friends.
 From, P.J.



Dear Santa
 My name is Taylor Kane I'm 9 years old I want.
 1. Luv cub
 2. Motor Scooter (red or black)
 3. Electric blanket (w/iv)
 4. Poncho any color
 5. Shifing star dance mat
 6. Radio karaoke machine

Dear Santa,
 My name is Tyler Kane, I am 7 years old. I have been pretty good this year. I would like a football uniform (Cowboys), dirt bike, snow board, Gameboy & games, and some new clothes.
 Thank You.
 Have a safe trip
 Tyler

Dear Santa,
 It would be awesome if I could have a Game Cube, Game Cube games and a dirt bike. Thanks for everything you have given me. Keep the socks and underwear. I don't have a chimney, so how do you get in the house! Thanks again.
 Sincerely, Christopher Chandler

Dear Santa,
 How are the Reindeers doig? On Christmas I will leave them some grain. For Christmas this year, I'd like to have a Yankee soldier uniform and a Winchester 44 Carbine. The thing I'd really like to have is a black Mokileien military saddle.
 Your Friend,
 Dylan Age 7

Dear Santa,
 For Christmas this year I want a Leap Frog L-Max toy, something of Sponge Bob Square Pants, Game Boy SP, PSP, and to spent time with my family!
 Omar N.

Dear Santa,
 Are you ready for Christmas? For Christmas I would like Madden 06, backyard football, a Colts football, and Nickto Unite for my younger brothers.
 Thank you Santa
 Your Friend,
 Doug Elorredia
 Age 9

Dear Santa,
 I want a Barbie car for Christmas and some chapstick please
 Love Alyssa

Dear Santa,
 A Cinderella kitchen and a bear to color on. A Care Bear that has books. A stroller with babies. Paint shirt so I can paint. Crayons, paints and puzzles. A Cinderella Barbie and thats all. HO! HO! Santa!
 Thank you, Jesse Sparrow

Dear Santa,
 How are you? For Christmas I would like a air hockey table, wide screen T.V., ping-pong table and PlayStation 2 games.
 Love, Jeorgi Kalisek

Dear Santa,
 I want a stereo, V.C.R., T.V. D.V.D. player, skateboard D.V.D. movies, chaps, cowboy hat, boots, a real chicken and a stuffed puppy.
 Your Friend,
 Ethan Craner

Dear Santa,
 I want a big, big, big trampoline for Christmas. I would jump and do flips. Fun! Fun! I want a blue bike, race car bike. Some fun games for boys. Some easy games. Race car games.
 Your friend, Alex Wilson

Dear Santa,
 I want a kite, truck, car, bike, and a Fal Albert movie and I will leave milk and cookies.
 Your friend,
 Favian
 P.S Thank you

Dear Santa,
 I want a sled for Christmas I need a girl teddy bear. I want a tractor for my sister. I want a lot of books I need a lamp for my bedroom. I want all kids to get toys Merry Christmas!
 Thank You!
 Hunter Merriss - age 3

Dear Santa,
 I'm short, and very smart. I have brown hair and blue eyes. What makes your reindeer fly? Why do you have reindeer? What time do you go out at night? When do you go to bed? Why can't I see you? All I want for Christmas is a PSP please, and a Lego Star Wars game for my Game Boy SP. For my PSP I want a game called Ape Escape on the Loose.
 Your Friend,
 Aiden

Dear Santa,
 I hope you get me a sword, shield, fortress, magical powers, a magic staff, warriors to fight for me, being able to make magical creatures, the ability to write books, a fire breathing Poodie, unlimited bag of candy and money and every action PS2 game in the world.
 Funny
 Peter Seppi
 P.S. I need stuff to fight my brothers
 Age 10

Dear Santa,
 I hope that Christmas is snowy and that everybody has a Merry Christmas and that everyone is warm. I hope that you will enjoy my cookies and milk I leave you. Thank you for everything you have given me in the past, I have really enjoyed them!
 Sincerely, Lisa Christensen

Dear Santa,
 I want an Xbox360 and some game to go with it A PlayStation 2
 Jayden
 Age 8


Dear Santa,
 I have been very good this year. Would you like eggnog or milk? What kind of cookie would you like? I would like a dark Chaos duel disc. I am eight years old. I am a boy. I have light brown hair and green eyes.
 Your friend,
 Taylor


Dear Santa,
 My name is Kody and my family is cool because I have a little sister. Santa, I want a game for my Game Cube. How will you come down the chimney?
 Love,
 Kody Callhoun
 Age 8


Dear Santa,
 I want star Wars Glow Mores movie. A robot that can play baseball. The Star Wars Glow Mores blocks. The Star Wars Glow Mores Legos. A machine that borges someone with a water balloon when they come into my room. A back pack that can turn into anything. A robot that doesn't need a remote control.
 Thank you Jack Moleworth

Dear Santa
 I want Weights, Game boy, Roboator, Foam shooters.
 Ethan
 Age 8

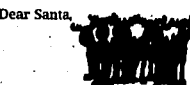
Wishing you warm holiday greetings from all your friends at **EPIC TRAVEL**
 1815 South Lincoln
 Jerome, Idaho
 324-2394

Dear Santa,

 I want the Pass-
 word Journal and
 a new Barbie, and
 the backpack from
 Dora The Explor-
 er.
 Goodbye Naomi

Dear Santa,

 I would like a
 Monster truck for
 Christmas.
 Thank you,
 Kathy

Dear Santa,

 I would like Fruite
 tic Farm movie for
 Christmas.
 Robert


Dear Santa Claus,
 I have been very good this year.
 This is what I want for Christ-
 mas. It's Scamps, My Playful
 Pup. I am seven years old and I
 am a girl. My favorite kinds of
 animals are cats, dogs and
 horses. My favorite Christmas
 thing to do is decorate the
 Christmas tree. I have two
 brothers. The first one is 14 yrs.
 And the other one is 16 yrs.
 Love,
 Leslie
 7 years


Dear Santa,

 I would like to get a Gameboy for
 Christmas. I hope you have a
 good Christmas. My teacher has
 been very nice to me. I hope the
 reindeers have a good sleep. I
 hope that the elves get a lot of
 presents they have been
 working very hard. I would like a
 baby puppy. I would like a flat
 farm truck. I would
 like a snowboard.
 Love, Sid

Dear Santa,
 I am 8 years old. I have been
 bad and good but I hope you
 still will come to me. I would
 like some stuff for the people
 in the hospital, so they could
 have a good Christmas. I would like a 4
 wheeler or a snowmobile. It is your
 choice. I will like moon shoes and can
 you bring me a poker game, that is for
 Game cube. NBA 06 too. Thank you
 Love Ryker Fenstermaker

Dear Santa,


 I want you to help
 the people that
 need food. I want a
 baby Cabbage
 Patch Kid for
 Christmas. I think
 that you are nice,
 I want a house for
 whoever needs
 one.
 Kelsie
 Age 7


Dear Santa,

 I would like a
 Barbie for
 Christmas.
 Lizz!

Dear Santa,

 I would like a dog
 for Christmas.
 Cherokee.

Dear Santa


 How are you? How are your reindeers? I
 have been really good this year. My
 brother says he doesn't believe in you
 even after watching Polar Express! But
 don't worry, I believe in you. I will forever
 because my mommy does and she's old.
 All I want is an Amazing Amanda. I know
 it's expensive so if you can't afford
 it...that's okay. Be careful!
 I love you!


Dear Santa,

 I have blond hair and I am tall
 German. I hope you aren't sick so
 your daughter comes. I want you
 and your daughter to come to-
 gether and Rudolph can come
 too. Santa I want a CD player for
 Christmas. Santa people don't
 believe in you, but I do. I think
 you are a nice person. Santa I
 have been good all year.
 Sincerely,
 Tyler LaFleur
 Age 8


Dear Santa,

 For Christmas I want 4 knights
 kingdom people. I want all the
 New Pets cards and all the
 Yu-Gi-Oh cards. I want 7
 Pokernon cards. I want Doo mas-
 tor cards.
 From, Daniel


Dear Santa,

 I would like a
 mon-
 truck
 truck that is red, and a
 toy for my dog
 "Bosser". Please
 bring my kitty
 Tiger a big
 mouse.
 Peyton

Dear Santa,

 Do your elves like soccer or football better?
 Or does it depend on the elf? Can we see
 you or not? Because there is a Santa at the
 mall. Is he real or is he fake? I would like a
 Barbie house. The house for mom, dad,
 Ryan and Nicky.
 Love, Jessica Stewart

Dear Santa

 How are you? How are your reindeers? I
 have been really good this year. My
 brother says he doesn't believe in you
 even after watching Polar Express! But
 don't worry, I believe in you. I will forever
 because my mommy does and she's old.
 All I want is an Amazing Amanda. I know
 it's expensive so if you can't afford
 it...that's okay. Be careful!
 I love you!


Dear Santa,

 I want a Doodle bear for
 Christmas that glows in the
 dark and a CD holder
 and coloring CD book, a
 coloring book for a girl
 and some candy. I have
 been good and so have
 my sister and my Mom
 and Dad have been good
 Your Friend Cheyenne


Dear Santa,

 Hi how are you. I have been good. Can
 I have a pretend vacuum cleaner, a
 Dora toy, and Pumpkin milk with a
 lady bug and a dog.
 I'm leaving you cookies, milk and hot
 chocolate.
 Love you, Della-age 3

Dear Santa,

 I would like a
 remote control
 monster truck for Christmas.
 Love,
 Yikayen
 Age 5

Dear Santa:
 How are you, Mrs. Claus, the
 reindeer and the elves? My
 mom fixed the rip in my stocking
 today. Some of my family
 is coming for Christmas.
 This year can I please
 have the game Mall
 Madness.
 Merry Christmas!!!
 Love Shelby May Burke.
 P.S.
 My sister will like a
 TV pillow.


Dear Santa,

 Brianna "Sis" McFarland
 6 years old
 P.S. Please leave a treat for my dog, Bell.
 She doesn't know how to talk.


Dear Santa,

 How is it up in the
 North Pole? It is
 fine in Idaho.
 For Christmas I would
 like a snow globe and
 some sand art please.
 Love,
 Andrea Carquist


Dear Santa Claus,
 I want a bike. I want a Bratz doll.
 I want a T.V. I want a
 microphone. I want a toy house.
 I want a Gameboy. I want a
 Gameboy.
 Thank you,
 Alex Gandiaga

Dear Santa,


 I would like a
 Flying
 Fairy
 for
 Christmas.
 Love, Nicole


Dear Santa,

 How is everything
 doing at the North
 Pole? I would really like
 a Xbox 360 and a
 Packman game and
 books. Please like
 the cookies.
 From, Dylan age 7


Dear Santa,

 Could you please bring me
 a cabbage patch doll, play
 dog, alarm clock, Barbie clothes,
 hair things, Bratz watch, Bratz
 clothes, baby doll mom doctor, Bratz
 sweater, Barbie boy, Bratz roller
 blades, and a sparkle dress.
 Thank you, Jordan


Dear Santa,

 How are you doing? My name
 is Myah. I'll have a fun time
 at Christmas. When is it
 Christmas? Can I have a stuffed
 animal cat and a horse. Why do
 we celebrate on Christmas?
 Myah

Dear Santa,
 My little sister wants a new Barbie doll.
 My older sister wants a new bean bag. I
 want a real live horse. My Mommy
 wants all the Sun's. My Grandma Mil-
 dred wants to live until 100.
 My Grandma Caroline wants to have a
 real husband
 From
 Desleyne Kiser
 Age 6


Dear Santa,

 I would like a
 Pegasus
 for
 Christmas.
 Love, Priscilla


Dear Santa,

 I have been really good this
 year. I am eight years old and
 I'm a girl. I would like a CD
 holder, hula hoop, maybe some
 more art stuff. I also want ice
 skating shoes and a bell from
 your sleigh.
 Your friend,
 Lauren


Dear Santa,

 How is Mrs. Claus? Santa are you
 doing good or not good? Are the deer
 and the elves good? Can you bring me
 a Bratz, cownit Bratz, and can you
 bring my mom a
 coat, my brother a ball, car,
 and can you bring my sister a
 Bratz ball?
 Your Friend,
 Banesa Hernandez Age 7

Dear Santa,

 What I want is a real monkey,
 some Playdough, a CD player
 with Christmas songs and lots of
 presents. I would also like a San-
 ta hat. Lauren

Dear Santa,
 Thank you for every-
 thing you gave me last
 year! How do you get
 down the chimney?
 How cold is it at the
 North Pole? For Christ-
 mas could I have a
 Series Of Unfortunate Events #13
 because I'm running out of books
 to read and I love to read.
 Sincerely, Andrew Eskeldson


Dear Santa,

 I would like a
 Red Bull
 for
 Christmas.
 William


Dear Santa,

 I am 7 years old
 and I am a girl who
 loves my sisters. I
 would like a Doodle
 Bear and a new bike.
 I also would like a
 My Scene doll.
 Love,
 Alex


Dear Santa,

 How are you? I would like a toy
 cat and a toy kitten. I would
 like a toy puppy and a toy dog.
 I would like a pair of church
 shoe.
 Love,
 Kasey Dimend


Dear Santa,


 Thank you for the
 pump up car.
 I want a Doodle
 Monster this
 Christmas.
 Love, Shyler

Dear Santa,

 For Christmas I want an electric
 car that has Tevelon on it, an
 electric guitar, my little Pony, my
 little Bratz, a trampoline, an
 electric dog, and Xbox, an electric
 horse, music box and a play
 kitchen.
 From McKenzie

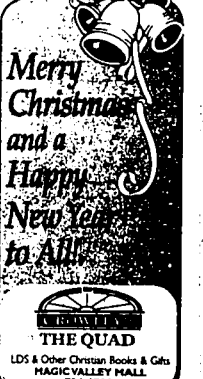
Dear Santa,

 I would like to get
 my friend Ashley
 an American-
 Girl, and I would
 like to get my
 dog a bone.
 I would like a Yo-
 Yo I want my
 Mom to have a
 winter coat.
 Love Brandi
 Henry
 Age 8

Dear Santa Claus,

 I like you. You are funny, very
 funny. You laugh very hard. You
 make me laugh very hard.
 You make me laugh. I will be
 outside watching for you. My
 friend's name is Edwin. I want a
 drum for Christmas.
 Your pal,
 Kevin
 Age 7


Dear Santa,

 I like you Santa. I want a
 Cinderella and Ariel too! I
 would like a car. I wish you a
 Merry Christmas Santa.
 Love,
 Brooklyn King


Dear Santa,

 I would like a
 Monster truck
 for Christmas.
 Love, Anthony


Merry
 Christmas
 and a
 Happy
 New Year
 to All!




THE QUAD
 LDS & Other Christian Books & Gifts
 MAGIC VALLEY MALL
 774-4781

Dear Santa,

 I would like a
 Barbie for
 Christmas.
 Diana

Dear Santa,

 I would like a picture
 frame and a Bratz
 doll for Christmas.
 Love,
 Cami
 Age 5

Dear Santa,

 I love you Santa. I want a Sky dancer.
 A Dora doll with a magic wand. I
 want some toe socks. I want the
 Madagascar movie.
 Thank you,
 Hannah Flank

Dear Santa:

 My name is Cody and I am 6
 years old. I would like a big
 blue truck or a John Deere
 tractor.
 Thanks, Cody



Dear Santa,
Hi my name is Syndee and I am 5 years old. I would really like to get a Bratz Rock-n Angel instead of a lump of coal.
Thanks, Syndee

Dear Santa
I've been a good girl this year. How many reindeer do you have? How is Mrs. Claus today? Are you having a good year. Have a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
Love Brianna
Age 8

Dear Santa,
Kade wants a hard book and a ring for McKylee. I want a shoe shocker.
Love
Treyvan Silgar
Age 7

Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph? I want a Robosablen. Are your elves fine? Are they working on toys? I wish you a Merry Christmas.
Love,
Alexis Carpenter

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. I would like a snowboard for Christmas and I would like to have a snowmobile too and maybe a green football with flames and a Doodie Monster.
Your friend,
Colten
8 years

Dear Santa,
My name is Aaron and I am 5 years old. I would like a big black truck.
Thanks Aaron

DEAR SANTA,
I would like a T-rex mountain and an electric dog.
From
Paeshall Jared

Dear Santa,
I would like a Xbox 360 and games, PS2 and games. My brother would like to be safe
Merry Christmas
Monroe
Age 9

Dear Santa,
I have been bad and good. I really want a memory card for X-Box50. I can save my games.
Josh

Dear Santa,
I missed Savannah when she wasn't at school. I would like some army guys and stuff. I love army things. I like video games and CDs (a soldier one). I am Hudson and I am five and I go to pre-kindergarten Inmanuel Lutheran School. Mrs Sherrets is my teacher. I love Mrs. Sherrets very much.
Love, Hudson Pierce age 5

Dear Santa Claus,
I really like you. You're really, really great! This is a list of things I want for Christmas. I would like a Game Boy SP and games for it. I would also like a Ipod, some of My Little Pony and some books. I want my little brother Cody to get some tools. From Ivce Age 9

Dear Santa,
I would like the following: Game-boy games, Bionic snakes and a real car. By the way do you like war? I like cool. I hit by brother with it. I was hungry last year. Sorry well before I go to A+ in school. Well thats all. Sincerely Ryan Hansen

Dear Santa,
My name is Whitney Johnson. I want some snow boots for Christmas. I want to know how your elves are too? I like your reindeer so very much Santa. How is Mrs. Claus? Santa I really want to know. I want a box of lipgloss, please Santa Claus? You and Mrs. Claus are so nice to everybody. I hope you have a holly jolly Christmas. I want some new shoes to please Santa? I will give you some cookies and milk. I hope you have fun every where you go Santa Claus. Please give some cookies to Mrs. Claus
Your friend Whitney

Dear Santa,
You might know some things about me but let me tell you about my life. I like to play basketball and tether ball. For Christmas I would like a tether ball and a pair of roller skates size 3. Angel wants Hot Wheels and Barmie's CD. I also want a dog. Well, only if it doesn't jump off your sleigh! Oh, and I also hope my dog can take a picture with you. I want to know if Mrs. Claus can come with you because I want to meet her. I will be in the living room. Just knock on the door and I'll answer the door for you.
Sincerely,
Danlala and Angel Gutierrez Age 9

Dear Santa,
I live on Van Buren Street. My mom made cookies for you and they're really good. What I want is green it fears nothing. That's all I want for Christmas. Oh do you give everybody presents in one day? If you want to get in my house be careful because my dog can hear anyone that's when my house is scary.
Love, Jesse Garcia

Dear Santa,
My name is Porter. I'm from Kimberly. I want a remote control Hummer and a pack of gum and some socks. We will leave some cookies & milk for you.
Porter
Age 7

Dear Santa,
My name is Lexander Hanes. I am 5 months old. Right now I'm teething and all I want for Christmas is my mouth to stop hurting. So you can just bring me some teething toys for Christmas. Thanks!
Love Always, Lexander Hanes

Dear Santa,
My name is Marti and you can bring presents to my grandma's house or my house. Here is what I want for Christmas this year: A Bratz bike with the seat that looks like a motorcycle seat, remote control car, Bratz knee pads, elbow pads, helmet that is Bratz, Bratz lock and chain. Can I get the lock with a combination? You will have to go through the black chimney at my grandma's house on Christmas!
Love,
Marinique Donnelle Wheeler Age 8

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a Barbie Pegasus doll. I want some books also. I want some Bratz dolls too. I've been a very good girl. I'll have cookies for you when you come on Christmas. I want everyone to have a nice holiday. Thank you.
Alexis Merriss
Age 4

Dear Santa,
I would like a pink dolly and a blue horse. Santa.
From Dakota

Dear Santa,
I have blue eyes and how are your elves? What I want for Christmas is called a Video Now and a robot that does my homework.
Love, Brittany Snow
Age 8

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like a Bratz doll, a tent, new shoes and a Barbie. I would also like to give the kids in the hospital toys, bears, stuffed up animals and more stuff. My sister had heart surgery and I had my appendix out. We know my sister felt better because people cared to visit and bring gifts! I would like to give my brother Fernando a toy car, my sister Maria a pony, my sister Christy a horse toy. My mom a pair of shoes and my best teacher Mrs. Silver. I would like to get her flowers.
Love,
Rosi
1st grade Hagerman

Dear Santa,
I would like a computer, an elephant chair and a CD player and a bike and a baby doll and a Polly Pocket and a stuffed elephant and makeup, a cell phone and I would like a dress up set and a elephant book and a Play Pony and big pencil box and a sharpener.
Sincerely,
Cheyenne

Dear Santa,
I'm gonna give you a Madagascar toy. Could you get me a Bible for now? Oh and a pen. I love you Santa Alaina Mashak Age 5 P.S. And a Cinderella necklace tool
Jonathan

Dear Santa,
How is Mrs. Claus doing? I wish you could bring me a dirt bike and wish you could make my bad dreams go away and I wish you could give me a four wheeler.
Love,
Jake Nelson

Dear Santa,
I've been good for Christmas but my brother is bad. May I have a skate board please? I love you Santa Brittany Age 7

Dear Santa,
Thank you for all the presents. I would like a Playstation for Christmas.
Walker

Dear Santa,
Is it cold in the North Pole? How is your wife? How can you make toys? Please Santa can I have a new coat & lipgloss?
I hope you will be careful on the way to my house. Merry Christmas Santa Your Friend is Erica

Merry Christmas
Love from
Concrete Contractors
425 S 20th St, Coalinga, CA
Phone: 805-964-9291 • Mobile: 805-964-9292
Fax: 805-964-9293

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the tool set with electric screw gun and socket wrench. Thank you also for the Silly Putty. I hope I was a good boy this year and I hope I get a CD player with CDs. Sincerely, Dakota P.S. Thank you again!

Dear Santa Claus,
I love Rudolph! What present am I going to get this year? I am a girl. Are you feeling well? My dad Matt hung a deer in my garage. I love Mrs. Claus. I want a toy dog. I am cute! You are cool! I love cookies! I am 7 years old!
Love,
Your friend Gabrielle

Dear Santa,

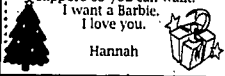


... Just in the "Nick" of time, it's our letters to Santa Section!
 These letters were written by area children and submitted to
 The Times-News Classified "Elves" and are now on their way to the North Pole!

Dear Santa,
 I am being good. Please bring me a Barbie.
 Love, Samantha Raiger
 Age 6



Dear Santa,
 I want a real princess and a butterfly, a pink one. I want pink slippers so you can walk. I want a Barbie. I love you.
 Hannah



Dear Santa Claus,
 I want a bed and I want horse, and a dog, and a puppy, and bike. What about you? A car, and a Game Boy, and a ball are for my brother and sister.
 Teresa Quintero



Dear Santa,
 I would like a Panda bear for Christmas. I would also like a guitar.
 Love, Abbey

Dear Santa Claus
 This year I want an Easy Bake oven, new clothes, makeup, blanket, some new tennis shoes and some new Bratz socks.
 Love,
 Teresa Lara

Dear Santa,
 How are you doing on the top of the world? It's like the North Pole here in Kimberly. It would be awesome if you could bring me a cellophone and knitting machine for Christmas. Thank you for the past Christmas presents.
 Sincerely, Makayla Muir
 Age 9 3/4

Dear Santa,
 My name is Zachery. How are you? I hope you have a good Christmas. How are the reindeer? My teacher is a great teacher. How is Mrs. Claus doing? You are my favorite person in the world. I want a remote control car and a car I could drive for Christmas. I want a sled for Christmas. I will leave milk and cookies.

Dear Santa,
 Have a good Time going down the chimney's and I hope you never get hurt. A light dog. A toy that says the craziest things. A Harry Potter game. A thing like, a thing monster missile. That's all that I want.
 Thank you,
 Ben Behm

Dear Santa,
 For Christmas I want a little pink bicycle with no training wheels, a sleeping bag, a Barbie Pony with make-up, a real puppy and a big Dora house.
 Love Lupe

Dear Santa,
 Hope you've had a good year. Thank you for the Race Car. How is Mrs. Claus? I want a Race Car Set. I also want a Game Boy XP. My Mom wants a Pony set. How is Rudolph? My Sister wants you I want to hear the bells on your sleigh.
 P. S. Don't forget my Dad.
 Bryce Sloth, 9 years old

Dear Santa,
 How are you this year? I have been good this year! Now I live in Twin Falls and I hope you can find my new house. I want a new bike. I want a colorful bike. A scooter and a piano is what I want for my family.
 Love Tandi Rowley ~ age 8

Dear Santa,
 What I really want for Christmas is a brown bear that is smiling and a stuffed, pretend dog (tan colored). I also would like a baby from my mommy's tummy. I've been a good girl this year so please be sure to stop at our new house in Buhl, not our old one in California. I'll have cookies and milk waiting for you and maybe some linguine and torts too. Fly safe and tell Mrs. Claus, the elfs, and the reindeer, Merry Christmas.
 Thank you,
 Abbey Palo 5 yrs. old.

Dear Santa,
 Please bring me a storm machine for Christmas. Newcar for me, no five. Train, a race car, two monster trucks, Spider man to play. A camera to take pictures with. A Go-Kart to ride outside. Race car game, video game. An Airplane rocket that is on my red car book.
 Thank you Santa, Terrant Wright

Dear Santa,
 My name is Micayla Elizabeth Mueller. Sometimes I can get in arguments with friends, but it all works out great. My two best friends are Sydney C. and Cynthia. I want a puppy like my Aunts Carla's only black. I want my mom to get remarried to the right man. I'd like the brand new house my mom wants. My mom pretty much covered the rest.
 Your Friend, Micayla Mueller ~ age 9

Dear Santa,
 My name is Chase. I am eight years old. I live in a thick metal house. It's a tanish metal with a red edging. I would like a stereo that plays CD's. Play Station 2 with the games Tony Hawk Underground 2, 3, and 4. A train and the parts to fix my dad's big remote control truck. I wanted to ask you how reindeer fly and how old are you?
 From, Chase Steinmetz Age 8

Dear Santa,
 I want a Barbie fairy doll. Maybe a purse that is pink and you could put money in my purse. I want Barbies. I need a fairy wand also so that I can be a fairy.
 Love, Jasmine Wall

Dear Santa,
 Here is a list of things I would like and things I would like to give to my friends
 Mom: A new bathrobe,
 Tiger, Dad: Vest, fry cutter, electric razor.
 Daniel: GI - Joe, Legos, Teresa Barbie doll, a Polly, dolly, Brain Legos, GI Joe.
 Logan: Hat, car scratcher, Me: Polly ski suit, quick quick, Polly Mermaid stars, Amazing Amanda
 Amy
 Age 8

Dear Santa,
 How are you doing? I want you and Mrs. Claus for Christmas. I like your elves because they are fun.
 Love, Hunter Michael Lay

Dear Santa,
 I want a stuffed dog from Winco for Christmas this year.
 Your Friend,
 Aisha Heller
 Age 7

Dear Santa,
 I would like a dinosaur for Christmas.
 Love, Luis M. Cordona

Dear Santa Claus,
 I want a horse, a Bratz doll, and a Teddy Bear, and jewelry and seeds.
 Love,
 Kalia Miller

Dear Santa,
 I want Power Rangers, Batman and a motorcycle game. I moved to a big, big house. Batman motorcycle with a shooter. I want to do something I like in God's world. I love Jesus.
 Thank you, Collin Aardema

Dear Santa,
 For Christmas I would like a CD player, a bouncy ball, also a bike. I want a kitten. I want to visit some of my friends. I would also like to go to Disney Land, a zoo and go to Lagoon. I would like some new clothes, new shoes, and a watch. Also a computer, also a football and a basketball and lots of candy.
 Samantha

Dear Santa,
 I am moving to Boise. I have been good helping my mom pack. Please bring me a Bratz Doll.
 Love, Lexi

Dear Santa Claus,
 I have been good this year. I want a bowling ball and a pair of roller blades for Christmas. I love to play sports. My favorite sport is soccer and football. My favorite state is Tennessee. I like monster trucks.
 Love,
 Your friend Kaden
 7 years.

Dear Santa,
 I want a drum set or a Barbie Jeep for Christmas.
 I have been a good girl!
 Love,
 Linsey Garcia, age 5

Wishing all of you a
WONDERFUL
 Christmas and New Year!

Linda Lov Ekren Sandra Capps Bonny Rost
 700 S. Lincoln
 Jerome, ID 83318

Dear Santa,
I want for Christmas is a baby and a baby
Bratz doll. And can you get lots of love,
some toys please. And I want a real pup-
py. Can you get me a Baby Born doll.
Can you get my friend Britanne a kitten.
Can you get me a kitten that
orange with white strips. Will
you get my sister a baby.
Can you get me a pony
Mikaelia Lajla
Age 8

Dear Santa,
I want a guitar, a
motorcycle, a robot,
Mickey Mouse book,
a reindeer puzzle,
train set and a
Hot Wheels set.
From DJ.

Dear Santa,
How are your reindeers? I know
Rudolf has a red nose. When you
come on Christmas Eve I wake at
5:30am.
Love, Cody K. Muse



Dear Santa,
I want a Play Station 2 and a
monster truck that sings and
dances. I want a T.V.
for my Play Station.
Merry Christmas,
Zackary Wanamaker

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I'm doing
fine. My family wants a lot of
stuff. Santa, I want a skate board,
roller skates, X Box, a box for
school supplies to carry around.
With me. Santa, how are the elves
doing? Are they doing fine? Are
you checking your nice or
naughty list?
Love,
Cynthia Molejo
Age 8

Dear Santa
I want a new draw and new
puzzle, new blocks, Care Bears,
Jumble Time Tigger and
a big truck. I would also
like a banana, orange and
an apple.
Love Freya Watson

Dear Santa Claus,
Please get me a box 360 and a
game to play on it, also 2 fer-
rets. And also a model truck. I
hope you can
make it this year.
Sincerely, Zach Wildman
P. S. I also need a lot of candy!!!
And also I
drink the milk.

Dear Santa Claus,
How are you. Mrs. Claus, the reindeer
and the elves? What type of cookies do
you want me to leave you this year? I will
have a carrot for each of the reindeer. Is
the North Pole really cold this year? This
year for Christmas I only have one wish.
My wish is that someone could find a
cure for cancer so no one in the world
would die anymore. That is all I want for
Christmas, this year. Have a Merry
Christmas and Santa please fly carefully.
Happy Holidays! Brennah Bailey

Dear Santa,
What I want for Christmas is
an automatic air hockey
table and a go-cart and
the newest bicycle
I want a lower & stuff I also want
some Pokemon cards. And most
of all I don't want anyone left
alone for Christmas or
on the streets. I don't know if I've
been good because that's your
choco.
Tyler Chapman
P.S. Has anybody video taped
you besides my cousins
Jerry, Kellen, Jordan and
Age 8

Dear Santa,
My name is Jessica. How are you? My brother
a good boy? Do you and the elves have all the
toys ready? How is Mrs. Claus? How are the
reindeers? And thank you for the toys last
year. I bet my dog Lady Bug would give you a
letter thank you for ornament if she could
write. Have a safe drive on Christmas Eve. I
hope you have a Merry Christmas. If I'm on
the good list can I at least have one thing I
wanted for Christmas. What I want for
Christmas is a Gameboy and Chicken Little
stuffed animal.
Love, Jessica

Dear Santa Claus,
I would like a baby kitten please...
And maybe a dry erase board I like
CHRISTMAS because my birthday is
December 24, 2005. I feel sorry for
you because you are probably really
busy. MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!
I hope you have fun! And will you get
me a thary. And please get my Mom
some jewelry and my Dad some bar-
beque tools. I hope you have a
MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!
Brianna Christ 8, Hagerman

Dear Santa,
What I want for Christmas is
one of your bells from
your sleigh. I have
been very good this
year but I bet you
already know that.
Love, Venessa

Dear Santa,
I want a Stamps My Playful Pup
from My Real Friends, a radio
that plays the Disney Channel, a
Morgan Clamp CD, a radio con-
trolled T-Rex, a hot to Train, a
kitchen book, a Magic 8 ball, a
laptop, Sponge Bob TV with DVD
player, a cell phone, a Game Boy
DS, Video Now XP with movies, a
Lava lamp, a hair straightener, a
slushy maker, a hamster, a white
board 3 feet wide and 3 feet long,
a log coat hanger, a real saddle, a
wood horse that the saddle will
fit and with a bridle, computer
game and Game Boy DS games.
Amy age 9.

Dear Santa,
I'm small, very small. I have blondish brown hair.
I wear greenish blue eyes. I'm eight years old. I
wear glasses. What I want for Christmas is a chi-
na doll, Video Now, a robot that does your
homework, a dog and a cat. I mean virtual one.
When were you born and where have you been
all through your life until now? How can you
reindeer fly? What are your favorite cookies?
How old are you? Why do your elves have
pointy ears? What kind of milk do you like? Is
the building big that you live in? How has Mrs.
Claus been? What has she been doing?
Love, see you later... Baylee Schroler- age 8

Dear Santa Claus,
How is the weather
in the North Pole? I was
wondering if the weather
down in Kimberly is as
cold as in the North
Pole? It would be
awesome if you could
bring me a PS2 and a
Game Boy with a
Pokemon game.
Hope the weather is
good for flying!
Sincerely,
Hayden Hatch

Dear Santa,
How are ur elves doing? May I have
a game called Mario Party 7? How is
Mrs. Claus doing? May I have a
game called Shadow the Hedgehog?
How is Rudolph the red nosed
reindeer? May I have Helly's
on my shoe?
Love,
Austin Age 8

Dear Santa,
I have a brother named Robert.
My name is Alexander and I
have brown eye and hair. I
have been a nice boy. Can I get
a cell phone? Please get my
brother a batman toy. How
many reindeers and elves do
you have now?
Sincerely,
Alexander
Kekrovic
Age 8

Dear Santa,
I would like a Polly Pocket
skating set, Bratz Doll set,
some weights, a trampoline,
a bike, a princess car,
Bratz door beads,
Bratz bedspread,
Bratz over bed thing,
Cheerleader, Game boy,
Bratz, Twister, Magnetix,
Uno, Guess Who,
Doodlebear,
Talking Furby, Ice hockey
Little Pet Shop
Arana
Age 8

Dear Santa,
My name is Mayson. How many
elves do you have? My favorite
colors are lime green and hot
pink. I am seven years old. My
birthday is April 23rd. I sent the
mix from Mrs. Claus and you.
Thank you for all the gifts you
got me. Can I please have a new
skateboard. That is all I need be-
cause I can't have Christmas list to
you. I like you very, very, very
much. Does Rudolph's nose really
glow? I hope you like my mix I
gave you. And have a very, very,
very good Christmas! Love, your
friend, Mayson Age 7.

Dear Santa,
You are so special. You're one of my
favorite friends. Santa will you please
come to my house for Christmas dinner.
For desert we can have cookies and
carrots. There is plenty of room for your
reindeer in my backyard.
I'm going to put my Mom's kitten, Cinna-
mon in the back bathroom so he won't
scare the reindeer.
When you deliver my presents could you
please bring a new Barbie doll with curly
hair, a Doodle Bear and both Grand-
ma's for Christmas.
I hope you and your reindeer have a
great time delivering presents. It's OK to
play with my toys before you deliver
them.
Love Esther Johnson
5 years old
P.S. Could you help my
tooth to come out, so my
tooth can come back.

Dear Santa,
How is Mrs. Claus? How are the
reindeer? What I want is a
Monopoly Game and a stuffed
Dolphin. I want to go to the North
Pole. How are you? I am fine. I
can't wait until Christmas when
you come down the chimney.
How are the elves?
Charlie, Age 9

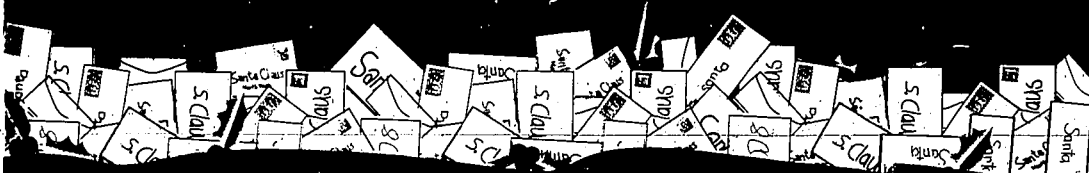
Dear Santa,
Hi my name is Scott. I live on
Jackson in a wooden house that
is white. I have behaved medium.
I am 4 ft. and 6 in. tall. I would
like a remote control car, a bike
for the dirt, and nothing else. My
mom wants to get better cause
she is sick. Why do you wear a
red suit? I hope to see you soon.
Sincerely, Scott Miller-age 8

Dear Santa,
My name is Rachel Millward. I have
been a very, very good girl this
year! Are you doing ok? How is
your machine going? My teacher
is named Mrs. Olmstead. I only
want one thing for Christmas. It
is a bell from your sleigh. If you
can bring it, it sure would be
nice! Is Mrs. Claus teasing you?
My teacher has been very, very
nice to me. My family has been
very nice to me too. Take care of
the reindeer. Have a very, very
safe Christmas!
Love, Rachel Millward Age 8

Dear Santa Claus,
I was good this whole year
at school and home. I am seven
years old. I like to ride four
wheelers. I want some new Hot
Wheel cars and a new snowboard
that's black, blue, red, white and
yellow. I also want new socks. I
want a new snowmobile. I want
new shoes. I also want a football
that is green with white flames. I
also want a Doodle Monster.
Your friend,
Edwin

A Merry Christmas...
...to you and your family
from all of us.
Westin • Travas • Terry
Bill • Tom • Cheri • Justin
& Bill
**Bill's
Automotive
& Muffler**
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Twin Falls • 733-0081

Dear Santa,



... Just in the "Nick" of time, it's our letters to Santa Section!
 These letters were written by area children and submitted to
 The Times-News Classified "Elves" and are now on their way to the North Pole!

Dear Santa,
 I am being good. Please bring me a Brothers in Arms. Earned in blood the game P.S. Also Tony Hawk American Wasteland. Love, Michael Ralston Age 7

Dear Santa,
 I have been a little bad but I have been good. For Christmas I would like a Annabelle doll.
 Love, Avery

Dear Santa,
 I have been good and I am 6 years old. For Christmas I want a guitar and drum set.
 Thanks, Ryan

Dear Santa,
 I have been very good this year. I'm eight years old and I'm a girl. I'm in 2nd grade. What I want for Christmas is a sewing set so I can sew. I live on Eastridge Drive. I was wondering can you bring real animals to children? If you can I want a baby tiger. What I also want for Christmas is a Pocahontas Barbie and a stuffed animal giraffe.
 Your friend,
 Lindsey

Dear Santa,
 I would like a snowboard for Christmas.
 Love, Willie

Dear Santa,
 How are you doing Mr. Claus? I want a Rudolph and a Game Cube, TV, and toys.
 Love, Lorenzo Ramirez

Dear Santa,
 I want an X Box for Christmas
 Gavino
 Age 9

Dear Santa,
 Thank you for all of the presents. I would like hoop earrings. Isabel

Dear Santa,
 My name is Rylee. How are you? How are the elves? I want to Utah to play with my cousins. I wish I had skis to go to Utah and ski on a hill and I want a baby doll, gum, lipstick, lip gloss put in my stocking if you want. You can wrap it and you can put it under the tree or you don't have to if you don't want to. I am giving you cookies and milk next to the tree. Have a good Christmas.
 Love, Rylee

Dear Santa,
 I want a War Game for a Play Station 2. I want snow boots O.K. I want some gloves, too. I want an X-Box.
 Your Friend,
 Justen Daily

Dear Santa,
 Thanks for the stuff last year. This year I'm hoping for a Poncho. Some new clothes and a scooter. I leave milk and cookies.
 Taylor Kone
 Age 9

Dear Santa,
 What I want is Scamps my Playful pup and Playful pup and Playful Doh Doggy Doctor, other things are dogs, horses, a dog Xbox game, and Karaoke revolution. Will you give my brother an Xbox cleaner.
 From
 Alailee Peacock

Dear Santa,
 I have been okay but can I still have something? I want a snowboard, Gameboy, rabbits, lipstick, the Hillary Duff CD, Pop It, Twister, 20 Questions & hair blow dryer.
 Love,
 Esmeralda
 Age 8

Dear Santa,
 I would like a Playstation 2 or an electric guitar. I would also like Madden NFL 2006, NCAA 2006 (football), Call of Duty 2, Big Red 1 and NFL 2K5.
 I have been a good boy this year!
 Sincerely,
 Michael Garcia, age 10

Dear Santa,
 How are your reindeer? How is Rudolph? I helped my Mom do chores and wash the dishes. I've been really good and I want a Game Cube and all the games for the Game Cube and a Sponge Bob the Game.
 Merry Christmas
 Your Friend Raisel

Dear Santa,
 What I want for Christmas is an American Girl with light skin, blue eyes, and blonde hair and Coconut the dog. I want Brando to have a make-up set.
 Love,
 Ashley Green
 Age 7

Dear Santa,
 What I want for Christmas is a Bratz doll and I want Cloe the Bratz Rock angel doll and a Doodle bear with pink Doodle bear and I asked my parents if I could get a baby Care Bear from them and I hope I do get it. Well that's all I have to say by, bye Santa Have a Merry Christmas.
 Sincerely
 Anahi
 Age 8

Dear Santa,
 I have been okay but can I still have something? I want anything that is Dora and Cinderella and lipgloss.
 Love,
 Isabelle
 Age 3

Dear Santa,
 My name is Darby. I have blond hair and green eyes. El Camino St. is the street I'm living on. I will live in my apartment for Christmas. This is what I want Bonk, a 1a nu' baby, a math mat, teaching cash register, a stick horse, a harmonica, and some more Groovy Girls and Groovy Girl stuff.
 What are your favorite movies? What are your favorite cookies? How old are you? How old is Mrs. Claus?
 Who is your favorite kid in Harrison School?
 Love Darby Dolezar -age 9
 I love you Santa!
 P.S. Can you wake me up, so I can feed the reindeer?
 P.S. I also want a snowboard and snow gear.

Dear Santa,
 I am 8 years old. I have brown hair with blond streaks. I am brown. I have brown eyes. I live on Quincy and I have a blue house. Can you please get me those things for Christmas: a PSP, 1,000 pencils box, a digital camera, a video camera, some nice blankets and pillows, a Playstation 3, and a X Box 360. Can you answer these questions? How many reindeer are there? Do you know the Tooth Fairy and the Easter Bunny?
 Love, Samara Smith-age 8

Dear Santa,
 What do you want for Christmas? I've been getting A+ on my tests. May I please have a piano?
 Your friend
 Rona
 Merry Christmas

Dear Santa,
 If I could have a real oven, so I can make Santa cookies. Merry Christmas Santa.
 Thank you, Auram

Dear Santa Clause,
 I've been really good all year. My brother has been bad sometimes and good other times but I've been really good. You did a good job last year. You brought me everything I wanted. Thank you. You can stop here for a big cup of hot chocolate and sugar cookies while your delivering presents.
 My mom makes the best sugar cookies Let me know so i can help fix your favorite.
 If you could find some, would you please bring me a Bratz Twins. A doodle bear would be nice. A Cinderella Barbie would be nice too.
 You choose, I would really like a picture of you having fun with your elves. Christmas is your busy time so have a break at my house. If I see you I'll give you a hug. I'm going to try to wake up when you come.
 Merry Christmas & Lots of love
 Faith Ann Johnson
 Age 7
 P.S. A folding sofa, that turns into a chair for reading would be fun. You choose. Faith

Dear Santa,
 Hi! My name is Alexis. I have tried really hard to be good. My mommy says I have been a good girl all year. I would like for Christmas to have a big Elmo. The have a 3 ft Elmo at Albertson's and I would like that.
 Thank you Santa, Alexis

Dear Santa,
 My name is Katie Hughes. I've been a very good girl. I'm 3 years old and I would like a playhouse, a kitchen set, toy make up, dress-up toys, more clothes, and a doll. I would really love for you to stop by my house. I'll make you cookies.
 Love Katie

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

To Magic Valley, Wood River, Eastern Idaho and Nevada areas:
 Thank you for giving us the privilege of serving you.
 Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us at:
S & G PRODUCE
 198 Locust Street South
 Twin Falls • 733-3405

Watch for our new facility in January!

Find something to do this weekend

Stocking stuffer 101

Your guide to the best gift CDs.

Page 3



Good news

Local girl gets published in latest "Chicken Soup" book.

Page 17

Heapin' helpin's

Eagles Nest caters to the hungry.

Page 14

Beauty, elegance

Fantasy tale emerges in 'Memoirs of a Geisha.'

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TNT

A publication of The Times-News

Publisher

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Editor

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Designer

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Advertising

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Classified

Customer service
733-0931, ext. 2

Mail Information

The Times-News (UPIS 631-090) is published daily at 132 Fairfield St., W. Twin Falls, by Lee Publications Inc., a subsidiary of Lee Enterprises.

Periodicals paid at Twin Falls by The Times-News. Official city and county newspaper pursuant to Section 6C-108 of the Idaho Code. Thursday is hereby designated as the day of the week on which legal notices will be published.

Postmaster, please send change of address form to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, Idaho 83303.

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 Media Valley Newspapers Inc.

TOP 5

The week's most popular media, compiled by The Associated Press.

Television

1. "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation," CBS.
2. "Without a Trace," CBS.
3. "Survivor: Guatemala" finale, CBS.
4. "Survivor: Guatemala," CBS.
5. "60 Minutes," CBS.
 — From Nielsen Media Research

Film

1. "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," Disney.
2. "Sylvia," Warner Bros.
3. "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire," Warner Bros.
4. "Walk the Line," 20th Century Fox.
5. "Hours, Mine & Ours," Paramount.
 — From Exhibitor Relations Co.

Hot 5

1. "Run It!" Chris Brown, Jive. (Gold — certified sales of more than 500,000)
2. "Don't Forget About Us," Mariah Carey, Island.
3. "Lafly Taffy," DAL, Decey/Money.
4. "Grizz," Nelly (feat. Paul Wall, Ali & Gipp), Jive.
5. "Photograph," Nickelback. Roadrunner/DJMG. (Platinum — certified sales of 1 million units)
 — From Billboard magazine

Albums

1. "Curtain Call: The Hits," Eminem, Shady.
2. "The Carter 3," Lil' Wayne, Cash Money.
3. "See You on the Other Side," Korn, Virgin.
4. "Now 20," Various Artists, Sony BMG. (Platinum)
5. "Some Hearts," Carrie Underwood, Arista. (Platinum)
 — From Billboard magazine

Concert tours

1. U2.
2. Eagles.
3. Paul McCartney.
4. Elton John.
5. Neil Diamond.
 — From Pollstar

VHS/DVD rentals

1. "Mr. & Mrs. Smith," FoxVideo.
5. "A Million Little Pieces," by James Frey (Anchor), FoxVideo/non-fiction.
 — From USA Today

VHS sales

1. "The Polar Express," Warner Home Video.
2. "Christmas," Nickelodeon Video.
3. "Blue's Clues — Blue's First Holiday," Paramount Home Entertainment.
4. "Madagascar," DreamWorks Home Entertainment.
5. "Rugrats: Christmas," Nickelodeon Video.
 — From Billboard magazine

DVD sales

1. "Mr. & Mrs. Smith (Widescreen)," FoxVideo.
2. "Mr. & Mrs. Smith (Full Screen)," FoxVideo.
3. "March of the Penguins (Widescreen)," Warner Home Video.
4. "Family Guy: Volume 3, Season 4," FoxVideo.
5. "War of the Worlds (Widescreen)," DreamWorks Home Entertainment.
 — From Billboard magazine

Top iTunes downloads:

1. "All I Want for Christmas," Mariah Carey.
2. "When I'm Gone," Eminem.
3. "Grizz (Dirty)," Nelly featuring Paul Wall, Ali and Gipp.
4. "Lafly Taffy," DAL.
5. "Photograph," Nickelback.
 — From Apple Computer Inc.

Bestselling books

1. "Red Lily" by Nor. Roberts (Jove) (paperback/fiction).
2. "The Chronicles of Narnia" by C.S. Lewis (HarperKids/Entertainment) (paperback/fiction).
3. "The Broker" by John Grisham (Dell) (paperback/fiction).
4. "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" by C.S. Lewis (HarperKids/Entertainment) (paperback/fiction).
5. "A Million Little Pieces" by James Frey (Anchor) (paperback/non-fiction).
 — From USA Today

VIDEO GAME REVIEW



Photo courtesy of Sony Computer Entertainment

'Ratchet: Deadlocked' ditches the platforming game play of the past for no-nonsense death matches.

A Christmas list any video gamer would love

Seattle Post-Intelligencer
 and The Denver Post

Summer can have its lackluster moments. The winter holidays are jrr and it's strictly video gaming nirvana. This season is, simply put, the best in years. Xbox 360 is front and center, but every platform, from handhelds to consoles, has a slew of sub-lime games. So turn down the lights, crank up the heat, and power up your system of choice.

Here are the season's best — hand selected and field lab tested:

• "Ratchet: Deadlocked" (Sony PlayStation 2, rated T for teen, \$39.99) — Nothing says the holidays quite like the whole clan indulging in some good clean video-game fun. "Ratchet: Deadlocked" ditches the platforming game play of the past for no-nonsense death matches.

• "Dance Dance Revolution Mario Mix" (Nintendo GameCube, E, \$49.99) — In between cholesterol fests, bust out "Dance Dance Revolution Mario Mix." The included action pad tracks your every step and everyone is guaranteed to keep track of calories burned. Who ever said gamers were lazy?

• "Kinetic" (PSP, E, \$49.99) — This game ingeniously redefines the notions of play and gaming. The included Eye-Fix camera puts you onscreen for a series of workouts, thinly disguised as "games," that feature power, cardio, toning and balanced mind

and body routines. The experts at Nike's Motionworks Lab provide the know-how to track your progress and CGI trainers motivate you when your butt's dragging. With the right combination of "kinetic" and starchy foods, the kids eventually will collapse into bed. Then it'll be time for the big guns of gaming to come out.

• "The Matrix: Path of Neo" (PS2/Xbox, T, \$49.99) — These days it's a wonderland of guns, guns and gear. Even the dreaded movie-to-game syndrome is officially over. "The Matrix: Path of Neo" is mostly makes up for the sins of the buggy "Enter the Matrix." Neo is now the playable character and the combat is satisfyingly complex and deep. The game-within-a-game martial-arts tutorials are a clever "Matrix" style head trip.

• "Aeon Flux" (PS2/Xbox, T, \$44.99) — While the live-action "Aeon Flux" probably won't be winning Charlize Theron another Oscar, the original MTV shorts were aesthetically groundbreaking. The game version of "Aeon Flux" has more in common with the latter — stealth, grab and deadly, aerobic combat with an atmosphere of dystopian paranoia that makes for an ass-kicking femme experience true to the animated series' roots.

• "From Russia with Love" (GameCube/PS2/Xbox, T, \$39.99) — The James Bond universe has spawned some of the best gaming spinoffs. If you remember

Looking for the perfect gift for your music lover?

Combined wire services

Some of the best CDs of 2005, both Christmas-themed and otherwise:

• **Kanye West, "Late Registration" (Roc-A-Fella, \$19.98)** — Record-of-the-year winner for the second time in a row, the Chicago native's sophomore album aims even higher than his acclaimed 2004 debut, "The College Dropout." With co-producer Jon Brion, West — who just received eight Grammy nominations — expands hip-hop boundaries into a symphonic realm while demonstrating a knack for personalizing the political; in the process, he has made one of the decade's defining pop albums.

• **Brian Wilson, "What I Really Want for Christmas" (Arista, \$10.98)** — The first solo Christmas album by the founder/mastermind of the Beach Boys, whose 1964 offering remains a seasonal favorite, Wilson reprises two favorites from that album — the dune buggy-driven "Little Saint Nick" and delightful "The Man With All the Toys" — and serves up traditional holiday favorites, including a cappella versions of "Auld Lang Syne" and "Silent Night," that benefit from his continued association with the empathetic musicians and vocalists who helped him revive "Pet Sounds" and "Smile." Wilson, who produced and arranged the album, contributes a pair of new songs with guest lyricists: Jimmy Webb on "Christmas" and Bernie Taupin on the title song. While the voice is diminished, the spirit is not.

• **Mariah Carey, "The Emancipation of Mimi" (Island Records, \$19.99)** — It's time for all the critics who declared Carey's career all but dead to eat some humble pie — so give me the first helping. Carey has produced perhaps the best album of her 16-year career with "Mimi," an uncompromising, classic R&B album. Though it had several high-profile cameos from the likes of Snoop Dogg and Nelly, the most riveting components of "Mimi" were its stellar songwriting and Carey's luscious voice.

• **Eurythmics, "Ultimate Collection" (Arista, \$18.98)** — For lovers of a certain carrot-topped singer who helped make the '80s bearable: Eurythmics, "Ultimate Collection." Until vocalist Annie Lennox and multi-instrumentalist Dave Stewart came along, who knew that synth-driven pop could have lasting value? There are 17 essential oldies plus two un-embarrassing new ones.



Holiday CDs abound. From top, "La Noche Buena: Christmas Music of Colonial Latin America," from the San Antonio Vocal Arts Ensemble; Sloan Wainwright and Friends, "On a Night Before Christmas"; Odetta's "Gonna Let It Shine" and Aaron Neville's "Christmas Prayer."

• **"Elton John's Christmas Party" (Hear Music, \$8.50)** — Bernie Taupin's lyrics bookend this collection curated by John, opening with John's 1973 track, "Step Into Christmas," and closing with his new "Calling It Christmas," a duet with loss Stone. The older song has a Phil Spectorish feel, and the lyrics, from that preeminent producer by including two examples of his work: the Ronettes' "Frosty the Snowman" and "The Crystals' "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer." With a generous 21 tracks, there's plenty of star power (U2, the Eagles, Bruce Springsteen), peer faces (Hufus Wainwright, Kate Bush) and curiosities (Flaming Lips). Available only at Starbucks.

• **LCD Soundsystem, "LCD Soundsystem" (DFA/Capitol, \$23.98)** — In die-rock-turned-deejay James Murphy finds the sweet spot between disco and punk. He pays homage to the heyday of the anything-goes Mo'Wax and dance scenes in New York, circa 1980, but he's not particularly reverent about it. This bass-bombing, hip-shaking, cowbell-clanging, funk-mixes, sonic bite with self-deprecating fun, and is topped off by a bonus disc of Murphy's essential club hits.

• **Reba McEntire, "Reba 15" (MCA, two discs, \$19.98)** — For the country fan who thinks the voices of today's whippersnappers stars lack hurt and soul. McEntire's Nashville career stalled in the late '80s, but during her heyday in the big-hair '80s and early '90s, she ruled the female side of country with emotion-laden hits like "You Love" "Rumor Has It" and "Somebody Should Leave." They're here, along with 32 others.

• **"Lil' Kim, "The Naked Truth" (Atlantic/Queen, \$18.98)** — For the new school hip-hop head who longs for more of that juicy, sexy and sassy female lyrical empowerment. Brooklyn's powerhouse is more reflective on her latest project, a clear nod to her recent issues with the legal system. The prospect of spending a year and a day in prison apparently worked wonders: The sound is mature and relevant — less about secrets of sexuality and more about the hard knocks of life. And overcoming them.

• **Diana Krall, "Christmas Songs" (Verve, \$18.98)** — Krall follows up her 1998 Christmas EP, revisiting "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" and other standards in the company of the swaying Clayton-Hamilton jazz Orchestra (on seven

Now playing

TWIN FALLS

- Twin Cinema**
 "Chicken Little"
 "Cheaper by the Dozen 2"
 "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe"
 "Fun with Dick and Jane"
 "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire"
 "King Kong"
 "Memoirs of a Geisha"
 "The Ring"
 "Wallace and Gromit"
 "Yours, Mine and Ours"

Odeyssey Theater

- "Dinosaur"
 "The Family Stone"
 "Jerhead"
 "Just Friends"
 "Pride & Prejudice"
 "Walk the Line"

Lamphouse Theatre

- "Anubis"
 "2046"

The Ophelias

- "Syriana"

HAILEY/KETCHUM

Magic Lanterns

- "The Family Stone"
 "King Kong"
 "Memoirs of a Geisha"
 "Rumor Has It"

Big World Cinema

- "Cheaper by the Dozen 2"
 "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe"
 "Rumor Has It"
 "Syriana"

Old Time Cinema

- "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe"
 "Fun With Dick and Jane"

BURLEY

Century Cinema

- "Cheaper by the Dozen 2"
 "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe"
 "Fun with Dick and Jane"
 "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire"

Burley Theater

- "Dinosaur"

JEROME

Jerome Cinema

- "Cheaper by the Dozen 2"
 "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe"
 "Fun with Dick and Jane"
 "King Kong"

'MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA'



Photo courtesy of Columbia Pictures

Ziyi Zhang, above left and below, meets her Prince Charming, played by Ken Watanbe, in 'Memoirs of a Geisha.'

A fantasy tale of beauty and elegance

BY GLENN WHIPP
 Los Angeles Daily News

"Memoirs of a Geisha" has taken flak in some circles for its casting of three Chinese actresses in the roles of Japanese geishas, but given that the material is essentially a Cinderella story writ large, the last thing required here is dutiful realism. Unless, of course, the filmmakers think they're telling — to quote the press notes — "an intoxicating and riveting story of a hidden world." Then you might want to mix in something that feels remotely authentic.

As directed by "Chicago" helmer Rob Marshall, "Memoirs" brandishes old-school razzle-dazzle at the expense of subtlety and contemplation, coating his sound stage sets in delicately applied layers of cherry blossoms and snowflakes. For good and bad, the film has the feel of an old-fashioned studio epic, full of sumptuous eye candy, window dressing and Western ideas

Memoirs of a Geisha

Starring: Ziyi Zhang, Michelle Yeoh, Gong Li

Rated: PG-13, mature subject matter, some sexual content

Starts this week at:

- Twin Cinema
- Magic Lanterns of Ketchum

about Eastern elegance. It's a fantasy through and through, about as exotic as a boat trip through "It's a Small World" at Disneyland.

When Marshall really has his magic wand working, the movie works. The presence of Michelle Yeoh, Gong Li and Ziyi Zhang certainly keeps the film watchable even through the lifeless patches that dot its 144-minute running time. But even the casting is problematic since the charismatic Zhang has problems with her dialogue (this is essentially her first English-language movie) and is miscast in the pas-



sive Cinderella role.

"Memoirs" follows the story of Sayuri (Zhang), one of two sisters from a poverty-stricken family sent to Kyoto to work as a servant in a geisha house. The film's first 40 minutes follows the young girl (Suzuka Ohno) as she continually runs afoul of haughty geisha Hatsumomo (Gong Li), playing the evil stepmother) and the house's gruff proprietor Mother (Kaori Momoi, the evil stepmother).

The film then jumps to its 1930s middle section where the 15-year-old Sayuri meets her

Prince Charming (Ken Watanabe) and finds her fairy godmother in the person of Mameha (Yeoh), the most celebrated geisha in Japan. Mameha takes Sayuri under her wing, sparking major cat-fight theatrics between Sayuri and Hatsumomo. For Marshall, it's Roxie vs. Velma, all over again, but this time with fans and silk gowns. Not surprisingly, it's the one part of the movie that feels most alive.

But there's still the onset of World War II, the erosion of the geisha world (the movie never quite explains why it's a loss to be mourned) and the movie's Glass Slipper Moment. Marshall and screenwriter Robin Swicord (one of many charged with whitening Arthur Golden's novel down to a bearable length) dutifully deliver the fantasy, perfectly pitched, though obviously palatable, given that our princess met and began fantasizing about her middle-aged Charming at the tender age of 15.

How can You be found,
When No One Knows Your Missing



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PG Starts Sunday at the Odyssey

All
Seats
\$1.00



Wallace & Gromit
THE CURSE OF THE WERE-RABBIT
G
Now at the Twin Cinema



Now in IMAX® on "The Love of the Earth"

KING KONG

PG-13
KUMU WATTS JACK BLACK ANGELO BERRY

Now Showing 3 Prints at
the Twin & 1 Print at Jerome Cinema

Full Matinees Begin!

December 22 to January 2
Twin Cinema, Odyssey &
Jerome Cinema

Jerome Cinema

Odyssey & Theatre

Kurt Russell Dakota Fanning
Dreamer (PG) Wed 7:30 - 9:45
Thurs-Fri 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

Pride and the Prejudice
(PG) Wed 7:00 - 9:45
Thurs - Fri 1:00 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:35

Welcome to the Suck Jarhead (R)
Wed 7:00 - 9:45 Ends Dec 24th
Thurs - Fri 12:45 - 3:45 - 7:00 - 9:45

Can You Make the Cut SAW 2 (R)
Wed 7:30 - 9:45 Ends Dec 27
Thurs 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

Johnny Can Spin Walk the Line (13)
Wed 7:00 - 9:35
Thurs 1:00 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:35

The Family Stone (13)
Wed 7:15 - 9:30
Thurs-Fri 12:30 - 2:45 - 5:00 - 7:15 - 9:30

Twin 18 Cinema

Fun with Dick and Jane (13)
Wed 7:30 - 9:45
Thurs - Fri 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

Showing in 2 Theaters on Digital Sound

Chronicles of Namia:
The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe
(PG) Wed 6:45 - 7:45 - 9:30
Thurs - Fri 12:30 - 12:45 - 3:45 - 4:30
4:45 - 7:45 - 9:30

The Legend of Zorro (PG)
Ends Thurs - Wed 8:45 - 9:30
Thursday 12:30 - 3:45 - 6:45 - 9:30

Walt Disney's Chicken Little (G)
Wed 7:00 - 9:15
Thurs-Fri 12:15 - 2:30 - 4:45 - 7:00 - 9:15

Showing in DTS Digital Sound
(13) Wed 7:15
Thurs - Fri 12:00 - 3:30 - 7:15

Yours, Mine and Ours (PG)
Thurs-Fri 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

Ryan Reynolds Amy Smart
Just Friends (13) Wed 7:30 - 9:45
Thursday 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

King Kong (13) in Digital Sound
King Kong Remastered 3 Prints
Wed 7:00 - 7:30 - 9:00
Thurs - Fri 12:00 - 3:00 - 5:00
7:00 - 7:30 - 9:00

Holiday Movie Special - All Seats \$1.00
Wallace and Gromit (G)
Thurs to Fri 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15

Cheaper by the Dozen 2
(PG) Wed 7:00 - 9:45
Thurs-Fri 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

Disney Family Fun



Now at the Twin Cinema

18 Kids, 1 House, NO WAY



Now at the Twin Cinema



The Perfect Last Minute Gift Solution
Interstate Amusement Cinema Cash -
At All Theatre Box Office

Difficult Times for Harry



Now at the Twin Cinema

Ryan Reynolds Amy Smart



Now at the Twin Cinema

Special 12:30-2:45 Matinee
with Johnny Knoxville



*****THE*****
RINGER
PG
Friday at the Twin Cinema

Feel the Love



Now at the Odyssey

Sarah Jessica Parker
Luke Wilson
Claire Danes
Diane Keaton

Same Big Family.....
Bigger Adventure



Now at the
Twin & Jerome Cinema

Jim Carrey Tea Leoni



Now at the
Twin & Jerome Cinema

"See Dick Run"

Fun with Dick and Jane (13)

Wed 7:30 - 9:45
Thurs - Fri 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

Showing in 2 Theaters on Digital Sound

Chronicles of Namia:
The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe
(PG) Wed 6:45 - 7:45 - 9:30
Thurs - Fri 12:30 - 12:45 - 3:45 - 4:30
4:45 - 7:45 - 9:30

The Legend of Zorro (PG)
Ends Thurs - Wed 8:45 - 9:30
Thursday 12:30 - 3:45 - 6:45 - 9:30

Walt Disney's Chicken Little (G)
Wed 7:00 - 9:15
Thurs-Fri 12:15 - 2:30 - 4:45 - 7:00 - 9:15

Showing in DTS Digital Sound
(13) Wed 7:15
Thurs - Fri 12:00 - 3:30 - 7:15

Yours, Mine and Ours (PG)
Thurs-Fri 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

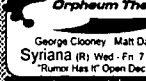
Ryan Reynolds Amy Smart
Just Friends (13) Wed 7:30 - 9:45
Thursday 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

King Kong (13) in Digital Sound
King Kong Remastered 3 Prints
Wed 7:00 - 7:30 - 9:00
Thurs - Fri 12:00 - 3:00 - 5:00
7:00 - 7:30 - 9:00

Holiday Movie Special - All Seats \$1.00
Wallace and Gromit (G)
Thurs to Fri 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15

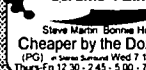
Cheaper by the Dozen 2
(PG) Wed 7:00 - 9:45
Thurs-Fri 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

Orpheum Theatre



George Clooney Matt Damon
Syriana (R) Wed - Fri 7:00 - 9:20
Rumor Has It Open Dec 25th

Jerome 4 Cinema



Steve Martin Bonnie Hunt
Cheaper by the Dozen 2
(PG) in Jerome Remastered Wed 7:15 - 9:15
Thurs-Fri 12:30 - 2:45 - 5:00 - 7:15 - 9:15

The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe
Chronicles of Namia (PG)
3 Shows Remastered Wed 6:45 - 9:30
Thurs - Fri 12:45 - 3:45 - 6:45 - 9:30

King Kong (13)
King Kong Remastered 3 Prints
Wed 7:00 - 7:30 - 9:00
Thurs - Fri 12:30 - 3:30 - 7:30

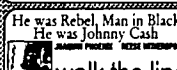
Fun with Dick and Jane
(PG) in Jerome Remastered Wed 7:15 - 9:15
Thurs - Fri 12:30 - 2:45 - 5:00 - 7:15 - 9:15

Based on a True Rumor
Kevin Costner Sissy Spacek
Jennifer Aniston



Rumor
has it...
Sunday at the Orpheum

He was Rebel, Man in Black
He was Johnny Cash



Now at the Odyssey

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for December 21 to 22, 2005

Beloved Masterpiece Comes Alive
THE CHRONICLES OF
NARNIA
THE LION, THE WITCH, & THE WARDROBE
Walt Disney Pictures



Now with 2 Prints at the Twin Cinema
and 1 Print at the Jerome Cinema

MEMOIRS
OF A
GEISHA
She was Changed into
something She Was Not



Starts Friday at the Twin Cinema

Movies

Movie nuggets

About the rating system

The ratings in these capsules are by Knight Rider News Service review, 4 stars: Excellent; 3 stars: Good; 2 stars: Fair; 1 star: Poor.



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Faulkner Planetarium

SHOW SCHEDULE

SEASON OF LIGHT
 Friday, Dec. 23rd ... 7:00 p.m.
 Saturday, Dec. 24th ... 7:00 p.m.
 Sunday, Dec. 25th ... 1:00 p.m.

SEALED THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS
 Friday, Dec. 23rd ... 8:15 p.m.
 Saturday, Dec. 24th ... 8:15 p.m.
 Sunday, Dec. 25th ... 1:00 p.m.
 Monday, Dec. 26th ... 1:00 p.m.

MYSTERIES FROM THE DEPTHS OF SPACE
 Friday, Dec. 23rd ... 1:00 & 4:00 p.m.

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• **"Cheaper by the Dozen 2"** No rating — Steve Martin and Bonnie Hunt are back as the Baker family's summer retreat at Lake Winuka heats up when they become embroiled in an intense rivalry with another large family. With Lilary Duff, Tom Welling, Piper Perabo, Eugene Levy and Carmen Electra. Written by Sam Harper. Directed by Adam Shankman. PG for some crude humor and mild language.

• **"Chicken Little"** *** — The first fully computer-animated feature from the Disney Studios is also the first in its animation history to feel entirely generic. A mishmash of conflicting visual elements with a silly "War of the Worlds" alien invasion plot, the film boasts the voices of Zach Braff and Ivan Casask and a cast of familiar faces. It's fun, except for signaling the end of great traditional ink-and-paint animation!

• **"The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe"** ***½ — The menagerie of mythological beasts in "Narnia" don't seem quite as quaintly, whimsically, or occasionally rare. That's not to say this "Wardrobe" isn't worth climbing into. Only that along with the dollpops of delight, a bit of disappointment awaits on the other side. PG (battle sequences and frightening moments)

• **"Dreamer"** *** — Dakota Fanning and Kurt Russell star in this charming girl-and-her-horse yarn, in which all sorts of odds, obstacles and busted relationships lead to a sweet ending. Elisabeth Shue, Kris Kristofferson, Freddy Rodriguez and a big, beautiful filly co-star. PG (adult themes, profanity)

• **"The Family Stone"** No rating — Bringing home his new uptight Manhattan fiancée for the holidays yields all sorts of problems for a favorite son and his boho New England family. Claire Danes, Diane Keaton, Rachel McAdams, Dermot Mulroney, Craig T. Nelson, Sarah Jessica Parker and Luke Wilson star.

• **"Fun With Dick and Jane"** No rating. — Jim Carrey and Tea Leoni star as a couple knocked down and almost up by a corporate scandal who turn to crime to regain what was theirs in this update of the 1977 George Segal-Jane Fonda romp. With Alec Baldwin, Richard Jenkins, Michael Arbus, Richard Burgin and Conrad Bachmann. Written by Judd Apatow and Nicholas Stoller. Directed by Dean Parisot ("Galaxy Quest"). PG-13 for brief

language, some sexual humor and occasional humorous drug references.

• **"Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire"** *** — This fourth film in the fantasy franchise is the most fun and most fraught with conflict, what with Our Hero battling both his nemesis Lord Voldemort and puberty. Mike Newell — the first Brit to helm the series — is the guy you want to escort it through Harry's awkward age. With the usual suspects: Ralph Fiennes as Voldemort; and Michael Gambon, replacing the late Richard Harris, as Dumbledore. Not recommended for those under 13. PG-13 (fantasy violence, suspense)

• **"Jarhead"** *** — Jake Gyllenhaal stars as Anthony Swofford, the real-life Marine whose memoir of his experiences in the first Gulf War makes for a sometimes ferocious combat pic. Same face is strong as the barking, belittling staff sergeant and director Sam Mendes delivers some moments of real glory, but the narrative falters towards the end (violence, profanity, adult themes)

• **"Junebug"** No rating — Chicago cosmopolitan Embeth Davidtz meets her husband's (Alessandro Nivola) quirky North Carolina family. A.

• **"Just Friends"** ***½ stars — In high school, Ryan Reynolds was a tubby loser with a giant crush on Sam Smart. Ten years later, he gets a second chance at love with his dream girl in this frothy but funny romantic comedy. PG-13 (sexual situations and references)

• **"King Kong"** ***½ — Peter Jackson ("Lord of the Rings") has reworked "King Kong," but not about the 5-foot blonde and the 50-foot gorilla who fall for each other, literally and figuratively, and it's a doozy. With Naomi Watts as Ann Darrow and Andy Serkis as the model for Kong. Facial and physical movements. 3 hrs. PG-13 (marauding dinosaurs, creepy creatures, violent deaths)

• **"Pride & Prejudice"** No rating — Joe Wright's fresh and spirited recount of the most frequently-filmed Jane Austen novel is the essential version. Starring the exuberant Keira Knightley as Lizzie and the implacable Matthew Macfadyen as Darcy. PG (mild adult themes)

• **"Rent"** ***½ — An intermittently affecting adaptation of Jonathan Larson's 1996 rock-salsa-gospel opera about starving artists on the Lower East Side. Standout performances by

Please see MOVIES, Page 19



Photo courtesy of Sony Pictures Classics
 Amy Adams plays Ashley, a down-home Carolinian who's the proud humanist heart of "Junebug."

Welcome to the rural world

BY AMY HOROWATZ
 The Washington Post

Junebug

Starring: Embeth Davidtz, Alessandro Nivola, Frank Hoyt Taylor
 Rating: R, for sexual content and profanity
 Plays this week at:
 • Lamphouse Theatre, Twin Falls

"Interesting" is one of those kiss-of-death compliments in the movie business. It's a code word that ranks right up there with "You've done it again" as a noncommittal way to avoid saying someone's film is an abject failure.

But "Junebug" is interesting — and in all the right ways. This deft, closely observed comic drama seems to have come out of nowhere, but in its own modest way manages to be one of the genuinely fresh discoveries of the summer, a little gem that deserves to become a big sleeper hit. Filmmakers left cold by the formulaic leftovers that are usually offered this time of year are urged to make their way quickly to "Junebug," its deceptively small scale belies an ambitious commitment to story, character and genuine, revelatory surprise.

A cautionary tale about the dangers of romantic stereotypes, "Junebug" never traffics in stereotypes itself, even while it unapologetically, even giddily, celebrates romance. It's that rare movie whose favorite moments seem to emanate from a human heart rather than a screenwriter's latest download from findradd.com.

Here, Embeth Davidtz plays Madeleine, an art dealer who travels from Chicago to North Carolina to wed a visionary painter named David Wark Taggart along to her new, younger husband, George (Alessandro Nivola), whose home town is just a half-hour's drive from the artist's house. The couple combines her scouting trip with a junket home to meet George's folks, who still haven't met her six months after the wedding.

"Junebug" chronicles Madeleine's dual efforts to seduce Wark

into signing with her gallery, as well as seduce George's mostly recalcitrant family. Neither job will be easy: Wark — played by Frank Hoyt Taylor — is given to extemporaneous outbursts during which he sermonizes on his unique cosmology, one that involves the Civil War, slaves, Jews and male genitalia. When Madeleine isn't commenting on how much she loves Wark's use of the scrotum in his imagery, she's back at George's family's house, where her husband has reverted to adolescent torpor, and where she must overcome his skeptical mother Peg (Celia Weston), his taciturn father Eugene (Scott Wilson) and his hostile brother, Johnny (Benjamin McKenzie). Indeed, Madeleine's only ally in what becomes a mildly disastrous first encounter is Johnny's pregnant wife, Ashley (Amy Adams), whose nonstop questions and immediate, passionate declarations of love for her new sister-in-law recall the breathlessly incoherent Frankie in "Member of the Wedding."

Among the many, many felicities in "Junebug," chief is Adams' radiant portrayal of Ashley, who at first looks like she might be the target of the filmmakers' ridicule but who soon becomes the movie's deeply humanist heart. (Has it a captivating breakout performance for Adams, "Catch Me if You Can" and "The Wedding Day.")

New on DVD

Synopses of films recently released for home viewing.

"The Brothers Grimm"

PG-13

Truth, according to the Mirror Queen (Monica Bellucci), a character living under a curse in Terry Gilliam's disappointing fairy-tale fantasia "The Brothers Grimm," is "much more terrible than fiction." In the case of Gilliam's heavily (and rather pointlessly) fictionalized story of real-life German folklorists brothers Wilhelm and Jakob Grimm, the exact opposite is true. Well, maybe not terrible so much as terminally silly.

More enchanted than enchanting, Gilliam's movie (scripted by Ehren "The Skeleton Key" Kruger) remagnifies the brothers, reformed to ever so contemporarily as Jake and Will, as a pair of itinerant, "Van Helsing"-style ghostbusters. Think of them as "Team Grimm," in use the words of the scarily charming Will (Matt Damon), who, along with his bookish sibling (Heath Ledger), makes a living gulling superstitious, early 19th-century European townsfolk out of their money by exercising their barbs of spirits, demons, witches and the like. With a background more in theater and the tricks of stagecraft than in the actual breaking of magic spells — which Will doesn't even believe in, but the more credulous lake does — the pair come in for a shock when they are recruited by a general of the occupying French army (Jonathan Pryce, channeling Peter Sellers' Jacques Coucou) to lead someone, at one thing, they have been haunting the forests of Marsbaden.

When it turns out that whatever he has been abducting the children in the village is, in fact, supernatural, and not some charlatan using smoke and mirrors like the Grimms, things get interesting. Or at least they could, if Gilliam and Kruger only knew what they were doing. Borrowing liberally from such footnotes to the frightiest canon as "Exorcist: The Beginning," "An American Werewolf in London" and "Ghostbusters," the filmmakers can't ever seem to make up their minds whether they want us to laugh or to be scared (though, truth be told, it's probably both).

As a result, we end up not doing a whole heck of a lot of either, as when one manifestation of the town's resident evil "Vampire Slayer" and "Angel" — a pop culture ringmaster whose bullwhip dialogue, flamboyant characters and narrative genius can make an exhilarating three-ring show out of anything.



Photo courtesy of MGM

Heath Ledger and Matt Damon do a Monty Pythonesque turn in 'The Brothers Grimm.'

"Serenity"

PG-13

In loss-Whedon's "Serenity," set 500 years in the future, Capt. Malcolm "Mal" Reynolds (Nathan Fillion) and his mercenary crew ride a rust-bucket spaceship, the Serenity, custom-built for rapid getaways. These contraband wheel-dealers are ready for rough riding, wearing cowboy boots, six-gun holsters and bandoliers. Half a millennium after Neil Armstrong's one small step for mankind and we're back in the saddle again? Not surprising. Mal and company have their enemies. There are the Alliance gons, soldiers of the Big Brotherly Federation that rules the solar system. They've been hunting Mal and his rebel-yellers ever since the civil war — which Mal's side lost.

Fans of "Firefly," the fabulous TV show that spawned this movie, mourned when the 2002 series was canceled after only 12 weeks. But in the kabuki of fan power, their enthusiastic snapping up of the show's DVD's prompted Universal to pony up \$50 million for the big-screen version. They'll be thrilled at this reunion of endearing rogues.

It should be stressed right away, "Serenity" isn't just for the "Firefly" set. Writer-director Whedon — who meteor-show-erred Planet Earth with "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" and "Angel" — is a pop culture ringmaster whose bullwhip dialogue, flamboyant characters and narrative genius can make an exhilarating three-ring show out of anything.

90-pound time bomb with kung fu skills. In her bouts of manic wigglems, she doesn't always differentiate between friend and foe.

"She's starting to damage my calm," says Jayne, after suffering a liver special in his necker regions.

"Serenity" may be little more than an ultra-sophisticated chase movie, with a big show-down at the communications pad of Mr. Universe (David Krumholtz), who functions as a sort of Hitchie Rich with his all-muscle-assessment. But the real joy comes from the dysfunctional rebel family, whether it's the seething tension between Mal and love interest Inara Serra (Morena Baccarin), the ships' courtship, who plots her trade to passengers, much to Mal's chagrin; or the dime-novelly language of Jayne as he says of the brothers: "Eating people alive — where does that get you?"

"Four Brothers"

R

A Russian general once declared that the way his army cleared minefields was to march through them. It's as if he changed his career choice and went to Hollywood and ended up directing "Four Brothers," which shows that same crazed, relentless march and damn-the-consequences theory of operation.

The movie — directed, in fact, by John Singleton, not Marshall Zhukov — is loud, stupid, unrealistic, overdone, without a thought in its ugly little head and kind of enjoyable. Basically, it's just an urban revenge melodrama full of heinous murders and righteous vengeance-takings without a

thought to plausibility. Its two best performances turn out to be at the end, not the beginning.

As for the nominal heroes, played by Mark Wahlberg, Tyrese Gibson, Andre Benjamin (lyse of the enormously popular hip-hop duo The Roots) and Garrett Hedlund, it could be said that they are serviceable without any danger of distinction. Any four guys picked off by a bus could have done just as well. The two stunning performances in "Four Brothers" come from Terrence Dashon Howard, who's just broken out in "Thelma & Louise," as a cop, and the great Nigerian actor Chiwetel Ejiofor — brilliant in "Dirty Pretty Things" — as the really scary villain. The two of them — ach, what are all those lovers doing between them? — are believable without being overbearing, commanding without being loud, authentic without showing off too much research. Men in the snow. Make a movie starring these guys on opposite sides and baby, you had something special.

The movie begins with the murder of Ma Mercer, a kind of community activist/gadfly type "played" by Fionnula Flanagan, who happens to be in a Detroit convenience market when some bad boys take it down. She goes down with it.

Her four adopted sons went justice. The defining characteristic seems to be that all are stupid. Wahlberg's Bobby the stupidest of all. If he's not yelling, he's barking, and if he's not barking, he's shooting or punching. A subplot briefly puts one of them — Andre Benjamin's Jeremiah — under suspicion, but if he were the bad guy, why would the movie be called "Four Brothers"?



Photo courtesy of Universal Pictures

Tyrese Gibson, Garrett Hedlund, Mark Wahlberg and Andre Benjamin ain't takin' no for an answer in 'Four Brothers.'

KARAOKE CORNER

THURSDAY

Twin Falls

P & D Karaoke will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Montana Steak House. No cover charge. Montana Steak House is located at 1826 Canyon Crest Drive.

Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Kruezer's Night Life. Doors open at 7 p.m. No cover charge. Kruezer's is located at 121 Fourth Ave. S.

Karaoke with Lone Star Entertainment will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at the Pioneer Club. No cover charge. The Pioneer Club is located at 1519 Kimberly Road.

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Klover Klub Lounge. No cover charge. The Klover Klub is located at 402 Main N.

Jerome

Rock Star Karaoke competition with a DJ will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Mr. Bill's. Cash awards. Fee to enter the karaoke contest is \$10. No cover charge. Mr. Bill's is located at 101 N. Alder.

Burley

Kroakers Karaoke with Daniel Krueger will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Riverside. No cover charge. The Riverside is located at 197 W. Highway 30.

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to midnight at the 610 Club. The 610 Club is located at 1054 Overland Ave.

FRIDAY

Twin Falls

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Klover Klub Lounge. No cover charge. The Klover Klub is located at 402 Main N.

Karaoke with Lone Star Entertainment will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Pioneer Club. No cover charge. The Pioneer Club is located at 1519 Kimberly Road.

Buhl

Karaoke will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at Garibaldi's. No cover charge. Garibaldi's is located at 113 Broadway Ave. S.

Rupert

Kroakers Karaoke with Daniel Krueger will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Melody Bar, 502

SIXTH ST.

High Mountain Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Blue Room. No cover charge. The Blue Room is located at 613 Fremont Ave.

Burley

Miller Time Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Blues. No cover charge. Cheers is located at 163 West U.S. Highway 30.

SATURDAY

Twin Falls

Karaoke with Lone Star Entertainment will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Pioneer Club. No cover charge. The Pioneer Club is located at 1519 Kimberly Road. Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Klover Klub Lounge. No cover charge. The Klover Klub is located at 402 Main N.

Burley

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to midnight at the 610 Club. The 610 Club is located at 1054 Overland Ave.

Kroakers Karaoke with Daniel Krueger will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Riverside. No cover charge. The Riverside is located at 197 W. Highway 30.

Jerome

Rock Star Karaoke competition with a DJ will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Mr. Bill's. Cash awards. Fee to enter the karaoke contest is \$10. A draft tournament also will be held. No cover charge. Mr. Bill's is located at 101 N. Alder.

SUNDAY

Twin Falls

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Klover Klub Lounge. No cover charge. The Klover Klub is located at 402 Main N.

MONDAY

Twin Falls

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Klover Klub Lounge. No cover charge. The Klover Klub is located at 402 Main N.

Burley

Kroakers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Melody Bar, 502

Sound bites: RECENT CD RELEASES

Garth Brooks The Limited Series

(Wal-Mart)

For a retiree, Garth Brooks sure seems to be working a lot. He's starting in Wal-Mart commercials and climbing the Billboard country charts with a new hit single. And there he was performing in New York's Times Square for the Country Music Association awards show earlier this month, appearing to relish every minute in the spotlight.

Now the impetus for his efforts is finally out: The Limited Series, a six-disc box set available only at Wal-Mart and Sam's Club under an exclusive marketing deal. It's primarily a repackaging of older albums and videos with a little new content and a really nice souvenir booklet of photos and lyrics, but you can't beat the \$25 price.

The buzz around the set centers on a disc titled simply "The Sessions," an 11-track production consisting mostly of songs previously recorded but never released. The first single from the album — No. 5 on the country charts this week — is "Good Ride Cowboy," a tribute to singer and rodeo rider Chris LeDoux, who died of cancer this year. Brooks was a huge fan; he also mentions LeDoux in the lyrics of an earlier hit, "Much Too Young to Feel This Damn Old." It's a fun song with a great chorus, and Brooks really puts his heart into it, making it a treat even for people who've never heard of LeDoux.

The text of "The Sessions" covers a broad territory from



Garth Brooks — only semi-retired.

broken hearts to world peace. Overall, the album has more of a country sound than Brooks' last albums (the quit making them four years ago).

At the top of my list is a terrific drinking song, "Please Operator (Could You Trace This Call)," about a guy drowning his sorrows after his girlfriend leaves him. It just begs for a sing-along. "Please operator could you trace this call. Find out where I'm drinking, which dirty beer hall, and send a cab driver to call for me here."

Switching gears, Brooks tugs at the heartstrings with a beautiful ballad of lost love (see the steel guitars), "For a Minute There." The angelic Alison Krauss provides background vocals. Another notable track is "That Girl is a Cowboy," a tribute to a woman who can ride and rope with the boys.

The album also includes a couple of fun covers, Brooks' versions of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band's "Fixin' in the Dark" and

Tracy English's "My Baby No Esta Aqui." Though the Dirt Band classic needs no improvement, Brooks makes it his own with a thumping beat and crickets on background vocals.

The only total dud on the album is American Dream, which will have listeners wondering what happened to the rest of the song.

Finacee Trisha Yearwood sings backup vocals on four of the songs. Martina McBride, who once sold "Fishtail" at Brooks concerts, contributed to one track, although her voice isn't featured.

The older albums that are part of the Wal-Mart set are "Scarecrow," "Sevens" and the two-disc "Double Live." "Scarecrow's" offerings include a rollicking "Beer Run" and "Squeeze Me In," a duet with Yearwood. "Sevens" has two great drinking songs, "Long-neck Bottle" and "Two Pina Colodas."

— St. Petersburg Times



'Dreaming Wide Awake'

Dreamy is the best way to describe Lizz Wright's new album.

Read more on page 19.

Clint Black "Drinking Songs & Other Logic"

(Only \$17.98)

Just when you thought it would never happen again, Clint Black goes and makes another good album.

To be sure, this is no "Killin' Time," the singer's instant-classic 1989 debut, but it's far superior to his disappointing work of the last dozen years.

With just one misfire (the silly "Undercover Cowboy"), Black gets back to honky-tonk basics with a set of focused, catchy songs that flow as easily as the booze while addressing issues

in the barroom and beyond.

— Knight Rider News Service

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TRUE TO SELF

Fall Out Boy takes pop route to rock's success

NEW YORK (AP) — Fall Out Boy had every intention of following in the footsteps of the aggressive, ear-splitting rock bands that they grew up listening to.

Really they did. But a funny thing happened along the way — the more hard-core they tried to be, the more they realized it didn't fit their vibe.

"When you're playing hard-core music and you're screaming every night, it just grates on your ears, and at some point, the grass is always greener. You want to be doing something different," explains Pete Wentz, the 26-year-old bassist and lyricist for the Chicago-based quartet.

While they didn't switch to 'N Sync mode, Fall Out Boy did infuse their music with a pop sensibility. The result is a melodic pop-punk and rock mixture that has helped turn Fall Out Boy into the breakout band of the year.

"At a time when a lot of artists and bands sound alike, when you listen to their album, you feel like your feeling and hearing something a little bit different," says Rob Weiss, head of entertainment at the music network Fuse. "They are kind of special."

A lot of people agree. Fall Out Boy has sold more than one million copies of the album "From Under the Cork Tree," released earlier this year, and the band's clever but weird video for "Sugar We Got Down" — which may or might best be described as a cross-stroked lovers story involving antlers — was one of the year's most popular, helping Fall Out Boy nab a Grammy at the MTV Awards. Last week, Fall Out Boy was nominated for a Grammy for best new artist, and the band plans to close out 2005 by performing at MTV's New Year's Eve bash.

The group (comprised of Wentz, 21-year-old lead singer and melody maker, Patrick Stump; guitarist Joe Trohman, 21; and drummer Andy Hurley, 24) got its start performing about five years ago. At the start, they tried to emulate the groups that influenced them.

"(We) listened to the Descendents, and Lifetime and bands like that and we wanted to play in a band like that," says Wentz. Before adding with a laugh, "We were really bad."

"It was not worldly and it was not some like, lucrative decision," Wentz continues. "It was in a friend's basement with, like,



Photo courtesy of Island Def Jam

Members of the band Fall Out Boy, from left, are Joe Trohman, Patrick Stump, Andy Hurley and Pete Wentz.

really bad equipment, really bad songs and really bad knowledge to write a song."

Stump describes their early performances at local venues as "exclusively for our own enjoyment."

"And then people started showing up at shows, and we were like, 'Oh... all right.'"

Back then, what people would have heard at early Fall Out Boy shows was a punk band trying to fit into the Chicago hard-rock scene, which Stump remembers as violent, homophobic, racist and just plain "horrible."

"We wanted out of it. It was the most negative thing in the world," Stump says.

"It's just not cool when people are on stage and yelling 'faggot' and stuff like that and making people feel uncomfortable," adds Wentz.

In leaving the hard-core scene, Fall Out Boy was forced to develop its own identity after searching for it in other people's music.

"I think you feel safe in your own skin. That's the thing," says Wentz of the group's evolution. "When you're sitting there and you're writing and you're trying to imitate these bands, like, eventually, you look in the mirror... and you say, 'O.K., it's all right to be Fall Out Boy and it's all right to sing these songs.'"

The band dropped the more aggressive rock stance for more pop fare, anchored by Stump's music: the emo-angle came from Wentz's pen, fueled by bitter breakups and other relationship drama.

"It's like a bunch of hard-core kids who decided they were going to write pop music," says Wentz.

The hard-core kids with the pop music sound were already developing a significant following, touring with other established acts and self-releasing their own EPs when they caught the ear of John Janick, president of the indie rock label Fueled by Ramen.

"I thought the name was weird, and I didn't think it was a very good name for a band but it caught my attention," chuckles Janick.

His misgivings about the band's name became a non-issue once he heard its music.

"Immediately, I thought the band was awesome," says Janick, who praised Stump's vocals and musicianship as well as Wentz's lyric skills.

Their debut album on Ramen, "Take This to Your Grave," was released in 2003. It sold slowly at first, but eventually sold an estimated 200,000 copies, according to the label. As their popularity grew, Island Def Jam took notice; eventually Island and Fueled by Ramen began working together to grow the band and entered a partnership to release their next set on Island this year.

Steve Bartels, Island's president and COO, describes the band as incredibly diverse with an exceptionally strong fan base that continues to grow.

KARAOKE CORNER

continued from page 8

from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Rendezvous Lounge. No cover charge. The Rendezvous Lounge is located at 109 E. Main St.

TUESDAY

Twin Falls

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Klover Klub Lounge. No cover charge. The Klover Klub is located at 402 Main N.

Jerome

Rock Star Karaoke competition with a DJ will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Mr. Bill's. Cash awards. Fee to enter the karaoke contest is \$10. No cover charge. Mr. Bill's is located at 101 N. Alder.

Paul

Kroakers Karaoke, with Daniel Krieger will be featured from 9 a.m. to 1 a.m. at the Stampede Bar and Grill. Line dancing will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. No cover charge. The Stampede Bar and Grill is located at 118 E. Idaho St.

WEDNESDAY

Twin Falls

P & D Karaoke will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Montana Steak House. No cover charge. Montana Steak House is located at 1826 Canyon Crest Drive.

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Klover Klub Lounge. No cover charge. The Klover Klub is located at 402 Main N.

Burley

Miller Time Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at George K's. No cover charge. George K's is located at 324 E. Third N.

Jerome

Rock Star Karaoke competition with a DJ will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Mr. Bill's. Cash awards. Fee to enter the karaoke contest is \$10. No cover charge. Mr. Bill's is located at 101 N. Alder.

Paul

Karaoke with Full Moon Music Madness will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Bruthrs. No cover charge. Bruthrs is located at 118 E. Idaho St.

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TAKING A BOW

CSI raises the curtain on its Fine Arts renovation

BY STEVE CRUMP
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — In the minutes of a Faculty Senate meeting at the College of Southern Idaho, theater instructor Tony Mannen asks then-president Gerald Meyerhoeffer for an update on plans to expand the campus Fine Arts Center. That was in April 1988.

"It's been a long wait," said Mannen, who has taught at CSI since 1975. The \$8 million expansion of the 37-year-old structure is in its finishing-touches stage. It includes four classrooms, five offices, a lecture hall, two sets of restrooms, a 340-seat theater, a common lobby, dressing rooms, a rehearsal room, a scene shop and tool room, a costume room and lots of storage space. The addition almost doubled the size of the building, which was one of the first two built on campus.

"It's beautiful," said Chris Bragg, chairman of the Fine Arts Department at CSI. "It's a pleasure to come to work in this building."

The Fine Arts renovation has been in the works since 1978 or 1979, and in 1994 the project was finally put on a special state list to get money for the construction. The Idaho Legislature finally approved \$4.3 million in state funding in 2001. Gov. Dirk Kempthorne signed the bill and that fall turned the first shovel of dirt on the project.

But then came recession and hold-backs in the state budget, and it wasn't until the last day of the 2003 legislative session that the project finally got the green light. Construction began that November and was originally scheduled to be completed by last spring. But various delays pushed it back to this fall.

The first major public event — a CSI theater production of "A Man for All Seasons" — is scheduled for the new portion of the complex in April.

Entering the Fine Arts Building, students and visitors are met by a spacious lobby that houses a grand staircase reminiscent of early theaters.

"When the architects put this in we didn't know how much it would cost," Mike Mason, CSI's vice president of finance, said in August. "But when everybody saw it, they decided that it was worth it."

The interior of the new auditorium has balcony-style theater seating with an 86-foot fly loft, which is the place where sets are lifted up and down above the stage to change scenes.

"Oh, I can see the community wanting to perform in the Fine Arts building when it's completed," Mason said. "And that's the way it should be."

"It will definitely bring more cultural events to the community." CSI President Jerry Beck said earlier this year.

"It's beautiful. It's a pleasure to come to work in this building."

— Chris Bragg, chairman of the Fine Arts Department at CSI.

The new-look building will change the way theater and forensics departments go about their day-to-day business.

"We've had three different sites of campus where we've built sets, simply because there was no place in the (Fine Arts) building to do it," Mannen said. "Then when you'd load the set in the back of the truck to bring it back to campus, it would start to rain."

State-of-the-art sound equipment will also be a boon.

"Up until now, we've borrowed (CSI theater instructor) Laine Steel's equipment," Mannen said. Bragg said the old theater auditorium, Room 119, will be transformed into a small recital hall for music students. Construction on that project could start within a few months, he said.

"I'm not sure yet when it will happen," said George Halsell, music professor at CSI.

David Mead, a retired banker who was a member of the original committee that raised money to build the Fine Arts Center — at first intended to be exclusively a community project — likes what he's seen of the new facility.

"We wanted to do some things like enclose the columns (at the front of the building), but we ran out of money," he said. "It's very nice."

Back in 1967-68, that committee raised \$550,000, and CSI offered to become a partner in the project. The 1,000-seat main Fine Arts auditorium has been a center of community cultural events ever since.

The main auditorium itself hasn't been changed in the building's remodeling, although the entrances have been improved, and event goers won't have to wait outside in the weather anymore.

"There's no question that auditorium has attracted events to Twin Falls that won't otherwise have come here," Mead said.

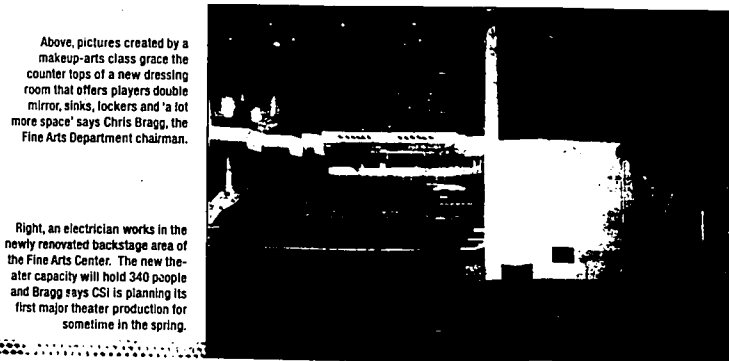
One of the earliest was a cattle show. Special ramps were built up the aisles to steer the animals on stage, where they were paraded around.

"I think that's the first event in the Fine Arts auditorium that (CSI founding president James) Taylor sat through to the end," Mead said.

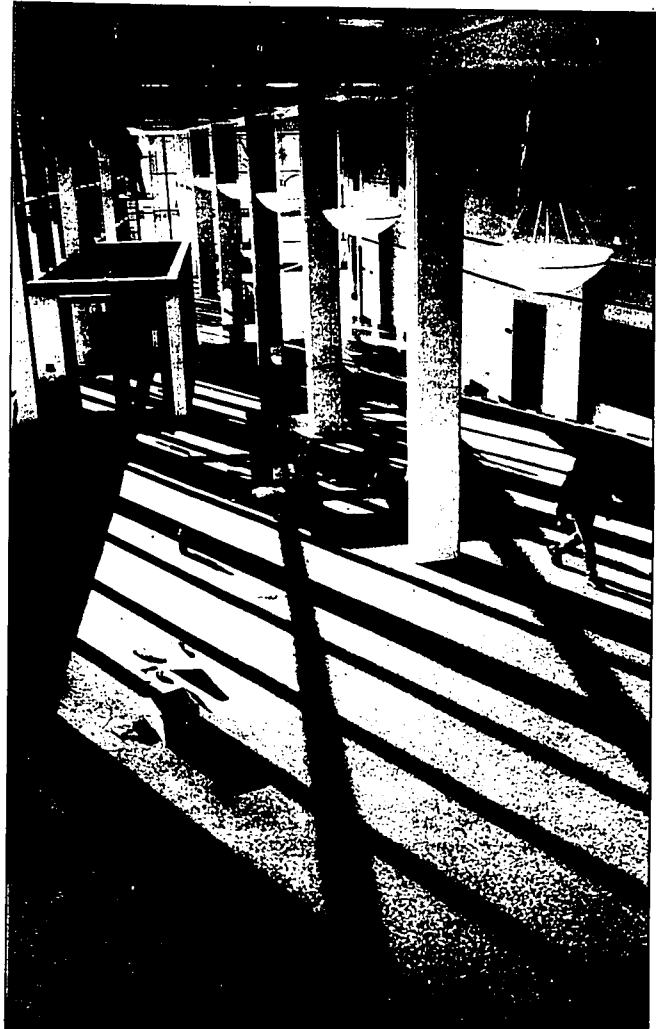
Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223, or write to him at scrump@magicvalley.com.



Photos by MEAGAN THOMPSON/The Times-News



Right, an electrician works in the newly renovated backstage area of the Fine Arts Center. The new theater capacity will hold 340 people and Bragg says CSI is planning its first major theater production for sometime in the spring.



Morning light spills through the windows, casting long shadows on the floor in the entrance to the newly renovated Fine Arts Center on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls. Workers were putting some finishing touches on the building that will be completed sometime in the next school semester.



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Food

HOMEMADE FOR THE HUNGRY

Eagles Nest serves a heapin' helpin'

BY KARMA METZLER FITZGERALD
Times News writer

DIETRICH—I don't drink much. No, really, just on occasion.

I was at the Eagles Nest with friends the other day and decided to order a drink. Robert Gaskill, the owner, makes 'em s.r.o.m. You really only need one — it will last a while.

But when I decided to order a drink, I wasn't expecting to have to spell it.

After repeating myself several times I suggested the waitress write down exactly what I said.

"G-I-N," I said, the server dutifully following my directions. My friend gave up after trying to spell "Baileys" — twice.

"It'll just have water," she said. That's the thing about the Eagles Nest. It's an experience.

Tucked away in tiny Dietrich in rural Lincoln County, it's also a destination worth visiting. You'll find yourself surrounded by hills from Boise, Sun Valley — even Rupert.

Time was you'd have to look for the menu written on a few pieces of poster board and tacked to the paneling. These days they've modernized. The paneling has been painted and they've invested in actual menus. I preferred the poster board, but I'm open to change.

There are only a handful of tables. All of them are set in tablecloths and placemats that will remind you of Mom's place. That is, all but one. There is a round table near the kitchen without a tablecloth. You sit there unless you're a local.

That means you've lived in Lincoln County and, in particular, Dietrich, for a long time. Your grandparents have to be buried in the cemetery before you're a local in Lincoln County.

No! don't get me wrong. The Eagles Nest is a friendly place. Welcoming. But, I sat at the round table once when all the other tables were full and felt very uncomfortable — and I've lived in Lincoln County for 10 years.

Meals are served family style. You order your main dish, but the sides are brought out in a serving bowl. Balls come with homemade jelly. Mashed potatoes and gravy are just like grandma's — nothing preserved or powdered. You'll get a heapin' helpin' of everything, including hospitality. My brother-in-law ordered the hamburger steak



Lunch fare at the Eagles Nest restaurant, like all meals at the Dietrich cafe, comes in abundant portions.

About the Eagles Nest

19 N. Main, Dietrich (To get there, take U.S. Highway 82 to Highway 24, turn east on Idaho Highway 24. Watch for the sign, but turn north again at the Millard Church and cross the railroad tracks.) *— Hamburger chicken sandwich, hamburger and fries, chicken-fried steak, served with homemade bread pudding dessert, \$6.95-\$18.95. Full bar. Hours: Tuesdays through Saturdays, 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun-*

one time. He's a big eater, mind you — he can wipe out a good sized meal in nothin' flat and still leave room for dessert. Except at the Eagles Nest: The hamburger steak and all the fixins' lasted him for three meals.

I'm not kidding. The specialty of the house is the chicken-fried steak. Unless you're famished, I'd recommend ordering the small size. The large steak will cover your plate and then some.

Each meal comes with a salad or soup, a side dish or two, rolls,

jam and the finale: bread pudding. Yep, that conglomeration of old bread, cinnamon, raisins and butter — all dolloped with whipped cream. The only bread pudding I like better is mine, but that may have something to do with the whiskey sauce I pour over it.

The Eagles Nest is a place I go to for all the important events in my life. Birthdays, Mother's Days, Easter's. If I'm not cooking, the Eagles Nest is. It's a place where I can usually run into a least two good friends, my children can run amok and no one cares — they're among family there. The jukebox is always on and it's possible a few folks will dance. Someone is always playing pool and/or darts and I don't feel like I have to put on a happy face to be there.

Heck, I rarely put on makeup to go out there.

These people have seen me at my best and my worst and they still let me in the door.

Now, I will warn you that the Eagles Nest is not for everyone. You will leave smelling like an ashtray because smoking is allowed. I don't mind it — the good food makes it worthwhile and I live near enough to get a change of clothes and a shower within the hour. Diners at the outer tables with have to dodge a pool cue here and there, but

TWIN FALLS

Jakora's, 1598 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. — Almost-crusted habibut, steaks, pastas, Singapore Swing entrees, \$9.99-\$29.99. Full bar. Hours: Mondays through Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, noon to 3:30 p.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Jake Jones, owner, 733-8400.

Johnny Carino's, 1921 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. — Soups and salads, spicy shrimp and chicken, pastas, and lasagna, \$5.99-\$13.99. Full bar. Hours: Sundays through Thursdays, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. First Up Inc., owner, 734-4833.

Kelly's, 110 Main Ave. W. — Quarter-round burgers, soup and salads, \$6.50-\$7.95. Hours: Mondays through Fridays, 7 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 7 a.m.-2 p.m.; closed Sundays. Kelly Howe, owner, 733-0466.

La Fiesta Mexican Restaurant, 1288 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. — Sizzling fajitas, cabat, steak and shrimp, \$2.95-\$13.95. Full bar. Hours: Sundays through Thursdays, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Cheb Estrada, owner, 734-0885.

Loony Hill Restaurant, 1719 Kimberly, Twin Falls — Pork ribs, Mandarin Chicken, Mongolian barbecue, hamburgers, \$5.95-\$9.95. Wine, beer. Hours: Daily, 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. Du Lux, owner, 733-3113.

Metropolitan Bakery Cafe, 125 Main Ave. E., Twin Falls — Chicken salad, sandwiches, chef and bagels salads, cheddar/potato omelet. All meals under \$6. Hours: Monday through Friday 8 a.m.-2 p.m., closed weekends. Richard McFarlane and Joni Redner, owners, 734-4437.

Molly's Bagel Bakery, 1239 Pole Line Road — Molly-to-go, espresso, bagged lunches with sandwich, chipt, cookie, and pop, \$2.75-\$8.15. Hours: Mondays through Fridays, 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 7

a.m.-5 p.m.; Sundays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Dana John, owner, 735-1118.

Montana Steak House, 1826 Canyon Dr. E., Twin Falls — Prime rib, steaks, seafood, barbecue baby back ribs, Chester fried chicken, soup and salad bar, early-bird specials, \$4.96-\$22.95. Full bar. Hours: Mondays through Saturdays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; Sundays buffet, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. 734-7476.

New China Buffet, 570 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. — Crab legs, salmon, sweet-and-sour chicken, pizza, \$5.99-\$8.99. Hours: Daily, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. 735-1225.

O Beans and a Burrito, 759 Cheney Dr. — Burritos, chicken chiptoe, carne asada, homemade tortillas, \$3.50-\$9.95. Beer. Hours: Mondays through Saturdays, 7:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Juan Nunez, owner, 736-3773.

Norm's Cafe, 803 Main Ave. W. — Jack & Jill burger with fries, Friday's baked-chicken with dressing special, homemade noodles, steak, seafood, \$3.50-\$12.95. Hours: Mondays through Fridays, 6 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturdays, 6 a.m.-3 p.m.; Sundays, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Tom and Vicki Collins, owners, 733-9735.

Outback Steakhouse, 1965 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. — Fresh seafood, steak house burgers, \$7.99-\$22.95. Hours: Monday through Saturdays, 4 p.m.-10 p.m.; Fridays, 4 p.m.-11 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 11 p.m.; Sundays, noon to 3 p.m. John Lockhart, owner, 733-4265.

Peking Restaurant, 824 Blue Lakes Blvd. N., Twin Falls — Cantonese/Chinese cuisine, spicy, wok-cooked specialties, burgers and ribs, children's menu, \$4.35-\$9.75. Wine, beer. Hours: Tuesdays through Thursdays, 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sundays, noon-8:30 p.m.; closed Mondays. Jerry Mei, owner, 733-4813.

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South-central Idaho dining guide

HAGERMAN

• **Larry & Mary's Cafe**, 141 State St. — Steak, prawns, chicken fried steak, country style breakfasts, \$7.99-\$17.99. Hours: Tuesdays through Saturdays, 5 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sundays, 5 a.m.-3 p.m.; closed Mondays. **Larry & Mary Goodwin**, owners. 837-6475.

HAZELTON

• **Sagebrush Landmark Cafe**, 325 Main — Char-broiled burgers, prime rib, fish and chips, \$3.85-\$16.95. Full bar. Hours: Mondays through Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.-1 a.m.; closed Sundays. **Karen Lay**, owner. 829-5308.

HEYBURN

• **Connor's Cafe**, Exit 208 off Interstate 84 and Idaho Highway 27 — Turkey with homemade dressing, liver and onions, grilled trout, chicken-fried steak, \$3.75-\$14.95. Hours: Open daily, 5:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m. **Kelly Worthington**, **Connie Paslay** and **Karen Feltzer**, owners. 679-9367.

KETCHUM

• **Apple's Bar & Grill**, 215 Picabo St. — Rotating specialties, burgers, soups, salads. Wine, beer. Hours: Mondays through Saturdays, 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; closed Sundays. **Hank Knorr**, owner. 726-7067.

• **Baci Italian Cafe**, Trail Creek Village, 200 S. Main — Alaskan halibut, pork tenderloin, pasta with mushrooms, \$11.95-\$22.95. Wine, beer. Hours: Daily 5:30 a.m.-10 p.m. **Rex Chandler**, owner. 726-8384.

• **Chandler's Restaurant**, 200 S. Main, Ketchum — Black Canyon elk, Hawaii ali lunu, Yankee pot roast,

SHOSHONE

• **Manhattan Cafe**, 133 So. Rail — Burgers, chicken-fried steak, prime rib specials, steak, \$3.95-\$10.25. Hours: Sundays through Thursdays, 5 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 6 a.m.-10:30 p.m. **George and Betty Wyatt**, owners. 886-2142.

• **New China Town**, 222 N. Rail — Family-style dining, Mandarin chicken, stir-fry, fried rice, \$2.50-\$9.75. Hours: Daily, 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. **Jing Wu**, owner. 886-7169.

• **Riley Creek Restaurant**, 171 State St. — New York/rib-eye steak, finger steaks, shrimp, fresh salads, \$5.95-\$20.95. Full bar. Hours: Mondays through Fridays, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays, 7 a.m.-10 p.m. **Tammy and Dennis Hopper**, owner. 837-4333.

JACKPOT

• **Canyon Cove**, Cactus Petes Resort Casino — Buffet featuring Italian, Mexican, American and Chinese cuisine, oysters on the half shell and crab claws. Friday night seafood feast. Breakfast: Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., \$9.99. Brunch: Sunday, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., \$12.99. Dinner: Monday through Thursday, 5-9:30 p.m., \$9.99. Friday and Saturday, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., \$14.99 per person. Sunday, 5-9:30 p.m., \$9.99.

• **Desert Room**, Cactus Petes Resort Casino — Home-style pot roast, chicken-fried steak and gravy, sandwiches and salads, honey-rasted turkey melt. \$6.29-\$17.99. Hours: Open 24/7.

• **Pancho Villas**, The Horseshoe

HAILEY

• **KB's South**, 121 N. Main — New breakfast burritos, tacos, fish, \$6.25-\$8.75. Wine, beer. Hours: Mondays through Saturdays, 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. **Brian Kleissen**, owner. 768-7217.

• **Red Elephant Saloon**, 107 S. Main

Hotel — Specializing in Mexican favorites, breakfast, lunch and dinner, \$6.99-\$17.99. Hours: Sundays through Thursdays, 7 a.m.-11 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 7 a.m. to midnight.

• **Pizza Hut**, Cactus Petes Resort Casino — Serving all of Pizza Hut's menu items. Hours: Sundays through Thursdays, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

• **Platahuo Room**, Cactus Petes Resort Casino — Seafood, wide variety of Continental cuisine, Angus steaks, Chicken Oscar, Filet mignon, lobster. \$18.99-\$41.99. Full bar. Hours: Wednesdays through Sundays, 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; closed Mondays and Tuesdays.

2744.

• **Panda Chinese Restaurant**, 515 North Ave. — General's chicken, fried rice, mixed vegetable deluge, Wine, beer. Hours: Mondays through Fridays, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., and 5 p.m.-10 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays, 5 p.m.-10 p.m. **Juliana Tsai**, owner. 726-3591.

• **Warm Springs Ranch Restaurant**, one mile out Warm Springs Road. — Steak, seafood, ribs, \$3-\$24. Full bar. Hours: Daily, 5:30 p.m.-10 p.m. **Don Rupp**, manager. 726-2609.

and manager. 734-1167.

• **Deport Grill**, 545 Shoshone St. S. — Country sausage, burgers, hot open-faced beef/pork sandwiches, seafood, steak, \$4-\$14. Hours: Mondays through Saturdays, 24 hours; Sundays, 6 a.m.-9 p.m. **Steve and Tim Soran**, owners. 733-0710.

• **Gertie's Brick Oven Cookery**, 602 Second Ave. S. — All-you-can-eat pizza, salad bar and select sandwiches. \$3.25-\$5.25. Wine, beer. Hours:

— Pork tenderloin, prime rib, lumberjack pasta. Full bar. Hours: Daily, 5 p.m.-11 p.m. **Pat Carozza**, owner. 768-6047.

• **Viva Tacos**, 411 N. Main — Pork carnitas, burritos, fish tacos, \$5-\$15. Full bar. Hours: Mondays through Saturdays, 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m.; closed

Sundays. **Rob Cronin** and **Brendan Benhoney**, owners. 788-3697.

• **The Wicked Spud**, 305 N. Main — Teriyaki chicken, hamburgers, pastas with cheese, \$4.45-\$7.95. Hours: Daily, 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. **Mike Bronza**, owner. 788-0009.

JEROME

• **Choate's Family Diner**, 400 W. Main — Fish and chips, chicken-fried steak, fantal shrimp, \$5.19-\$7.39. Hours: Mondays through Saturdays, 7 a.m.-3 p.m.; closed Sundays. **Ron and Sandy Choate**, owners. 324-4642

• **Dino's Burger & Brew**, three miles north of junction of U.S. Highway 93 and Idaho Highway 25 — Chef salad, chili, burgers, clam chowder, \$5.50-\$8.25. Wine, beer. Hours: Mondays through Saturdays, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; closed Sundays. **Randy Bryant**, owner. 324-6591.

• **El Sombrero Restaurant**, 153 W. Main — Tacos, fajitas, enchiladas and all American dishes. \$4.75-\$10.95. Hours: Tuesdays through

Thursdays, 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; closed Mondays. **Rosa Pail**, owner. 324-7238.

• **The Double A Cafe**, 200 W. First St. — Steak, shrimp, prime rib, \$4.75-\$14.95. Hours: Mondays through Saturdays, 5:30 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sundays, 5:30 a.m.-2 p.m. **Al Abbott**, owner. 324-2311.

• **T-Box Jerome Country Club**, 649 Golf Course Road — Clump shrimp, lobster, Swiss chicken, rib-eye steak, \$4.29-\$32.99. Full bar. Hours: Sundays through Tuesdays, 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Wednesdays through Saturdays, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. **Jay and Tennessee Holstine**, owners. 324-5081.

About the dining guide

Every week, TMT will publish a "rotating list" of restaurants in south-central Idaho, along with their hours, food specialties and price ranges. For reasons of space, not every restaurant will be listed every week, but they will be listed

on a regular basis.

If your restaurant is not listed and you would like to have it in the weekly dining guide, call Steve Crump at 735-3223 or e-mail him at scrump@magicalvillage.com. It's a free service.

PAUL

• **Becky Ann Cafe**, 323 E. Ellis — Country-style breakfasts, chicken-fried steak, fish platter, \$5.25-\$7.25. Hours: Mondays through Fri-

Sundays through Thursdays, 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. **Kevin Owings**, owner. 736-9110.

• **Hart's Cafe**, 835 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. — All day breakfasts, burgers, steaks and shakes, \$5.99-\$12.99. Hours: Sundays through Thursdays, 6 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 6 a.m.-11 p.m. 733-7007.

• **Idaho Joe's**, 598 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. — Burger/rye special, fish

days, 6 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturdays, 6 a.m.-11 a.m.; closed Sundays. **Gloria and Brent Robinson**, owners. 438-8185.

plate, steak, \$4.95-\$12.95. Wine, beer. Hours: Sundays through Thursdays, 6 a.m.-11 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 6 a.m. to midnight. **Joe Aguirre**, owner. 734-9403.

• **Jade Restaurant**, 611 Blue Lake Blvd. N. — Sade-ribe rice, Cantonese chicken, General's too chicken, Wine, beer. Hours: Mondays through Saturdays, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. **Tony Tse**, owner. 734-3100.

Events calendar

THURSDAY

Theater/Halley

Company of Foots will present Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman's comedy "The Man Who Came to Dinner" at 7 p.m. in the Liberty Theater. Tickets, which are \$25 for reserved seats and \$18 for students 18 and under and seniors 62 and over, are available at the theater box office from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, by phoning 578-9122, or at the door.

Comedy/Twin Falls

Comedy Night will be featured at 8 p.m. at the Oass. Show coverage is \$3. The Oass is located at 1007 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.

Variety/Twin Falls

DJ Night will be featured from 10 p.m. until closing at Phat Eddy's. No cover charge. Ages 21 and older. Phat Eddy's is located at 233 Fifth Ave. S.

Dance/Utah

Ballet West will dance Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker" at 7 p.m. in the Capitol Theater in Salt Lake City. Tickets, which are \$17, \$25, \$32, \$45, \$55 and \$65, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. The Capitol Theater is located at 50 West 200 South.

FRIDAY

Theater/Halley

Company of Foots will present Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman's comedy "The Man Who Came to Dinner" at 8 p.m. in the Liberty Theater. Tickets, which are \$25 for reserved seats and \$18 for students 18 and under and seniors 62 and over, are available at the theater box office from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, by phoning 578-9122, or at the door.

Variety/Twin Falls

Anderson Music Hall will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Oass. No cover charge. The Oass is located at 1007 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.

Variety/Twin Falls

DJ Kurt Kruezer will perform from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Kruezer's Night Live. Cover charge is \$3. Kruezer's is located at 121 Fourth Ave. S.

Variety/Twin Falls

Party Country will play coun-

try and '50s and '60s music from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at the Montana Steak House. No cover charge. Montana Steak House is located at 1826 Canyon Crest Drive.

Variety/Twin Falls

DJ Night will be featured from 10 p.m. until closing at Phat Eddy's. No cover charge. Ages 21 and older. Phat Eddy's is located at 233 Fifth Ave. S.

Country/Jerome

Country Classics will play from 8:30 p.m. to midnight at the Snake River Elk Lodge. Cover charge is \$5 per person or \$9 per couple. Everyone is welcome. Dinner also will be available from 6 to 9 p.m. The Snake River Elk Lodge is located at 412 E. 200 S. on Highway 93.

Country/Declo

The Fugitives will play from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Shakers. No cover charge. Shakers is located at 826 Highway 81.

Dance/Utah

Ballet West will dance Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker" at 2 and 7 p.m. in the Capitol Theater in Salt Lake City. Tickets, which are \$17, \$25, \$32, \$45, \$55 and \$65, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. The Capitol Theater is located at 50 West 200 South.

Planetarium/Twin Falls

The Faulkner Planetarium at the Herrett Center for Arts and Science on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho will present "Season of Light" at 7 p.m. and "Stearmrolling Through the Holidays" at 8:15 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$9 for families. Children under 4 are not admitted.

SATURDAY

Theater/Halley

Company of Foots will present Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman's comedy "The Man Who Came to Dinner" at 3 p.m. in the Liberty Theater. Tickets, which are \$25 for reserved seats and \$18 for students 18 and under and seniors 62 and over, are available at the theater box office from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, by phoning 578-9122, or at the door.

Dance/Utah

Ballet West will dance

Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker" at 3:30 p.m. in the Capitol Theater in Salt Lake City. Tickets, which are \$17, \$25, \$32, \$45, \$55 and \$65, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. The Capitol Theater is located at 50 West 200 South.

TUESDAY

Theater/Halley

Company of Foots will present Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman's comedy "The Man Who Came to Dinner" at 7 p.m. in the Liberty Theater. Tickets, which are \$25 for reserved seats and \$18 for students 18 and under and seniors 62 and over, are available at the theater box office from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, by phoning 578-9122, or at the door.

Planetarium/Twin Falls

The Faulkner Planetarium at the Herrett Center for Arts and Science on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho will present "Mysteries from the Depths of Space" at 1 and 3 p.m. and "Season of Light" at 7 p.m. and "Stearmrolling Through the Holidays" at 8:15 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$9 for families. Children under 4 are not admitted.

WEDNESDAY

Rock/Twin Falls

Rock/Twin will play at 8:30 p.m. at Kruezer's Night Live. Doors open at 8 p.m. Cover charge is \$3. Kruezer's is located at 121 Fourth Ave. S.

Theater/Halley

Company of Foots will present Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman's comedy "The Man Who Came to Dinner" at 7 p.m. in the Liberty Theater. Tickets, which are \$25 for reserved seats and \$18 for students 18 and under and seniors 62 and over, are available at the theater box office from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, by phoning 578-9122, or at the door.

Comedy/Burley

Comedy Night will be featured from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Lounge. Tickets are \$4 in advance or \$5 at the door. Kruezer's is located at 121 Fourth Ave. S.

Jazz/Twin Falls

Bob Nora Band will play

from 8 p.m. to midnight at The Oass. No cover charge. The Oass is located at 1007 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.

Planetarium/Twin Falls

The Faulkner Planetarium at the Herrett Center for Arts and Science on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho will present "Season of Light" at 7 p.m. and "Stearmrolling Through the Holidays" at 8:15 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$9 for families. Children under 4 are not admitted.

THURSDAY

Theater/Twin Falls

The Mad Hatter Theatre Company will present David McGilgray and Walter Zerin Jr.'s comedy "The Fardale Avenue Housing Estate Townsman's Guide Dramatic Society's Production of A Christmas Carol," 7:30 on DEC. 30-31 at the Black Current Theater for the Community. Tickets, which are \$15, are available at 7:30 a.m. and 8:15 a.m. and 7:30-9:15 a.m. at 734-ARTS or at the door. Black Current Theater is located at 157 Main Ave. E.

Theater/Twin Falls

The West End Theater Company will present Jeff Goodie's "The Eight Reindeer Monologues" at 7 p.m. in the Lamphouse Theatre. Tickets, which are \$10, are available at the door. The Lamphouse Theatre is located at 223 Fifth Ave. S.

Theater/Halley

Company of Foots will present Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman's comedy "The Man Who Came to Dinner" at 7 p.m. in the Liberty Theater. Tickets, which are \$25 for reserved seats and \$18 for students 18 and under and seniors 62 and over, are available at the theater box office from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, by phoning 578-9122, or at the door.

NEXT WEEKEND

Theater/Twin Falls

The West End Theater Company will present Jeff Goodie's "The Eight Reindeer Monologues" at 7 p.m. on DEC. 30 in the Lamphouse Theatre. Tickets, which are \$10, are available at the door. The Lamphouse Theatre is located at 223 Fifth Ave. S.

Theater/Halley

Company of Foots will present Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman's comedy "The Man Who Came to Dinner" at 7 p.m. on DEC. 30-31 in the Liberty Theater. Tickets, which are \$25 for reserved seats and \$18 for students 18 and under and seniors 62 and over, are available at the theater box office from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, by phoning 578-9122, or at the door.

Theater/Twin Falls

The Mad Hatter Theatre Company will present David McGilgray and Walter Zerin Jr.'s comedy "The Fardale Avenue Housing Estate Townsman's Guide Dramatic Society's Production of A Christmas Carol," 7:30 on DEC. 30-31 at the Black Current Theater for the Community. Tickets, which are \$15, are available at 7:30 a.m. and 8:15 a.m. and 7:30-9:15 a.m. at 734-ARTS or at the door. Black Current Theater is located at 157 Main Ave. E.

Rock/Boise

The Young Dubliners will play Whiskey Jacques in Ketchum at 10 p.m. on DEC. 30. Tickets are available at the door.

Disc/Jackpot

The Boogie Machine will perform from 10:15 p.m. to 2:45 a.m. on DEC. 31 in the Gala Showroom at Cactus Petes Resort Casino in Jackpot. It's free. There will be an open dance floor from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m.

Rock/Boise

The Young Dubliners will perform at the Big Easy Concert House at 8 p.m. on DEC. 31. Tickets, which are \$25, can be reserved by phoning (800) 965-4827, online at <http://www.bckweb.com>, or at Abusson's Markets in Halley and Ketchum. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Rock/Utah

Reel Big Fish and **Zabrahed** will play Club Ice in Salt Lake City at 7 p.m. on JAN. 10. Tickets, which are \$15, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tit at (800) 888-TDXX or online at <http://www.smittstx.com>. Club Ice is located at 108 South 500 West.

Country/Boise

Robert Earl Keen will play the Big Easy Concert House at 8 p.m. on JAN. 12. Tickets, which are \$25, can be reserved by phoning (800) 965-4827, online at <http://www.bckweb.com>, or at Abusson's Market in Halley and Ketchum. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

NEXT MONTH'S

Pop/Halley

Chad and Jeremy will perform in concert at 7:30 p.m. on JAN. 5 at the Liberty Theater, a fundraiser of Habitat for Humanity. Tickets, which are \$25, are available at Abusson's Markets in Halley, Gannett and Ketchum, 788-7864.

Country/Boise

Jerry Seinfeld will play the

Morison Center on the campus of Boise State University at 7 p.m. on JAN. 6. Tickets, which are \$46.50, \$51.50 and \$76.50, can be reserved by phoning Select A Seat at (208) 426-1164, online at <http://www.idahotickets.com>, or at Abusson's in Twin Falls.

Classical/Utah

Utah Symphony will perform Maurice Ravel's "Bolero" at 8 p.m. on JAN. 6-7 in Salt Lake City's Abravanel Hall. Tickets, which are \$12, \$22, \$28, \$38 and \$42, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. Abravanel Hall is located at 123 West South Temple.

Rock/Utah

Beautiful Creatures will play Dub Vegas in Salt Lake City at 9:30 p.m. on JAN. 7. Tickets, which are \$10, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tit at (800) 888-TDXX or online at <http://www.smittstx.com>. Dub Vegas is located at 400 South 400 West.

Rock/Boise

Reel Big Fish will perform at the Big Easy Concert House at 7:30 p.m. on JAN. 9. Tickets, which are \$15, can be reserved by phoning (800) 965-4827, online at <http://www.bckweb.com>, or at Abusson's Markets in Halley and Ketchum. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Comedy/Buhl

Second City Productions will present the **Second City Revue** at 8 p.m. on JAN. 10 at the Eglint Street Center. Tickets, which are \$25, can be reserved by phoning 543-2888. The Eglint Street Center is located at 200 N. Eighth St.

Rock/Utah

Reel Big Fish and **Zabrahed** will play Club Ice in Salt Lake City at 7 p.m. on JAN. 10. Tickets, which are \$15, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tit at (800) 888-TDXX or online at <http://www.smittstx.com>. Club Ice is located at 108 South 500 West.

Country/Boise

Robert Earl Keen will play the Big Easy Concert House at 8 p.m. on JAN. 12. Tickets, which are \$25, can be reserved by phoning (800) 965-4827, online at <http://www.bckweb.com>, or at Abusson's Market in Halley and Ketchum. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Decl 13-year-old published in latest 'Chicken Soup' book

BY STEVE CRUMP
Times News writer

DECL 13—Two years ago when she was 11, Elizabeth Kidd saw a blurb on the Internet inviting girls to contribute stories and verse to a forthcoming book in the popular publishing series "Chicken Soup for the Soul."

So Elizabeth spent a couple of days writing a poem titled "Free to Be Me" and sent it in. Then she revised it a couple of times, and submitted those too.

That seemed to be the end of that, until she received a package in the mail recently. There inside was a book titled "Chicken Soup for the Girl's Soul," and on page 194 was Elizabeth's poem.

Not only was it published, but it heads a section of the book using Elizabeth's title, with six stories — all written by preteen girls — about confidence, celebrating your strengths and discovering who you are.

"I was pretty excited when I opened that package," she said this week. "I have a friend who was with me," and she was pretty excited too.

"Free to Be Me," the poem, was based on Elizabeth's experiences at school.

"It was just different things that were going on that I decided to write about," said Elizabeth, now 13.

"The Girl's Soul book gives readers a window into what teenagers girls most, as well as what energizes them as they strive for success and grow into the women they are meant to be," said Nicole Miller, a publicist who works for Laitner Group, an Oregon public relations firm doing marketing for the latest "Chicken's Soup for the Soul" book.

Authors Patty Hansen and Irene Dunlap compiled the anthology of stories and poems by girls aged 9-13 to use as a guide through the preteen years. A panel of adolescent girl readers and their teachers screened the submissions and helped Hansen and Dunlap flesh out the final selections.

The stories include dealing with physical and emotional changes, peer pressure, friendship, crushes and learning to accept yourself.

Elizabeth writes stories about what's going on in her life and has thought about becoming a writer. "I liked seeing my poem in print," she said. "But for now, she's happy to be cheerleader, a



'Free to Be Me'

"C is for the Courage not to be embarrassed
D is for my Outstanding body and mind
N is Never saying never
F is for Finding out who I am
I is for individuality
D is for celebrating Differences
E is for an Everlasting smile
N is for Nobody else quite like me
C is for Congeniality
E is for Earning the strength that I have

I go to sleep happy because I am me!"

— From "Chicken Soup for the Girl's Soul," edited by Patty Hansen and Irene Dunlap (Health Communications)

member of her school choir and a big sister.

With 80 million copies sold, 65 titles and 37 languages, "Chicken Soup for the Soul" books have made international publishing history. One or more titles in the "Chicken Soup for the Soul" series have been on



Elizabeth Kidd

the New York Times bestseller list in the "How to Advice/Miscellaneous" category consistently. At one time or another there have been at least eight "Chicken Soup for the Soul" titles simultaneously in the top 50 on the USA Today best-selling book list.

"Chicken Soup for the Girl's Soul" sells for \$12.95 and is available at most Idaho book stores.

Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223, or write to him at scrum@magivalley.com

See 'Magic Valley Christmas' special this weekend on TV

The Times News

TWIN FALLS — The annual locally produced musical television special "A Magical Valley Christmas" will be broadcast through the weekend and on Christmas Day.

Sponsored by First Federal Bank, "A Magical Valley Christmas" is a holiday music revue featuring bands and vocalists from south-central Idaho, this year including Jaime Thirteen, Steve Annest, Katrina Porter and the rock group Foushane. This

year's show starts with a tribute to the 1950s with an original song called "Underneath the Mistletoe," filmed in Crowley's Soda Fountain in downtown Twin Falls.

Showings are scheduled for 11 a.m. Thursday, 10:30 p.m. Friday, 5:30 and 10:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve and 4:30 and 10:30 p.m. on Christmas Day. "A Magical Valley Christmas" is directed and produced by Mark Hook.

KMTV can be seen on Channel 11, or on cable Channel 12.

Whaddya doin' New Year's Eve?

The Times News

Planning a social gathering on Dec. 31 to which the public is invited? Share your plans with your neighbors.

In TNT on Dec. 29, we'll pub-

lish a list of New Year's weekend events in south-central Idaho. If you'd like your event included, call Steve Crump at 735-3223, or e-mail him at scrum@magivalley.com.

Deadline is 5 p.m. on Dec. 26.

Share your favorite martini recipe

The Times News

On Dec. 29, TNT will publish an article about martinis that will include favorite martini recipes from south-central Idaho bartenders and others.

If you have a gin- or vodka- and-vermouth recipe you're proud of, share it with your neighbors.

Phone Steve Crump at 735-3223, or write to him at scrum@magivalley.com. Deadline is noon on Dec. 27.

Video sold as Jarbidge fundraiser

The Times News

JARBIDGE, Nev. — A film featuring Jarbidge, Jackpot and Salmon Falls Reservoir is available for sale as a fundraiser for the Jarbidge Centennial Celebration in 2009.

"Borderlands," a film recently aired on Idaho Public Television as part of the "Outdoor Idaho" series, focuses on the Idaho/Nevada borderlands and features Jarbidge, along with the

area's history, geology and recreation.

The 30-minute film is available on DVD for \$19.95 and VHS for \$16.95 (plus Nevada sales tax and \$5 shipping and handling).

The fundraiser is sponsored by the Jarbidge Community Association and Jarbidge Arts Council.

To order, contact Jane Smith at (775) 488-2352, P.O. Box 25003B, Jarbidge, Nev. 89426, or e-mail jane.smith@rci.net.



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Ring in the holidays with a Madcap Comedy from the...

MAD HAT'S Theatre Company

'The Furdale Avenue'

Housing Estates Townsmen's Guild Dramatic Society's

Production of "A Christmas Carol"

Thursday, Friday, Saturday • Dec. 29-31

THE BLACK CURTAIN THEATRE

157 Main Ave. • Twin Falls (Across from the Fountain)

Doors Open at 6:30, Curtain at 7:30

815, Call 734-ARTS for Tickets Today!

Travel

The tale of 'Baby Hannah'

T.F. author, artist tell story of child's journey

BY STEVE CRUMP
Times News writer

TWIN FALLS — Ten years ago, shortly after her daughter Hannah was born, Stephanie Armiger had an idea for a children's book.

It was about a baby's journey from cosmic creation to birth, and she enlisted a local artist to illustrate it.

But that partnership fell apart, and the manuscript sat on the shelf until Armiger met George Krachunov.

Krachunov, an art teacher by training, emigrated from Bulgaria to the United States in 1995, and with his wife and two daughters settled in Twin Falls, where he designs fireplaces made of synthetic stone.

"I gave him the manuscript, and he came back with some wonderful drawings," said Armiger, who has also written plays and songs.

Krachunov's 15 watercolor paintings detail a child's journey from a place called 7th Heaven to her new home with her family.

In the story, the sun, the moon, the stars and the north and south winds, weary of sending all babies away, want to keep Hannah with them. The Mother of Creation gently explains to them that Baby Hannah must take her love to earth, but like a drop of rain she will some day return to where she began.

"It's Hannah's story," Armiger explained, "and I've dedicated it to her and my other three children."

The book comes with a CD with the song "Hannah's Lullaby."

"There are more songs that will eventually be added to 'Hannah's Lullaby' and sold on a separate CD," Armiger said.

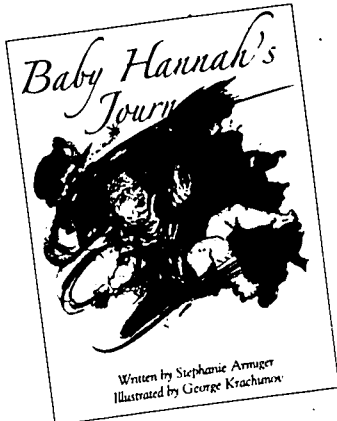
The next project for Armiger, who grew up in New Jersey, is a book about the Jersey Devil — a legendary creature said to inhabit the Pine Barrens in the southern part of the state. It's often described as a bipedal flying creature with hooves, but there are many variations.

"Baby Hannah's Journey" sells for \$12.95. For more information, call 734-8735.

Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223, or write to him at scrump@magicvalley.com.



Author Stephanie Armiger and her daughter Hannah examine an illustration for 'Baby Hannah's Journey' by artist George Krachunov.



Written by Stephanie Armiger
Illustrated by George Krachunov

New on DVD

A synopsis of a film recently released for home viewing

"The Great Raid"

R

Acting like a big-screen epic but coming across more like a cable-TV extravaganza, this movie (directed by John Dahl) is an informative account of one of modern history's boldest and inspiring rescue missions.

In World War II, American forces led a successful mission into a remote corner of the Philippines, where more than 500 prisoners of war had been held near a village called Cabanatuan for three years. They saved the prisoners from their brutal Japanese captors, who had denied them medicine, fed them sparsely and killed POWs without hesitation. As the movie shows, the determined leadership of ailing commanding officer Major Gibson (a gaunt, almost gargoylish Joseph Fiennes) and the secret supplies of medicine smuggled into the

camp by nurse Margaret Utinsky (Connie Nielsen) keep the POWs' morale relatively strong.

This is a movie for people more interested in its subject matter than its dramatic presentation. The story, adapted from Hampton Sides's book "Ghost Soldiers" as well as William B. Breuer's "The Great Raid on Cabanatuan," is unnecessarily lengthy. The dialogue is not exactly spit-polish perfect. A central friendship between Gibson and imprisoned Captain Prince (James Franco) is fair to miffing. And the central romance (which is actually an unrealized attraction between Gibson and the most beautiful POW indeed, The U.S. is lame forcing part of the entire film occurs in the epilogue when we see footage of the real participants after the rescue. In a matter of minutes, this small section touches you in ways the movie just can't muster.

Sound bite: RECENT CD RELEASE

Mary J. Blige

"The Breakthrough"

(fiction)

A new Mary J. Blige album always means a briefing on where the queen of hip-hop soul is in life, and this time — after jettisoning the drama and embracing good fortune — she's all about epiphanies. Such numbers as "No One Will Do" and "About You" follow the upbeat mode of 2003's "Love & Life," not so much revelations as stop-to-think appreciations of true love. She also emphasizes the spiritual in a version of U2's "One," teaming with Bono amid a gospel-style chorus.

Blige self-indulgently lets many songs on "The Breakthrough" run too long, but keeps her sound fresh with the help of such producers as Rodney Jerkins, Will I Am, Raphael Saadiq and Jam & Lewis, adeptly weaving beats and live instruments, vocals and rapping, melody and rhythm in configurations alternately stark and lush.

Happy she may be, but, like the hip-hop Oprah, the singer-songwriter is compelled to give back.

— Knight Ridder Newspapers

The Eight Reindeer Monologues

A wicked holiday play for adults only.

Friday & Saturday
Dec. 29 & 30 • 7:00 p.m.
The Lamphouse Theater
223 5th Avenue, South

Tickets Available at the Door.

Presented by the West End Theatre Company.

Movies continued from page 5

Jesse L. Martin and Wilson Jermaine Heredia. Also with Rosario Dawson, Tate Diggins and Luca Menzel. PG-13 (drug, candor, sexual suggestiveness, brief nudity).

• **"The Ringier"** No rating. Desperate for cash to help a friend in need and pay off his smarmy uncle's gambling debts, Johnny Knoxville sinks to an all-time low — he attempts to fix the Special Olympics by pretending to be a person with intellectual disabilities. But he is completely outclassed by his fellow Olympians, who are not only superior athletes, they're also wiser in the ways of the world. PG-13.

• **"Rumor Has It!"** No Rating — Jennifer Aniston is in a fog. She's finally agreed to marry her boss (Mark Ruffalo), but isn't at all sure that marriage is what she really wants. Now she's on her way home to attend her sister's wedding. It isn't until she tumbles into a well-kept family secret that she starts to question her roots and sets off in search of the man who may have the answers she's looking for (Kevin Costner). PG-13.

Games continued from page 2

When jet packs were cool and Sean Connery wasn't a creepy old man, check out *"From Russia With Love"*. Live the classic Bond lifestyle complete with myriad Cold War gadgets (aforementioned jet pack included). The swinging '60s scene is refreshing and the film plays like a little on the light side.

• **"Battlefront II"** (PS2/Xbox, T, \$49.99) — "Star Wars" usually lives and dies in the gaming realm and *"Battlefront II"* is an exception. Nurture your inner need while partaking in epic land and space battles from the films. The open-ended single and multiplayer action is made even sweeter with the addition of special, powerful characters (luck built, Jedi Master) that become available throughout the game.

• **"The Warriors"** (PS2/Xbox, M, \$49.99) — Speaking of beating, the old beat-'em-up game is alive and well. Nevermind that many gamers never have seen the '76 flick, *"The Warriors"* is a brutal browser set in a nostalgic, slightly scummy New York. The classic values and game mechanics are spot-on.

• **"Soul Calibur III"** (PS2, T, \$49.99) — If death-dealing combos and mano a mano matches aren't your thing, you can do no better than *"Soul Calibur III"*. The latest version of the greatest

• **"Syriana"** ***** — Stephen Gaghan's feverish and urgent political thriller maps the New Oil Order, with George Clooney as a CIA agent, Alexander Siddig as a progressive Middle Eastern prince and Matt Damon as an energy analyst. R (violence and profanity)

• **"2046"** ***** — Wong Kar-Wai's quasi-sequel to his exquisite *"In the Mood for Love"* is fragmentary, impressionistic, toggling between the past, present and future as Tony Cheung, playing a pulp writer, meets and imagines a series of beautiful women (Gong Li, Zhang Ziyi, Maggie Cheung and more). It's terribly atmospheric and if you're in the mood for atmosphere, this reverie delivers. R (sexual content, adult themes)

• **"Walk the Line"** ***** — A blazing biopic about American music legend Johnny Cash and his stormy relationship with June Carter Cash, with Joaquin Phoenix and Reese Witherspoon at the top of their games as the couple who shared good times, bad times and hard times in the middle of some historic music

biz craziness. Phoenix and Witherspoon do their own singing, and they pull it off. PG-13 (adult themes, sex, drugs, violence)

• **"Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit"** ***** — Five years in the making and destined to be a claymation classic, the film from Nick Park and Steve Box for half the team behind the 2000 clay-action comedy

"Chicken Run" pits gatekeeper and brawler against England's second-most dastardly predator, those wascally wallabits who nibble at the prize pumpkins and melons bound for the country fair. G

• **"Wool Creek"** No rating — A trio of twenty-something backpackers take a wrenching detour into the depths of terror in the Australian Outback. Not rated.

• **"Yours, Mine and Ours"** ½ — This remake of the 1968 Lucille Ball-Henry Fonda farce features a widower with eight kids and a widow with 10 who marry. In theory, nutty hilariness. In reality, not quite. PG (mild crude humor)

by packing in hundreds of interactive vignettes into a game package that you interact with by touching your Game Boy.

• **"City of Villains"** (PC, \$49.99) — Any comic book reader can tell you, heroes are dull. It's the villains who have all the fun. This one goes up in the pop-cult online game "City of Heroes" lets you be bad. Why rescue people from burning buildings when you can be eating, partying, or building an evil lair? Best of all, once you beef up your bad guys, you can take on heroes in epic battles. **Cam! Pow!**

• **"The Monkeys"** (PC, \$44.99) — Run a Hollywood studio. Become an entertainment mogul. Get into watching junky genre movies.

• **"God of War"** (PlayStation 2, \$44.99) — Be forewarned: This game features cobinutes. Not your usual mythic fare and that's what makes *GoW* such a delight. The main hero on screen might bleed and go splat (stuff that would make *Kona* smile).

• **"Mario Super Strikers"** (Gamecube, \$49.99) — Slapping the Mario brain on soccer might sound like a cheap way to sell a sports game. There again, Mario has a magic touch and this arcade-style game shows off fast action and a level of silliness that make it a perfect game for the entire family.



Photo: Steve Gray for TNT

• **Liz Wright, "Dreaming Wide Awake"** (Nerve, \$19.98) — Dreamy is the best way to describe this album, the follow-up to the husky-voiced singer's jazzy debut, *"Sail"*. This time around, Wright abandoned the jazz, soulful elements of her predecessor for more folksy fare. But whether backed by an elaborate horn section or the simple arrangement of piano and acoustic guitar, Wright's understated, smoldering voice still manages to enthrall.

CDS continued from page 5

tracks) and her other stellar quartet, Johnny Mandel provides lush string arrangements and conducts three tracks. Heartily swinging one moment, ruminative the next, Krall closes with a lovely reading of the odd but somehow appropriate "Count Your Blessings (Instead of Sheep)" by Irving Berlin.

• **"Sleater-Kinney: The Woods"** (Sub Pop, \$14.98) — After a decade as one of indie-rock's finest bands, this Portland, Ore., trio improbably ups the ante with its hardest rocking album yet. With the frag war and the 2004 election as a backdrop, Corin Tucker, Carrie Brownstein and Janet Weiss sound louder and larger than ever.

• **"Mary Stuart," "Souls Chapel"** (Universal South, \$14.98) — In the in-need-of-salvation music snob who just doesn't take gospel seriously, Mary Stuart and His Fabulous Superlatives' "Souls Chapel" (Universal South). '90s country star Stuart turned to his Mississippi roots and gospel's famed Staple Singers for inspiration before recording this sacred stunner. The breathtaking harmonies on "Somebody Saved Me" and "The Unseen Hand" will melt even the iciest of hearts.

• **"Com'on," "Be"** (G.O.D. Records, \$13.98) — With Kanye West as his producer, Lonnie Rashid Lynn creates a classic hip-hop album built on the toughest beats of his career and soul-searching rhymes. This is an urban drama about everyday life in a blue-collar commu-

nity. Common's answer to Marvin Gaye's "What's Going On." • **"New Pornographers, "Twin Cinema"** (Matador, \$15.98) — In its third album, this Vancouver band delivers more perfect pop songs, but with a darker twist. The multi-part songs play out like mini-epics, but the complexity is never apparent because the melodies reign.

• **Aaron Neville, "Christmas Prayer"** (EMI Gospel, \$17.98) — Blessed with an ethereal, irremediably-laden tenor seemingly designed to soar heavenward, Neville comes to this collection with an almost unfair advantage. Except for Berlin's "White Christmas" (delivered with doo-wop charm), a wry "Merry Christmas Baby" and reggae-tinted "Christmas Everyday," the songs are mostly traditional carols delivered gracefully ("Joy to the World" with the Blind Boys of Alabama), energetically ("Go Tell It on the Mountain") or majestically, as in one more reading of "Ave Maria."

• **Odetta, "Gonna Let It Shine: A Concert for the Holidays"** (AMC Records, \$19.98) — Another majestic voice, though much deeper and richer, given here to a recital of African-American seasonal songs and spirituals. Providing historical context to the material, some of it dating to slavery days, Odetta gives luminous readings of "Mary Had a Baby," "Shout for Joy," the bracing "Freedom Trainin' Boy" and two of her best-known songs, "Somebody Talkin' 'Bout Jesus" and "Keep Moving It On."

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