

## GOOD MORNING

### WEATHER

Today: Rain likely for most of the day. High 46, low 37. Page A2



### THINKING LIKE A THIEF

Woman acts like a criminal to recover the lone copy of her master's thesis. Page E5



### HEALTHY TREATS

Girl Scouts prepare to tout their cookies' nutritional improvements. Page C1



### DON'T ASK ME

'Tis better to retain than to return, columnist Steve Crump says. Page B1

### FIRST-CLASS SERVICE

Twin Falls mail processing station a key part of local postal service, today's editorial says. Page A6

### COMING UP

New Year approaches Find out what Magic Valley has to offer for New Year's activities. Thursday in The Times-News

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# Victims remembered



Photo by ESMLEY SMITH/The Times-News

Mourners pay their last respects Tuesday after the burial service for Justin Nice, 6, Spencer Nice, 6, and Raquel Nice, 2, at Mt. McCaleb Cemetery in Mackay. The children's father, Jim Junior Nice, has been charged with three counts of first-degree murder in their deaths.

## Mourners say farewell to Nice children

By Blair Koch Times-News correspondent

HAGERMAN — To people who didn't know them, Justin and Spencer Nice, 6, and Raquel Nice, 2, have been simply names attached to a holiday tragedy.

But to their grandmother Roberta Olsen, who helped lay them to rest Tuesday, the children were three souls who "brought light and laughter into our home."

The children were found dead Dec. 21 in a Twin Falls house. Their father, Jim Junior Nice, has been charged with three counts of first-degree murder.

The children's lives were celebrated Tuesday in a ceremony at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Hagerman.

Olsen spoke to a packed sanctuary of the twin boys' love of jumping on the trampoline, playing in the mud and going to the pasture with their grandfather, Gordon Olsen.

Roberta Olsen said Justin and Spencer brought great joy and great love to their mother, Leslie.

"They were a tremendous blessing to Leslie's life," she said. "Of Raquel she said, 'I love to hold a sunbeam in your hand!' She described her as a wonderful, sweet baby who was just beginning to speak in full sentences.



Balloons are released after the funeral service for the three children at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Tuesday in Hagerman.

"She could strap any man, of any age, around her finger in an instant," she said. "Justin, Spencer, Raquel and Ian are happy now and so is Leslie," Olsen said. "My heart aches today," he said.

But he also spoke of the comfort the family can find in a promise made by their son. "Ian Nice was found drowned at Harmon Park in Twin Falls in May 2004. He

was 22 months old at the time. In his opening remarks, Bishop Jay Hauser spoke through tears about the family loss.

"My heart aches today," he said. "But he also spoke of the comfort the family can find in a promise made by their son. Ian Nice was found drowned at Harmon Park in Twin Falls in May 2004. He

Please see VICTIMS, Page A2

# Kurds appear poised to split

Soldiers in Iraqi army say they're ready to fight for a Kurdistan

By Tom Lasserer Knight Ridder News Service

KIRKUK, Iraq — Kurdish leaders have inserted more than 10,000 of their militia members into Iraqi army divisions in northern Iraq to lay the groundwork to swarm south, seize the oil-rich city of Kirkuk and possibly fall of Mosul, Iraq's third-largest city, and secure the borders of an independent Kurdistan.

Three days of interviews with Kurdish leaders and troops in the region suggest that U.S. plans to bring army to Iraq before withdrawing American troops by training and equipping a national army aren't gaining traction. Instead, some troops that are loyal to U.S. and Iraqi national command are preparing to protect interests and ethnic and religious minorities in the event of Iraqi fragmentation, which many of them think is inevitable.

The soldiers said that while they wore Iraqi army uniforms they still considered themselves members of the Peshmerga — the Kurdish militia — and were awaiting orders from Kurdish leaders to break ranks. Many said they wouldn't hesitate to kill their Iraqi army comrades, especially Arabs, if a fight for an independent Kurdistan erupted.

"It doesn't matter if we have to fight the Arabs in our own battles," said Ghalib Mohammed, a Kurdish soldier in the Iraqi army who was escorting a Knight Ridder reporter through Kirkuk. "Kirkuk will be ours."

The Kurds have reshaped their troops not only because they've long yearned to establish an independent state but also because their leaders expect Iraq to disintegrate, senior leaders in the Peshmerga — literally "those who have died" — told Knight Ridder. The Kurds are mostly secular Sunni Muslims, and an ethnically diverse Shiite from Arabs.

Their states mirror that of Shura Muslim parties in southern Iraq, which have stocked Iraqi army and police units with members of their own militias and have maintained separate militia presence throughout Iraq's central and southern provinces. The militias may be illegal under Iraqi law but operate openly in many areas. Peshmerga leaders said an interview that they expected U.S. States to create a semi-autonomous and then independent state in the south as they would do in the north.

The Bush administration — and Iraq's neighbors — oppose the nation's fragmentation, fearing that it could lead to regional conflict. To keep Iraq together, the U.S. plans to withdraw significant numbers of American troops in 2006, will depend on turning U.S.-trained Kurdish and Shiite militiamen into a national army.

Please see KURDISTAN, Page A2

## Textbooks begin judging Clinton impeachment

By Ben Feller Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — The impeachment of former President Clinton is in a gray area of history, too long ago to be a current event, too recent to be judged in perspective.

Yet history is already judging Clinton in the place where millions of students get their information about him — textbooks. Seven years after he was impeached in a scandal of sex, perjury and bitter politics, Clinton has become a fixture in major high school texts.

The impeachment is portrayed in the context of his two-term tenure, a milestone event, but not one that overshadowed how Clinton handled the economy, crime and health care.

The most commonly used texts give straightforward recaps of Clinton's toughest days, with some flavor of how it affected the nation. Absent are any the details of his relationship with Monica Lewinsky that spread up daily news reports and late-night talk shows as the scandal and impeachment played out in 1998 and early 1999.

"It should not be in the book for titillating purposes of settling scores," said Alan Brinkley, the Columbia University provost who has written or contributed to several history textbooks. "It should be in the book because of its significance to our recent history."

Clinton was president from 1993 to 2001, the growing-up years of today's high school students. Even today's oldest high school students were only 10 or 11 during the height of the scandal, and today's

middle schoolers were just approaching or entering first grade.

So, for students, the impeachment is literally a subject for the history books.

"This is very difficult for everybody because it's so fresh," said Gilbert Secall, director of the American Textbook Council, an independent research group that reviews history texts used in schools. "It's easier to nail down history like the transcontinental railroad. With Clinton, you're dealing with material that has by no means been settled."

The House impeached Clinton on charges of lying to a federal grand jury and obstructing justice to conceal his affair with Lewinsky, a White House intern. Although he was acquitted in a Senate trial, Clinton was branded as the second president impeached for conduct in office.

Please see CLINTON HISTORY, Page A2

## Meatloaf now growing in popularity

Defining dish of the 1950s lives on

The Associated Press

BEND, Ore. — Growing up in Texas, chef Gavin McMichael used to ask his mom to make meatloaf for his birthday each year. Now that he has his own restaurant, meatloaf is on the menu, along with quail stuffed with foie gras.

"I was a huge fan, so of course I had to have meatloaf on my dinner menu," said McMichael, a partner in the Blacksmith restaurant in one of the fastest-growing sections of Oregon. "We

are creating loodles as fast as we can. Then they want to try things like foie gras."

Mom made meatloaf to stretch the food budget. Dad ate it because it tasted good, especially with lots of ketchup. Now baby boomers are ordering it in restaurants. Meatloaf may not be tops on the healthy food list, though it can certainly be made that way with lean meats and lots of veggies. But this comfort food that became an American staple during the Depression is hanging on, growing up and branching out.

"It has graduated from diner food to restaurant food, while remaining a home-cooking staple," said Andrew Smith, editor in

chief of the "Oxford Encyclopedia of American Food and Drink," from his Brooklyn, N.Y., home. "It is real American food. It is something that is part of our early lives and part of our heritage."

Meatloaf comes out of the late 19th century, when meat grinders became popular, said Diane Oliver, editor of the Web site FoodTimeline.org. The 1903 "Boston Cooking School Cook-Book" has recipes for ground veal macel with bread crumbs and eggs, baked in small individual milk cans.

"A big old loaf of meat would violate the American Victorian

## Meatloaf is on the menu

Recipes for meatloaf, an American staple during the Depression, date back to the late 19th century. The comfort food is now making its way into a growing number of restaurants.

### Ingredients:

- 1 pound ground beef
- 1/3 cup dry bread crumbs
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1 small chopped onion
- 1/3 cup ketchup
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 egg

**Preparation:** Preheat oven to 350F. Grease a loaf pan. Add ingredients to large bowl and mix well. Form into pan. Bake 1 hour. Let sit 5 minutes before slicing from pan. Serve and enjoy.



Please see MEATLOAF, Page A2



WINDFALLS FOUR CAST

Today: Rain likely for most of the day. Highs 40s.
Tonight: A rain and snow mix developing. Low 30s.
Tomorrow: Chance of mixed showers. Highs low 40s.

WINDFALLS FIVE DAY FORECAST

Forecast table with columns for Today, Tonight, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges.

Boise Area Forecast

Boise Area Forecast table with columns for City, HI, LO, P, and weather icons.

SHOOT DOWN THE CAST

Today: Extremely windy and raining today. Highs 40s.
Tonight: Strong, gusty winds and rain mixing with snow.
Tomorrow: More wind expected. Chance of mixed showers.

IDAHO'S TOP 10

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.
Periods of rain and snow to expect each day, through Friday and into the weekend.

Today Highs: 38 to 36; Lows: 21 to 21
BOISE
The most several days are going to be damp and cool.

Today Highs: 28 to 28; Lows: 17 to 17
NORTHERN UTAH
Rain showers developing today will mix with snow overnight.

Today's State Extremes: 43 at Twin Falls, Low: 22 at Starley.

GREGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY
'Stripe' does not come from winning. Your stripes develop your strength.

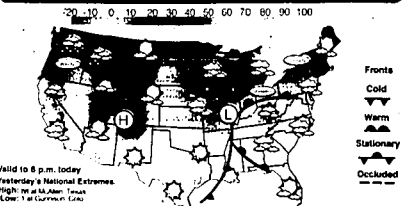
Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset.

Moon Phases, Moonrise and Moonset, U.V. INDEX.

NATIONAL FORECAST

National Forecast table with columns for City, Today, Tomorrow, HI, LO, W, P, and weather icons.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



WORLDWIDE FORECAST

Worldwide Forecast table with columns for City, Today, Tomorrow, HI, LO, W, P, and weather icons.

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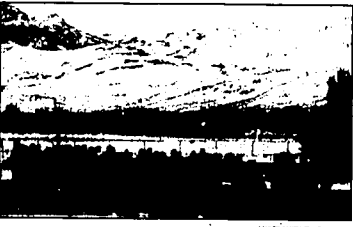
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Mourners attend the burial service for the children Tuesday at Mt. McAlester Cemetery in Mackay.

Victims

Continued from A1
'The word "meatloaf" appears regularly in The New York Times in the 1830s and 1840s...

Vigil
A prayer vigil will be held at 7 p.m. today at Harmon Park in Twin Falls...

Meatloaf

Continued from A1
sense of decorum," she said. The word "meatloaf" appears regularly in The New York Times...

to interpretation and flexible. Its origins are humble.
President Reagan was a famous fan, and writer Jean Shepherd included family battles over meatloaf in the movie 'A Christmas Story'...

CORRECTION

Charles Westbrook Is from Mississippi

Charles Westbrook is from Mississippi and Ottawa West-Central province sponsored a dinner at the Owyhee Hotel for 17 people...

Clinton history

Continued from A1
The topic is covered briefly in middle school texts. McGraw Hill's "The American Journey" offers a description that is representative of other accounts...

"The American Vision," a McGraw Hill high school book written by Brinkley and others, spends five paragraphs on Clinton's impeachment and one more on his uncertain legacy.



President Clinton walks to the podium to deliver a short statement on his impeachment inquiry in this Dec. 11, 1998, file photo.

"The American Vision," a McGraw Hill high school book written by Brinkley and others, spends five paragraphs on Clinton's impeachment and one more on his uncertain legacy.

relations" with an intern. Students "don't need the bawdy details to grasp the impeachment struggle, said Allan Lichtman, a presidential historian and professor at American University...

Kurdistan

Continued from A1
The interviews with Kurdish troops, however, suggested that as the American military transfers more bases and areas of control to Iraqi units...

"All of them belong to the central government, but inside they are Kurds... all Peshmarga are under the orders of our leadership," Alawi said.

"The interviews with Kurdish troops, however, suggested that as the American military transfers more bases and areas of control to Iraqi units...

"We will do our best diplomatically, and it fails we will use force" to secure borders for an independent Kurdistan.

"Kurdistan is not belonging to the Arabs," Hamid Alawadi, the minister of Peshmarga for the Kurdistan Democratic Party, one of the two major Kurdish groups...

"The Kurds have positioned their men in Iraqi army units on the western flank of Kirkuk, the area that includes Irbil and the volatile city of Mosul...

"The Parliament must solve the issue of Kurdistan. If not, we know how to deal with this: We will send Kurdish forces to enforce Kurdistan's boundaries...

NATION/WORLD

# Shiites, Kurds hold coalition talks

## Mass grave uncovered near Karbala



Iraqi Sunni women, one waving the national flag, take part Tuesday in a rally in Baghdad. More than 10,000 people backing Sunni Arab and secular Shiite politicians marched in support of a national unity government.

BAHGHADAD, Iraq (AP) — The Shiite religious bloc leading Iraq's parliamentary elections held talks Tuesday with Kurdish leaders about who should get the top 12 government jobs, as thousands of Sunni Arabs and secular Shiites protested what they say was a tainted vote.

Meanwhile, workers in the Shiite holy city of Karbala uncovered remains believed to be part of a mass grave dating to a 1991 uprising against Saddam Hussein.

The talks between the majority Shiites and the Kurds were seen as part of an effort to force the main Sunni Arab organizations to come to the bargaining table. All groups have begun jockeying, and the protests are widely considered to be part of an attempt by Sunni Arabs to maximize their negotiating position.

The discussions come at a critical time for Iraq, with the United States placing new hopes on forming a broad-based coalition government that will provide the fledgling democracy with the stability and legitimacy it needs to allow American troops to begin returning home.

Sunni Arabs formed the backbone of Saddam's government, and the Bush administration hopes to pull them away from the insurgency that has ravaged the country with daily bloodshed.

Abdul Aziz al-Hakim, leader of the Shiite religious coalition dominating the current government, traveled to the northern Kurdish city of Irbil for a meeting with Masoud Barzani, president of the Kurdish region.

"Today, we held preliminary consultations," al-Hakim said at a joint news conference with Barzani. "The deal needs to be studied and we need to evaluate the previous alliance and study its weaknesses and strengths. Then we will try to include the others."

A Kurdish coalition that in-

cludes Barzani's Kurdistan Democratic Party and President Jalal Talabani's Patriotic Union of Kurdistan is now the junior partner in a government led by al-Hakim's United Iraqi Alliance.

Preliminary results from the Dec. 15 vote have given the United Iraqi Alliance a big lead, but one unlikely to allow it to govern without forming a coalition with other groups.

Final results are expected early next month, but the Shiite religious bloc may win about 130 seats in the 275-member parliament — short of the 184 seats needed to avoid a coalition with other parties.

The Kurds could get about 55, the main Sunni Arab bloc about 50 and the secular bloc headed by former Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, a Shiite, about 25.

"Our goal is to have a partnership government that enjoys a wide base of support," al-Hakim said.

charges are not properly investigated.

But the United Nations has kept an outside review, and al-Hakim said his bloc and the Kurds also were against it.

The Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq considers 35 of the complaints serious enough to change some local results. It said it began audits Tuesday of ballot boxes taken from about 7,000 polling stations in Baghdad province.

This audit is not a random sampling of boxes or a re-count. It is a targeted review of specific ballot boxes taken from about 7,000 polling stations. The IEC's mission said, adding it was "in keeping with the IEC's policy of taking all complaints seriously and of conducting exhaustive investigations where warranted."

Meanwhile, the American military said two U.S. pilots died in helicopter accidents in western Baghdad on Monday night. The accident was under investigation; the military said no hostile fire was involved. At least 2172 members of the IEC's military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

In the Shiite holy city of Karbala, municipal workers uncovered remains that police believed were part of a mass grave thought to date back to 1991, when Saddam's forces pulled down a Shiite uprising in the south.

The remains — discovered Monday — were sent for testing Tuesday in an effort to identify the bodies, said Rahim Moshaway, a Karbala police spokesman. He did not say how many bodies were found, and the police claim could not be independently verified.

Human rights organizations estimate that more than 300,000 people, mainly Kurds and Shiites, were killed and buried in mass graves during Saddam's reign, which ended when U.S.-led forces toppled his regime in 2003. Saddam served as co-convict and was on trial for the deaths of more than 140 Shiites after a 1982 attempt on Saddam's life in the town of Dulaij, north of Baghdad.

# CIA watchdog investigating 'renditions'

## Focus is on whether suspects are mistakenly taken to foreign countries

WASHINGTON (AP) — The CIA's independent watchdog is investigating the number of cases where terror suspects may have been mistakenly swept away to foreign countries by the spy agency, a figure lower than the CIA says, but enough to raise some concerns.

After the terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, President Bush gave the CIA authority to conduct the nation's counterterrorism operations, called "renditions," and permitted the agency to act without case-by-case approval from the White House or other administration officials.

The highly classified practice involves grabbing terror suspects off the street of one country and flying them to their home country or another where they are wanted for a crime or questioning.

Some 100 to 150 people have been snatched up since 9/11. Government officials say the action is reserved for those considered by the CIA to be the most serious terror suspects.

Bush has said that these transfers of other people, with assurances the terror suspects won't be tortured — are a way to protect the United States and its allies from attack. "That was the charge that has been given," he said in March.

But some operations are being questioned.

The CIA inspector general, John Helgerson, is looking into fewer than 10 cases of potentially "erroneous renditions," according to a current intelligence official who spoke on condition of anonymity because the investigations are classified. Others in the agency believe it to be much fewer, the official said.

For instance, someone may be grabbed wrongly or, after further investigation, may not be as directly linked to terrorism as initially believed.

Human rights groups consider the practice of rendition a process that the United States has long championed. Experts with those groups and congressional committees familiar with intelligence programs say errors should be extremely rare because one vivid anecdote can

do significant damage. Said Tom Malinowski, Washington office director of Human Rights Watch, "I'm glad the CIA is investigating the cases that they are aware of, but by definition they are not going to be aware of such cases, when you have a process designed to avoid judicial safeguards."

He said there is no guarantee that Egypt, Uzbekistan or Syria will release people handed over to them if they turn out to be innocent, and he distrusts promises the U.S. receives that the individuals will not be tortured.

Bush and his aides have said the United States seeks those assurances — and follows up on them. "We do believe in protecting ourselves. We don't believe in torture," he said.

In the last 18 months, his administration has come under fire for its policies and regulations governing detentions and interrogations in the war on terror. At facilities run by the CIA and the U.S. military, graphic images of abuse and at least 26 deaths investigated as criminal offenses have raised questions about how authorities handle foreign fighters and ter-

ror suspects in U.S. custody. Senior administration officials have tried to stress that the cases are isolated instances among the more than 80,000 detainees held since 9/11. Yet much remains unknown about the CIA's highly classified detention and interrogation practices, particularly when it grabs foreigners and spurs them away to other countries.

With the help of the American Civil Liberties Union, Khaled al-Masri, a German citizen of Lebanese descent, has sued the CIA for arbitrarily detaining him and other alleged violations after he was captured in Macedonia in December 2003 and taken to Afghanistan by a team of covert operatives in an apparent case of mistaken identity.

Speaking to reporters by video hookup from Germany this month, al-Masri said he was "dragged off the plane and thrown into the trunk of a car" and beaten by his captors in Afghanistan five months later, his complaint says, he was dropped off on a hill in Albania.

Mamdouh Habib, an Egyptian-born Australian, was arrested near the Pakistani-Afghan border shortly after 9/11 and flown to the U.S. for six months he was tortured there and was later transported to Afghanistan and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. In 2005, he was released without charge and allowed to return to Sydney.

Prior to 9/11, renditions were ordered to bring wanted criminals to justice. But the purpose was frustrated after the attacks to get terrorists off the streets.

Renditions represent just a fraction of the captures handled by the CIA and its allies. More than 3,000 foreigners have been detained in operations involving the CIA and friendly intelligence services since 9/11, according to the intelligence official. Sometimes the United States may merely be providing information, training or equipment for the operations.


Countries including Jordan and Egypt are believed to cooperate with the operations. Although Saudi Arabia is thought to be involved, its ambassador to the United States has denied accepting any cases at the United States' request.

The spotlight on the issue has called attention to how the CIA does its work, causing consternation among some agency officials who prefer to operate in the shadows.

## Russian economic adviser resigns

by Putin's fellow KGB veterans, was stripped of his duties as Russian President Vladimir Putin announced Tuesday that he was resigning, saying he could no longer work in a government that had done away with political freedoms. The government later said Putin signed a decree dismissing him.

A decorated Il-76 jet, the lone disseminator in a Kremlin dominated



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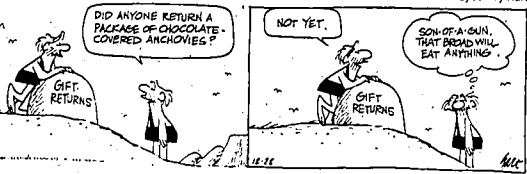
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COMICS

B.C.



By Johnny Hart

Baby Blues



By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott

Baldo



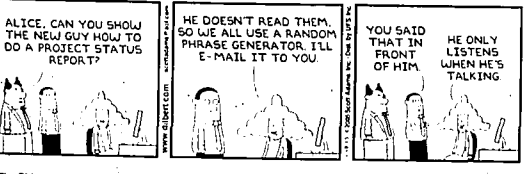
By Hector D. Cantu and Carlos Castellanos

Brevity



By Guy & Rood

Dilbert



By Scott Adams

Doonesbury



By Gary Trudeau

The Elderberries



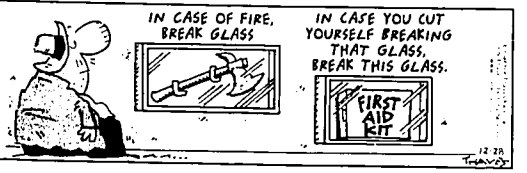
By Phil Frank and Joe Toose

For Better or For Worse



By Lynn Johnston

Frank and Ernest



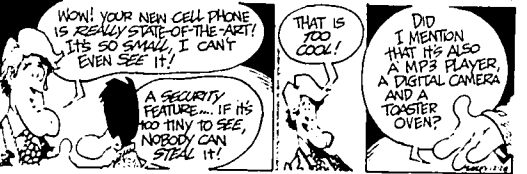
By Bob Thaves

Luann



By Greg Evans

Mallard Fillmore



By Bruce Tinsley

Pearls Before Swine



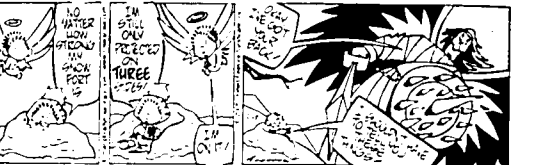
By Stephan Pastis

Pickles



By Brian Crane

Rose Is Rose



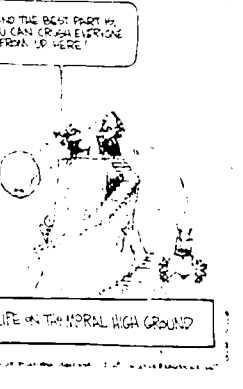
By Pat Brady

Zits



By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott

Non Sequitur



By Brian Koppelman

Strange Brew



By John Deering

Put differences aside, Aquarius

IF DEC. 28 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Play your cards close to your chest in February and May when ambitions are at high tide, but when those in authority could thwart your desires or be overly critical. Between June and July your popularity may soar and people will see you as highly dependable, making that a good time to start a new job or find a new love with whom to share your life. Make important commitments and changes during August and September when the stars spread a red carpet under your feet that lead you to a happier and more satisfying life.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Some tests are graded on a pass-or-fail basis. If you have met deadlines and done your best, you should be free to glide effortlessly through the day. You will find someone to satisfy your desires.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't be shy. If the mountain won't come to you, then you must go to the mountain. Take steps toward solving a dilemma by knocking on doors or asking relevant questions.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Gather some puzzle pieces - you can't see the whole picture until you have all the information. You are like a calculator and can add up one and one to get the necessary answers.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): What you fail to do now will be like a dog. Then you might as well enjoy it. Someone is likely to throw you a bone if you remain faithful and true-blue. Play fetch with a favorite person.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Catch more flies with honey than with vinegar. Be open to new ideas and receptive to making necessary changes. Circumstances outside your control may dictate how to allocate funds.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep ears peeled and ears open. Get back in the loop by listening to the latest news from a variety of sources and don't just accept one side of a story. Money could burn a hole in your pocket.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Move the meter. Invite friends over for leftovers or go out with your pals. Misunderstandings that melt away under the warmth of an often kindhearted generosity may also drain your cash.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't beat around the bush. Suspicions and hunches are poked under by a warm, direct approach. Situations that tested your abilities in the business arena will fall by the wayside.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Act as an appreciative audience. You may be surprised by chatterboxes who inundate you with an excess of information. Fan for gold as some news may be valuable.

AQUARIUS (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Put resentment aside even if someone inadvertently steps on your toes. Find someone with similar career objectives and bounce ideas around, as two heads are always better than one.

PISCES (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Cooperation is the key. Put differences aside and quit competing with those on your list. Competitors can often bring specialized skills to the table that can enhance every one's potential.

ARIES (Feb. 19-March 20): Avoid going to extremes. Financial obstacles may dissipate from this point forward, but frittering away your pennies can put a dent in spending money. A significant other could help.

Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



The Bom Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



Garfield

By Jim Davis



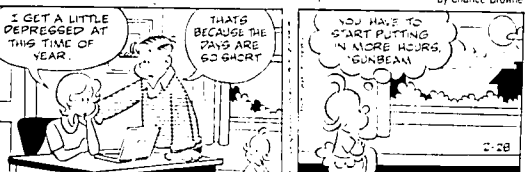
Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



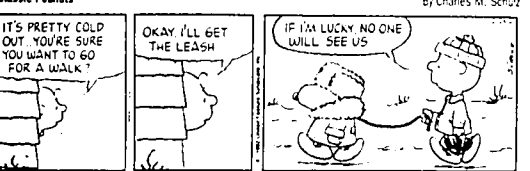
Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



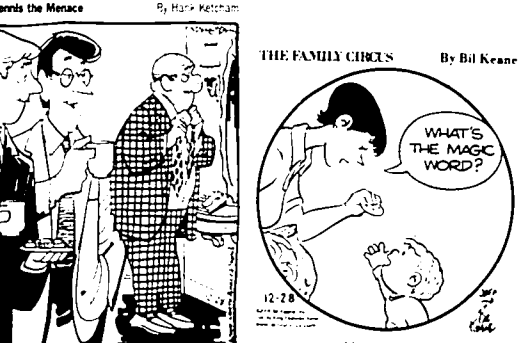
The Wizard of Id

By Brent Puffer and Johnny Hart



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



# Wife props up husband who puts himself down



DEAR ABBY  
Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been married to my soul mate and best friend, "Herbert," for a year and a half. There's only one downside to our marriage: Herbert speaks horribly about himself several times a day. It began after our wedding and used to be limited to bill-paying time. But over the last few months, he has been going several times a day.

He says he's a bad provider. (He's not! We're no worse off than millions of other newlywed couples.) He says he's unattractive. (Again, he isn't. I find him very attractive.) He says he is lazy and that I married someone who, "If it weren't for bad luck, would have no luck at all." The list goes on and on.

At first, I'd disagree. But recently I have gone from arguing with him to suggesting counseling. Of course, Herbert will have none of that. He says we can't afford counseling, which brings on another round of his opinion that he's worthless.

Abby, it's exhausting to defend someone who constantly attacks himself. What are my options here? I adore Herbert, but it would be nice to be able to talk about something other than, "No, you're not worthless. No, you're not a bad provider."

Please don't reveal my name or location. If he knows I've written to you, he'll start it

again. (I promise if you do, you'll gain much-needed insight.)

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a 35-year-old man who recently reunited with his birth mother. I had a very close relationship with my adoptive family and was not desperate to meet my birth family, but I have enjoyed making the connection and like them very much.

I am being married next year, and because my adoptive parents are deceased, and because my adoptive sisters died in their early 50s, mean so much to me. I plan to have them escorted down the aisle in place of my mother.

My famous beliefs I should also have my birth mother escorted down the aisle. I am afraid this would hurt the feelings of my sisters, who, while being supportive of my new connection, are still a bit sensitive about "losing" me to this new family. What do you think?

**DEAR ABBY:** I agree with you. I have talked to my sisters about this now, and impress upon them that they are not "losing" you to your birth mother. She is joining them in, and this is a time of celebration that should be joyed by all. It is a final battle.

# Heroic actions land sergeant a place in online video game

### Odds & Ends

**OLYMPIC MATRONS:** The 80-year-old pilot is trying for a spot on the Olympic team in trials that begin Tuesday in Kearns, Utah.

**HE'S MADE THE 150-mile round trip from Seattle to Kildler, Ill., to the Petit National Ice Center in Milwaukee five days a week to train.**

**AS A YOUNG MAN,** Conner's skating contemporaries included Eric and Beth Henken, Nancy Swider and Sheila Young. After he failed to make the 1976 Olympic team, he quit speed skating and enrolled in college. Eventually, he took up running and spent years racing in marathons and triathlons.

**BUT CONNER WAS DRAWN BACK TO THE ICE SEVEN OR EIGHT YEARS AGO AND BEGAN SKATING RECREATIONALLY ONE OR TWICE A WEEK.**

**HE ENTERED A LOCAL TRIALS AND METERS COMPETITION FOR HIM.**

they'll try in a door on stage. The person whose key unlocks the door wins the home. Since, in door fireworks and balloon drops will also be part of the festivity.

**ONE PEOPLE ATTEND THE 50th Year's Eve service, the hope is they'll keep coming once they realize "Luna" is perhaps not as bad as they remember when they were young," said Justin Year.**

**A PARISHIONER built the house and changed the church's \$5,000 for materials. It should be completed next month, the winner will be responsible for closing costs and property taxes.**

### Man settles debt with hospital - 60 years later

**BIRLÉN, Wis. (AP) - Ianlo Ronaldson was a 20-year-old student when he was hospitalized for the flu in 1945. He had a heart condition and his family was unable to pay the hospital bill.**

**Now 60 years later, his debt with Berlin Memorial Hospital has been settled.**

**BONNIE JOY of Lari Luce is retired from the insurance business and serves on the board of directors at Lari Luce's Sacred Heart Hospital, which carries a written-off note that is 50 million in unpaid bills.**

**She got him to thinking about his old debt, as did an e-mail she sent her about a year ago. The friend who owed her the bill was \$100,000 in debt to her.**

**She called the hospital to find out if they still had records of the bill. They searched the archives and only found records as far back as 1979. Said Luce, "I have a community Health Network community relations."**

**There was no way to determine the bill's amount, so Ronaldson said she'd pay it for him. — compiled from wire reports**

### House giveaway helps get a church to church

**LA MARQUE, Texas — In a game show-style giveaway, a church plans to award a \$120,000 three-bedroom house to one of its worshippers on New Year's Eve.**

**Since 2003, Abundant Life Christian Center has given away a car, a motorcycle and furniture, but this year the lure is a house.**

**"It encourages people to come to the service, and it helps give people off the street with all that needy young," Pastor Walter Hullam said.**

**At Saturday's service, 20 names will be selected at random and placed with 100 others chosen from services throughout the year. Twelve finalists, symbolizing the 12 apostles, will be selected. Each will receive a key, which**

# Oil and burned bees for baldness?



RANDOM KINGS OF FACTINESS  
Jack Mingo  
Erin Barrett

To cure baldness, Western European doctors prescribed a hair dressing of oil and burned bees.

This day in history: On Dec. 28, 1842, John Callhoun became the first American vice president to resign his post. The outspoken supporter of human slavery had an opportunity to become a senator, and decided that post offered more job satisfaction and power.

In case you're looking for a technical term for unself and other derogative garlands, here it is: "lectoscopy."

Shakespeare lifted the plot of "Romeo and Juliet" directly from Giulietta a Romeo, a 1536 story by Luigi da Porta. Da Porta had borrowed the story from an old Italian folk tale and the Capulet and Montague family names from Dante's *Purgatorio*.

There's an extinct animal that was roughly 145-million years old. It was an Ice Age three-toed sloth that stood between 16 and 26 feet long with a horn more than 6 feet long.

History records the fact that Henry David Thoreau was not



THE FAMILY CIRCLES By Bill Keane



OPINION

Dangers and delights from the blog

Of all the stories leading America's annual great-hits list, the one that subsides the rest is the continuing evolution of information in the Age of Blogging.

Not since the birth of the printing press have our lives been so dramatically affected by the way we create and consume information — both to our enormous benefit and, perhaps, to our growing peril.

What is wonderful and meticulous about the Internet needs little elaboration. We all marvel at the ease with which we can access information — whether reading government documents previously available only to a few, or tracking down old friends and new enemies.

It is this latter — our new enemies — that interests me most. I don't mean al-Qaida or Osama bin Laden, but the less visible, insidious enemies of decency, humanity and civility — the angry offspring of narcissism's delusion marriage to instant gratification.

There's something frankly creepy about the explosion we now call the Blogosphere — the big bang "electroverse" where recently wired squatters set up new camps each day. As I write, the number of "blogs" (Web logs) and "bloggers" (those who blog) is estimated in the tens of millions worldwide.

Although I've been a blog fan since the beginning, and have written fairly ambitiously about the value added to journalism and public knowledge thanks to the new "citizen journalism," I'm also wary of power untempered by restraint and accountability.

Say what you will about the



KATHLEEN PARKER

so-called mainstream media, but no industry agonizes more about how to improve its product, police its own members — and better serve its communities. Newspapers are filled with carpal-tunneled wretches, overworked and underpaid, who suffer near-pathological allegiances to getting it right.

Bloggers persist no matter their contributions or quality, though most would have little to occupy their time were the mainstream media to disappear tomorrow. Some bloggers do their own reporting, but most rely on mainstream reporters to do the heavy lifting.

Some bloggers also offer superb commentary, but most babble, buzz and blurt like caffeinated adolescents competing for the Britain generation's inevitable senior superlative: Most Obsessive-Compulsive.

Even so, they hold the same megaphone as the adults and enjoy perceived credibility owing to membership in the larger world of blog grown-ups.

Not since the birth of the printing press have our lives been so dramatically affected by the way we create and consume information — both to our enormous benefit and, perhaps, to our growing peril.

These effete and often clever baby "bloggers" are rich in time and toys, but bereft of adult supervision.

Spelled and undisciplined, they have grabbed the mike and seized the stage, a privilege granted not by years in the trenches, but by virtue of a three-pronged plug and the miracle of WiFi. They play tag team with hyperlinks ("I'll say you're important if you'll say I'm important") and tribes. "Gotcha!" when they catch some weary wage earner in a mistake or oversight. Plenty smart but lacking in wisdom, they possess the power of a forum, but neither the maturity nor humility that years of experience impose.

Each time I wander into blogdom, I'm reminded of the savage children stranded on an island in William Golding's "Lord of the Flies." Without adult supervision, they organize themselves into rival tribes, learn to hunt and kill, and eventually become murderous barbarians in the absence of a civilizing structure.

What Golding demonstrated — and what we're witnessing as the Blogosphere's offspring multiply — is that people tend to abuse power when it is unearned and will bring down others to enhance themselves. Likewise, many bloggers seek

the destruction of others for their own self-aggrandizement. When a mainstream journalist stumbles, they pile on like so many savages, hoisting his or her head on a bloody stick as Golding's children did the fly-covered head of a butchered sow.

Schadenfreude — pleasure in others' misfortunes — has become the new barbarity on an island called Blog. When someone trips, whether Dan Rather or Jason Jordan or Judith Miller, bloggers are the bloodthirsty masses slaughtering for a public flogging. Incivility is their weapon and humanity their victim.

I mean no disrespect to the many brilliant people out there — professors, lawyers, doctors, philosophers, scientists and other journalists who also happen to blog. Again, they know who they are. But we should beware and resist the rest of the ego-gratifying rabble who contribute only snark, sass and destruction.

We can't silence them, but for civilization's sake — and the integrity of information by which we all live or die — we can and should ignore them.

Kathleen Parker, a syndicated columnist for the Orlando Sentinel, welcomes comments via e-mail at kparker@kparker.com.

Quality time:

Ideas for making the most of those final days of Christmas vacation Sunday in Family Life

Advertisement for Modern Woodmen of America, featuring a photo of a family and text: 'MAYBE YOU WON'T NEED TO PROTECT YOUR FAMILY. But you can provide financial security with life insurance...'

LETTER

Patriot Act opposition threatens security

Among other things, Sen. Craig is a matter of concern to me.

He complained about six C-130 aircraft not being available in Boise when they were needed elsewhere in the war on terror.

He tried to put the nation's health at risk by attempting to meddle with EPCRA and CERCLA environmental laws (trying to exempt some major polluters like confined-animal feeding operations).

Now, I seriously question what I view as his warped rationale as he voted against renewing the Patriot Act, which is a necessary tool in the war on terror.

Of course, he probably lacks some insight and hasn't personally had the need to pick up the sorrowful remnants after a terrorist attack (as I have). The senator always seems to be trying to "clarify" laws and issues (to our detriment); it is time for him to retire.

In 1998, I sent a letter warning of a need for a National Terrorism Quick Response Capability. I think that complacency and apathy are our greatest national problem in the war on terror (along with the liberal leftist news media). The average person has no realistic concept of how sinister Islamic fundamentalist extremist terrorists can be!

Also, I noted the fact that Iran is the only one of our long-range missile development. The Iran problem will not go away without some application of leverage (unlike to come from the Europeans).

Now the liberal left is clamoring for a withdrawal from Iraq. I wonder if they are ignoring a very belligerent next-door



Iran wherein there are nuclear program issues that need to be resolved. The Iraq situation is only the tip of a huge iceberg of trouble when it is realized that nearby Iran is a major threat to world peace and a major exporter of terrorism. A nuclear-armed Iran under the present radical leadership should give even the most avowed pacifist a wake-up call!

Also, the lost opportunity for east and west to come together

after the collapse of the Iron Curtain of communism was most unfortunate. However, an Iraq free of dictatorship may provide for another "narrow window of opportunity" as a road map to achieve peaceful co-existence. The alternative is probably Armageddon (a high resultant price if we lose resolve, unity and continue politicizing the Iraq war). JIM CONDER, Fillet

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Retirement Open House advertisement for Ross McNurlin, featuring dates Thursday, December 29 and Friday, December 30, at Tri-County Tractor and Gem Equipment.

Large advertisement for Farmers National Bank featuring the slogan 'Use It, Get A Bonus' and a grid of partner logos including Marriott, Little Bear, Macy's, Blockbuster, Old Navy, GAP, Barnes & Noble, and Alamo.

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NATION

# Police recapture Miami serial rape suspect after brazen jail break

MIAMI (AP) — The serial rape suspect accused of terrorizing two neighborhoods smiled as police officers escorted him back to jail Tuesday, a week after he escaped by climbing through a vent and rappelling down the building using sheets.

A tip led detectives to Reynaldo E. Rapalo, 34, who was arrested about 10 p.m. Monday outside a video store in southwest Miami, said Amos Rojas Jr., Florida Department of Law Enforcement special agent in charge.

He had shaved his mustache and told officers who had chased him down that "he was a homeless guy from Nicaragua, that he was worried about immigration," Detective Alides Velez said. "It was trying to mislead us in that direction."

Rapalo, 34, escaped Dec. 20 as



Serial rape suspect Reynaldo E. Rapalo, fifth from the left, is escorted by police to a waiting police cruiser Tuesday, one week after he escaped by climbing through a vent and rappelling down the jail using sheets.

he awaited a February trial on felony counts of sexual battery and other charges that could have sent him to prison for life.

He is accused of sexually assaulting seven women and girls, ranging from 11 to 79 years old, before his capture in 2003.

"He is a very dangerous individual and we are very glad to have him back in custody," Miami-Dade Police Director

Robert Parker said. While being led to a police car Tuesday morning, Rapalo smiled as he spoke to the officers who held his arms. He was taken to a different jail from the one he escaped from.

At a brief hearing later in the morning, Rapalo was denied bail on an escape charge. Appearing in court via closed-circuit camera from jail, he made no comment.

Rapalo, 34, broke out of jail Dec. 20 by rappelling down the building on bed sheets. He was awaiting a February trial on felony counts of sexual battery and other charges that could have sent him to prison for life.

He is accused of sexually assaulting seven women and girls, ranging from 11 to 79 years old, before his capture in 2003, including raping three girls

in the span of four weeks. Parents walked their children home from school, sketches of the suspect were plastered across town, and a beauty salon owner kept her business door locked even during the day.

Miami police also stopped more than 120 men, most of them Hispanic, and asked them to volunteer DNA samples, a tactic that was denounced by civil rights activists. The DNA samples did not lead to his capture.

Rapalo was arrested September 2003 when officers noticed him driving suspiciously.

He and another inmate escaped from a Miami jail last week by climbing through a vent in the ceiling of a cell and onto a sixth-floor roof, police said. The vent was supposed to be locked, but it had been pried open, and bars blocking it were cut. The other inmate, also a sexual assault suspect, broke his legs when he jumped and was captured outside the jail.

## Judge drops restraining order against Letterman

SANTA FE, N.M. — A state judge has lifted a restraining order granted to a Santa Fe woman who accused talk-show host David Letterman of using coded words to show that he wanted to marry her and train her as his co-host.

Judge Daniel Sanchez on Tuesday granted a request by lawyers for Letterman, host of CBS' "Late Show," to quash the temporary restraining order that he earlier granted to Colleen Nestler.

She alleged in a recent filed Dec. 15 that Letterman has forced her to go bankrupt and caused her "mental cruelty" and "sleep deprivation" since May 1994.

Nestler requested that Letterman, who tapes his show in New York, stay at least 3 yards away and not "think of me, and release me from his mental harassment and hammering."

Lawyers for Letterman contended the order was without merit.

### Nation in brief

**Grass fires burn homes in Oklahoma and Texas**  
MUSTANG, Okla. — Grass fires driven by gusty wind damaged several homes in Oklahoma and threatened others in north Texas on Tuesday. Three Oklahomans suffered minor injuries, authorities said. The biggest fire burned at least 400 acres in a rural area near the town of Mustang, southwest of Oklahoma City. TV station helicopter footage showed at least a half-dozen structures were burned in Mustang.

— compiled from wire reports

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Deadly response:  
Store clerk fatally  
shoots intruder.  
Page B4

# MAGIC VALLEY

INSIDE  
Obituaries . . . . . B2-4

City Editor: Matthew Brady, 735-3234  
Section B

The Times-News

Wednesday, December 28, 2005

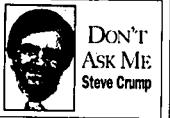
## If the shoe don't fit, wear it anyway

I was at the shopping center on Christmas Eve, buying a pair of earrings for my wife. There I struck up a conversation with the clerk at the cash register on the subject of Dec. 26, the day when it's better to return than to retain.

"I got gifts from my kids for years that I didn't particularly like and I certainly don't need," she observed. "And I didn't return a single one of them. I don't understand why everybody else has."

Just so. It's high time to ban merchandise returns and refunds on the day after Christmas — and maybe during the rest of the year, too.

Who's the returner? Gifts are ungenerous, that's why. Somebody spent a lot of time and money — well, some time and money — shopping for those fire-engine-red, long johns with the escape hatch in the back, and you're an insufferable ingrate if you try to foist them off on the store from whence they came.



**DON'T ASK ME**  
Steve Crump

Yet there you are, the very next day, standing in line to swap for something else. Were you raised in a barn?

Ebenezer Scrooge was the kind of guy who would have gone the mall on Dec. 26 to exchange or return gifts.

Donald Trump. So would Martha Stewart — folks who all know the price of everything and the value of nothing.

Yes, say your Christmas present doesn't fit. Hard cheese. Your mother wore the apron that you gave her on your 12th Christmas, even though it was emerald with "Good bread, good meat, good goods, let's eat!" You think she wanted to wear that to the Soropumissis picnic?

Your grandfather wore those polka-dot golf knickers that you bought him, even when he was playing with his beer-drinking buddies. You think he didn't wish that the 18th hole would open and swallow him?

And I don't want to hear that the clothes you received Christmas morning are too big or the wrong color. They're gifts, dammit. Deal with them.

But you say that you only wear the mall on the day after Christmas, because you received cash and had money to spend. Tell us another one.

Nobility has cash to spend on the day after Christmas, and if you do, then it's certain that those Vandals and Visaghtis in the Capital One TV commercials are headed your way.

Of course, this you-take-that-back philosophy is predicated on the notion that folks don't want to get just what they want for Christmas.

No, they don't. Unless you're Bob Cratchit, you did some pretty crummy things during the past year. Your punishment is that nose harp you got from Aunt Bernice.

Our text today comes from the father of stocking stuffers: O. Henry. In the author's classic story "The Gift of the Magi," the hero, Jim, has just sold his watch to buy combs for his wife, Della — who in turn has sold her hair to buy a watch for her husband.

"Well," said he, "let's put our Christmas presents away and keep 'em a while. They're too

precise see CRUMP, Page B3

## CHRISTMAS ON ITS OWN

### Fairfield takes care of needy

By Karma M. Fitzgerald  
Times-News writer

**FAIRFIELD** — For the first time in a long time, Fairfield took care of its own on Christmas morning.

For years, the small community north of Gooding has had to rely on the kindness of other towns to make sure everyone has presents under the tree and food on the table. But, thanks to a partnership between town residents and Fairfield businesses, the community's Christmas for Kids program was able to supply gifts and donations without asking for outside help.

Fifty Fairfield children benefited from the program. Christmas for Kids volunteer Heather Sabin said the most difficult part of the job was finding out which families needed help. There is no centralized community agency in Fairfield to track the needy, so her lists are built on word of mouth.

"We can't do it like bigger cities do it and get wish lists from every kid," she said. "We get a name, age and sex and go from there."

Local businesses put up giving trees and helped publicize the program. One Fairfield business, High Country Fusion, asked its customers to chip in and raised thousands of dollars, Sabin said.

"It's an extra cash allowed them to cover all the requests for help, get every child a coat and have some toys left over."

"We don't want to have to ask other communities to help because we can't do it ourselves," said David Hanks of High Country Fusion and mayor of Fairfield. "We'd rather do it and have enough left over to help another community."

Sabin said she had been coordinating the program through television station KMYT's Christmas program. Every year, she'd gather what she could from local giving barrels, but would always run short, and KMYT would have to send more toys and gifts to Fairfield.

Not so this year. The Brownie Girl Scout troop in Fairfield helped make ornaments for



Karina Davis, an employee of High Country Fusion, cuts out a snowman name tag in early December that will be placed on a gift for a child from Fairfield. This is the first year in which Fairfield residents will take care of their own less-fortunate children without relying on other towns for support.

giving trees and townspeople and churches made sure each request listed on an ornament was filled. Next year, Sabin wants every child on her list to have two ornaments on the giving tree.

"I didn't know if we could do it," she said. "It's hard to know without knowing every family. You don't want to insult anybody, or leave someone out."

Sabin said the best part of this year's program was seeing the generosity of area businesses.

"We're giving back to our own kids," Sabin said.

*Times-News writer Karma Fitzgerald can be reached at 735-3238 or kfitzgerald@magickvalley.com.*

From left to right: Karina Davis, Shelly Maroff, Heather Sabin and Tenia Gunder hold presents as they pose in early December with gifts they collected for Fairfield's Christmas for Kids program.



## Rescue teams: Prepare yourselves

### Searchers stress common sense

By Renee Wallis  
For The Times-News

**BURLEY** — Go ahead. Get out into the public lands and play hard. Have a good time, but prepare yourself before you go.

That advice comes from Mark Welch, commander of the Mini-Cassia Search and Rescue team, after he spent about 16 hours recently in the bitter cold searching for two missing Twin Falls coyote hunters.

"I don't think people understand what a search entails," he said.

— Mark Welch, Mini-Cassia Search and Rescue team

The two men, Matthew Colvin and Brian Bordenwick of Twin Falls, were well-equipped to handle two days in the mountains. In a Dec. 18 story in *The Times-News*, Bordenwick said, "We were just hoping someone would find us because we were bored."

Welch was the man in charge of finding them. He oversees Mini-Cassia's 33-member search team.

"I don't think people understand what a search entails," he said.

When the call comes for a rescue operation, work stops and personal vehicles are needed. Many employers are good enough to say, "I understand," he said.

Searchers use their own gasoline and equipment. Sometimes it gets damaged, even ruined. There is no reimbursement if that happens. The impact of a single search is far-reaching.

"From the time the first pager call comes across until families are reunited and even past that, there is a concerted effort requiring concentration, coordination and cooperation from lots of people," Welch said.

All searches are critical and all are tough, Welch said. Even if crews know where to look, there is no saying what they will find.

The recent search was especially complex because of the lack of information available.

"We only knew they may have gone hunting somewhere by Oakley," said search and rescue member Rod Draper. "That's a big area."

The two hunters did the right thing by staying near their truck. "A truck is much easier to spot than a single person," said Jim Laska, a rescue volunteer.

But stranded or lost people also should use common sense, Welch said.

"We had an incident where some recreationalists had strayed only a few hundred feet from a main path," he said. "Because they felt lost, they hunkered down and stayed put, waiting for someone to come find them."

When they were finally located three days later, the group told of hearing search units nearby, but said they did not go back to the path because they had been told if you are lost to stay put.

"The path they referred to was a searchers who were looking for them," Welch said. "So, yes, there is such thing as common sense."

## Holiday pounds a danger for young and old

By Joshua Palmer  
Times-News writer

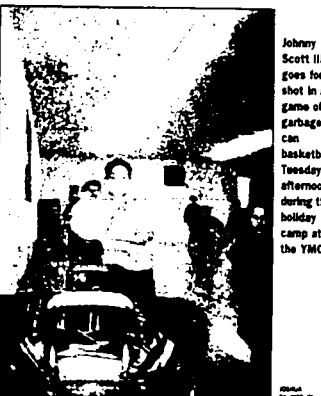
**TWIN FALLS** — Many people start to regret those new holiday pounds as their vacations come to an end and they find that their pants are a little more snug around the waist. Most local health clubs say their enrollment numbers increase before the Christmas weekend — an event that one local health club calls "the preemptive strike."

Although many people gauge the success of the holidays based on their consumption levels, the New England Journal of Medicine says it may be more dangerous than previously thought — especially for young adults and children.

The study suggests that Americans gain about a pound during the winter holiday — significantly less than previously thought, but the accumulated weight through the years may be a major contributor to obesity later in life.

### Health tips for the holidays

- Stick to your regular exercise routine.
  - Cut back on television viewing time, and go outside.
  - Take a break from holiday baking or football half-time to take a brisk walk.
  - Start a family tradition of backyard games or snow soccer.
  - Be physically active to avoid or relieve holiday stress.
- Interested?**
- To learn more about childhood obesity:
- <http://www.nchd.nih.gov>
  - <http://www.niddk.nih.gov>
- "These findings suggest that developing ways to avoid holiday weight gain may be interesting." —
- See HEALTH, Page B4



Johnny Scott III goes for a shot in a game of garbage-can basketball Tuesday afternoon during the holiday camp at the YMCA.

### Snowpack levels

Watershed	12/27/05	% of 30-year average
Salmon	100%	37%
Big Wood	109%	40%
Little Wood	102%	37%
Big Lost	107%	37%
Little Lost	88%	34%
Henry's Fork/Teton	98%	37%
Upper Snake Basin	98%	38%
Osley	102%	37%
Salmon Falls	106%	38%

As of Dec. 27

\*A comparison of basin snowpack on this day, with a 30-year average. The ratio of basin snowpack to the 30-year average is shown.

## Declo maintenance superintendent gives clean report of water tanks

By Mary Lynne Bristol  
Times-News correspondent

**DECLO** — Although it has been a little more than a decade since the city's water tanks received a thorough cleaning, Maintenance Superintendent James reported during the December meeting of the Declo City Council that

the inside of the tanks are clean and in good shape. He said that about two inches of sand was found in them when Layland Engineering went inside and cleaned.

"I am very happy that they were in such good shape," he stated, "because it has been at least 11 years since they were cleaned." City Clerk Terri

Koyle reported that the cost did not exceed the amount quoted by the tank cleaning firm.

A letter from North Cassia Rural Fire District, of which Declo is a part, requested a \$25 pay increase for each firefighter to be used for personal needs during firefighting duties. The request was approved. The letter also stated that the district

is wanting to place a new truck in Declo, but the current fire station is not long enough to house it. The council discussed how to extend the building and agreed to check into the cost.

Mayor Jay Darrington noted that the city has to be careful about expenditures during the coming year in order to make sure it has enough funds for its

match to the block grant obtained to upgrade the electrical system. In discussing the electrical upgrade project, Darrington reported that the project engineer is now in the process of obtaining bids for the labor on the project. He requested that the city clerk ask

See DECLEO, Page B2

MAGIC VALLEY

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](mailto:obits@magicvalley.com). Death notices at the funeral home 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](http://www.magicvalley.com) and click on "Obituaries."

**JEROME** — Eugenio Ortiz Luna, 64, of Jerome, passed away Monday, Dec. 26, 2005, in Jerome.

Gene was born Sept. 7, 1941, in Lohn, Texas, the son of Eugenio Luna and Petra Ortiz Luna. Eugenio was raised in San Antonio. He married Mary Helen Apodaca on Sept. 29, 1963, in Perry, Utah. He will be remembered as a great man, husband, father, stepfather, grandfather, great-grandfather and friend. Eugenio was full of life and happiness. He enjoyed fishing, and he loved to joke. He was always willing to lend a helping hand and give great advice for all.

Eugenio is survived by his wife, Mary, of Jerome; daughters, Veronica Luna, Monica Luna, Antonia (Jose) Gomez and Cecile Luna, all of Jerome; sons, Michael Garcia of Redding, Calif., Nicholas (Robin) Garcia of Jerome, Pete (Eva Rosa) Luna of Laredo, Texas, and Abel Luna of Avenal, Calif. He also is survived

Eugenio Luna



by 26 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, whom he dearly loved and enjoyed. He also is survived by many extended family members and friends. Eugenio was preceded in death by two sons, David and Larry; his parents; and several brothers and sisters. A funeral Mass celebrating his life will be conducted at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, Dec. 29,

2005, at St. Jerome's Catholic Church, 216 Second Ave. E. in Jerome, with Father Ron Wekeler presiding. A vigil will be conducted at 7 p.m. today at St. Jerome's Catholic Church. Eugenio will always be loved and will be dearly missed. Arrangements are under the care of Farnsworth Mortuary, 1343 S. Lincoln, Jerome, ID 83338.

Ila Schmidt



**JEROME** — Ila Jean Schmidt, 71, of Jerome, died Sunday, Dec. 25, 2005, at the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

She was born Feb. 16, 1934, at Jerome, the daughter of Lewis Clyde and Pearl Mae Weaver Bevens, the youngest of nine children.

Ila spent her early years on the farm helping her family with the chores, such as milking, feeding and hauling the milk to town. During her senior year, they sold the farm and moved to town. She went to work at the Dairy Queen (now a Sheppard's). That is where she met her future husband, Pete Schmidt, who was working just up the street at Jerome Gas and Oil. They were married on Sept. 4, 1955, at Jerome.

Pete and Ila opened the Kwik Service on west main in 1978 and sold it in 1996 when they retired. She enjoyed many hunting, fishing and camping trips. Good Sam

trips and spending time with her grandchildren. Survivors include her husband, Pete; two daughters, Carrie Jean (Tim) Barnes of Jerome and Janice Kay (Ken) Mayer of Tigard, Ore.; two sisters, Ethal Dexter of Twin Falls and Vera Bidgway of Jerome; a brother, Howard Bevens of Jerome; and six grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and one

brother, Lonnie.

The funeral will be conducted at 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 29, 2005, at the Howe-Robertson Funeral Chapel with the Rev. Gene Kissinger officiating. Burial will follow in the Jerome Cemetery. Friends may call from 9 a.m. until noon Thursday at the mortuary. The family suggests memorials to the American Heart Association.

Jerry Feriante



**TWIN FALLS** — Jerry Paul Feriante, 89, of Twin Falls, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2005, at Bridgeview Estates in Twin Falls, Idaho.

Jerry was born May 18, 1916, in San Mateo, Calif. He was the third son of Antonio Thomaso Feriante and Rose Barbara, who immigrated from Mesina, Sicily. In 1910 with his oldest brother, Anthony. There were eight children in their family.

Surviving Jerry are his two younger brothers, Carlo of Yakima and Fred of Walnut Creek, Calif., his wife, Merle Emery, and 10 of their 11 children. He was preceded in death by six siblings; his oldest son, Roger; and great-granddaughter, Heather.

Jerry served four years in the medical corps in World War II. He met his wife, Merle, while stationed at Camp Rupert, Idaho. They were married two years later and moved to San Mateo, Calif. Their 11 children, Roger, Randy, Chris, Dana, Lisa, Hannah, Sara, Amy, Aaron, Adam and Mark were all born while they lived in San Mateo. In 1954, they and five of their children were sealed for

time and eternity in the Salt Lake City Temple. In 1968, they moved to Idaho with nine of their children. Roger and Randy stayed in California. Jerry, who had been with the Postal Service in California, went to work for them in Idaho. After he retired, he spent most of his time at the golf course. He won the LDS Church Regional Golf Tournament and has the hole-in-one trophy. These last 10 years have been difficult for him. It has

been a struggle for him to let go of being the guiding force at the head of his family. He has always paid the bills and handled the finances and he wasn't sure anyone else could do it. As coaching became more difficult, he had to concentrate just on staying alive. His main concerns were for his wife. He was scrupulously honest, non-judgmental, always willing to cut someone some slack. His passing left a rich legacy. What the family does with it is up to them.

The funeral for Jerry was held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 27, 2005, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Park Avenue in Twin Falls, Idaho. Interment was held following services at the Oakley Cemetery in Oakley, Idaho. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the 16th Ward Missionary Work of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. All services and arrangements are under the direction of the Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls, Idaho.

Iris Ortega

**TWIN FALLS** — Iris Katina Odila Ortega, beloved infant daughter of Crystal Miller, was stillborn, Monday, Dec. 26, 2005.

Iris is survived by her mother, Crystal Miller of Twin Falls; father, Jose Ortega

of Cassia County, Idaho; brother, Ilek Ortega; sister, Aisha Hunter; stepiblings, Jose and Jacob Ortega of Cassia County, Idaho; grandmother, Terry Anderson of Twin Falls; great-grandparents, Yvonne

and Frank Anderson of Twin Falls; uncle, Cody Anderson.

A service will be conducted at 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 29, 2005, at White Mortuary Chapel by the Rev. Fr. Interment will follow in Sunset Memorial Park.

Declo

Continued from B1

the engineer to keep the council better informed about the progress of the project.

In other business, liquor licenses were approved for the Country Store Gas and Deli, Shakers Lounge and The Big Kahuna. Resident deputy sheriff Eric Nebecker gave his monthly report stating that he didn't have as many hours as usual, but he had written several citations. A request from the city clerk to separate the water and sewer account into two accounts, as recommended by the city auditor, was approved. Christmas bonuses for the city employees were approved and the council noted that the number of delinquent utility accounts was much less than usual. City Attorney David Shirley was asked to prepare an ordinance prohibiting truck parking on city streets and approval was given for BPA to e-mail its billing to the city.

At the conclusion of the meeting, retiring councilman Andy Anderson was honored. Cake was served and he was presented with a gift certificate in appreciation for 21 years of service to the council. "It has been a very worthwhile experience," he said. "I appreciate having worked with a lot of fine people. The city has seen a lot of change during these years and is in a good position to continue to grow."

Mary Lynne Bristol is a correspondent for The Times-News. She can be reached by e-mail at [bristolb@tmail.com](mailto:bristolb@tmail.com).

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OBITUARIES

Clifford Connell



**TWIN FALLS** — Clifford James "C.J." (Swede) Connell, passed away Monday, Dec. 26, 2005, at the Twin Falls Care Center in Twin Falls.

C.J. was born April 18, 1911, in Stotts City, Mo., to Frank and Jenner Scott Connell. He married Marjorie Goff on Dec. 15, 1934, in Lincoln, Neb. After Marjorie's death in 1977, C.J. met Edith Tilson, and they were married on Jan. 5, 1979, in Twin Falls, Idaho.

C.J. lived and worked on farms around Jerome, Wendell, Shoshone, Hailey and Filer most of his adult life. The last several years before he retired at 85 years old were spent as caretaker for the Filer IOOF Cemetery. He loved all kinds of animals but especially his cows and horses.

C.J. is survived by one daughter, Frances Green of West

Jordan, Utah; sister, Wanda (Raymond) Hale of Redlands, Calif.; stepdaughter, Evelyn Haslam of Filer, Idaho; stepson, Howard (Virginia) Tilson of Twin Falls; grandchildren, Judy (Russ) Rowberry and Bren-

na Green, both of West Jordan, Utah; grandsons, Russell (Heather) Rowberry of West Valley, Utah, and Paul Rowberry of West Jordan, Utah; four great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren; along with several step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Marjorie in 1977; wife, Edith in 1997; and one sister, Julia Garth.

The funeral will be conducted 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 29, 2005, at White Mortuary Chapel. Interment will follow in the Filer Cemetery. Friends may call from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday at White Mortuary "Chapel by the Park." The family suggests memorials to the Filer Cemetery, in care of Tom Lancaster, 3219 E. 3225 N., Twin Falls, ID 83301.

Frank T. McAuley Jr.



**TWIN FALLS** — Frank T. McAuley Jr. passed away at his home on Friday, Dec. 23, 2005.

He was born on May 25, 1939 in Salem, Ore., the only child of Inez McAuley. Unfortunately, Frank Sr. died before Frank Jr. was born. Inez and her son, Frank, moved to Twin Falls, Idaho, in 1943. Frank's mother, Inez, taught school in the Twin Falls School District. Frank attended classes in this district until his graduation in 1957.

Two years after his high school graduation, Frank went through Field Medical School at the Great Lakes Naval training facility. He graduated from this training institute and was transferred to the Marine Corps to serve as a corpsman.

Frank thoroughly enjoyed the years he served and spoke often of the fascinating places he saw around the world. His medical training proved sufficient in 1965 to 1961, he became the family "surgeon." Frank left the Navy in 1962 with an honorable discharge. Soon after his return, Frank chose to follow in his father's footsteps and become a barber. He attended barber college in Boise, Idaho, and graduated in 1965 as a registered barber. Frank worked at Varsity Barber Shop in the Lynwood Shopping Center from 1965 to 1981. He met many interesting people during his career, and was always ready to share a pleasant memory from his years as a barber.

Barbering was an important part of Frank's life, but not nearly as enjoyable as being a father to his son and daughter. He gave his children a childhood filled with adventure. He took them to places that few people have dared to venture. There were few places in the wilds of Idaho, northern Nevada and Oregon that the McAuleys didn't leave a footprint or tire track.

Frank especially loved to go salmon fishing on the Oregon coast. He also enjoyed fishing at Salmon Dam in the ball with friends. When he couldn't explore physically, he did it by exploring a good book. He was a well-read man and lived many adventures in this manner. His children will remember him as a "sparky" dad, and his friends will remember him as an entertainer, but he was much more than that. He was a compassionate man who would truly give the "proverbial" shirt off of his back.

Dad, your memory will live on as we continue to seek new adventures. We will miss the stories and jokes that you shared at the wooden table under your elm tree. We love

you.

Frank was preceded in death by his mother and father. He is survived by his children, Mike (Tache) McAuley and Maureen (Leland) McAuley-Morr, all of Twin Falls.

Friends are invited to attend a celebration of Frank's life at 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 30, 2005, at the Magic Valley Fellowship Hall, 401 Second Ave. N. Memorial contributions may be made to the Magic Valley Fellowship Hall, in care of Ward, 401 Second Ave. N., Twin Falls, ID 83301.

Century Cinema 5 & Burley Theatre  
KING KONG  
12:30 • 2:45 • 7:30 (PG-13)  
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2  
2:00 • 2:45 • 7:20 • 9:18 (PG)  
FUN WITH DICK & JANE  
2:00 • 2:45 • 7:20 • 9:18 (PG-13)  
THE ORIGINAL OF NARNIA  
1:45 • 4:20 • 7:00 • 9:35 (PG)  
RUMOR HAS IT  
2:00 • 2:45 • 7:30 • 9:30 (PG-13)  
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DREAMER  
7:30 • 9:30 (PG)

Vera B. Howell



**BURLEY** — Vera B. Howell, a 97-year-old resident of Burley, died Saturday, Dec. 24, 2005, at Parke View Care & Rehabilitation Center in Burley.

She was born Aug. 5, 1908, in Oakley, Idaho, the daughter of William Henry and Addy Sanford Bunn. She moved to the Burley area when she was 2 years old and graduated from the eighth grade at the View School. She then completed her education at Burley High School. She married Sid Howell on Sept. 9, 1926. They resided many years in Compton, Calif. Following Sid's death, she returned to Burley, where she had since resided.

Vera was taught the value of hard work at an early age while working side-by-side with her brother. She then completed her education at Burley High School. She continued that hard work ethic throughout her life. She worked many years at the Pic-

ton Ice Cream Parlor and later took care of the elderly and those who were sick. Vera had a wonderful vegetable garden and enjoyed canning the produce received from it. She was also an outstanding seamstress, sewing and making her own

clothing and beautiful quilts. She was an original member of the Burley Senior Citizens and enjoyed attending its many functions until an auto accident made it impossible for her to stay active.

She is survived by her son, Don (Lola Grunsbury) Howell of Burley; one daughter, LeVena Obetz of Vista, Calif.; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. In addition to her husband, Vera was preceded in death by her parents, five brothers, and one son, Glen.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 30, 2005, at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, where friends and family may call one hour prior to the service. Officiating will be Pastor Quinna Yarbrough. Burial will be in Pleasant View Cemetery,

Abbie Pyne



**TWIN FALLS** — Abbie Barker Pyne, 81, of Twin Falls, died Thursday, Dec. 22, 2005, at Phoenix, Ariz.

She was born April 2, 1924, at Elba, Idaho, the daughter of John Edmund and Teggie Harriet Orley Barker. She moved to Jerome with her family in 1928 and was reared and educated in Jerome. Abbie married Leo Vincent Pyne at Jerome on Oct. 12, 1941, and the marriage was later solemnized in the Salt Lake LDS Temple. They later moved to Twin Falls, where they have since resided. She was an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. For 39 years, Abbie took a very active part in the Scouting program and received the Silver

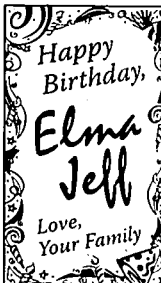
Beaver Award in 1977.

Survivors include her husband, Leo of Twin Falls; one daughter, Mary-Lou Whitaker of

Boise; four sons, Leo B. (Linda) of Montpelier, Robert B. (Linda) of Falcon, Colo., Melvin B. (Jan) of Murtaugh and Richard B. of Provo, Utah. Also surviving are one sister, Lola Lee of Quartzsite, Ariz.; 30 grandchildren and 82 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a son, Kelvin, and one grandson.

The funeral for Abbie Barker Pyne will be conducted at 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 30, 2005, in the Twin Falls 4th Ward LDS Chapel on Harrison Street. Burial will follow in the Filer Cemetery. Friends may call from 6 until 6 p.m. Thursday at the Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome and one hour before the service Friday at the church in Twin Falls.

You'll find another obituary, death notices and services on page B4.



**Crump**  
Continued from B1

nice to use just at present. ... And now suppose you put the children.

Ames, Santa showed up. He left you a snow shovel instead of a snow blower, and he did so because that's all that you merited this year.

If now you could take that shovel back to Ace Hardware, get a \$12 refund and blow it on one-fourth of an Xbox game for your kids. That way lies madness.

Or you could screw your courage to the sickling place and use that snow shovel as God intended, hermiting a disk in the process. That way lies redemption.

It seems to me that the Lord gave us all many gifts — and that he probably didn't keep the receipt.

Many happy returns.

Times-News columnist Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223, or write to him at [scrump@magicvalley.com](mailto:scrump@magicvalley.com).

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—Lula Ashcraft, Jerome

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MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

OBITUARY

Karol Hodges



PAUL — Karol McClellan Hodges, age 78, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 27, 2005, at her home in Paul.

She was born Jan. 22, 1927 in Grace, Idaho, a daughter of Scott and Mildred Aylett McClellan. She was married to Blaine D. Hodges January 25, 1948, in Evanston, Wyo. They made their home in Ogden, Utah, while Karol finished her registered nurse education at De Memorial Hospital and began her nursing career. She continued private duty nursing while raising a family and working beside her husband on various family farms near Rupert, Raft River and finally Paul, Idaho. Karol returned to part-time nursing at Minidoka Memorial Hospital in 1967, where she worked until retirement in early 1995. She lived her life as a nurse, giving love and care to those in need. She found great joy in gardening, flowers

children: one sister, DeLores (Ilomer) Brighton of Kayville, Utah; and numerous special friends. Karol was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Hollis McClellan and Arthur McClellan; and two sisters, Avis Blodgett and Verla Ison.

The family wishes to express their love and immense appreciation to the Minidoka Hospice staff. Donations to the Minidoka Home Health & Hospice organization are requested in lieu of flowers.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 30, 2005, at the Paul LDS Stake Center, 424 W. Ellis in Paul, Idaho. Viewings will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday at the Rupert Hansen Mortuary, 710 Sixth St., and from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. before the service Friday at the church. Interment will be in the Paul City Cemetery immediately following the service.

SERVICES

Richard Lee Long of Twin Falls, funeral at noon today at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Chapel, 847 Eastland Drive N. Friends and family may call from 10 a.m. to noon today at the church (White Mortuary).

friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. today at the mortuary.

10:45 a.m. Thursday at the church.

Dr. Don Lee Royster of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. Thursday at the United Methodist Church, 450 E. 27th St. Friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., and from 10 to

Lola E. Noh of Buhl, funeral at 11 a.m. Friday at the First Presbyterian Church on Main Street, viewing from 3 to 7 p.m. Thursday at the Farmer Funeral Chapel, 130 N. Ninth Ave.

DEATH NOTICES

Ila Moon HEYBURN — Ila Marie Moon, 83, of Heyburn, died Tuesday, Dec. 27, 2005, at her home.

Wendell, died Friday, Dec. 23, 2005, at her residence.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 30, 2005, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Emerson Ward Chapel, 950 W. 125 S., Paul, with Bishop Ted Tateoka officiating. Burial will be in the Riverside Cemetery in Heyburn. Friends may call from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Friday at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of Payne Mortuary in Burley.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 31, 2005, at the Living Waters Presbyterian Church in Wendell. Burial will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Bruneau Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the direction of Demaray Funeral Service in Wendell.

Phoebe Greer BURLEY — Phoebe Charlotte Greer, 97, of Burley, died Tuesday, Dec. 27, 2005, at Parker View Care & Rehabilitation Center.

Zelda Wiseman TWIN FALLS — Zelda Bake Wiseman, 98, of Twin Falls and formerly of Wells, Nev., died Monday, Dec. 26, 2005, at the Twin Falls Care Center.

The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 30, 2005, at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Burley. Friends and family may call one hour before the service at the funeral home. Burial will be in the Rupert Cemetery. A complete obituary will appear in Thursday's newspaper.

The funeral will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 31, 2005, at the LDS Church in Wells, Nev. Burial will follow at the Metropolis Cemetery. A viewing for family and friends will be held from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Saturday at the church.

Arrangements are under the direction of White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Tammy Scarborough WENDELL — Tammy Maureen Scarborough, 34, of

Zelma Jorgenson HEROME — Zelma Jorgenson of Jerome, died Monday, Dec. 26, 2005, at Birdview Estates in Twin Falls. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Howe-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

Smoke shop clerk fatally shoots intruder

STATE LINE, Idaho (AP) — Confronted by a masked man who pulled a handgun and demanded money, a tobacco shop clerk pulled his own .40 caliber handgun and shot the intruder 10 times, killing him, a Kootenai County sheriff's officer said Tuesday.

Wash. Sheriff's Capt. Ben Wolfinger said Hatchie entered Lewis' Smoke Shop shortly before 8 p.m. Monday, wearing a gray ski mask. The masked man aimed his weapon at the clerk's chest and demanded money, Wolfinger said. The clerk told sheriff's deputies that he reached under

the counter for a bag, came up instead with his semiautomatic and started firing. When deputies and medics arrived, Hatchie was lying dead on the floor. The weapon found with Hatchie turned out to be an air-powered pellet gun that looks identical to a Walther P-38 semi-automatic, Wolfinger said.

Health

Continued from B1

extremely important for preventing obesity and the diseases associated with it," said Dawn Alexander, the director of the National Institute of Child Health & Human Development.

Karen Jachimowski, CEO of the YMCA, said the YMCA operates holiday camps for children. She said those camps usually have strong enrollment throughout the holidays.

"We have up to 35 kids enrolled in the camp, but varies at any given time," Jachimowski said. She said most of the kids in the camp have parents who are working during the holiday vacation, so the number of kids depends on the number of parents who are able to take time off for vacation.

The camp begins at 7 in the morning and offers the kids an array of activities that include garbage-can basketball, floor hockey and almost anything else an imagination can create. It just may be that these kids are doing more than keeping busy; they are also protecting themselves from adult obesity.

Susan Yanovsk, executive director of the National Task Force on the Treatment and Prevention of Obesity and co-author of the study, said more physical activity during the holidays is the best way to offset the tendency to overeat.

"The finding that study volunteers who reported more physical activity had less holiday weight gain suggests that increasing physical activity may be an effective method for preventing weight gain during this high-risk time," Yanovsk said.

Besides, the YMCA, many local gyms offer physical activities for kids such as Gold's Gym, which offers swimming, gymnastics and dance classes for youth.

Unfortunately, most people tend to enroll in the "preemptive strike" before the holidays, and then fizzle out a few months into the new year.

Rachel Larson, who works at the Twin Falls Fitness Center, said the club usually sees a sudden enrollment increase two weeks before the holiday weekend.

"Before Christmas we had quite a few people coming in to enroll, but we don't have very many who come in to work out during the break," Larson said. "But every year right after New Years we get a lot of people working out, and then it kind of dwindles down later on."

But local health clubs also said their enrollment numbers decrease during February as New Year's resolutions are set aside for work and school.

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INL truck crashes near Blackfoot

BLACKFOOT (AP) — A tractor-trailer rig returning to the Idaho National Laboratory from a radioactive waste dump in New Mexico overturned on Interstate 15 early Tuesday, leaving three empty transport casks strewn on both sides of

the roadway. After the accident, Idaho State Police hazardous materials specialists found no evidence of higher-than-normal radioactivity levels in several tests at the site just south of Blackfoot.

The driver, 64-year-old Mary I. Thorberg of Carlsbad, and a passenger, 54-year-old Leslie P. Godin of Carlsbad, were released from a local medical clinic after doctors determined neither suffered serious injuries.

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## The sweets and soup you asked for

I started writing this column in 1994 and, over the years, occasionally received requests for recipes. Most requests were isolated, and if I could find the recipe I gave it directly to the person who asked for it. But lately I received several requests at once and decided to devote a column to them.

A woman from Jerome wants a recipe for caramel brownies. I didn't have a copy in my files but found a great one online. A lady from Buhl requested a soft sugar cookie recipe, and a fellow from Burley wants a good French onion soup.



### CARAMEL-CASHEW BROWNIES

Makes 10 (2-inch) brownies

1/2 cup butter cut into 8 pieces, plus extra for greasing  
3 ounces unsweetened chocolate, coarsely chopped  
1 cup sugar  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
2 large eggs, at room temperature  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
3/4 cup cake flour, sifted  
3/4 cup semi-sweet or bitter-sweet chocolate chunks  
Caramel-cashew topping:  
1/4 cup cream  
About 40 store-bought caramels  
Pinch salt  
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract  
1/2 to 3/4 cup cashews, coarsely chopped

To make the brownies: Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Line an 8-inch square baking dish with parchment paper or a sheet of aluminum foil, making sure to cover corners and sides. Lightly butter the aluminum foil; leave parchment dry.

In the bowl of a double-boiler set over simmering water, combine the butter and 3 ounces chopped unsweetened chocolate. Stirring often, heat until melted and smooth. Remove from the heat and stir in the sugar and salt. Add the eggs and vanilla and stir until well blended. Fold in the sifted flour and stir until the flour disappears. Stir in the chocolate chunks.

Pour the batter into the prepared baking dish and spread evenly. Bake about 30 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean. Baking time will be longer if you are using a metal pan. Do not over bake. Transfer the dish to a wire rack and cool completely.

To make the topping: Pour the cream into the bowl of a double boiler set over simmering water. Unwrap and add caramels. Stir frequently to prevent sticking, until the mixture becomes homogeneous and smooth. Remove from heat and keep stirring until the caramel becomes a little thicker and the mixture begins to cool.

Add a pinch of salt and the vanilla and stir. Fold the cashews into the caramel mixture until nuts are completely coated. Pour mixture over the top of the cooled brownies, and spread evenly.

Refrigerate the brownies until the caramel is set, about 30 to 45 minutes. Remove brownies from the pan by grabbing the sides of the foil or parchment and lifting them from the pan. With a serrated knife, cut the brownies into 2-inch squares. They can be stored in an airtight container for 2 days or in a covered container in the refrigerator for 4 days.

### SOFT SUGAR COOKIE

Makes 40 to 50 medium cookies

1/2 cup margarine or butter  
1/2 cup sugar  
1 egg  
1/4 cup milk  
1/2 cup powdered sugar  
1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla  
2 1/2 cups flour  
1/2 teaspoon cream of tartar  
1/2 teaspoon soda  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
Mix margarine, sugar, egg,

# Focus on fat

## More healthful Girl Scout Cookies are on the way

By Matt Christensen  
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — In just three weeks, the Girl Scouts will come knocking. It's cookie time, and this year, the Scouts are heralding new, more healthful cookies.

Two of eight treats feature zero trans fat. Tagalongs and Lemon Coolers. But Magic Valley cookie connoisseurs will miss out on a handful of new zero-trans-fat treats available elsewhere.

Girl Scouts of Silver Sage Council, which include Magic Valley Scouts, get their cookies from Little Brownie Bakers, one of two licensed Girl Scout Cookie bakers in the country. Little Brownie features two cookie lines with no trans fat.

The other licensee, ABC Cookie Baker, now features five cookies with zero trans fat, including the popular Thin Mints and Caramel deLites.

Magic Valley consumers can still get Thin Mints — the bakers are allowed to produce cookies with the same name using different recipes — they'll just have trans fat.

In response to new food science, starting Jan. 1 the Food and Drug Administration will require foods that contain trans fat to state amounts on the labels. The rule is expected to affect about 40 percent of the goods on supermarket shelves.

Once thought to be a healthful alternative to saturated fats, trans fats have recently been shown to raise LDL, or "bad" cholesterol, levels.

Trans fats — used to stabilize flavor, make foods creamy and increase shelf life — usually come from partially hydrogenated oils found in most cookies, cakes and processed foods.

Girl Scout Cookies join a cavalcade of other foods, from Lyon breaded chicken to ConAgra table spreads, that have cut trans fat in anticipation of the FDA mandate. By this time next year, the Scouts hope to have the substance out of all their cookies.

In the meantime, Magic Valley cookie eaters will have to read the labels. Instead, Candy Cookies and Do-si-dos — the versions made by Little Brownie Bakers and sold here — contain 2 grams of trans fat per serving. All Abouts have 1.5 grams, and Thin Mints and Samoas have 1 gram per serving.

ing. The FDA recommends Americans limit trans fat consumption to no more than 2 grams per day.

How many sweets make a serving? That varies from cookie to cookie. Four Thin Mints, three Do-si-dos, two Tagalongs, "Even with less trans fat, cookies still should be eaten within the guidelines for a healthy diet," said Silver Sage communications specialist Ashley Marchel. "We've always maintained that Girl Scout Cookies are a snack food and should be eaten in moderation."



Girl Scouts nationwide will offer healthier alternatives in some of their cookies — meant to taste like the traditional cookies but without trans fat. Samantha Burley, left, Becca Keele, center, and Britney Quinton from Troop 628 of Twin Falls will begin selling their cookies in early January.

REDUCED FAT **Tagalongs**

Nutrition Facts	
Serving Size 3 Cookies (20g)	
Servings Per Container about 6	
Amount Per Serving	% Daily Value*
Calories 130	Calories from Fat 60
Total Fat 4g	8%
Saturated Fat 1.5g	3%
Trans Fat 0g	0%
Cholesterol 0mg	0%
Sodium 115mg	9%
Total Carbohydrate 22g	7%
Dietary Fiber 0g	0%
Sugars 12g	
Protein 1g	
Vitamin A 0%	Vitamin C 0%
Calcium 0%	Iron 2%

**Tagalongs**

Nutrition Facts	
Serving Size 3 Cookies (20g)	
Servings Per Container about 6	
Amount Per Serving	% Daily Value*
Calories 130	Calories from Fat 60
Total Fat 10g	20%
Saturated Fat 4.5g	9%
Trans Fat 0g	0%
Cholesterol 0mg	0%
Sodium 100mg	8%
Total Carbohydrate 13g	4%
Dietary Fiber 1g	4%
Sugars 7g	
Protein 2g	
Vitamin A 0%	Vitamin C 0%
Calcium 0%	Iron 2%

That's the message we pass on to the girls.

With most Girl Scout Cookies, servings containing all or nearly half of the recommended daily allowance, the introduction of two cookies without trans fat has area Girl Scout leaders seeing dollar signs.

"People are watching their diets more for it," said Cindy Butler, a Twin Falls leader. "We think (zero trans fat cookies) will be a good selling point, particularly with the Tagalongs, because they have so much

peanut butter."

Burley said she'll bring the girls about the new cookies before they start selling in mid-January. Now, though, most of the girls in Burley's troop don't know what trans fat is, let alone how it plays into their cookies or their sales pitches.

"We had a 15-year-old girl at our last troop meeting, and the Scouts came up blank."

"We're going to talk to the girls about it soon," said Burley. "And we'll put together a display board about trans fat for our booths."

Magic Valley Girl Scouts began Jan. 13 taking orders for cookies. They'll be delivered at the end of February, and booths will open the first weekend in March. This year's cookies cost \$3.00 per box, including tax.

Times-News features writer Matt Christensen can be reached at 735-3243 or mchrist@timesnews.net. Knight Ridder News Service contributed to this report.

## With kids in the kitchen, messes rule

By Brooke Brantley  
The Dallas Morning News

Sooner or later, the family has to eat, and there's no better way to spend time with kids than by getting your hands messy together. A bonus: Children will usually eat things they make.

When working with little chefs, a certain added mess is to be expected. Also, don't be overly concerned about time: Children will have more fun if you're not watching the clock.

Little cooks have short attention spans, so give them quick, simple jobs and instructions a step at a time.

When my oldest son, Ben, turned 3, he suddenly took an interest in cooking. Granted a pardon to stand on the furniture (this dining room chair) and motivated by the opportunity to

**BENJAMIN'S BLUEBERRY BUCKLE**

1 cup quick cooking oats  
1 cup packed brown sugar  
2 (14-ounce) cans blueberry pie filling (or for a peach buckle, peach slices in heavy syrup)  
1 box yellow cake mix (dry, straight out of the bag)  
1 stick of butter, melted

Preheat oven to 350 F. Spray the bottom of a glass 13 by 9-inch pan with vegetable spray and set aside.

Mix the oats and brown sugar to gether in a medium bowl. Sprinkle half this mixture over the bottom of the glass pan. Pour the blue-

berry pie filling over the oat and sugar mixture and spread evenly. Sprinkle the cake mix over the fruit and smooth out in the pan. Finish with the remaining oat and sugar mix. Drizzle the butter evenly across the sugar topping. Bake for 30 to 45 minutes or until the brown sugar looks like caramel.

Let cool for 15 minutes. Serve with your favorite vanilla ice cream or just by itself. Makes 12 servings.

**KID-FRIENDLY TASKS**

Kids 3 and older can:

- mix the oatmeal and brown sugar.
- sprinkle the oatmeal mixture into

the baking pan.

- pour the canned pie filling.
- sprinkle the cake mix.

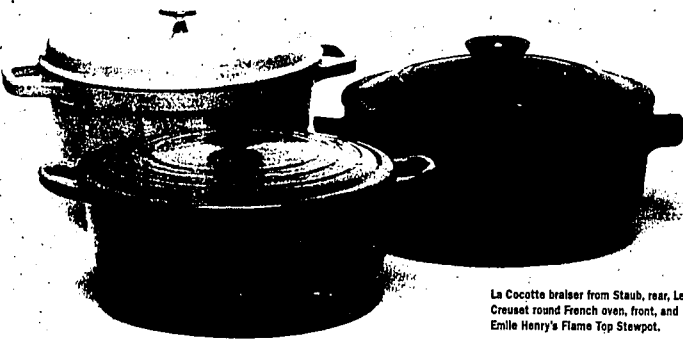
**SAFETY TIPS**

- Remind kids that good cooks always wash their hands before they start. Keep washing them through out the cooking process.
- Teach youngsters that the stove is hot and to avoid touching it if possible, use burners that are out of reach, and turn the handles of pots and pans to the side.
- Supervise young children constantly.
- Due to the risk of salmonella, don't let kids taste batters or dough containing raw eggs.

A good recipe to try is Benjamin's Blueberry Buckle. This dessert recipe has been retooled for young bakers, incorporating

a cake mix to simplify the process. The streusel topping has been altered by adding quick-cooking oats.

FOOD & HOME



La Cocotte braiser from Staub, rear, Le Creuset round French oven, front, and Emile Henry's Flame Top Stewpot.

BATTLE OF THE BRAISERS

By Donna Deane  
Los Angeles Times

Every fall, when braising season begins in earnest, we pull out our favorite heavyweight: a 5.5-quart round Le Creuset enameled cast-iron pot.

It's perfect for slow-cooking meat until it's meltingly tender, turning the braising liquid into a deeply flavorful sauce. We love everything about this pot — from its heavy-duty cast iron construction to its pale enamel interior, which makes it easy to judge browning (it's also easy to clean). The cast iron body holds heat well, and the lid fits snugly, creating an oven-like yet moist environment ideal for the long simmer.

Lately, though, a couple of new braisers have caught our eye. The first is Staub's 5-quart round, enameled cast-iron La Cocotte pot, whose bright colors would appeal to any Le Creuset fan. The other is the just-out Flame-Top Stewpot from Emile Henry, a black 5.5-quart, round pot made of glazed clay.

Both contenders happen to have lids that promise to give cooks a break from basting. When braising, you generally use less liquid than you would in a stew, which means the meat isn't submerged. So you'll need to peek in during cooking to baste the meat or turn it at least a couple of times to keep it moist.

But with the Staub and Emile Henry pots, the lids' undersides are dotted with nubs; as steam rises and condenses on the lid surface, the nubs are supposed to direct the moisture to drip over the meat during the cooking.

All this was so intriguing, we decided to put our Le Creuset to the test against the upstarts. For our braise-off, we made a batch of lamb shanks in each of the three braisers. We seared the shanks, sautéed aromatic vegetables, deglazed with a little broth, then added back the lamb shanks, along with more broth and wine.

NUTRITION FACTS  
Goose and duck



Serving	Total Fat	Total Protein	Total Carbohydrate	Total Fiber	Total Sugar	Total Sodium
Meat 1 cup	42g	30g	11g	0g	0g	110mg
Paire 3.5oz	42g	30g	11g	0g	0g	110mg
Goose meat	427	31	25	127		
Goose liver	462	44	11	150		

Source: USDA

July 2005 / The Evening Herald

Valley

Continued from C1  
powdered sugar, vanilla and milk. Add flour, cream of tartar, soda and salt. Roll in balls; flatten; sprinkle with sugar, cinnamon sugar or colored sugar and bake at 375 degrees for 8 to 10 minutes.

**FRENCH ONION SOUP**  
1 to 2 big onions, sliced and chopped.  
1/2 to 3/4 cup flour  
Chicken stock  
3 tablespoons butter  
Salt and pepper to taste  
Swiss cheese, grated  
Melt butter in large pot and

**Old faithful:**  
Le Creuset's 5.5-quart, round French oven is made of enameled cast iron and weighs 11.75 pounds. It can go on the stove. In the oven (up to 400 degrees) and into the dishwasher. It has a lifetime warranty.

**What's the difference:** Its pale enamel interior, which doesn't require seasoning, makes it easy to see when food has browned. **What we thought:** Le Creuset reigns supreme. This braiser not only cooks evenly and shows browning easily, but its tight-fitting lid does a good job of holding in moisture, an important factor in slow-cooking. Its handles are a good size for safe handling. It's also a breeze to clean up, with just hot soapy water and a sponge. If you don't own a braiser, this is the one to get.

**How much:** 5.5-Quart Le Creuset round French oven, about \$190. Online at [www.cooking.com](http://www.cooking.com) and [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). Colors vary by retailer.

**Hot stuff:**  
Emile Henry's 5.5-Quart Flame-Top Stewpot is made with clay from

Finally, we covered each braiser, brought it to a boil over the stove, checking for any escaping steam. Then into a 325-degree oven they went for about two hours. We pulled the Le Creuset out twice to baste and once to turn over the shanks. For the Staub and Emile Henry pots, we left them alone to work their purported magic (we resisted the temptation of peeking lest we wasted any precious steam by lifting the lid).

The results? All the braisers worked reasonably well. They browned the shanks, deglazed to our satisfaction and held their heat.

The Le Creuset, however, outperformed the contenders. Its lid was the tightest, releasing the least steam; its pale interior was preferable to those of Staub and Emile Henry (against the dark interiors, our lamb shanks inadvertently went past searing and into burn territory). Its handles were large enough to hold safely with pot holders (unlike the Emile Henry's precariously small, ear-like handles).

Its bottom surface amply held our four shanks in a single layer (unlike the narrower base of the slope-sided Staub). And we were surprised to find that the Staub and Emile Henry braisers didn't self-baste as promised. When we lifted their lids after cooking, the undersides had no moisture on them whatsoever.

The exposed parts of the lamb shanks also were quite dry. This obviously could be remedied with basting by the cook.

But even then, neither one has the Le Creuset braiser's unbeatable combination of features. It retains our favorite braiser.

add sliced onions. Fry onions until they turn brown. Add flour and stir quickly until flour turns brown. Gradually add chicken stock until desired thickness, stirring all the time. Season with salt and pepper and simmer about 10 minutes. Sprinkle grated cheese in individual bowls when served and top with toasted French bread.

The skinny on braisers

Burgundy, France, and is designed for stove top and oven use. Its manufacturer says that it can go in the freezer and microwave as well (and the dishwasher too). It has a one-year warranty.

**What's the difference:** It's a braiser or crossed with a clay pot. The glazed ceramic braiser must be seasoned before its first use by boiling milk for 3 minutes, then letting it cool. The Stewpot's lid also has self-basting dots on the underside.

**What we thought:** This braiser retains heat the best of all and has ample space for browning. It's simple to season, but like the Staub, the self-basting lid didn't do its job and the Stewpot's dark interior was not ideal for judging browning. Although it is microwaveable (it isn't made with any metal), it wouldn't fit in our under-the-cabinet microwave. Also, its earlike handles are awkward to hold with pot holders — danger zone for any hot pot.

**How much:** 5.5-Quart Emile Henry Flame-Top Stewpot, about \$165, from [www.cooking.com](http://www.cooking.com). Also comes in red.

**New appeal:**  
This 5-Quart La Cocotte braiser

from Staub appeals to Le Creuset fans: It's made of enameled cast-iron, comes in bright colors and weighs 11.75 pounds. It goes on the stove or in the oven (up to 500 degrees). It has a lifetime warranty and is dishwasher-safe.

**What's the difference:** Its interior enamel is a rough matte and black; it doesn't need seasoning and won't discolor. The lid has self-basting raised dots on the underside.

**What we thought:** The black interior makes it hard to gauge browning. It's easy to clean, though it's also easy to miss any dark, cooked-on spots of food. The pot's slanted sides make a smaller surface at the bottom for browning (our four lamb shanks wouldn't fit in one layer). Its easy-to-grip handles are the largest of the three braisers. But the self-basting dots disappoint; our shanks turned out somewhat dry. You could do the basting yourself, but the other negatives make Le Creuset a better choice.

**How much:** 5-Quart Staub La Cocotte braiser, about \$190, from [www.cooking.com](http://www.cooking.com). Colors vary by retailer.



Le Creuset is the best overall braiser.

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Clean your houseplants to eradicate spider mites

Spider mites sure are dependable. Winter comes. We batten down the hatches and wrap up tight. Nothing can get in to interrupt a long winter's nap. Except spider mites.

OK, they're tiny enough to escape the naked eye, but still nobody knows how they get in. No matter. They've spun their fine, telltale webs, and leaves are falling off the houseplants. They must leave.

I've become fond of Seventh Generation dish soap. I spread bath towels under the large pots to protect the floor, and I haul the smaller ones over to the sink. Then I put maybe a half teaspoon of soap in a bowl of warm water, snip off a corner of sponge, and give the entire plant a bath.

If you can make contact with soft-bodied insects such as aphids or spider mites, you can kill them. So I'm careful to slosh lots of soapy water into the plant's armpits and under its fingerlings. On top of the soil, too.

Just the sponging has a profound effect on spider mite populations. Wiping every surface with the sponge takes out a huge percentage of the beasts, along with their eggs.

Then I rinse with a clean bowl of warm water just tinted with black tea. The tea is a little astringent that helps close the leaf pores and rinse off soap residue.

The process ought to be repeated in a couple of weeks or so, just to make sure you got all the bugs and their eggs. Or you can resort to one of several insect sprays and granules found in the grocery store or nursery.

The granules smell terrible and shouldn't be used in a



GREEN THUMBPRINTS  
Cathy Walworth

household where cats live. (Some cats, you may have heard, like to scratch around in potting soil. Not yours, of course.) Some sprays come in a pump (non-aerosol) bottle and work well.

To discourage future spider mite visits, add a little less than a half teaspoon of soap to your watering can when you water.

Dear readers: Over the years I've asked for your input, you asked me to lunch; I intended to pass on a little knowledge. I learned so much from you. Thank you for your calls, letters and love. Green Thumbprints is going into semi-retirement, and it's time to say farewell.

Old friends, this doesn't have to be goodbye. Any time you have a garden question and don't know who else to ask, I'm as close as your computer screen. Just tap out my address, [cwalworth@msn.com](mailto:cwalworth@msn.com), and I'll be there.

May everything come up roses.

—Catherine

This is the final Green Thumbprints column by former Twin Falls resident Cathy Walworth.

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FOOD & HOME

# Rustic Bismarck features great rear view

By Associated Designs

"A hexagonal great room is at the core of the Bismarck, a vacation home designed to take full advantage of a panoramic view to the rear. Families that enjoy staying in touch with nature will appreciate this plan.

The rustic styling blends naturally into the landscape, whether constructed in a forest, at a canyon's edge, or by a river, lake, or seashore. Built as a vacation rental, it would surely be in high demand.

Log posts and beams support a dramatic covered porch that frames a French door entry. Stepping inside, you'll have a hard time suppressing an appreciation. "Wow."

At the rear, this wide-open great room is more windows than walls, with a view out across the wrap-around deck, into the great beyond. The central portion of the deck is covered. Log posts and beams, similar to those in front, provide support.

A long eating bar is all that separates the great room from the large kitchen. A central work island, added to already generous counter space, provides plenty of elbow room for multiple cooks working together to feed a crowd.

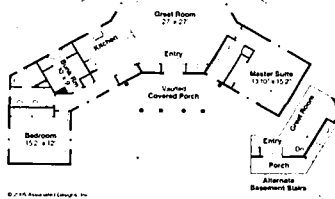
Off in a wing of its own, the Bismarck's master suite is well isolated from the other bedrooms. Its private bathroom, located between the great room and the sleeping area, provides additional sound buffering. It should be quiet enough to sleep here, even when other family members choose to stay up late.

The bunkroom has two sets of bunk beds, allowing family members to invite friends for overnighters.

Bedroom two could be sim-



**Bismarck**  
Plan 10-329  
Living Area: 1711 sq. ft.  
Dormer: 477 sq. ft.  
1000 SLEEPERS



ply outfitted, or furnished more conventionally.

For a review plan, including sectioned floor plans, elevations, section and artist's conception, send \$25 to Associated Designs, 1100 Jacobs Dr., Dept. W, Eugene, OR 97402. Please specify

the Bismarck 10-329 and include a return address when ordering. A catalog, featuring more than 500 home plans is available for \$15. For more information call (800) 634-0123, or visit our website at [www.associateddesigns.com](http://www.associateddesigns.com).

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The Times-News

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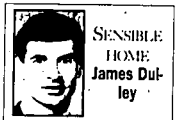
**ONELINK**

Photo courtesy of First Alert

The drawing at the bottom shows how all detectors will sound the alarm as compared with standard, noncommunicating detectors.

## Don't skimp on carbon monoxide detectors

**DEAR JIM:** We have a new gas furnace in our home with direct vent sealed combustion. The design seems very safe. Is it really necessary to spend still more to get carbon monoxide detectors for our home?



— Ken M.

**DEAR KEN:** You should absolutely have CO (carbon monoxide) detectors in a home which uses any type of combustion appliances. Even though new sealed combustion gas furnaces are much safer than older designs when it comes to possible CO poisoning, it is always better to be safe than sorry later.

If you have a gas furnace, you likely also have a gas water heater and range.

will provide the earliest warning of problems before the CO concentrations get to dangerous levels in the rest of the house.

CO gas kills almost 500 people and makes more than 15,000 people ill each year. The most frightening characteristic of CO is it is odorless, colorless and tasteless so your body cannot detect it. Unborn babies, infants, people with heart and respiratory disease are most susceptible to CO.

Also install at least one, and preferably several, in the sleeping areas of your home. If CO levels rise while you are sleeping, you will not be aware of the flu-like symptoms and it may be fatal. Also, it is usually colder at night, so the furnace runs more and produces more CO if there is a problem.

The newest designs of CO detectors communicate with one another. If the one near the furnace senses high CO levels and sounds, someone, especially the elderly, may not hear it in a bedroom. These communicating models sound all the detectors when any of them senses CO.

The early symptoms of CO poisoning are similar to the flu — nausea, dizziness, fatigue, vomiting, etc. When there is a malfunctioning heating appliance in a home, the CO level builds up over time. Without a CO detector, if your children feel these flu-like symptoms, you may just send them to bed to rest while the risk is still increasing.

Since the majority of CO problems occur from heating systems, it is wise to install a CO detector near them in the utility area or basement. This

Send inquiries to James Dudley, 6006 Rosalgreen Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45244 or visit [www.dudley.com](http://www.dudley.com).

## Vinegar and warm water can help remove wallpaper

**Question:** I would like to remove wallpaper that was put on about 15 years ago in one of my bathrooms. Is there an easy and safe way to remove it? What should I use? Will there be any strong fumes from what I would be using?

paper (and not the wall) comes off when you remove the wallpaper.

**Answer:** Vinegar in warm water still works best. And it would be a good thing if the person who put the wallpaper on in the first place used the wall beforehand — a process that creates a barrier between the wall material and back of the wallpaper, so that only the

If there seems to be no sizing and the paper was laid over dry wall, be very careful not to soak the drywall. Use a razor blade to cut the wallpaper so that the vinegar solution gets behind the paper and dissolves the bond between the adhesive and the wall, but take care that the water doesn't dissolve the paper on the drywall.

If the wall is plaster and you pull bits of plaster down, you can repair it, although the job is tedious.

Pray the wall was sized first.

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## Homeowners go back in time to find furniture

By Joanne Cleaver  
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

**BURLINGTON, Wis.** — Michael May's place is where old houses go to live.

Mellow gold antique headboards from a long-gone old house like the kitchen ceiling in his 1870 Federal style house. A Prairie-style casement window, redeemed from a Waterloo floor on a kitchen cabinet. The side door is carved cedar, crafted with old-world precision and still vest with the original German scrollwork and frosted glass. He pulled it, intact, from a garbage bin.

Until recently, only the environmentally correct and very thrifty used architectural elements salvaged from historic buildings about to be torn down.

Now historic house parts are reclaiming the limelight that once made them glow, and they are being used as grace notes and focal points in brand-new houses and whole-house renovations of old buildings.

Designers and contractors who specialize in salvages are in demand as homeowners struggle to reconcile their inspiration with the gritty reality of fitting old things into new spaces. Meanwhile, the same excitement that is landing salvage front and center in a rush of books and magazines is also making it much tougher to find old materials.

Interest in salvage has been steadily growing for about five years, but "just within the last two years, builders are starting to look for stuff," says Ken Nichols here.

He and wife Rebecca own The Harp Gallery, an antique and salvage store in Appleton.

### Hot stuff

Some kinds of salvage are in vogue, while other styles are falling from favor. Here's what hot and not in old house parts.

- Hot:**  
Anything Arts & Crafts  
Fireplace mantels  
Columns  
Mid-century light and plumbing fixtures  
Terra cotta finials  
Built-in bookcases
- Not:**  
Victorian gingerbread  
Terra cotta tile  
Built-in bookcases  
**Scarce:**  
Stained glass and leaded glass windows and insets  
Door knobs, plates and other hardware  
Light fixtures

Wis., where tall French doors cluster around \$1,800 oak fireplace mantels.

Brian Coleman, a Seattle psychologist, salvage guru and author of "Extraordinary Interiors: Decorating with Antiques" (Gibbs Smith, 2005, \$19.95) says that the rising interest in historic interiors has intrigued people who own houses of all ages with the possibilities of salvage.

"You can, certainly, find things cheaper that are salvaged, but that's not the only point. The point is to be creative, and use your imagination," he says.

One project from his book: a turn-of-the-century barber-shop interior installed, nearly whole, as a master bath. The framed-in space and roughed-in plumbing was adjusted to accommodate the marble walls.

Please see SALVAGE, Page C5

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# How to get that mouse out of your house

By Stacy Downs  
Knight Ridder News Service

No, that's not Jack Frost nipping on the wires in the basement.

It's the time of year when furry critters sneak inside homes. They're seeking food, water and shelter from the cold.

A few winters ago, a squirrel made its way through the roof into Kirby Upjohn's Kansas City home. Since the fuzzy-tailed animal seemed cute outdoors, but Upjohn was "creeping out majorly" when one was rooting through her attic.

"It sounded loud, like it was having a big party," she says. "It was running, flopping and jumping all over the place."

Upjohn called Critter Control of Kansas City to drive out the squirrel. The company uses Jack Russell and Patterdale terriers to detect and chase out the squirrel. The company uses Jack Russell and Patterdale terriers to detect and chase out the squirrel. The company uses Jack Russell and Patterdale terriers to detect and chase out the squirrel.

**DISCS**  
The newest trap on the block has a snapping mechanism inside so you don't have to see or touch a dead mouse. An indicator on this hockey puck-like contraption lets you know you caught a critter. But it's not as effective as an old-school snap trap.

**GLUE BOARDS**  
These are often used to trap small mice that elude snap traps. Some people also prefer them because they have no chemicals or snapping mechanisms that can hurt pets or children. But others consider them barbaric because the rodents, struggle when they stick to the base and slowly die.

**LIVE TRAPS**  
They're the most humane way to catch a mouse, but here's the dilemma: Where do you release the rodents? Give mice their freedom in your yard and they will return to your house. Let them loose somewhere else and you're guilty of making them someone else's problem.

**OLD-SCHOOL SNAP TRAPS**  
They're effective at killing mice, and they're the cheapest trap out there. But they leave a mess. They're overly sensitive and they have snapping mechanisms that can hurt people and pets.

**POISON BAIT**  
Pellets kill rodents. But the poison is dangerous around children and pets. Also, mice often die behind walls where you can smell them but can't remove them.

**ULTRASONIC GENERATORS**  
The good news: These deterrents don't look rodent-related. Your friends and neighbors won't mis-take them for plug-in air fresheners. The bad news: Though many people swear by them, studies have shown they're ineffective.

**Sources:** Judy Loven, U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service; Chuck Dockery, Terminix; Jeff Archer, Critter Control; Laura Simion, Humane Society of the United States

# Sweet potatoes vs. yams

Knight Ridder News Service

**Question:** A question came up over Thanksgiving dinner: Is there a difference between sweet potatoes and yams?

**Answer:** Yes, there is a difference.

The sweet potatoes we see most often in stores — bright orange flesh and pointed on both ends — are often called yams, but are indeed sweet potatoes.

There's also another type of sweet potato that has a yellow-orange skin, pale yellow flesh and a dry and fluffy rather than moist cooked texture. It isn't treated as sweet.

It can grow as far north as New Jersey, while the dark orange sweet potato is grown only in the South.

Yams are an entirely different vegetable, as coined to "The Cook's Book" by Howard Hillman.

True yams are a staple in Africa.

They grow on vines in tropical regions and although they look similar to sweet potatoes, contain very little Vitamin A (which sweet potatoes have in abundance), have just an average amount of Vitamin C, and are even sweeter than sweet potatoes.

They're not commonly available except in Latin American and African ethnic stores.

## Pest-proof your home

The goal is to block rodents' access to shelter, food and water.

**EXTERIOR**

- **Seal holes** around the foundation, dryer vents, pipes, cables and wires. Stuff them with steel wool or wire mesh before sealing with caulk or foam.
- **Check rotters** along the eaves and gutters for holes. Seal them with metal flashing.
- **Have your chimney properly capped.**
- **Prune trees** away from the house.
- **Consider** getting rid of vines, because rodents can shimmy up them.

- **Remove piles** of debris, stone and bricks. If these are near the foundation, they provide shelter and can conceal entry points.
- **Store firewood** as far from the house as possible and keep it off the ground.
- **Sweep up spilled birdseed** under feeders and bins.
- **Cover compost** piles or coir-sod not having them.
- **Keep garage doors** closed.

**INTERIOR**

- **Fix water leaks.**
- **Cover attic** vents with light-tight metal hardware cloth. (A trick for detecting holes: Go inside the attic on a sunny day,

**Cleaning up**

It's important to do a deep cleaning of cabinets, counters, tops, floors and tables after a rodent infestation. Urine can leave an odor and lead to salmonella, which causes food poisoning. Dander and excrement can aggravate allergies. Clean affected areas with a household disinfectant or a mixture of bleach and water to clean surfaces. Wear rubber gloves.

The attic will be dark, but the areas where light shines through

will indicate openings.)

- **Use metal weather stripping** under doors leading outdoors and under the garage.
- **Place food** and feed (especially birdseed, bread, chocolate candy, cereal, grass seed, pet food and popcorn) in metal, glass or ceramic containers. Popcorn bins and metal trash cans work well.
- **Store papers** in file cabinets or thick plastic boxes. Rodents gnaw through cardboard and make nests there.
- **Don't let piles** of clothes sit in one place for a long time. Rodents sometimes make nests of clothes in the donation pile.

Bats and raccoons also can make their way through small roof openings. (Wood-shake shingles are especially susceptible.) Bats can squeeze through gaps the size of a quarter. Mice, the most frequent winter pest, require holes only the size of a dime.

In addition to being rancorous, mice are like circus performers in other ways. They can climb rough surfaces such as a home's exterior or vertical pipes. They can balance on their wives. They can jump more than a foot vertically. They can swim.

Mice make their homes in insulation, paper and furniture stuffing, says Judy Loven, Indiana director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service at Purdue

University. They make their presence known by their dark-colored droppings that resemble broken bits of wild rice. Rat feces look similar but are larger, like grains of rice.

Other signs of rodents include gnawed food boxes, oily grayish-black marks along walls, stray pieces of food, patches of fur and slight sounds of movement in pantries, ceilings and walls. Sprinkling flour on a surface and checking for footprints later is another way to detect a mouse.

"It's important to address a potential rodent problem as quickly as possible," Loven says, "because they reproduce rapidly."

Not only do they spread disease, they damage property. They tear up insulation and

gnaw door frames and furniture. They also can chew through electrical wires, causing fires.

Mice don't discriminate between new and old homes, says Chuck Dockery, general manager of Terminix in Kansas City. Ant cats and dogs don't prevent or deter rodents. "They alert people that they're there," he says.

Some signs of rodents: gnawed food boxes, oily grayish-black marks along walls and stray pieces of food.

## Salvage

Continued from C4

and commercial sinks.

"It's not perfect, but that's part of the fun, to see how you can use it," says Coleman.

People come upon a sparkling stained-glass window or long, narrow, carved cabinet door and love it, and then aren't sure what to do next.

A real common comment I hear is, "I saw a stained-glass window I really liked, but I didn't buy it because it didn't fit," says Coleman. "I tell them, 'go buy it.' What you do is, you add a little around the edges, or take a little away. It's easy" to retrofit.

Easy if you know what you're doing.

Many homeowners and contractors have only a working knowledge of mass-produced, standardized building materials and measurements. Antique doors, windows and fixtures that might have been custom-built

for the original space require a lot of reverse engineering to fit into a new space.

May, who runs M.J., May Building Restoration, says he's getting more and more calls from potential clients who want his help in sizing up a piece — literally and figuratively.

Clients come across a built-in bookcase or unusual window and need some expert help to figure out if it can be retrofitted into an existing room, or want to learn if May agrees that the project is just the thing for a renovation or addition they've long been considering.

"It's a big design challenge to make an old window not just look like it was placed in. You have to match the scale with the scale of the room" and other elements, like doors, says Allison Science, principal of Milwaukee's Quo run Architects, which specializes in historic building renovation.

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FOOD & HOME

GOOGLE COOKING

Simply plug in the ingredients, then wait for the results to pop up

By Andrea Sachs The Washington Post

For more than a year, a package of Cambodian tapioca sticks sat in my pantry unopened. Then one evening, I Googled my noodles and ate them.

Google, the almighty Web search engine, is my encyclopedia, dictionary, shopping mart, even private investigator. So it seemed natural to type in "Cambodian tapioca noodles" and see what recipes Google could rustle up. And rustle it did.

The concept behind Google cooking is basic: Simply plug in your ingredients and the word "recipes," press Google search, then wait for the results to pop up.

The engine will scour records of Web sites — from the expected (Food Network's food.com) to the obscure (acupuncture.com) — for recipes that incorporate your desired foodstuffs. With its infinite repository, Google can find recipes for unconventional food pairings or exotic products that might stump most cookbooks.

Ideaed, it was a piece of salmon and a bunch of Swiss chard that inspired Judy Hourihan to enlist Google's assistance three years ago.

"Every night I would rummage around my kitchen for something to eat and then go in the back room to look through cookbooks," said Hourihan, a former Massachusetts software engineer who is considered the pioneer of Google cooking.

Not all searches are edible

No two Google cooks — or experiences — are alike. When Washington Post staff writer David A. Fahrenthold typed in the items from his fridge, Google produced recipes that were both obvious and utterly indigestible.

Working with maple syrup, carrots, cranberry juice, asparagus, chicken breasts and mayonnaise, the search engine offered up maple-glazed carrots, chicken in cranberry sauce and, says Fahrenthold, "a zillion combinations involving chicken, asparagus and casserole." What made him contemplate takeout, though, was the "mayonnaise of chicken." The dish was a heart attack disguised as a meal, thanks to a thick topcoat of

mayo. The hard-boiled egg just added to the injury. Conversely, Jordan Parrillo did not have to fear for his cholesterol. When the 23-year-old national resource economist for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration plugged in "chicken corn mushroom," Google delivered a number of cream of mushroom recipes, as well as casseroles and an inventive mushroom-stuffed chicken. He finally settled on chicken with portobello mushrooms and black bean corn salsa from food.com.

"I don't know if I would have ever thought to combine salsa with mushrooms and chicken," Parrillo said. But Google did. — The Washington Post

rice; Google led her to a recipe posted by blogger Cyndi Norman.

"It's good when you don't have a clear idea of what to make with an odd combination of ingredients," said Hourihan, 60, who Google cooks at least once a week. "You take your chances, but it really pays off. I have never put in a combination that I did not find a recipe for."

And therein lies the appeal of Google cooking: It helps you build a meal from bottom up (vs. recipe down), while also purging your kitchen of languishing edibles, aging produce and meats, or overstocked perishables.

Web usage. Of those 3 million users clicked onto allrecipes.com, which lists more than 30,000 recipes and offers an ingredients-to-recipes search function. A few other sites, such as cookinglight.com, have a similar device.

I, however, shunned the refining tools — who knows what great dish might be veileded out! — preferring to plumb Google's bottomless resources. But first, a warning: The uninitiated should not start Google cooking if ravenous. Google is a black hole that can suck you in, then spit you out hours later, still hungry and with no dinner plan.

My inaugural search began with a softball grocery list: chickpeas, raisins and yams. I found a variety of interesting tagines and African stews, yet the recipe that intrigued most was called "Soft Food For Eucletacus." It sounded like a dish made for a Roman emperor with glass teeth. But then I read on: "This nutritious mixture of food is relished by all Eucletacus ... however, other parrots have tried and enjoyed this recipe." The expression "eats like a bird"

Search tips

To weed out the more ghoulish recipes, Google cooks can employ any number of shortcuts.

- Be specific in your search; "pasta and tomatoes," for example, will yield hundreds of options.
• Avoid listing every ingredient in your cart; inputting too many will produce sites with pages of ideas but only one recipe that includes all of the ingredients.
• Always type in "recipes," and if you have a preference for the way you want the dish to be cooked, throw in cooking terms such as "grilled."
• Eliminate foods or cooking styles you want to exclude by using the minus sign; for example, "celery potatoes -mayonnaise."
• Try singular and plural forms of words, such as "chicken mushroom artichoke" and "chicken mushrooms artichokes."
• To further simplify your search, go straight to one of the leading recipe sites whose recipes have been tested. Here are just a few: epicurious.com, allrecipes.com, cookinglight.com, williams-sonoma.com, recipezar.com, foodtv.com

food, I decided to retaliate by challenging Google to a virtual recipe-off. I plugged in every odd combination short of crickets to see if the engine could produce the goods. I typed in "beer Brussels sprouts recipes"; it punched back "rosenkohl in beer reduster." I tried "pears and hot recipes." Google stomped out "Blushing Pear with Cinnamon Candies."

Google brings up viable recipes that coincide with the ingredients in your refrigerator," said Myers. "But some of the recipes are a little out there and bizarre."

How strange? Just consider my noodles. After ignoring the spaghetti-like threads for so long, I finally dragged the package out of the cabinet and set them next to the computer, as my muse. My first hit was a Cambodian dish called mee such mean yung such ko puev. It used the noodles but also required a whole chicken, Asian beef meatballs and two pounds of chicken and pork neck bones — none of which I had in my fridge. However, the words "tapioca" and "Cambodian" did unearth sticky rice recipes. Hlum ...

Needing reinforcements, I raided my friend Eric's kitchen, which was a trove of starving grad-student snacks, supermarket staples and leftovers from a short-lived South Beach diet. Our chosen three — the Powerball number for Google cooking — were tofu, oranges and cauliflower. And with a wave of the magic mouse, Google came up

with "Peas, Cauliflower and Tofu with Spicy Orange" from wholesomebabyfood.com. For a side dish, I plugged in rice and coconut milk, figuring I could replace the rice with my noodles, which were pretty glutinous.

Printout in hand, we cooked, ate and delighted in a concoction we never would have conjured without Google. Then, dessert caught my eye — a blackening banana sitting on the countertop, one day away from the compost heap. So I dashed to the computer to cook it.

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# From the halls of Montezuma come precious treats

By Barbara Hansen  
Los Angeles Times

So rare and precious was chocolate centuries ago that the Aztec emperor Montezuma spilled it from a golden cup. Never would he have imagined that his eldorado prized ingredient would become an everyday luxury as it is today.

In modern Mexico, chocolate is still primarily something to drink, whipped to a froth with a wooden beater called a "molinillo."

Its other common use is in moles, adding depth and color to these rich, savory sauces.

Oddly enough, though, Mexican chocolate rarely, if ever, appears in desserts. But if you think about it, Mexican chocolate is a natural for the baker's pantry.

Not only is it already sweetened, but it's also often made with vanilla, cinnamon or almonds.

Given these nuances of flavor, a dessert made with Mexican chocolate is irresistibly intriguing. It's chocolate, but with a subtle, mysterious difference.

In the old days, Mexican women ground cacao beans on a "metate," or grinding stone, warmed over a fire to extract the oil, then added different seasonings. Today, the chocolate is produced in modern factories, but remains faithful to the old traditions.

The Mexican chocolate you're likely to find in supermarkets is formed into round tablets that have been scored so they can easily be broken into smaller pieces.

Two of the most common brands are Ibarra and Abuelita; they're packaged in distinctive hexagonal boxes. Both work equally well in desserts; Abuelita has a stronger cinnamon flavor for when you want to play up the spice flavor.



ERIC BROT/LOS ANGELES TIMES

Churros and chocolate dip.

Mexican chocolate's unique composition and texture mean you can't substitute it freely for other chocolate when baking. Because it's very sweet, the sugar in a recipe may have to be reduced.

And unlike other chocolates, which are smooth and shiny, Mexican chocolate is dry and granular.

So if a cake recipe calls for regular baking chocolate, don't

swap it out entirely for Mexican chocolate. You'll need to use a little regular chocolate to keep the cake moist.

This trick works well in a Mexican chocolate layer cake, with the little bit of regular chocolate boosting the intensity of chocolate flavor.

This velvety cake is frosted with a rich ganache frosting made mostly with Mexican chocolate, too.

**Chocolate dip**  
5 (3.1-ounce) disks Mexican chocolate, finely chopped  
1 cup heavy whipping cream  
Place the chocolate and cream in the top of a double boiler or in a metal bowl set over a pan of simmering water. Stir until the chocolate is melted, about 15 to 20 minutes. Makes 2 cups.

**Churros**  
6 tablespoons (3/4 stick) butter, cut into pieces  
1 teaspoon sugar  
1/8 teaspoon salt  
Pinch of nutmeg  
1 cup flour  
2 eggs  
Oil for frying  
1. Bring 1 cup water to boil in a saucepan with the butter, sugar, salt and nutmeg. Reduce the heat to medium-low and simmer until the butter has melted. Meanwhile, measure out the flour.  
2. Remove the butter mix-

## CHURROS AND CHOCOLATE DIP

ture from the heat and immediately pour all the flour into the pan. Beat vigorously with a wooden spatula or spoon for several seconds to blend thoroughly, then return the pan to the stove top.

3. Beat over moderately high heat for 1 to 2 minutes until mixture leaves the sides of the pan and the spoon forms a mass and begins to firm the bottom of the pan.

4. Remove the pan from the heat, and make a well in the center of the paste with the spoon. Immediately break an egg into the center of the well. Beat it into the paste for several seconds until it has been absorbed. Repeat with the second egg, beating it in until absorbed. Beat for an additional 1 to 2 minutes to be sure the mixture is well blended and smooth.

5. Spoon the paste into a pastry bag fitted with a three-fourths-inch star tip.

6. Heat 2 inches of oil in a large skillet to 350 degrees. Pipe churros directly into the oil in strips or loops, using a spatula to cut off each churro from the pastry tip. Fry 3 to 4 at a time, separating the churros if they begin to stick together; don't overcrowd the pan. Fry until dark golden, about 3 to 4 minutes. Transfer the churros to a plate lined with paper towels. Repeat with the rest of the paste.

7. Serve immediately with chocolate dip.

Servings: Makes about 18 to 20 (4-inch) churros.  
*Note: The chocolate dip recipe is from Cobras & Matadors in Los Angeles. The restaurant uses barra brand Mexican chocolate. The churros are made with a pate a choux (cream puff paste) recipe adapted from "Mastering the Art of French Cooking" by Julia Child, Louiseci Bertholle and Simone Beck.*

Just as luxurious is the ganache dipping sauce that's served with churros at Cobras & Matadors restaurant in Los Angeles. It's made simply with Mexican chocolate and cream and comes together in minutes. For the churros, instead of a traditional churro recipe, we pulled together a quick "pate a choux" (cream puff dough) and piped it into hot oil. It worked beautifully.

Probably the most common dessert in Mexico is flan, but chocolate versions are rare. We reworked a traditional recipe with Mexican chocolate and came out with a dessert so rich that a silver is enough.

This silky flan, the moist layer

dip are just the beginning. There's a whole range of possibilities for Mexican chocolate.

Perhaps this once rare ingredient is even more precious than Montezuma thought.

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## MEXICAN CHOCOLATE FLAN

2 cups milk  
2 (3.1-ounce) disks Mexican chocolate  
1 1/4 cups sugar, divided  
1 cup heavy whipping cream  
3 egg yolks

1. Place the milk in a medium saucepan with the chocolate and one-fourth cup sugar. Cook over medium heat until the chocolate and sugar are dissolved, stirring to blend in the chocolate, about 5 to 10 minutes. Strain through a fine-mesh sieve into a large bowl and stir in the whipping cream. Set aside.

2. Place the remaining 1 cup sugar in a large skillet over high heat. When the sugar starts to melt, reduce the heat to medium and cook, stirring occasionally, until the caramel is clear and golden brown.

about 5 to 7 minutes. Quickly spoon the caramel over the bottom and around the sides of a glass 8-inch round cake dish. Set aside until firm.

3. Lightly whisk the egg yolks, then mix them into the milk mixture. Pour into the baking dish, place in a pan of hot water and bake at 325 degrees until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean, about 1 hour. Place on a rack to cool slightly, then refrigerate at least 3 hours or overnight. Gently release the flan from the dish by running the tip of a knife around the edge.

Use your fingers to gently pull the sides away from the edge. Place a serving platter on the cake dish and invert the flan onto the platter.

Servings: 10 to 12

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FOOD & HOME

# Five great dishes for easy holiday entertaining

By Judith Evans  
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

In honor of the holidays, here are five mix-and-match recipes to take you from the cocktail hour to dessert.

We start with light and fruity Cranberry-Orange Spritzers. They're suitable for all ages, but adults may enjoy the addition of a splash of vodka.

Lemonade salad is dressed up with hearts of palm, artichoke hearts, thinly sliced red onion and shards of Parmesan, then tossed with a lovely sun-dried tomato vinaigrette. If you have any leftover dressing, a drizzle will turn steamed vegetables into something special.

For a side dish, look for fresh

brussels sprouts in the produce department. In our experience, the sprouts are a love-'em-or-hate-'em vegetable, but adding sweet potatoes and pecans will convert. To avoid bitterness, take care not to overcook the sprouts.

Skillet-Roasted Tarragon Chicken is crasy and saucy and fragrant with tarragon. The key to this recipe is the tarragon — if you use a dried version, make sure it is still fragrant.

And for dessert, wow everyone at the table with chocolate soufflé, either in a family-sized dish, or prepared individually. Don't be afraid of soufflés: One big secret is being gentle when folding the egg whites into the chocolate.

### SKILLET-ROASTED TARRAGON CHICKEN

*Yield: 4 servings*

4 bone-in, skin-on chicken breasts (10 to 12 ounces each)  
Salt  
Ground black pepper  
3 teaspoons vegetable oil, divided  
1 shallot, minced  
3/4 cup low-sodium chicken broth  
1/2 cup dry white wine or vermouth  
3 tablespoons cold unsalted butter, cut into 3 pieces  
2 teaspoons minced fresh tarragon or 1 teaspoon dried  
Adjust an oven rack to the lowest position. If not using an ovenproof skillet, place an empty 9-by-13-inch baking dish on the rack and preheat the oven to 450 degrees.

Pat chicken dry with paper

towels; season with salt and pepper. Heat 1 teaspoon oil in a 12-inch skillet over high heat until just smoking. Add chicken, skin-side down. Cook until golden brown on both sides, about 10 minutes, turning once.

If using an ovenproof skillet, transfer to the hot oven. Bake until chicken is cooked through and registers 160 degrees on an instant-read thermometer, 18 to 25 minutes. Remove from the oven, transfer to a plate, cover with foil, and let rest while making the sauce.

If the skillet is not ovenproof, transfer chicken to the baking dish in the oven, skin-side up. Do not wash the skillet.

If the oil and other liquid in the skillet has cooked out, add up to the remaining 2 teaspoons oil to the skillet; place

over medium-high heat until oil is shimmering. Add shallot and 1/4 teaspoon salt; cook until softened, 1 to 2 minutes. Stir in broth and wine, scraping up any browned bits; simmer until reduced and slightly syrupy, 8 to 12 minutes.

Stir in any accumulated chicken juices, pouring them from the baking dish, if used. Turn the heat to low; whisk in the butter, one piece at a time.

Off the heat, stir in the tarragon and season with salt and pepper to taste. If using dried tarragon, continue to cook over medium-low heat for 1 to 3 minutes. Spoon the sauce over the chicken and serve.

*Adapted from "The America's Test Kitchen Family Cookbook" (America's Test Kitchen, 848 pages, \$34.95).*

### BRUSSELS SPROUTS WITH PECANS AND SWEET POTATOES

*Yield: 4 servings*

1 1/2 cups cubed peeled sweet potatoes  
3/4 pound brussels sprouts, halved  
1 tablespoon margarine or butter  
1/2 cup chopped onion  
1 teaspoon crushed fresh garlic  
1/4 cup chicken stock  
4 teaspoons brown sugar or honey (see note)  
1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
2 tablespoons pecan pieces, toasted

Bring a saucepan of water to a boil. Add sweet potatoes; cook until tender, 3 to 5 minutes. Remove potatoes with a slotted spoon; set aside.

Return the water to a boil. Add brussels sprouts. Cook just until tender, 4 to 5 minutes. Drain; set aside.

In a nonstick skillet, melt margarine; sauté onion and garlic just until onion is tender. Add sweet potatoes, brussels sprouts, chicken stock, sugar, cinnamon and pecans. Cook for 3 minutes, until vegetables are heated through, stirring frequently but gently.

Note: Toast pecans in 400-degree oven or stir in a skillet for 2 minutes or until brown. Replacing the brown sugar or honey with granulated sugar substitute will save about 5 grams of carbohydrate per serving.

*Adapted from "America's Complete Diabetes Cookbook," edited by Katherine E. Younker (Robert Rose, 383 pages, \$19.95).*

### ROMAINE SALAD WITH HEARTS OF PALM AND ARTICHOKEs

*Yield: 6 to 8 servings*

For sun-dried tomato vinaigrette:  
1/2 cup olive oil  
1/4 cup red-wine vinegar  
1/4 cup sun-dried tomatoes packed in oil, drained and chopped  
1 teaspoon minced fresh garlic  
1 teaspoon ground black pepper  
1 teaspoon salt

For salad:  
1 (14-ounce) can artichoke hearts, drained, rinsed and patted dry  
1 (14-ounce) can hearts of palm, drained, rinsed and patted dry  
7 cups coarsely chopped romaine lettuce (from 1 head)  
1 small red onion, thinly sliced (about 1 cup)  
1/2 cup coarsely chopped fresh Italian parsley  
1 (12-ounce) basket cherry or grape tomatoes, halved  
Salt

Ground black pepper  
1 ounce Parmesan cheese, shaved

To prepare vinaigrette: Combine oil, vinegar, sun-dried tomatoes, garlic, pepper and salt in a large jar. Seal the jar and shake until the dressing is well blended. Set aside.

To prepare salad: Quarter the artichoke hearts, and cut the hearts of palm diagonally into 1/2-inch-thick slices. Combine artichoke hearts and hearts of palm in a large bowl. Add lettuce, onion and parsley. Cover and refrigerate until cold.

Shake vinaigrette to recombine, toss salad with tomatoes and enough vinaigrette to coat. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Sprinkle with Parmesan shavings; serve immediately.

*Adapted from "Zov Recipes and Memories From The Heart," by Zov Katunianian (Zov's Publishing, 262 pages, \$15).*

### CHOCOLATE SOUFFLE

*Yield: 6 to 8 servings*

5 tablespoons unsalted butter, divided  
1/3 cup plus 1 tablespoon granulated sugar or more as needed, divided  
8 ounces bittersweet or semisweet chocolate, chopped coarsely  
1 1/4 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon vanilla  
1 tablespoon Grand Marnier  
6 large egg yolks  
8 large egg whites  
1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar

Salt 1 tablespoon of butter to soften at room temperature.

Adjust an oven rack to the lower-middle position. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. Butter the inside of a 2-quart soufflé dish with the softened butter. Or, if making individual soufflés, butter 6 to 8 (6- or 8-ounce) ramekins. Coat the

inside of the dish or dishes evenly with 1 tablespoon sugar, using more if needed.

Melt chocolate and the remaining 4 tablespoons butter in a large bowl set over a pan of simmering water. Turn off the heat; stir in salt, vanilla and Grand Marnier. Set aside.

In a medium bowl, using an electric mixer set on medium speed, beat egg yolks and the remaining 1/3 cup sugar until thick and pale yellow, about 3 minutes. Fold into chocolate mixture.

In a clean medium bowl with clean beaters, beat egg whites on medium speed until foamy. Add cream of tartar; beat on high speed until the whites form stiff, moist peaks. The mixture should just hold the weight of a raw egg in the shell when the egg is placed on top. Vigorously stir one-quarter of the whipped whites into the

chocolate mixture. Gently fold the remaining whites into the mixture until the beaten whites are just incorporated. Take care to be gentle, or the volume of the mixture will reduce and the soufflé will be heavier than it should be.

Spoon the mixture into the prepared dish or dishes to slightly below the top; bake until the exterior is set (puffed, cracked and risen above the top of the dish), but the interior is still a bit loose and creamy; about 25 minutes for a large soufflé or about 15 to 17 minutes for individual soufflés. (A wooden skewer inserted into the center of the soufflé should test moist, but not gooey or runny.) Serve immediately.

*Adapted from "The Best New Recipe," by the Editors of Cook's Illustrated (America's Test Kitchen, 2004, \$15).*

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

IF WALLS COULD TALK

Grand ball replicates old town celebration

T.F. Public Library holds new story time Thursday

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Public Library's Youth Services is holding "Once Upon a Time Tuesdays," a new story time for children ages 4 to 6 at 10:30 a.m. Thursdays.

CSI offers computer classes this spring

TWIN FALLS — The College of Southern Idaho, 315 Falls Ave., is offering several computer or classes this spring. The cost for each is \$285.

Oakley arts council holds musical auditions

OAKLEY — The Oakley Valley Arts Council is holding auditions for the spring production of "West Side Story."

CSI North Side Center helps organize photos

GOODING — The College of Southern Idaho North Side Center, 202 14th Ave. E., is offering several courses this spring.

ticipants should bring two to three years' worth of pictures and one to two shoe boxes for temporary storage.

"Basic English and Writing" is an introduction and review of basic skills and strategies with an emphasis on grammar and usage.

"Developmental Composition" will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Mondays, Jan. 23 to May 8, at the center.

Participants will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Mondays, Jan. 17 to May 11, in the Canyon Building Room 101.

"English Composition 2" will focus on critical reading, writing and research. Students will write expository and persuasive essays, using literary and interdisciplinary materials.

For more information on these courses, visit the center or call 934-8678.

ALBION — The Albion Valley Players and Albion Valley Historical Society will be reviving history.

The groups will replicate — in a small way — the grand balls that were held many years ago in the former Masonic Hall, now the Community Center, at 124 S. Main St.

The celebration will be held following a reception honoring retiring Albion Mayor, Donald Danner. The public is invited.

The reception will begin at 7 p.m. and floor show at about 8 p.m. A tribute to Danner will be presented by Robert Price at about 7:45 p.m.

This year's ball, just as those of yesteryear, will begin with a grand march, said Mary Lynne Bristol, an Albion resident involved in many community activities.

When the Masons moved to the building on Main Street, the balls were held on the lower floor.

For many years, the Masons sponsored the Christmas dances, the Odd Fellows sponsored the New Year's dances and the Eastern Star, the Washington Dance in February, as Albion was known in those days,

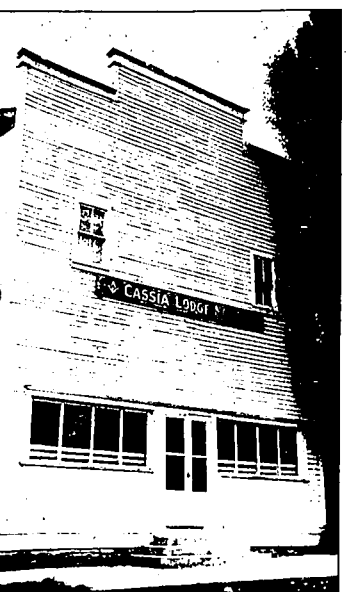


Photo courtesy of the Albion Historical Museum.

The walls of this historic hall at 124 S. Main St. in Albion could tell many tales. Built in 1891, and remodeled several times over the years, it looked like this in 1938.

Albion history will be revived in the new Community Center when a reception and replica of a grand ball will be held at 7 p.m. Friday.

Albion was known in those days, well attended and often lasted for three or four successive nights, Bristol said.

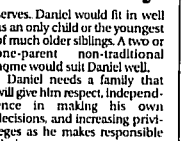
Daniel wants stable family

"I want a family soon. I am tired of moving around from place to place, so could you please find a nice, caring, loving family for me? I hope you do soon."

Daniel's worker describes him as someone who is "helpful, creative, with a really good sense of humor." Daniel likes to laugh at pretty much anything, but is very serious about the topic of families.

Participants could be prepared with a musical number to sing. For more information, call 677-2787.

Wednesday's Child



Daniel Age 15

... Daniel would fit in well as an only child or the youngest of many older siblings. A two or one-parent non-traditional home would suit Daniel well.

Daniel needs a family that will give him respect, independence in making his own decisions, and increasing privileges as he makes responsible choices.

Daniel is available for adoption through the state of Washington. For information, call the Northwest Adoption Exchange at 1-800-927-9411.

CLUB CALENDAR

Civic Rotary Clubs Blue Lakes - 7 a.m. Thursday at Red Lake... Lions Clubs Twin Falls - Noon Wednesdays at the... Moose Order of the Moose, Lodge 812 - 8 p.m. second and fourth Mondays... Support Groups Moms in Touch International - moms meet weekly to help for children and their... Alcoholics Anonymous... Narcotics Anonymous... Beta Sigma Phi Sorority

To obtain or add a listing for your club or organization, please send in a notice with: Name of the organization or club; Time, day and week of the meeting; Place of meeting; and Telephone number of a good contact person. Send to: Attention: Club Calendar, The Times-News, P.O. Box 285, Twin Falls, ID 83403. Or fax to 734-5538. Or email to patm@timesnews.com. For more information, call 735-3288.

Barley Post 804 and auxiliary, 8 p.m. second Thursday at 1330 Hill... Masonic activities Ball Mountain Lodge 551-8 p.m. second Thursday... American Legion Barley Post 17 - 7 p.m. fourth Thursday... Disabled American Veterans... Marine Corps League... Other jobs Daughters Bechel 18 - 7 p.m. second and fourth



## BRIEFLY IN MONEY

### Deadline looms for Delta pilots

ATLANTA — Delta Air Lines Inc. pilots have until today to approve a tentative agreement on temporary pay cuts their union worked out with management to help the carrier deal with an expected cash crunch.

If the pilots don't approve the measure, a court hearing would resume around Jan. 2 on Delta's effort to reject the pilot contract so the company can impose \$325 million in permanent pay and benefit cuts unilaterally. A decision by a judge could be issued within seven days of that point.

Before the agreement was reached earlier this month, the Air Line Pilots Association, which represents Atlanta-based Delta's 6,000 pilots, had threatened to call a strike if the pilot contract was thrown out.

A spokeswoman for the nation's third-largest carrier said Tuesday she can't speculate on the outcome of today's expected decision.

"This is a process that really needs to take its course," said Delta spokeswoman Gina Laughlin. "The agreement really reflects the resolve of Delta employees who are working together to help save the company."

Union spokesman John Culp said there's no telling how the vote will turn out.

"Not a clue," Culp said when asked about the vote. "We know there's a great deal of anger out there with the way management has conducted themselves and the state of the business. We have absolutely no inkling how the vote will go."

### Orders for new planes surge at Boeing

In what has been a record year for commercial aircraft sales, Boeing is expected to revise out Airbus in selling orders for the first time since 2000.

Boeing's orders probably will surpass 850 airplanes — more than triple last year's count. Demanded as strong in 2005, the airlines were ordering Boeing aircraft even while a strike by machinists was shutting down its large Seattle-area assembly lines for a month.

"It's been a gangbusters year for Boeing," said Scott Hamilton, an aviation consultant and analyst with Leeham Co. of Southampton, Wash.

For its part, Airbus also expects to close out a record sales year. With only a few days left, the Toulouse, France-based company is confident it could still come out on top.

Through November, Boeing had received orders for 827 planes this year, compared with the delivery of 477 in 2004, 437 planes to customers versus Boeing's 268.

### Disney theme parks log attendance gains

LOS ANGELES — Propelled by the 50th anniversary promotion of its flagship Disneyland theme park, the Walt Disney Co. increased its share of the North American theme park market this year.

All six U.S. Disney theme parks logged gains in attendance, with Disneyland growing the most by 10 percent, the major North American attractions, according to estimates released by the Amusement Business trade journal and the Economic Research Associates consulting firm.

About 14.5 million visitors passed through Disneyland's park, a 4.5 percent jump from 2004, the trade journal said. Only its Orlando, Fla., cousin — the Magic Kingdom at Walt Disney World — had greater attendance, with 16.1 million visitors, a 4.5 percent gain.

Disney's California Adventure, Disneyland's younger sibling in Anaheim, was the nation's seventh busiest park, logging 5.8 million visitors, a 3.6 percent rise.

Meanwhile, Universal Studios Hollywood drew 4.7 million guests, 6 percent more than last year. Its sister parks in Florida also lost attendance.

Mostly because of Burbank-based Disney, attendance at North America's 50 most popular amusement parks rose 4.2 percent to an estimated 176 million visitors in 2005.

— compiled from wire reports

# Liquidating Enron's mess could cost \$1B

## Company limps along four years after the scandals

By Carrie Johnson  
The Washington Post

Four years after Enron Corp. collapsed, the Houston energy trader clings to life as "the financial equivalent of a Superfund site," its chairman said.

New managers are struggling to clean up after the firm's December 2001 bankruptcy — a process they say is likely to run into 2008. Two operating divisions must be unloaded. Lawsuits against banks that helped the company hide debt must be settled or brought to trial. Leftover cash must be dispersed to creditors claiming some \$60 billion.

As with everything else at Enron, a company that became

a synonym for greed, a punch line for comedians and a curse word for thousands of workers who lost their retirement savings, closing shop hasn't been simple.

"Sup to nuts here, you've got a few years of hard duty," said Chairman John J. Ray III.

First on the agenda is selling what remains of a more than \$4 billion trading portfolio, a remainder of the days when Enron leaders appeared on the cover of business magazines touting a bold new way to swap energy and other commodities. Soon Enron's former leaders will be in the news again. Former chairman Kenneth L. Lay and

onetime chief executive Jeffrey Skilling face trial Jan. 17 on fraud and conspiracy charges.

Meantime, a five-member board of directors recruited to unwind what was once the nation's seventh-largest firm, has logged 100 meetings over the past year dealing with what was left behind.

"It probably ought to be called E-Liquidation Company," said Ray. "This company has no future life to it. We're just basically in a dismemberment sort of process."

They are guiding Portland General Electric Co., an Oregon utility that serves 750,000 customers, through the process of

becoming a separate, publicly traded company as early as April 2006. Regulators blocked a proposed sale to the Texas Pacific Group earlier this year.

They're also ensuring that business plans and assets are in shape at Prisma Energy International Inc., a collection of energy assets around the globe that employs nearly 8,500 people, said board member James R. Latimer III. With gas pipelines in Bolivia, the Caribbean, Europe, and Turkey, Prisma has never operated as a stand-alone company, complicating the efforts to spin off or auction the unit.

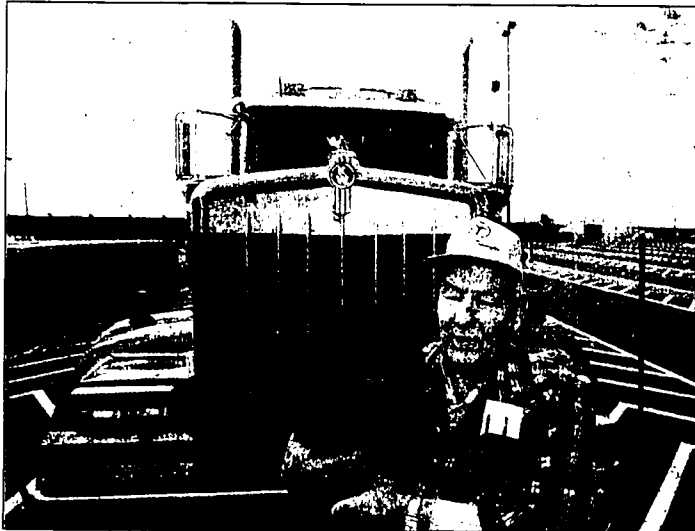
Ultimately, the board mem-

bers said: they hope that the process goes as smoothly as last year's sale of their prize asset, 9,700 miles of domestic pipeline in Cross-Country Energy LLC, for \$2 billion to Southern Union Co. and a General Electric Co. finance unit.

In all, Enron now sits on about \$12 billion in cash, generated through asset sales and recoveries from investment banks including J.P. Morgan Chase and the Royal Bank of Scotland. Liquidation continues against five more banks, led by Citigroup and Credit Suisse First Boston, which Enron accuses of aiding and abetting fraud by its previous management team.

Their civil trial is set for July 2007.

# THE COMEBACK



Harold Young and his driving companion, MI MI, are shown in front of his truck waiting for a load at the Port of New Orleans on Dec. 12. The port, which had about 1,800 truck calls per day before Katrina, now receives about 600.

## Hurricane-hit port recovers half of business

The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — After Hurricane Katrina destroyed about one-third of the Port of New Orleans, the port's chief executive turned an offhand remark into a challenge to restart a vital part of the city's storm-ravaged economy.

"It all came out as kind of a joke when someone told me, 'You won't have a ship in this port for six months,'" port chief Gary LaGrange recalled. "My response, with a lot of bravado, was we'll be back at 70 percent within six months."

So far, so good.

The port, a major entry point for imported steel, natural rubber and coffee, received its first post-storm ship Sept. 12, two weeks after Katrina. Just over three months later, the port is running at about half capacity, LaGrange said in

an interview. Before Katrina his Aug. 29, it was getting 36 to 40 ship calls a week. Now, the count is 18 to 20.

By March or April, the goal is call 70 percent of pre-Katrina calls.

But many hurdles remain: finding enough truck drivers to haul and deliver containerized cargo, and enough longshoremen to handle bulk loads; getting cruise ships that handled 700,000 passengers annually back on schedule; and keeping finances in line with diminished business.

In 2003, New Orleans ranked fifth among U.S. ports in tons of cargo handled, and 12th in total foreign trade, according to the latest figures available from the American Association of Port Authorities.

LaGrange estimated the port sustained \$100 million in damage, while port-dependent

businesses had another \$280 million to \$300 million in damage. The portion of the port nearest the Industrial Canal, the site of devastating flooding, was virtually wiped out.

"Thirty percent of the port is no longer in existence as we knew it Aug. 28," LaGrange said.

One of the businesses that depends on the port is Cold Storage and Warehousing Ltd., which exports frozen chickens. The company was stuck with \$2 million pounds of rotting chicken after its power was knocked out by Katrina.

"The port's success has allowed us to grow our business a lot in the last 10 years," said Mark Blanchard, the company's executive vice president. "Without the port, we wouldn't have a customer base to fill three cold-storage warehouses."

Cold Storage hopes to reopen with half its capacity early next year.

The storm also has created difficulties for port businesses because of their dependence on the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet, a 76-mile man-made channel from the Gulf of Mexico that allows ocean-going ships access to the port's Inner Harbor Navigation Canal. Most deep-draft ships can't get to the inner harbor from the Mississippi River because they can't fit through the current lock on the Industrial Canal.

"Now, with the outlet blocked by some for helping to flood St. Bernard Parish during Katrina, calls are rising for its closure. If that occurs, lock improvements will have to be hastened, businesses moved to other sections of the port or goods trucked to ships along the river," LaGrange said.

## Gift cards are redefining holiday shopping

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The holiday retail landscape is changing as consumers shift more of their holiday buying to gift cards before the days after Christmas.

"The whole equation has been shaken up," said Kit Yarrow, a consumer psychologist and professor of marketing at Golden Gate University in San Francisco. "Consumers feel so much more in control. They have all the power and they are wielding that power."

The enormous popularity of gift cards and the growing temptation to await the best bargains until after Dec. 25 is taking the panic out of holiday buying, turning procrastination into a strategy for snatching bargains. But that approach is

strengthening many retailers, forcing them to hustle fresh wares onto their floors for round two of the season.

Stores made a big effort to jump-start the holiday season with advertising campaigns launched a few weeks earlier than usual. But after a solid start to the holiday season, consumers stayed away from the malls until the final days before Christmas. That had retailers pinning more hopes on the post-Christmas season.

Higher energy costs have added to consumers' burdens, even though unemployment is relatively low and personal incomes have been rising. And a quirky calendar also played a role — Hanukkah was late, and



Shoppers enter a Target department store at Wheaton Mall in Wheaton, Md., on Monday.

## Companies learn to value their 'alumni'

### Some find that cutting the cord with departing talent is a mistake

By Barbara Ross  
Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO — More companies are taking the high road when employees turn in their badges.

Instead of dismissing departing talent as disloyal, firms are reaching out with a variety of programs and services — some geared to helping former employees succeed in their careers elsewhere.

There's recognition these "alumni" play important roles in their former employers' success. Some become clients or business referral sources. Others return to work for their old firms.

"This is a networked world where our competitors are our customers, when alumni are our business partners," said Procter & Gamble Co. spokeswoman Charlotte Otto, the company's liaison to a large and growing alumni organization. "We all are connected in one way or another. There's no more cutting the cord."

Law firms are among the latest adopters. The practice of forcing out lawyers who don't make partner scatters their former members far and wide.

"The more successful our alumni are, the more it builds our brand," said Stephen Patton, a senior litigation partner at Chicago-based Kirkland & Ellis LLP, which launched an alumni network Nov. 1.

Some alumni are friends and cohorts, but they're also our current or future clients. It just makes sense to strengthen our relationship with them."

Some scores of alumni groups, from ad and online networks to growing service organizations like the Microsoft Alumni Network, which hired a public-sector company that set value in organizing in-house efforts no longer make do with simple directories and office reunions.

They're offering Web sites, newsletters, networking events, training seminars and career placement services. Alumni share job leads and post openings.

Companies have woken up to the fact that, from the time you decide to make an offer, these are lifelong relationships," said Anne Berkowich, chief executive of Selectchicks, a 6-year-old business that is mining this growing niche by helping companies develop and manage alumni networks.

Programs catering to former employees get their start decades ago in the consulting industry, where McKinsey & Co., with more than 15,000 alumni, was a pioneer in recognizing the value of staying connected to its far-flung former consultants.

The effort makes sense in the professional services industry because consultants typically leave to work in industry, where they become clients, or for government agencies, where they influence policy.

Big accounting firms also have expanded and formalized their programs.

"Our alumni are really the face of the firm in the community, and there are business

— See also ALUMNI, Page E3

MONEY

Shopping

Continued from E1
There was an early shopping day between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Still, Michael P. Niemira, chief economist at the International Council of Shopping Centers, believes this holiday season revealed a fundamental change of shoppers lacking urgency to buy.
"The economies don't necessarily suggest a major change in consumer spending, so I am not clear what it is," said Niemira, noting that gasoline prices have fallen from their recent highs.

Niemira still believes that retailers will meet their modest sales forecast for a 3 percent to 3.5 percent for the November-December period, based on the strong sales surge last week. The forecast is based on same-store sales or sales at stores opened at least a year.

Actual results from the International Council of Shopping Centers for last week will be released next Wednesday.

Scott Kragman, a spokesman at the National Retail Federation, is still sticking by the association's retail sales forecast for a 6 percent gain.

Kragman expects the week after Christmas could account for as much as 15 percent of holiday retail sales, citing an expected 6.6 percent increase in gift card sales this holiday season. Last year, the post-Christmas week accounted for 10 percent of holiday sales.

In fact, many stores such as Wal-Mart Stores Inc. have seen

gift card sales exceed expectations.
"A better picture of how retailers fared will be known next December sales results.

Wolman believes that even if more shoppers than expected redeem their gift cards over the next week or so, it would push sales only to the higher end of his forecast. Gift cards are recorded as sales when they are redeemed.

Still, plenty of retailers have a lot riding on the next few weeks. According to survey conducted by Accenture, more than half of the consumers polled said they will spend more than the value of the card.

Several big mall operators such as Taubman Centers, which operates or owns 23 malls in 11 states, and Santa Monica, Calif.-based Macerich Co., which owns 10 malls nationwide, reported that traffic so far has been strong this week. But they are counting on the burst of sales to continue over the next few weeks, including its share of business for the fourth-quarter period.

John Menzer, vice chairman of Wal-Mart, said the discounter rushed in new spring apparel and new outerwear Monday. Meanwhile, discounted holiday goods have been shown to one area of the store. Wal-Mart is still on target to meet its same-store sales forecast of between 2 percent to 4 percent for December.

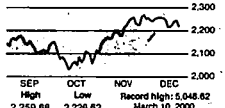
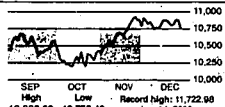
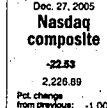
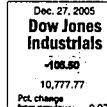
David J. Conits, executive vice president and chief operating officer of Macy's, said that robust sales during the post-holiday season should help recoup the shortfall earlier in the season.

The trend of post-Christmas shopping for itself has become more accentuated, and retailers have to adjust to it, he said.

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks tumbled Tuesday as the bond market gave signals that in the past have preceded economic slowdowns. The Dow Jones Industrial average lost more than 100 points.

The yield curve, the spread between the yields of short-term and long-term bonds, inverted for the first time in five years. That means short-term interest rates were higher than long-term interest rates. Investors have been watching the yield curve closely because, in the past, inverted yield curves have preceded recessions.

But the bond market could be signaling no more than a harmless slowing in the economy, said Jon Brorson, head of growth equities at Neuberger Birman in Chicago.



"We've never seen a recession without the yield curve inverting, but the corollary is not true; just because the yield curve inverts does not mean we're going to have a recession," he said.

Volume in equity markets

was light, exaggerating the effect. Some of the decline might also be attributed to investors' clearing out their portfolios for the end of the year.

Tuesday's bond news was "an excuse to lock in some profits on a somewhat illiquid day," Brorson said. "I wouldn't be surprised if the market waxes up tomorrow and buys them (stocks) back again."

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 105.50, or 0.97 percent, to 10,508.82.

Advertisement for Wildland Filmmaking. Text: 'INTRODUCTION TO WILDLAND FILM'. 'THIS COURSE IS DESIGNED TO HELP STUDENTS LEARN THE BASICS OF WILDLAND FILMMAKING'. Includes contact info for CSU campus, Twin Falls, starting Jan 17th.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks like AIG, AMZN, AAPL, etc.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ. Columns: NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ. Rows: Most Active, Gainers, Losers, etc.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various NASDAQ stocks like AIG, AMZN, AAPL, etc.

INDEXES

Table with columns: Index Name, Last, Chg. Lists S&P 500, Dow Jones, etc.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table with columns: Name, Div, PE, Last, Chg. Lists local stocks like Albemarle, Amstar, etc.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various American Stock Exchange stocks.

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 NASDAQ National Market and 100 most active on American Stock Exchange.

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MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table of closing futures prices for various commodities including soybeans, corn, wheat, and oil. Columns include contract name, price, and change.

Table of market news and price movements for commodities like soybeans, corn, and wheat, including volume and price changes.

Table of livestock market prices for various types of cattle and hogs, including prices per cwt and grades.

Table of metal market prices for various metals such as copper, nickel, zinc, and tin, including prices per lb and cwt.

Table of energy market prices for oil, natural gas, and coal, including prices per barrel and per MMBtu.

Continued from E1. development opportunities." Said Deloitte & Touche LLP's director of alumni relations, Karen Pivk...

BEANS

Table of bean market prices for various types of beans, including prices per bushel and grades.

Table of soybean market prices, including prices per bushel and grades.

Table of grain market prices for corn, wheat, and other grains, including prices per bushel.

Table of oil market prices for various types of oil, including prices per barrel.

Table of metal market prices for various metals, including prices per lb and cwt.

Even companies that seldom hire former employees in September cinched their return.

GRAINS

Table of grain market prices for various types of grain, including prices per bushel.

Table of soybean market prices, including prices per bushel and grades.

Table of grain market prices for various types of grain, including prices per bushel.

Table of oil market prices for various types of oil, including prices per barrel.

Table of metal market prices for various metals, including prices per lb and cwt.

"It was unheard of," said executive recruiter Ed Mazzuca, a former P&G brand marketing manager...

CHEESE

Table of cheese market prices for various types of cheese, including prices per lb and cwt.

Table of grain market prices for various types of grain, including prices per bushel.

Table of oil market prices for various types of oil, including prices per barrel.

Table of metal market prices for various metals, including prices per lb and cwt.

Table of energy market prices for oil, natural gas, and coal, including prices per barrel and per MMBtu.

Members get discounts on Milwaukee and other products and offer deals to other members.

POTATOES

Table of potato market prices for various types of potatoes, including prices per bushel.

Table of grain market prices for various types of grain, including prices per bushel.

Table of oil market prices for various types of oil, including prices per barrel.

Table of metal market prices for various metals, including prices per lb and cwt.

Table of energy market prices for oil, natural gas, and coal, including prices per barrel and per MMBtu.

"We are able to customize our market reports. If you're interested in a stock fund or commodity that's not in our report, give us a call and we'll try to include it."

SUGAR

Table of sugar market prices for various types of sugar, including prices per lb and cwt.

Table of grain market prices for various types of grain, including prices per bushel.

Table of oil market prices for various types of oil, including prices per barrel.

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Table of energy market prices for oil, natural gas, and coal, including prices per barrel and per MMBtu.

Perkins, Smart & Boyd, Inc. Call Nita Barnes Clontz for appointment. Member of NASD & SIFU.

MUTUAL FUNDS advertisement featuring a large grid of mutual fund listings with columns for fund name, price, and other details. Includes a logo for Perkins, Smart & Boyd, Inc.

## Surge of gun violence rocks Canadian city

### Prime minister says firearms are flowing in from the U.S.

**The Associated Press** — A city that prides itself as one of the safest in North America is bewildered by a surge in violence that has produced a record number of shooting deaths this year, the latest at a 15-year-old girl on a street filled with holiday shoppers.

Canada's prime minister and Toronto's mayor blame weapons smuggled in illegally from the United States, but others point to a growing gang problem.

Whatever the cause, Canadians recoiled Tuesday after a gunman killed the previous day in Toronto left the teenage bystander lying dead and six other people wounded in a street near a popular shopping mall.

It was the 52nd death inflicted by a firearm this year in Canada's biggest city, which is nearly twice as many as last year and raised the overall homicide toll to 78 — not far below the record 88 homicides of 1991.

"I think it's a day that Toronto

has finally lost its innocence," Detective Sgt. Savas Kyriacou said. "It was a tragic loss and tragic day."

Prime Minister Paul Martin said he was horrified.

"What we saw yesterday is a stark reminder of the challenge that governments, police forces and communities face to ensure that Canadian cities do not descend into the kind of rampant gun violence we have seen elsewhere," Martin said.

By elsewhere, he meant the United States. Martin, often politicians and police contend illegal guns flowing across the border are behind the spike in firearm violence.

Martin vowed earlier this

month to ban handguns if his Liberal Party wins re-election in the Jan. 15 parliamentary elections. But ownership of such weapons is already severely restricted, and critics accused him of playing politics with the violence spree.

Even with the jump in killings, this city of 3 million people is relatively safe. New York, which has a little over double Toronto's population, has recorded 515 homicides this year.

But many Canadians have long taken comfort in the peacefulness of their communities and are nervous about anything that might indicate they are moving closer to their American counterparts.

"What happened yesterday was appalling. You just don't expect it in a Canadian city," Toronto Mayor David Miller told The Associated Press.

Miller said that while almost every other type of crime is down in Toronto, the surge of guns has increased and half of them come from the United States.

"The U.S. is exporting its problem of violence to the streets of Toronto," he complained.

John Thompson, a security analyst with the Toronto-based Mackenzie Institute, disagreed.

He said that Canada has a gun problem — not a gun problem — and that the country should stop pointing the finger at the United States.

"It's a crap out. It's an easy way of looking at one symptom rather than addressing a whole disease," Thompson said.

Martin and Miller conceded that the smuggled guns carry a burden of poverty, discrimination, the Mayor said poverty is an important element.

"There are neighborhoods in Toronto where young people face barriers of poverty, discrimination, and don't have real hope and opportunity," Miller said. The kind of programs that we once took for granted in Canada, that would reach out to young people who have systematically disappeared over the past decade and I think that gun violence is a symptom of a much bigger problem."

## CLEARED OF GUILT



A special forces soldier carries a baby after it was released by militants in Beslan, North Ossetia, in this Sept. 2, 2004, file photo. Russian prosecutors investigating last year's bloody school hostage siege in the southern town of Beslan have uncovered no mistakes in the authorities' handling of the crisis, the official leading the probe said Tuesday.

## Russian probe clears authorities over Beslan school siege

**The Associated Press** — Moscow — Life has been agonizing for Susanna Duduyeva since the horrifying day when her son died in the bloodbath that ended last year's school hostage siege in Beslan. A report by federal prosecutors Tuesday only aggravated her pain.

Deputy Prosecutor General Nikolai Shepel said a probe led by his office found no reason to blame security forces for the deaths of 31 hostages during a public trial to use them from a band of terrorists in the southern Russian town.

"That view ran counter to a report last month from a regional legislative panel that accused authorities of both negligence and urged punishment for those responsible.

"Many people in Beslan feel the same way, arguing that officials stumbled badly in dealing with the crisis and have since sought to cover up their mistakes."

"We didn't expect anything

else — the prosecutors are sticking to their version of the events," said Duduyeva, who as head of the Beslan Mothers' Committee has been a leader in pressing for an accounting of what happened and why during the crisis Sept. 1-3, 2004.

Duduyeva, who lost her 13-year-old son, Zaur, wants to know how Islamic militants managed to mount their attack on the school undetected by security forces, what touched off the final battle and whether police and troops used indiscriminate violence.

Shepel, who is heading the investigation by federal prosecutors, said in a statement released by his office that so far his probe had not discovered any mistakes by authorities.

His statement came a day before the Russian parliament was to vote on results of a town investigation, which was likely to further heat up anger among Beslan residents, whatever its findings.

Islamic militants seized Beslan's School No. 1 on the third day of school, taking more than 1,100 children, parents and staff hostage and herding them into the gymnasium, which they rigged with explosives.

The hostages suffered in hot, unsanitary conditions and were denied water by their captors during the ordeal, which ended in an explosion and gunfire on the third day of the standoff. The dead hostages included 186 children.

The rebels, who were demanding that Russian troops withdraw from the nearby Chechnya region after a decade of separatist warfare there, had crossed heavily policed territory to reach Beslan, and victims' relatives are convinced they got help from corrupt officials.

Families of the hostages have strongly criticized the rescue operation, saying hostages died needlessly because special forces soldiers used flamethrowers, grenade launchers and

tanks against the militants.

Duduyeva called for top officials involved in the raid to be punished.

"You need to punish those who did not carry out their duties properly. Our children are no longer with us," she said.

Shepel defended the security forces and other rescue personnel, saying all acted appropriately.

"According to the conclusions of the investigation, the expert commission did not find — any violations that could be responsible for the harmful consequences that resulted from the terrorist act in Beslan," he said.

In a Nov. 29 report, a panel from the North Ossetia regional legislature called actions by the Russian Interior Ministry and Federal Security Service during the siege "unsatisfactory."

The panel said authorities failed to coordinate rescue efforts and made serious mistakes, such as grossly underestimating the number of hostages early on.

## Moderate Muslims seek sharper attacks in 'war of fatwas'

**By Brian Murphy**  
Associated Press writer

ATHENS, Greece — It's becoming known as the war of the fatwas: the dizzying exchange of proclamations between Islamic moderates and militants on what it means to be Muslim. The duels have been waged everywhere from pamphlets to cyberspace.

Now some Muslim leaders seek to shift tactics against radicals. Their hope rests in one of Islam's most elemental questions: Who has the real authority to make religious rulings and other interpretations of the faith?

Proposals to sharply control the issuing of fatwas — the nonbinding edicts on Muslim life and duties — are still little more than loose concepts and would require potentially stormy challenges to Islam's traditions of decentralized leadership.

But there are some influential backers such as Jordan's King Abdullah II. They argue that bold changes are needed in Islam's hierarchy to isolate radical clerics and discredit terrorist leaders, including Osama bin Laden, who have used self-styled religious decrees to justify their views and actions.

Abdullah, who brought his anti-terrorist message to Athens last week, has appealed for moderate Muslims to take decisive control over fatwas and religious guidance. In early December, Abdullah told the 56-member Organization of the Islamic Conference that he wants to establish a clear framework to interpret Islam, leaving the door open for radicals to strengthen their ranks.

The summit in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, is Islam's holiest shrine.

Abdullah, wrapped up with a statement reinforcing that only "those who are authorized" can issue fatwas. The monarchs, prime ministers and other delegates, however, could reach little common ground on a proposal to give a single body of Islamic law experts greater oversight of all fatwas covering the Muslim world.

It was a sample of the huge religious and political complications that stank any efforts to change the centuries-old fatwa practice.

"Islamic scholars say it would require a fundamental shift away from Islam's traditions that spread religious authority far and wide rather than to a single leader or institution. Some powerful centers of Islamic learning, such as Fiqh's Al-Azhar University, also resist reforms that could diminish their theological voice.

"Religious authority is in the eyes of the beholder and not anywhere else," said Abdullah Al-Sayid, an expert in Islamic law at Emory University in Atlanta. "This reality has not changed in 15 centuries of history, and will not change now."

But now there's the Internet and other ways to spread messages to mass audiences — which some commentators have dubbed "the war of the fatwas."

One of the most infamous salvoes was the February 1998 "fatwa" by bin Laden and followers that called on Muslims to kill Americans and their allies. It's been blamed for inspiring some of the most staggering terrorist strikes, including the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

**War of fatwas**

**WHAT'S A FATWA?** A fatwa is an opinion by an expert or group of experts in Islamic jurisprudence. They cover the judgment of public and personal life for Muslims. Fatwas are nonbinding by tradition but can take on added strength in places governed by Islamic law.

**CALLS FOR VIOLENCE:** Osama bin Laden and others have issued statements they call fatwas that support terrorism and violence. But mainstream Islamic scholars dismiss these proclamations as lacking any theological foundations.

**SEEKING CONTROLS:** Some Muslim leaders have urged for fatwa powers to be consolidated under a single body of Islamic law scholars. The proposals, however, go against Islam's traditions of decentralized authority.

Other militants increasingly have followed suit with farciful declarations of their own — including statements attributed to terrorist chief Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the alleged mastermind of the Nov. 9 Abu bombings in Amman, Jordan, that killed 60 people.

Moderates clerics initially were slow to react to the radical fatwas. But now there's a potent counterattack.

In March, Spain's Muslim leaders issued a fatwa condemning al-Qaida on the anniversary of the 2004 train bombings that claimed 191 lives. A similar anti-terrorist fatwa was made by Britain's Imam Sa'ud al-Hanafi following the July attacks that killed 52 commuters.

Jordan announced in December it will prosecute clerics who promote violence or issue fatwas without state permission, becoming the latest Muslim nation seeking to muzzle radical Islam.

"The fatwa, unfortunately, has become a tool of terrorists," said Abdullaslam Al-Abdadi, Jordan's former religious affairs minister. "We cannot keep having two versions of Islam: the correct and moderate views and the violent and extremist views. It's tearing apart the faith."

Many Westerners first learned of fatwas through the 1989 decree by the founder of Iran's Islamic Revolution, the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, to kill British and U.S. Salman Rushdie for perceived insults to Islam in his book "The Satanic Verses." But mainstream fatwas are not intended to manipulate and rarely have anything to do with violence.

They are essentially opinions from Islamic scholars covering everything from proper conduct during religious pilgrimages to family disputes and dating. One popular Web site — "Ask Imam Online" — even gets down to questions such as whether it's permissible for women to pluck their eyebrows. The reply was yes.

Fatwas, however, are not so simple and views on the same subject can vary. They gain force from consensus among experts in Islamic law and traditions. Yet attempts to establish a single authority for fatwas would likely meet with extreme resistance, said Islamic theologians predict.

## China agrees to open Korean War archives to MIA hunt

**The Associated Press** — HUNING — Chinese officials have agreed to consider a U.S. request to search military archives that could yield clues to the fate of missing Korean War servicemen possibly held in China, the U.S. Embassy said Friday.

"Being was optimistic that a way could be found to access the documents," the embassy said in a statement.

China also will help organize local support for U.S. investigations at sites where the remains of U.S. airmen from World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War might be found, it said. The probes should take place next year, it said.

The Chinese military ran prisoner-of-war camps in North Korea after intervening in the war in October 1950 to push U.S.-led United Nations forces back from the Yalu River, separating China and North Korea. The Pentagon has said it has information that China took some U.S. POWs into China during the war.

Relatives of missing servicemen welcomed the news of China's decision with wary optimism.

"We're delighted that they're even agreeing to consider it. They have made similar comments in the past but never fulfilled them," said John Zimmerman, executive director of the Manotia, Ca.-based Korean War

POW/MIA Network, whose father was an Air Force navigator on a B-26 shot down over North Korea in 1952.

"We're anxious to hear more," he said.

The Pentagon has unsuccessfully tried for years to convince the Chinese government that its archives could contain important information about some of the 8,100 U.S. servicemen missing after the Korean War.

China repeatedly has denied it has any information about the fates of American GIs.

"This would be big, this would be really big," said Robin Pacific, president of the Coalition of Families of Korean and Gold War POW/MIA's. Her uncle was an army medic who went

missing in 1950 when Chinese forces overtook Cho San reservoir.

"This would be a really good boost for morale for our families to know that this actually going to happen," she said.

Last year, the Pentagon identified the remains of Air Force Capt. Troy "Gordie" Cape, of Norfolk, Ark., whose jet crashed on Chinese territory in 1952 after being shot down during a dogfight with a Russian Il-28 for North Korea.

It was the first-time remains of a U.S. military pilot from the Korean War were recovered on Chinese territory. U.S. officials saw the case as an important step forward in cooperation on MIAs.







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lated garage and  
large detached garage.  
BLM and Little Wood  
River. Fantastic  
views. Call 726-4604.

**820** **Mobile Homes**  
**WENDELL** 310 West  
Main, 2 bdrm, 1 bath  
with 10x50  
garage + bonus room.  
\$100,000 934-5892

**821** **Furnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**822** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**823** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**824** **Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex**  
**TWIN FALLS** Nice du-  
plex, \$350 month +  
\$250 deposit. Call  
733-0831 ext. 2  
http://www.mgvalley.com

**825** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** Very nice,  
very clean, cute 1  
bdm, no smoking/  
pet. \$500 mo. + dep. Call  
after 5pm 734-8493.

**826** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** Very nice,  
very clean, cute 1  
bdm, no smoking/  
pet. \$500 mo. + dep. Call  
after 5pm 734-8493.

**827** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** Very nice,  
very clean, cute 1  
bdm, no smoking/  
pet. \$500 mo. + dep. Call  
after 5pm 734-8493.

**828** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** Very nice,  
very clean, cute 1  
bdm, no smoking/  
pet. \$500 mo. + dep. Call  
after 5pm 734-8493.

**829** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** Very nice,  
very clean, cute 1  
bdm, no smoking/  
pet. \$500 mo. + dep. Call  
after 5pm 734-8493.

**830** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** Very nice,  
very clean, cute 1  
bdm, no smoking/  
pet. \$500 mo. + dep. Call  
after 5pm 734-8493.

**831** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** Very nice,  
very clean, cute 1  
bdm, no smoking/  
pet. \$500 mo. + dep. Call  
after 5pm 734-8493.

**832** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** Very nice,  
very clean, cute 1  
bdm, no smoking/  
pet. \$500 mo. + dep. Call  
after 5pm 734-8493.

**833** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** Very nice,  
very clean, cute 1  
bdm, no smoking/  
pet. \$500 mo. + dep. Call  
after 5pm 734-8493.

**834** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** Very nice,  
very clean, cute 1  
bdm, no smoking/  
pet. \$500 mo. + dep. Call  
after 5pm 734-8493.

**835** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** Very nice,  
very clean, cute 1  
bdm, no smoking/  
pet. \$500 mo. + dep. Call  
after 5pm 734-8493.

**836** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** Very nice,  
very clean, cute 1  
bdm, no smoking/  
pet. \$500 mo. + dep. Call  
after 5pm 734-8493.

**837** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**838** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**839** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**840** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**841** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**842** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**843** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**844** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**845** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**846** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**847** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**848** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**849** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**850** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**851** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**852** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**853** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**854** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**855** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**856** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**857** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**858** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**859** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**860** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
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elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**861** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**862** **Unfurnished Homes**  
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pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**863** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**864** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**865** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**866** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**867** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**868** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
pos. 2nd fl. carpet,  
stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**869** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
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stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
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**870** **Unfurnished Homes**  
**TWIN FALLS** 1 bdm,  
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**871** **Unfurnished Homes**  
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stove, storage,  
elect. heat, \$475 mo.  
The Mgmt 733-0739

**894** **Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex**  
**TWIN FALLS** Free  
location with 1  
year lease, 3 bdrm, 2  
bath with appls., W/D,  
garage, AC, 950 +  
dep. Water and  
sewer inc. 733-7818

**895** **Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex**  
**TWIN FALLS** Free  
location with 1  
year lease, 3 bdrm, 2  
bath with appls., W/D,  
garage, AC, 950 +  
dep. Water and  
sewer inc. 733-7818

**896** **Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex**  
**TWIN FALLS** Free  
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bath with appls., W/D,  
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**898** **Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex**  
**TWIN FALLS** Free  
location with 1  
year lease, 3 bdrm, 2  
bath with appls., W/D,  
garage, AC, 950 +  
dep. Water and  
sewer inc. 733-7818

**899** **Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex**  
**TWIN FALLS** Free  
location with 1  
year lease, 3 bdrm, 2  
bath with appls., W/D,  
garage, AC, 950 +  
dep. Water and  
sewer inc. 733-7818

**900** **Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex**  
**TWIN FALLS** Free  
location with 1  
year lease, 3 bdrm, 2  
bath with appls., W/D,  
garage, AC, 950 +  
dep. Water and  
sewer inc. 733-7818

**901** **Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex**  
**TWIN FALLS** Free  
location with 1  
year lease, 3 bdrm, 2  
bath with appls., W/D,  
garage, AC, 950 +  
dep. Water and  
sewer inc. 733-7818

**902** **Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex**  
**TWIN FALLS** Free  
location with 1  
year lease, 3 bdrm, 2  
bath with appls., W/D,  
garage, AC, 950 +  
dep. Water and  
sewer inc. 733-7818

**903** **Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex**  
**TWIN FALLS** Free  
location with 1  
year lease, 3 bdrm, 2  
bath with appls., W/D,  
garage, AC, 950 +  
dep. Water and  
sewer inc. 733-7818

**904** **Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex**  
**TWIN FALLS** Free  
location with 1  
year lease, 3 bdrm, 2  
bath with appls., W/D,  
garage, AC, 950 +  
dep. Water and  
sewer inc. 733-7818

**905** **Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex**  
**TWIN FALLS** Free  
location with 1  
year lease, 3 bdrm, 2  
bath with appls., W/D,  
garage, AC, 950 +  
dep. Water and  
sewer inc. 733-7818

**906** **Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex**  
**TWIN FALLS** Free  
location with 1  
year lease, 3 bdrm, 2  
bath with appls., W/D,  
garage, AC, 950 +  
dep. Water and  
sewer inc. 733-7818

**907** **Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex**  
**TWIN FALLS** Free  
location with 1  
year lease, 3 bdrm, 2  
bath with appls., W/D,  
garage, AC, 950 +  
dep. Water and  
sewer inc. 733-7818

**908** **Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex**  
**TWIN FALLS** Free  
location with 1  
year lease, 3 bdrm, 2  
bath with appls., W/D,  
garage, AC, 950 +  
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bath with appls., W/D,  
garage, AC, 950 +  
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sewer inc. 733-7818

**913** **Storage/ Warehouse**  
**TWIN FALLS** Three  
1,300 sq. ft. w/ro-  
tating floors, perfect  
with offices and high  
overhead doors can  
be combined or up to  
3,000 sq. ft. of dedi-  
cated space. Building  
constructed to suit  
longer term tenants.  
Great location.  
Call 733-0666.  
539-4907 for price  
and showing.

**914** **Storage/ Warehouse**  
**TWIN FALLS** Three  
1,300 sq. ft. w/ro-  
tating floors, perfect  
with offices and high  
overhead doors can  
be combined or up to  
3,000 sq. ft. of dedi-  
cated space. Building  
constructed to suit  
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Great location.  
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**915** **Storage/ Warehouse**  
**TWIN FALLS** Three  
1,300 sq. ft. w/ro-  
tating floors, perfect  
with offices and high  
overhead doors



**NOW EVEN YOUR MONEY HAS MORE TRACTION.**

23 mpg  
HIGHWAY \*\*\*\*\*  
HIGHEST GOVERNMENT  
CRASH TEST RATING\*



THE ALL-NEW 2006  
SUBARU **B9 TRIBECA™**  
SYMMETRICAL AWD

**\$299** A MONTH/  
36 MONTHS\*

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\$595 ACQUISITION FEE  
\$299 FIRST MONTH'S PAYMENT  
\$2893 TOTAL DUE AT LEASE SIGNING

\*EXCLUDES TAX, TITLE AND REGISTRATION FEES DUE AT SIGNING.

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HIGHWAY \*\*\*\*\*  
HIGHEST GOVERNMENT  
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SYMMETRICAL AWD

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CUSTOMER CASH\*\* APR FINANCING\*

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HIGHWAY \*\*\*\*\*  
HIGHEST GOVERNMENT  
CRASH TEST RATING\*



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SUBARU **FORESTER™**  
SYMMETRICAL AWD

30 mpg  
HIGHWAY | IIHS "DOUBLE BEST PICK"\*



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SUBARU **LEGACY™**  
SYMMETRICAL AWD

**\$2,000** OR **1.9%**  
TOTAL SAVINGS\*\*\* APR FINANCING\*

\$1,000 CUSTOMER CASH  
\$1,000 OPTION PACKAGE SAVINGS  
\$2,000 TOTAL SAVINGS OR 1.9% APR FINANCING

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\*EPA Fuel Economy estimates 18 city/23 highway for the 2006 Subaru B9 Tribeca AWD, 23 city/28 highway for the 2006 Subaru Outback Wagon 2.5i AWD, 22 city/29 highway for the 2006 Subaru Forester 2.5i AWD, and 23 city/30 highway for the 2006 Subaru Legacy 2.5i Special Edition AWD. Actual mileage may vary. \*\*Acquisition fee applies to part of the total purchase price. Safety Administration for Hazardous Materials (DOT) See dealer for more details. \*\*Based on purchase price for the highway. Safety 23 mpg for the 2006 Subaru B9 Tribeca AWD. Other vehicles listed are qualified buyers. Subject to credit review and approval. Vehicle dealer's limited warranty and 30-day return policy. All vehicles are subject to availability. Lease rates are based on 12,000 miles per year. Dealer price options may affect final cost. Offer is a lease alternative. Cannot be combined with other offers. If financing may be higher in some states. Multiple dealers may be involved in this offer. Call 1-800-WHEELS for more participating dealers. ©2005 Subaru. All rights reserved. All prices are in U.S. dollars. Tax, title and registration fees are extra. Subject to credit review and approval. The MSRP of the vehicle. Tax, title and registration fees are extra. Dealer price options may affect final cost. Offer is a lease alternative. Cannot be combined with other offers. See dealer for more details. \*IIHS "Double Best Pick" award for 2006 Subaru Legacy. \*\*Acquisition fee applies to part of the total purchase price. Safety Administration for Hazardous Materials (DOT) See dealer for more details. \*\*Based on purchase price for the highway. Safety 23 mpg for the 2006 Subaru B9 Tribeca AWD. Other vehicles listed are qualified buyers. Subject to credit review and approval. Vehicle dealer's limited warranty and 30-day return policy. All vehicles are subject to availability. Lease rates are based on 12,000 miles per year. Dealer price options may affect final cost. Offer is a lease alternative. Cannot be combined with other offers. If financing may be higher in some states. Multiple dealers may be involved in this offer. Call 1-800-WHEELS for more participating dealers. ©2005 Subaru. All rights reserved. All prices are in U.S. dollars. Tax, title and registration fees are extra. Subject to credit review and approval. The MSRP of the vehicle. Tax, title and registration fees are extra. Dealer price options may affect final cost. Offer is a lease alternative. Cannot be combined with other offers. See dealer for more details.

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**1988 Toyota Camry Sedan**  
#5322B, All-Trac, 414, SALE PRICE  
Sunroof, Air  
Retail Price \$4995 **\$3800**



**1993 Subaru Legacy Wagon**  
#5768A, Automatic, 414, SALE PRICE  
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**1996 Subaru Legacy Sedan**  
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Retail Price \$8995 **\$6781**



**2001 Nissan Frontier**  
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Retail Price \$8975 **\$6900**



**2002 Chrysler PT Cruiser**  
#6045A, 4-Door, Air, SALE PRICE  
Automatic, Cruise, Low Miles  
Retail Price \$12225 **\$9975**



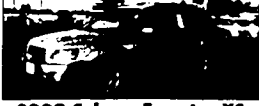
**1999 Dodge Ram 1500**  
#4109A, 414, Air, SALE PRICE  
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Retail Price \$12850 **\$9980**



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Automatic, Std Cab  
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#6009A, 4-Wheel Drive, SALE PRICE  
Automatic, Air, 34 ml  
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#4096, Wagon, 600 Miles, SALE PRICE  
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Air, Low Miles  
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Automatic, Quad Cab  
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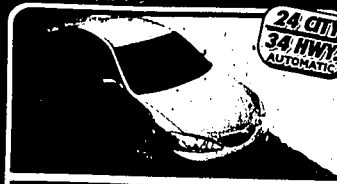


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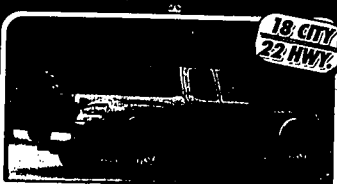
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