

## BACK TO THEIR ROOTS

After living in cities, native Idahoans come back home

COUNTRY ROADS, SEE PAGE D1



## HOPING FOR MORE

Twin Falls High students seek community's fundraising help

MAGIC VALLEY, SEE PAGE D3



## GONE TO THE DOGS

Sun Valley businesses cater to canine lovers

MONEY, SEE PAGE C1

### Good Morning

High: 25  
Low: 15  
Nothing but blue skies.  
Details: B6

# Times-News

TUESDAY  
December 19, 2006  
50 cents

MagicValley.com

## Thousand Springs Preserve to be Idaho's newest state park

### Nature Conservancy gifts land near Hagerman, \$1 million

By Matt Christensen  
Times-News writer

HAGERMAN — Idaho's state park system just became 310 acres larger. On Monday, The Nature Conservancy — a worldwide

organization that works to protect unusual lands and waters — donated 310 acres near Hagerman to the state, as well as a \$1 million endowment fund. Gov. James Risch said the land — arguably the most scenic area in Magic Valley — will become a state park and the money will be used to manage it.

The new park, which includes Ritter Island in the Snake River, will stretch southeast from the island and includes about two miles of shoreline and several natural springs. It joins a series of state parks in the area — Malad Gorge, Billingsley Creek, Box Canyon and

Niagara Springs — already managed by the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation.

"It's really a unique piece of property," Risch said. "This is a piece of land that begs to have people use it." Risch said the conservancy is donating the land because it has limited resources and because the group knows the

Please see PARK, Page A3



Ceramic sculptures from the TMB Ceramics and Design booth are displayed last fall at the Thousand Springs Festival of the Arts outside Hagerman. The festival is likely to continue after an announcement Monday by Gov. Jim Risch that the area will be the site of a new state park.

## City might seek voter initiative to speed up roadwork

By Jared S. Hopkins  
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Twin Falls Mayor Lance Clow said Monday the city could see a voter initiative in the form of a general-obligation bond to speed-up the widening of Washington Street North.

A \$5.5 million federal earmark was approved two years ago, but due to funding conflicts on the state level, construction could be delayed until 2013. Clow said a bond would allow the city to borrow from voters — not raise their taxes — and get the four-phase project started by 2008.

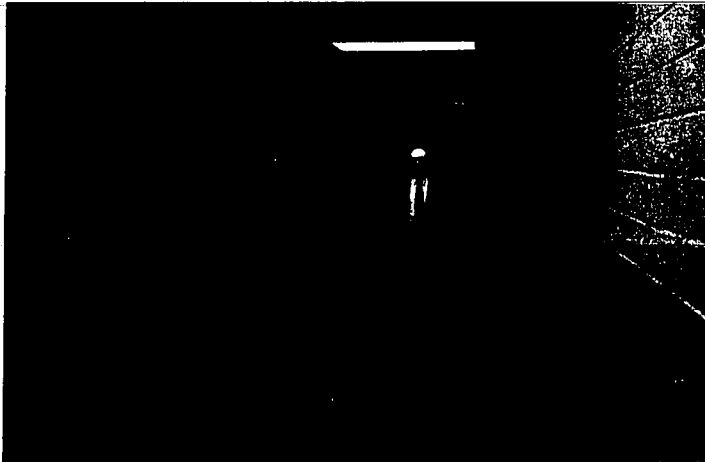
"I believe we would save money in the long haul if we did this project sooner rather than later," Clow said. "If we can fund it as a city, why not do it?"

Clow, the Twin Falls City Council and city staff have expressed hope that the second phase of construction on Pole Line Road — extending it west — will finish before work begins on Washington Street North. But while both projects are overseen by the state, the funding of the former relies on Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle, or GARVEE, bonds.

Six of 13 GARVEE-financed projects underway statewide are already behind, while funding for the remaining projects — including Pole Line Road — remain undecided. Unlike the unsuccessful library bond initiative in February which would have raised property taxes, this construction bond would be effective for one or two years and not raise taxes.

Please see BOND, Page A3

## Murder trial goes to jury



Donald Brink, who is charged with first-degree murder in the killing of Brent 'Spook' Lillevoed, walks back to the courtroom Monday after a brief recess in the final day of his trial in Twin Falls.

### Deliberations resume today in 2005 shotgun slaying

By Cassidy Friedman  
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — A jury was expected to resume deliberations today in the first-degree murder trial of Donald Brink after deliberating into the night on Monday.

The jury began its deliberations at 1 p.m. after hearing four days of testimony. Brink has been charged in the shotgun slaying of Brent "Spook" Lillevoed.

In the early morning of May 29, 2005, Brink blasted a 2-inch hole into 50-year-old Lillevoed's chest in a basement home at 235½ Damage St., killing him almost instantly. The defense has argued Brink walked into an hostile environment.

Twin Falls County Prosecuting Attorney Grant



Donald Brink pauses for a moment before leaving a courtroom Monday during a brief recess on the final day of his trial in Twin Falls.

Loeb, however, ripped into Brink for two hours of closing arguments. "When you're down on your luck you don't get a free pass to shoot someone," Loeb said. "And that's what he's asking for."

Three rows behind where this battle was taking place, the victim's family agonized in what they view as the disastrous culmination of two well-intended failures.

"Mr. Brink is not a demon. Mr. Brink had a dream. He had a plan. He wanted to be helpful and protective of his children," said Defense Attorney Thomas Kershaw.

Brink had begun building a jewelry business in Hansen and hoped to pull his three children out of homelessness and drug use.

Please see TRIAL, Page A3

## New unit to go after illegal alien criminals

By John Miller  
Associated Press writer

BOISE — Federal immigration enforcers are opening a new office in Boise to help track down any fugitive foreign criminals and suspected terrorists living in Idaho and kick them out of the country.

The seven-employee "fugitive operations unit," to be overseen by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, is slated to be fully staffed by next spring. It's one of 18 such offices being opened across the United States in fiscal year 2007, bringing the total to 70.

U.S. Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho, a proponent of immigration reform and an advocate of a new guest worker program that so far has failed to win congressional approval, announced the office's creation Monday as part of a plan to crack down on so-called abductors, or criminal foreign nationals who've ignored immigration judges' orders to leave America.

Steve Branch, who heads up Immigration and Customs Enforcement activities in Idaho, Utah, Montana and Nevada from his base in Salt Lake City, said the new Boise office will dedicate resources to finding suspected terrorists, violent criminals, petty criminals and immigration-law violators, in that order of importance.

"A number of these people have taken extensive steps to conceal themselves in the interior of the United States," he said. "As we've been able to receive more resources from Congress, we've been able to deploy more teams in more areas."

Before the 2001 terror attacks on New York and Washington, D.C., immigration agents were seen as bit players in America's fight against terror. That changed with Sept. 11.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or ICE, was created in 2003, and new fugitive operations units such as the one being opened in Boise are seen as elements of the U.S. government's broader plan to guard against new attacks. They're also meant to boost confidence that federal officials are serious about cracking down on illegal immigration.

Last year, 186,000 people were deported from the United States, some of them "absconders."

## Tragedy blamed on intersection of two failed lives

By Cassidy Friedman  
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Numbness chills the lives of the mother. Rage fills his daughter, Tiffany Muff, who refuses a paternity test that could reveal if she is the daughter of Brent "Spook" Lillevoed or Donald Brink.

"They both couldn't figure out the right way to do anything," Muff said Monday. "They couldn't figure out the right path." Muff believes her father is Lillevoed, the lifelong friend that Brink is accused of killing with a shotgun on May 29, 2005.

But throughout his trial, Brink called Muff his biological daughter.

"I'm mad because dad put himself there and Donnie put himself there," Muff said.

Brink confessed during the trial to harboring anger against Lillevoed. He believed Lillevoed had stolen his van and was in the midst of stealing more of his property when he shot him. Brink, however, repeatedly denied he intended to harm Lillevoed.

"He didn't own up to what he did," Muff said. "He had total intent to solve it some way."

She, like the rest of the victim's family, watched both men repeatedly try and fail to become better men.

Outside the courthouse after the jury had begun deliberating at 1 p.m. Monday, family members described both as unable to escape drug addiction and crime despite having good intentions.

"Don would give you everything," said Lillevoed's daughter, Deanna Lombard. "This was unexpected for Don."

"Maybe if they weren't on drugs, maybe it wouldn't have come out that way," she said.

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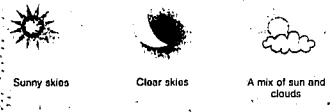
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TODAY'S FORECAST

TWIN FALLS

Today Tonight Wednesday



High 25 Low 15 33 / 18

MINI-CASSIA

Today: A chilly, mostly sunny December Day. Highs, upper 20s. Tonight: Fair to partly cloudy skies. Lows, upper single digits. Tomorrow: Staying dry with a few clouds overhead. Highs near 30.

Complete weather report: See page B6

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT
The Standards Christmas concert, 7 p.m., in the College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center auditorium, Twin Falls, 510, 732-6781 or http://www.thestandards.com.

BUSINESS
Ribbon cutting for Re/Max American Dream Realty, 4:30 p.m., 155 2nd Ave. N., Twin Falls, 733-5008.

CLUBS
The Magic Valley Singles Square Dancers Christmas potluck and dance, 7 p.m., El Sombrero Restaurant, 157 W. Main, Jerome, \$3 per person or \$6 per couple (bring a potluck side-dish), 324-7238.

EXHIBITS
'The Circle' by Amber Secon, former College of Southern Idaho art instructor, 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Jean B. King Gallery, Herrett Center for Arts and Sciences, C.S.I. campus, Twin Falls, no cost, 732-6655.

FAMILY
'Baby and Me' class, focusing on 'Financing Baby' for young mothers with their babies or toddlers, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., St. Benedict's Family Medical Center's Health Education Center, 115 Fifth Ave. W., Jerome, no cost, 324-7262.

GOVERNMENT
Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068.

Blaine County commissioners, 8:49 a.m., courthouse, 206 First Ave. S., Halley, 788-5500.

Jerome County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 300 N. Lincoln, 544-2700.

Idaho Valley Regional Airport Advisory Board, 11 a.m., Joslin Room, airport terminal, 733-5215.

Boise School Board, 6:30 p.m., district office, 920 Main, 543-6436.

City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 1401 Overland Ave., 878-4224.

Castroford School Board, 7 p.m., council library, 500 W. Main, 537-6511.

Jerome City Council, 7 p.m., council chambers, 100 E. Ave. A, 324-8189.

Rupert City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 624 F St., 436-9600.

Shoshone City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 207 S. Rail St. W., 886-2030.

Wendell School Board, 7 p.m., high school library, 750 E. Main, 536-6318.

Flair City Council, 7:30 p.m. council chambers, 300 Main, 326-5000.

HEALTH
Twin Falls Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program for senior citizens, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., Twin Falls Senior Center, 530 Shoshone St., Twin Falls, free for all senior citizens, 737-5946.

MUSEUMS
'Mingle in the Jungles' free raffle review, 6 p.m., Herrett Center rain forest, Herrett Center for Arts and Science on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho, no cost, 732-6655.

Faulkner Planetarium, 'The Christmas Star' at 7 p.m. and 'Steamrolling' at 8:15 p.m., Herrett Center for Arts and Science, north end of the College of Southern Idaho campus, Twin Falls, \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$9 for families (children under age 4 not admitted), 732-6655.

OPINION
I recently watched someone leave a restroom without washing his hands. Now I wonder whose omission was greater: His, or mine for not saying something. It's cold and flu season, folks. We should all be washing our hands with hot, soapy water.

MINI EDITORIAL
Want to submit a Mini Editorial for publication on this page? Send it by e-mail to mini@magvalley.com.

Submitter must include the writer's name, address and daytime telephone number. Mini Editorials can be up to 50 words in length. They will be subjected to the same verification process as letters to the editor. Writers may publish one Mini Editorial and one letter per month. For more information, see page A6.

YOUR MORNING BRIEFING

MAGIC VALLEY



Native Idahoans return to their roots

BOISE — When Jo Ann Robbins was a little girl, she couldn't wait to get off the farm. Once she left, she spent most of her adult life hoping to return. Robbins is one of many Magic Valley residents flocking back to the farm after life in the city. And as a Jerome County Extension agent, she runs a program for folks new to country living.

IMAGE, SEE PAGE D1



A helping hand from students to community

Twin Falls High School students are doing their annual fundraiser for needy families for Christmas. The students help with food as well as electric bills and rent.

A look at what's shakin' beneath Oakley

A consortium of university scientists are taking the seismic pulse of Cassia County to learn more about the forces that underlie the western United States.

Straight A's for nursing education at CSI

TWIN FALLS — A Twin Falls how the Idaho Board of Nursing graded the College of Southern Idaho's nursing program. Although the board will make an official declaration about its review of the nursing program on Wednesday, the CSI trustees heard the unofficial results of the review Monday night.

Murder trial in hands of the jury

TWIN FALLS — A jury was expected to resume deliberations today in the first-degree murder trial of Donald Brink after deliberating into the night on Monday. The jury began its deliberations at 1 p.m. after hearing four days of testimony.

New state park near Hagerman

HAGERMAN — Idaho's state park system just became 310 acres larger. On Monday, The Nature Conservancy — a worldwide organization that works to protect unusual lands and waters — donated 310 acres near Hagerman to the state, as well as a \$1 million endowment fund.

OBITUARIES

Ephraim A. Hansen, 77
Eather Moncher Whiting, 90
Merna Hatfield, 88
Ralph King Gardner, 76
Roxanne Lee Martin, 50
Barbara Belle Higgins, 73
William Keith 'Bill' Frodin, 49
Jenny Amanda Kohntopp, 84
Lloyd T. Blaud, 72

IDAHO/WEST



Upscale dog accessory companies taking off

SUN VALLEY — They've gone national in a very big way. Last year, their sales expanded a whopping 400 percent, doubling in six months and then continuing to go a bit crazy. Nicole Kohls, CEO of the paired businesses of Sun Valley Dog and Isabella Cane, said the company hit \$200,000 last year. "We're building a real business here," she said.

New Boise office tracks fugitive foreigners

BOISE — Federal immigration enforcers are opening a new seven-agent office in Boise to help track down fugitive foreigners and kick them out of the country. The "fugitive operations unit" is one of 16 new offices being opened across the United States this year to be overseen by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, bringing the total number of such units across the country to 70.



Climbers may have been swept off cliff

HOOD RIVER, Ore. — Two climbers still missing on Mount Hood may have been swept to their deaths over a treacherous cliff by howling winds of more than 100 mph after they left their possibly injured companion behind in a snow cave to get help. Sheriff Joe Wampler offered that scenario as rescuers went back up the mountain in helicopters Monday to retrieve the body of Kelly James from the snow cave and try again to find his two companions, who have been missing for a week.

Avalanches kill two in Wyoming and Montana

Separate avalanches over the weekend killed two snowmobilers in Montana and Wyoming and prompted warnings from avalanche experts about backcountry snow conditions in popular snowmobiling areas of both states. Near Jackson, Wyo., two Idaho snowmobilers were buried and dumped in a stream, according to the Bridger-Teton National Forest Avalanche Center.

Suspect arrested in prostitute slayings

IPSWICH, England — Police arrest a 37-year-old grocery store clerk on suspicion of killing five prostitutes — slaying that string terror in this quiet English town. The arrest comes 16 tense days after the first naked body was found dumped in a stream, British media quote the suspect as saying he knew all the victims.

NATION/WORLD



Pyeongyang demands talks on equal footing

BEIJING — North Korea insisted Monday it be treated as a full-fledged nuclear power as six-nation arms talks convened for the first time since the atomic test, but the United States said time was running out for Pyongyang to dismantle its nuclear arsenal and threatened more sanctions.

Pentagon: Attacks in Iraq have risen sharply

WASHINGTON — Attacks on U.S. and Iraqi troops and Iraqi civilians jumped sharply in recent months to the highest level since Iraq regained its sovereignty in June 2003, the Pentagon told Congress on Monday. In a report issued the same day Robert Gates took over as defense secretary, the Pentagon said that from mid-August to mid-November, the weekly average number of attacks increased 22 percent from the previous three months.

Former CSI minister flees Iraq station

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Private guards in Iraq helped Iraq's former electricity minister escape from a police station outside the heavily fortified Green Zone when the dual U.S.-Iraqi citizen was being held on corruption charges, officials said Monday.

Houston-area rapist preys on young me: HOUSTON — A rapist who preys on young men has struck five times in the Houston area since mid-September, and police said Monday there may be even more victims, but they are too ashamed to come forward.

President's opponents lead in local elections

TEHRAN, Iran — President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad suffered an embarrassing loss in local council races, according to partial election results Monday, in voting viewed as a sign of public discontent with his hard-line stance.

Suspect arrested in money into athletics

BOISE (AP) — Boise State's appearance in the Fiesta Bowl is expected to bring up to \$3.5 million to the school, most of which will go to the athletic department, BSU president Bob Kustra says. "There's not a lot of university funding in athletics," Kustra told the Idaho Statesman. "The money needs to go back in some proportion to that."

SPORTS



CSU men win in double overtime

PHOENIX — The No. 9 College of Southern Idaho men's basketball team found a new way to near the 100-point mark Monday in Phoenix, battling the host Mesa Community College Thunderbolts for 10 extra minutes for a 83-86 double-overtime win.

The Golden Eagles struggled from the field all game, but with two minutes in the second overtime, Brad Garrett's transition lay-up off a Reggie Guyton lay-up gave CSI an 87-85 lead it wouldn't relinquish. Terry Fields extended that lead with a transition lay-up of his own from Guyton with 1:52 left, while Juan Patillo's offensive rebound and put-back of Fields subsequent missed foul shot put CSI up 91-85 and effectively fed the contest.

Former CSI standout earns WAC honor

TWIN FALLS — Former College of Southern Idaho standout Reggie Larry was named Western Athletic Conference player of the week for the 11-17 after leading Boise State to a 99-66 win over Sacramento State Saturday.

Larry, a 6-6 junior from Nevada, has led in career-high totals of 21 points and 11 rebounds for the Broncos, making 9-of-10 field goals. He went 2-for-3 at the 3-point line and made all four of his free-throw attempts.

Marbury's layup sends Knicks past Jazz

NEW YORK — Stephon Marbury's layup just beat the buzzer, and gave the undermanned Knicks a stunning 97-96 overtime victory over the Utah Jazz on Monday night. Two nights after a brawl with the Denver Nuggets that led to 10 ejections, New York came down to eight players because of suspensions and injuries — showed the right kind of fight. The Knicks bounced back from a dismal first quarter and knocked off the Northwest Division leaders.

Times-News

Table with subscription rates and contact information for Times-News.

## Laura Bush had skin cancer tumor removed, White House says

WASHINGTON (AP) — First lady Laura Bush had a skin cancer tumor removed from her right shin in early November. The procedure was not disclosed until Monday night.

The cancer was identified as a squamous cell carcinoma, a malignant tumor that is the second most common form of skin cancer.

Explaining why the procedure was not disclosed until

now, the first lady's press secretary Susan Whitson said, "This medical procedure was a private matter for Mrs. Bush, but when asked by the media today, we answered the question."

The first lady was noted wearing a bandage on her right leg before the election. At the time Whitson said Mrs. Bush had a sore on her shin.

In late October, Mrs. Bush had a biopsy because the sore was not healing, Whitson said, and it was determined to be a squamous cell carcinoma.

That type of skin cancer is a tumor that affects the middle portion of the epidermal skin layer. It is more aggressive than basal cell cancer, the most common form of skin cancer. Squamous cell cancer is more likely than basal cell cancer to

spread to other locations, so patients need to have lymph nodes in the region near the tumor routinely examined, according to the National Cancer Institute's Web site.

Whitson said Mrs. Bush's tumor was removed under a local anesthetic. She called it a "little surgical procedure. It's no big deal. She detected it early. She caught it early." No further treatment was needed.

## Park

Continued from page A1

state can open the property to more people.

Currently, only one conservancy caretaker manages the land at a given time, Itsch said.

"Itsch Island adds another gem to the Thousand Springs complex," said Idaho director for the conservancy, Laura Hubbard, in a press release, "and ensure that future generations will be able to enjoy the natural beauty and interesting history of this area."

At one time, the island was home to a state-of-the-art model dairy farm. The original house and barn — both built in 1920 — still stand on the island and will become state property.

The farm was sold in 1951 to Judge Willis W. Ritter, who used the land as a private sportsman's retreat. The conservancy bought the property in 1986 and has owned the land since.

Each fall, the Thousand Springs Festival, a two-day art and music event, is held on the island. It draws artisans from across the region, as well as hundreds of visitors, shoppers and sightseers. Itsch said the event will likely continue to be held there.

The endowment fund will be transferred to the state within 60 days, and the conservancy will continue to work at the site until the parks department takes over some time next year.

Staff writer Matt Christensen covers natural resources. Contact him at 735-3243 or at matt.christensen@tnc.net.

## Trial

Continued from page A1

When he lost the lease on the business, he too became homeless, lost all his money and fell back on drugs.

"All of his belongings were disappearing," Kershaw said. "His dreams were slipping through his fingers like sand and he couldn't hold onto them."

But Brink did not just think his belongings were disappearing. He believed Lillevold, was stealing them.

"Things got crazy," Kershaw said.

In his rebuttal, Loebis dismissed every point Kershaw had made, including his

request for sympathy.

"I'm not questioning Brink had a dream," Loebis said. "There isn't anyone, including the victim's family, that wouldn't like to go back and see his business succeed."

But Loebis was not interested in explanations or excuses. Instead, he called Brink pathetic, holding the defendant responsible not only for killing Lillevold but for his drug addiction.

"Whose fault is it that his dream died? It's his fault," Loebis said. "Start using meth. That will kill a dream."

"Then Loebis asked rhetorically how much Brink valued a human life.

First he placed on the projector — an image of Lillevold beside Brink's van.

Then he set a photo of Lillevold next to one of Brink's clothes and crossed out the image of Lillevold.

Lastly, he projected an image of a slain and bloodied Lillevold and quoted the defendant as saying during a collect call from the jail, "I did the right thing when somebody stole my van."

Cassidy Friedman covers crime and courts for the Times-News. He can be reached at (208)735-3241 or by e-mail at cfriedman@magicalvalley.com.

## Bond

Continued from page A1

Clow said. It would essentially borrow money from voters already approved by the state.

But while the earmark has been approved, when the funding goes into effect is decided by the state.

Despite inflation and the rising costs associated with construction, including asphalt and steel, the \$6.5 million — which Clow said currently would fund the entire project — will remain stagnant.

The bond, which requires approval of two-thirds of the voters, could come before voters in July or the general election in November, Clow said.

Clow, whose thoughts

## Bond

Continued from page A1

sprouted from a recent meeting with the Idaho Transportation Department, made the announcement Monday after the city council approved the last right-of-way acquisition for the first of four phases of the widening project.

Though most council members just listened to Clow's proposal, Councilman Shawn Barigar said during the meeting he was open to the possibility of a voter bond.

"If we can find a way to move it forward we should definitely look through it," Barigar said.

Reporter Jared S. Hopkins can be reached at (208) 735-3204 or jhopkins@magicalvalley.com

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## AROUND THE NATION

### WASHINGTON Pentagon: Attacks in Iraq have risen sharply

WASHINGTON — Attacks on U.S. and Iraqi troops and Iraqi civilians jumped sharply in recent months to the highest level since Iraq regained its sovereignty in June 2004, the Pentagon told Congress on Monday in the latest indication of that country's spiraling violence.

In a report issued the same day Robert Gates took over as defense secretary, the Pentagon said that from mid-August to mid-November, the weekly average number of attacks increased 22 percent from the previous three months. "The worst violence was in Baghdad and in the western province of Anbar, long the focus of activity by Sunni insurgents."

At a ceremonial swearing-in attended by President Bush, Gates warned that failure in Iraq would be "an enmity that would haunt our nation, impair our credibility and endanger Americans for decades to come." He said he intended to go to Iraq soon to get the "unvarnished" advice of U.S. commanders on how to stabilize the country.

### Bush: Nuclear pact with India bolsters relations

WASHINGTON — President Bush signed legislation on Monday to let America share its nuclear know-how and fuel with India even though New Delhi refuses to sign the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty.

"By helping India expand its use of safe nuclear energy, this bill lays the foundation for a new strategic partnership between our two nations that will help ease India's demands for fossil fuels and ease pressure on global markets," Bush said in a bill-signing ceremony at the White House.

The bill carves out an exemption in U.S. law to allow civilian nuclear trade with India in exchange for Indian safeguards and inspections at its 14 civilian nuclear plants. Eight military plants, however, would remain off-limits to the inspections.

The House and Senate had overwhelmingly approved the nuclear cooperation bill, giving Bush a foreign policy victory at a time when the administration is struggling to come up with a new approach to the unpopular war in Iraq.

Critics worry the agreement could spark a nuclear arms race in Asia by boosting India's atomic arsenal. They also argue that the measure undermines international efforts to prevent states like Iran and North Korea from acquiring nuclear weapons.

The White House said it was willing to make an exception for India, the world's largest democracy, because it had protected its nuclear technology and not been a proliferator.

rob and sexually assaults his victims at gunpoint, apparently choosing them at random and attacking them near or inside their homes, police said. The most recent attack was Nov. 30.

"I wish we had a link between the victims, because we might have a better chance of catching him," said Lt. Richard Wittaker of the police department in Baytown, where two of the attacks took place. "We don't have any affirmative links at all."

— The Associated Press

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# AROUND THE WEST

## OREGON

### Missing climbers may have been blown off cliff

HOOD RIVER, Ore. — Two climbers, still missing on Mount Hood may have been swept to their deaths over a treacherous cliff by howling winds of more than 100 mph after they left their injured companion behind in a snow cave to get help.

Sheriff Joe Wampler offered that scenario as rescuers went back up the mountain in helicopters Monday to retrieve the body of Kelly James from the snow cave and try again to find his two companions, who have been missing for a week.

But the sheriff spoke grimly about the chances the pair were still alive: "We failed them. We literally failed them. But we tried our best. I know that."

James' body was discovered over the weekend. He had an unspecified arm injury that apparently prevented him from continuing. Wampler said Wampler said climbing equipment found on the mountain — including two slings and two aluminum anchors driven into the snow — led rescuers to believe that James' companions, Brian Hall and Jerry "Nikko" Cooke, had tried to secure themselves to the steep slope. That was the last sign of the two.

## WYOMING

### Avalanches kills two snowmobilers

Separate avalanches over the weekend killed two snowmobilers in Montana and Wyoming and prompted warnings from state experts about backcountry snow conditions in popular snowmobiling areas of both states.

Near Jackson, Wyo., two snowmobilers were buried Saturday in a slide, according to the Bridger-Teton National Forest Avalanche Center.

Rescuers found and dug out Greg Huntsman, 42, of Idaho Falls, from 6 feet of snow and resuscitated him. James Boschae, 30, of Swan Valley, Idaho, was buried by 8 to 10 feet of snow and asphyxiated, according to sheriff's department and forest officials.

Near Cooke City, Mont., just outside Yellowstone National Park, a North Dakota man died Saturday in an avalanche triggered by a companion, the Park County undersheriff said.

Jeffrey Michel, 34, of Jamestown, N.D., was buried under 7 feet of snow for about 18 minutes on Scotch Bonnet Mountain several miles north of Cooke City, Undersheriff Gary Tanescu said.

## HOLLYWOOD

### Joe Barbera, of Yogi Bear fame, dies at 95

LOS ANGELES — Joe Barbera, half of the Hanna-Barbera animation team that produced such beloved cartoon characters as Tom and Jerry, Yogi Bear and the Flintstones, died Monday, a

Warner Bros. spokesman said. He was 95.

Barbera died of natural causes at his home with his wife Sheila at his side, Warner Bros. spokesman Gary Miereanu said.

With his longtime partner, Bill Hanna, Barbera first found success creating the highly successful Tom and Jerry cartoons. The antics of the battling cat and mouse went on to win seven Academy Awards, more than any other series with the same characters.

— The Associated Press


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Happy Feet (1:00 - 1:30)  
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EDITORIAL

## Flood of reform unlikely even with Dreher's exit

**I**daho Department of Water Resources Director Karl Dreher got his pink slip last week, as Governor Butch Otter began the selection process for state agency leaders.

The issues that hampered Dreher, however, won't be so easy to flush down the drain.

Otter told Dreher he would be excused come Jan. 1, when the new administration kicks off. Along with the IDWR, new leaders are expected to be named for corrections, agriculture, transportation and administration.

Dreher's job, however, is the one that holds the most uncertainties. Appointed in 1995 to guide the water agency, Dreher had expressed interest in staying on for Otter. But with a landmark decision pending in the state Supreme Court regarding the conjunctive management of senior and junior water rights, Otter figured it was time for a change of direction.

This is only the first part of the test, however. The controversy surrounding the declining water supply existed long before Dreher arrived at the department. They were not the creation of one single individual. Dreher inherited an agency with a systemic flaw going back decades. When appropriating water to new users, the state had — and still has — a problem with saying no.

Given that kind of mandate, Dreher and the IDWR had an almost impossible job of trying to please all water users at the table. When periods of drought hit, and senior users issued calls for more water, the agency tried to delay the inevitable. Under conjunctive management, Dreher assumed a significant amount of authority to determine what and when. His actions lacked a certain decisiveness, but the fact is he wasn't alone.

Dreher's arbitrary approach bent the rules in the minds of many senior surface water users with senior rights. And when he hedged on a water call in early 2005, those users went to district court to enforce constitutional appropriation law. The final decision on that issue could provoke a flood of change in Idaho water management.

Or maybe it won't change anything at all.

Had Dreher been more decisive and enforced senior appropriation laws strictly according to "first-in-time priority," would those actions have passed muster with junior water rights interests?

Would legislators who represent ground-pumping interests sing the praises of strict enforcement?

Would the governors, who give bland platitudes about beneficial use of water for the whole state, have supported more curtailment?

The honest answer is no. Flash ahead to today, and Otter has a golden opportunity to turn a new page with a replacement at IDWR. But when the Supreme Court renders its decision, the pressure will remain for a new director, with help from the Legislature, to negotiate mitigation deals and buyouts that protect the many current water interests.

As Conkufowicz would say, "Only the wisest and sturdiest of men never change."

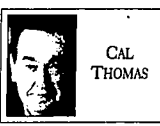
**Our view:** A new director for Water Resources gives an opportunity to follow priority doctrine, but only if we dare to do so. What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.



## Punishment fits for death penalty

**W**hich of the following scenarios constitutes cruel and unusual punishment, as prohibited by the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution: (1) aborting a baby with a fully developed nervous system and probably inflicting great pain; (2) murdering a nightclub manager in cold blood; (3) taking 34 minutes — twice the normal time — to execute the murderer of the nightclub manager? Anti-death penalty forces want us to believe number three. They claim the Dec. 13 execution in Florida of Angel Nieves Diaz took too long and required a second injection, thus, violating the Eighth Amendment. Florida's outgoing governor, Jeb Bush, has suspended all executions in his state pending an investigation into the state's lethal-injection process. In California, U.S. District Judge Jeremy D. Fogel declared California's execution procedure unconstitutional and lethal injections — the preferred execution method in 37 states — an offense to the ban on cruel and unusual punishment.

Aside from the period between 1967 and 1976, when capital punishment was effectively suspended, the Supreme Court has consistently ruled that the death penalty does not violate the Eighth Amendment, but that some applications of it might.



ion and breaking on the wheel. In modern times, the Supreme Court has decided cases that redefine what the Founders meant. In *Hudson v. McMillan* (1992), the court ruled that the use of excessive physical force against a prisoner might constitute cruel and unusual punishment, even if a prisoner does not suffer serious pain.

But the actual infliction of physical pain or hardship is not necessary for such a finding. As far back as 1958, the Supreme Court ruled in *Trop v. Dulles* that the use of denaturalization (the deprivation of citizenship) is a punishment barred by the Eighth Amendment.

Aside from the period between 1967 and 1976, when capital punishment was effectively suspended, the Supreme Court has consistently ruled that the death penalty does not violate the Eighth Amendment, but that some applications of it might.

The Court declared the execution of the mentally retarded to be cruel and unusual punishment and, thus, barred by the Eighth Amendment (*Atkins v. Virginia*, 2002). In *Boper v. Simmons* (2005), the court ruled it was cruel and unusual punishment to put to death anyone who was under the age of 18 at the time they committed their crime.

I don't know how you define cruel and unusual in a legal context and Angel Nieves Diaz was said to have a physical condition that required more drugs to kill him than if he had not had the condition. If those administering the drugs had known about it and given him a double dose so he might die within the "norms" of such executions, would that have been constitutional-ly acceptable?

Does this not get us into the same arbitrary standards that are applied to the unborn? At first, the Supreme Court imposed an arbitrary trimester standard, forbidding the state from restricting a woman's decision in the first three months. But subsequent rulings have resulted in an abortion on demand, for any or no reason and at any time.

Will the same erosion of justice against convicted killers mimic the erosion of rights for the unborn innocent? The arbitrary way in which we approach anything of importance today would suggest it might.

To avoid this legal hair-splitting, why not return to an earlier and acceptable method of execution that ensures justice is done and inflicts minimal pain on the guilty: the firing squad.

One wishes such considerations were available to relatives of the deceased, and to the deceased, themselves, who are not given a choice in the method of their execution, much less the option of continuing to live. Diaz spent more than two decades in prison before he was executed. That probably inflicted cruel and unusual punishment on the relatives of his victim.

Before too much blood

As to the constitutional issue regarding cruel and unusual punishment, here too, some history may be helpful. This is why "original intent" of the Founders is important to consider, because what they meant by the phrase and what we think we believe about it differs considerably.

At the time the Bill of Rights was written, the authors specifically sought, through the phrase and what we think we believe about it differs considerably.

At the time the Bill of Rights was written, the authors specifically sought, through the phrase and what we think we believe about it differs considerably.

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## Times-News

Brad Hurd ... Publisher  
Chris Steinbach ... Editor

The members of the editorial board and writers of this column are Brad Hurd, Chris Steinbach, Steve Crump, Traci Ellis, Bill Bitzinger and David Cooper.

### Local efforts making a difference against drugs

Hats off to several community-minded efforts to fight substance abuse in Magic Valley.

As a first-year volunteer counselor at the Port of Hope, which is one of the leaders in the field of rehabilitation in Twin Falls and has been for many years, I would like to congratulate the dedication of Karen Bach, who has dedicated her life to working with people who need help and treatment in alcohol and drug abuse.

In working with the clients there, I have found a clientele most receptive to the programs at the Port of Hope. Hope has been also provided by the Magic Valley Fellowship Hall, where numerous meetings and events are held on a weekly basis for those who share the fruits of all the 12-step meetings provided. I understand the Sunday night Meth Anonymous meetings are attracting up to 100 attendees

as the report is that this meeting is quite inspirational.

Under the leadership of hall managers Ward and David Westburg, the hall continues to grow and thrive. Kenny and Jerry provide much volunteer time in repairing and maintaining the facilities. Kenny, in particular, puts in new doors, fixes broken air conditioners and always is on the lookout to refurbish what is needed. Jack T., besides giving much encouragement to the noon meetings, and the Saturday noon speakers meetings has assembled a hall of fame for those who have more than 20 years of sobriety complete with framed pictures and the sobriety date. More than 20 such hall-of-famers are so enshrined.

Let's not forget the Mothers Against Meth meetings in Kimberly nor the very comprehensive addiction studies programs at the College of Southern Idaho which are turning out future professional counselors in the field. These are just a few programs to help the fight against drug

and alcohol abuse.

**DAVID DAVIS**  
Jerome

**Christmas a reflection of founders' religion for support**

There would be no Christmas celebration without Christ. It is encouraging to see Americans around the country winning battles to uphold and restore traditional Christian values. This country was founded largely by Christians who escaped oppressive dictators in Europe and the state church of England, which denied freedom of religious expression as do the so-called "churches" in communist countries today.

Our founding fathers, while not all members of the same church or denomination, had common religious beliefs which run like golden threads through the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. These self-evident truths common to most religions includes a respect for a cre-

ator as supreme power in the universe, obedience to a moral code such as the Ten Commandments, responsibility of mankind toward his fellow man (the Golden Rule), belief in life after death and a judgment day in the next life.

The founders, including Washington, Jefferson, Franklin, and John and Samuel Adams, referred to these fundamental beliefs as the "Religion of America" and said they all belonged to the same religion, although not to the same church denomination. Thomas Jefferson called these basic beliefs the principles "in which God has united us all." These great men wanted religion to be a part of government and our schools that needs to be restored to stop the decline in national morality. The American Revolution connected in one indissoluble bond the principles of civil government with the principles of Christianity.

**ADRIAN L. ARP**  
Twin Falls

### Visitor receives a cruel welcome from wildlife

It's Saturday night and I'm looking hot! I'm sporting a new winter coat and, with a single finger, I control the leashes of three well-behaved and groomed dogs.

People drive by smiling, pointing. My ego soars.

Franklin and Golden Saturday night belongs to me! "It's cold!" I hear this a lot down here and, being from Alaska, I chuckle. I utter to the dogs, "What an unusual tree. Let's go explore and see what they begin to fight their leashes. Something is terribly wrong! I threaten them with adding a fellow to the family, but even this has no effect. I must dog them. I'm seriously losing control of 200-plus pounds of canine back (actually under) the tree. No mathematician would dignify a "ba-zillion" as being an actual number, but I have no doubt they would perceive otherwise had they walked under that "unusual tree."

There was a "ba-zillion" vet-

eran bombardier crows roosting in it! Needless to say with three crow-crappy dogs in tow, our Saturday night strut became a humiliating limp to my car. I was not returning to my car. I got 300 words, and I plan on using them!

Did you folks know you had a porcupine down here? My dogs do. They found it. Or, what about your oversized black rat with the white strip? Cockleburrs, goat-heads, chagrass, fleas and ticks a whole arsenal of anti-canine weapons. My dogs ... didn't stand a chance! Give us sub-zero temperatures, snow, playing tape-a-book with the sun, grizzlies, wolves and craney moose.

By the way, drink the tompo to juice and use Febreze on skunked dogs — it actually worked! Before my next desert disaster changes my demeanor, Merry Christmas, Twin Falls, and I swear on all that roots, I learned my lesson: Don't walk under trees that go cash, cash in the night.

**LOUIS J. BROMBACHER**  
Anchorage, Alaska

## LETTERS

# The natural gift of our wilderness

**A**s we take some time to reflect on what we are thankful for this holiday season, all of us can take heart in the faithful gift of wilderness that the 109th Congress has given to all Americans, for all time.

Despite two years marked with so much stalemate and partisan bickering, members of this Congress compiled a record in preserving wilderness of which they can be proud — the gift of permanent protection of more than 1 million acres of amazing wild places in California, New Mexico, New Hampshire, Nevada, Puerto Rico, Utah and Vermont.

These newly protected treasures include stunning desert canyon lands, mountain ranges rising like islands in the desert, a lushly inviting tropical rainforest, and the largest remaining stretch of undeveloped coastline in the continental United States.

But that's not all, for Congress enacted wilderness protection for more than half a million acres of majestic, ungrazed expanses to ensure a representative sample remains intact, as well as forested ridges and wonderfully secluded valleys in mountain western woods — home to gorgeous displays of autumn's colors. These treasures are for all of us. This is America's common ground.

Securing this lasting protection for the wildest, most natural of land you and I, and all Americans own, never comes easily. It took Congress eight years to pass the legislation, the 1984 Wilderness Act, which began this wise program. Presidents Kennedy and Johnson championed it throughout that long period, even as wild land continued to succumb to drill rigs and chain saws.

And it takes an act of Congress each time to add publicly owned land to the National Wilderness Preservation System. To achieve success, local residents band together, study these lands with the help of experts, and draft wilderness proposals. They engage local businesses and community leaders to back their vision for passing along a special hunting spot or an iconic vista to future generations. It represents democracy at its basic roots.

Collaboration to find common-sense solutions to nettlesome issues has also been a driving force behind the success of wilderness legislation that gains congressional approval. Imagine lifeline adversaries, like a rancher whose history stretches back generations on the same spread, and a recently transplanted urbanite who loves to cross-country ski, sitting down together to hammer out a consensus on a wilderness proposal that meets the needs of both — and many others.

It happens, and it works, because both care about leaving this place just as it is, or even better, for those who will come after them. The successes of the 109th Congress amply show the proof is in this holiday's pudding.

In Montana, Oregon and Washington, where debates over the fate of our national forests have been waged nearly incessantly and often very acrimoniously for a century, timber mill owners are currently at the table with conservationists to craft proposals that can be supported by both, because both get something. The timber mills get to log under tenets of restoration precepts, which will make the forest healthier after a century of fire suppression. Conservationists secure swaths of forest for permanent protection from

## MIKE MATZ

logging as designated wilderness.

This emerging win-win situation is hailed by Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer as "unprecedented and visionary." "Times are changing, when folks more used to being at loggerheads are coming together to save — and log — trees at the same time."

The work of protecting the nation's remaining wilderness

is far from done. Americans can look for the new Congress to consider wilderness bills that nearly became law this year, including proposals for the stunning Boulder-White Cloud Mountains of central Idaho, Oregon's picturesque Mount Hood and the Wild Sky range of mountains in Washington.

Ordinary people are doing extraordinary things to make democracy work in the forested hills and hollows of Virginia. In the Arkansas-River valley of Colorado for the rafting mecca known as

Browns Canyon, and for the polychromatic Organ Mountains bracketing the east side of Las Cruces, N.M.

Mike Matz is the executive director of the Campaign for America's Wilderness, 122 C Street NW, Suite 240, Washington, D.C. 20001; Web site: [www.kenawetwild.org](http://www.kenawetwild.org)

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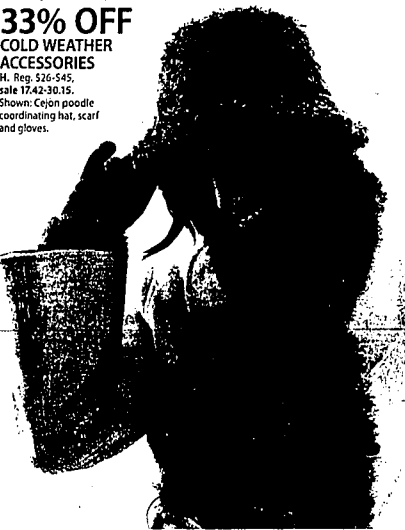
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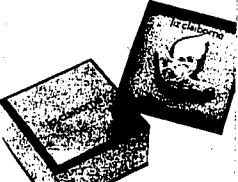
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SIZE	MPR	MPR	MPR	MPR	
P160/80R-13W	19.99	P215/75R-14	44.04	P195/70R-14SW	34.45
P160/90R-13	24.59	P205/75R-15	42.94	P185/70R-14SW	35.90
P175/80R-13	25.03	P175/75R-15	44.43	P195/70R-14SW	38.09
P180/80R-13	27.02	P205/75R-15	47.11	P195/70R-14SW	40.15
P185/75R-14	27.91	P215/75R-15	48.17	P205/70R-14	47.46
P190/75R-14	29.02	P195/70R-15SW	39.91	P195/70R-14	50.36
P205/75R-14	40.34	P185/70R-13SW	33.55	P205/70R-15	48.93
P185/75R-14	44.04	P185/70R-13SW	33.55	P215/65R-15	51.62

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• STEEL BELTED RADIAL  
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This Low Cost All Season Radial features outlast white fillers, a smooth ride and is economically priced.

SIZE & LOAD RANGE	MPR	MPR	MPR	MPR
L172S/75R-15B	87.47	L172S/75R-15B	80.84	
P235/75R-15	89.53	L172S/75R-15	88.99	
P242/75R-16	89.10	L172S/75R-16	86.27	
P265/75R-16	95.13	30X3.50R-16	82.39	
L172S/75R-15	87.47	31X10.50R-15	85.32	
L172S/75R-16	87.47			PLUS FET



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SIZE	MPR	MPR	MPR	MPR	
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195/60R-13BW	49.04	175/70R-14BW	54.18	205/60R-15BW	76.10
195/60R-14	49.25	185/70R-14BW	55.80	215/55R-13BW	91.90
195/70R-14BW	62.20	195/70R-14BW	59.40	215/55R-15BW	96.69
P160/75R-14BW	58.01	205/70R-14BW	63.26	195/60R-14BW	71.52
P175/75R-14BW	58.21	205/70R-15BW	66.70	195/60R-15BW	75.82
P185/75R-14BW	65.10	P215/70R-14BW	70.03	205/60R-15BW	80.12
P195/75R-14BW	67.97	P225/70R-14BW	73.56	215/55R-15BW	83.34
P225/75R-15	70.05	175/65R-14BW	61.31	215/60R-15BW	96.14
P235/75R-15BW	74.27	185/65R-14BW	64.43	225/60R-15BW	100.15
L172R-13BW	47.33	185/60R-15BW	64.34		

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L171S/75R-15	C 90.47			
L172S/75R-15	D 96.04			
L172S/75R-16	D 108.12			
L174S/75R-16	E 121.92			
L128S/75R-16	C 130.40			
L125S/75R-16	C 139.37			
L123S/75R-16	C 109.95			
30X3.50R-16	C 102.56			
31X10.50R-15	C 114.89			
				PLUS FET

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SIZE	MPR	MPR	MPR	MPR	
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L172S/75R-16	144.90	L172S/75R-16	138.07	225/75R-16	137.88
L172S/75R-17	239.57	L172S/75R-16	138.07	225/75R-16	137.88
L172S/75R-16	144.90	L172S/75R-16	138.07	225/75R-16	137.88
205/75R-15	108.90	L174S/75R-16	151.59	242S/75R-16	136.46
215/75R-16	113.70	L175S/75R-16	143.98	250/75R-16	143.72
225/75R-16	104.90	L175S/75R-16	159.18	265/75R-16	147.21
235/75R-16	111.79	225/75R-14	97.61	L174S/70R-17	193.09
242S/75R-16	113.87	225/75R-15	104.48	L175S/70R-17	217.29

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**INSIDE:** Stephen Marbury's last-second layup sends the undermanned Knicks past the Jazz, B2



**INSIDE:** Local roundup, B2 | NBA & College hoops, B3 | Comics, B4-5 | Weather, B6

## CSI women look to boil Artichokes tonight

### Golden Eagles women play at Scottsdale CC

By Eric Larsen  
Times-News writer

**TWIN FALLS** — Warning: wholesale artichoke-related puns ahead. Tonight, it all boils down to the simple fact that if the No. 20 College of Southern Idaho women's basketball team is to get down to the heart of the matter, the Golden Eagles will have to peel away layer upon layer of tough, rigid Scottsdale Community College defense in order to taste sweet victory over the Artichokes.

All obligatory artichoke jokes aside, it's time for the #2 Golden Eagles to focus on taking the first of two nonconference games in Arizona as they meet the 0-8 Artichokes tonight in Scottsdale, Ariz. The key word for CSI

**Tonight:** No. 20 CSI (8-2, 1-1 SWAC) at Scottsdale (Ariz.) Community College (0-8, 0-4 ACCAC), 7 p.m.

**On the horizon:** The Golden Eagles play Glendale (Ariz.) Community College Thursday at 1 p.m. After that nonconference scramble, CSI is off until its Jan. 5-8 trip to Rangely, Colo., to play Colorado Northwestern Community College twice.

**On the radio:** All games will be broadcast on 1270 AM KTFI.

**CSI season leaders (per game average):**



### Eagle Eyes

**Points** — Maria Moore 19.0; Britany Moore 13.3; Rebounds — M. Moore 6.8; Ashley Thompson 5.7.

**Assists** — M. Moore 4.7; B. Moore 3.3; Steals — M. Moore 2.8; A. Thompson 1.8; Blocks — Eva Ivanova 1.2; Amy Bratvold 0.8.

**Field goal percentage** — Anita Burdick, 54.5 (24-44); M. Moore 48.7 (74-152); Free-throw percentage — Ivanova, 85.7 (6-7); Kelli Hess 77.8 (7-9); 3-point percentage — Amy Bratvold, 61.5 (8-13); M. Moore, 50.0 (20-40).

this week is focus, as final exams are over, but a brief Christmas vacation and time with family awaits after this week's two-game road swing that concludes Thursday at Glendale Community College.

"It's been a long season, at least for our freshmen," CSI head coach Randy

Rogers said. "This is almost two seasons of basketball to them. You can just see it in their personalities right now that there's a big relief that the school part of it is over. They're excited about Christmas and excited about going home."

"I know they're anxious to do those

things, but we're also in a situation for me as a coach and them as players that we've got to fix some things."

The top items on the list of things Rogers hopes to remedy are the Golden Eagles' inconsistent intensity level, their defensive lapses, and the ragged play that has led to CSI averaging 20.6 turnovers per game.

Help with all those things appears to be on the way this week, as CSI teams have always fared well against the NJCAA Division II teams of the Arizona Community College Athletic Conference. Also, freshman guard Dalaysia Kennedy and freshman post Jennifer Kioa are expected to make their on-court CSI debuts after both sat out of the season's first 10 games, academically ineligible to play.

"We've got our hands full with both these teams as far as with the way we've been playing, they're going to be battles," Rogers said. "Now, if we get

Please see CSI WOMEN, Page B2

## Tucker's breakout weekend a good sign

By Eric Larsen  
Times-News writer

**TWIN FALLS** — Alexis Tucker doesn't need to be a star. College of Southern Idaho head coach Randy Rogers isn't asking for a 5-foot-11 sophomore forward to beat the opposition with her hands on the ball. He already has All-American point guard Maria Moore to fill that need. What the #2 Golden Eagles need

from Tucker is a player who will beat teams with what she does without the ball. That player showed up Dec. 8-9 at North Idaho College, giving the No. 20 CSI women reason to believe that better things are coming from their Golden Eagles' frontcourt corps.

Over the weekend's two-game split against the Cardinals, Tucker, a native of Florida, averaged 9.0 points and 6.0 rebounds in 24.5 minutes, all above her season averages of 4.6 points and 5.1 rebounds in 17.7 minutes a game.

Most importantly, Tucker scored six of CSI's eight overtime points in Friday's 66-64 win over the Cardinals with her hustle and off-ball movement. With Maria Moore on the bench after fouling out late in the second half, Tucker scored the bulk of her 10 points late, when they were most needed. That performance spurred a key CSI win, one that showed Rogers his team's fighting for the ball.

"I did learn that these kids aren't going to quit at the end of the game," Rogers said. "They're going to fight until it's over and have a chance to win a trophy place like that. I'm excited about it and I think the kids feel that they're not going to give up and they'll always have a chance to compete right until the end."

"They found a way to come back — probably in the first time in two years — without Maria. We learned a lot there."

The Golden Eagles have lost their two game leads (to Central Arizona and NIJC) by a combined three points. In CSI's 74-73 loss to the Cardinals, Tucker contributed eight points and seven rebounds in 28 minutes of scrapping for the ball. Now as Rogers continues to focus on improving the performance of freshman posts Anita Burdick, Eva Ivanova and Jennifer Kioa, he will look to Tucker and fellow sophomore Ashley Thompson to be the anchors that keep the CSI

Please see TUCKER, Page B2



Tucker

## Colts tear apart Bengals

By Larry Winer  
Associated Press writer

**INDIANAPOLIS** — Manning to Harrison is the surest way to get the Indianapolis Colts out of a funk.

"The most prolific passing duo in NFL history tore apart the Cincinnati Bengals, combining for three touchdowns in a 34-16 victory Monday night. Even the Colts' maligned defense woke up after Indy dropped three of its last four games and yielded an incomprehensible 375 yards rushing a week ago to Jacksonville.

But it was vintage Peyton Manning throwing to his favorite target, Marvin Harrison, that dominated what was expected to be a shootout. The AFC South champion Colts (11-3) did their part, while the Bengals (8-6) slipped back in the wild-card race with their first loss in five weeks. They'd allowed 33 points in those four wins, one less than Indy scored Monday night.

"You certainly feel responsible for your job," Manning said. "Our team did a good job of sticking together. On the offensive, it's almost like we have two different teams. We try to stick together."

Manning, 5-0 against Cincinnati, had one of the sharpest outings of his brilliant career, although he never looked deep because the Bengals couldn't cover anyone on quick-hitting routes. He was 29-for-36 for 282 yards, a 136.3 rating, and his 15th career four-touchdown outing. In addition to bringing his total TD throws to Harrison's 103, he found Reggie Wayne on an 18-yarder and passed Vinny Testaverde for eighth place with 270 career touchdowns passes.

He was helped greatly by Cincinnati's inability to rush — he handled receivers coming off the line. More than half his completions came on short patterns where a Colt was wide open.

And the Colts came alive defensively, never letting the Bengals' fourth-ranked passing attack hit stride. Dwight Freeney led the defense with three sacks and Carson Palmer was a pedestrian 14-for-28 for 176 yards.

"You know, we had a lot of critics, a lot of people saying their defensive ends were too far up the field," Freeney said. "We went out there and proved to ourselves that we could play well."

The victory kept Indianapolis even with Baltimore and one game behind



Indianapolis Colts wide receiver Marvin Harrison, right, is tackled by Cincinnati Bengals cornerback Detha O'Neal following a reception during the third quarter in Indianapolis, Monday, Indianapolis won 34-16.

San Diego in the race for top record in the AFC.

"Sometimes things get escalated," Manning said. "We lost two in a row, so we must have all these problems. We knew what was at stake... We're playing for a lot of momentum going into the postseason and for seeding."

Cincinnati is tied with the Jaguars, Jets and Broncos for the two AFC wild-card berths.

Rather than the expected shootout, the game became a proke-and-prime chess match in which Manning's patience and Harrison's polish were decisive. They displayed what has made them the most potent pass-catch

combination in NFL history with their three short scoring connections.

On the first two, Harrison beat Cincinnati's coverage to the inside for 4- and 3-yard touchdowns. He went the other way on the third, victimizing Detha O'Neal for a 1-yard score that made it 24-13.

The touchdowns capped clock-sapping drives that had the Bengals' strong offense anxiously awaiting its chances. Cincinnati did almost nothing with those opportunities.

Indy's suspect defense made the first big play of the night after a 21-yard completion to Chad Johnson was ruled incomplete thanks to coach Tony

Dunphy's challenge. Freeney, who had only 2/6 sacks coming in, slammed into Palmer from behind and knocked the ball loose for Anthony McFarland to recover at the Bengals 46.

That led to Adam Vinatieri's 30-yard field goal.

Shayne Graham tied it 3-3 with a 27-yarder set up by some poor tackling by the Colts on Rudi Johnson, who ran for 38 yards on a 66-yard drive.

With Indy up 10-3, Terrence Wilkins' unwieldy fumble at well-covered punt at his 25 and dropped the ball. Cincinnati's Tony Stewart recovered, leading to Rudi Johnson's 12-yard run that tied it 10-10.

## CSI men survive poor shooting night to beat Mesa in double OT

Times-News

**PHOENIX** — The No. 9 College of Southern Idaho men's basketball team found a new way to near the 100-point mark Monday in Phoenix, battling the Mesa Community College Thunderbirds for 10 extra minutes for a 93-86 double-overtime win.

The Golden Eagles struggled from the field all game, but with two timeouts in the second overtime, Brad Garrett's transition lay-up off a Reggie Guyton lay-up gave CSI an 87-85 lead it wouldn't relinquish. Terry Fields extended that lead with a transition lay-up of his own from Guyton with 1:52 left, while Juan Pattillo's offensive rebound and putback of Fields' subsequent missed foul shot put CSI up 91-85 and effectively led the contest.

"They stuck with it and managed to grind it out somehow, and I gave them credit for that, because I told them at

half-time, 'Sometimes you have to win ugly. Sometimes you have to grind it out.'" CSI head coach Barry Peert told 1270 AM KTFI.

Garrett led CSI with 19 points, while Fields gave the 0-1 Golden Eagles a spark, scoring 11 of his 13 points after the half.

"I need to keep growing as a coach and getting more confidence in Terry, because Terry, when we've called upon him, has shown us he's ready to play," Pattillo scored 16 for CSI, while DeCarlos Riley added 14. The Thunderbirds were led by Adam McCoy's 25 points.

The Golden Eagles forced the second overtime when Juan Pattillo put back Paul Wayne's errant runner to tie the game at 80 with 17 seconds left in the first extra period. Wayne's hustling steal of Rodney Brown in his CSI debut and subsequent Golden Eagles time-out set up the play. Gabe Freeman took

## Ex-CSI baller is WAC player of the week

Times-News

**TWIN FALLS** — Former College of Southern Idaho standout Reggie Lary was named Western Athletic Conference player of the week for Dec. 11-17 after leading Boise State to a 99-66 win over Sacramento State Saturday.

Lary, a 6-6 junior from Newark,

N.J., recorded career-high totals of 24 points and 11 rebounds for the Broncos, making 9 of 10 field goals. He went 2-for-3 at the 3-point line and made all four of his free-throw attempts.

Lary's stat line Saturday also included two assists, one block and a steal as Boise State moved above .500 for the first time this season at 5-1.

Monday night's game was played at South Mountain Community College in Phoenix, as bleacher construction

prevented play in the Mesa gymnasium. Sophomore transfers Kelvin Davis and Brandon Stores didn't make the trip south with the Golden Eagles, as Peery called issues the reason both were given some extra time away from the team for the Christmas break.

The Golden Eagles trailed 42-38 at the half after getting off to a cold start and falling into a 21-11 deficit seven minutes into the game. The Golden Eagles are back in action Thursday night against Phoenix College at 7 p.m.

"I think we grew from that experience tonight, for sure," said Peery.

No. 9 CSI vs. Mesa CC 94, 207  
38 28 15 12  
28 22 9 8

Brad Garrett 19, Juan Pattillo 14, DeCarlos Riley 14, Terry Fields 13, Devin Lammiman 4, Art Thompson 2, Paul Wayne 2.  
Adam McCoy 25, Gabe Freeman 14, Steve Bergstrom 13, Michael Brown 12, Rodney Brown 6, Brian Peterson 5, David Bunch 3.





# COMICS

**B.C.** By Johnny Hart

WHAT'S IT DO?  
WELL, FIRST YOU WIND IT UP...  
THEN... WHAT?  
IT RUNS ACROSS THE AISLE AND GAYS...  
"DID WE DO GOOD? HUH? DID WE? DID WE? HUH?"  
NEW REPUBLICAN SOUL...

**Baby Blues** By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

"GET LOOKS IT'S THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS!"  
NO WHEELCHAIRS, NO VALUABLE CLEANERS, NO BULLDOZERS...  
SANTA CAME AND RAN EVERYTHING RIGHT AGAIN!  
"I JUST WISH IN THAT EGGSNOOD YOU GAVE ME LAST NIGHT..."  
"PROBABLY I GUESS HE TOOK THE LIBRARY SOO!"

**Baldo** By Hector O. Canina and Carlisle Castellanos

TOY STORE  
TOY STORE

**Brevity** By Guy & Rodd

THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PASSE  
AND THIS IS YOU IN '83, RIGHT AFTER "FLASHDANCE" CAME OUT.

**Dilbert** By Scott Adams

TINA SEEMS MAD AT YOU WHAT'S THAT ABOUT?  
SHE THOUGHT I DID SOMETHING RUDE, BUT WHEN SHE FOUND OUT I DIDN'T, SHE STILL HAD RESIDUAL ANGER.  
I WONDER WHAT IT'S LIKE TO HAVE SQUIRRELS LIVING IN YOUR SKULL.

**Doonesbury** By Garry Trudeau

SO TILL BARRY GOES TO THE OFFICE...  
PRETTY MUCH...  
"REPRESENTATIVE SAYS A RESIGNED SENATOR FOR THE JOB..."  
BUT EVEN ROOM TO DO IS ASSESSING...  
WHAT HAVEN'T YOU DONE YET?  
I SAW A 'BOP' AT THE...  
"REPRESENTATIVE SAYS A RESIGNED SENATOR FOR THE JOB..."  
BUT EVEN ROOM TO DO IS ASSESSING...  
WHAT HAVEN'T YOU DONE YET?

**The Elderberries** By Phil Frank and Joe Troise

Now! What a lovely Christmas tree!  
Yep! Ludmilla just brought it in!  
Gee... the ones I saw for sale looked really scrawny!  
LUDMILLA! Where'd you get this great tree?  
You see nothing!  
You know nothing!

**For Better or For Worse** By Lynn Johnston

GO TO THE...  
"I'M SO GLAD TO BE HERE..."  
"PRETTY MUCH..."  
"IT'S DONE! I CAN'T BE HERE..."  
"IT IS DONE! I CAN'T BE HERE..."  
"ACTUALLY I SMELL!!"

**Frank and Ernest** By Bob Thaves

WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU'RE NOT READY FOR A RELATIONSHIP?!

**Luann** By Greg Evans

HELLO, PUDDLES!  
SANTA'S WIFE! CLAUS' SUE!  
WELCOME TO MY HOME, WE'VE MADE YOU COMFORTABLE!  
COME WITH ME PUDDLES, I HAVE SOMETHING TO SHOW YOU. BRINGS THE TREATS IF YOU LIKE.  
COULD I BRING BEAN INSTEAD?

**Mallard Fillmore** By Bruce Tinsley

WALLARD'S WORST "HOLIDAY" FOOD #37  
Canned cranberry sauce...  
BUT ALSO...  
WATCH EVERYONE! I'LL JIGGLE IT AGAIN!

**Pearls Before Swine** By Stephan Pastis

SIR, RELIGIOUS ZEALOTS HAVE TAKEN OVER THE STREETS...  
"AMAY IN A MANGER..."  
LEHME GUESS... THEY PUT A FATUA ON THE DOCK.

**Pickles** By Brian Crane

I'M LIKE A KID WHEN IT COMES TO CHRISTMAS...  
THE GLOW OF THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS...  
THE AROMA OF CHRISTMAS GOODIES...  
PEARL'S CHRISTMAS TOUPEE...  
GLISTENING IN THE CANDLELIGHT.

**Rose is Rose** By Pat Brady

UNROLLING HELPS...  
"I'M NOT GOING TO TALK TO US..."  
"DRENK IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TALK TO US..."  
"THIS IS THE ROOMS..."

**Zits** By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott

SO THEAL WE WAZ TRAPPED IN A CAGE AT THE MOUTH POLE...  
WE NOTICED LIGHT COMING FROM THE BACK OF THE CAVE...  
"I KNOW I'M GOING TO GET MARRIED..."  
"I KNOW I'M GOING TO GET MARRIED..."  
"I KNOW I'M GOING TO GET MARRIED..."

## Stay tuned to yourself, Sagittarius

**IF DEC. 19 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY:** This year you are like a dog with a bone. Once you have your heart set on an important ambition you won't let go, give up or relent until you obtain it. Powerful Pluto will dance through your section of the cosmic pie all year long and you may become immersed in reaching a milestone in your career or business, or simply preoccupied with an investigation into the mysteries of life. Steer clear of business deals or career changes in March, but put the pedal to the metal in late May and June on projects of importance. Next November and December are the best months to find golden opportunities.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Be witty, warm and wise. With the holidays just around the corner, there's a lot to do and you are just the person to do it. It is easy to be assertive without ruffling anyone's feathers.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Diversions bring delights. Try something just a bit off the beaten track for the best results. Strike up a conversation with a stranger or search for unique holiday gifts.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** You're good on the phone. You

### HOROSCOPE Jeraldine Saunders

communication skills are highlighted today, so take a moment to touch base with old friends or make a courtesy call. Decisions or last-minute gifts are no challenge.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Think things through. For a few hours today you might let emotional issues color your judgment. Take a moment to consider if an urgent decision is based on concrete facts.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Get a pleasant surprise. Some previously untried option, or an unusual solution, might untangle a knot of concern that you thought was a lost cause. Accept a casual invitation and enjoy socializing.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Be a hero. You are the person everyone looks for when they want a word from the wise. This is a good day to make plans, decisions and choices with career direction or personal appearance.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Travel plans might be in the stars. Cover all contingencies by being thoughtful and

adaptable. You may be able to contribute bright ideas that help speed along your special someone's project.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Pull your head out of the sand. Those who contact you today might have a unique view of the world that makes you realize there are other things in life than hard work and effort.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Stay tuned to your own reality show. The planets in your sign includes Jupiter, Mars, Pluto, Mercury, the sun and the moon. Your needs are the center of attention.

**LEO (Jan. 22-Feb. 19):** Find ways to be jolly. Being a workaholic has its merits and rewards — but for whimsical fun, try your tees and cross your eyes. It may be a good idea to wear facelift.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Smile and the world smiles with you. People will find your unusual ideas and unconventional habits acceptable and amusing today. Show tolerance for small mistakes, mix-ups and errors.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Go ahead, walk up and introduce yourself. Today you will see you possess a knack for entertaining others.

**Non Sequitur** By Wiley

SO THEAL WE WAZ TRAPPED IN A CAGE AT THE MOUTH POLE...  
WE NOTICED LIGHT COMING FROM THE BACK OF THE CAVE...  
"I KNOW I'M GOING TO GET MARRIED..."  
"I KNOW I'M GOING TO GET MARRIED..."  
"I KNOW I'M GOING TO GET MARRIED..."

**Strange Brew** By John Deering

I WONDER IF ANYONE KNOWS HOW TRULY SHERBERRING IT IS TO BE A ROACH...

**Beetle Bailey**

By Mort Walker



**Blondie**

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



**The Born Loser**

By Art Sansom, & Chip



**Garfield**

By Jim Davis



**Hagar the Horrible**

By Chris Browne



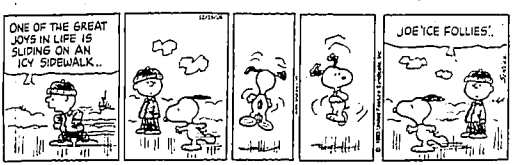
**Hi and Lois**

By Chance Browne



**Classic Peanuts**

By Charles M. Schulz



**The Wizard of Id**

By Bart Parker & Johnny Hart



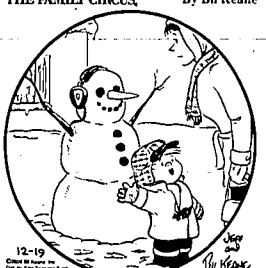
**Dennis the Menace**

By Hank Ketchum



**THE FAMILY CIRCUS**

By Bil Keane



"FIRST, WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT WHAT YOU FORGOT ON LAST YEAR'S LIST."

"He's listening to Christmas carols."

# Advice to babysitter doesn't sit well with some readers



**DEAR, ABBY**  
Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** I am responding to "Concerned Mom," who wrote in New Jersey 11/14, who feels my daughter, "Dayna," should be paid more for baby-sitting because the other girl in the neighborhood receives a higher rate. I think your advice was a little off-base.

I have baby-sat since I was 13. At 14, I started my own baby-sitting business. By the time I was 17, I was baby-sitting for more than 20 families. I was the primary baby sitter for more than five families and earning considerably more than my friends because I worked harder.

I am now 25 and still work as a care provider (that is, I do the cooking, cleaning and laundry while playing with and attending to the children and their miscellaneous needs. Also, when driving is required, I have a reliable vehicle and a clean driving record. Parents take all this into consideration when hiring and deciding on reasonable rates.

I am sure that if Dayna did half the work the other sitter attends to, then perhaps she'd be making more money. But it also comes down to one thing: The other girl is the primary baby-sitter and she should be making more money. She is paid that wage to ensure that she will make herself available to baby-sit. Only when she cannot would they rely on the other girl in the neighborhood.

—MS. RELIABLE IN SAN JOSE, CALIF.

**DEAR MS. RELIABLE:** You are right. When I answered that letter, I assumed that both baby sitters were providing equal — or at least similar — services. Since that error appeared, I have received an education from parents of small children. Read on:

**DEAR ABBY:** Has it occurred to you that the girl who is being paid more might be a "value-added" sitter? Does Dayna do the dishes while she baby-sits, or does she leave dishes in the sink for the parents to come home to? Does she read to the kids, or even interact with them at all — or does she take her job description literally and just sit? Perhaps she's paid less because the kids groan when told she's their sitter because she ignores them and watches TV.

I'd suggest Dayna ask her friend to describe what she does when she baby-sits and then try to match — or exceed — these efforts the next time she's asked to take care of the kids. I'll bet that would add to her value, and she'll be able to name her price the next time she's hired to baby-sit.

—JOHN IN SAN DIEGO

**DEAR ABBY:** In your reply to "Concerned Mom," you pointed out that baby-sitting is a business. True!

As a business person, the first thing I'd want to know is why this customer thinks another supplier of the same service is worth more than I am. There must be some difference.

Before demanding a rate increase, I would ask my customer, "You have hired me and I know how you can improve my baby-sitting service to you?"

The insight that girl gets could be far more valuable than a few more dollars per hour. If you can't ensure that she improves in her customer's eyes, getting more money will be easy.

—ALAN (A CONSULTANT) IN DAYTONA BEACH, FLA.

**DEAR ABBY:** Dayna could benefit from taking a "Safe Sitter" course. My daughter took one at age 11, and I can't praise it enough. It recognized signs of illness, rescue breathing and more. She also learned how to manage her "sitting business," set fees up front and collect them. What she learned was invaluable.

—JACQUELINE IN NEW YORK

**DEAR JACQUELINE:** Thank you for the tip. Readers, you can learn more about Safe Sitter at 800-255-4019 or [www.safesitter.org](http://www.safesitter.org).

# Executed man was witty to the end

James Rodgers, a murderer sentenced to the firing squad, was asked if he had a final request. Said he: "Why yes — a half-pint of Guinness."

This day in history: Life wouldn't be the same without the corrugated paper that makes up cardboard boxes, patented on Dec. 19, 1871, by James East of New York City.

When did the last Civil War veteran die? Dec. 19, 1959. The last man was 117-year-old Walter Williams, who served as a forage master for a Confederate cavalry company. The oldest Yank had died three years earlier at 109.

No adult really appeared in the cartoon strip Peanuts. Even in the animated cartoons, adults were only mentioned by the knee down, and wall-walking trumpets represented their voices.

Maybe you've heard of



**RANDOM KINDS OF FACTNESS**  
Elin Barrett & Jack Mingo

paste and dental rise as well.

The first U.S. president to golf was William McKinley.

Europeans during the Industrial Revolution called emphysema and bronchitis "the English disease." Why? Because England had the most cases thanks to "London fog" (air pollution) and a high rate of smoking.

In the circus, a toilet is known as a donker.

Your "funny bone" is called that only because somebody was trying to be punny; its real name is the humor.

No one knows for sure where the penguin got its name. Many speculate logically that the name came from the Welsh word pen, meaning "head," and gwyn, meaning "white."

Elin Barrett and Jack Mingo can be reached at [factmatters@mingo-barrett.com](mailto:factmatters@mingo-barrett.com).

# In California, 10 friends make buying secondhand a way of life

By William Booth  
The Washington Post

SAN FRANCISCO — In the living room, the group gathers to share inspirational stories about the joy of finding just the right previously owned shower curtain. In the shower, these people appear almost normal, at least in a San Francisco kind of way. But upon closer inspection, you see it: Nothing in this house, nothing on their bodies, none of their products — nothing is new. Everything is used.

For these people, recycling wasn't enough. Composting wasn't a challenge anymore. But they wanted much more of mud-fless.

Attention holiday shoppers! These people haven't bought anything new in 352 days — and counting. These 10 friends vowed last year not to purchase a single new thing in 2006 — except food, the bare necessities for health and safety (toilet paper, brake fluid) and, thankfully, underwear, and maybe socks they're still debating whether new socks are OK).

Everything else they bought secondhand. They bartered or borrowed. Recycled. Re-gifted. Reused. Whichever. Their stores and swap meets — friends and trash bins, and the Internet, from Craigslist to the Freecycle Network, which includes 3,843 communities and 2.8 million members giving away stuff to

one another.

These people purchased old sheets this year. A vegetarian feast was cooked in a hand-me-down Crock-Pot. Christmas presents? They're making them, or — shudders — they don't give them.

They call their lifestyle initiative "the Compact," which they say has something to do with the Mayflower and the Pilgrim pledge to live for the greater good, save the planet, renew their souls, etc. And although these modern "Compactors" say they never intended to spark a mini-movement or appear on the "Today" show, that is exactly what has happened.

Since the San Francisco Chronicle ran an article about them in February, their story of not buying has appeared on media outlets around the world — everything from Yoga Journal to Martha Stewart's Body (plus) Soul to the London Times. Even Oprah's producers called.

It appears they've pinched a nerve. Perhaps, the Compactors suggest, many people have the same feeling that the mall just isn't working for them anymore.

"We're just a mixed middle-class San Francisco greenies having a conversation about consumption and sustainability," says John Perry, a marketing executive with a high-tech firm, and one of the founding

Compactors. "But suddenly, we decide we're not going to buy a bunch of new stuff for a year. And that's international news? Doesn't that say something?"

Their user group on Yahoo has grown to 1,800 registered members — representing

Salt Compact cells operating across the country and around the planet. So they apparently live among us, biding their time, quietly not buying, like some kind of Fifth Column of Shakers.

The online Compact community ([groups.yahoo.com/group/thecompact](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/thecompact)) spends enormous amounts of discussing things most Americans probably don't do, such as how to make soap. Or whether a musterswap counts as a safety necessity. Or how to explain to your children that Santa Claus traffics in used toys.

"And people hate us for it! Like it drives them nuts!" This is Shawn Rosenzorn, an environmental engineer in the original San Francisco group. Some have called the Compacting non-American, anti-capitalist, eco-freak posers whose defiant act of not-consuming, if it caught on, would destroy the economy and our way of life.

"I think it appeals, people, because it seems like we're making a value judgment about them," says Rosenzorn, who has two children. "When we're simply trying to bring less into our house."

TWIN FALLS FORECAST
Today: Chilly, mostly sunny. High: 45.
Tonight: Clear and quiet. Low: 15.
Tomorrow: A few clouds and slaying dry. High: lower 30s.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST
Today: Sunny skies. High 45, Low 15.
Tonight: Clear skies. High 33, Low 18.
Wednesday: A mix of sun and clouds. High 33, Low 18.
Thursday: Mixed showers. High 50, Low 23.
Friday: Cooler with partial clouds. High 50, Low 18.
Saturday: Partly to mostly cloudy. High 50, Low 23.

Yesterday's Weather
City: Hi Lo Precip
Boise: 42 28 0.00"
Buhl: 42 28 0.00"
Coeur d'Alene: 39 27 0.00"
Idaho Falls: 39 27 0.00"
Lewiston: 39 27 0.00"
Pocatello: 39 27 0.00"
Rupert: 39 27 0.00"
Twin Falls: 39 27 0.00"
Teton Valley: 39 27 0.00"
Yellowstone: 39 27 0.00"

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST
Today: Chilly, mostly sunny. High: 45.
Tonight: Fair to partly cloudy skies. Low: upper single digits.
Tomorrow: Slaying dry with a few clouds overhead. High: near 30.

IDAHO'S FORECAST
SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.
Today: Chilly, mostly sunny. High: 45.
Tonight: Fair to partly cloudy skies. Low: upper single digits.
Tomorrow: Slaying dry with a few clouds overhead. High: near 30.

Map of Idaho with weather forecasts for various regions including Boise, Idaho Falls, and Pocatello. Includes a 'SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.' section.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS
Temperature: Yesterday's High 25, Low 9.
Precipitation: Yesterday's 0.00", Monthly 1.50".
Humidity: Yesterday's Maximum 73%, Today's Minimum 20%.

Moisture and Moonset
Moisture: 73% AM, 6:02 PM.
Moonset: 6:58 AM, 6:58 PM.

Barometric Pressure: Yesterday 30.40 in.
Sunrise and Sunset: Today Sunrise: 8:04 AM, Sunset: 5:07 PM.

U.V. INDEX: Low, Moderate, High.
DayWeather, Inc. logo.

MOON PHASES
Dec 22: New Moon.
Dec 23: Waxing Crescent.

NATIONAL FORECAST
Today Tomorrow
City Hi Lo W P City Hi Lo W P

WORLD FORECAST
Today Tomorrow
City Hi Lo W P City Hi Lo W P

Weather icons: Sun, Cloud, Rain, Snow, Wind.

REGIONAL FORECAST
Today Tomorrow
City Hi Lo W P City Hi Lo W P

CANADIAN FORECAST
Today Tomorrow
City Hi Lo W P City Hi Lo W P

USA map showing weather patterns with 'H' for high and 'L' for low pressure systems.

BREGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY
'Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.'

IRAQ
Employees help former minister break out of jail

IRAQ
Baghdad, Iraq - A once-prominent Iraqi American, jailed on corruption charges, was sprung from a Green Zone prison this weekend by U.S. security contractors.

IRAQ
A Saudi Arab who claimed ties to the insurgency, Samarral was arrested and charged two months ago with a dozen counts of misallocating \$1.5 billion of Iraqi government money.

IRAQ
On Monday, the North again called for Washington to lift those restrictions and demanded U.N. sanctions imposed for its nuclear test.

AROUND THE WORLD
break during which the communist North tested fired a new long-range missile in July and then set off an underground atomic blast Oct. 9.

AROUND THE WORLD
The arrest, which came 16 tense days after the first body was found dumped in a suitcase, caused a sensation in Britain. It prompted comparisons with Jack Ripper, the notorious Victorian serial killer who murdered at least five East London prostitutes in 1888.

AROUND THE WORLD
The biggest victory was for "moderate" conservatives who polled the most votes of any Iranian candidate to win re-election to a key assembly post.

AROUND THE WORLD
Neither the security contractors nor their company were named by Iraqi officials Monday.

BRITAIN
Police arrest suspect in prostitute slayings

BRITAIN
IPSWICH, England - Police on Monday arrested a 37-year-old grocery store clerk on suspicion of killing five prostitutes - slayings that struck terror in this quiet English community.

BRITAIN
British media quoted the suspect as saying he knew all the victims and had been repeatedly interviewed by police about the killings.

BRITAIN
Neither the security contractors nor their company were named by Iraqi officials Monday.

N. KOREA
Pyongyang demands talks on equal footing

N. KOREA
BEIJING - North Korea insisted Monday it be treated as a full-fledged nuclear power as six-nation arms talks convened for the first time since its atomic test, but the United States said time was running out for Pyongyang to dismantle its nuclear program.

N. KOREA
U.S. officials dismissed the communist regime's opening comments as unsurprising rhetoric, while the chief American delegate said it was time to move forward on disarmament.

N. KOREA
The supply of our patience may have exceeded the international demand for that patience, and we should be a little less patient and pick up the pace and work faster, envoy Christopher Hill told reporters.

Advertisement for SUPER WASH car washes. Includes text: 'NEED A GIFT IDEA? Give a Clean Car from Super Wash! Automatic Car Washes On Sale 8 for \$20 + 25 for \$50'.

Advertisement for Bread, Dough, and Green Stuff. Includes text: 'Bread. Dough. Green Stuff. Call it what you like... we'll just call it cash.' Features images of bread and dough.

Advertisement for BORNEO WWF: 52 new species discovered on island. Includes text: 'BORNEO WWF: 52 new species discovered on island' and 'WWF International said Tuesday'.

Advertisement for IRAN President's opponents lead in local elections. Includes text: 'IRAN President's opponents lead in local elections' and 'TEHRAN, Iran - President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad suffered an embarrassing blow in local council races, according to partial election results Monday'.

INSIDE: Give your mind a workout by doing Sudoku, Page C3

4	1	9
9	2	5
7	5	7
8		7
2	1	2

INSIDE: Stocks, C2 | Classifieds, C3-8 | Sudoku, C3 | Crossword, C6 | Business and Service Directory, C7

## Definitely putting on the dog

**Upscale Sun Valley dog accessory companies taking off**

By Susan Bailey  
For the Times-News

SUN VALLEY—They've gone national in a very big way. Last year, their sales expanded a whopping 400 percent, doubling in six months and then continuing to go a bit crazy.

Nicole Kohn, CEO for the paired businesses of Sun Valley Dog and Isabella Cane, said the company hit \$200,000 last year. "We're building a real business here," she said.

If you know Kohn's background, it's no surprise. A native New Yorker who once worked for famed architect Zaha Hadid and spent time at the Idea Factory in San

Francisco, Kohn moved to Ketchum in 2001 after first meeting Peter Nyman on Bald Mountain.

Born in Sweden, Nyman studied business before working as a Sun Valley ski instructor for the past 20 years. As president of the two businesses, he's an essential part of the team.

"This was Peter's idea," Kohn said. "He thought the industry was growing."

Indeed, national statistics on the growth in the \$42-billion-dog pet industry are staggering, putting it in the top ten growth industries in the country.

"Once I started to look at the whole industry, I realized what we could do," said Kohn. "We started to realize we could have a real business."

Picked up by the upscale catalogs in the Company of Dogs and Smith & Hawken, Isabella

### More information

To find out more about Sun Valley Dog and Isabella Cane, see the Web sites at [www.sunvalleydog.com](http://www.sunvalleydog.com) and [www.isabellacane.com](http://www.isabellacane.com).

Cane and Sun Valley Dog products also sell briskly on the Internet through [www.sunvalleydog.com](http://www.sunvalleydog.com) and [www.isabellacane.com](http://www.isabellacane.com).

Sun Valley Dog, touted as providing "rugged stylish accessories for an outdoor, active lifestyle," sells at Silver Creek Outfitters in Ketchum, to name one local connection. The products also sell in Denmark, Paris, Taiwan and New York. Isabella Cane calls itself a company "formed to celebrate the beauty of our dogs."

"We do more Internet sales

with Isabella Cane because of the William Wegman fabrics," Kohn said.

William Wegman, the photographer who achieved fame for photographing his Weimaraner dogs in human postures, produces fabric designs. Isabella Cane has exclusive rights to use the fabrics for dog beds, leashes, collars, tote bags and blankets. A special fabric called Crypton resists stains and odors. Every time you turn around, the company has created a new product.

"We're having a really good time," said Kohn, who kept her Doberman, Athena. In an apartment near Central Park for many years, she said New Yorkers often think about moving to places like Sun Valley.

"Then you move, and there's nothing to do," she said. So, she started doing something, and



Peter Nyman and Nicole Kohn, founders of Sun Valley Dog and its upscale sister Isabella Cane, experienced a 400 percent increase in growth last year. This photo captures the owners at their trunk show last summer in Silver Creek Outfitters in Ketchum.

It's really taken off. "I launched the whole company and went to my first trade show."

Products have been added in the meantime, and the latest catalog flips over to turn Isabella Cane, the more elegant line of dog products, into Sun Valley Dog. Since 2004, the products have been featured in

Our Place, a magazine for second-home owners. City Magazine, GQ and others.

"We've done a sweater line and added a leather line," Kohn said. "We're going to do all kinds of things like upholstered furniture for little dogs." And no doubt, they're going to grow.

## U.S. files suit against former Fannie Mae chief

By Marcy Gordon  
AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON — The government on Monday filed civil charges against former Fannie Mae chief Franklin Raines and the mortgage giant's former finance chief and controller, seeking fines and the return of millions in bonus money said to be tied to an improper accounting scheme.

The Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight announced that it filed 101 charges against Raines, former chief financial officer Timothy Howard and former controller Leanne Spencer.

Raines and Howard were swept out of office two years ago in the multi-billion-dollar accounting scandal at the government-sponsored company, which finances one of every five home loans in the United States.

The charges "reveal how the individuals improperly manipulated earnings to maximize their bonuses, while neglecting accounting systems and internal controls, misapplying over 20 accounting principles, and misleading the regulator and the public," OFHEO Director James B. Lockhart said in a statement.

### Market Watch

Dec. 18, 2006

Dow Jones Industrials	12,441.27	▲ 54.68
Nasdaq composite	2,435.57	▲ 10.00
Standard & Poor's 500	1,422.48	▲ 10.00
Russell 2000	782.02	▲ 10.00

### Stocks of local interest

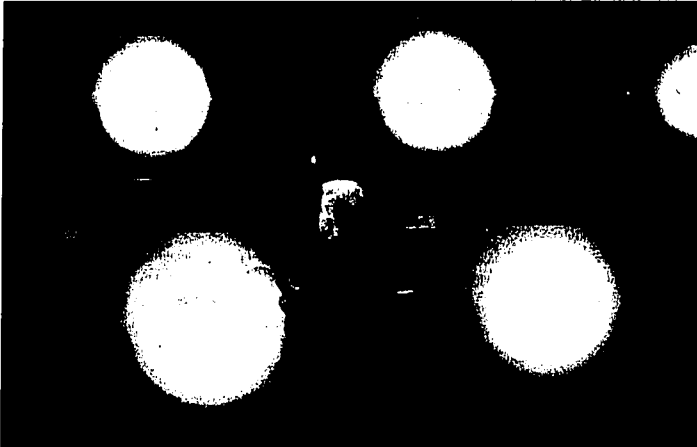
Comcast	29.56	▲ 1.09
Dell Inc.	28.39	▲ 1.41
Motorola	38.75	▲ 1.21
Lithia Motors	26.63	▲ 1.17
Supervalu	35.90	▲ 2.0

### Commodities

Jan. Oil	82.21	▲ 1.22
(Light sweet crude by barrel)		
Chicago wheat	86.62	▲ 1.42
Dec. gold	614.0	▲ 1.0

For more, see page C2

# A little extra



Barb Pene, 57, of Bloomington Minn., looks over large screen televisions at a Best Buy store in Ricefield, Minn., Thursday. The days when high-end TVs were found only at electronics retailers are over. Home Depot Inc. is selling flat-panel televisions during the holidays this year. Wal-Mart has been selling flat-panel TVs for some time now. That's pressuring Best Buy, Circuit City and other traditional electronics sellers to offer something besides a TV on a shelf. The stakes are higher than ever, with customers willing to spend more on TVs even as prices fall.

## With TVs for sale everywhere, pressure is on electronics retailers to offer something more

By Joshua Freed  
Associated Press writer

MINNEAPOLIS — What's a big electronics retailer to do when companies like Home Depot start stocking high-definition TVs near the garden hoses?

Fight back — by selling service and expertise. The days when high-end TVs were found only at electronics retailers are over. Home Depot Inc. is selling flat-panel televisions during the holidays this year. Wal-Mart Stores Inc. has been selling them for some time now.

"We can have pretty much anything we want now from the suppliers," Costco Chief Financial Officer Richard Galanti told analysts last week. That's pressuring Best Buy Co. Inc., Circuit City Stores Inc. and other traditional elec-

tronics sellers to offer something besides a TV on their shelves. The stakes are higher than ever, with customers willing to spend more on TVs even as prices fall. Retail-tracking company NPD Techworld estimated that U.S. sales of plasma-screen and LCD TVs jumped to 5 million sets during the first 11 months of 2006, versus 941,000 during the same period in 2004.

Best Buy has boosted training for its staff, and has expanded the number of its Magnolia home theater stores-within-a-store to 300 of its roughly 800 stores. Last year it had about 100 Magnolia stores inside Best Buy stores. Every HD-capable TV at Best Buy now has a high-definition signal, and each store now has a side-by-side comparison of standard-definition and high-definition

TVs, said Mike Vitelli, Best Buy's senior vice president for consumer electronics.

It's also working with customers-to-make-sure-they're getting a high-definition signal from their cable or satellite company. He said many customers don't realize they need that.

"I would bet 75 to 90 percent of the people don't even know that. They think, I bought a high-definition TV, I'm watching high-definition TV," he said.

Circuit City has rolled out its own installation service and expanded its price guarantee to refund 125 percent of the difference if a competitor sells a TV for less within 30 days of a purchase.

TV maker Panasonic has rolled out a "Plasma Concierge" service that gives customers free tech support

for their new TVs.

Steve Kovsky of the research company Current Analysis said there's more money in selling services than in the product alone. Efforts like those at Best Buy and Circuit City are "aimed at getting in deeper with the consumer, not just selling them a box and waving bye-bye out the door, but following that consumer home and helping them set up not just their TVs, but their PCs and their wireless," he said.

Kovsky's own father-in-law ran out and bought a 42-inch plasma screen TV to watch a big UCLA game, his alma mater. But he had to call his son-in-law for help when he turned the TV off and couldn't figure out how to turn it on again because the remote hadn't been programmed right.

## IMMIGRATION RAIDS Businesses in tough spot

By Nicholas Riccardi and Nicole Gasquette  
Los Angeles Times

DENVER — The raid of six Swift Co. meat packing plants last week put a spotlight on the fine line employers face in today's atmosphere of government scrutiny of undocumented workers: make sure your employees are legal, but don't push too hard to find out.

This time, federal inspectors detained 1,300 Swift workers who are suspected of providing stolen Social Security numbers to the company. But four years ago, the company's requirement that Hispanic job applicants provide extra proof of their legal status led to a \$200,000 fine for discrimination.

"Employees are very much hamstringing — if they go too far they run the risk of a discrimination lawsuit," said David Caccaneccchi, an attorney for a "Wolf of Blocc" in Philadelphia who advises businesses hiring legal immigrants. "If they accept documents at face value, they run the risk of becoming targets of stepped-up federal enforcement of immigration laws."

That enforcement is increasing. In the past year, the federal government has arrested 716 individuals for employing immigrants who are working illegally compared with 25 in 2002. In addition to the Swift raids, this week alone saw a Southern California fence-bulldozer company receive a \$5 million fine for employing illegal workers, and two Florida men were sentenced to more than 50 months in prison each for "leasing" illegal workers to various companies.

At a news conference in Washington on Wednesday, Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff emphasized the importance of focusing on workplaces.

"We all know the primary economic engine that draws in illegal migration is work," Chertoff said, speaking one day after the Swift raids. "And when businesses are being run by subcontractors of the law, that is a problem we have to attack."

Some observers say that attack has changed the dynamic of the workplace across the country, leading employers to worry more about becoming targets of immigration raids than of anti-discrimination suits.

## U.S. wages trail far behind soaring profits

By Tom Petruzo  
Los Angeles Times

U.S. companies are about to wrap up their fourth consecutive year of spectacular profit growth, filling corporate coffers with cash and keeping the bull market alive on Wall Street.

Total earnings of the blue-chip Standard & Poor's 500 companies have risen at double-digit percentage rates for 18 consecutive quarters, an unprecedented streak.

But to many rank-and-file workers, the booming bottom line may only serve as a reminder of what has been missing from their own paychecks.

Wages of average workers have just begun to improve in recent months after badly lagging behind inflation for most of this decade. Amid the surge in corporate profit, many workers have faced terminated pension plans, reduced health-care benefits and rising outsourcing of jobs overseas.

Corporate leaders say they should not be forced to defend the profitability of their businesses.

"It is a competitive world, and companies want to innovate and compete and win," said Larry Burton, executive director of the Business Roundtable, an association of 160 chief executives of major companies.

MONEY

Table of Money market rates including various bank rates and indices.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of Mutual Funds with columns for Name, Div, and Chg.

COMMODITIES REPORT

CLOSING FUTURES

Table of Closing Futures prices for various commodities.

COMMODITIES REPORT

CHEESE

POTATOES

Table of Potato prices and market information.

SUGAR

Table of Sugar prices and market information.

METALS/MONEY

Table of Metals and Money market data.

BEANS

Table of Beans market data.

GRAINS

Table of Grains market data.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of New York Stock Exchange market data.

MARKET SUMMARY

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Table of NYSE market summary.

AMEX

Table of AMEX market summary.

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Table of NASDAQ market summary.

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Table of Market Indexes.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table of Stocks of Local Interest.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Text explaining how to read the market report.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of American Stock Exchange market data.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

NYSE

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To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to:  
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**GOODING 6500 sq. ft. shop.** Owner carry, \$39,000.

**GOODING 30 acres w/3 lower pivot.** \$159,900.

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**TWIN FALLS** 1,788 square foot, 4 bdrm., 2 bath, \$117,500. We must sell now! Please call 208-308-0703

**TWIN FALLS** 3 bedroom 2 bath, 1,500 sq. ft. Great Location. 451 Trotter Drive, 164,500/make offer. Call Susie Richardson Canyonside Realty 208-429-3765 or [susie@richardson.com](mailto:susie@richardson.com)

**TWIN FALLS 3+ bdrm., 2 bath, 1600 sq. ft.** real property. Close to golf course \$168,000. Call 734-4101.

**TWIN FALLS** brand new 3 bedroom 2 bath home in Pleasant Meadows. Has extras. 1,218 sq. ft. \$139,900. Call 208-899-5561

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**TWIN FALLS** By owner 1093 Turnback Loop. Amazing, less than \$100 sq. ft. 5 bdrm, 3 bath home, 3087 sq. ft. with fully finished main floor & basement. 3 car garage. Sawtooth School Dist. Over \$25,000 of picturesque landscaping. \$299,950. Agents welcome. Call 208-429-2019

**TWIN FALLS** Darling remodeled home with new roof, new carpet, paint & counter tops. Fenced back yard. Call Carolyn 402-838-0301 or Jim 208-939-3097. MLS#2828780 PC#6571

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Carriage Ln. Eastgate Dr. Sagebrush Dr.	Morning Sun Dr. Sunbeam Dr. Carriage Ln. N.	Bitterbrush Dr. Sycamore Dr. Trotter Dr.	Twin Falls Dr. Park Meadows Ct. Parkway Dr.
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- 25 Sticky stuff
- 26 Gem weights
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- 36 Drive off
- 37 Unknown John
- 38 French cleric
- 39 Skin openings
- 40 Former Italian currency
- 41 Weep **convulsively**
- 42 Probe
- 43 Fowl perch
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- 48 Without vitality
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**The Perfect Christmas Present** Shiny, long, black, pink w/ white trim. Retail for \$4,000. Asking \$2,750. Size 1 XL. Call 208-404-3528

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**PASTURE** Looking for horse pasture for 10 head. Call 543-6956 or 823-261-2339

**PASTURE** Wanted 250 head mother cows. 508-6680, 731-5525 or 308-1173.

**PASTURE** wanted 40 head mother cows. Call 208-731-5525

**715 Antiques And Collectibles**

**ANTIQUE POCKET WATCHES** Ball, Hamilton, Minors and others. Also watch chains and fobs. Call 208-308-5088

**808 Mattress & Carpet**

**ANTIQUE '50's solid wood dining table 67x45" w/ 22 leaves extends over 72" 2 captain chairs, 19" deep. \$400. Excellent condition. Matching 60" buffet china, silverware cupboard w/whetops. All for \$995. Call 208-738-8128**

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**BED, 129 Queen Pillowtop Mattress & box set. Brand New warranty. 208-6350 Can deliver.**

**BED, KING PILLOW-TOP** 8239, mattress & box set. New used. Factory warranty. Can deliver. 420-6350

**809 Furniture & Carpet**

**REFRIGERATOR** Frigidaire, 20 cu. ft. w/ ice. 4 years old, excellent. \$250. Call 208-234-9558

**REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER** Kenmore foot lock, 18 cu. ft. \$250. Washer conservator (Crosley) heavy duty, extra large tub. \$200. Dryer Kenmore, electric. \$75. Stove Kenmore, electric. \$200. Patio Door, glass, \$50. Call 208-322-4272

**STOVE** E electric, self cleaning, ready to cook condition, \$125.

**STOVE** gas, sealed burners, very clean & works great. \$350/lot. Call 208-599-0212

**WASHER/DRYER** Kenmore, 10 yr. w/ great condition. \$200. Freezer Admiral upright, good condition. \$150. Call 208-410-2798

**716 Miscellaneous AG**

**SHIHZ TZU** 6 month old purebred female. \$250. Call for details. 208-431-2493

**SHIHZ TZU** adorable AKC reg puppies. 11' shots, vet checked, perfect Christmas gift! Call 208-934-9066

**SHIHZ TZU** purebred puppies. 3 males, 11' shots. \$300. Great Christmas present. Call 208-441-7052 or 208-436-9049

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**810 Furniture & Carpet**

**COMPUTERS (1)** Pentium 3, (2) Pentium 2's, (1) Dell Pentium 3. All serviced and ready to go! \$175-\$225 or best offer. Call 208-234-9558

**WIRELESS Networking** Airport Extreme Base Airport with modem \$150. Extended range Antenna for Airport network. \$75/each. Plus UAW 700 \$50. Netgear Card/DSL Wireless Router \$128. Call 208-404-3528

**811 Heating and Air Conditioning**

**MATTRESS & BOX** \$99 Twin set. Brand new in plastic. 420-6350. Can deliver.

**WOOD STOVE** Bed King princess, good cond. \$425. Call 720-5176 or 788-2768 after 6pm

**MATTRESS SET** King Memory Foam, 1 year old, like new. We put it back in plastic. We just don't care for the memory foam for the entire bed at mattress for \$500. Evertone. All sell \$723.24 and 324-8231 evenings.

**MATTRESS SET** King, memory foam, new, never used. \$1499. 420-6350 Can deliver.

**MATTRESS SET** King, Sealy, \$600, couch, nice. \$75. Entertainment center, \$35. W/D \$145/lot. Call 208-733-0379

**718 Miscellaneous AG**

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**ENTERTAINMENT CENTER** with 27 inch TV, \$100. Moving TV, \$100. Inching TV, \$100. Call 944-0593

**HOME-FURNISHING** For sale all very nice. 1 yr old living room set, Queen bedroom set, dining set, washer/dryer. All very nice! Serious inquiries only. Please call 21-21-739

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**WOOD STOVE** Bed King princess, good cond. \$425. Call 720-5176 or 788-2768 after 6pm

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**720 Miscellaneous AG**

**SHIHZ TZU** 6 month old purebred female. \$250. Call for details. 208-431-2493

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**OFFICE ARMOIRE** Heavy Oak, shelves, drawers, keyboard and printer pullouts. Very nice. \$450/offer. Call 208-925-5750

**SLEIGH** BED solid wood, brand new, still in box. List \$899, sale \$249. Can deliver. Call 208-420-6350.

**724 Pastures Wanted**

**PASTURE** Looking for horse pasture for 10 head. Call 543-6956 or 823-261-2339

**PASTURE** Wanted 250 head mother cows. 508-6680, 731-5525 or 308-1173.

**PASTURE** wanted 40 head mother cows. Call 208-731-5525

**725 Antiques And Collectibles**

**ANTIQUE POCKET WATCHES** Ball, Hamilton, Minors and others. Also watch chains and fobs. Call 208-308-5088

**818 Furniture & Carpet**

**MATTRESS & BOX** \$99 Twin set. Brand new in plastic. 420-6350. Can deliver.

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**820 Auctions/Auctioneers**

**WARD Auction & Appraisals** "Putting value to your valuables" Personal Property Auction Service (208)590-0253

**OFFICE ARMOIRE** Heavy Oak, shelves, drawers, keyboard and printer pullouts. Very nice. \$450/offer. Call 208-925-5750

**SLEIGH** BED solid wood, brand new, still in box. List \$899, sale \$249. Can deliver. Call 208-420-6350.

**728 Pastures Wanted**

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**PASTURE** wanted 40 head mother cows. Call 208-731-5525

**729 Antiques And Collectibles**

**ANTIQUE POCKET WATCHES** Ball, Hamilton, Minors and others. Also watch chains and fobs. Call 208-308-5088

**820 Furniture & Carpet**

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**729 Pastures Wanted**

**PASTURE</**





## Returning to their roots

After city life, native Idahoans coming back to life on the farm

By Matt Christensen  
Times-News writer

**BUHL** — When Jo Ann Robbins was a little girl, she couldn't wait to get off the farm.

But once she left, she spent most of her adult life hoping to return.

Robbins is one of many Magic Valley residents flocking back to the farm after life in the city. As a Jerome County Extension agent, she runs a program for folks new to country living.

She said many people purchasing small Magic Valley country acreages grew up here, left to work in cities and are now coming back to reclaim a more relaxed, rural lifestyle.

"It's a return-to-the-roots sort of thing," Robbins said. "It's surprising how many people are coming back."

Robbins can relate.

She was raised on a 40-acre farm near Buhl. Growing up there, she longed to escape farm life for the big city — a desire that was no secret to her family. She got her chance when she enrolled at the University of California-Davis.

"They thought I'd never come back," Robbins said. So did she.

After college, Robbins moved to a suburb near Tacoma, Wash., where she lived and worked for 21 years. City life took some adjusting. Sure, there weren't as many hand-blistering chores, but Robbins no longer had the space, clean air and rural neighbors she was used to.

Those first few years, her neighborhood was on the city's outskirts. It wasn't long before growth swallowed it.

"It got really crowded there," Robbins said. "Really crowded."

As the wave of urban sprawl threatened to drown her in cookie-cutter houses, box stores and traffic, she began to think about coming home to Idaho. Her mother was sick, and she found herself thinking a lot about the old farm.

Robbins got her chance when a job opened in Halley. But she soon discovered that living in Halley was a bit different than her childhood Buhl lifestyle. For



Jo Ann Robbins, shown Friday morning by her chicken coop on her land outside of Buhl, was born and raised on the farm. After years of living in a city, Robbins decided to return to her roots and moved back.



Jo Ann Robbins pokes around in her rock garden, planted in the late '30s by her grandfather.

example, her Wood River Valley lot was only 75 feet wide.

"I might have been able to put a tent on it or something," she said.

Robbins bought 2 1/2 lots. Just for some extra space.

"When you live in a city, you're not really living for yourself,"

As the wave of urban sprawl threatened to drown her in cookie-cutter houses, box stores and traffic, she began to think about coming home to Idaho.

Robbins said. "You're living for your neighbors. Up there (in Halley) I was picky about how things looked."

Halley is just a two-hour drive from Buhl, and Robbins made the trip every weekend to visit her mother and spend time at the farm. She did small chores, worked in the garden.

When her mother died in 2002, Robbins knew it was finally time to come home — for good. She bought the 40-acre farm and remodeled it to look just as it did when she was a little girl, though it's not an operating farm anymore.

Forty acres is too much for her to handle, so a neighbor grazes

cuttle on some of Robbins' land. Robbins left Idaho to find freedom. Little did she know it was here all along.

No neighborhood covenants. No traffic jams. No tiny spaces. Nowadays, Robbins tends her garden and feeds her chickens in peace. She doesn't worry about the neighbors think about an uninvited lawn.

"On the farm, if I'm happy with it, that's all that matters," she said. "And if I don't want to do something, I don't have to. That's why you live in Idaho, right?"

Times-News features writer Matt Christensen can be reached at 735-3243 or matt.christensen@tnc.net.

## Gifting a gardener? Try hoe, hoe, hoe

Good tools prompt years of gratitude

By Adrian Higgins  
The Washington Post

If you are thinking of getting a gift for the gardener in your life, read carefully.

Most tools are not casual implements, to the serious gardener. They are loyal workmates, and sometimes for life. I am fussy about these companions. I want things that are well-made, well balanced and

ready for hard work. Gardening clothing should be durable, protective and look good. (Sorry, dear brother, but the socks embroidered with watering cans you gave me will never see the outside of my drawer or the inside of my wellies.) Woolly gloves aren't my thing. Give me manly rawhide.

Just as the hobby woodworker is picky about chisels

and should let you know what present to get, I have to believe that the dedicated gardener would, want to do the same. Both parties may sacrifice that moment of joyful surprise, but the recipient gains a tool that he or she will want and use — and avoids that awkward moment when the wrapping falls away and delight must be quickly feigned. That's my view, though it's not universally held.

James Adams, the horticulturist at the British Embassy garden, is more enuncy — and furtive. He observes what his gardening friends are doing, quizzes them about current interests and then divines what they might need.

"One of my sisters became interested in roses, so I got her the West County garden gloves," he said. The gloves are made of high-tech synthetic materials, including a thorn-proof palm. (www.westcountygardener.com)

I rely on many different tools for various garden tasks

(certainly the wheelbarrow and the trowel are both indispensable), but if I must pick three that might aid in your search, here's the list.

### High-quality hand pruners

Pruners fall into two basic types (other than cheap and good): those with bypass blades like scissors, and those that mash together, called anvil types. Bypass pruners give clean cuts that aid healing of woody stems and are preferred by most gardeners. The widely favored brand is Felco, which offers a line of sturdy, comfortable pruners that range in price from roughly \$24 to \$53. They are made in Switzerland of high-quality carbon steel and have a distinctive red covering to the handles. The blade keeps its edge but can be easily sharpened or, eventually, replaced.

The classic model is called No. 2, but the line includes the

Please see GIFT, Page D2

## Did wasps string their ornaments around your house this summer?

For the Times-News

**TWIN FALLS** — This time of year, Idahoans call up University of Idaho entomologist Ed Bechinski and ask him about unwelcome ornaments decorating their homes: Should they remove the abandoned nests of European paper wasps and bald-faced hornets before the inhabitants return in the spring?

Bechinski, an Extension integrated pest management specialist, says there are a couple of reasons homeowners might want to do that. As the weather warms, the nests may attract dermestid beetles, which can venture from them into kitchens in search of stored foods. The nests can also leave stains on exterior surfaces as they break off naturally with age and the elements.

But removing the nests now won't reduce wasp or hornet populations next year.

"The wasps have been gone since October, and they're not coming back to those nests," Bechinski said.

In sheltered areas away from last year's nests, in March or April, the queens will locate a source of wood or cardboard — such as firewood, fence posts or boxes — and chew it into pulp. They'll use the pulp to make entirely new paper nests.

The nests of European paper wasps look like upside-down, honeycombed umbrellas. A big one might be 2 inches in diameter. The roundish nests of bald-faced hornets can be as small as golf balls or as large as soccer balls. They're similarly honeycombed inside but covered with a thin, greyish-brown outer envelope.

While European paper wasps typically tuck their nests into eaves, door frames, shrubs and rock crevices, bald-faced hornets often hang theirs at roof peaks and in trees. By contrast, yellow jackets build their nests underground — but they won't return to the same ones either.

Bechinski said Idahoans who want to deck their halls with old wasp nests should first shake any debris out of the nests, then wrap them in plastic and freeze them for a few days to make sure no carwigs creep out.

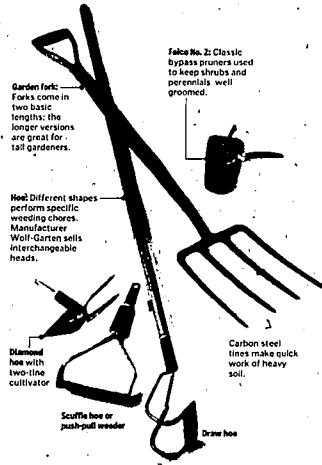
The author's well-used and beloved Felco No. 2 hand-pruners, with holster, a worthy gift for a gardener.

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF JO ANN ROBBINS



# COUNTRY ROADS

## Gifts for gardeners



**Garden fork:** Forks come in two basic lengths; the longer versions are great for tall gardeners.

**Wool:** Different shapes perform specific weeding chores. Manufacturer Wolf-Garten sells interchangeable heads.

**Diamond hoe:** With two-line cultivator.

**Scuffle hoe:** or push-pull weeder.

**Felco No. 2:** Classic bypass pruner used to keep shrubs and perennials well groomed.

**Carbon steel:** lines make quick work of heavy soil.

**Draw hoe**

### Gift

Continued from page D1

No. 7, with a rotating handle for improved ergonomics, and the No. 10, the same but for lefties.

The holster is sold separately, but it is as vital a part of this as the pruners themselves. Pruners should be by your side at all times. Plants are in constant need of grooming, and seeing to them is deeply satisfying.

Some gardeners don't like Felcos. Alternative, ratchet-cut pruners can amplify the force needed and are useful for people with weak hands or large jobs. Audrey Faden, a gardening friend, says she fell out with Felcos because the locking mechanism is awkward. She moved on to Italian-made bypass pruners with a clasp. Another brand, called Babco, is touted as being high ergonomic. I'm with Adams, though, when he says that Felcos are the best. "The perfect price, the perfect gift," he said. "Everybody loves them."

forms. I like the Wolf-Garten tools from Germany because they are sturdy and the heads are interchangeable. I use a straight-edged hoe for regular weeding, the diamond-shaped hoe for close work, and the scuffle hoe for large areas of the vegetable garden where baby weeds are emerging en masse. The scuffle hoe is pushed and pulled and soon dislodges the weeds. It's as quick as any herbicide spray but a lot better on the environment. Available from Gempler's ([www.gemplers.com](http://www.gemplers.com)), the 59-inch handle costs \$9.95 and the basic weeding hoe attachment, called the draw hoe, is listed for \$12.95.

### Foot Clinic

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• Ingrown Toenails • Toenail Problems  
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**Timothy G. Tomlinson, DPM**  
1120 Montana • Gooding • 931-8829

### Garden fork

Some people like to move dirt with shovels, others with spades, but in heavier city soil, the garden fork is the excavating tool of choice. The tines penetrate the soil with ease and go deep into the subsoil. The prongs are useful too in removing soil that is stony — the chances of the tines hitting a stone (or daffodil bulb) are less than with a shovel. It is also easier on the roots of trees and shrubs being moved and essential for harvesting root vegetables without slicing them. And while it is not as efficient as a pitchfork, it can be used as one to move compost, mulch and leaf mold.

There are two basic types: the larger digging fork, whose head is often eight inches wide and 11 1/2 inches deep, and the border fork, 19 by 5 1/2 inches, whose smaller city soil can be used for more surgical digging in and around existing shrubs and perennials. It is also a better fit for smaller gardeners.

The fountainhead of the garden fork is Sheffield, England, where good garden tools and steelmaking are rooted in tradition. Lee Valley Tools ([www.leevalley.com](http://www.leevalley.com)) sells carbon steel forks made in England, both the larger garden fork for \$46.50 and the border fork for \$44.50. I have their border fork and, for many years, a garden fork purchased from Smith & Hawken, although that company has discontinued the tool and is planning to launch a new line of digging tools in the spring, said a spokeswoman.

### Hoe

Hoes are used for two fundamental functions: moving dirt around — hilling — as plants may need additional soil, and for weeding. This has given rise to two basic forms: The hilling hoe head is the traditional heavy plate on the end of a stick; the weeding versions are designed so the blade angle to the soil is much more acute. Weeding hoes take different

## COWBOY CHRISTMAS



Justin Iacovetto drives a team of Belgian horses pulling an old-fashioned sleigh during the annual Saddleback Ranch Cowboy Christmas and Sledding Party, Dec. 10 in Steamboat Springs, Colo. Promoting the ranch as a tourist destination has brought the Saddleback Ranch to stardom. The ranch has been featured several times on television and was the location for the E! Entertainment Television eight-part series reality show 'Filly Rich: Cattle Drive.'

**Get a goat**  
This is an animal you'll grow to love.  
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IN COUNTRY ROADS

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If you didn't buy your boots from Vickers, you said too much!

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# HOME TOWN BUSINESS GUIDE

**WEEKLY HIGHLIGHT**

**baskinRRobbins**  
Try (Naughty or Nice) Flavors  
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2.5 oz. each scoop

Use this coupon on any regular price soft-serve cones and sundaes. Excludes the Double Scoop Sundae, the Baskin-Robbins® 100th Anniversary Sundae, the Baskin-Robbins® 100th Anniversary Ice Cream Cake, the Baskin-Robbins® 100th Anniversary Ice Cream Pie, the Baskin-Robbins® 100th Anniversary Ice Cream Cake, the Baskin-Robbins® 100th Anniversary Ice Cream Pie, the Baskin-Robbins® 100th Anniversary Ice Cream Cake, the Baskin-Robbins® 100th Anniversary Ice Cream Pie. Good only at participating Baskin-Robbins® locations. Excludes participating Baskin-Robbins® locations. Offer good through 1/1/07. Offer ends 1/1/07. Offer subject to change without notice. ©2006 Baskin-Robbins, Inc. All rights reserved.

The holidays are here and the crew at Baskin Robbins would like you to know that ice cream is more than a summer treat. You can enjoy ice cream year-round in a variety of ways. We offer a wide selection of pre-pack quarts and cakes for you to enjoy for many occasions or just to enjoy. Plus, we have many specialty drinks and sundaes available.

Watch for our upcoming Valentine Day flavors, cakes and other treats arriving in January.

**Remember:**  
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## AROUND THE VALLEY

### Jerome man dies in one-vehicle rollover

**GOODING** — A Jerome man was killed Saturday afternoon when he was thrown from the passenger seat of a rolling 2002 Ford pickup.

Bill Frodin, 62, died at the scene. JDS driver was transported by Lifelight with a head injury.

At 4:15 p.m., Marion Mortensen, 39, of Utah, was driving Frodin eastbound along a straight section of Bob Barton Road near 2300 East.

Witnesses observed a 2-rod flatted trailer hitched to the truck fish-tailing.

"Witnesses said they rolled about three times," said Gooding County Chief Deputy Jerry Pierce. The pickup came to rest upside down on the road.

Because Frodin was ejected, Pierce could not determine whether he was wearing a seatbelt.

### Magic Philharmonic concert tonight

**BURLEY** — The Magic Philharmonic will present its annual Christmas concert tonight at the King Fine Arts Center.

In addition to the orchestra, the concert will feature the music of the harmony quartet Soft Touch and the Burley LDS Stake Choir.

Curtain time is 7:30 p.m. Tickets, which are \$5 for adults, \$1 for students and \$7 for families, are available at the door.

### State, land trust swap property in Blaine County

**KEITCHUM** — The Idaho Department of Lands and the Wood River Land Trust in central Idaho have agreed to a land swap of 80 acres of steep, rocky terrain favored by wildlife for 4.58 acres that's part of a subdivision.

The 80-acre land trust is getting include a half-mile of front property along the Big Wood River in the town of Halley. It includes the northeast face of Della Mountain, which rises up on the west side of Halley.

"This is absolutely the biggest thing we've ever done," Land Trust Executive Director Scott Boettger told the Idaho Mountain Express.

### Snowpack Levels

Watershed	% of Avg. peak**	% season
Salmon	89%	28%
Big Wood	86%	27%
Little Wood	66%	20%
Big Lost	70%	21%
Little Lost	79%	26%
Henrys Fork/Teton	84%	27%
Upper Snake Basin	85%	28%
Oakley	126%	38%
Salmon Falls	92%	28%

\* A comparison of basin snowpack on this day, with a 30-year average.  
\*\* An indicator of basin snowpack for the entire snow season, which peaks in spring.



# Jerome LCO hearing postponed until Jan.

## Reschedule could affect outcome

By Matt Christensen  
Times-News writer

**JEROME** — A Jerome County commissioners meeting to decide the fate of a proposed 18,555-animal livestock confinement operation has been rescheduled.

The hearing, originally slated for Monday, was postponed until Feb. 6 after Dean Dimond, who lives next to the proposed feed-

lot, argued the county did not allow enough time for public comment. The hearing was then scheduled for Jan. 23, but it was moved back after the LCO permit applicant, Don McFarland, said he could not attend on the earlier date.

"Upon the advice of our attorneys, we postponed the hearing to give them due process to get two weeks for public comment,"

Commissioner Charles Howell said.

The change could affect the hearing's outcome because incoming commissioner Diana Obenaus, who will replace Veronica Llerman, expressed caution during her campaign about bringing new feedlots and dairies into the county.

McFarland, an Eden businessman, applied in November for the LCO permit on behalf of Big Sky Farms Limited Partnership. Announcement of the

proposed feedlot was met with anger from residents near the site, which is east of Jerome, and from Nell King, superintendent at the Mindoko Internment National Monument.

The monument, is just 1.5 miles east of the proposed feedlot, and King worries the operation will affect tourism at the historical site.

"There is no question," King wrote in a letter addressed to Jerome planning and zoning adminis-

trator Art Brown, "that the proposed Big Sky LCO will adversely impact this nationally significant historic site that preserves historic resources and enables the public to visit and learn about this important chapter of American history that occurred in Jerome County."

The monument, known locally as the Hunt Camp, imprisoned about 13,000 Japanese-Americans during World War II. It was designated a national monument in 2001.

# Unstable ground?



Elgin Nilson of Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology (IRIS) displays the \$20,000 seismograph that he installed Wednesday in Goose Creek, near Oakley, as part of EarthScope, a project designed to use Earth's seismic activity to map out the planet's interior. EarthScope will deploy 400 such seismographs across the continental United States and Alaska during the next 7-10 years.

## Geologists taking Cassia County's seismic pulse

By Sven Berg  
For the Times-News

**OAKLEY** — As part of an effort to map out the structure and evolution of Earth's interior, a university research consortium has installed the latest of 400 seismographs in the Goose Creek area just south of Oakley.

Richard Austin, who owns the property where the seismograph was installed, works extensively with geothermal projects. He said the benefits of EarthScope, a project of the Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology, will reach far beyond the data IRIS collects.

"It's a pretty ambitious project," he said. "This is just one more tool that you can use to look for geothermal."

For Boise State University seismologist Jim Zöllweg, EarthScope represents a chance to understand Earth's

makeup that scientists have never had before.

"This is probably the largest experiment in the history of Earth science," he said.

Zöllweg is particularly interested in data collected in southern Idaho. He said the tectonic plate that makes up most of North America ends in central Idaho, near Challis. Land formations west of that area have migrated very slowly from other areas and attached themselves to the plate. He says that method of formation goes a long way toward explaining the frequency of seismic activity in southern and eastern Idaho.

"We're one of the most under-monitored regions of the whole continent," he said. "It's always been a marvel to me why there was never much seismicographic interest in this state."

Zöllweg said seismologists

suspect there is a link between southeastern Idaho's geothermal activity and the way the area's crust and upper mantle were formed, but as yet they have not been able to discern what it is.

"We don't really understand the connection," he said. "We've got some ideas, but there isn't a whole lot of real evidence or proof."

The project's Web site, EarthScope.org, makes seismographic data its collects available to the public.

Zöllweg says one of IRIS's goals is to place the public's interest in Earth science.

Over the course of 10 years, IRIS hopes to move EarthScope's array of seismographs from west to east across the continental United States and Alaska. The sites are laid out in a grid, separated each one by about 40 miles.

# Hoping for more

## Twin Falls High School students want community to get involved in fundraiser

By Joshua Palmer  
Times-News writer

**TWIN FALLS** — They are not seeking recognition, but they are seeking your support.

The Twin Falls High School Student Council wants the community to help the school's Change for Change fundraising drive this year. Although the fundraiser has been an annual tradition at the high school since 1995, students decided this year to include the community in order to raise enough money to help several needy families in Twin Falls.

"We've average about \$6,000 to \$6,700 every year," said Arna Bajraktarevic, a senior and a member of the student council. "But this year we've set a goal of \$7,000, so we can help five families that we have picked out this year."

Each year, the student council finds students or families in need a little help during the holiday season.

Resides items such as Christmas gifts and food, the students also provide money for electric bills and rent.

For about two weeks each year, the student council walks the halls of Twin Falls High with buckets for donations. The donations are mostly leftover lunch money, but Bajraktarevic said some students have placed \$20 in the buckets.

"The student council buys, wraps, and delivers the gifts to the families on its list — and they try to do it all anonymously."

"What they (the student council) will do is wrap the gifts, leave them at the door and try to get away before their noticed," said Mike Federico, student council advisor.

"They're not doing this for recognition. After all, it's really the students who are donating the money. We just get to have the fun of delivering the gifts."

But the student council is hoping to raise more money this year.

"We're always helping families in our school district and every dollar counts," Bajraktarevic said. "Because our goal is bigger this year, we are hoping to get the community involved."

Times-News writer Joshua Palmer covers education. He can be reached at [jpalmer@magicvalley.com](mailto:jpalmer@magicvalley.com) or at (208) 420-0226.



The Twin Falls High School Student Council is hoping to raise \$7,000 during the school's Change for Change fundraiser.

# Idaho Board of Nursing gives CSI nursing program an A+

By Joshua Palmer  
Times-News writer

**TWIN FALLS** — A That's how the Idaho Board of Nursing graded the College of Southern Idaho's nursing program.

Although the board will make an official declaration about its review of the nursing program on Wednesday, the CSI trustees heard the unofficial results of the review Monday night.

And they liked what they heard. In November, the director and assistant director of the IBN visited the CSI Health

Sciences and Human Sciences nursing programs in order to verify the quality of education that nursing students were receiving.

The board, which is made up of seven members appointed by the governor, visits individual nursing programs throughout Idaho every five years. It grades nursing programs based on 81 criteria, including facilities, faculty and affiliations with local hospitals and clinics. The board also has the authority to shut down nursing schools that do not meet the minimum criteria.

"At the end of the day there were no recommendations, but there were several commendations," said Claudene Buettner, CSI's executive vice president and chief academic officer.

Buettner has been credited with building up CSI's nursing education from a program

## CSI Health and Human Sciences by the numbers

- 11: The number of months it takes to complete the Licensed Practical Nursing program at CSI.
- 60: Number of students admitted into the program this year.
- 58: Number of student still in the program.
- 100: Percentage of students who pass nursing license exams at CSI.
- 50: Average age of registered nurse in the United States.
- \$20: Average hourly wage of a registered nurse in the United States.

that accepted fewer than 30 students per month to a program that takes 60 a month.

CSI is still working to expand its nursing program. In November, Gov. Jim Risch proposed \$21.1 million to build a new nursing facility at CSI.

The nursing board commended CSI for its faculty's credentials, which includes one instructor with a doctorate and four others who are working toward master's degrees. The board also noted how current the curriculum was compared with technology and practices being used in clinics today; because medical technology changes frequently, it can be difficult for schools to keep up with current practices.

But one of the most significant commendations the board made was how CSI's

nursing program has student-nurses at different levels working together.

Most schools separate their licensed practical nurse-training programs from their registered nursing programs. RN programs are more advanced than LPN training. But CSI encourages both to work together and share resources.

"I think what I'm proud of is the number of LPN students that go on to our RN program," Buettner said. "I think it's because of that feeling of our faculty together."

The nursing board will discuss its official findings with CSI officials on Wednesday.

**OBITUARIES**

**Jennie Amanda Mothershead**

**Kohrtopp**

**JEROME** — Jennie A. Kohrtopp, 84, of Jerome, passed away Saturday Dec. 10, 2006, at 4 p.m. following a brief illness.

She was born Nov. 18, 1922, in Paradise, Kan., the daughter of John and Charlotte Mothershead. Jennie moved to Idaho at the age of 5 with her family. She married Ralph Kohrtopp on her 17th birthday in Weiser, Idaho. They were married for 58 years. She was Ralph's life-long country music partner, performing in the Filer, Twin Falls and Kimberly areas. They purchased a farm in the Sugarloaf area of Jerome County where she has lived for 60 years.

Jennie was a member of the Grange for 50 years and served in several positions, including State Women's Activity chairman. She enjoyed serving on the Election Board for many years. She was also active in the Selah and Sugarloaf Ladies Community clubs. Jennie liked four-wheeling, country music, making holiday balls for her family and entertaining, and she loved to attend all of her children's and grandchildren's activities.

Jennie, as she was affectionately called, was always willing to go to and do, no matter what time she had to get up or how late she would get home. She was a fabulous cook and loved preparing her recipes for her children and grandchild-

ren have favorite dishes that Grandma prepared for them. The favorite was thick-on and homemade noodles with mashed potatoes. She was a great traveler and loved going to visit her family that live in Weiser, She was planning a trip to Braunton, Mo. when she became ill. Her favorite trip was on her 80th birthday, when her children took her to Hawaii. Jennie was greatly loved and will be dearly missed, but she will always have a place in our hearts.

Jennie is survived by her four children, Deloris (Dale) Reynolds of Meridian, Vernon (Mary Jane) Kopp of Boise, Vining and Doug (Jackie) Kohrtopp, all of Jerome; eight grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and her brother, Alton "Tiny" Kohrtopp. She was preceded in death by her parents; 13 siblings; and her husband, Ralph.

The funeral will be conducted at 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 21, at Farnsworth Mortuary, 1434 S. Lincoln in Jerome. A visitation will be held Wednesday, Dec. 20, also at Farnsworth Mortuary, where family and friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. and again on Thursday one hour prior to the service. Interment will follow in the Jerome Cemetery.

The family suggests that memorials be made in Jennie's honor to the Shriners Hospital for Children, Fairfax Road at Virginia St., Salt Lake City, UT 84103; or Primary Children's Hospital, Memorial and Honor Gift Program, 100 N. Medical Drive, Rm. 300, 9249, Salt Lake City, UT 84143-0249.

**TWIN FALLS** — Barbara Belle Higgins, 72-year-old Twin Falls resident, passed away Sunday morning, Dec. 17, 2006, following a short illness.

She was born March 25, 1934, in Pendleton, Ore., the first child of Mildred Tucker Blewit and Marvin Puckers. She spent her early years in Helix, Ore.; Walla Walla, Wn.; and Echo, Ore. Later she moved to the Boise area, where she started her family in 1965.

After moving to the Twin Falls, where she was the first woman to do what had been "men only" work in the Allstate area, first as a car salesperson and later working for Allstate Insurance as an insurance agent. Shortly after retiring from Allstate after 20 years, she met her beloved husband James L. Higgins, former owner of Standard Printing.

Over the past 23 years of her lifetime in the community, Barbara worked with many women to achieve and maintain sobriety. She was instrumental in establishing the Magic Valley Female Society in the community. Barbara worked with many women to achieve and maintain sobriety. She was instrumental in establishing the Magic Valley Female Society in the community. Barbara worked with many women to achieve and maintain sobriety. She was instrumental in establishing the Magic Valley Female Society in the community.

**Ephraim A. Hansen**

**SHOSHONE** — Ephraim A. Hansen, a 77-year-old resident of Shoshone, passed away Dec. 13, 2006, at the home of his son, where he has resided since Oct. 2.

Eph was born July 2, 1929, in Acquia, Idaho, to Alvin and Mabel N. Hansen. He is the ninth of 12 children.

He attended school in Acquia and graduated from Acquia High School in 1948. Eph encountered, then married the love of his life, Kathryn Peterson, on Sept. 26, 1950, in the Salt Lake Temple. They lived in many locations: Rupert, Boise, Shoshone, but never far from their roots in Acquia. While in Boise, Eph worked for Albertsons, Sinclair and the Auto Mart. They moved to Shoshone in the spring of 1975, to farm with his brother. He enjoyed the farm with his boys and spending time with his family. While there, he worked for Big Wood Canal Co. as a ditch rider and driving dump truck for the cement in 1981. He was an Endowment Member of the NRA. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, woodcarving, camping and leatherwork and home dust.

**William Keith 'Bill' Frodin**

**JEROME** — William Keith "Bill" Frodin, 49-year-old resident, passed away Saturday, Dec. 16, 2006, as the result of an auto accident.

Bill was born Jan. 25, 1957, in Denver, Colo., the son of Alvin Keith Frodin of Goodland, Kan., and Beverly Marilyn Inman of Flouery Branch, Ga. Bill moved to Idaho at the age of 14, graduating from Raft River High School in Malta, Idaho. He was a member of the organization for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Boise, Santa Cruz Mission.

After returning from his mission, he worked in the Malta area for farmer Rodney Hall. It was at this time he met the love of his life, Karin Mortensen, with the help of well meaning matchmakers in the Malta area. They were married in 1982. They were born two sons, Curtis James and Tyson Keith Frodin.

Bill attended the College of Southern Idaho and worked in the agriculture consulting industry until the time of his death. His customers were his passion and focus in life.

with a love of cooking, traveling and volunteering. She was quite the ruckaball player in earlier days, and passionately loved snow and waterskiing.

Barbara touched the lives of so many people. Her family loved her and will deeply miss her.

She is survived by her husband, James L. Higgins of Twin Falls; her loving family, which includes her children, Greg, Jason, Guggelli and great-granddaughter, Autumn Guggelli of Meridian; her mother, Mildred Blewit of Portland, Ore.; two sisters, Kay Stock of Boise and Jean Herfy of Nampa, Idaho; her brother, Jack Liguellan of Portland, Ore.; as well as her loving canine companion, "Willie." She was preceded in death by her father and sister, Joan.

The funeral will be conducted at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 21, at White Mortuary, Chapel by the Park, 801 Second Ave. N., Twin Falls, ID 83301. All Barbara's family and friends are also invited to come and celebrate her life in an informal time of sharing from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 5, 2007, at the First United Methodist Church, 360 Shoshone St. E. in Twin Falls.

**Ralph King Gardner**

**JEROME** — Ralph King Gardner, 76, of Jerome, died Saturday, Dec. 16, 2006, at St. Luke's Valley Regional Medical Center following an extended illness.

He was born Dec. 3, 1930, at Delta, Utah, the son of Theodore and Olive King Gardner. He moved to the Salmon Tract with his family at an early age and later to Jerome, in 1947. Ralph enlisted in the Navy and served two enlistments before being discharged in 1957. On Oct. 10, 1951, he married Wilma Fern Jackson at Jerome, and they have made their home here for 52 years.

Ralph was a member of the IBEW Local 449 for the past 45 years. The funeral will be held Friday, Dec. 22, at 11 a.m. in the Shoshone LDS Ward Building, with Bishop Gale Peterson officiating. Family and friends may call two hours prior to service. Burial will follow at the Rupert Cemetery. Services under the direction of the Hansen Mortuary Chapel.

**Merna Hatfield**

**BUHL** — Merna Hatfield, 88, died Sunday, Dec. 17, 2006, at her home in Buhl.

Merna was born in Ablon, Neb., on Sept. 15, 1918, the second child of Louis and Geannine Larsen. She grew up in Madison, Neb., and graduated from high school in 1936. She followed her older brother, Elliott, to Idaho, where she worked for a teaching career. She married William H. Hatfield on Dec. 17, 1939.

Merna was involved with the Moose Lodge in Buhl, and she enjoyed quilting. She spent many wonderful years with the quilting group at the senior citizen center. She also loved children and took in several as her family was growing up. Friends of the Buhl are always welcome in her home. She was grandma to the daycare center next door and enjoyed showing them around the farmstead.

Merna is survived by her son, Curtis James (Mindy) Frodin and Tyson Keith (Yazmin) Frodin. He is survived by his parents; two brothers and six sisters; many nieces and nephews; and one grandson, Jace, who was the light of his world.

The funeral will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 21, at the Jerome LDS Chapel, 205 N. Tiger Drive in Jerome. Family and friends may call one hour prior to the service. Interment will follow in the Jerome Cemetery. Arrangements are under the care of Farnsworth Mortuary, 1343 S. Lincoln, Jerome, ID 83338.

For obituary rates and information, call 735-2266 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 3 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magvalley.com.

**Roxanne Lee Martin**

**BELLEVUE** — Roxanne Lee Martin, 50, of Bellevue, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2006, at her sister's home in Shoshone.

Roxanne was born Sept. 24, 1956, in Jerome, Idaho. She was the oldest of five children born to Kenneth and Joyce Martin. She attended grade school in Eden up to age 12, when the family farm moved them to Jerome. There she developed her great love for horses, riding and showing in 4-H. She graduated from Jerome High School in 1974 and continued on to CSI, where she received her associates degree in bookkeeping.

She worked for a local grain elevator until she moved to Ketchum, Idaho, in the early 1980s. She worked for the Local Bookies, a bookkeeping company that she later purchased and independently ran.

She met Buck Temple in Bellevue in the spring of 1992 and began to fulfill her dream of owning her own ranch. They built the structures and corrals on the 20 acres where she passionately cared for her horses, dogs, chickens and cats. In July 1995, she began her long battle with breast cancer. After two years of treatment, she was given the gift of remission. She married Buck Temple in September of 1998, and they later divorced.

**Ralph King Gardner**

Survivors include his wife of Jerome; one son, Larry (Anna) Gardner of Jerome; five daughters, Debbie (Lloyd) Jones of Caldwell, Ida (Wayne) Mathis of Charleston, Mo., Dorinda Dee (PeeWee) Moore of Jerome and Kathy (Mike) Bailey of the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, OK 73123-1718. Arrangements are under the care of Wood River Chapel of Halley, Idaho.

She is survived by her mother, Joyce of Jerome; two brothers, Karl Martin of Jerome and Kelly Martin of Boise; two nephews, Karrin (Tom) Archer of Nampa and Kristi Martin of Shoshone; two nieces, Kalla and Kassidi; and two nephews, Bradley and Brenden. She was preceded in death by her father, Kenneth; and her maternal and paternal grandparents.

A celebration of her life will be held at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 20, at the Chautauque Catholic Church in Halley, with the Rev. Sandra Bazovsky officiating. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions to Camp Rainbow God, in care of the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, OK 73123-1718. Arrangements are under the care of Wood River Chapel of Halley, Idaho.

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With great pride, she assisted many individuals in dealing with their taxes and bookkeeping. She loved riding horses and was a member of the Sawtooth Rangers Riding Club. She enjoyed vacationing in Mexico and was always ready for a party. In February 2004, she married Mark Silivicki. They enjoyed fishing trips to Canada and snowmobiling as a family. She enjoyed time spent with the children in her life, nieces, nephews and stepsons, Jack Temple and Koby and Axel Silivicki. She loved life and courageously battled her cancer right up to the end. She was one tough cowgirl.

Roxanne is survived by her mother, Joyce of Jerome; two brothers, Karl Martin of Jerome and Kelly Martin of Boise; two nephews, Karrin (Tom) Archer of Nampa and Kristi Martin of Shoshone; two nieces, Kalla and Kassidi; and two nephews, Bradley and Brenden. She was preceded in death by her father, Kenneth; and her maternal and paternal grandparents.

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**Esther Moncher Whiting**

**RUPERT** — Esther M. Whiting passed peacefully from this life on Dec. 14, 2006, at the Mindoko Memorial Hospital.

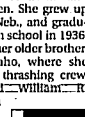
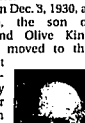
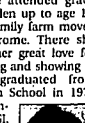
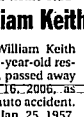
She was born on May 26, 1916, in Belle, Colo., to Joseph and Edith Moncher. Her Tyrolean lineage was a source of pride and the reason that the family finally settled in the southern Idaho, Her parents emigrated from Northern Italy to Pennsylvania, where her father worked as a miner, later moving to Colorado where Esther was born. The family moved to the mines of Kemmerer, Wyo. when her sister, Josephine, was born. They then settled north of Rupert on the farmstead that became the family home today. The farm was nestled in the midst of a local Italian community of immigrants from the Trentino Province, connecting the Gabardi, Astorini, and the families of Dairy, Moncher and other similar families in proximity and culture.

She attended school in the Pioneer District and graduated from high school. Under the tutelage of her mother, Esther and her sister were attentive to their academic education and also learned the enduring lessons of compassion and propriety. They were recognized as being impeccably dressed, socially engaging, and unusually well-spoken. After graduating from high school, she furnished her education at the University of Idaho, earning a primary grades teaching certificate. She returned to Rupert and was hired as an elementary school teacher in 1936 by the Heyburn School Superintendent J.W. Whiting. His son, Jack Whiting, later married Esther.

She continued teaching in Heyburn while Jack enrolled at the University of Idaho to study agriculture. From those early years and for the rest of her life, she cherished the friendship of Jack's sister, Annie Whiting Zaharis, and spent winters with her in California after Jack's death. Esther and Jack's family joined him in north Idaho, where he finished his education, and Esther followed him to his military duty stations during World War II. After his discharge, they lived in Boise as a family. For their war effort, and moved to Shelley, Idaho, after the Armistice. Jack and Esther

recognized their calling as educators while in eastern Idaho. They both taught school in Shelley and established themselves in the community. After her mother became ill, they returned to the family farm in Rupert and to employment with the Mindoko County School District. Esther taught literature in the Shriners Hospital in the middle grades and was an enduring influence on the countless students who were enriched by her mentoring. She retired from education after 20 years, following her retirement, she continued to volunteer her service to the school district by tutoring at Memorial Elementary. Above all else, she loved to teach. Her passion for the profession was recognized by her contemporaries. She was named Idaho Teacher of the Year in 1972 and honored as the National Master Teacher Educator in 1973. She was acknowledged as Mindoko County School District Retired Teacher of the Year. Her dedication to her career has also been recognized by the International Adult Reading Program and Mini-Cassia Reading Council.

In her retirement, her compassion to service at the Mindoko Memorial Hospital where she served with the Pink Ladies for many years. While the Whitings had no children of their own, Esther, through the generations of area youth and inspired many of them beyond childhood. She is survived by a legion of them. She is also survived by her sister, Josephine St. Marie of Oxford, Miss., with whom she shared a lifelong friendship that extended beyond that of most sisters. She is also survived by a nephew, Dr. Joseph J. St. Marie, and fiancée Amanda Feldhaus of Gulfport and Oxford, Miss. On the Whiting side, she is survived by two sisters-in-law and three nephews. Memorials in her name may be made to the local Special Olympics, St. Nicholas Parish, Mindoko Memorial Hospital, or to the Hospital Volunteers or the charity of your choice. Rosary will be recited today at 7 p.m. at St. Nicholas Catholic Church. The funeral will be held Wednesday, Dec. 20, at 11 a.m. at the church, with interment to follow at the Rupert Cemetery. Family and friends may call at the church one hour prior to the funeral. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Hanson Mortuary Rupert Chapel.



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205 N. Tiger Drive in Jerome. Family and friends may call one hour prior to the service. Interment will follow in the Jerome Cemetery. Arrangements are under the care of Farnsworth Mortuary, 1343 S. Lincoln, Jerome, ID 83338.

### Lloyd T. Bland

SPRING VALLEY, Calif. — Lloyd T. Bland, age 72, of Spring Valley, Calif., passed away Nov. 28, 2006.

He was the only son of Bert M. Bland and Olive B. Mothershead Bland. Lloyd was born Jan. 27, 1934. He attended school in Murtaugh, Hansen and Kimberly. He then entered the Navy in 1952 and retired as a naval chief petty officer in 1973, after which he worked for a son, Diego County for 25 years as an animal control officer. Lloyd married his wife Sonja M. Bland and became an instant father to her three girls, Shirley, Peggy and Pam. To this union was born a daughter, Connie, and a son, Kevin.

Lloyd is survived by his wife, Sonja; daughters, Shirley, Peggy and Pam; and a son, Kevin, all of California; and a daughter, Connie of Wisconsin. He is also survived by his two sisters, Vera Reed of Kimberly, Idaho, and Elva Daurud of Murtaugh, Idaho. He has 13 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Lloyd was preceded in death by his mother, Olive Landy; stepfather, Frank Landy; by his father, Bert Bland; a sister, Anna Jane; grandparents, John and Bertina Bland and Ola and Charlotte Mothershead.

A service was held Dec. 9, in Spring Valley, Calif. Interment was at the Glen Abby Memorial Park in Bonita, Calif., with a presentation by the Naval Honor Guard.

### SERVICES

Grant B. Humphries of Jerome, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Jerome LDS 1st Ward Chapel, 825 E. Ave. B in Jerome; family and friends may call one hour before the funeral today at the church (Farmsworth Mortuary in Jerome).

Burbage "Bob" Rush Justice of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 11 a.m. today at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

Sumiko Dorothy Kobayashi of Rupert, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Rupert United Methodist Church, 605 H St.; friends may call one hour before the service today at the church, (Rasmussen Funeral Home in Burley).

Shirley Rebecca Clark of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 1 p.m. today at the First Presbyterian Church on State Street in Boise (Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls and Summers Funeral Home in Boise).

Bernice Lillith Badger DalSoglio of Rupert, funeral Mass at 1 p.m. today at St. Nicholas Catholic Church, 802 F St. in Rupert; friends may call one hour before the funeral Mass today at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home in Burley).

Sherry Lynn McDrummond Pratt of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 2 p.m. today at Parkes Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

Vicki Lynn Jensen Hoopes of Declo, funeral at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Declo LDS Stake Center, 213 W. Main St.; friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Burley, and from 10 to 10:40 a.m. Wednesday at the church.

Stephen B. Ellis of Provo, Utah, funeral at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Oak Hills 2nd Ward Stake Center, 925 E. North Temple Drive in Provo; interment at 1 p.m. Thursday at the View Cemetery, 600 S. 750 E. in View. Family and friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. today at the Walker Mortuary, 85 E. 300 S. in Provo, and from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at the church.

Richard "Ric" E. Shacklett of Kimberly, celebration of life at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

Carol Ward Warren of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Star 1st and 2nd Ward LDS Chapel, 100 S. 200 W. in Burley; friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, and from 10 to 10:40 a.m. Thursday at the church.

Vernon A. Hansen of Burley and formerly of Rupert, funeral at 1 p.m. Thursday at the Acquia 1st and 2nd Ward LDS Chapel; friends may call from

6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, and from noon to 12:30 p.m. Thursday at the church.

Walter B. "Wally" Haffner of Twin Falls, funeral at 2 p.m. Thursday at Parkes Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls; friends may call from 5 to 7

p.m. Wednesday at the mortuary.

Viola V. Hodges of Malta, funeral at 11 a.m. Friday at the Malta 1st and 2nd Ward LDS Chapel; friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, and from 10 to 10:40 a.m. Friday at the church.

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### DEATH NOTICES

#### Sharon K. Sligar

TWIN FALLS — Sharon Kay Sligar, 65, of Twin Falls, died Friday, Dec. 15, 2006, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls. A service of remembrance will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 22, at the Rock Creek Community Church on Grandview Drive in Twin Falls, with the Rev. Dale Metzger officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Parkes Magic Valley Funeral Home and Crematory of Twin Falls.

#### Jerry Demailn

GOODING — Jerry Demailn, 73, of Gooding, died Friday, Dec. 15, 2006, at Mountain Care Center in Kimberly. A memorial service will be held 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 22, at the First Southern Baptist Church in Gooding, with the Rev. Russ Sharrock officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Dumary Funeral Service in Gooding.

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### GRANTS AVAILABLE

GRANTING AGENCY: Idaho Council on Domestic Violence & Victim Assistance

GRANTING PERIOD: July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

- CRIME VICTIM ASSISTANCE GRANT PROJECTS:**  
Eligible applicants: Public or non-profit agencies providing direct services to victims of crime.
- BATTERER INTERVENTION GRANT PROJECTS:**  
Eligible applicants: State approved public or non-profit organizations providing behavior intervention services to domestic violence batterers.

#### HOW TO APPLY:

Grant applications will be available December 12, 2006 on-line at [www2.state.id.us/crimevictim](http://www2.state.id.us/crimevictim).

#### OR CONTACT:

Idaho Council on Domestic Violence and Victim Assistance • PO Box 83720 • Boise, ID 83720-0036  
Phone: (208) 334-6512 or 1-800-291-0463 to request a grant application.

#### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE

Deadline: Grant applications must be received and date stamped by ICDVVA staff by March 5, 2007 (4:00 pm MST).

Letter of Intent due February 2, 2007.

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