

CONTEST WINNERS

Cooks take comfort in Taste of Home's approval.

FOOD & HOME, C1

RULES, RECORDS BROKEN

Tumultuous year in sports comes to an end.

SPORTS, B1

Super Colts

16-0?

BLACK GOLD

Donating heating oil not that easy.

MAGIC VALLEY, D1

Good Morning

High: 31 Low: 20

Developing snow showers. Details: B4

Times-News

WEDNESDAY

December 26, 2007

Answering the call



Dr. Brian Johnson, of St. Benedict's Family Medical Center in Jerome, takes a look at a patient's X-ray Tuesday afternoon in Jerome. While a shortage of on-call physicians has affected hospitals in larger cities in Idaho, hospitals in the Magic Valley haven't been affected as much.

Idaho hospitals not immune to national shortage of on-call physicians

By Nata Poppino Times-News writer

On Tuesday, most people opened presents and enjoyed Christmas dinner with their families.

But some did so with an ear to their pagers and cell phones. For every hospital in south-central Idaho, physicians specializing in family medicine, orthopedic surgery and other fields stayed on call over the holiday, ready to respond should an emergency room need them.

It's a vital service. Gooding County Memorial Hospital CEO Earl Fitzpatrick said Monday, one made even more difficult by a nationwide shortage in medical specialists willing to be on call in the first place. A 2005 nationwide survey by the American College of Emergency Physicians, the most recent data from the group, found that 73 percent

of the ER directors who responded said they had a problem with inadequate on-call coverage. The shortage hasn't been much of a problem for Gooding, which has a very dedicated base of family practice physicians, Fitzpatrick said. But some specialists in the Twin Falls and Boise markets, he said, are either avoiding jobs that

require them to be on call or requesting extra pay to make up for the higher number of no-pay patients they see. It's a trend also reflected by the ACEP survey, which reported about twice as many specialists negotiating for fewer on-call hours in 2005 than the year before. "They're taking patients from the ER that are no-pay or Medicaid, and so it's not really worth their time or effort to hang around the building," he said. And even though the shortages are more likely to affect more urban areas, they can cause problems for rural hospitals as well. Carl Hanson, CEO of Mindoka Memorial Hospital in Rupert, said his facility — like other small ones in the area — relies on specialists from larger hospitals for services such as neurology. "For some specific specialties, we now have to send multiple-trauma victims further away because of the difficulties caused by the lack of specialists," he said.

And it's not just the money that draws them away, he said. Some physicians who would otherwise like to live in the rural West look for other jobs that will give them more time with their families. "What they don't want to have happen is to be on call 50 percent of the time," Hanson said. "They'd just like to have a little better home life." While the shortage affects larger cities in Idaho, Twin Falls seems to be in good shape. Dr. Tom Zepeda, ER director for St. Benedict's Family Medical Center in Jerome, said he rarely has a problem with a specialist's availability when he needs to refer a patient somewhere else. More often, he said, the question is whether a hospital has enough beds available or can even do the needed procedure. "They just don't have enough capacity," Zepeda said, adding that that still isn't a problem most of the

Please see STAFFING, Page A3

Slogan slip-up

Idaho police academy 'mortified' by PTSD slogan

The Associated Press

BOISE — Idaho law enforcement leaders say they were "mortified" when a group of state police academy graduates chose a slogan that many felt was just too gung-ho. The slogan, "Don't suffer from PTSD, go out and cause it," was emblazoned on the Dec. 14 graduation programs for 43 officers who completed the Idaho Police

Officer Standards and Training Academy's latest course. PTSD, short for post-traumatic stress disorder, typically afflicts people who have endured civilian violence, military combat and other extremely dislocating experiences. "That's not something we encourage or condone," Jeff Black, director of the police training academy in Meridian, told the Spokesman-Review newspaper this week. "It shouldn't have been there. It was inappropriate. Ada County Sheriff Gary Ramey, who attended the event earlier this month, pointed out the slogan to Black about three minutes

Please see SLOGAN, Page A3

"That's not something we encourage or condone."

— Jeff Black, director of Idaho Police Officer Standards and Training Academy

Christmas in custody

Inmates find peace, sobriety behind bars

By Andrea Gates Times-News writer

BURLEY — Lights on a small Christmas tree twinkled Tuesday behind two officers booking inmates into the Mini-Cassia Criminal Justice Center. A female guard wearing a red Santa hat assessed a new prisoner for any medical conditions. Beside her, another officer knooked in an elderly man wrapped in blankets — until the inmate apparently spit on the counter.

Christmas is just another day in jail. But there's an upside to the holiday for two state inmates doing hard time for meth crimes. "I'm grateful to be here. It's a sober Christmas this year," said inmate Penni Andoe, 38. Andoe is a recovering meth addict and she's incarcerated on three felony counts of meth possession. She's been in jail since May — and isn't eligible for parole until March of 2009, she said. Being away from her three children — ages 11, 12 and 2 — is difficult any day of the week. On Christmas, the sting is even greater. "I don't forget right now, but it's like to have Christmas without my family, I'll never come back (to jail)," she said. Andoe's 11-year-old daughter visited the jail Saturday before traveling to Utah for the holidays. "It's hard, she's mad at me," Andoe said. Her younger sons live with their father and they don't visit. Andoe said she doesn't want them to see her "behind the glass," so she's write and talk on the phone. Andoe earned the privilege of working at the jail. She makes \$50 a month cooking in the kitchen. The job gives her more than just an extra pillow — she said it also lends her a sense of "self-respect and pride."

And she's not alone —

"I'm grateful to be here. It's a sober Christmas this year."

— Penni Andoe, 38, an inmate at the Mini-Cassia Criminal Justice Center

"I hate this time of year right now ... I feel sorry for my family."

— Cynthia Yeates, 28, an inmate at the Mini-Cassia Criminal Justice Center

another female inmate works in the kitchen to keep her mind free. Mother of three and former meth addict, Cynthia Yeates, 28, said she likes earning money in jail so she can buy phone cards to talk with her 10-year-old son — who lives in Boise.

No one visited her on Christmas, but Yeates said she sent her family hankies she decorated for the holidays.

"Somebody in my family's always locked up," Yeates said. "I hate this time of year right now ... I feel sorry for my family." Yeates was convicted of trafficking methamphetamine, she said, and she's been locked up since November of last year. She's not eligible for parole until December 2009. "I'm glad I got locked up. I just wish they would have caught me sooner," she said. Through her meth addiction, Yeates had two young

Please see JAIL, Page A3

Jokester 'sends' holiday greetings from afterlife

The Associated Press

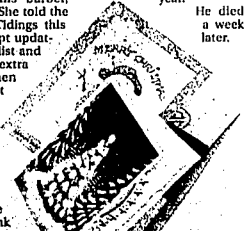
ASHLAND, Ore. — Even in death, Chet Fitch is a card. Fitch, known for his sense of humor, died in October at age 88 but gave his friends and family a start recently: Christmas cards. 34 of them, began arriving — written in his hand with a return address of "Heaven." The greeting cards: "I asked Big Guy if I could sneak back and send some cards. At first he said no; but at my insistence he finally said, 'Oh well, what the heaven, go ahead but don't (tarry) there.' Wish I could tell you

about things here but words cannot explain. "Better get back as Big Guy said he stretched a point to let me in the first time, so I had better not mess my luck. I'll probably be seeing you (some sooner than you think). Wishing you a very Merry Christmas, Chet Fitch." A friend for nearly 25 years, Debbie Honsen Bernard said, "All I could think was, 'You little slinker.'" "It was amazing," she said. "Just so Chet, always wanting to get the last laugh."

The mailing was a joke Fitch worked on for two decades with his barber, Patty Dean, 57. She told the Ashland Daily Tidings this week that he kept updating the mailing list and giving her extra money when postal rates went up. This fall, she said, Fitch looked up to her from the chair. "You must be getting tired of waiting to mail those cards," he told her. "I think

you'll probably be able to mail them this year."

He died a week later.



At Your Service directory... E5
Auction block... E6
Bridge... E8
Calendar... J2
Classifieds... E1-8
Comics... C6-7
Crossword... E4
Dear Abby... C7
Horoscope... C6
Jumble... E7
Magic Valley... D1
Movies... D3
Nation... A4
Obituaries... D2
Opinion... A6-7
Sports... B1
Sudoku... E3
Weather... D4
West... D3
World... A8

TODAY'S FORECAST

TWIN FALLS Today Tonight Thursday
Developing snow showers Show shower actively ending A quick break from the snow
High 31 Low 20 27 / 19

MINI-CASSIA Today: Scattered snow showers and a brief, cold breeze High: 20s Tonight: A shift breeze persists while the chance of snow rises. Low: 10s Tomorrow: A quiet and cold lull between periods of snow Highs low to middle 20s

Complete weather report: See page B4

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

EDUCATION Job Search Workshop, offered by the Department of Labor, learn tips on interviewing, writing resumes, completing applications and identifying skills and interests. 8:30 a.m., 420 Falls Ave., Twin Falls. 735-2500.

EXHIBITS "Coramics from the Bray: The Idaho Connection," with featured artists Donna Finley, Margaret Gregg, Jeannette Rakowski, David Peters, Kaul Jackson and Peter Ruda, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Jean B. King Gallery, Herrett Center for Arts and Science, College of Southern Idaho campus, 732-6655.

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

HEALTH Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Clinic, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Ageless Senior Citizens, Inc., 301 Main St. N. Kimberly, 737-5988. SilverSneakers Fitness Program, innovative exercise program designed specifically for Medicare beneficiaries' unique health and physical needs, 11:15 a.m. to noon, Twin Falls YMCA, 1751 Elizabeth Blvd., no cost for Humana insured or YMCA members and \$5 per class for non-insured, 733-4984.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS Woodcarving days, public welcome to come and carve wood, 1 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 10 p.m., 310 Filer Ave. W., Twin Falls, classes available, 736-0061.

MUSEUMS Faulkner Planetarium "Season of Light" at 1 p.m. and "Steamrolling" at 3 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, 732-6655.

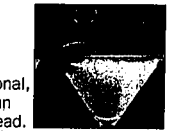
To have an event listed, please submit the name of the event, a brief description, time, place, cost and contact number to Suzanne Browne by e-mail at sbrowne@magicalvalley.com; by fax, 734-5538; or by mail, Times-News, PO Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548. Deadline is noon, four days in advance of event.

COMING TOMORROW

Drink in the New Year Champagne is traditional, but you might try an original cocktail instead. THURSDAY IN TNT

Lawyer says couple hit with complaints over lawsuit against boy

DENVER (AP) — People upset over a man who sued an 8-year-old boy and his father over a ski collision have subjected him and his wife to "an electronic war and feathering," his lawyer said. David Pfahler and Marlene Ambrogio left their Allentown, Pa., home for the holidays because angry people tied up their phone lines with repeated, automatic calls since news reports of the lawsuit, attorney Jim Chalot said Monday. Some angry e-mails and calls to Chalot's Denver firm, while others called Reader's Digest, where Pfahler works, and demanded he be fired, the Rocky Mountain News reported. The couple sued Scott Swimm of Vail and his father, Robb Swimm, in federal court in September. They said Scott, then 7, skied into



Pfahler, 60, at Beaver Creek in January. After the crash, Pfahler underwent surgery for a torn rotator cuff and a procedure to repair part of his clavicle, according to the lawsuit. Chalot said the Colorado Ski Safety Act holds children just as responsible for their actions as adults. Robb Swimm contends his son "tapped" Pfahler's ski boots and that it was not a violent crash. Chalot said that after the crash, Pfahler asked the Swimm family to help pay his \$35,000 of medical bills but never heard back. The lawsuit seeks compensation for physical therapy, vacation time, nursing and medical services provided by Pfahler's wife, and other expenses. The Swimm did not immediately return a phone message Tuesday to respond to Chalot's comments.

MORNING BRIEFING AROUND THE WORLD

MASSACHUSETTS

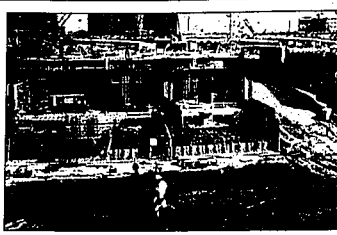
Big Dig highway project comes to an end

BOSTON — When the clock runs out on 2007, Boston will quietly mark the end of one of the most tumultuous eras in the city's history: The Big Dig, the nation's most complex and costliest highway project, will officially come to an end. Don't expect any champagne toasts.

After a history marked by engineering triumphs, tunnels leaks, epic traffic jams, last year's death of a motorist crushed by falling concrete panels and a price tag that soared from \$2.6 billion to a staggering \$14.8 billion, there's little appetite for celebration.

Civil and criminal cases stemming from the July 2006 tunnel ceiling collapse continue, though on Monday the family of Milena Del Valle announced a \$6 million settlement with Powers Fasteners, the company that manufactured the epoxy blamed by investigators for the accident. Lawsuits are pending against other Big Dig contractors and Powers Fasteners still faces a manslaughter indictment.

Officially, Dec. 31 marks the end of the joint venture that teamed megaproject contractor Bechtel/Parsons Brinckerhoff with the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority to build the dizzying array of underground highways, bridges, ramps and a new tunnel under Boston Harbor — all while the city remained open for business.



A worker on the Big Dig makes his way down a muddy bank in a portion of the multi-billion dollar construction project in Boston on March 14, 2000. The Big Dig, the nation's most complex and costliest highway project, will officially come to an end when the clock runs out on 2007. (See story at left.)

RUSSIA

Russian military successfully test-fires new ballistic missile

MOSCOW — Russia's military on Tuesday successfully test-fired a new intercontinental ballistic missile capable of carrying multiple nuclear warheads — a weapon intended to replace aging Soviet-era missiles. The RS-24 missile was launched from the Plesetsk launch facility in northern Russia and its test warheads successfully hit designated targets on the Kamchatka Peninsula some 4,340 miles east. Strategic Missile Forces spokesman Alexander Vovk told The Associated Press.

NEPAL

At least 15 killed, more than 100 missing after bridge collapse

KATMANDU — A steel girder bridge collapsed Tuesday in western Nepal under the weight of hundreds of people on their way to a fair, plunging scores about 100 feet into icy Himalayan waters. At least 15 were killed and more than 100 were missing and feared dead, officials said. Troops were being rushed to the area to assist with search-and-rescue operations. But with efforts halted by nightfall, hopes were slim of finding more survivors in the fast-flowing mountain river said And Bhandu, the top government official in the area.

NEW YORK

Target says sales may decline; total holiday figures increase slightly

Early holiday sales reports are weak, with Target Corp., the nation's No. 2 retailer, warning that its sales may have fallen in December. A broad gauge of consumer spending released by MasterCard Inc., which includes estimates for spending by cash and checks, showed a modest 2.4 percent

NEW JERSEY

Strong current keeps Washington re-actor from crossing Delaware

WASHINGTON CROSSING, N.J. — This George Washington could not make it across the Delaware River. Ronald Rindell III was prepared to play the role of the military leader whose daring Christmas crossing led to a rout of British-led forces and revived the downtrodden Continental forces.

VIRGINIA

Company makes clothing for warfare

RICHMOND, Va. — As an Army surgeon in the Middle East, Dr. Keith Rose watched a colleague bleed to death when a truck in his convoy was hit with a rocket-propelled grenade.

ART MARKET

Art market soars while financial markets struggling

Art is hot. Despite turmoil in the financial markets, there are no signs that the art market is softening. The fall auction season in New York saw robust prices across most categories, with postwar and contemporary works in particular going through the roof. It seemed like a new record was being shattered every time an art auction was held.



Jean-Michel Basquiat's 'Sugar Ray' is displayed during the post-war and contemporary art auction at Christie's in New York, on Nov. 13. The painting was sold for \$6.5 million. Despite turmoil in the financial markets, the art market remains strong due to the weak dollar, expanding world wealth and new buyers from countries previously not associated with the art-collecting community.

FINANCIAL MARKETS

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IOWA

With a week to go, Huckabee holding slim lead in polls

SIoux CIty — Presidential hopeful Mike Huckabee would seem to be the answer to their prayers. Yet for many Christian conservatives, it was not clear the deal for the Republican caucus. Do they still like Mitt Romney? Are they intrigued

wealth dollar, expanding world wealth and new buyers from countries not previously associated with the art-collecting community, experts say. Over the last five years, wealthy buyers from Russia, China, India and the Middle East have greatly helped fuel the art market.

The boom has occurred against the backdrop of a dreadful year for the financial sector in the U.S. — a slump that seems to have been offset by the influx of foreign buyers and big American buyers who have not been affected by the uncertain economy.

These buyers paid astronomical amounts for art. An Andy Warhol painting sold for more than \$71 million in a May auction that brought in a total of nearly \$385 million. A Matisse fetched more than \$33.6 million in a November sale that also took in nearly \$400 million. A limestone sculpture that measures 3 1/4 inches hauled in \$57 million earlier this month.

WASHINGTON CROSSING

Strong current keeps Washington re-actor from crossing Delaware

WASHINGTON CROSSING, N.J. — This George Washington could not make it across the Delaware River. Ronald Rindell III was prepared to play the role of the military leader whose daring Christmas crossing led to a rout of British-led forces and revived the downtrodden Continental forces.

WASHINGTON CROSSING

Rindell, 45, had taken part in every re-enactment of Washington's crossing of the Delaware since 1976, amassed more than 500 books on the American Revolution and earned a degree in U.S. military history.

But this year, he and his fellow re-enactors were done in by the river's strong currents. As Rindell and hundreds of spectators watched, the first boat that attempted the short voyage from Pennsylvania got carried downstream. A rocket-propelled grenade. Three boats had trained to cross the river this year in the 55th-annual re-enactment, and dozens participated.

COMPANY MAKES CLOTHING FOR WARFARE

RICHMOND, Va. — As an Army surgeon in the Middle East, Dr. Keith Rose watched a colleague bleed to death when a truck in his convoy was hit with a rocket-propelled grenade.

ART MARKET SOARS WHILE FINANCIAL MARKETS STRUGGLING

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Times-News masthead and subscription information including phone numbers, website, and contact details for advertising and circulation.

Tiger escapes cage at San Francisco Zoo, killing one and injuring two

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A tiger escaped from its cage at the San Francisco Zoo on Tuesday, killing one visitor and injuring two others, police said.

The tiger was shot to death when it started mauling toward a group of approaching police officers, said police spokesman Sgt. Steve Maninna. Several officers shot it with hand-

guns, he said.

It was not immediately clear how the tiger escaped.

The attack happened outside a cafe at the east end of the zoo shortly after the 5 p.m. closing time. San Francisco Fire Department spokesman Lt. Ken Smith said. The tiger cages are near the center of the zoo.

The zoo was evacuated. Officials at first worried

that four tigers had escaped, but only one got out of its pen, Maninna said.

Last December, one of the zoo's tigers mauled a regular public feeding. The 350-pound animal reached through the cage's iron bars and badly lacerated her arm.

The zoo's Lion House was temporarily closed during an investigation.

Panama finds three bodies, one survivor in crash of plane carrying U.S. citizens

By Juan Zamorano
Associated Press writer

PANAMA CITY, Panama — The bodies of a California businessman, his teenage daughter and the Panamanian pilot of a plane that crashed over the week-end were found Tuesday in Panama's mountains, officials said. A 12-year-old American girl survived.

But she suffered multiple traumas and hypothermia, and cold, wet weather prevented authorities from evacuating her immediately

from the crash site on the slope of a remote volcano.

Michael Klein, 37, Talia Klein, 13, and pilot Edwin Lasso, 23, were found dead in an uninhabited region of Panama known as Las Ovejas, about 270 miles west of the capital, the civil protection agency said.

The wreckage was located at a hard-to-reach site on the Barú volcano, at an altitude of some 3,500 feet, the civil aviation authority said in a separate statement.

Rescuers were giving medical attention to

Francesca Lewis — a friend of Talia's who was traveling with the Kleins — in a makeshift shelter, said prosecutor Jose Henriquez, who is handling the investigation.

"They're warming her and we hope to be able to get her out sometime tonight to a hospital," Henriquez said by telephone from Boquete in Chiriquí state, adding that he did not have enough information to say whether her life was in danger. "It's raining and it's very cold."

Slogan

Continued from page A1

before the graduation ceremony was due to begin," he said.

Apparently, nobody attending the graduation event other than Raney complained about the slogan, but a photograph of the program was e-mailed anonymously to news media outlets throughout the state.

"We were mortified that it was in there," Black said.

Apparently, each class at the academy is allowed to vote on its own slogan.

The latest group, with officers banned for 19 police agencies around the state, included military veterans interested in issues such as mental survival.

"Our class president was ex-military," Black said. "It slipped."

Black didn't identify the class president but said future slogans would not be

printed on graduation programs until they've been scrutinized by police academy leaders.

He said the embarrassment might be softened by Nampa Deputy Police Chief Leroy Fossum's speech to graduates.

Black said that's the message new officers should receive in their training — not to go cause traumatic stress-

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Staffing

Continued from page A1

time. "There isn't a problem, in general, of someone not there."

That's true as well for the holidays, all three facilities reported. Christmas, Zepeda said, can be similar to a busy weekend for St. Bonheferts. But the hospital gives its employees a little extra pay for holiday compensation, and the physicians understand the need to keep the ER open.

Minidoka, Hanson said, also pays extra for holiday workers, and ensures the work is spread out among all the eligible physicians. And Fitzpatrick reported many of his patients try to check out in time for Christmas dinner, causing the workload on his crew — who stay busy some years with accidents and food poisonings.

"Our ER is pretty good about patching them up and getting them home so they

don't have to be admitted for the holiday itself," Fitzpatrick said.



Nate Poppino can be reached at 735-3237.

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40% Off Gowns - Evening Gowns
30% Off Winter Coats & Jewelry
15% Off All Regular Priced Items
50% Off All Holiday Fashions

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Black Rock
Clothing 543-2500
918 Main Street — PO. Box 62, BUHL
Mon thru Fri: 10am to 6pm; Sat: 10am to 4pm

Jail

Continued from page A1

daughters taken into foster care and then adopted.

"I'm just glad they have a good man and dad," she said. "I was a single mom trying to raise them."

But there's a hole in her heart, and it burns to think about holiday memories.

Yeates went to Bonheferts, she recalled a memory of her son "bawling" over a picture of himself and his sister standing in front of a Christmas tree.

"It hurts my son so bad, that he doesn't have his sisters," she said. "That's what I think about during Christmas, that's what pops in my head."

The women blame methamphetamine addiction for their familial, legal and financial problems.

"I hate it (meth)" said Yeates, with tears in her eyes. "I don't want anything to do

with it. It does ruin lives."

"It's an incredibly evil substance," Andoe said about the drug.

An ex-boyfriend gave Yeates meth for the first time and he went on to rip her hair out of her head, she said. "The state bought me a wig."

Andoe tried meth at 35, and after one time she said she was hooked. She used it to stay awake during night-time shifts as a caregiver, she said.

But now they're clean and in custody, making him an Christmas and dreaming about their futures.

Andoe smiled talking about a kitchen job she's lined up on the outside. "I'm so anxious to get back out there and do it right," she said.

Andrea Gates can be reached at 735-3390 or Andrea.Gates@lee.net.

EVERTON'S

MIS-MATCH MATTRESS SALE

Our MIS-MATCH Mattress Sale is ON NOW. We have built BRAND NEW mattresses and boxsprings in mis-matched covers, saving you HUNDREDS or more on top of the line sleep sets. HURRY! Once supplies are gone, the sale is over!

<p>Mis-Match TWIN SET \$99</p> <p>McMORN Pillow Top</p> <p>SAVE \$100</p> <p>Full Set \$419</p> <p>Twin \$299 Queen \$499 King \$599</p>	<p>Mis-Match FULL SET \$219</p> <p>McMORN Plush Top</p> <p>SAVE \$100</p> <p>Queen Set \$399</p> <p>King \$599</p>	<p>Mis-Match QUEEN SET \$299</p> <p>McMORN Memory Foam</p> <p>SAVE HUNDREDS</p> <p>Queen Set \$999</p> <p>King \$1199</p>
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Kid's health insurance program doesn't meet expectations

By Kevin Frisking
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — The modest spending increase that Congress approved for a popular children's health insurance program will maintain coverage for those already enrolled. But many lacking insurance will have to look elsewhere.

Lawmakers across the state line in West Virginia approved an expansion that would have raised the eligibility level to \$51,510 for a family of three. It's now at \$37,774. The increase would have led to about 4,000 more children getting coverage.

Lawmakers across the state line in West Virginia approved an expansion that would have raised the eligibility level to \$51,510 for a family of three. It's now at \$37,774. The increase would have led to about 4,000 more children getting coverage.

Some analysts say the number of children getting SCHIP coverage may still decline next year — a bitter prospect for Democrats who promised they would expand enrollment from 6 million children to 10 million.

“We are left with a package that addresses the most immediate concerns, but leaves any real health care improvements for another day,” Rep. Frank Pallone, D-N.J., said during last week's

SCHIP debate. “I think that is very unfortunate.” Republican lawmakers say they want to work out a compromise. But many are satisfied with the extension the House approved Wednesday. Republican leader John Boehner, R-Ohio, said the extension “provides all the resources necessary to cover low-income children who need quality health insurance.”

Two expected such a result when 2007 began. Democrats proposed a huge spending increase on the federal-state partnership known as the State Children's Health Insurance Program. Many Republicans embraced the idea. Meanwhile, states all over the country were drawing up plans to expand health coverage.

Town lets seniors work off property taxes — for \$7 an hour

By Jim Fitzgerald
Associated Press writer

GREENSBURGH, N.Y. — Audrey Davison lives alone, gets a \$620 Social Security check each month and worries about the sharply rising taxes on her four-bedroom house. Davison, 76, raised her family there and after 43 years, she really doesn't want to leave Greensburgh.

Greensburgh doesn't want her to leave, either. The town is pushing a program that would let seniors work part-time, for \$7 an hour, to help pay off some of their property taxes.

“People shouldn't have to sell their house, move away to a place with less taxes, leave behind their family and friends,” said Town Supervisor Bob Reimer.

He envisions retired doctors mentoring schoolchildren, retired accountants helping with the town's finances, retired lawyers collecting their services for a discount. But there are plenty of less-skilled jobs that need doing, he said.

“It's not like we're going to sit grandma running the shop,” he said. “There are lots of things people can do for the town and it wouldn't cost us that much to pay them.”

The proposal has caused a stir in Greensburgh, a town of 30,000 in Westchester County, which has the nation's third-highest homeowner property taxes. The plan would be unusual if not unique in New York, but similar programs are considered successes in Colorado, Massachusetts, South Carolina and elsewhere.

Davison, who suffers from arthritis and sometimes needs a walker to get around on her bad days, said she pays about \$12,000 a year in property taxes — perhaps \$2,000 of that town — and has already taken out a reverse mortgage to pay her bills.

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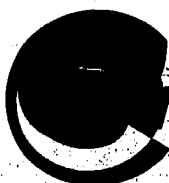
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EDITORIAL

It's only fair to sell and tell

How much did you get when you sold your home? That's a water-cooler question, asked every day in workplaces and over back-

after all, every Realtor in town knows. But perhaps not the county assessor. Idaho is one of only seven states that does not require home-sellers to disclose sale price. That's akin to the IRS checking your tax return without being allowed to know your income.

Fair market value determines your property tax bill. Without sales figures, there's no way to guarantee your tax bill is correct.

So Bonner County is considering ordinances that would require buyer disclosure to the assessor, though not to the general public. Kootenai County tabled a similar measure after Coeur d'Alene. Realtors agreed to share sales prices from their Multiple Listing Services.

Realtors voluntarily do the same elsewhere in Idaho, but they're free to cut off information at any time. In our view, the state needs a law requiring home-sellers to disclose the price.

There have been attempts get the Legislature to approve such a provision in the past, including last year when a bill sponsored by Sen. Shawn Keough, R-Sandpoint, was blocked up in the Senate Local Government and Taxation Committee.

The brokers appear a disclosure requirement because they fear it could lead to an excise or real estate transfer tax on sales.

But Robert Berrens, a University of New Mexico economics professor, says the Realtor's argument that sales prices are proprietary is trumped by the greater public need for efficient government, adequate tax revenue and fair property assessments.

Requiring disclosure is simply a question of fairness. Homeowners have the right to expect their property to be taxed equitably in comparison to their neighbors.

Home sales prices aren't exactly a secret, and they shouldn't be a mystery to the county assessor.

Our view: Can we expect a fair tax assessment when the county assessor can't ask how much the place is worth?

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

Times-News

Brad Hud, ... publisher Steve Crump, ... Opinion editor
The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are: Brad Hud, James C. Wight, Steve Crump, Traci Bliss and Bill Bitzenburg.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Gooding care center being targeted

Gooding Rehabilitation believes it's time for the community to hear from us!

Was the decision that Medicare/Medicaid made fair and just? Our facility has been targeted by the media with inaccurate information. The newspaper reported citations that occurred during past surveys; some of the information was inaccurate. Have they made it known that the incident was an isolated occurrence which no one foresaw, which included Medicaid who approved his placement here with no extra precautions needed. Or the mental hospital from which he had been released?

The facility has been targeted for a considerable time by government agencies waiting to close it. No one has written about the series of good surveys we've had. We are not the first facility nor the last to lose a resident no matter what precautions are made. Walk in our shoes; take care of residents that have challenges. We love each and every resident as our own family.

Take care, illness can happen to anyone. We as individuals have seen enough of them and cried with enough families to last a lifetime. Talk to the families of our residents and you will get a new view on life. This is a part of your community, and to the many people who have offered their support, thank you so much.

For anyone looking at this through a more community-minded eye, think of this. Gooding Rehab is one of the largest employers in this area. These people will have to leave this area to find work. People who work in other areas usually shop in other areas. Those people in the long run will eventually move closer to work. Fret of life: loss of employment in a community results in a decline. We need to stand together to succeed as a community.

JESSICA HARRIS
Gooding
(Editor's note: Jessica Harris is the accounting clerk at Gooding Rehabilitation and Living Center. She submitted this letter in conjunction with other staff members. Anita Westlake, Sheri

Bigler, Ana Cheney, Tonia Taylor, Darulyn Royce, Ritchie Putman and Kirsten Goldard.

Earth always in a constant cycle of warming, cooling

The Earth has been slowly warming since the Little Ice Age. Climate will continue to change, with warming and cooling as it has in the past, regardless of human action. Natural factors of warming include volcanic eruptions, earth's orbit and solar variability. Solar variability coincides with earth's climatic cycles.

Geological records show a 1,500-year cycle of warming and cooling extending back at least 1 million years. NASA records show that 1934, long before we had the emissions generated today, was the hottest year recorded in the United States.

Predicted and observed patterns of warming do not match, e.g., warming from greenhouse emissions over the tropics are not rising as predicted but decreasing. Also, warming during the last eight years has been relatively level, but CO2 levels

have increased rapidly. Of the 528 scientific letters written on climate between 2004 and 2007, only 7 percent, or 38, explicitly endorsed man-caused warming. The year 1200 was much warmer than now.

Greenland has been much warmer in the past and has been cooling since 1940. During the last four interglacial periods, the Earth was warmer than today. Antarctic sea ice has increased since 1979. From 1940 to 1975, temperatures dropped and CO2 levels rose. Just a few of the myriad of facts supporting natural warming.

The Great Global Warming Swindle, "a documentary being run on TV in Britain, refutes the hysteria. Even Mr. Patrick Moore, a founder of Greenpeace, says it is a swindle, nothing more than politics and the pursuit of grant money.

Third World nations face many societal problems such as sanitation, clean water, poverty, disease and global terrorism. It is a tragedy that the global warming theorists are denying them cheap electricity

and the chance to improve their lives.
DARRRELL HAMPTON
Twin Falls

Sen. Crapo not responding to needs of Idaho

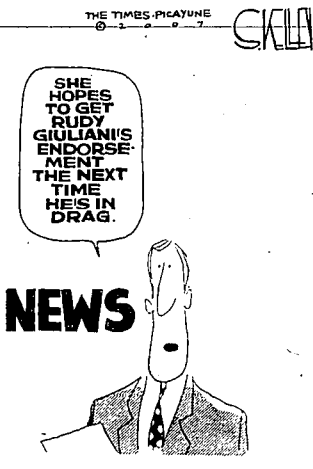
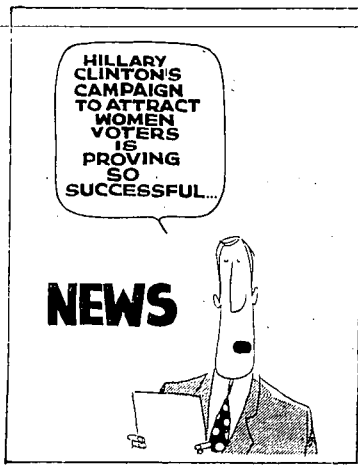
With respect to recent debate about nuclear and coal-to-liquid sources for energy, Sen. Crapo expressed his support for them. To those in opposition, he declares pride for his part in achieving passage of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, which contained \$55 billion in tax incentives across all energy sectors, including wind, solar and nuclear power. He declared as a parent and legislator his commitment to leaving our children a cleaner, safer world.

In the same way our incompetent government invaded Iraq without any forethought given to leaving it better off, the senator may have given forethought to it but doesn't identify a safe location to dump poison nuclear waste. In Idaho, for Idaho's children? Anywhere, but not in our backyard? Whoever he would dump it, would that be leaving our

children a cleaner, safer world? He may prefer to dump the poison some- where outside of Idaho and ignore the safety for the children of other states. His Web site reveals no discussion about safe, feasible disposal of nuclear waste. With respect to other toxic waste, he voted this year against burning more efficient, harmful hydrocarbons in autos and industry.

His declared concern for leaving a cleaner, safer world for our children evidently doesn't extend to providing health insurance for them. Another of his votes this year was against legislation intended for that purpose. Is his concern for children just words-out rhetoric? "The incentives," please note, is deceptive code for giveaway corporate welfare. The code means more tax cuts for the rich, shifting the burden to the not-so-rich: the poor and middle class.

We must petition this servant of the people to respond to the needs of Idahoans, even if he doesn't plan to run in 2010.
JACK HARTLEY
Twin Falls



The new tabloid reality of American politics

WASHINGTON — Floating crosses, love babies and hug photos. We're all tabloid now. Two weeks before the Iowa caucuses, politics has gotten not just ugly but unseemly and cruel. If the human appetite for scandal and schadenfreude is satiable, the media haven't gotten the word.

Besides, in a dangerous world of war and terrorism, it's far easier to speculate on sex lives and sensationalize religious belief than it is to evaluate whether jihad is coming to El Paso.

This isn't to blame American voters, but rather the media. Human beings will always look at a roadside accident, but that doesn't mean they want the accident to occur. We're a curious lot and most will look at what's in front of us (the prof is in the porn stars).

Thus, who puts the thing up for observation is the proper target of our attentions. Calling Katie Couric.

Wednesday night, CBS Evening News' anchor Couric asked the leading 2008 presidential candidates whether voters should trust an adulterer. Why not just ask for a show of hands: How many of you have



KATHLEEN PARKER

messed around on your spouse? Couric's inquisition closely shadowed the tabloid gossip item that John Edwards has a "love baby" with a former campaign worker. Edwards has denied the accusation, as has the mother-to-be, who has named the person she says is the real father. But no matter. *Splash!* It's out there. The suggestion, the innuendo, the lingering question. Just as "someone" hoped, no doubt.

Not so long ago, no reputable news organization would touch a tabloid headline. Now, thanks to the Internet, what's out is out and the source seems not to matter. Mainstream media now feel compelled to report what's being reported, (despite its not being monitored; Cultural commentary requires cultural commentary.) A few days before Edwards made news, Mike

If private lives are no longer private then we can give up on leadership. Only the perfect need apply and the perfect, having made no mistakes, haven't learned anything.

Luckabee's "floating cross" was all the talk. One of Huckabee's ads shows him in front of a bookcase. The intersection of two shelves creates four contiguous right angles, suggestive of a cross, as intersecting shelves are wont to do. Whether the positioning was intentional or just a divine coincidence is anyone's guess. But the debate, far longer than warranted, was the stuff of alien-seeking tabloids. It is just me, or was that the Virgin Mary's face imprinted in the wood grain?

At the risk of sounding like a Christian panderer, we are all fallen. Perhaps that is why the candidates, when asked about adultery, unanimously said that while important, carnal indiscretion doesn't necessarily disqualify someone from being president. As Barack Obama noted: "Some of our greatest presidents haven't always been

terric husbands." The indignity of the question should embarrass the interviewer, though nothing seems to embarrass anyone anymore. The uglier the stories, the stronger the backlash — and the mudslide has just begun.

If private lives are no longer private then we can give up on leadership. Only the perfect need apply and the perfect, having made no mistakes, haven't learned anything. Our jihadist observers — who, incidentally, kill adulterers, take religious belief very seriously, and think women shouldn't vote — have learned much.

Such silly people, Americans. Such simple targets. Such serious business, this election.

Syndicated columnist Kathleen Parker can be reached at kparkerk@kparkerc.com.

Get in your two cents

ONLINE: At Magivalley.com, you can respond to any of the local opinions or stories in today's edition. First register online for free and then give us your two cents.

ON PAPER: The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Because of space constraints, please limit letters to 300 words. Include your signature, mailing address and phone number.

Writers who sign letters with false names will be permanently barred from publication. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls office; mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83403; faxed to (208) 734-8538; or e-mailed to letters@magivalley.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Roping arena name confusion cleared up

I wanted to see if even you were as confused as me on the name of the roping arena in Hogerson.

I couldn't figure out why Rob named it after his uncle (and not his Uncle Bill Nah). I stopped in Hogerson on Thursday to buy gas and saw Rob. I've known the family for a long time, so I asked Rob why he named the arena after Johnny U and not his uncle.

It is named after the Nah family. The UZ is the family brand.

Boy, am I glad that mystery is cleared up.

PAM DENNIS Jackpot

Eliminating fees on public lands a bad idea

The Times-News was all wrong to back Sen. Crapo's bid to eliminate user fees on public lands and recreation sites.

Crapo insists that charging fees for access to public lands is double taxation because the public already owns the land. Congress shouldn't provide the funds for the site, he believes. As the Times-News and Crapo both well know Congress has cut back funding for the parks, forests and other recreational sites for years, forcing them to charge fees in the first place.

The stance of the Times-News and the GOPs in Congress is to get someone else, anyone else, to pay for everything. Congress and Bush have run up huge deficits so they can spend

now and pay for it later. Well, later is here.

The value of the dollar is sinking because of our huge fiscal deficits. Soon, foreign nations may be reluctant to take on more U.S. debt just when we are going to need to borrow huge sums to meet the mounting Social Security and Medicare obligations. Social Security now runs a surplus, but Congress spends that and more, foregoing record borrowing.

It is imperative that we get these myopic money managers like Crapo and Craig out of Congress soon and restore a pay-as-you-go basis for all our expenditures, including fees at recreation facilities if necessary.

And a more circumspect editorial board at the Times-News wouldn't do any harm either.

DAVID G. SUTLIFF Burley

Better ways to get Fish and Game's attention

In regard to the sportsmen that are complaining about the wolves:

If you really want to get the Fish and Game's attention, don't buy a hunting or fishing license every year. I buy a combination hunting-fishing license, but I only go fishing. Not going to happen anymore — won't get a hunting license.

If you cut their money off, maybe they will figure a way to make the ones that want the wolves pay for them.

While I'm at it, I can't believe the Democrats in this state are backing Obama.

JOHN O'DELL Rupert

Gordon Brown is no Tony Blair

LONDON — A few weeks ago, Jonathan Freedland published a long piece in *The New York Review of Books* that caught Gordon Brown mania. As the antithesis of Tony Blair, whom Britain's liberal-left chattering classes came to loathe with herd-like unanimity, Brown would likely "confound the skeptics again."

With approval, Freedland, a columnist for *The Guardian*, noted the new prime minister's deft distancing of himself from President Bush, his "breaking from the culture of spin" and his appointment of competent ministers. "Those qualities once deemed weaknesses — his lack of glitz and sparkle — have come to seem like strengths," he wrote.

If-tilted articles are nothing unusual, although this was a conspicuous one from a journalist of conspicuous gift — which is precisely what makes it so interesting. Freedland's encomium to the diligent Brown captured the capacity of accumulated, Iraq-driven Blair aversion to deliver the delusion.

In fact, Brown's lack of glitz and sparkle has come to seem precisely what it is



ROGER COHEN

in the modern political age: a drawback. The impact of France's flamboyant president, Nicolas Sarkozy — like Blair's in 1997 — is sufficient reminder of that. More important, Brown's problem with decision-making is proving crippling.

As a successful chancellor of the exchequer over Blair's decade, Brown loved to tinker with the tax code. The tinkerer is a good name for him. Since taking office in June, he has scarcely found a controversial issue not worthy of lengthy review. The only committee his Cabinet lacks is one on decision-making.

He took the country to the brink of a snap election in the fall, only to pull back, and claim opinion polls had not influenced him. The British electorate is no exception to the rule that nobody likes to be taken for a fool.

He withdrew some, not all, troops from Iraq, bequeathing confusion in

Blair and distancing Britain from the first positive turn in Iraq events in a long time.

Last week, he took his Hamlet-like hesitations to a new level. (Shakespearean allusions haunt Brown because brooding ambition and blatant flaws so evidently shape his fate.) Invited to a signing ceremony for the European Union's Treaty of Lisbon, an event attended by every other EU leader, he chose to skip the spectacle, a silly snub to Britain's Euro-skeptics that succeeded only in looking rude.

After six months in office, Brown has comforted rather than confounded the skeptics. He has alienated both Washington and Brussels, an unusual achievement. Far from breaking with Blair's rule by covert — sometimes known as "sofa government" — he has proved a dour centralizer: sofa rule without the sofa.

His recent extension of the time that terror suspects can be held without charges illustrated his capacity to disappoint the left while losing Blair's magnetism over the center. Add to this the huge bailout of the mortgage lender Northern Rock, and a scandal surrounding

Labour Party donations and you have the elements of one of the most spectacular falls from grace of recent political history. Brown now trails his Conservative rival, David Cameron, by 10 points in opinion polls.

I'd say this debacle was near inevitable.

Brown arrived, without his own mandate, at the tail end of the 10-year phenomenon of New Labor. His taunted but fecund relationship with Blair drove that success, leaving Brown bereft. He is still prone to questions about Blair — "Why did he give up his seat in Parliament anyway?" — that bewilder aides in the midst of unrelated policy discussions.

In an age where people realize the limits of what politicians can deliver, he offers little of the hope and distraction they seek. As Rachel Sylvester noted in *The Daily Telegraph*, Brown faces some of the problems Hillary Clinton has with Barack Obama.

Blair stood, without equivocation, on the right side of history. Where Brown stands on most things remains a mystery.

Roger Cohen is a columnist for the *New York Times*.

QUOTABLE

"Man is so preoccupied with himself, he has such urgent need of all the space and all the time for his own things, that nothing remains for others, for his neighbor, for the poor, for God."

— Pope Benedict XVI at Midnight Mass in St. Peter's Basilica

"His powerful mind is healthier."

— Raul Castro, Cuba's acting president, on brother, Fidel

"His drawing power, his mystique as a musician, was so big that he remained at the top of his game until the end."

— Andre Menard, artistic director and co-founder of the Montreal International Jazz Festival, on the death of jazz pianist Oscar Peterson

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Christmas Lace
Steamed white chocolate milk poured over espresso with French vanilla. Topped with a dollop of whipped cream and chocolate sprinkles.

Moxie Mistletoe
Steamed chocolate milk poured over espresso, with Irish cream and just a hint of mint. Topped with a dollop of whipped cream.

Coralers Cocos
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U.S. commander says Sunnis must be rewarded in Iraq

By Patrick Quinn
Associated Press writer

YOUSSEFIYAH: Iraq — A top U.S. commander warned Tuesday that Sunnis who fight al-Qaida in Iraq must be rewarded and recognized as legitimate members of Iraqi society — or else the hard-fought security gains of the past six months could be lost.

But the Shiite-dominated government is deeply concerned about the Sunni tribal groups, made up of men who in the past also fought against them — not just the Americans.

The warning from Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, the commander of U.S. forces south of Baghdad, came as two separate suicide attacks killed at least 35 people around Iraq and injured scores of others. One of the bombings targeted a funeral procession for two members of a Sunni tribal group who local police said were accidentally killed by U.S. forces in a dawn raid.

Lynch has credited these groups for much of the improvement in security in the region he commands, an area about the size of West Virginia and stretching to the Iranian and Saudi Arabian borders.

"The people say security is good now, but we need jobs, it's all about jobs and we have to create them," he told The Associated Press as he flew into patrol base Salije, just south of Baghdad — where U.S. troops fund about 150 members of the tribal groups. "We are in a tenuous situation. We need to give jobs to the citizens (groups) or they will go back to fighting."

Lynch, who leads the 3rd Infantry Division, said he had 26,000 members of the groups in the area he controls

and that they have given U.S. and Iraqi forces a key advantage in seeking to clear extremist-held pockets. They number about 70,000 countrywide, and are expected to grow by another 45,000 in coming months.

The groups, along with a surge of U.S. troops into Iraq and a decision by firebrand Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr to stand down his Mahdi Army militia for six months, have contributed to a 60 percent drop in violence around Iraq since June.

The U.S. military now funds the groups, known as Awakening Councils, Concerned Citizens and other names. But they expect to be rewarded for their efforts with jobs, either in the Iraqi security forces or elsewhere.

"They want to be recognized as legitimate members of society and that has to happen," Lynch said as he flew over an area south of Baghdad once known as the "triangle of death."

According to Lynch, the groups helped reduce violence in his area, a former Sunni insurgent hotbed, by 75 percent in the past six months.

"The government of Iraq has to take advantage of this opportunity" by focusing on economic development and governance, he said.

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Christmas A day of prayer, reconciliation, and a little hope

By Nicole Winfield
Associated Press writer

ROME — As the faithful marked Christmas Day, political and religious leaders called for peace and reconciliation amid flickers of hope in places long plagued by conflict.

In Iraq, Christmas made their way past checkpoints on Tuesday to fill Baghdad churches in numbers unthinkable a year ago. And in the West Bank town of Bethlehem, where tradition says Jesus was born, Christians celebrated in an atmosphere of hope raised by the renewal of Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

For them, and for all those in the "tortured regions" of the world, Pope Benedict XVI prayed that political leaders would find "the wisdom and courage to seek and find humane, just and lasting solutions."

Benedict, delivering his Christmas Day address from the central balcony of St. Peter's Basilica, urged the crowd to rejoice over the celebration of Christ's birth, which he hoped would bring consolation to all people "who live in the darkness of poverty, injustice and war."

In violence-ridden Baghdad, venturing out in large numbers late at night is still unthinkable, so the Iraqi capital's Christians celebrated Midnight Mass in the middle of the afternoon on Christmas Eve.

On Tuesday some 2,000 went out to the Mary Elly Church in the east of



An Iraqi girl and an infant take part in a play commemorating the birth of Christ during Christmas mass at St. Teresa church in Basra, Iraq.

Baghdad where Iraq's Cardinal Emmanuel III Delly, leader of the ancient Chaldean Catholic Church, celebrated Mass.

He told the congregation that Iraq is "a bouquet of flowers of different colors, each color represents a religion or ethnicity but all of them have the same scent."

He congratulated Muslims for their Eid al-Adha holiday, falling near Christmas, and Muslim clerics — both Sunni and Shiite — attended the service in a sign of unity.

"May Iraq be safe every year, and may our Christian

al gathering is beautiful against the sectarian fighting, and God willing from this lesson we'll all pray for peace."

Christian pilgrims in Bethlehem filled the ancient Church of the Nativity, waiting in line to see the grotto that marks the traditional birthplace of Jesus.

The large numbers and the cacophony of languages was evidence that more visitors were there this year than in the past several years.

AP Video

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brothers be safe every year."

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2007 NFL Sports Year in Review

A year of breaking rules, not records

The year 2007 was a lousy year in sports unless you were a fan of the pro teams from Boston. The semipro ones from the University of Florida or the renegade athletes from Appalachian State. It wasn't so much about breaking records, even as Barry Bonds took down the most venerated mark of them all while thousands of flashbulbs popped in AT&T Park and baseball fans everywhere winced. It was about breaking the rules and even the law. It was about every accomplishment worth celebrating was shoved off the back page soon enough by something scandalous.

It started with Mark McGwire shut out of the Hall of Fame and ended with the Mitchell Report that put an exclamation point on the confusing, cleaned and era owned by Bonds, McGwire, Roger Clemens and a host of disgraced players.

"Look, Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling wrote on his blog after the report was released, 'If you ordered HGH or steroids in your name and there is documentation to prove it, please do us all a favor and admit you made a mistake and move on. This is a pretty damn forgiving country.'

If you want to remember about 2007 is a headline — and nobody would blame you — here it is: Gotcha! That mild standard would have been perfect on Aug. 16, after disgraced NBA referee Tim Donaghy pleaded guilty to gambling charges. And it would have worked just as well on Aug. 27, after Michael Vick pleaded guilty to running a dogfighting ring and killing some of the losers — or on Sept. 10, after the New England Patriots got caught spying on the Jets defensive coach Tom Coughlin. Or on Sept. 21, after Florida's Landis was formally stripped of his yellow jersey and 2006 Tour de France victory — or Dec. 13, after Marion



JIM LITKE

France felt compelled to put his foot down, smacking five teams with the toughest penalties the sport has seen just days ahead of the race.

"A cat-and-mouse game is one thing," said NASCAR president Mike Helton, sounding the alarm for beleaguered sports bosses everywhere. "But when you throw a big rat in there, it's a whole new ballgame."

Yet who would have guessed then the NASCAR guys were getting off easy. Formula 1 officials caught team McLaren using leaked secret data from its main rival, Ferrari, and levied a \$100 million fine. Now that's racism. And speaking of running off with other people's cash, has anybody heard from David Beckham lately? Pick almost any day on the calendar — Sept. 17, O.J. Simpson arrested on kidnapping and assault charges; June 17, Durham, N.C., District Attorney Mike Nifong disbarred over the Duke lacrosse case — and somebody was caught doing something bad, apologizing or rationalizing (or in radio personality Don Imus' case, all three).

The year started and ended with tragedy, and sometimes the innocent paid the price. Just two hours into the new year, 22-year-old Broncos cornerback Darrent Williams was killed in a drive-by shooting.

Please see LITKE, Page B2.



Disgraced NBA referee Tim Donaghy was just one of many sports figures caught up in a year of acrimony. Donaghy, who was ousted by the FBI for betting on games he officiated, while a host of other prominent athletes in baseball, cycling, track and football also found trouble in 2007.

Bryant, Bynum lead Lakers past Suns

By John Nadel
Associated Press writer

LOS ANGELES — Kobe Bryant asked to be traded last spring in part because he wanted to play for a team that could contend for an NBA title.

He just might have gotten his wish by staying put.

Bryant scored 26 of his 38 points in the second half. Andrew Bynum had a career-high 28 points to go with 12 rebounds and a season-high four assists, and the Lakers beat the Phoenix Suns 122-115 on Tuesday for their ninth win in 11 games.

"I'm focused on one thing and one thing only — winning the championship," Bryant said after the Lakers moved a season-high eighth game over 500 at 18-10 and within one game of the Pacific Division-leading Suns.

Bryant, who complained about a lack of talent around him, has gotten plenty of help recently, especially from the 20-year-old Bynum, who shot 11-of-13 in outplaying Phoenix center Amare Stoudemire.

Bynum left to a roar of approval from the Staples Center crowd of 18,997 and a hand-slap from Bryant with 11.5 seconds to play.

"We're getting better. It's just about getting better each day," Bryant said. "It's good to have games like this.

We have a solid foundation, so really do. When you play against a 'phenix, you have to be solid."

Derek Fisher added 19 points, Lamar Odom had 15 points and 14 rebounds, and Trevor Ariza scored 14 points in his first start since being acquired from Orlando last month. While Odom didn't mince words, calling Bynum one of the NBA's best centers, others weren't so quick to make such a jump.

"At the end of the year, if he is the MVP, then we'll say so," Lakers coach Phil Jackson said, drawing laughs from reporters.

"The best thing about it is he's put in so much work over the summer and now played," Bryant said. "The biggest thing for him is he's seeing results. The sky's the limit for him."

After matching his career high by playing 42 minutes, Bynum said he felt great.

"I feel like I could play another game right now," he said. "I put in all the hard work just for this. It's paying off. This definitely was one of my better games. Made a pretty big impact, teammates looking for me, wide open a lot of the times and they found me today."

"So far, perfect Christmas," Jackson is reticent to draw any conclusions from his



Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant dunks in the second half of the Lakers' game against the Phoenix Suns, Tuesday in Los Angeles. The Lakers won 122-115.

team's solid start this season — understandable considering the Lakers won 26 of their first 39 games last season before losing 27 or their final 43.

"We are playing better as a

team," Jackson said. "We just have to play every game and not think about anything else, just what's ahead of us."

Steve Nash led the Suns (19-10) with 24 points and 14 assists.

The question: to play or not to play?

Tom Dugny was more candid Monday than the other coaches whose teams have clinched all they can clinch.

No matter if Sunday night's game is critical to Tennessee's playoff chances, Dugny's Colts will play to prepare for the playoffs and little else.

"We have to look at what is best for us, and that's how we're going to approach it," Dugny said, noting that how much Peyton Manning plays depends on whether star receiver Marvin Harrison, who has missed most of the season with a bad knee, is ready.

"I know Jim Sorgi will play at least a half. I don't know if he'll come in in the first quarter. I think a lot of it depends on Marvin. If Marvin goes, we'll want to get him some time with Peyton, so he may play a little longer."

That's absolutely appropriate even though the Titans (9-6) make the playoffs and the Browns (also 9-6) are out if Tennessee beats Indy (13-2), which has locked up the second seed in the AFC.

Cleveland had its chance and blew it, losing in Cincinnati on Sunday.

The Browns, who are home to St. Francisco, lose a tiebreaker to the Titans based on Tennessee's better record against common opponents if both finish 10-6.

There are two other games of import this week that leave coaches pondering whether to rest starters for the playoffs.

One is Dallas (13-2) at Washington (8-7), with the Redskins needing a win to make the playoffs and the Cowboys already having clinched home-field advantage throughout the NFC playoffs.

Washington's win in Minnesota (8-7) gave it the first tiebreaker: head-to-head.

So if the Redskins beat the Cowboys, they're in no matter what the Vikings do in Denver.



DAVE GOLDBERG

In the unlikely event both Minnesota and Washington lose, New Orleans (7-8) can make it with a win in Chicago, where the Saints lost last season's NFC title game.

But look for the Redskins to give the NFC East three playoff teams, as it had last year, and just as a Tennessee win would make it three from the AFC South.

With Green Bay losing Sunday in Chicago to give Dallas NFC home-field advantage, Wade Phillips has no obligation to play anyone.

Terrell Owens is out anyway and there are other guys who could use the week off.

The third game of interest is the weekend's headliner: New England, aiming for an unprecedented 16-0 regular season and major individual records for Tom Brady and Randy Moss, at the New York Giants (10-5), who know they will go to Tampa for the wild-card playoff round.

Even if they play every one in the Saturday night contest, the Giants are unlikely to beat the Patriots, so with a playoff game ahead, why risk older or injured players?

Tom Coughlin, like Bill Belichick in New England, was evasive Monday when he was asked who he would play in a game the NFL Network is hyping so mightily it announced it will have 65 1/2 hours of pregame programming.

The Giants coach did seem to indicate some guys may sit — or at least play only a part of the game.

"I is hard to imagine, for example, that he would play his leading receiver."

Please see GOLDBERG, Page B2.

Lebron goes for 25 and 12 in Cavs win

By Tom Withers
Associated Press writer

CLEVELAND — LeBron James winced as he pressed the ice bag tightly against his swollen jaw.

On Christmas, he felt lucky to still have his two front teeth.

"I got elbowed by Shaq in the face, which is not a good thing," James said. "Ever."

James shook off the big man's blow to the head and scored 25 points. Drew Gooden had 18 and Cleveland's defense sparked the struggling Cavaliers to a 96-82 win over the Miami Heat on Tuesday.

James, who left Quicken Loans Arena in disgust following an embarrassing loss to Golden State on Sunday, added 12 assists and outshined fellow superstar and good friend Dwyane Wade, who scored 22 points but didn't make his first field goal of the second half until there

was only 4:01 remaining.

By then, the Cavaliers were already ahead by 12 points, and thanks to a defense that had gone AWOL for most of the season's first two months, they rolled to just their fourth win in the last 14 games.

"When we play defense we're a pretty good team," James said. "When we don't, we don't look so well — simple as that. Today was a good step."

Daniel Gibson scored 16 points, including six on consecutive 3-pointers to open the fourth. Anderson Varejao scored 15 and Zdravko Radovic 13 for Cleveland, which had one of its most balanced games this season — and its most lopsided.

Wade finished 7-of-18 from the floor and 8-of-16 from the free-throw line for Miami (8-20), which began the season as one of the Eastern Conference's favorites but is headed in the wrong direction.



Cleveland's LeBron James scored 25 points and 12 assists in Cleveland's 96-82 win in Miami on Tuesday.

INSIDE: These muffins have an added bonus — they're good for you, C4



INSIDE: James Dullely, C3 | Comics, C6-7 | Dear Abby, C7

Idaho's homespun tastes

Taste of Home's CONTEST WINNING ANNUAL RECIPES 2007

Cooks take comfort in Taste of Home's approval

By Melissa Davlin
Times-News writer

With four magazines, dozens of cookbooks, tens of thousands of online recipes and 3.5 million subscribers, Taste of Home is one of America's biggest recipe exchanges, and it's luring southern Idaho cooks to the kitchen with its familiar homemade aromas.

"The Taste of Home empire is built on recipes submitted by ordinary cooks — not gourmet chefs — who use accessible ingredients and familiar methods to appeal to everyday people just trying to get dinner on the table."

The concept makes sense to JoNee Koehn of Buhl, whose recipe for Vegetable Beef Tostadas appeared in the "Taste of Home Ground Beef" cookbook.

"I just like the magazine because it doesn't take such exotic ingredients, things I don't even know what they are," she said.

"I like it just for the simple recipes and the ideas it gives me when I don't know what else to cook."

Koehn submitted her mother's recipe for Taste of Home's upcoming contest. The company awarded her a cookbook.

The winning recipe was simple enough for Ruth Ann Harker of Jerome, who compared the experience to winning the lottery.



Betty Albee of Buhl poses for a portrait in her home Dec. 19. Albee is a field editor and regular contributor to Taste of Home, a popular food magazine.

"It gives you an uplifted feeling," she said. "It's like, 'It's good enough for Taste of Home!'"

The rush is nice, but Vicki Rutz fared better. The Twin Falls resident won \$500 for her first-place Apricot Chicken recipe. At first, cooking didn't come naturally to

Rutz. "I got married when I was 15, and I literally could not boil water," she said. Now, the 68-year-old enjoys experimenting with different ingredients.

"It got to be kind of like a project, you

Please see TASTE, Page C2

WINTER BEEF STEW

Ruth Ann Harker of Jerome told Taste of Home that her favorite recipe after a long day of playing outside. Reprinted by permission.

- 1 1/2 pounds boneless beef chuck roast, cut into 1 1/4-inch pieces
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 teaspoons canola oil
- 1 1/2 pounds small red potatoes, cut into chunks
- 1 medium carrot, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 1/2 cups water
- 1/2 cup ketchup
- 1/2 cup tomato paste
- 1/2 cup Worcestershire sauce
- 1/2 cup soy sauce
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup salt

- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1 bacon strip, cooked and crumbled

In a Dutch oven, cook the meat, chopped onion and garlic in oil over medium-high heat until meat is browned on all sides; drain.

Add the potatoes, carrots, onions and mushrooms. In a small bowl, combine the broth, apple juice, tomato paste, parsley, bay leaves, salt, thyme and pepper. Pour over meat.

Cover and bake at 325 degrees for 3 hours. Stir, uncovered, for 30-45 minutes. Longer for small stew reaches desired thickness. Discard bay leaves. Yield: 6 servings.

APRICOT CHICKEN

Twin Falls resident Vicki Rutz's recipe won first place in the Taste of Home contest. Reprinted by permission.

- 1/2 cup apricot preserves
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon chicken broth or sherry
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1 pound boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cut into strips
- 1 medium green pepper, chopped
- 1/2 cup salted cashews
- Hot cooked rice

In a large bowl, combine the first seven ingredients. In a small bowl, combine the chicken and toss to coat. Transfer to a shallow microwave-safe dish. Cover and microwave on high for 3 minutes, stirring once.

Add green-pepper and cashews. Cover and microwave on high for 2-4 minutes or until chicken juices run clear, stirring once. Let stand for 3 minutes. Serve with rice. Yield: 4 servings.

This cookbook contains Buhl resident Betty Albee's prize-winning recipe for Cranberry Chip Cookies.

Simple makeovers can light up your fireplace

By Amie Groer
The Washington Post

Crackling with Ideas

For fireplace facelift ideas, check out "Fire Spaces: Design Inspirations for Fireplaces and Stoves," by Tina Skinner (Schiffer, Publishing: 2003, \$34.95). There are no before pictures, but plenty of after: traditional, modern, super-elegant, Midwestern massive and fire-starting minimalist models in great rooms, bedrooms, dining rooms, living rooms, even outdoors.

Designers often say a fireplace is the focal point of a room. But if yours leaves you cold, take heart. Giving it a facelift can be easier and cheaper than you think. Cerphe Colwell and his wife, Susan, were bowled over by the suburban five-level townhouse overlooking a lake they bought two years ago. But they were utterly underwhelmed by the wimpy white mantelpiece and glass-and-brass doors on the builder's original model. "I wanted something big. I'm thinking Stonehenge," says Cerphe Colwell, the pioneering underground and new-music radio DJ who is now heard on radio's "World Class Rock." So after moving

in, the couple sketched a more massive fireplace in the soaring great room, then



Political commentators Mary Matalia and James Carville turned an understated fireplace into one that suits their vivid living room in Alexandria, Va.

Please see FIREPLACE, Page C2

Fireplace

Continued from page C1
calls in Concrete Jungle, a fabricator in Frederick, Md., to cast them a new one. Total cost about \$3,200, says company owner Kelly Carr.

Similarly, Tom and Sandy Ross have couldn't heat the "old-fashioned" floor-to-ceiling brick fireplace of their '50s Alexandria rambler, despite the attempt by an earlier occupant to disguise it with white paint. So as part of a 2003 renovation, they had contractors sheath the brick in drywall, paint the whole thing celadon green to match the adjacent living room walls and add a sleek black granite surround and hearth. Total cost: under \$1,500.

In both cases, there was nothing really wrong with the original fireplace — except the owners didn't like them. And the makeover drew raves. "We were completely surprised at how this simple, inexpensive change made such a huge difference in the room," says Sandy Ross Jones, an event planner.

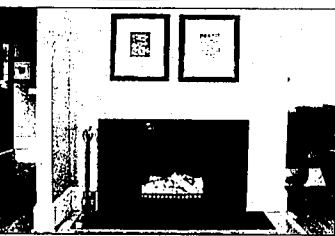
Josh Baker, president of Hova Builders in McLean, Va., has seen hundreds of facelift candidates. "A lot of the time, the brick is not attractive. Certain styles have changed, or you see an entire wall of brick. For a while there were painted white, except the fireplace was given an early fieldstone surround; on either side, identical wood cabinets and doors were added, with a small window cut over each cabinet. One cupboard now houses the sound system; the other conceals access to the woodpile inside the house. Total cost: \$10,000.

"The trick is not the only problem," Baker adds. "Particularly in '70s and '80s houses, you had big, thick rustic beams applied to the wall as a mantel shelf, and they're not for firewood. We take them off and replace them with something traditional, or nothing at all." Decorative woodwork often is a good solution, whether it's



For less than \$1,500, Tom and Sandy Ross Jones replaced their old fireplace, left, with one that blends into the walls of their living room in Alexandria, Va.

Left: by Tom Ross; right, photo by The Washington Post by Lee Spector



a simple, ready-made mantel piece or elaborate custom work. "In a more masculine den, we'll stain the millwork. For a traditional look, we'll paint it," Baker says.

Designer Chad Alan of Washington has planned a number of personality transplants on unloved fireplaces. For one project, he left the existing mantel and shelf but added vertical panels of custom millwork from mantel to ceiling to draw the eye upward. Everything was painted white, and sconces were installed to flank a pair of vivid biotone prints. Total cost, with lighting: \$1,800.

Alan likes to use mirrors to cover the fireplace surround, the space between the firebox opening and the mantel. "They provide a flash of light, they reflect color, they look really great and they don't cost very much," he says.

Laytonville, Md., designer Dana Tydings has mirrored the surround on two of her own fireplaces. She calls this the "second-cheapest way" to go because silver glass with a polished edge starts at about \$9 a square foot, and even a sliver can pack a punch.

She is also a fan of the very

cheapest: a \$50 paint-over that involves little more than a coat or two on the bricks and/or mantel, as well as the firebox interior.

"The coolest thing to do is to paint the mantel and the brick a beautiful white," she says, conceding that "everybody freaks out at painting brick" until she explains how dramatic and economical it is. Equally simple is painting the bricks the same color as the walls — Tuscan yellow or very pale latte, perhaps, but not baby blue. "And always keep the mantel the same color as the trim, or refinish and urethane a natural wood mantel."

Another frugal fix is to replace the small term cotta tiles used on hearths in many older houses. A single slab of natural stone creates a more sophisticated, upscale look with minimal construction.

Ilkum Marble and Granite of Lorton, Va., charges \$35 a square foot installed for its lowest grade of granite remnant (a full-size piece runs about \$45 per square foot installed). An area 4 feet long by 2 feet wide costs \$260 for materials and labor, plus \$150 to demolish and remove the old tiles, says office manager

Fireplace makeovers

Under \$300

- Paint the existing brick and/or the interior of the firebox. (For the latter, use high-heat paint.)
- Replace a worn or dated fire screen and tools to harmonize with other furnishings.

Under \$1,000

- Replace a damaged or dated tile hearth with a slab of stone, granite or other stone.
- Add a new or vintage fireplace surround or mantel, or replace one that is outdated or poorly proportioned. Sources for ready-made surrounds and mantel shelves include Home Depot (www.homedepot.com) and www.fireplacemantels.com.

surround or mantel, or replace one that is outdated or poorly proportioned. Sources for ready-made surrounds and mantel shelves include Home Depot (www.homedepot.com) and www.fireplacemantels.com.

Under \$5,000

- Box in the existing brick or stone with drywall and paint.
- Enlarge and reface the surround and/or mantel with simple custom carpentry, porcelain

Over \$5,000

- Face the entire fireplace with exotic stone or elaborate custom millwork.
- Acquire an antique fireplace surround, preferably ornately carved marble or rare wood from a centuries-old French chateau, English manor house or Italian villa.

Jackie Davis. That's \$430 for a complete set of hearth.

But as with all interior design projects, prices can go up and down depending on the scope of the work and cost of materials.

For one radical metamorphosis from traditional to contemporary, Tydings removed a dark wooden mantel, shelf and tiled hearth, then covered a 6-by-8-foot section of wall with 24-by-24-inch porcelain tiles at \$11 a square foot. The result is a tile that mimics pricier limestone, which runs about \$14 per square foot. Total cost: \$1,750. "Always use porcelain rather than ceramic tile," Tydings cautions. "It's much stronger. It's what they use in hotel lobbies."

In Old Town Alexandria, spouses and political chieftains Mary Matulis (the rabid Republican) and James Carville (the die-hard Democrat) sought interior drama from designers Ed Bouchard and Bud Beck of the Mill Co. The makeover included refacing all the fireplaces, including something muscular enough to anchor a vivid coral living room, which is featured in the January edition of Architectural Digest.

"The designers swapped out a 'typical Colonial wood surround with dentil molding' for the high drama of a limestone mantelpiece with an undulating escarpment to 'improve the architecture of the space,'" Bouchard says.

The stone mantel cost \$4,300; a new granite surround and hearth, labor and other items brought the total to \$10,400. "It's like a great piece of jewelry that makes an outfit. It is hugely dramatic," Matulis says. "Designers say start with the rug. I say start with the fireplace."

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Now, regarding your questions about puffy eyes and age spots, this same pharmacist, Robert Helfand, has discoveries for both. His EB5 Eye Gel Formula helps appearance of dark circles, puffiness around the eyes. EB5 Age Spot Formula works wonderfully for unsightly pigmentation and dark discolorations on the hands and face. You'll love them, and they're completely guaranteed!

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Note! All EB5 formulas are available at JCPenney. To learn more about EB5 formulas, phone toll free: 1-800-929-8325 or visit online at www.eb5.com.

Taste

Continued from page C1 know, to see what could go with what," she said.

And now millions of readers can benefit from Tiltz's experiments. Part of Taste of Home's magic is the participation from readers across the country. Subscribers can submit recipes through the Web site, tasteofhome.com, by e-mail, or through regular mail. The company's housewife mists test and tweak the recipes before publication. Taste of Home also prints colorful anecdotes with some recipes, like where submitters got the recipe or how they like to use them.

Field editors around the country, like Betty Albee of Buhl, help feed the machine. A field editor's job is less stressful than it sounds. Instead of proofreading copy or testing recipes, Albee only has to submit recipes she finds at parties and potlucks and is compensated with a free subscription for the magazine.

"Even if they didn't give you anything, I think most people would do it anyway," said Albee, whose column has stood at around 15 recipes. Albee's love of food is apparent. Several food magazines peek out of a crate in the living room, and freshly baked macarons, cherry bread and gingerbread men sit on a counter.

Albee has had three recipes in Taste of Home, including a prize-winning recipe for Cranberry Chip Cookies.

Her grandchildren aren't impressed with her sweet success, however. They like only cookies made with chocolate chips.

"I'll give them one and they'll say, 'Oh, yuck,'" she said. It's a good thing, so readers don't have a final say, so kids across the country can enjoy Albee's — and other Idaho cooks' — creations.

Melissa Davlin may be reached at 735-3234 or melissadavlin@ee.net.

About the company
Taste of Home magazine was first published in 1993 by Reiman Publications and specialized in American fare. Now owned by Reader's Digest, Greendale, Wis.-based Taste of Home has expanded to four magazines — including Cooking for 2, Light & Tasty and Simple & Delicious — and it regularly pumps out cookbooks and hosts cooking schools around the country. All recipes are archived on the company's Web site, tasteofhome.com. Online, prize-winning recipes are available to subscribers only.

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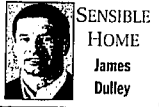
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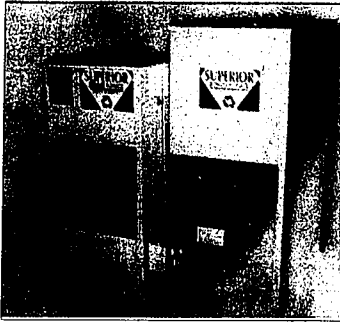
'Biomass' is fancy new term for something old

DEAR JIM: I need a new heating system and I want to consider alternatives to gas, oil or electricity. I hear "biomass" being mentioned often. What exactly is biomass, and is it efficient, convenient heat?

— Dennis D.



SENSIBLE HOME
James Duffley



This whole-house corn furnace has a large corn hopper so it does not have to be filled very often.

DEAR DENNIS: "Biomass" sounds like a new, high-tech heating method, but it actually is as old as the discovery of fire itself. Firewood, which has been used to heat homes for thousands of years, is still the most common type of biomass heating used in many of today's homes. With modern fireplaces becoming cleaner burning and more efficient, it is more popular than ever.

For using biomass heating in your home, either for spot heating or in a central heating system, fuse a freestanding corn stove in my living room which also heats my home office as I write this column.

Since you plan to replace your entire heating system, you probably have interest in a central system. Most central biomass systems provide heat as comfortable as any standard gas, oil or electric system. You just set

the thermostat on the wall and it maintains an even temperature.

There is more maintenance and care required with a biomass system, depending upon the type of system. Typically, the biomass fuel (corn, firewood, pellets, etc.) has to be carried indoors and loaded into the heating system. There also is ash to remove periodically.

A central corn heating system with a bulk hopper

requires the least care. Once the large storage hopper is filled with corn, an auger automatically slowly feeds it into the furnace or boiler as needed.

The amount of ash created from burning corn or wood pellets is not great.

Another convenient central biomass heating system uses a wood-burning furnace which can also switch to oil. If the firewood burns down on a very cold night, the oil burner kicks in to continue to provide heat. If you happen to run out of firewood and oil is too expensive, these heating systems are designed to also burn coal.

Before selecting a biomass heating system, check with your local fire bureau to see what local fuels are available. This reduces costs and energy wasted from shipping long distances. Some typical local biomass fuels are corn in the Midwest, peanut shells in the South, cherry pits in the North, wheat or sunflower seeds in the Plains, etc.

These companies offer biomass heating systems:

American Energy Systems (800) 465-2116, www.amerenergy.com; mrdirectplace.com; Drell Point, (877) 331-6212, www.pelletstove.com; Even Temp, (800) 331-8062, www.eventempinc.com; Harman Stove Co., (717) 622-9080, www.harmanstoves.com; and La-Ran (810) 359-7985, www.ja-ran.com.

DEAR JIM: I might get a vacuum blower. Leaf mulcher. I buy a lot of mulch for my garden each year. From an environmental standpoint, it is better to run an electric leaf vacuum and make mulch or buy it at the store?

— Kath E.

DEAR KATH: It is a complicated calculation to deter-

mine how much energy, materials and waste are used to make and use a product. Just considering all the plastic mulch bags alone, making your own is probably better.

I use a two-speed Black & Decker Leaf Vac vacuum mulcher at my home.

It uses about 14 cents of electricity for each hour's use.

In about an hour during fall, I can make the equivalent of about 10 bags of store-bought mulch.

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Rice vinegar or rice wine?

By Bonnie S. Benwick
The Washington Post

Q. When do I use rice vinegar and when do I use rice wine in cooking?

A. You've hit on a common topic of confusion for occasional cooks of Asian food. Part of the problem is that rice vinegar is often called rice wine vinegar. Both rice vinegar and rice wine are made from fermented rice, but different processes are employed.

The dregs, or lees, of wine are sometimes used in the making of Asian rice vinegars, which have low acidity and are considered to be milder than western vinegars. In the end, there's no

alcohol left in it.

Freshly steamed glutinous rice is fermented to make rice wine, which has a comparatively low alcohol content relative to other wines and beer. Sake and mirin are common rice wines;

Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean and Indian rice wines are all quite different in clarity and flavor, although most tend to be sweet. But, as Alton Brown often says, that's another show.

To add depth or sweetness to a dish, use rice wine, especially shao hsing cooking wine, which is aged and somewhat mellow and is a new favorite of mine. Try sherry as a substitute in

recipes that call for rice wine instead of reaching for the rice vinegar; it's a closer match. Rice wine will hold up in stir-fries, braises and stocks.

Use rice vinegar to perk up or brighten flavors, such as those in sweet-and-sour dishes, or use the condiment in place of more tart vinegars when you want to soften the edges of a dressing or marinade. My favorite way to use seasoned rice vinegar happens at the start of just about any potato salad recipe I make: A liberal sprinkling over the just-boiled, just-peeled spuds lets the flavor sink in as they cool and allows me to use little or no salt.

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Muffins by Mom

By Amy Scattergood
Los Angeles Times

Muffins are like a baker's delicious shorthand. Mixed in minutes, baked in about the time it takes to make a pot of coffee, the trays of little cakes can come out of the oven and straight to the breakfast table. If only they were as good for you as they are good to eat, they'd be pretty nearly the perfect food.

I came to it as a mother who's a former pastry chef to figure out one. Kim Boyce used to run the pastry kitchen at Campanile, the venerable Los Angeles restaurant, now she's a mom at home tending to her own kitchen while she raises two young daughters. Naturally, she's become quite obsessed with baking muffins, not just any muffins, but also in-althoughterms, trying out the little gems every day, yet so sophisticated they suit her professional palate too.

"I have a really hard time differentiating between the mom in my head and the pastry chef in my head," Boyce says.

And kids are the perfect taste testers. They love anything shaped like a cupcake, and they'll tell you in a second if something doesn't taste right. Anyone who has ever tried giving kids to eat something because it's good for them knows where the words "healthy" and "nutritious" come from. With open containers of whole-grain flours, jars of spices and a Wolf stove laden with gleaming pots, you can tell Boyce spends a lot of time in the kitchen too, does her husband, Steve (she'd be cuisine Thomas Boyce). And so do their kids, 3-year-old Lola and 1-year-old Sofia. They tumble in, trailing a tiny stroller filled with toys, hungry after a morning walk with their sister.

Boyce hands them each a freshly baked muffin, golden cakes made with whole grains and studded with roasted yams and rich Medjool dates. The grains give them a nutty taste; the yams and dates provide sweetness and a fantastic texture. The kids gobble them up and take off again.

Whole grains give Boyce's muffins a depth that shales out the other elements. She'll add dates and velvety roasted yams to a whole-wheat batter or mix sautéed apples, cinnamon and freshly grated nutmeg into a batter built with cooked oatmeal, oat and graham flour. The flavors intersect and balance, striking just the right notes.

Boyce says whole-grain flours add structure to a muffin and provide the perfect background for the flavors of fruits and nuts, even herbs and vegetables and cheeses. But you don't want to go overboard. Too high a proportion of heavier flours and your muffins won't get the lofty and crumbly you want. So pair the heavier flours with lighter all-purpose flour for the best balance.

To a savory muffin made from kamut flour and wheat germ, Boyce adds sautéed red chard and Cotswold cheese, an aged cheddar flecked with chives.

The muffins are deeply, intoxicatingly aromatic, and the flavors are fantastic, rich but well-balanced. It's hard to stop eating them; then you think about what they're made from, and you realize that you don't have to. At least

not right away. As the girls gather again in the kitchen with neighborhood friends, Boyce loads a plate with more muffins. Warm from the oven, golden-brown and flecked with grains and pockets of fruit, they fit perfectly into the kids' hands. Amid chatter and giggles and sips of milk, the contents of the plate vanish quickly.

Scrambling for the table in pursuit of a new game, the kids are satiated and smiling. And, as they nibble on muffins of their own, the children's mothers are smiling too.

APPLE OATMEAL MUFFINS

Use any apple sauce containing only apples and water.

Vegetable oil spray for coating muffin tins

1/2 cups milk, divided
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup rolled oats (not quick-cook)

1/2 tablespoons butter
1/4 cups white sugar, divided

2 medium apples in tart, crisp variety such as Braeburn or Granny Smith, peeled, cored and cut into 1/2-inch pieces

2 teaspoons cinnamon, divided

1 cup flour
1/2 cup oat flour
1/2 cup graham flour

1/4 cup dark brown sugar
1 tablespoon baking powder

1 tablespoon freshly grated nutmeg
1/4 cup applesauce
3 tablespoons melted butter

1 egg
1 teaspoon vanilla

Heat the oven to 350 degrees. Lightly spray a muffin pan with vegetable oil.

In a small saucepan, bring 1/2 cup water, 1/2 cup of the milk and a pinch of salt to a boil. Add the oats, cover and simmer at medium-low heat until cooked, about 5 to 7 minutes, stirring occasionally. Most of the liquid will evaporate.

Heat the butter and 2 tablespoons of the white sugar over medium-high heat until bubbling.

Add the apples and 1 teaspoon of the cinnamon, toss, then allow to caramelize without stirring. Toss again, each time allowing the apples to color. Once finished cooking, the apples should have lost their edges and be caramelized, about 5 minutes.

Into a medium mixing bowl, sift together the flour, oat flour, graham flour, the remaining 2 tablespoons white sugar, the brown sugar, baking powder, nutmeg, the remaining 1 teaspoon cinnamon and 1/2 teaspoon salt. Add any remaining grain from the sifter and stir to combine.

Whisk the remaining 1 cup milk, the applesauce, the egg and the vanilla with the oatmeal in a separate bowl. Pour in the dry ingredients mixture. Add the apples and fold until the mixture just comes together.

Using an ice cream scoop (about 1/2 cup capacity), scoop the mixture into each of 12 muffin cups, about 1 scoop per muffin. Bake for 35 to 40 minutes. The bottom of the muffins will be dark golden brown.

WHOLE-WHEAT SWEET POTATO MUFFINS

Use the dark-skinned sweet potatoes commonly referred to as yams.

1/2 pound (about 2 small) sweet potatoes

Vegetable oil spray for coating the tins

1/4 cup (1/2 stick) butter
3 tablespoons dark brown sugar

3 tablespoons sugar
1 cup flour
3/4 cup whole-wheat flour

1/4 cup whole-wheat pastry flour
1 teaspoon baking powder

1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon cinnamon

1 teaspoon ginger
1/2 teaspoon allspice
1 cup buttermilk

1/4 cup plain yogurt
1 egg
1 teaspoon vanilla

1/2 Medjool dates, pitted and cut into 1/4- to 1/2-inch pieces.

Heat the oven to 400 degrees. Prick the sweet potatoes with a fork and place on a foil-lined cookie sheet. Roast for 1 hour or until they are tender when pierced with a fork and are caramelizing. Remove sweet potatoes from the oven and allow to cool, peel them and then lightly mash with a fork. Set aside.

Lower the oven temperature to 350 degrees. Lightly spray the muffin tin with vegetable oil.

Cream the butter and sugars until light and fluffy, about 3 minutes.

In a medium bowl, sift together the flour, whole-wheat flour, whole-grain pastry flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, ginger and allspice. In a separate bowl, whisk the buttermilk, yogurt, egg and vanilla together.

Scrape down the sides of the butter bowl and alternate: Add the dry and wet ingredients; do not over-mix. Gently fold in the sweet potatoes, then the dates.

Using an ice cream scoop (about 1/2 cup capacity), scoop the batter into each of 10 prepared muffin cups, about 1 scoop per muffin. Bake for 35 to 40 minutes. The muffins will be dark golden brown on the bottom.



Whole grains such as oats and kamut flour lend added depth and a deliciously nutty taste.

You can substitute 1 1/2 cups cheddar and 2 teaspoons minced chives.

Vegetable oil spray for coating the tins

3 tablespoons olive oil, divided
1 bunch red chard, washed, drained and middle vein removed

1/2 plus 1/8 teaspoon salt, divided

1/4 plus 1/8 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, divided

1 cup flour
1 cup kamut flour
2 tablespoons sugar

2 teaspoons baking powder
2 tablespoons whole grain 3/4 cup buttermilk

1/2 cup light sour cream
2 tablespoons melted butter

1 egg
1/2 cups grated Cotswold cheese (about 1/3 pound)
3/4 cup Parmesan, finely grated

1/8 teaspoon cayenne

Heat the oven to 350 degrees. Lightly spray a muffin pan with vegetable oil.

In a large sauté pan, heat 1 tablespoon olive oil over medium-high heat. Sauté the chard, seasoning it with 1/8 teaspoon each salt and pepper, for 3 to 5 minutes until wilted and softened. Remove from heat and cook the chard on paper towels. Blot if any liquid remains. Tightly chop the chard and set aside.

Into a medium mixing bowl, sift the flour, kamut flour, sugar, baking powder, the remaining salt, the remaining black pepper and the cayenne pepper into medium mixing bowl, then stir in the wheat germ.

In a separate bowl, whisk the buttermilk, sour cream, the remaining 2 tablespoons olive oil, melted butter and egg; stir in the cheeses and chopped chard. Gently fold in the dry ingredients until combined.

Using an ice cream scoop (about 1/2 cup capacity), scoop the mixture into prepared muffin tins, about one

scoop per muffin (10 muffins). Bake for about 35 minutes. You can use a small offset spatula or knife to carefully lift a muffin from the tin and check to see that the bottom is dark golden brown. As soon as muffins come out of the oven run a knife around the edges for easy removal.

pared muffin tins, about one scoop per muffin (10 muffins). Bake for about 35 minutes. You can use a small offset spatula or knife to carefully lift a muffin from the tin and check to see that the bottom is dark golden brown. As soon as muffins come out of the oven run a knife around the edges for easy removal.

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Southern

Outdoor ice basin in table serves as ice bucket

By Janet Eastman
Los Angeles Times

A standard ice bucket just wasn't versatile enough, Renee Borsack wanted her outdoor table to have a built-in ice basin — something that could handle six bottles at a time, or cradle shrimp and oysters on the half shell, or simply float candles and pink tea roses from her San Juan Capistrano, Calif. garden.

Her solution? Borsack had a stone carver cut a trough in the center of her 8-foot-long travertine tabletop. The opening is 2 1/2 feet long and 6 1/2 inches wide. A drain in the middle of the trench connects to the sewer pipe, which is concealed by the table's concrete-and-cinder-block pedestal.

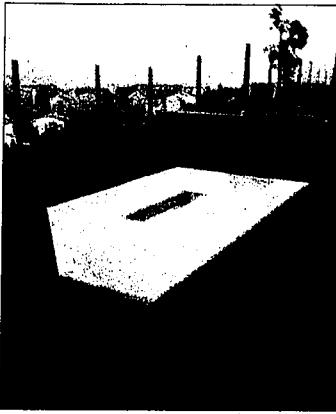
"We didn't want any debris, like shrimp tails, to drain into the landscaping, then out to the curb," says Borsack, whose husband, Jim, owns B Cellars wine.

The couple got the idea for the piece when they saw a marble table with an embedded basin at a Napa Valley winery. They came up with their own streamlined design, and Renee approached Hans Safarpour of Kitchen & Flooring Discounters in Santa Ana, Calif., to make it.

She wanted French limestone, which would have continued the theme of their French garden, but Safarpour advised against it. Limestone would have been too porous and wouldn't hold up well outside. Polished granite also would have taken a beating in the sun and rain.

Honed travertine, however, would provide elegance and durability, Safarpour said.

His crew took a 3/4-inch-thick slab and cut it lengthwise, down the middle of the tabletop. Then they used a saw to cut out half of the ice basin in each slab. When the two pieces were then fused



A trench 2 1/2 feet long and 6 1/2 inches wide in the travertine tabletop has a drain that connects to the sewer pipe, which is concealed by the table's concrete-and-cinder-block pedestal.

back together, they formed a single trough, and the tabletop's seam was hidden in the veining of the stone.

Another 3/4-inch-thick travertine slab was positioned underneath, sandwiched between the cut top surface and the pedestal. Edges were then rounded for a finished look.

Safarpour says the cost for a similar tabletop with a custom basin starts at \$2,500, depending on the material and design.

"We entertain so much that we wanted something permanent but different," Borsack says. "It took five guys just to carry the base into the backyard. This table will last."

Kentland is duplex with country charm

By Associated Designs

The Kentland is a well-separated, two-story duplex with garages located between the units. Except for the shared garage wall, each unit has the feel of a single-family dwelling, and the look of a country cottage.

Unit A is a mirror image of Unit B, so the description of one applies equally to the other.

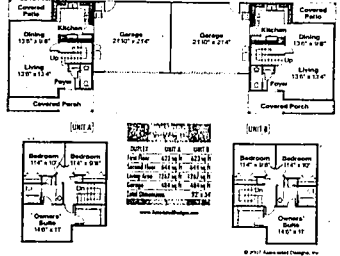
The wide covered porch spanning the front creates a welcoming look, while also providing a space for enjoying fresh air. In summer, a porch swing or a couple of chairs could make it more enjoyable.

Inside, the foyer opens out into a combination living and dining room on one side, while a convenient powder room hides behind a pocket door on the opposite side. The foyer's coat closet is right there as well.

Light spills into the large combination gathering space through windows that fill most of the front and rear walls, and more washes in through another wide window set on the side. The windows at the back side open to offer access to a covered patio there, ideal for outdoor dining when the air temperature is inviting. This patio could easily be screened.

The kitchen is partially open to the dining room, and surprisingly large. Counters, cupboards, and built-in appliances span the walls on all four sides.

Standing at the kitchen sink, you can easily keep an eye on children playing in the back yard, or simply



enjoy watching seasonal changes.

Three bedrooms are upstairs, where they share a two-section bathroom. The owners' suite has a large walk-in closet plus direct entry to the bathroom.

Each of the Kentland's garages has two doors: one that opens into the kitchen, and another that leads to the back yard.

For a review plan send \$25 to Associated Designs, 1100 Jacobs Dr., Eugene, OR 97402. Please specify the Kentland 60-015 and include a return address

when ordering. For more information, call (800) 634-0123, or visit our website at www.AssociatedDesigns.com.

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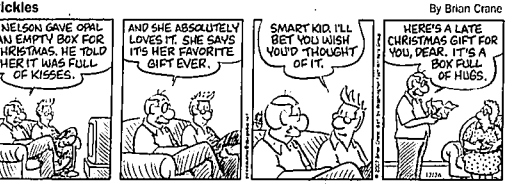
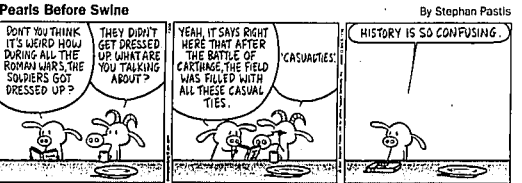
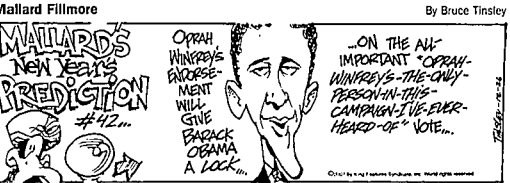
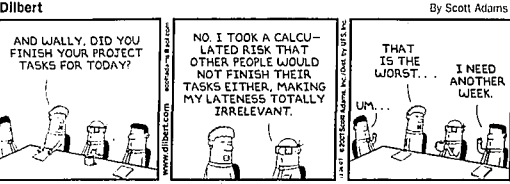
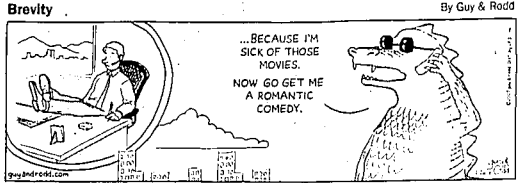
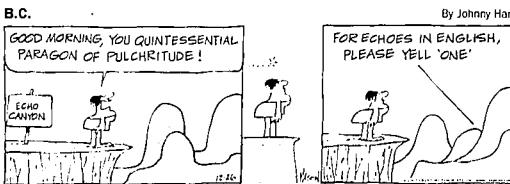


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Beware judging others, Capricorn

HOROSCOPE
Jeraldine Saunders

IF DEC. 26 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: The next two weeks are ideal for making long-range plans, putting inspiring ideas into motion or launching important initiatives of any kind. Your New Year's resolutions will be realized through a combination of good luck, helpful advocates and wise decisions. Avoid adding to your debt load or forming key commitments in early March or late June when your judgment is askew and energy levels are low. You will bounce back better than ever after some minor trials.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Keep a bucket of water handy. You may be prone to having too many fires in too many fires. Varied interests might pull you in several different directions, but you will have fun anyway.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Never bite off more than you can chew. Generous gestures just to pull your leg to honor your promise. Under these stars you may go shopping for one thing but come home with 10.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Someone wants a congenial companion while exploring new avenues or trails. Delay the start of anything that might be long term, such as a car payment.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Wave a white flag. Steer clear of sensitive subjects like religion or politics. It is difficult to remain levelheaded and analytical when your personal opinions are under attack.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Spend time or money on technologically advanced inventions, or try the latest gadget, but read the fine print carefully. You may waste your time on frivolous activities.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't throw caution to the wind. This isn't the time to discuss your deep, dark secrets. Avoid religious or political disputes; someone might exaggerate their beliefs just to pull your leg.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You don't have to buy a cow to enjoy a glass of milk. Resist those who make attempts to convert you to a way of thinking that doesn't suit your lifestyle. Bypass controversial topics.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Never bet anything you can't afford to lose. The post-holiday sales might beckon, but there is a tendency to overstock or overdo on many levels. Too much exercise can strain neck muscles.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Temporary tensions are possible when people are stressed by too much partying. Avoid being part of the holiday rush and take a detour around high traffic areas.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Everyone has the right to his or her own opinion. Abandon a tendency to judge others. You won't be able to pick holes in someone's arguments because you are likely to use the wrong tool.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Sit back and let the time pass before accepting well-meaning advice. Good friends may egg you on or encourage you to take an unnecessary risk.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Steer clear of romantic discussions because you will find that it is difficult to express your tender side logically. Hold hands or give someone a pat on the back.



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 Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketchum



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



Mom with alcohol issues is threat to daughters' health



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: We have out-of-state friends who have two daughters, ages 10 and 11. More than once I have seen the mother give her girls sips of her wine — even hard liquor — when she is drinking. We do not allow our children to do this. We have discussed drinking in moderation with them, but only when they are of legal age.

My problem is, this friend and her family will soon be coming here to visit. She has now informed me that she'll be bringing a bottle of wine for her girls to drink. When I asked her not to because I'm not comfortable with it and my kids aren't allowed to do so, she started arguing that mine don't have one. Then she said that she would get a bottle for her girls, but would let them have some of hers. She argues that this is common in Europe.

This situation has me uncomfortable. Am I being unreasonable?

— OLD-FASHIONED IN THE U.S.A.

DEAR OLD-FASHIONED: Unless your friend and her family live in Europe, please wake up to the fact that she is trying to rationalize her own alcohol problem. While some parents allow children an occasional sip of whatever they (the parents) are drinking, they do not bring along an extra bottle "for their children!" This indicates to me that

the girls are doing a lot more than "sipping." What you have described is a family in serious need of an intervention, because your friend's behavior is child endangerment. She's jeopardizing her children's health. My advice is to tell her you would prefer no alcohol in your home period. I'm betting it will cause her to cancel her plans to visit.

DEAR ABBY: I have a close friend, "Dec," who is more than 50 pounds overweight. She wears the trendiest clothes, styles her hair and makeup to perfection, and has circles of male friends she'd love to be more than friends with, but has never been in a serious relationship.

When we go out with her male friends, they spend time with compliments and attention. My friend, but never flirt with them. It makes me uncomfortable that Dec — who I'm constantly trying to bring attention to by mentioning the "funny thing she did at work today," or a compliment that she received at work, etc. — is obviously unhappy. I love spending time with

her, but feel like I'm there she'll get less attention and lessen her chances of finding a significant other. Dec has a wonderful personality and is one of the nicest people I know. I really want to see her happy.

I have even resorted to lying to her about men looking at her in a bar or fabricating compliments that I say I overheard a male friend say about her. It visually changes her mood for the better, but I feel awful for making it up. I'm becoming exhausted trying not to show interest in her friends "dressing down" when we go out so as not to attract attention, and lying to her to make it all better. What can I do besides avoid her altogether?

— "DEE"-VOTED FRIEND IN D.C.

DEAR FRIEND: The first thing you must do is stop lying to her. Every time you do, you raise her hopes that the person you have invented will show an interest, which of course can never happen. The second is to have a loving and truthful discussion with her about how much you care about her and about her weight because it affects not only her social life, but it could also affect her health. Sometimes it takes a loving friend to direct our attention to something we would rather ignore, and it appears in this case, that person is you.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 26, the 360th day of 2007. There are five days left in the year. The seven-day African-American holiday Kwanzaa begins today. This is Boxing Day.

Today's Highlight:

On Dec. 26, 2004, more than 200,000 people, mostly in southern Asia, were killed by a tsunami triggered by the world's most powerful earthquakes in 40 years beneath the Indian Ocean.

On this date:

- In 1776, the British suffered a major defeat in the Battle of Trenton during the Revolutionary War.
- In 1799, George Washington was eulogized by Col. James Lee as "first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen."
- In 1917, during World War I, President Wilson issued a proclamation authorizing the government to take over operation of the nation's railroads.
- In 1941, Winston Churchill became the first British prime minister to address a joint meeting of the U.S. Congress.
- In 1944, during World War II's Battle of the Bulge, the embattled U.S. 101st Airborne Division in Bastogne, Belgium, was relieved by units of the 4th Armored Division.
- In 1947, heavy snow blanketed the Northeast, burying New York City under 26.4 inches of snow in 16 hours; the severe weather was blamed for some 80 deaths.
- In 1957, the Ingmar Bergman film "Wild Strawberries," starring Victor Sjöström, opened in Sweden.
- In 1967, "Magical Mystery Tour," The Beatles' critically drubbed one-hour special, aired on BBC-1 television.
- In 1972, the 33rd president of the United States, Harry S. Truman, died in Kansas City, Mo., at age 88.
- In 1996, 6-year-old beauty queen JonBenet Ramsey was found beaten and strangled in the basement of her family's home in Boulder, Colo. To date, the slaying remains unsolved, despite a widely

published "confession" by John Mark Karr.

Ten years ago: Badly battered South Korean financial markets were stirred after the International Monetary Fund and the Group of Seven countries agreed on a total of \$10 billion in emergency loans to Seoul.

Fifteen years ago: It was announced that West Virginia resident Jack Whitaker had won the \$314.9 million Powerball lottery jackpot, at that time a record prize. Israel's soldiers killed several Palestinians in West Bank raids and reimposed a curfew on Bethlehem after briefly withdrawing over Christmas.

One year ago: Gerald R. Ford, who took over the White House after Richard Nixon resigned over the Watergate scandal, died in Rancho Mirage, Calif., at age 93, one of the highest court-rejected Saddam Hussein's appeal of his conviction and death sentence and said the former president should be hanged within 30 days. Saddam was executed on Dec. 30, 2006, (mq time.)

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Actor Richard Widmark is 93. Actor Donald Moffat is 77. Rhythm and blues singer Abdul "Duke" Fakir (The Four Tops) is 72. Record producer Phil Spector is 67. "America's Most Wanted" host John Walsh is 62. Baseball Hall of Fame catcher Carlton Fisk is 60. Former baseball player Chris Chambliss is 59. Rock musician James Kottak (The Scorpions) is 45. Country musician Brian Westrum (Sons of the Desert) is 45. Rock musician Lars Ulrich (Metallica) is 44. Actress Nadia Dajani is 42. Rock musician J is 40. Country singer Audrey Wiggins is 40. Rock musician Peter Klett (Cranbros) is 38. Rock singer James Mercer (The Shins) is 37. Actor Jared Leo is 36. Rock singer Chris Daughtry is 28. Actor Zach Mills is 12.



THOUGHT

"Little progress can be made by merely attempting to repress what is evil. Our great hope lies in developing what is good."

— President Coolidge (1872-1933)

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Gingerbread cupcakes are perfect for this time of year

By Julie Rothman
Special to The Baltimore Sun

Kenneth Kelm of Glen Burnie, Md., was hoping someone would have the recipe for the "delightful" gingerbread cupcakes with chocolate frosting made by the now-closed Wolfe's bakery which was in downtown Baltimore.

Unfortunately, no one has sent in the exact recipe from Wolfe's that Kelm was looking for, but I had a recipe in my own collection for Gingerbread Cupcakes With Lemon-Cream-Cheese Frosting from the January 1990 issue of Gourmet magazine. This is a favorite recipe in our house, particularly this time of year. The moist and spicy cake is balanced nicely by the smooth and creamy frosting. I think a chocolate frost also would be very good with the gingerbread.

And as my 12-year-old son — who gobbled up three of the cupcakes before they had even been frosted — can attest, these cupcakes are a tasty treat even without any frosting at all.

GINGERBREAD CUPCAKES WITH LEMON-CREAM-CHEESE FROSTING

1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
1 1/2 teaspoons ground ginger

1 teaspoon cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
1/2 teaspoon allspice
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 stick (1/4 cup) plus 2 tablespoons unsalted butter, softened
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/2 cup unsulfured molasses
1 large egg, beaten lightly
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 cup boiling water

Frosting
8 ounces cream cheese, softened
1 1/2 cups confectioners' sugar
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
1 teaspoon freshly grated lemon zest
2 teaspoons fresh lemon juice
1 tablespoon thinly sliced crystallized ginger

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Into a bowl sift together the flour, ground ginger, cinnamon, ground cloves, allspice and salt. In another bowl cream 1/2 stick of the butter, add the granulated sugar and beat the mixture until it is fluffy.

Beat in the molasses and the egg, beating until the mixture is smooth. In a measuring cup combine the baking soda with 1/2 cup boiling water and stir the mixture to dissolve the baking soda.

Stir the baking-soda mixture into the molasses mixture (the mixture will appear curdled) then stir the molasses mixture into the flour mixture, stirring to combine the ingredients well. Line 12 muffin tins with paper liners and spoon the batter into the liners, filling them halfway. Bake the cupcakes in the middle of the oven for 20 minutes, or until tester comes out clean. The cupcakes may be slightly flat or indented on top. Transfer the cupcakes to a rack and let cool.

In a bowl, cream together the cream cheese and the remaining 2 tablespoons of butter, add the confectioners' sugar and the vanilla and beat the mixture until it is fluffy and smooth.

Beat in the lemon zest and the lemon juice and chill the frosting for 30 minutes.

Spread the frosting on the cupcakes and top each cupcake with some of the crystallized ginger.

Per serving: 309 calories, 3 grams protein, 13 grams fat, 8 grams saturated fat, 46 grams carbohydrate, 1 gram fiber, 53 milligrams cholesterol, 222 milligrams sodium.



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Four little fixes

The Washington Post

- Small changes can help make your home a safer place to live. Here are a few fixes recommended by the nonprofit National Center for Healthy Housing. Estimated costs are for a typical two-story, single-family house.
- Install nonskid pads under rugs to help prevent falls. **Cost: \$50.**
 - Repair downspouts to drain water away from the foundation and encourage the growth of mold. **Cost: \$25.**
 - Replace shower heads and faucets with anti-scaud models that automatically divert water that's too hot. **Cost: \$100.**
 - Place carbon monoxide alarms on each floor. **Cost: \$120.**

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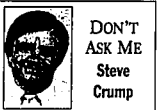
This year, how about keeping your gifts?

America is a land of second chances, and never more so than on Dec. 26.

The morning after Christmas is the day of redemption, when errors of love and generosity are rectified at Wal-Mart starting at 6 a.m. and at Sears beginning at 7.

If you didn't LOVE what Santa left you — or even if you did — popular culture dictates that you must stand in line at the mall behind hundreds of other disaffected souls and demand satisfaction.

Maybe it's a one-size-fitter parka — or a pair of ski pants in nylon instead of moose. Perhaps it's a blender instead of a can opener, but most probably it's a store credit so you can barter for something else you don't need.



DON'T ASK ME Steve Crump

The whole notion of returning gifts always struck me as childish. A present isn't intended to be an item you can leverage into a new snow-blower; it's a gesture of some endearment.

Except for the craven among us who traffic in gift certificates, some thought goes into most gifts. Maybe not MUCH I thought, and there's no accounting for taste.

Yet if you have regard for the giver, it seems to me you're honor-bound to keep the gift.

That's why your grandmother's attic was always a trove of kindness. The objects, most of which surrounded the butter churn, were presents from somebody. Many were modest and cheap, most were tasteless, but all were soft-hearted and authentic.

Dec. 26 and the white elephant-returning days that follow are a repudiation of all that the white elephant is: sentimental nowadays; little is sentimental. That makes us poorer as a society.

My wife is a great fan of "Antiques Roadshow," the PBS series on which folks bring their treasures and have them appraised. It's an interesting exercise, but by the end of the day the antique experts have determined the price of everything but the value of nothing.

Is a ceramic pitcher from the 1830s worth more than a locked mace 100 years later? Certainly, but the image inside the mace — it seems to say — speaks much louder.

While I was in college, I took a job during the holidays at Montgomery Ward, the now-defunct department store chain. A woman walked into the store on Dec. 26 and wanted to exchange a silver picture frame containing a photo of her three small grandchildren ages 2, 4 and 5 — for a neat ring for herself.

I did the paperwork for the transaction and handed the ring in its case to the woman.

"It's none of my business," I said to her. "But I don't think that's a fair trade."

"What do you mean?" she shot back. "The ring is worth more than that little picture, is it?" I asked.

Many happy returns.

Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223, or write to him at scrump@magicalvalley.com.

Residents ask to change school districts

Minidoka school officials want to keep Jackson households within its boundaries

By Rich Greene
For the Times-News

The Minidoka County School District officials don't want to let go of the Jackson area.

The district's board of trustees plans to ask the state Board of Education to deny a signed petition from Jackson area residents who want to be shifted to the adjoining Cassia County School District.

All eight eligible voters from the Jackson area, representing four households, signed the petition. The state board can consider the wishes of the two school districts,

but has the right to rule as it wants. If the board rules in favor of the shift, residents of the Jackson area would then hold a special election.

The proposed change would affect nine school-age children in the area north of Interstate 84 and south of the Snake River in eastern Cassia County.

Those who signed the petition say the issue is over the safety of the children. "It is a parent's right to try to get the best education for their children that they deem appropriate, but at the same time we believe we can educate those kids every bit as well," said Brian Duncan, chairman

of the Minidoka board.

All nine of the children already attend Cassia district schools in Declo. The biggest change for them would be in transportation. Currently, they must be driven a few miles to reach a bus stop in the Cassia district because Minidoka schools don't allow busses from other districts to cross its boundaries to pick up students.

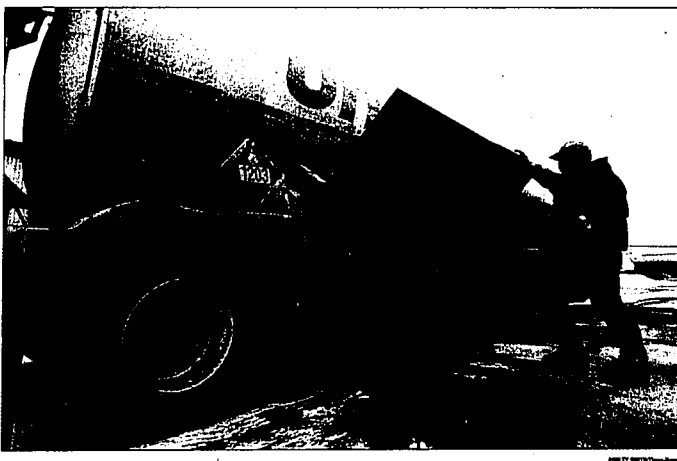
Duncan said his district would bus the students, but only if they went to Minidoka schools. He said the district does not want to create a precedent that might apply to other areas in the county, such as North Burley and areas near Dietrich.

The trustees voted to recommend denying the petition in part because the district would lose tax base on the four homes and more than a square-mile of agricultural land. Such a move could raise the tax levy for other property owners inside Minidoka County.

The homeowners say otherwise.

"The petition states that 'given the large size of District 331's (Minidoka) tax base, and its current and expected growth, we believe that District 331 will never miss the tax base derived from this small area.'"

WARMTH for the POOR



Justus Abramowski, a driver with United Oil of Twin Falls, demonstrates Monday how to pump heating oil from the truck that holds 4,200 gallons. A truck like this one could be used to haul unused heating oil to a home or business that needs it, once local agencies figure out how to pump the oil out of underground tanks.

Donating surplus heating oil harder than it sounds

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

It's a gift that would make any charity group ecstatic: about \$1,900 worth of heating oil.

The only catch seems to be getting it out of Jan Ketterling's fuel tank, buried near her Twin Falls home.

Ketterling, who said she doesn't need the fuel anymore, said she's been trying for more than a month to find someone who could use it. But everyone she's called, from social service agencies to oil companies, doesn't know how to recover the oil or doesn't have a way to do it.

That, South Central Community Action Partnership Executive Director Ken Robinette said, is because recovering heating oil can be trickier than it seems. Sediment and other impurities can build up in the bottom of a tank, especially older ones that have been buried for some time. Oil delivery companies and other groups, he said, worry that sucking up the sediment will damage their equipment.

"Nobody will jeopardize their equipment to get the oil out," Robinette said. "It's kind of like gold at the bottom of the river: How do you get it out?"

Gold, indeed: Monday, the

Want to help?

Get extra heating oil you would like to donate? Call these numbers:
• South Central Community Action, 733-9351, ask for Randy
• Leonard Petroleum Equipment Co., 733-8511
In addition, local asphalt companies and similar businesses may take unusable waste oil for their own use. To learn more, contact your oil provider.

"Nobody will jeopardize their equipment to get the oil out. It's kind of like gold at the bottom of the river:

How do you get it out?"

— South Central Community Action Partnership Executive Director Ken Robinette

oil was worth \$2.97 a gallon, according to United Oil. And Ketterling isn't the only one searching for an answer. Robinette said his agency has been offered oil a couple of times this year, but doesn't have any way to recover or store it.

Mary Humphries, a sales manager for United Oil — the company Ketterling said she got her oil through — said he'll try to help customers who, for whatever reason, want their tanks cleaned out. But it can be hard to get into a tank, he said, especially these days with pipes that make a 90-degree turn or more. The company doesn't like to risk

simpler, rubber-diaphragm pump still isn't easy. And it's not what his company usually uses the pump for. But it's helped move oil around in the past and would be more than willing to volunteer his time and services again — maybe pumping the oil into another company's delivery truck, then sending it to its new home.

"We have done it and we will do it," Leonard said. "It's a good cause."

Any help would be welcome news to Robinette, who said he knows just the place for the oil — the Eden Senior Center, recently weatherized by the agency.

The center previously used more than 200 gallons of oil a month, he said. Now that heat is more efficiently used in the building, a donation such as Ketterling's could provide several months of heat.

And Ketterling would like to see that happen. If there was an easy way to pump out leftover oil, she said, she thinks there would be plenty to go around.

"How many people in our valley have converted to gas?" she said. "The oil's got to be usable."

Nate Poppino can be reached at 735-3237 or npoppino@magicalvalley.com.

Surgeon leads project in Africa

By Kim Seely
For the Times-News

With 10 used hospital beds and thousands of dollars worth of orthopedic supplies, Cassia Regional Medical Center is aiding the efforts of Burley orthopedic surgeon Joe Petersen to continue helping hospitals in the African nation of Cape Verde.

"They are a very poor people who will never have the funds to purchase current medical supplies for their hospital and patients," said Petersen, who volunteers with the Ashby Foundation. "They are more than 20 years behind in their supplies and, at times, their training."

The Ashby Foundation is a U.S.-based group meeting some of the service needs for Cape Verde from medical to agriculture assistance.

"We were able to give \$40,000 worth of used (medical) beds and 10 beds that were being replaced by the hospital," said CHMC Chief Nursing Officer Sean Bennett.

This donation is just the beginning of what Bennett and others hope to provide. A collection of supplies is already waiting for the next trip over and more is being gathered.

"Most of the equipment and supplies coming from the hospital can no longer be used because of government regulations of multiple use."

Cape Verde doesn't have such restrictions and accepts the use of old equipment that can be put to use.

"If we have a chance to extend the life of used medical equipment that others can use we'll do it," Bennett said. "The people of Cape Verde is an active volcano and rock climbers enjoy the challenge of climbing the island's rocky landscape."

Petersen said injuries often result from falls while climbing. Those injuries require orthopedic repairs and the hospitals don't have certain treatment options. The equipment donation will allow doctors to treat patients and prevent long weeks in traction at the hospital.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints supports the Ashby Foundation's efforts and provides the shipping of select supplies.

Petersen, along with his wife, Linda, plans to return early in 2008 and provide surgical training with some of the equipment that was given to the hospitals.

"We plan to take orthopedic equipment, surgical beds and some supplies for their nursing program," Petersen said. "We are also trying to acquire an EKG machine."

Besides medical assistance, Linda Petersen has provided children's clothing samples to teach the school. Another group has donated sewing machines.

Hazel Irene Veeder

Hazel Irene Veeder, 96, of Twin Falls, passed away Thursday, Dec. 20, 2007, at her home.

Hazel was born Oct. 10, 1911, in Bunkie, Ark., to Arthur, Okla., and Andrew Jackson and Lillian Featherston Wilson. At the age of 2, she moved with her family to Idaho where they lived in Eden, Hazelton and Twin Falls. On Oct. 23, 1930, she married Ivan Riddle in Wenatchee, Wash. He preceded her in death in 1986. She spent her early married years as a housewife and later worked for 13 years as a nursing assistant in a nursing home in August of 1996. She married Dale Eugene Veeder in Piko, Nev. Hazel attended the Christian church in Twin Falls and later attended the Hansen Assembly of God Church. She was an excellent cook, loved to read and main-

Laren M. Rosa

1941 — Laren Melvin Rosa, a 67-year-old resident of Paul, was with Jesus on Saturday, Dec. 22, 2007, with his loving family by his side after a valiant battle with cancer.

Laren was born Nov. 7, 1940, in Rupert, the son of Melvin and Winona Wilcox Rosa. He received his education in Mininkola County, graduating from High School in 1959. He continued his education at Idaho State University for two years. He married Joyce Elaine Erickson on June 4, 1969, in Kimberly. They lived in Paul until moving to Baker, Ore., for 13 months to be a service manager for the Haight Motor Company. They then returned to Paul, where Laren worked as a service manager for Hazel Motors. He later farmed for 13 years north of Paul. Laren then moved into tunnel construction for three years in California and Arizona, after which he worked in long-haul trucking for 15 years, retiring in 2005.

Laren's many hobbies were snowmobiling and snowing, water and snowskiing, fishing, hunting, fishing, and hang-glider behind the boat. However, his true passion was sailing on the Snowflake. Laren has many talents and never knew a stranger. He was a people person and was a

tained an excellent home. Hazel is survived by her stepchildren, Geraldine (Glen) Bundy of New Ulm, Minn., John (Walter) Veeder of Fisher, Ill., Dennis Veeder of Portland, Ore., Marvin (Shawn Sultens) Veeder of Portland, Ore., and Virgil (Cemie) Veeder of Twin Falls; one brother, Jackson Lefloy Wilson of Surprise, Ariz.; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her two brothers and her first husband.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 27, at the Hansen Assembly of God Church with the Rev. J. Wesley Johnson officiating. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Park in Twin Falls. A viewing for family and friends will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 26, at White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park" in Twin Falls. The family suggests memorials be made to St. Luke's Home Health and Hospice, 700 Shoshone St. Twin Falls, ID 83401.



Donald Lyone Overlin

Donald Lyone Overlin, 80, of Twin Falls, died Sunday morning, Dec. 23, 2007, at his home in Twin Falls.

Don was born on Feb. 2, 1927 in Grenola, Kan., the son of Frank and Beatrice Wallace Overlin. He grew up in Kansas until the age of 6 when the family moved to Idaho settling in Hansen. Don attended schools in Hansen and Kimberly. At the age of 15, Don had the desire to work so he went to work at the beam warehouse for a few years. He entered into the U.S. Navy in 1944 where he served his country proudly until being honorably discharged in 1945. Following his military service he returned to Idaho. On Oct. 18, 1945, Don married Margery Spain in Piler, Idaho. He worked for Globe Seed and Feed for a few years before he started driving long-haul trucks.

He drove trucks for many years and thoroughly enjoyed being on the road. He continued to be a truck driver until ill health forced him to retire in 1975.

Following his retirement, Don enjoyed working in his yard, taking care of his flower garden. He could be found in his garage for hours at a time working on

motors and just tinkering around. He enjoyed the outdoors, fishing and hunting with family and friends. His love was his family and spending much time with them. Don was a member of the American Legion in Twin Falls.

Don is survived by his wife of 62 years, Margery Overlin of Twin Falls; his two sons, Carl Overlin of Twin Falls and Paul Overlin of Florida; his one brother, Lloyd (Wilma) Overlin of Twin Falls; as well as two sisters, Luccille (Bob) Petersen of Nampe and Betty (Richard) Bergstrom of Hollister.

He is also survived by his two grandsons, Dave (Erin) Overlin and Wesley Overlin both of Twin Falls; two granddaughters, Heather Stephens of Twin Falls and Amy Featherston of Fairfield; and nine great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, an infant daughter, Donna Overlin, and one brother, Harvey Overlin.

At Don's request there will be a family graveside service at Sunset Memorial Park. As a reminder please dress accordingly for the weather. Arrangements and services are under the direction of Reynolds Funeral Chapel, Twin Falls.

Steven Anthony Willis

Steven Anthony Willis, 50, of Hagerman passed away on Thursday, Dec. 21, 2007, in Twin Falls. Steve was born in Porterville, Calif., on July 8, 1957, to Chester and Marsha (Caveness) Willis. He grew up and attended school in Porterville, Calif. On March 29, 1978, he married Paula Wilson in Reno, Nev. Steve moved to the Magic Valley area in 1988.

Steve loved to hunt and fish, especially for sturgeon. He also loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. He was a good father, grandfather, and friend and will be deeply missed.

Steve is survived by his wife Paula Willis, one daughter, Louise, Wallace of Twin Falls, two sons, Richard Henry of Twin Falls and Steven Todd Willis of Twin Falls. Four brothers, Chester Willis of San Diego,

Calif., Troy Willis of Gault, Calif., John Willis of Paris, Ark., and Lonic Willis of Porterville, Calif.

He is also survived by three sisters, a nephew, and a niece. Steve is survived by three daughters, Rose Mildred Anderson of Gooding, funeral at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Gooding LDS Church, 1228 Main St.; visitation from 4 to 7 p.m. today at Demary's Gooding Chapel, 737 Main St. and 1 to 1:45 p.m. Thursday at the church.

David B. Gallegos of Heyburn, funeral Mass at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Ontario, Ore., with visitation from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the church; local visitation from 6 to 9 p.m. today at the Hansen-Payne Mortuary, 221 W. Main St. in Burley.

Jennie Marie Egbert of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. Friday at the Springdale LDS 1st and 2nd Ward Church, 559 E. 200 S., in Burley; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, and 10 to 10:45 a.m. Friday at the church.

Lawrence Eugene "Gene" Dudley of Jerome, funeral at



DEATH NOTICES

Melanie Judy

Melanie Darrington Judy, 46, of Maricopa, Ariz., passed away on Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2007, at the University Medical Center in Tucson, Ariz. The funeral is pending and will be announced by Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley.

H. Thomas Newman

H. Thomas Newman, 89, of Jerome, died Dec. 24, 2007, at his home. Funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced by Farnsworth Mortuary of Jerome.

Leonard Vern Owens

Leonard Vern Owens, 80, of

FOCUS ON PEOPLE

Local residents receive scholarship

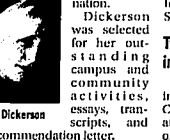
Joelene Tolane of Burley and Bing Parkinson of Paul have been awarded the Rural Extension Scholarship from Western Governors University.

Western Governors University (www.wgu.edu) is a fully-accredited, non-profit, online university that was created by Western states and offers a variety of degrees and certificates and provides access to education for adult-learners. WGU, which is competency based, offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in information technology, business, teacher education and healthcare.

Woman wins scholarship

The National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS) recently awarded Danya Kaye Dickerson, a sophomore at the University of Arizona, its annual Merit Award Scholarship.

Every year, NSCS awards 50 of these scholarships to new members throughout the



Dickerson was selected for her outstanding campus and community activities, essays, transcripts, and recommendation letter.

Membership in NSCS is offered to first and second year students who rank in the top 20th percentile of their class and have a minimum grade point average of 3.4.

Dickerson is pursuing a double major in economics and Spanish.

Ann Elva Seefried

Ann Elva Seefried, 67, of Twin Falls, passed away Thursday, Dec. 20, 2007, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

Ann was born Nov. 27, 1940, in Los Angeles, Calif., to Andrew and Clair (Dodge) Kerr. Ann loved horses and spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren. She was a great mother and friend and will be truly missed by all.

She is survived by three son, Ronald Aragon, Scott Aragon and Brent Aragon; and one daughter, Annie Tanner.

The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 28, at White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park," with Interment immediately following at Sunset Memorial Park in Twin Falls. Family inquiries can call (419) 953-6147.

Idaho and Psychiatric Services PA.

Twin Falls man inducted into Phi Theta Kappa

Nathan W. Corder was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa at College of Southern Idaho on Oct. 26.

Corder, from Twin Falls, is majoring in general agriculture.

Established in 1916 by two-year college presidents, Phi Theta Kappa is the oldest and most prestigious honor society serving two-year colleges around the world. The society serves to recognize and encourage the academic achievement of two-year college students and provide opportunities for individual growth and development through honors, leadership and service programming. Students must rank in the top 20 percent of the class to be invited to membership in Phi Theta Kappa and must maintain high academic standing during their enrollment in the two-year college.

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Local resident receives doctoral degree

PROVO, Utah — Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions in Provo, Utah announced that Barbara Robison of Twin Falls received her doctorate of science degree in nursing on Nov. 27.

She is currently employed with the College of Southern

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3266 Monday through Saturday. Deadlines are 3 p.m. for next day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@majvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.majvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

SERVICES

Edith Louise Woodall Stacey of Twin Falls, open house for family and friends from noon to 4 p.m. today at Edith's home, 7633 Adams Drive N. in Twin Falls. (Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls).

Wayne Ellis of Butte, funeral at 11 a.m. Thursday at Farmer Funeral Chapel in Butte; visitation from 1 to 5 p.m. today at the funeral chapel.

Wanda May Whipkey of Hagerman, service at 11 a.m. Thursday at the First Methodist - Church in Gooding; visitation from 4 to 7 p.m. today at Demary's Gooding Chapel.

David Arthur Craner of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Star LDS 1st Church on Fair Street in Burley, 200 W. in Burley; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, and 10 to 10:40 a.m. Thursday at the church.

James "Jim" Alfred Goller of Garden Valley and Boise and formerly of Twin Falls, memorial service at 2 p.m. Thursday at Summers Funeral Home, Boise Chapel, 1205 W. Banrock St. in Boise; visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Alice Jane Hoogland of Butte, funeral at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Twin Falls Reformed Church, 1631 Grandview Drive N.; visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. today at Farmer Funeral Chapel, 130 Ninth Ave. N. in Butte.

Ross Mildred Anderson of Gooding, funeral at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Gooding LDS Church, 1228 Main St.; visitation from 4 to 7 p.m. today at Demary's Gooding Chapel, 737 Main St. and 1 to 1:45 p.m. Thursday at the church.

David B. Gallegos of Heyburn, funeral Mass at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Ontario, Ore., with visitation from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the church; local visitation from 6 to 9 p.m. today at the Hansen-Payne Mortuary, 221 W. Main St. in Burley.

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ITEMS DONATED



During this holiday season South Central Public Health District served as the distribution point for food, toys, clothing, and personal care items donated to the Southern Idaho Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual-Transsexual Community Center. The items were distributed by SCPHD to local patients with HIV or AIDS. Shown here are Mitch Silvester, Mickey Speirs, and Brandi Jones delivering Christmas stockings and cases of food to the SCPHD offices. Accepting the donations is Tom Machala, Director of Communicable Disease and Prevention for SCPHD. All of the food and supplies generated by LGBT were donated or purchased from local grocery stores, food outlets, and food processors. Because of patient confidentiality by the community center uses SCPHD for distribution of these Christmas hand-outs. The donations help low-income HIV and AIDS patients enjoy a merrier holiday season. This is the second year for this holiday helping and caring program.

SERVICE PROJECT



Nicole Petersen, guide, and Ashley Alexander, chaplain, of Bethel No. 56 of the International Order of Job's Daughters in Twin Falls, completed their service project for the fall term by presenting Leticia Hernandez and Susan Hoag, specialists with the CARES Program with items collected from local dentists. CARES provides children who are displaced from their homes personal items and backpacks for school. Local dentists donating items for this cause were: Dr. Daille Young, Dr. Kyle Poppletter, Dr. Kevin Hall of Sartooths Dental Group, Dr. Chad Dodds, Dr. Shane Schwanefeldt of North College Dental Group, Dr. Mark Alexander, and Dr. Richard Alexander.

Early UI retirees file claim over changes to insurance

MOSCOW (AP) — Nearly 270 former University of Idaho employees have filed a claim against the school, saying unilateral changes in their insurance benefits violate early retirement agreements they signed in 1989 and 2002. "It's a deal," Alan Pines, a retired mechanical engineering professor and one of the 268 former employees who filed the claim against the university and the state board of education, told the Lewiston Tribune. "The university administration is renegeing on that deal," he said. If the claim is unresolved within 90 days, the former employees may file it as a lawsuit.

"The notice is being analyzed by university counsel and by the state's Office of Risk Management," the school said in a statement. The university, which in recent years has suffered from financial instability, budget overruns and debt, offered early retirement packages in 1989 and 2002 to entice older employees to leave. Those filing the claim say the packages included offers to pay for medical and life insurance premiums. This year, however, the retirees say, school officials demanded that each retiree pay \$240 a year for medical insurance, for a total of \$64,000 a year.

Teens safe after car becomes stuck

BOISE (AP) — Up to 19 deputies and search-and-rescue team members were dispatched over the weekend to find a pair of teens who say they went up into the Boise foothills late Saturday to see the valley's Christmas lights, then became stuck in the snow. Lauren Sellheimer and Landon Myers, both 18, say they spent two nights in a

cold SUV without food or water before striking out on their own and finding State Highway 55. They secured a jump start for their vehicle and were home about 10:30 a.m. Monday. Ada County sheriff's officials sent as many as nine deputies and another 30 volunteer rescuers to find the pair on Sunday night, without success.

Resorts rejoice over great ski conditions

By Robert Waller Associated Press writer

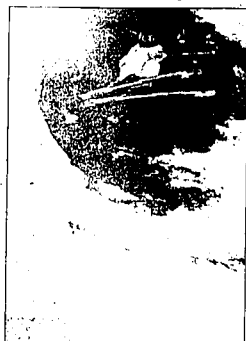
DENVER — Santa brought just what the nation's ski resorts wanted — the best nationwide snow conditions in several years.

From New England to California, the snow dumped in the days and weeks before Christmas, even Taos, N.M. in the desert southwest, had a 60-inch base.

"This is our best opening since 1977," said Adriano Blake, marketing director for Taos. The resort couldn't open for Thanksgiving, but later got 68 inches in a week. "This is crazy. It never snows like this."

In November, with a few exceptions, some of the most popular resorts in the Rockies and California delayed their openings because of a lack of snow. Most only offered limited terrain because of an unusually balmy and dry fall that produced disastrous wildfires.

Then the jet stream moved south and the snow began to fall, and fall, and fall. Wolf Creek, Colo., which usually has the deepest base in the state, has suffered for the last two years. It debuted late last month with less than 10 inches. A week before Christmas it had 115 inches. "It is spectacular. For the first time in recent time in recent history the industry is



Skier Alex Schlopy enjoys the slopes recently near Aspen, Colo. Many ski resorts are having good early-season snow levels which have brought out skiers by the carload.

up and operating across the country. We looking for record Christmas attendance," said Michael Berry, president of the National Ski Areas Association.

Saugushtish is close to being 100 percent booked for Christmas, a record for the Vermont resort. It expects to have 100 percent terrain open for Christmas, said J.J. Toland, communications director. Also in Vermont, Mad River Glen, which relies mostly on natural snow, reported 100 percent open. New England struggled last year. The Vermont Ski Areas Association said 59 percent of Vermont's 1,242 trails were

open as of Dec. 16, compared with 14 percent at the same time last year.

"The snow has been good from the start at Whistler-Blackcomb, British Columbia, the busiest resort in North America. "This season we have had cumulative snowfall of over 11 feet and we are forecast to have close to three feet

more fall by Christmas," said Michelle Letour, spokeswoman for Whistler. "All of us are thankful that the snow will be here for Christmas." The ski industry notes that if one region suffers the skies take note of that and tend to generalize that there is no snow," said Connie Marshall, spokeswoman for Alta. Healy's early powder pulchre. "Magnificently 14-inch base had grown to 15. Squaw Valley near Lake Tahoe, went from 5 inches to 30.

"It looks like this could be a pretty good winter for Christmas. It's just one storm after another," said Kyle Mozley, a Reno, Nev., National Weather Service meteorologist. Underneath that snow at Vail, Colo., the nation's busiest resort, is \$1 billion in improvements in lodging, retail facilities and other amenities like ice skating. "All the streets feel like plazas. East Meadow Drive is so much more inviting — and with the new restaurants and shops, it feels like our own little town," said Beth Silver, chairwoman of Vail's Local Marketing District Advisory Council.

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Interstate Amusement Movies December 25 to January 2, 2008 Only. Twin Cinema 12, Bee Movie, I Am Legend, Water Horse: Legend of the Deep, New Disney Encanto, Golden Compass, Alvin and the Chipmunks, No Country for Old Men, National Treasure Book of Secrets, August Rush, P.S. I Love You, Howlitt, Awake, Walk Hard, The Last Man on Earth is Not Alone, Legend, P.S. I Love You, Alvin and the Chipmunks, Into the Wild, National Treasure Book of Secrets.

Towing Contract Renewal. The Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office will renew all towing contracts on Thursday, December 27, at 1:30 pm, in the basement classroom of the Court House, at 425 Shoshone Street North. We invite all tow companies presently on our list, and any others that may be interested to please attend.

2007 Furniture Giveaway. Look Shop Select. Enter to WIN at the participating furniture stores! 1000 in FREE Furniture. SSS 2111 Lee's Furniture

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Notice is hereby given that the Annual Open Public Meeting of People for Pets-Magic Valley Humane Society, Inc.

Kathleen Olmshead Magic Valley Humane Society, Inc. Vice President/Secretary

PUBLISH Wednesday December 26, 2007 and January 2, 2008

PUBLIC NOTICE Actions planned and taken by your government are confidential in public notices.

LEGAL ADVERTISING The Times-News

FOUNDED Kitten, gray, green eyes, well fed, 4 weeks old.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE T.S. No. 07-5-0628 Tolo Order No. W791379

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE T.S. No. 07-5-0628 Tolo Order No. W791379

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE T.S. No. 07-5-0628 Tolo Order No. W791379

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ANNOUNCEMENTS 50 Legal 101 Lost & Found 102 Cats & Dogs 103 Personals

FOUND Blonde dog in Bush, Fairview, December 22nd Call 208-841-7300

Legal Real Estate listings

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE T.S. No. 07-5-0628 Tolo Order No. W791379

101 Lost and Found FOUND Kitten, gray, green eyes, well fed, 4 weeks old.

113 Child Care Services NANNAN'S HOUSE DAYCARE Day and evening shifts.

115 Community Events CLASSICAL DRAWING CO. Open House 2008

EMPLOYMENT 200 Employment 201 Accounting 202 Financial

PERSONALS 204 Construction 205 Customer Service 206 Birth 207 Education 208 Farm 209 General 210 Management 211 Medical 212 Miscellaneous 213 Professional 214 Real Estate 215 Sales 216 Trades 217 Newspaper Carriers

PERSONALS 218 Miscellaneous 219 Professional 220 Real Estate 221 Sales 222 Trades 223 Newspaper Carriers

PERSONALS 224 Miscellaneous 225 Professional 226 Real Estate 227 Sales 228 Trades 229 Newspaper Carriers

PERSONALS 230 Miscellaneous 231 Professional 232 Real Estate 233 Sales 234 Trades 235 Newspaper Carriers

PERSONALS 236 Miscellaneous 237 Professional 238 Real Estate 239 Sales 240 Trades 241 Newspaper Carriers

247 Classified Ad Placement magicvalley.com

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DRIVERS Drivers needed for dry van doubles, Class A CDL with doubles endorsements.

DRIVERS Now hiring for a Full-time Solid Waste Collector.

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2007 HONDA VERA CRUZ 414 MSRP \$21,160

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2007 HONDA ACCENT MSRP \$13,303

2007 HONDA ACCENT MSRP \$13,303

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216 Trades 216 Trades 216 Trades



The City of Twin Falls is accepting applications for an ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR and a PLUMBING INSPECTOR. Both positions are part-time 20 hrs a week with benefits; hourly range is \$18.95-\$29.04 DOE. Positions combine office & field activities to conduct inspections of residential and commercial construction projects.

Requirements for both positions: H.S. Diploma or G.E.D.; and Certification of competency from the State of Idaho; and 5-years of experience as a journeyman (electrician or plumber); and IAEI certification as an Inspector (electrician or plumber); or the ability to certify within one year of employment.

You may obtain a City employment application at www.tffid.org. For additional information contact the Human Resource Office located in City Hall, 321 2nd Avenue East, Twin Falls, or phone (208) 735-7256. Apply Immediately. The City of Twin Falls is an Equal Opportunity Employer, Drug Free Work Place

Newspaper Bundle Hauler needed for Twin Falls area filling newspaper stands and delivering to stores. Make Approx. \$490 every two weeks! Call Amy today: 735-3252 Times-News magivalley.com

Georden: 'I do the routes so I can earn money for my video games.' Gary: 'I do the routes so I can take my family on vacation.' Newspaper routes are now available. Call today for more details. Georden & Gary, Dad & Son Team, Twin Falls Centers

- TWIN FALLS: 4th Ave. E., Bitterbrush, Meadowview, Trotter, Concordia, Mountain View, Rancho Vista, Sunrise, 9th Ave. E., Morningside, Shery Dr., Shery Ln., Addison Ave. E., Hillcrest, Larkspur, Sunrise, Carls Cr., Flarer Ave. E., Oakwood, Rusty Carriage Way, Cedar Park, Longbow, Whispering Pine, Boxwood, White Pine, Wildrose, Woodland, 11th Ave. E., Juniper, Kimes, Maple, Alluras, Heyburn Ave. E., Shoup Ave. E., Sigrid, 2nd Ave. E., Alta Dr., Harmon Park, Lenore, Alpine, Bluebell, Clover Ave. Park, Dorah, Harrison, Polk, Tyler, Taylor, Filmore, Evergreen, Holly, Julie, Juniper St. N., Blirnerow, Elm, Torghsee, Towneray Cir., Falls Ave. E., Capri Cr., Eastland Park Dr.

Earn some extra Cash for the Holidays! Call now for more information about routes in your area.

- Twin Falls... 735-3346, Burley, Rupert, Paul... 678-2201, Kimberly, Jerome, Buhl... 735-3347, Gooding, Shoshone, Hailley... 735-3302

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QUIET COUNTRY! 875 South 2400 East, Hazelton 5 Bedroom, 3 Bath, 2628 square feet, Large family room & rec room, 13.30 acres, water share. Priced at \$235,000

Family Delight! 1530 Kimberly Meadows, Kimberly 4 Bedroom, 3 Bath, 1627 square feet, Built 2006, Large 3 car garage, Vaulted ceiling in living room. Priced at: \$218,500

Robert Jones Realty 709 Lincoln Ave, Jerome, ID 83338. Call Us Today 1766 Addison Ave. E. Twin Falls, ID 83301 733-0404 Office • 308-3030 Cell. Email: rjreality@rjreality.com www.rjreality.com

Lakefront Home! 4496 Silver Creek Road, Buhl 4 Bedroom, 4.5 Bath, 3,332 square feet, Custom built in 2006, Call Mark E. Jones 308-3030. Priced at: \$750,000

Serene Scene! 3586 Rock Garden Lane, Kimberly 4 Bedroom, 4.5 Bath, 4,400 square feet, Guest Home, Call Mark E. Jones 308-3030. Priced at: \$1,950,000

GENERAL: Data Processing, Free classes now forming in data entry instruction with focus on income tax preparation. Day and evening classes available. Call 866-971-1040. We're here to help! Call 733 6931 to place your ad in Classifieds today.

Medical BridgeView NOW HIRING: Life Care Centers of America, the nation's largest, privately owned skilled care provider, has a full-time opportunity for the following: CNA Full-time Day, Evening or Night Shifts Breakfast Cook Full-time

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GENERAL: Get paid to Wave! Outgoing & energetic! Must Cash in person. Call toll free 1-866-311-1040.

GENERAL: Tax Preparer No experience nec. Call 866-971-1040. RESTAURANT: Now accepting applications for Waiters/ Servers Mandarin House 735 Blue Lakes Blvd Twin Falls

210 Management: Marketing Manager Aggressive & energetic Marketing Manager needed to build brand. Call 208-736-4562 or 208-32-0992.

211 Medical: All advertising is subject to the newspaper's standard of acceptance. The Times-News reserves the right to edit, abbreviate, decline or properly classify any ad. Receipt of copy will constitute entry (fax, e-mail, etc.) does not constitute an offer of employment by this newspaper. The advertiser, not the newspaper, assumes full responsibility for the truthful content of their advertiser message.

HEALTHCARE RESIDENT AIDES: No experience necessary, all training will be provided. Assisted Living Retirement Community in Twin Falls is currently looking for Resident Aides to assist the elderly in a Retirement Home setting. Day, evening and graveyard shifts avail. \$8.00-\$9.00 DOE. Full Medical Benefits available. Apply in person at 754 N. College Rd., Suite B, Twin Falls, or call 736-5006 for more information.

FAX YOUR CLASSIFIED AD: TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT 208-734-5538

Give yourself a new job for Christmas! Join Sunbridge and make all your days merry and bright! RNs or LPNs Full-time & Part-time, Afternoons/NOC CNAs Full-time & Part-time, All Shifts. We offer competitive pay, and full-time includes an excellent package. Offering certification classes for those to become CNAs. Apply in person or contact Pat McKay at Sunbridge Care & Rehab, 640 First Avenue West, Twin Falls, Phone: 208-734-8645.

Medical St. Benedicts Family Medical Center. 4 Clinic - Halley (PT), CNA Nurse/LPN (FT), Clinic Nurse/LPN - Halley (PT), CNA/NRA - LTCU (FT, PRN), Dietary Aide (PT), Employee Health Nurse (PT), Housekeeper (FT), LPN - Long Term Care (PT), RN - Home Health (FT), RN - Long Term Care (PT), RN - Med Surg JOB (PRN, FT, PT), RN - Operating Room (PRN). For a complete listing of our jobs and application procedures please visit www.tbhoshospital.com. 709 Lincoln Ave, Jerome, ID 83338 EOE

su do ku Puzzles by Pappocom. Grid with numbers 1-9 in various positions.

EASY Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. That's all there is to it. There's no math involved. The grid has numbers, but nothing has to add up to anything else. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic. Find the answers for todays puzzle on page E-9.

211 Medical: CSI Make the difference of a Mom. Become a Nursing Instructor. Part-time RN openings, master's degree, current Idaho license. Apply to www.csi.edu/obs. ANEEO

211 Medical: MEDICAL MA or LPN needed for busy office. Travel necessary. Mail resume to: P.O. Box 447 Gooding, ID. 83330 or call 208-934-5700

215 Sales: Wholesale/Manufacture an authorized dealer of Youzon Waterless Washers. As a Youzon Sales Associate for our Twin Falls store. Compensation is base plus commission. Benefits available. Call 208-736-9701 or e-mail me to jobs@weirless.com

213 Professional: PROFESSIONAL Fit Alcohol/Drug Counselor for inpatient program in Gooding, Idaho. Current CDC license or C/P Mental Health experience preferred. Send resume to: Alan Carmichael, Walker Center 505 11th Ave E. Gooding, Idaho 83330 or email Carmichael@walkercenter.org

215 Trades: MECHANIC: Express Inc. Harley & Team. Full-time. Mechanics needed to do lap & short services, and more. Must own newer model truck & trailer. Entry level position. Call team some tools needed. wage depends on experience. Benefits include medical, dental vision, 401k & vacation. Twin Falls phone call Alan at 733-6657 or 731-2455. Burley call 678-4625 ext 111

213 Professional: PROFESSIONAL PSR Specialist, BA degree. Start \$16-\$18 hr. Call 208-878-3359

MECHANIC: Arnold Machinery Company is looking for a full-time Forklift Mechanic. 2-5 yrs exp req. Waiver D O E. Please contact Travis Taylor at (200)731-PT16 or view description at www.amshifting.com

SOCIAL WORKER: Licensed Social Worker 20-40 hrs/week, working with children 9-18 years old. Benefits available. Fax resume to 208-738-0959 or call 208-736-0995.

MECHANIC: Mechanic wanted. Trucks and Parts Equipment. Smith Equipment Co. 208-454-4400

MECHANIC: \$1,000 SIGNING BONUS! PSI Environmental, a leading Solid Waste Management Company is seeking a qualified Diesel Mechanic. \$18-21 per hour Certified Class A, B, & C. Mechanics. Experienced with welding & hydraulics is a plus but not required. Qualified individuals must have their own tools, be self motivated and work well with other people. PSI Environmental offers a competitive wage and benefit package including health, dental, vision, prescription, LTD and life insurance. Additionally, the company offers a 401k plan to eligible employees. If you are interested in working with a progressive, growing company, contact Ed @ 208-731-4676

PSI Environmental logo and text: \$1,000 SIGNING BONUS! PSI Environmental, a leading Solid Waste Management Company is seeking a qualified Diesel Mechanic. \$18-21 per hour Certified Class A, B, & C. Mechanics. Experienced with welding & hydraulics is a plus but not required. Qualified individuals must have their own tools, be self motivated and work well with other people. PSI Environmental offers a competitive wage and benefit package including health, dental, vision, prescription, LTD and life insurance. Additionally, the company offers a 401k plan to eligible employees. If you are interested in working with a progressive, growing company, contact Ed @ 208-731-4676

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LEWJE

LUFOR

MAIROH

FLOWEL

Answer here: " [] [] [] [] THE [] [] [] [] "

www.jumble.com

Yesterday's Jumbles: VYING TONIC FATHOM BROKER
Answer: What happened when the old-linier couldn't start his car — HE GOT "CRANKY"



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: " [] [] [] [] THE [] [] [] [] "

(Answers tomorrow)

300 LINCOLN LOGS, 875 FUR COAT Beautiful, beige length. Size 14, fits size 12-16. \$150/offer. Call 208-734-7867.

814 Lawn Garden
LAWNMOWER, '06 Duan Farm Mfg, commercial, 20 HP Kohler, 44 inch blower and bagger, 275 hrs., \$3,600/offer. Call 208-324-1082

815 Exercise Equipment
GREAT DEAL! Wonder Pro Weight Lifting system, has everything you need; squat rack, workout bench, dumbbells, barbells & free weights, only \$200. Call 423-5208

816 Miscellaneous For Sale
POOL TABLE Connolly 7, 1 1/2" slate w/tilts of accessories. \$1,750 includes delivery. 208-318-0334

817 Musical Instruments
KAWAI 1992 upright piano, ebony, high gloss finish, like new condition \$4000 Call Jacque at 529-2078-4259 or 208-431-8659

818 ATVs
POLARIS '98 400 Scrambler Sport, new tires, very nice, \$1,100/offer. 736-1039

819 Motorcycles
YAMAHA '06 Kodiak 450 never used, 4 miles on it, wench, fenders, hand guards, Kopyn handle box. \$5600. AI 732-6197

820 Boats And Accessories
KAWASAKI CX 85 FIMF SA, Ski, slide hand guards. Call 423-8263 or 420-0495.

821 Campers And Shells
ALUMICRAFT '06 12 ft. jon boat with new electric trolling motor. \$450. 208-735-5030

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WANTED Dog, small, puppy between 4 weeks and 6 weeks, neutered and house trained. Call Richard at 208-543-5979

823 Wanted To Buy
WANTED Nice set of used Arthur Maxwell bible stories. Also Lincoln Arthur Bodomo stories. Call 208-543-2020 or 208-539-2678

824 Wanted To Buy
WANTED Scrap buying for cash: scrap cars and machinery. Will pick up. Call 208-318-0224

825 Wanted To Buy
WANTED Older snowmobiles running or not. Call 312-3913 or 436-3931

826 Wanted To Buy
WANTED Tractors running: repair/airing/misc. equipment. Call Bob Brown 208-312-3746, even

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WANTED wood glass front gun cabinet. Call 208-423-6690

828 Wanted To Buy
WANTED Arctic Cat '90 Thunder Cat, new motor, new everything, excellent condition, make offer. ARCTIC CAT '99 700 Powder Sport! excellent condition, make offer. Call 208-738-0087 or 208-420-0283

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TWIN FALLS Fit-Sol, 9-12, boys under SS. Starwars, 100g, zip zipper. 100g. Red/Wheat. Call 733-0077 direct or 734-3129 even

833 Wanted To Buy
SKI DOO '94 470 Summit, new tires, great condition, \$1075. Two place tri trailer, \$875. \$1,075 for package. Jim 733-0077 direct or 734-3129 even

834 Wanted To Buy
SKI DOO '98 583 Summit, new track & belt. Extra nice, great condition. Call 320-2189.

835 Wanted To Buy
SKI-DOO '06 800 Summit, 14" track, 917 new tires. like new \$6500. 208-788-4099

836 Wanted To Buy
HOLIDAY '02 Rambler 28' 5th wheel, great condition, 31' 2" slide, outside shower, tripod and all the extras. 208-371-8383

837 Wanted To Buy
ROAD RANGER '98 211, complete, with bath & kitchen. \$500. Call 208-733-2848 or 731-1720

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THOR '06 Vortex, 29" top haul, like new, gas station, outside shower, lots of extras. Just reduced. \$28,995. Call 208-423-5904

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2003 FORD F-150 Crew cab, 2WD, Lariat, leather, PW, PL, PM, PD. Assured price \$12,593. Stock #28242

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Dodge (4) 16", 5 hole \$200/offer. 733-4981 or 420-2195.

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Studied, 16 inch rims, asking \$300. Call 208-825-4277

1004 WHEELS
American Racing Torque (D11 polished aluminum wheels), (2) 15x6. P245/60/15. 931 1447 w/m. P205/70/15, \$1,000/offer for set 4. Call 208-308-2889

1005 Antiques and Collectibles
CHEVY '79 El Camino no rust or body damage, excellent upholstery, project car. 2006 SS Chevy Malibu, nice and new. \$3,500. AI 732-6197.

1006 Wanted
Wanted 1951 - 1982 Weyss Soda Station Wagon for parts or to rebuild. 208-731-0392

1007 Wanted Vehicles
Set your vehicle for immediate CASH TODAY! Buying all years, makes and models 1-800-574-1246.

1008 100's And Heavy Equipment
KNAPHEIDE grain bed, 29 ft., with 2005 harsh hold, and complete wet kit, including pump and motor. PTO. \$6,000/offer. Call 208-731-6684

1009 PETERBILT '99 379, 63' stand up sleeper, N14 Cummins engine, 10 spd. \$24,500/offer Call 208-406-3876

1010 TRAILERS '08 Walton Pine High, lift deck, 28', rubber deck, 15K axles, 102" wide, hydrolic lift. \$20,000/offer. '06 Walton gooseneck lift deck, heavy rubber deck, lift bed, 28', \$15,000/offer. Both now. See pics on mmrators.net Call 435-827-5745.

1011 CONNECT WITH CUSTOMERS WHO NEED YOUR SERVICE
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1012 2003 FORD F-150 Crew cab, 2WD, Lariat, leather, PW, PL, PM, PD. Assured price \$12,593. Stock #28242

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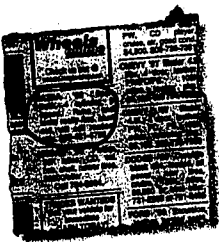
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<p>1006 Trucks</p> <p>ALL TRUCKS WANTED! Sell your vehicle for immediate CASH TODAY! Buy all years, makes and models 1-800-574-1248</p>  <p>CHEVY '02 Avanti, 4x4, sunroof, custom wheels, 40,000 miles, 314.900 2011 So. Lincoln Jerome, ID.</p> <p>SmalleyMotors</p>	<p>1006 Trucks</p> <p>CHEVROLET '02 S10 Pickup, 112 Ton, V6, Crew Cab, LS147D, 59,000 miles \$12,500 Call 208-224-2037 or cell 208-733-1499</p> <p>CHEVY '02 Scottsdale, power steering and brakes, lift, AT, clean vehicle \$2000 Call 208-733-5408</p>  <p>DODGE '01 Short box, diesel, 80K miles, exc cond., too many extras to mention \$50,000 Call 308-2176</p>	<p>1006 Trucks</p>  <p>FORD '00 F-250 Crew Cab, powerstroke, 5 speed 4x4, \$20,500 324-0069</p> <p>2811 So. Lincoln Jerome, ID.</p> <p>SmalleyMotors</p>	<p>1006 Trucks</p> <p>FORD '96 F150, V8, standard cab, bed liner, new radio, hay rack, exc cond. 109K \$4,900 208-837-4686</p>  <p>FORD '96 F150 reg cab, exc condition 4x4, 5 spd, 79K miles, \$9,950</p> <p>Assist AUTO BROKERAGE 275 S Idaho St. Wendell 208-536-1900</p>	<p>1007 Truck Parts And Accessories</p> <p>TIRES 4 wheels & tires 18x9 American wheels, racing wheel locktie Pio Comp Y, terrain, 325/60R18, 540/0t/offr, 208-731-7120 or 208-629-5184 evas.</p> <p>1008 SUVs</p> <p>ALL SUV'S WANTED! Sell your vehicle for immediate CASH TODAY! Buying all years, makes and models 1-800-574-1248</p>  <p>GMC '04 Denali LX, SLT, 4x4, leather, On Star, rear DVD, Very nice \$26,980 #772204</p> <p>WILKS TOYOTA 208-733-2891 318 Shoshone St W, Twin Falls</p> <p>Abbreviations can lead to confusion. Make sure readers will understand your ad completely. Spell it out. Classifieds 733 0931</p>	<p>1008 SUVs</p>  <p>CHEVY '02 Tahoe, leather, loaded, 79K miles, 1 owner, equipped to low, \$16,500/offr. 208-825-5671.</p> <p>SmalleyMotors</p>	<p>1008 SUVs</p>  <p>GMC '04 Yukon, 48K miles, 4x4, leather, DVD, loaded \$23,500</p> <p>Assist AUTO BROKERAGE 275 S Idaho St. Wendell 208-536-1900</p>	<p>1008 SUVs</p>  <p>FORD '02 Bronco, 96,995</p>  <p>JEEP '02 Grand Cherokee, leather, 4x4, quadra-trac, \$12,500 324-0069 2811 So. Lincoln Jerome, ID.</p> <p>SmalleyMotors</p>	<p>1008 SUVs</p>  <p>HYUNDAI '05 Tucson 4x4, auto CD, cruise, V6, Assured price \$14,990 Stock #2918D</p>  <p>SLTHIA Used - Rep - Dealer Call 208-733-6776</p>	<p>1008 SUVs</p> <p>JEEP '03 Grand Cherokee, Laredo, 65,000 miles, \$12,000 Call Kinetic at 731-8028</p> <p>Looking for SUV's</p> <p>Wheels magkvalley.com</p> <p>Check us out @ wheelsmagkvalley.com</p> <p><small>Honda, can't, sub boat speedboat. Find the one of your dreams in the classifieds. 733 0931</small></p>
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CHEVY '02 Scottsdale, power steering and brakes, lift, AT, clean vehicle \$2000
Call 208-733-5408

DODGE '01 Short box, diesel, 80K miles, exc cond., too many extras to mention \$50,000
Call 308-2176

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FORD '99 F-250 Lariat SD, diesel, 84K miles, leather, very clean, \$17,900.

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DODGE '06 F150, ext cab, short box, 5-4L, F150 V8, auto, 68K like new, \$24,792 Stock #4451

GMC '04 Sierra, 4x4, power windows and locks, \$5,900. 324-0069
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FORD '06 F350 Lariat, Crew Cab, diesel, chrome package, sunroof, 43,000 miles, must go \$34,000/offr. Call 208-312-5883

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DODGE '04 Ram, 1 ton dually, mega cab, diesel, 4x4, heavy duty, 6 spd, 37K miles, \$26,980 Stock #271268A

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