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Times-News

TUESDAY
 July 1, 2008
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Accused killer McElhiney pleads guilty

Prosecutors asking for 22 years to life

By Andrea Jackson
 Staff writer

One of two men accused of killing Dale Miller last year pleaded guilty to first-degree murder on Monday during a surprise hearing in 5th Judicial District Court.

John McElhiney, 32, was indicted Jan. 23 on a charge of first-degree murder by a grand jury. He allegedly killed Dale Miller, 18, whose body was retrieved by authorities from inside of a barrel on Sept. 12, 2007, in a garage at 322 Morningside Drive in Twin Falls.

Prosecutors want McElhiney to be sentenced to life in prison with 22 years fixed, before he could potentially be eligible for parole, said Twin Falls County Prosecutor Grant Loebbs. Judge Richard Devan confirmed Monday night he accepted McElhiney's guilty plea. McElhiney is set to be sentenced by a judge Sept. 15, said Loebbs. Monday's previously unscheduled hearing occurred after

4 p.m. Loebbs said judges often accommodate defendants in large cases, Loebbs said. "So nothing strange happens... So they don't change their mind." Prosecutors allege Miller was killed by McElhiney and another man charged with first-degree murder, Cameron Watts, during a kidnapping for money and/or property. Please see MCELHINEY, Page A3

Sheriff: Some Gooding jail staff suspended

Re-captured inmate Holmes charged with theft

By Andrea Jackson
 Staff writer

An undisclosed number of staff has been suspended at the Gooding County Jail in connection to a third escape by one inmate who left through unlocked doors. The doors were supposed to be locked during each of three escapes by Scott Howard Holmes, 39.

"We have people on suspension," said Sheriff Shaun Cough Monday, declining to elaborate. Holmes most recently found freedom on June 23 by getting out of his locked cell and then exiting the jail through unlocked doors, authorities have said. Twin Falls County deputies arrested him Saturday in the South Hills where he was camping about one mile south of Schipper Campground in Twin Falls County. Please see JAIL, Page A3

SUDDEN STRIKE



Sharleena Jordan surveys her herd of goats Monday evening after high winds hit her ranch near Gooding and damaged property. Stephen Parker, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Boise, said the storm was likely an outflow from thunderstorms that had hit other areas of Owyhee and Twin Falls counties.

'Tornado-like' storm hammers Gooding ranch

By David Cooper
 Staff writer

Having lived in the Midwest, Gooding rancher Sharleena Jordan expected Idaho's high desert would be the last place to see tornado-like conditions. By Monday evening that thought flew away — with three of her huts. Jordan described a sudden burst of high winds and dark clouds that enveloped her goat ranch just miles east of Gooding, leaving a disheveled farm in their wake. Although she saw no actual funnel cloud or twister, she said the storm had a tornado-like feel to it.

Magicvalley.com
 See an interview with rancher Sharleena Jordan on Monday's sto m.

"I lived in Kansas," Jordan said. "The way it was coming to my window, I know what they look like. When you see a big tree limb flying past the window, it's not just a little funnel cloud." Jordan looked out her home's north-side window around 5:15 p.m. What started with high gusts transformed the scene with dark, dusty clouds blanketing her property. "I couldn't see five, 10 feet out



Three of Sharleena Jordan's Quonset huts were destroyed during the high winds.

the window," she said. "I spun around, there was just a breeze flying everywhere." After watching for one minute, Jordan fled to the basement. Within 30 seconds, the house was completely dark before the storm ended. She said the entire

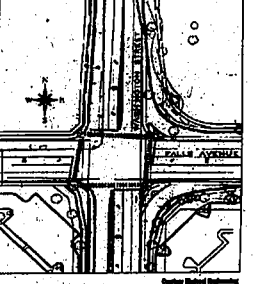
storm lasted less than two minutes. But the ranch, where she lives alone while her husband manages a cattle ranch in California, was hit by its wrath. Please see STORM, Page A3

Hearing today for Washington Street project

By Jared S. Hopkins
 Staff writer

The city of Twin Falls is holding a public hearing on the Washington Street North Project from 5 to 7 p.m. today at Room 232 of the College of Southern Idaho Student Union Building. The open-forum meeting is intended to discuss the scheduled widening between Wishing Avenue and Pole Line Road. The project is being led by Riedesel Engineering.

Please see HEARING, Page A3



The Washington Street North Project calls for a widening of the street in the block between Wishing Avenue and Pole Line Road. Storm is a depiction of the intersection of Washington and Pole Line.

John Busch, 21, a tow truck driver from Black York's Trucking, helped save a Twin Falls couple from their burning SUV Saturday. Within just a few minutes, the truck was engulfed in flames.



Quick actions of passersby save couple's lives

Some say fiery crash on Highway 75 was inevitable

By Cassidy Friedman
 Staff writer

KETCHUM — Eagle Creek Meadows residents and a 21-year-old tow truck

driver on Saturday afternoon pulled a Twin Falls couple from a 2000 GMC Yukon towing a 2007 Mobile RV, saving them just three minutes before they would have been burned alive. But the local residents who saved two lives didn't celebrate long that day. They say the strip of Highway 75 bordering their loop — 5 miles north of Ketchum — has too long been an unacknow-

ledged death trap where a crash like this was inevitable. At about 3:30 p.m., Jess Ward, 53, driving north in a Yukon with his wife, Kim Ward, 53, attempted to pass a slower moving Subaru, according to Capt. Tom Ancona of the Ketchum Fire Department. When the Subaru began

Please see CRASH, Page A4

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT
The Phantom of the Opera, presented by MR. Harrison Heritage Foundation, 8 p.m., Wilson Theatre, Rupert. \$7 for adults and \$3 for children, 878-6868.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS
Magic Valley Toastmasters meeting and no-fool lunch, with a focus on teaching and encouraging members in communication and leadership skills, noon, Golden Corral, 1823 Lakes Blvd., Twin Falls, new members welcome, 316-8534.
Marsy Time Club meeting, 2 p.m., home of Bette Corgh, Twin Falls, 735-5213.

FESTIVALS AND CELEBRATIONS
Rupert 4th of July Celebration with "Sounds of Freedom," 6 p.m., Rupert Square, 436-9429.

GOVERNMENT
Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St., 736-4068.
Blaine County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 206 First Ave. S., Hailley, 789-5500.
Jerome County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 300 N. Lincoln, 644-2700.
Albion City Council, 7 p.m., community center, 124 S. Main, 673-5352.
Burley City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 1401 Overland Ave., 878-2224.
Jerome City Council, 5:30 p.m., council chambers, 100 E. A., 324-3139.
Kimberly Zoning Commission, 7 p.m., community center, 120 Madison W., 423-4151.
Rupert City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 624 S. St., 436-9600.
Shoshone City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 207 S. Rail St. W., 886-2030.
Filer City Council, 7:30 p.m., City Hall, 300 Main St., 326-5000.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS
Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class, 10 to 11 a.m., Living Waters Presbyterian Church, 821 E. Main St., Wendell, no cost, 737-5988.
Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class, 10:30 a.m., First Segregation Fire Station, Eden, no cost, 737-5988.
Ongoing exercise program for people with Parkinson's disease, offered by Magic Valley Regional Medical Center, 11 a.m., to the Episcopal Church of the Ascension, 371 Eastland Drive N., Twin Falls, no cost, 737-2977.
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, 1753 Elizabeth Blvd., no cost for Humana-insured or YMCA members and \$5 per class for non-insured, 733-4384.
Adult Children Anonymous (A.C.A.) meeting, for individuals recovering from alcoholic or dysfunctional family environment, 6 p.m., Canyon View Psychiatric and Addiction Services, 223 Shoup Ave. W. (west entrance), Twin Falls, no cost, 305-5656.
Mini-Cassia Shelter for Women & Children's Women's support group, 6 p.m., 123 S. C. St., Rupert, (208) 436-0987.
Celebrate Recovery, a place to learn life-affirming, healthy behaviors, 7:30 p.m., Magic Valley Evangelical Free Church, 821 1/2 Ave. E., Jerome, 324-7237.

LIBRARY
Story Hour, 10 a.m., Oakley Free Library, 862-3434.

MUSEUMS AND PARKS
Faulkner Planetarium WSKY: Radio Station of the Stars / Live Sky Tour, 2 p.m.; "Blown Away: The Wild World of Weather," 7 p.m.; and "Space Jammies": 8:15 p.m., Herrett Center for Arts and Science, north end of the College of Southern Idaho campus, Twin Falls, \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$9 for families, 732-6655.
"Single in the Jungle" free reptile review, 6 p.m., Herrett Center rain forest, Herrett Center for Arts and Science on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho, no cost, 732-6655.

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@magicvalley.com; by fax, 733-5538; or by mail, Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID, 83429-0548. Deadline is noon, four days in advance of the event.

MORNING BRIEFING

Got cherry bombs? Feeling lucky?

A police officer might be writing you a citation Friday night... Or you could send a skyrocket through your neighbor's window with dazzling impunity

That's because Idaho's fireworks regulations are a muddled train wreck... Every county and city has its own code and loopholes exist in state permitting retail stands to sell illegal fireworks if the buyer signs a waiver vowing to take a pyrotechnics course outside of city or county lines

The nearby Fort Hall Indian Reservation, being sovereign, can sell any kind of fireworks it wants, of course... Then consider the proximity of Wyoming, which never met a fireworks restriction that it didn't run out of the state at the point of a

bottle rocket... The basic rule of thumb: If you set off fireworks in town, mind your manners... And the bigger the town, the better the manners...

Plus, don't touch off pyrotechnics on public land: It's illegal...

Idaho is among 34 states that allow some or all types of consumer fireworks... You can set off sparklers, wheels, spinners, smoke bombs... You can set off sparklers, wheels, spinners, smoke bombs... You can set off sparklers, wheels, spinners, smoke bombs...

more than 20 feet from the base, you're courting unwelcome scrutiny...

M-80s? You'll find a nice selection at the many border-side fireworks stands in Alpine, Wyo., just a 1 1/2-hour drive to the east...

WHAT REAL ESTATE SLUMP?

Swedish-born tennis star Mats Wilander hasn't won a Grand Slam event in 20 years... Maybe that's why he's putting his Blaine County house on the market for \$8.5 million...

According to the Wall

Street Journal Wilander and his wife, Sonya—a former model—bought the 80-acre parcel in the 1990s and built their main residence there in 1999... It's about a 20-minute drive southeast of Ketchum.

The 10,500-square-foot main house—"contemporary in style," according to the Journal—has a large exercise room and a sound-proof music room, and comes with a guest house, caretaker's residence, lap pool and hot tub.

There's no tennis court, though, because the couple wanted to create a retreat away from tennis for their four children... Eight all-land you don't get a tennis court?

Steve Crump is the Times-News opinion editor.

AROUND THE WORLD

AFGHANISTAN U.S., NATO deaths in Afghanistan surpass deaths in Iraq again

KABUL — Militants killed more U.S. and NATO troops in Afghanistan in June than in Iraq for the second straight month... a grim milestone capping a run of headline-grabbing insurgent attacks that analysts say underscore the Taliban's growing strength.

The fundamentalist militia in June staged a sophisticated jailbreak that freed 886 prisoners; then briefly infiltrated a strategic valley outside Kandahar. Last week, a Pentagon report forecast the Taliban would maintain or increase its pace of attacks, which are already up 40 percent this year from 2007.

Some observers say the insurgency has gained dangerous momentum. And they also saw the international community meet in Paris to pledge \$21 billion in aid, an Afghanistan expert at

New York University warns that there is still no strategy to turn that commitment into success.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates also noted that more international troops died in Afghanistan than in Iraq in May, the first time that had happened. While that trend — now two months old — is in part due to falling violence in Iraq, it also reflects rising violence in Afghanistan.

WASHINGTON

Bush signs \$162B bill for wars in Iraq and Afghanistan

President Bush on Monday signed legislation to pay for the war operations in Iraq and Afghanistan for the rest of his presidency and beyond, halting the \$162-billion plan as a rare product of bipartisan cooperation.

"This bill shows the American people, that even in an election year, Republicans and Democrats can come together to stand behind our troops and their families," Bush said in an

Oval Office ceremony.

Bush made clear to thank members of both parties in Congress, singling out some sponsors of the long-played, compromise measure for praise. His positive comments contrasted with the confrontational tone that has dominated the debate between Congress and his administration over Iraq.

The legislation will bring to more than \$650 billion the amount Congress has provided for the Iraq war since it began more than five years ago. For operations in Afghanistan, the total is nearly \$200 billion, according to congressional officials.

"Our nation has no greater responsibility than supporting our men and women in uniform — especially since we're at war," Bush said. "This is a responsibility all of us in Washington share; not just Republicans and Democrats, but as Americans."

The package approved by Congress includes a doubling of GI Bill college benefits for troops and veterans. It also provides a 13-week extension of unemployment

benefits, \$2.7 billion in emergency flood relief for the Midwest, and tens of billions of dollars for food aid, anti-drug enforcement, Louisiana levee repairs and many other items.

MISSOURI Obama defends his patriotism

INDEPENDENCE — Flanked by American flags, Barack Obama forcefully defended his patriotism Monday against anyone who would challenge it, declaring he wouldn't stand still for persistent loyalty rumors aimed at sinking his presidential campaign.

However, he was forced to interrupt his Fourth of July week event — at Harry Truman's old home in Independence, Mo. — to respond to Republican rival John McCain's complaint that it was actually Obama and his campaign who were wrongly questioning the importance of McCain's military service.

— The Associated Press

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Tuesday, July 1, and a hot day of 2008. There are 183 days left in the year. This is Canada Day.

Today's Highlight: On July 1, 1946, the United States exploded a 20-kiloton atomic bomb near Bikini Atoll in the Pacific.

On this date: In 1863, the Civil War Battle of Gettysburg, resulting in a Union victory, began in Pennsylvania.

In 1898, during the Spanish-American War, U.S. forces, including Theodore

Roosevelt's "Rough Riders," won a victorious assault on San Juan Hill in Cuba.

In 1948, the fare on New York City subways doubled from a nickel to 10 cents.

In 1969, the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union and nearly 80 other nations signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

In 1991, President Bush nominated federal appeals court judge Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court, beginning an ultimately successful confirma-

tion process marked by allegations of sexual harassment.

In 1997, Hong Kong reverted to Chinese rule after 156 years as a British colony. The Soviet Union and nearly 80 other nations signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

Five years ago: At a summit, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud

Abbas rededicated themselves to a shared future for their peoples.

One year ago: Russian President Vladimir Putin arrived in Kennesaw, Ga., to speak at the Bush family estate and talks with President Bush. Princes William and Harry celebrated the life of their mother, Princess Diana, on what would have been her 46th birthday with a concert they'd organized at London's Wembley Stadium.

HOROSCOPE BY JERALDINE SAUNDERS

IF JULY IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Business and pleasure make equal demands on your time during the month ahead.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You are in the driver's seat. Take charge and don't let your position be undermined by a back-seat driver. Be careful not to be overly possessive — and be willing to forgive others who may be jealous.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You can make a difference if you set your mind to it. Talk the talk and walk the walk and let others follow your example. Romantic desires should be a secondary consideration.

CANCER (June 21-July 20): Don't let others sway you from your values to achieve their own ends. Demonstrate loyalty to those have remained devoted to you and let them know they are appreciated.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Be better than the rest. Keep yourself above petty squabbles and contentions and avoid wallowing in self-pity.

Stay focused on accomplishing tasks and you will lead yourself and others to success.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Stay grounded in well-trodden routines and avoid entering new projects or acting on new ideas. This is not an optimum time for signing contracts or agreements.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): To each their own. Friends or acquaintances may try to pressure you into helping them achieve their own goals when it provides you with little benefit. Bend a little, but don't break and remain true to yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You may be in the dark about certain situations, but patience and researching the matter will allow you to come to a successful solution. A blossoming — relationship could prove disappointing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-

Dec. 21): Be candid and honest, rather than trying to disguise the truth. Own up to your mistakes and move toward correcting them and you will be on the road to success.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Keep your distance. Allow others around you to solve problems on their own and help only in the event of a crisis.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You may have set the bar too high in seeking your perfect mate, when true love is already right under your nose. Open your heart.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Ponder the future. Take time to reflect on your most important issues in love or business. You may experience fireworks with a significant other. If sinking your heart is the way of where the heart leads you.

FOLLOW THE LEADER



Messy ducklings cross the street as they follow their mother while foraging for food Monday in Miami.

CORRECTION

Due to inaccurate information provided to the Times-News, the wrong former place of employment was listed for new Gooding School District Superintendent Heather Williams. Williams said she was formerly employed by Idaho State University.

Table with 2 columns: Publication Name and Phone Number. Includes Times-News, Burley-Report Post-Opinion, and other local publications.

Jail

Continued from page A1

Gooding County authorities had an indication Holmes was up to no good before his last escape. "We knew through correspondence he was going to try to do something," said Gough, adding they didn't know where, when or how.

"Gough's office is doing an internal investigation," he said.

Holmes re-appeared in orange jail garb Monday in Twin Falls County 5th Judicial District Court. He was arraigned on a felony charge of grand theft by possession of stolen property after he allegedly stole a 1998 Mitsubishi 3000GT in Jerome.

In September, Holmes

escaped twice in one night from the Gooding County Jail. He made his first get-away through a door left unlocked by a jailer and was caught a couple blocks away by Gooding city police officers. A couple hours later, Holmes got free again by breaking from a deputy's grasp, and escaped through unlocked doors. He was captured several weeks later in Arizona.

Gough said Holmes will soon be taken to prison and transported for local court dates. "It's out of here."

Twin Falls County Jail officials also believe Holmes will go back to prison, but they don't know when, said Lori Nebeker, spokeswoman for the Twin Falls County

Sheriff's Office.

Holmes currently is in the general population at the Twin Falls County Jail, but with heightened security when he's moved, Nebeker said.

Holmes' pending cases out of multiple counties could also be consolidated, Gough said.

But that hasn't happened, at least yet, said Twin Falls County Prosecutor Grant Loeb. "There's nothing in the works that I'm aware of at the moment."

Holmes was awaiting transport to prison before his September escape. He was sentenced in Minidoka and Twin Falls counties for charges including burglary, aggravated assault and for-

gery. He also had pending charges against him in Gooding County for escape and grand theft, according to state records.

The Idaho Sheriff's Association hasn't pinpointed policies or procedures that need to be reviewed right now at the Gooding County Jail. "That doesn't mean something may not need to be tweaked," said Nick Albers, executive director of the Idaho Sheriff's Association.

Holmes' \$500,000 bond out of Gooding County was upped by \$75,000 Monday in Twin Falls County. His preliminary hearing is set for July 11.

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McElhiney

Continued from page A1

Bevan heard a mound of motions last week filed recently by McElhiney's public defender, Marilyn Faul. Few were granted.

Paul had also requested a change of venue in the case, which Bevan denied on May 30.

Miller didn't die from an accidental slip and fall. "He was clearly the victim of some awful calamity," Loeb

"Whether he was kidnapped and murdered by John McElhiney remains to be proven."

— Twin Falls County Prosecutor Grant Loeb

wrote in court records. "Whether he was kidnapped and murdered by John McElhiney remains to be proven."

A ruling on Miller's cause and manner of death has not been disclosed by prosecu-

tors or the coroner.

Watts pleaded not guilty and his trial has been set for Oct. 21.

Andrea Jackson may be reached at 208-735-3380 or Andrea.jackson@lee.net.

Storm

Continued from page A1

Outside, three of her six Quonset huts had been blown anywhere from 20 to 70 feet away. One of the U-shaped barns was lying directly on top of another.

Just as costly may be the loss of livestock. Jordan raises a breed of South African Boer goats, with some 180 kids born this spring. After making an early head count hours later, Jordan was still missing 10 to 15 baby goats.

"They're pretty tame and usually come to my voice," she said over the phone, with goats bleating in the back-

ground. "They're a little rattled ... and just starting to inspect the barns and notice what's happened."

Gooding County Sheriff's Department officials and regional dispatch units had no other complaints of unusual weather in the area. But Jordan's neighbor, family dairy operator Stacie Ballard, confirmed the sudden strike at the same time.

"It was crazy," Ballard said. "It almost felt like a tornado. We had a calf pen that went flying over the fence. You couldn't even see. It was just nothing but dirt."

Stephen Parker, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Boise, said the storm was likely an outflow from thunderstorms that had hit other areas of Owyhee and Twin Falls counties.

"It actually does a good bit of the wind damage out here in the country, much more than tornadoes," he said. As for actual tornadoes, a main element is always low-level moisture — and Idaho has very little of it.

"That's the main thing we lack that prevents us from getting tornadoes," he said.

SUMMER SWEEPSTAKES

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Hearing

Continued from page A1

The street will be widened to five lanes and will include turning lanes and medians. Reasons for the project include current deteriorating road conditions and safety concerns.

The project's funding primarily comes from the federal government. The city is pledging \$1.28 million toward the \$7.64 million project, according to a presentation by Riedesel Engineering.

Construction is sched-

uled to begin in February 2010. City officials in the past have said they tried moving it ahead of schedule but couldn't. The project is expected to begin shortly after the reconstruction of Blue Lakes Boulevard North.

The Washington Street North Project, one of the largest road projects in recent years for the city, includes restructuring of water lines, power lines and other utilities. New street lights will also be installed.

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GOOD THRU JULY 31

E. Idaho teen drowns in Snake River

POCATELLO (AP) — Authorities are still searching for the body of an eastern Idaho teen who drowned last week at a state park along the Snake River.

The Power County Sheriff's Department says, Kapit

Peterson, 17, of Pocatello, drowned Friday after jumping off a cliff near Massacre Rocks State Park.

Dive teams and rescue crews using sonar were used during the weekend to recover the body.

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Hispanic students make slight gains in Idaho

By Jesse Bonner
Associated Press writer

BOISE — Hispanic students made slight gains on statewide tests this year in third through eighth grades, as in 10th grade, where students must pass to graduate high school.

The results come a year after Latinos scored well below their non-Latino counterparts in reading, math and language on the Idaho Standards Achievement Test. This year, more Hispanic students tested proficient in all subjects, said Margie Healy, the state's ISAT program manager.

"Across the board scores went up," Healy said. "We're seeing the overall scores go up, but more importantly, we're seeing the gap close."

The Idaho State Board of Education won't release official test results until August, but initial scores show more Hispanic students tested proficient this year compared with 2007. The tests are used to determine whether schools are meeting federal benchmarks set by the No Child Left Behind Act.

Latinos account for more than 35,900 students in Idaho and make up 13.4 percent of the 272,000 students in the state's K-12 population. Native Americans make up the next largest minority with 4,350 students, followed by Asians, who account for 3,370 of the state's K-12 population. The state last counted its black student population at 3,140.

Earlier this year, the Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs released a report that

showed Latino students scored significantly lower than non-Latino students on the ISAT taken during the 2006-2007 school year. While Hispanic students scored lower than non-Hispanic students again this year, in some cases, the gap narrowed slightly.

For instance, 21.9 percent of Hispanic 10th graders failed the math portion of the test last year, while only 8.3 percent of white students failed the test. This year, the gap grew smaller as 18.3 percent of 10th-grade Hispanic students failed math, compared with 6.7 percent of white students.

Hispanic students have

had particular success with the Jerome School District, where bilingual programs start in kindergarten. Improved Hispanic student scores are the result of several years of targeting ways to help students who don't speak English as a first language, said Alyson Bequette, the Jerome School District's federal programs manager.

The district, along with adopting more intensive teacher training, has also come up with new methods of delivering course materials, such as breaking subjects down into sections that are more manageable for students still learning English, Bequette said.

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TODAY'S MYSTERY WORD(S):

SPLASH

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TimesNews
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SUMMER

Crash

Continued from page A1

to turn left, the SUV tried to retrace itself behind the Subaru but its trailer lost control, rolled and dragged the truck onto its side as well.

Area resident Lars Guy said the crash unfolded in exactly the same way so many close calls have occurred on that stretch of highway, where vehicles in both northbound and southbound lanes legally may pass care turning off the road. While the trailing car speeds up and the lead car slows down, that's a recipe for disaster, Guy said.

"We have all had (close calls)," said Ron Geuin, 54, a year-round Ketchum-area resident for 32 years, of himself and his neighbors. He said in June there had already been another passing accident along that same stretch of highway.

On Saturday, Geuin and Jake Bunce, of south Ketchum's Dick York's Towing, rushed without hesitating to the burning vehicle.

From his home, Geuin heard the screeching of brakes, followed by crashing noises that ended with a loud "boom," he said. He jumped on his bicycle and found Bunce already on the scene before the two helped the SUV's occupants out.

Jess came out first, looking shocked and confused, Bunce said. Apparently bleeding from his head and profusely from his arm, he began walking away from his vehicle — his wife still in the truck, Bunce said. Geuin waved his hands in Jess's face to get his attention: "Is there anybody else in there?" Geuin asked him, Jess said there were two dogs, but the dogs had already leaped out of the truck, Bunce said. Kim appeared uninjured, Bunce said.

Hearing a hissing sound, which he assumed was the propane tanks releasing pressure, it occurred to Bunce for the first time that the growing fire was about to get a lot worse. He moved everyone away. A couple minutes later, his notion was proved right.

"Everything just torched up all at once," Bunce said. Within a few minutes, "the only thing left of the trailer was the frame and wheels. The truck was burned to a crisp. All that was left was steel and ashes."

Cassidy Friedman may be reached at 208-735-3241 or cfriedman@magicvalley.com.

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Twin Falls Council sign decision marks 'shift'

By Jared S. Hopkins
Staff writer

The Twin Falls City Council voted unanimously Monday to allow signs advertising the upcoming air show to be displayed across town, a decision city staff described as a "shift" from previous readings of city laws.

Research by city staff originally ruled against the decision, which permits signs promoting the Air Magic Valley Air Show, scheduled

for July 26 and 27 at Jostin Field, Magic Valley Regional Airport. But City Attorney Fritz Wondelrich advised the council the section of city code could be interpreted to allow for the provision.

The issue was brought up at a recent council meeting by Councilman Will Kezelle, who said sponsors were interested in showing signs. On Monday, he said four to six signs will be displayed. The show's leading sponsors are Pepsi and Bob Green

Auto Group. The show is being administered jointly by the city and Twin Falls County, which are co-owners of the airport.

Community Development Director Mitch Humble noted the council's decision was somewhat unusual.

"This is a little different than what we've done in the past," Humble told the council. "This would be a shift in how we interpret the code and applied it."
Humble said after

researching the issue, he determined the code did not permit the usage of such signs. The code requires mention only of use or products located on the same property as where the sign is. Signs are also allowed only two days before special events.

But Humble met with Wondelrich, who determined the signs would be allowed because they would contain noncommercial copy. He compared the air show signs

to political campaign signs. Councilman Trip Critig asked Wondelrich how the air show — which requires admission — was different than rodeos held at the College of Southern Idaho or events held at the Twin Falls County fairgrounds, which haven't been allowed to display signs across town.

Wondelrich said the air show is considered a non-profit, community event. After the meeting, he verified this, despite there being cor-

porate and private sponsors, and a budget in which the city and county are poised to gain at least \$50,000 in revenue.

Humble noted that the proposed amended sign code — being revised for the last few months — would have allowed the council's request without legal questions.

Jared S. Hopkins may be reached at 208-735-3204 or jhopkins@magicvalley.com.

AROUND THE VALLEY

Rep. Patrick won't seek Gannon's seat

State Rep. Jim Patrick, R-Twin Falls, said Monday he will not pursue the seat held by Sen. Tom Gannon, R-Buhl, who died last week.

District 23 Republicans have scheduled a meeting for 7:30 p.m. tonight in Mountaineer Home at A.J.'s Restaurant at 1130 U.S. Highway 20. Local Republicans within the legislative district will pick three nominations. Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter can choose from to replace Gannon, as well as a single person to replace Gannon on November's general election ballot.

Patrick said he gave it thought but there are enough people interested, and he wants to make sure that Republicans remain in power.

"It'll be comfortable to represent my district probably better where I'm at," said Patrick, who was first elected in 2006. "I'm gaining a little seniority and have created relationships with the other representatives. And I'd have to start over."

Possible candidates include Stephen Hartgen, Twin Falls business consultant; District 23 state Rep. Bert Bruckett, R-egon; Jeanne Gannon, widow of Tom Gannon; and Doran Parkins, who lost to Gannon in the primary.

North College Road reopens today

North College Road from Washington Street North to Promter Road will reopen today to the city of Twin Falls, said Monday.

"It had been closed for the two weeks as the city installs a new water line.

The road was still closed Monday, but the work crew was contracted for 30 days so technically had not gone over schedule, said Lee Glaesemann, an engineer with the city. The crew put down blacktop Monday and the project was to be completed Monday afternoon.

"It's going to open up first thing in the morning" at 8 a.m. Monday. "It took them slightly longer than expected."

CSI officials: Leave fireworks home

Attendees to Friday's Fourth of July fireworks display at the College of Southern Idaho are asked to leave their own fireworks at home. The display, launched after 10 p.m. from the field north of the main campus, will be preceded by a patriotic music concert at 8 p.m. north of the Student Union Building.

Security officers will patrol the campus and discourage use of consumer fireworks. Spectators are also advised that ongoing repaving projects will limit on-campus parking spaces. Attendees are encouraged to walk to campus to relieve post-display traffic congestion.

The Twin Falls Police Department will close sections of Falls Avenue and Winston Street at 8 p.m., rounding the college at 9 p.m., while North College Road will be closed at 7 p.m.

County: Let city manage parks within its limits

By Jared S. Hopkins
Staff writer

Will the welcome sign to Rock Creek Park bear the words "City of Twin Falls?"

Twin Falls County Commission Chairman Tom Mikesell said Monday he's had informal discussions with the city of Twin Falls about transferring management and possibly ownership to the city of the two county parks within city limits. He said such an arrangement might be cost-effective for the county without sacrificing services to taxpayers.

"It doesn't seem appropriate for a park to be managed by the county if it's in the city limits," he said. "If the city is willing to talk about the parks, we're willing to discuss. It's costly for us and it'd be much easier for us if we didn't have as many parks."

Mikesell said he's casually spoken with Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Director Dennis Bowyer about moving control to the city, but doesn't expect any changes in the near future. Mikesell's concerns include the costs and the difficulty in securing grant money.

"We're going to do the best we can make more money (for maintenance)," he said.

But his comments come as the Twin Falls County Parks and Recreation Department undergoes changes. James Gose-cells resigned as director about seven weeks ago after six years with the county. He said he holds no ill feelings toward the commission, but had some "frustrations" and "struggles," including the direction of whether to increase park acreage.



Caroline McNeal strains as she throws a dog July Monday at Centennial Waterfront Park along the Snake River in Twin Falls.

For example, Gose-cells said he tried to expand the 12-acre

Murtaugh Lake county park to more than 30 acres. But he said the sentiment didn't appear to echo with members of the county commissioners, who were worried about how to maintain the parks in the future.

"I have always been an expansionist, much more than my predecessors," he said. "It always the person with the vision who makes sure those things (funding) got worked out ... but it wasn't going down that road." Gose-cells, 35, whose wife, Jennifer, is a deputy prosecutor for Twin Falls County, has since accepted a position with Conservation, Restoration & Seeding Inc.

Mikesell declined comment on Gose-cells' departure, citing personnel matters. But he said all government decisions are based on funding and the commissioners aren't opposed to improving the parks system.

The county's weed control superintendent, Kall Van Leeuwen, will assume Gose-cells' duties.

In addition to Rock Creek Park, Centennial Waterfront Park is owned by the county. Transferring the parks to the city would require various changes to policies and permits.

Asked about such a possibility, Gose-cells said he "wouldn't be surprised but would be shocked" if the city accepted the roles because of the costs.

Bowyer was out of the office Monday. Twin Falls Community Development Director Mitch Humble said he's aware of informal conversations, but said there was no official position.

"I don't think the city has ever given an official opinion on that because the city has never been officially asked," he said. "At this point it's just been talk."

Jared S. Hopkins may be reached at 208-735-3204 or jhopkins@magicvalley.com.

I-84 rollover leads to other accidents

Staff report

A Wendell woman was hospitalized Monday after a one-car rollover on eastbound Interstate 84 near mile post 170 in Jerome.

Doris Mink, 74, was attempting to pass another vehicle around 9:25 a.m., when her Ford Five Hundred sedan drove onto the rumble strips on the left side of the freeway, according to an Idaho State Police press



release. Mink overcorrected, causing her car to roll before coming to rest in the median. Traffic was blocked for emergency vehicles for Mink's crash, as well as several other secondary crashes near that location.

Mink was wearing her seat belt and was transported to St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center with minor injuries.

Alcohol is not believed to have been a factor in the crash.

New Albion Senior Center almost ready

By Laurie Wach
Staff writer

Persistence and patience is paying off for members of the Albion Senior Center's construction on the group's new building-near completion.

"It's going to be really nice," Edie Fitzgerald, Albion Senior Board of Directors secretary, said. "We were just amazed when we got in to see it." The group sold its old building located behind the old Albion Normal School campus on Market Street in December 2007 and awaited four months for the Albion City Council to give the property its commercial zoning designation. The new building is adjacent to the old one.

They made us jump through all the hoops, but we jumped them," said Marcella Mahoney, Albion Senior Center Board chairman.

materials like drywall and siding, increased and left the project with a \$15,000 shortfall.

Mahoney said all of the major components like the two stoves, two dishwashers and tables for the dining room are paid for but there will not be enough money to purchase other furnishings like beds.

"So far we haven't had to borrow any money," Mahoney said. "We've done it on our own."

The group raised about \$115,000 to build the new building by selling its old building and various furnishings. That sale was aided by community donations.

Mahoney said the group plans to do more fundraising and hopes to be in the building for its annual Fourth of July pancake breakfast.

Mahoney said about 30 seniors attend the center, though many more in the community who did not attend before because

Filer Fun Days wrap up

By John E. Swartz
Correspondent

FILER — Like all good things, one of Filer's most anticipated events of the summer season came to an end Sunday.

Mixing music with down-home country humor, Cliff Haak and his Last Resort Band put the final touch on a Sunday afternoon wrap-up for Filer Fun Days at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds.

"We play a variety of music from bluegrass to Hank Williams and Elvis Presley, or maybe 'tha' Presley," Haak said. "We're really not that good, but we sure enjoyed playing for you folks." The Filer-Kiwanis Club kicked activities in gear with

a Friday evening fish fry and free stage concert performed by the Lighthouse Praise Band from Lighthouse Christian Fellowship in Twin Falls.

"People came in to eat almost steadily until we closed up," Kiwanis Club member Russell Sheridan said. "We had a better turnout this year than last, serving about 160 dinners and raising around \$1,000."

Filer Fun Days is a Kiwanis-sponsored event that helps support more than a dozen youth and community service projects.

"This event is pretty darn important, because the money we raise makes up

Florence Josephine McCaslin Falk

MOUNTAIN—HOME—Florence Josephine McCaslin Falk, 101, of Mountain Home, passed away on Friday, June 27, 2008, at a local hospital after a brief illness.

A viewing will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 1, at Root Funeral Home, McMurray Chapel in Mountain Home. The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 2, with a viewing beginning at 1 p.m. at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley. Burial will follow at the Pleasant View Cemetery in Burley.

"Flo" as all her friends called her, was born Oct. 28, 1906, in Broken Bow, Neb., to Frank Robert McCaslin and Hattie Mable Baricus McCaslin. Flo had not finished high school when she went with her older sister, "Marion" to attend "Grand Island Business College." Those plans were interrupted when the family lost the farm "due" to successive years of drought, grasshoppers and low grain prices and relocated to Index, Wash., finally settling in Burley.

When hospitalized in Pocatello needing surgery her family could not afford. Flo repaid the physicians by beginning what would be a lifelong career in nursing. It was a special nurse to Thea Eason at the Pocatello General Hospital that Flo met Emil S. Falk. Thea's only child, Flo and Emil were married in Hazelton on Oct. 30, 1928. Flo and Emil farmed in Eden and raised their children. Flo and Emil later moved to Mountain Home in 1953, where Flo continued her

nursing career at the Elmore County Hospital and Emil worked as a deputy at the county jail. He died in 1971 and Flo worked at the hospital until age 70. She then provided day care for hospitalized patients, managed her rental property well into her late 90s and lived in her home until her death.

Flo is survived by her son, Jack of Murphy; daughter, Helen Jo Ryan (Robert) of Yuba City, Calif.; daughter-in-law, Evelyn Falk of Logan, Utah; grandchildren, Sheri Price (Jeff) of Redding, Calif., Sindy Nevins (Bruce) of Healdsburg, Calif., Juliette Hedden of Cardiff-By-The-Sea, Calif., Bo Hedden (Robin) of San Jose, Calif., Rob Ryan of Yuba City, Calif., Kelly Ryan of San Diego, Calif., John Falk of Boise, Eric Falk (Stacie) of Millville, Utah, Jennifer Falk Matheson (Mark) of Salt Lake City, Utah, Michael Falk (Amr) of Farmington, Utah; "Aunt" Falk (Lesbly) of Burley, Calif.; Dr. Jeanne Falk Hone (Jason) of Logan, Utah; 19 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren; one brother James McCaslin (Stacie) of Idaho Falls; Vada Wasson and Trudy Floman of Tulsa, Okla.; 22 nieces and nephews. Flo was preceded in death by her sisters, Marion Coates and Merilee Moseley; brothers, Max, Steve and Frank; parents; husband; and daughter, Sharon, Lea Hedden.

Memorials can be made in Flo's memory to the Idaho Youth Ranch, P.O. Box 8538, Boise, ID 83707, or a charity of your choice.

Barbara Ann Wacławczyk Barnes

LA VERNIA, Texas—Barbara Ann Wacławczyk Barnes, age 61, left the pain and agony of leukemia and peripheral neuropathy behind in the early morning hours of Saturday, June 28, 2008.

She was born in Floresville on March 14, 1947, to the late Louis Wacławczyk and Cecelia Felix Wacławczyk. She graduated from Floresville High School. Barbara met the love of her life Marvin Barnes on a blind date at the NCO Club overlooking Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. After whirlwind courtship lasting 30 days, they were married in the bonding court in Chicago, Ill., on April 9, 1971, where Marvin was assigned as an Air Force recruiter. Barbara worked primarily in the banking industry, where she was the manager of a loan processing department in Twin Falls at the time of her retirement due to her disability from the neuropathy. Barbara was very active in Kalros Prison Ministry International, where she and her husband were instrumental in starting the first Kalros weekend in the state of Idaho. She was a member of the St. Ann's Parish in La Vernia, Texas. Barbara was the smile everyone needed during rough times and has touched the lives of many.

She was preceded in death by her father, Louis; a sister, Mary Slier; and a nephew,

Justin Karl Szatwinski. She is survived by her husband, Marvin; and her two best friend pups, Buddy and Sassy; sister, Dorothy Szatwinski and husband Justin; sister, Christine Eisek, and husband Frank; sister, Caroline Scheffer and husband Alvin; sister, Louise King and husband Sammy; brother, Louis Wacławczyk Jr. and wife Cheryl; plus many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be from 2 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, July 1, at the Finch Chapel in La Vernia, Texas, with rosary at 7 p.m. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Wednesday, July 2, at St. Ann's, with Father Stanislaw Fluk celebrating. Burial will be in the Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, 10505 S. 10th St., in San Antonio, Texas. Cremation rights will be afforded with Barbara's ashes resting at the Monastery of the Holy Trinity in La Vernia, where she will be cared for by the monks of the monastery. Active pallbearers will be her sisters, brother and their spouses.

At the time of her death, Barbara was working with two of her nurses from the Metropolitan Hospital. The nurses will be running the Rock n' Roll Marathon in November in Barbara's name for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Donations in support of the run may be given to any of the Finch staff or mailed to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, 12031 Mill Love, San Antonio, TX 78254.

Condolences may be left on the Finch Funeral Chapel Web site at www.finchfuneralchapels.com.

5TH DISTRICT COURT NEWS

JUNE 27 ARRANGEMENTS
Gerardo Rivero-Rivera, 13, Twin Falls; grand theft; no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for July 11; bond set at \$1,000.
Gerardo Rivero-Rivera, 20, Twin Falls; possession of a controlled substance; no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for July 3; \$15,000 bond.
Arona Emmert Samirand, 19, Twin Falls; possession of a controlled substance; no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for July 3; \$10,000 bond.
Christina Gohin, 38, homeless; theft; no plea entered; public defender appointed; pretrial set for Aug. 8; \$300 bond.
Robert Wooten, 31, Twin Falls; six counts of issuing a check without funds; no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for July 3; \$5,000 bond.
Jeremy Blaine Anderson, 32, Twin Falls; DUI; pleaded not guilty; public defender appointed; pretrial set for Aug. 5; \$1,000 bond.
Jug Soop arrangements.
Scott Thayer Holmes, 39; grand theft by possession of stolen property; no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for July 11; \$75,000 bond.
Larry Fennewald, 51, Hansen; aggra-

vated battery; no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for July 11; bond set at \$1,000.
Gerardo Rivero-Rivera, 20, Twin Falls; possession of a controlled substance; no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for July 11; bond set at \$2,500.
Brian Anthony Jones, 25; Twin Falls; fail to purchase driver's license; no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for July 11; \$15,000 bond.
Victor Lora-Rosa, 28; DUI; domestic battery; no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for July 22; \$1,000 bond.
Kevin Dee Williams, 31, Twin Falls; domestic battery; no plea entered; private council retained; preliminary hearing set for July 22; \$1,000 bond.
Joel Tubbs, 33, Pocatello; grand theft; no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for July 11; \$15,000 bond.

Albion

Continued from page A5
of the dilapidated condition of the building may do so now that it is more accessible. The seniors could only afford to heat sections of the large old building, leaving the restroom cold. The front steps were steep and in the winter often caked with ice, rendering them hard to navigate. "Going to the bathroom was like going to Siberia," Fitzgerald said.

Mahoney said the seniors are relieved and grateful to have the new building. "It's new and nothing is falling down and it will pass all the inspections," Fitzgerald said. "In the winter I used to be so angry about the pipes freezing in the other building and in the summer it was so hot you couldn't stand it. "I think the ambience now will encourage more people to come.

Filer

Continued from page A5
about 40 percent of our budget and impacts what we are able to do," said Filer Kiwanis Club President Ron Conrad. Festivities continued on Saturday with a Kiwanis breakfast, traditional fair-grounds food vendors, games and a parade. Though 64 parade entries were down from 2007 numbers, coordinator Bud Compher was happy with the overall results.

"We're already planning on making the next Filer Fun Days bigger and better to help draw more people," Kiwanis Club Fundraising Chairwoman Vickie Cowser said.

Wanda Coates

FILED—Wanda Coates, 74, of Filer, passed away Saturday, June 28, 2008, after a courageous battle with cancer. She was born May 30, 1934, in Filer, Idaho. She attended school in Shoshone. She married Clifford E. Coates on March 1, 1949 in Burley, and they were later sealed in the Idaho Falls Temple. Together they raised five children, James, Bill, Clifford, Mike, Melanie and Merilee.

She married Robert L. Coates on March 1, 1949 in Burley, and they were later sealed in the Idaho Falls Temple. Together they raised five children, James, Bill, Clifford, Mike, Melanie and Merilee. She was known for her quick wit and sense of humor that would brighten any room. She was a warm and caring person who was missed by all that knew her. She enjoyed painting, gardening and camping with family and friends. She also was an excellent cook.

She is survived by her husband, William Coates; children, William Coates Jr. (Julie), Robert Coates (Deana), Mike Coates (Sandie), Melanie Erickson (Steve) and Merilee Jacobs (Michael); 15 grandchildren; siblings, Ruby Coates (Johnny), Phil Cobeara (LaNelle), Joe Garchina and Benny Garchina. She was preceded in death by her parents, Clifford E. Coates and grandchildren, Chase and Bryan.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, July 3, at the Filer LDS Stake Center, with Bishop Robert Kohntopp officiating. Visitation will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 2, at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2511 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls and one hour prior to the service at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home.

DEATH NOTICES

Mineva Joslin
Mineva Joslin, 87, of Twin Falls, died Monday, June 30, 2008, at the Twin Falls Care Center. Arrangements will be announced by Serenity Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

Jean N. King
BURLEY—Jean Nichols (Michelle) of Burley, died Saturday, June 30, 2008, at Portneuf Medical Center in Pocatello. Arrangements will be announced by the Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley.

SERVICES

Daniel J. Delaney of Twin Falls, service at 10 a.m. today at the Filer Cemetery (White Mortuary in Twin Falls).

Jack V. Creechley of Jarbridge, Nev., funeral at 1 p.m. today in Jarbridge, Nev. (White Mortuary in Twin Falls).

Mary W. Friebe of Twin Falls, graveside service at 1:30 p.m. today at the Twin Falls Cemetery (White Mortuary in Twin Falls).

Maudie Boyer of Gooding, funeral at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Demaray Funeral Service, Gooding Chapel; visitation from 4 to 7 p.m. today at the mortuary.

Keith Corbridge of

Della I. Davis
GOODING—Della Inne Davis, 86 of Gooding, died Sunday, June 29, 2008, at Gooding County Memorial Hospital. Arrangements will be announced by Demaray Funeral Service, Gooding Chapel.

Ernest A. Ragland Jr.
Ernest A. "Rags" Ragland Jr., 80, of Twin Falls, died Monday, June 23, 2008, in Twin Falls. Arrangements will be announced by Farnsworth Mortuary of Jerome.

Hagerman, crypt side service at 12:30 p.m., Wednesday at Cypress Forest Lawn Mausoleum, 4471 Lincoln Ave., Cypress, Calif.; polished open house from 1 to 5 p.m. July 13, at the home of York and Arlynda Corbridge, 1127 B E. 2900 S. in Hagerman (Farnsworth Mortuary in Jerome).

Dan E. Woodhouse of West Magic, memorial service at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the First Baptist Church, 295 E. Fifth St. in Shoshone (Farnsworth Mortuary of Jerome).

Philip W. McRoberts of Twin Falls, memorial service at 1 p.m. Saturday at White Mortuary, 136 Fourth Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

Find more news at www.magicvalley.com

Margie Pearl Brown

BUHL—Margie Pearl Brown, 90, of Buhl, passed away Saturday, June 28, 2008, at Wynwood of Twin Falls.

She was born in Frosser, Neb., on June 9, 1918, to Elton and Minnie Pratt. Pearl was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Buhl, where she was the organist for many years. Besides her love of music was the most important thing in Pearl's life. Pearl was a person who did not know a stranger; she made friends wherever she went. She will be missed by

many friends as well as her much-loved family. Her name suited her perfectly; Pearl was really a jewel. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Clifford E. Brown; son, Roy Lynn "Bubby" Brown; a sister and a brother. She is survived by sons, Roger L. (Darlene) Brown and Ronald L. (Louise) Brown; daughter, Bunny M. (Gaylord) Eggleston; nine grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral will be at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, July 3, at the Buhl First Presbyterian Church. A visitation will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 2, at Farmer Funeral Chapel in Buhl.

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

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INCREDIBLE HULK
BABY MAMA

Iraq opens bidding on 8 oil and natural gas fields

By Sebastian Abbot
Associated Press writer

BAGHDAD — Iraq opened international bidding for eight enormous oil and gas fields Monday, paving the way for investment in a nation with some of the world's largest petroleum reserves.

If approved, contracts to update and manage those fields could involve the biggest foreign stake in Iraq since its oil industry was nationalized more than 30 years ago and help Iraq bring its oil production to 2.5 million barrels per day by 2013.

That could be good news with the price for a barrel of oil breaching \$43 for the first time ever on Monday. But the contracts won't be signed for a year, and if Western firms win a dominant role it could feed perceptions that U.S.-led forces toppled Saddam Hussein to get at Iraq's natural resources.

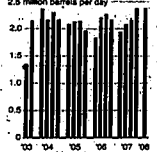
Those concerns were heightened by expectations that Iraq would announce short-term no-bid consulting contracts with five Western oil firms on Monday. The New York Times reported about two weeks ago that the firms included Royal Dutch Shell PLC, BP PLC, Exxon Mobil Corp., Chevron and Total.

The Oil Minister Hussain al-Shahrastani told a news conference Monday that the Iraqi government was still negotiating with the companies, which he did not identify. He said the firms were demanding a share of oil production while Iraq wants to pay in cash.

The minister said the short-term contracts were meant to boost production until the government awards longer-term deals next June. But some believe the consulting contracts could give the winning firms an advan-

Increasing the flow

Iraq's oil production and exports are at their highest level since the U.S.-led invasion in 2003. Iraq's quarterly oil production and exports.



SOURCE: Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction

tage in bidding for the development contracts, which al-Shahrastani said Monday would include 35 foreign companies.

The firms he named included seven from the U.S., three from Britain and others from Russia, China and other countries.

Al-Shahrastani said the companies would be invited to bid on the oil fields of Rumaila, Zubair, Qurna West, Mayasin, Kirkuk, Bay Hassan and the natural gas fields of Akkazz and Mansouriyah.

"These fields were chosen because their production can be raised in a short time and at a low cost," said al-Shahrastani.

He said even the longer-term contracts would include cash compensation and not a share of oil production.

"We don't see a need to allow anyone to share our oil," al-Shahrastani said.

The Iraqi government spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh said Monday that there is no American influence on the Iraqi government's oil decisions.

"Politics does not come into this," al-Dabbagh said. "There is no preferential treatment for anyone, no matter who."

Surprising fact: Half of gun deaths are suicides

ATLANTA (AP) — The Supreme Court's landmark ruling on gun ownership last week focused on citizens' ability to defend themselves from intruders in their homes. But research shows that surprisingly often, gun owners use the weapons on themselves.

Suicides accounted for 55 percent of the nation's nearly 31,000 firearm deaths in 2005, the most recent year for which statistics are available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

There was nothing unique about that year — gun-related suicides have

outnumbered firearm homicides and accidents for 20 of the last 25 years. In 2005, homicides accounted for 40 percent of gun deaths. Accidents accounted for 5 percent. The remaining 2 percent included legal killings, such as when police do the shooting, and cases that involve undetermined intent.

Public-health researchers have concluded that in homes where guns are present, the likelihood that someone in the home will die from suicide or homicide is much greater.

Studies have also shown that homes in which a sui-

cide occurred were three to five times more likely to have a gun present than households that did not experience a suicide, even after accounting for other risk factors.

In a 5-4 decision, the high court on Thursday struck down a handgun ban enacted in the District of Columbia in 1976 and rejected requirements that firearms have trigger locks or

be kept disassembled. The ruling left intact the district's licensing restrictions for gun owners.

One public-health study found that suicide and homicide rates in the district dropped after the ban was adopted. The district has allowed shotguns and rifles to be kept in homes if they are registered, kept unloaded and taken apart or equipped with trigger locks.

NOTICE

The offices of Richard V. Smith, Ph.D., Psychologist, and Delores C. Smith, Psychiatric Nurse, at 526 M Shoup Ave West, Twin Falls, Idaho will permanently close June 30, 2008.

Request for records thereafter can be made by telephone or fax to 208-837-4277.

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July 1, 2008

Kung Fu Panda pro Daily 7:00 9:15
Fri - Sun 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:15
Dewey Wall-E on Day 7:00 9:30
Fri - Sun 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:15
Wanted on Day 7:00 9:15
Fri - Sun 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:15
Summer Matinee #6 - Friday 8/27
Pick-a-Box of Movies
Friday 11:00 1:15 3:30 - All Seats \$1.00
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Twin Cities Theatre

Made of Honor on 12:45 3:00 6:15 7:30 9:45
Iron Man on 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00
Circus of Horrors: Prince Caspian on 12:45 3:45 6:45 9:45
Indiana Jones: Kingdom of Crystal Skull on 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:50
Kung Fu Panda on 12:45 3:00 6:15 7:30 9:45
Get Smart on Daily 6:45 7:25 9:30 9:55
Fri - Sun 1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 9:45
7:25 9:50
Mon - Thurs 12:00 3:30 6:45 7:25 9:30 9:50
Dewey Wall-E on Daily 7:00 9:15
4:40 6:20 7:00 7:30 8:20 9:50
The Incredible Hulk on the Theatre
Fri - Sun 12:00 3:30 6:45 7:00 7:25 9:30 9:50
Mon - Thurs 12:00 3:30 7:00 7:25 9:30 9:50
The Happening on 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:15
Summer Matinee #6 - New Line
Pick-a-Box of Everyone's Hero on
Wed - Fri 11:00 1:15 3:30 5:45 7:55
\$1.00 Without Summer Matinee Ticket

Kung Fu Panda pro

Shows Friday in Vegas on
Daily 7:00 Fri - Sun 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:15
Indiana Jones: Kingdom of Crystal Skull on 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:50

The Incredible Hulk on

Shows Friday to Sunday 9:00 Plus
The Happening on at 10:30

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EDITORIAL

Cassia schools roll the dice on bond issue

Cassia County voters are among the best in the state when it comes to supporting public education. For years, they've approved supplemental levies. In 1991, Cassia County passed a \$21.9 million bond issue — an eye-popping sum at the time — that produced three new high schools and a regional technical center in Burley. Three years earlier, it approved a plant facilities levy for new schools in Malta, Burley and Oakley.

But taxpayers next month will get a true test of commitment. On Aug. 28, the Cassia County School District will ask them to approve a \$44.5 million bond issue to remodel or replace Oakley High School, Raft River High School, Burley High School, Burley Junior High School, Cassia Regional Technical Center, Dworshak Elementary, Mountain View Elementary, White Pine Intermediate School and all of the Declo schools.

Compare that with the Twin Falls School District, whose voters OK'd a \$44.7 million bond issue for a new high school and other improvements two years ago. But Twin Falls has twice as many residents as Cassia County, twice as much assessed property value, and half as many students. There's no question the Cassia school needs are real. Many buildings date from the 1950s, and it shows.

Some are too hot; others are freezing. Some have eroded structurally. Few comply with modern building codes. They need more space to accommodate technological advancements and students with special needs. They could also benefit from safety-related upgrades.

The work could be done piecemeal, but that would require a bond vote nearly every year for a decade.

So trustees are betting that during relatively good economic times in the county, taxpayers will be willing to make a long-term investment. According to a Zions Bank estimate, a homeowner with \$100,000 of assessed property value would pay an additional \$53 a month in taxes if the measure is approved by voters.

However it pitches these improvements to taxpayers, the School Board has some unique challenges. Because it's a countywide district serving many communities, the district has more buildings to maintain than do others.

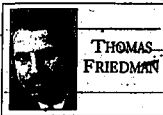
The trustees have their work cut out for them. Good will alone — sufficient to pass supplemental levies in the past — may not be enough this time.

A \$44.5 million tax increase in a county of 20,000 people is a lot to ask; the district must prove the need.

Our view:
The Cassia County School Board will be asking a lot of its patrons on Aug. 28. What do you think? We welcome your viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

Grab a shovel, America; we've got digging to do

Just a few months ago, the consensus view was that Barack Obama would need to choose a hard-core national-security type as his vice presidential running mate to compensate for his lack of foreign policy experience and the John McCain would need a running mate who was young and sprightly to compensate for his age.



THOMAS FRIEDMAN

Come August, though, I predict the move will be looking for a financial wizard as their running mates to help them steer America out of what could become a serious economic tailspin.

I do not believe nation-building in Iraq is going to be the issue come November — whether things get better there or worse. If they get better, we'll ignore Iraq more. If they get worse, the next president will be under pressure to get out quicker. I think nation-building in America is going to be the issue.

It's the state of America now that is the most gripping source of anxiety for Americans, not al-Qaida or Iraq. Anyone who thinks they are going to win this election playing the Iraq or the terrorism card — in one way or another — is, in my view, seriously deluded. Things have changed.

Up to now, the economic crisis we've been in has been largely a credit crisis in the capital markets, while consumer spending has kept reasonably steady, as have manufacturing and exports. But with banks still reluctant to lend even to healthy businesses, fuel and food prices soaring and home prices declining, this is starting to affect consumers, shrinking their wallets and crimping spending. Unemployment is already creeping up and manufacturing creeping down.

The straws in the wind are



I think nation-building in America is going to be the issue.

hard to ignore: If you visit any car dealership in America today you will see row after row of unsold SUVs. And if you own a gas guzzler already, good luck. On Thursday, *The Palm Beach Post* ran an article on your SUV options. "Continue to spend upward of \$100 for a fill-up. Sell or trade in the vehicle for a fraction of the original cost. Or hold out and park the truck in the driveway for occasional use in hopes the market will turn around."

Just be glad you don't own a bus. Montgomery County, Md., where I live, just announced that more children were going to have to walk to school next year to save money on bus fuel.

On top of it all, our bank crisis is not over. Two weeks ago, Goldman Sachs analysts said that U.S. banks may need another \$65 billion to cover more write-downs of bad mortgage-related instruments and potential new losses if consumer loans start to buckle. Since President Bush came to office, our national savings have gone from 6 percent of gross domestic product to 1 percent, and consumer debt has climbed from \$8 trillion to \$14 trillion.

My fellow Americans: We are a country in debt and in

decline — not terminal, but irreversible, but in decline. Our political system seems incapable of producing long-range answers to big problems or big opportunities. We are the ones who need a better-functioning democracy — more than the Iraqis and Afghans. We are the ones in need of nation-building. It is our political system that is not working.

I continue to be appalled at the gap between what is clearly going to be the next great global industry — renewable energy and clean power — and the inability of Congress and the administration to put in place the bold policies we need to ensure that America leads that industry.

America and its political leaders, after two decades of failing to come together to solve big problems, seem to have lost faith in their ability to do so. *Wall Street Journal* columnist Gerald Seib noted last week, "A political system that expects failure doesn't try very hard to produce anything else."

We used to try harder and do better. After Sputnik, we came together as a nation and responded with a technology, infrastructure and education surge, notes Robert Hormatz, vice chairman of Goldman Sachs

International. After the 1973 oil crisis, we came together and made dramatic improvements in energy efficiency. After Social Security became imperiled in the early 1980s, we came together and fixed it for that moment.

"But today," added Hormatz, "the political system seems incapable of producing a critical mass to support any kind of serious long-term reform."

If the old saying — that "as General Motors goes, so goes America" — is true, then folks, we're in a lot of trouble. General Motors' stock-market value now stands at just \$6.47 billion, compared with Toyota's \$162.5 billion. On top of it, GM shares sank to a 34-year low last week.

That's us. We're at a 34-year low. And digging out of this hole is what the next election has to be about and is going to be about — even if it is interrupted by a terrorist attack or an outbreak of war or peace in Iraq. We need nation-building at home, and we cannot wait another year to get started. Vote for the candidate who you think will do that best. Nothing else matters....

Thomas Friedman is a columnist for *The New York Times*.

Times-News

Brod Hurd... publisher Steve Crump... Opinion editor
The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brod Hurd, James G. Wright, Steve Crump and Bill Bitzenburg.

Tell us what you think

ONLINE: Register at MagValley.com, and respond to any of the local opinions or stories in today's edition.

ON PAPER: The *Times-News* welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. 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 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to letters@magvalley.com.

Ruth Stevens Pierce joins T-N editorial board

A Twin Falls accountant with a long history of public involvement is the newest community member the *Times-News* editorial board.

Ruth Stevens Pierce, the 52-year-old owner of Stevens Pierce and Associates, CPAs, replaces Traci Bliss on the five-member committee that sets the newspaper's editorial policy. Bliss, an Idaho State University professor who ran the school's teacher education program in Twin Falls, retired in May and moved to California.

"Ruth's experience as a businesswoman and her keen interest and background in economic development and downtown issues should be very helpful," Publisher Brod Hurd said. "I look forward to her participation on the board."

Pierce, a native of suburban Chicago, has lived in Idaho for 47 years and has practiced accounting in Twin Falls for almost three decades. Before opening her own firm in 2000, she was a partner at Cooper, Norman & Co. since 1978.

She served as president of the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce in 1994-95. Pierce is now chairwoman of the Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization's executive board and serves as financial committee chairwoman on the board of Business Plus, Inc., a business recruitment and retention organization.

"I am interested in joining the editorial board to help make a difference in the *Magie Valley*," Pierce said. "We are a very unique region and it is important to be proactive instead of reactive. My philosophy is 'you get out of your community what you put in.' I believe it is very important for the newspaper to keep the communities informed on topics important to our region, Idaho,

the U.S. and the world."

A graduate of Idaho Falls' Skyline High School, Pierce has a bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Idaho.

She's a board member of the College of Southern Idaho Foundation, and previously served as a trustee of the Twin Falls Clinic and Hospital, the *Magie Valley* YFCA and the United Way of *Magie Valley*. Pierce is a former president of the Twin Falls Rotary Club.

The first recipient of the Outstanding Twin Falls Business Woman Award, Pierce last year received the chamber's Lifetime Achievement Award.

She is married to Marv Pierce, a Twin Falls businessman. She has one child, four stepchildren and six grandchildren.

Other members of the editorial board are Hurd, Editor James Wright, Opinion Editor Steve Crump and Bill Bitzenburg, a Filer-area farmer who is the other community member.

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF POLITICS

Doonesbury



By Gary Trudeau



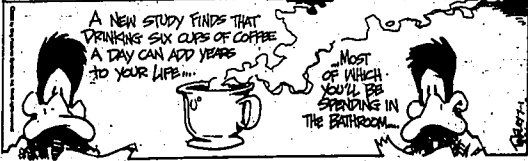
Mallard Fillmore



By Bruce Tinsley



By Bruce Tinsley



Now that we've 'won' in Iraq, let's come home

The Iraq war's defenders like to back the press for pushing the bad news and ignoring the good. Maybe they'll be happy to hear that the bad news doesn't rate anymore. Within a bomb killed at least 51 Iraqis at a Baghdad market recently, ending an extended run of relative calm, only one of the three network newscasts (NBC) even bothered to mention it.

The only problem is that no news from Iraq isn't good news — it's no news. The day the Baghdad bombing the CBS war correspondent Lara Logan appeared as an expert's guest on "The Daily Show" to lament the "escalating television coverage and the even steeper fall in viewer interest." Tell me the last time you saw the body of a dead American soldier," she said. After pointing out that more soldiers died in Afghanistan than Iraq last month, she asked, "Who's



FRANK RICH

paying attention to that?" For question was rhetorical, but there is an answer: Virtually no one. If you follow the nation's op-ed pages and the presidential campaign, Iraq seems as contentious an issue as Vietnam was in 1968. But in the country itself, Cindy vs. Michelle, not Shiltes vs. Sunnis, is the hotter battle. This isn't the press's fault and it isn't the public's fault. It's merely the way things are. In America, the war has been a settled issue since early 2007. No matter what has happened in Iraq since then, no matter what anyone says on any side of the Iraq debate has had to say about it, polls

have consistently found that a majority of Americans judge the war a mistake and want out. For that majority, the war is over except for finalizing the withdrawal details. They've moved on without waiting for the results of Election Day 2008 or sampling the latest hectoring ad from maven.org.

Perhaps if Americans had been asked for shared sacrifice at the war's inception, including a draft, they would be in 1968-lid turmoil now. But they weren't, and they aren't. In 2008, the Vietnam analogy doesn't hold. The center does. The good news for Democrats — and the big opportunity for Barack Obama — is that John McCain and the war's last cheerleaders don't recognize that immutable reality. They're so barricaded in their own Vietnam bunker that they think the country is too. But reminding voters of his identification with Iraq, no

matter how he spins it, pays no political dividends to McCain. People just don't want to hear about it. Last week, the first polls conducted in Pennsylvania and Ohio since the ad began running there found him well behind in both states. The fact is that Obama frequently recognizes "the reduction of violence in Iraq" and has said he is "encouraged" by it. He has never said that he would refuse to consult with commanders on the ground, and he has never called for a presidential commission. His mantra on Iraq, to the point of tedium, has always been that "we must be as careful getting out as we were careful getting in." His roughly 16-month timetable isn't hasty and isn't "retreat." As The Economist, a supporter of the war, recently put it, a safer Iraq does not necessarily validate McCain's insistence on America staying indefinitely and might make

Obama's 16-month frame-work "more feasible."

After all, the point of the surge, as laid out by Bush, was to buy time for political reconciliation among the Iraqis. The results have been at best spotty, and even the crucial de-Baathification law celebrated by Bush and McCain in January remains inoperative. Obama's timetable is at least an effort to use any remaining American leverage to concentrate the Iraqi leaders' thinking. McCain offers only the status quo, a blank check holding America hostage to fate and ceding the president's civilian authority over war policy to Gen. David Petraeus and his successors. To finesse this embarrassing record, McCain asks us to believe that the only judg-

ment that matters is who was "right" about the surge, not who was right about our reckless plunge into war. That's like saying he deserves credit for tossing life preservers to the survivors after encouraging the captain of the Titanic to plow full speed ahead into the iceberg. Not that the Obama policy is foolproof either. As everyone knows, there are no good options in Iraq. Our best hope for a bipartisan resolution of this disaster may be for a President Obama to appoint McCain as a special envoy to Baghdad, where he can stay for as long as he needs to administer our withdrawal or 100 years, whichever comes first.

Frank Rich is a columnist for The New York Times.

Using religion to push the limits of free speech

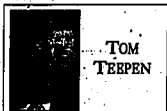
When Thomas Jefferson wrote to the Connecticut Baptist Convention in Danbury in 1802, he championed the "wall of separation" which the new republic's Constitution had erected between government and religion.

The wall has been under attack off and on, ever since, but rarely more pervasively or with greater confidence than in the years since 1954 when Congress struck "under God" into the Pledge of Allegiance. In the hyper anti-communism of the era, that was supposed to show "godless communism" a thing or two.

Christians who would have government do their work for them continue with cussed persistence trying to squeeze their proselytizing through that little crack.

So South Carolina is on its way to issuing optional automobile license plates that declare "I Believe," with illustrations of a cross and a stained glass window.

Legislation authorizing the plates was part of a package.



TOM TREPEN

of Christian enthusiasm that gripped the state legislature this election year. The lawmakers also approved passing the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments in public buildings and immunized preachers from any legal comeback for preaching hortative and vitriol sectarian prayers at government-sponsored events.

All of these doings have been held unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court, but the court has been twisted rightward by President Bush, and state and local legislators are taking a new run at it.

In Texas, the state Board of Education's once again embroiled in an anti-evolution push, pressed to require that public-school science classes take a "strengths and weakness" approach to biology instruction. S-and-W is the

latest dodgy version of "creation science" which became "creation science" which became "intelligent design."

The approach is billed as even-handed, but it is just one more rhetorical beard to hide a bootlegged bible teaching.

South Carolina's lieutenant governor, Arlando Bauer, a big champion of the I Believe plates, says he's just a fan of free speech. "Oh-huh. Yet petitioning for a 'God Sucks' license plate.

Not is the strengths-and-weaknesses crowd clamoring for Texas to take the same approach to reaching the theory of gravity or atomic theory. Yes, the apple never falls to bark Isaac Newton and if you set off an atomic bomb it is surely going to make one hellacious noise.

Both phenomena, in science, are nonetheless still theories in the same way evolution is.

The Founding Fathers were dead serious about this stuff. The 1779 Virginia statute on religious freedom, which Jefferson wrote with James Madison, in effect was a

detailed, before-the-fact explication of the First Amendment's condensed: "Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

When Jefferson wrote to the Connecticut Baptists, it was to reassure them that religion would be safe from government under the First Amendment.

It is difficult to imagine now, but in the colonies and the new nation, Baptists were the most ardent advocates of church-state separation. Maybe some day the folks who want to put government's shoulder to religion's wheel will finally catch on that religion flourishes in this country as it does these days in no other Western nation, not in defiance of our church-state separation but thanks to it.

Some day but obviously no day soon. Of course, that's just a theory.

Tom Trepen is an Atlanta-based columnist for *Constitution*. Write to him at tepen@earthlink.net.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Supreme Court got it right on gun control

"The sky is falling," says Chicken Little and gun control advocates. The Supreme Court now states, as has always been, that the militia is law-abiding individuals. Let's have law enforcement exercise criminal control. MIKE TYLKA Jerome

Be careful out there

Regarding your story about the increase in numbers of scooters that will be on our streets.

Yes, we are now going to have to really watch for them as they are smaller than a regular motorcycle and with the numbers come inexperienced operators, especially when they're talking on their cell phones.

Be careful out there! PAT KEEFER Twin Falls

Please remove old garage sale signs

On Saturday, June 21, My husband and I decided to fill up our car and go hunt for garage sales. As we followed the signs, we finally realized the date was last week. I just wanted to remind those who put up signs to show the dates, and when it's done, please take them down.

Sometimes you can waste more money on gas chasing old signs. Help those that are looking for a good deal save gas. We want to spend our money on deals, not on gas. Please help save gas by removing old yard sale signs and writing the dates.

Thank you, ERICKA ROSS Hegerman

Keep embarrassing issues behind closed doors

Last year, the Western Days Parade Committee's decision to vote against allowing a float based on an sexual bodily functions (homosexuality) was based upon common sense and not about hate, fear or prejudice.

It's inappropriate to talk about, allude to or make any public display, blatantly or subtly about genitalia, no matter what one prefers to do with it. Common sense also dictates heterosexuals do not have parade floats implying preference clubs like Anonymous Albion Adulters, Pocatelli's Pristine

Prostitutes or Post Falls Pornographers.

It does not matter whether your best friend is a lesbian, if your religious doctrine dictates rig or wrong, if nature vs. nurture or trauma-based conditioning causes homosexuality.

These are not relevant issues in this case. The pertinent issue is sexually-based subjects are unsuitable for parade floats.

We, the vast majority, don't care what occurs behind closed doors, yet because the topic invokes strong emotion, objectivity is lost. Embarrassing subject matter yields uncomfortable citizens, so disquieting that citizens are manipulated to not protest, which is why a very small group of very loud lobbyists for homosexuals have

gained so much intimidating control. Citizens have allowed it to get out of control, and legislators are spineless.

Do not be brainwashed and let your common sense prevail. Let Lisa Cueller's example be emulated and nominate her for public office. "All it takes for evil to prevail is for good men to do nothing."

SCOTT PETERSON Twin Falls

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Ariz. crash raises questions about medical flights

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) — A fiery collision that killed six people aboard two medical helicopters has renewed questions about whether they are worth the risks.

Experts agree air ambulances can save lives when the victim is in grave condition and the hospital is a long way off or hard to reach by road. But they say there are other cases in which an ordinary ground ambulance is just as good, and perhaps safer.

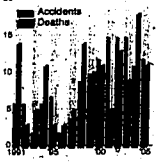
The collision involved two helicopters that were arriving with patients Sunday at Flagstaff Medical Center. It was the ninth accident this year involving emergency medical flights, bringing the number of deaths to 16. National Transportation Safety Board officials said Monday.

"It has been a serious issue," NTSB chairman Mark Rosenker said. "We're going to work very, very hard to make sure we understand exactly what happened here, determine the probable cause and make recommendations to prevent it from happening again."

Critics of medical aircraft have been on the rise since the 1990s for a number of reasons, experts said. It is a booming business, fueled by the closing of emergency rooms in rural areas and an

Medical helicopter accidents rise

Crashes involving medical helicopters are becoming more common and increasingly more deadly.



SOURCE: Helicopter Association International

aging population, according to the National EMS Pilots Association. The number of emergency medical helicopters has climbed from roughly 400 in 2002 to more than

800 now, according to the Association of Air Medical Services, an industry group in Washington.

From 2002 to 2005, one of about every 50 medical helicopters in the U.S. fleet was involved in a crash, according

to a report by the Congressional Research Service. That is far deadlier rate than that of the U.S. airline industry, which earlier this decade went nearly five years without a single commercial jetliner crash.

Kimberly Good Neighbor Days

Friday July 11 - 6:30 p.m. Lions Community Benefit Dinner
Saturday July 12 - 10:30 a.m. Parade and Park Festivities All Day
"Family, Friends and Neighbors"

The Kimberly Lions Club invite your entry for the 2008 Good Neighbor Day Parade or Financial Support for the Benefit Dinner
Please visit www.kimberlylions.com for more info and registrations forms



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Jerome City Parks - 11 a.m. Patriotic Kick-off

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- Ice Skating
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California firefighters battle more than 1,400 blazes

SAFETY (AP) — Two of them died, more than 1,400 wildfires choked parts of the Sierra Nevada foothills, darkening parts of a 100-mile stretch between Sacramento and Reno with clouds of black smoke.

The fires in the Tahoe National Forest blanketed portions of the Interstate 80 corridor linking the two cities and the foothill communities in between where tens of thousands of people live.

Along the Pacific, firefighters hoped coastal fog would help them gain ground against a blaze that was just 3 percent contained in the storied town of Big Sur. John Hill, a spokesman for the U.S. Forest Service, said it had blackened nearly 62 square miles, or about 39,600 acres.

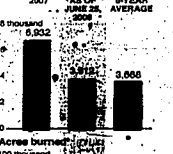
Firefighters made headway against a blaze of comparable size in the Shasta-Trinity National Forest, increasing their containment to 23 percent. But the location hampered their efforts.

"It is extremely steep, very rugged territory, and there are a lot of injuries, twisting ankles, slipping on hills," said Jason Kirchner, another Forest Service spokesman. Burning debris is "rolling downhill right past your containment line. It's very complicated, difficult, dirty fire-fighting work."

Volatile start

This year's dry, hot weather and lightning storms have complicated efforts to control wildfires across California.

California wildfires*



*Does not include fires on federal land

SOURCE: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

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 **Annual Percentage Yield as of 6/27/08. Interest rates are variable and may change at the bank's discretion. New money required to open. A minimum deposit of \$25,000 in new money is required to open account. Interest paid on balances of \$25,000 and up. Fees could reduce earnings. Account subject to withdrawal limitations. See branch for details.
 ***Annual Percentage Yield as of 6/27/08. Rates subject to change without notice. A minimum deposit of \$1,000 in new money is required to open account. Withdrawals prior to maturity are subject to penalty. Peak could reduce earnings on the account.

Stocks close mixed as oil pulls off fresh high

(AP) Wall Street ended the first half Monday, closing mixed as investors based their trades on what has become the dominant force in the market, the price of oil. The major indexes closed out the half with double digit declines.

Dow Jones Industrials

11,350.01

Nasdaq Composite

2,292.96

Standard & Poor's 500

1,280.00

Russell 2000

689.86

AGRIBUSINESS

TIMES-NEWS • BUSINESS EDITOR JOSHUA PALMER: (208) 735-3231

INSIDE:
CROSSWORD,
C7



C
TUESDAY
July 1, 2008

INSIDE: Stocks, commodities, mutual funds, C2 | Classifieds, C4-C10 | Service Directory, C8 | Bridge, C10

FUEL REPORT

Gas and diesel prices in south-central Idaho leveled off late last week, but only after reaching a record high of \$4.14 for a gallon of regular-grade gasoline and \$4.81 for a gallon of diesel.

As of Monday, Burley reported the lowest prices in the region with an average price of \$4.09 for a gallon of regular gasoline and \$4.78 for a gallon of diesel — about 10 cents less than the average in Twin Falls, which reported the highest price.

According to a survey by AAA, prices at the pump across the U.S. continued to rise, with the national average for gasoline at \$4.086.

Prices are expected to keep rising due to supply concerns, a fragile economy, and tensions in the Middle East.

Gas prices

- Twin Falls: Maverik Country Store, 120 6th Ave. W.; \$4.10
- Jerome: Maverik Country Store, 352 S. Lincoln Ave.; \$4.10
- Burley: Smith's Fuel, 937 E. Main St.; \$3.85

Diesel prices

- Twin Falls: Chevron, 688 Pole Line Road; \$4.86
- Jerome: Flying J, 5350 U.S. Highway 93; \$4.88
- Burley: Loves Travel Stop & Country Store, 2500 Centennial Dr., Heyburn; \$4.70

*Price quotes by Mapquest.com as of Monday afternoon. Subject to change at any time.

COMMODITY PRICES

Dairy

Block	Close	Change
Average price	\$1.925	-0.72
Butter		
Average price	\$1.936	-0.54
Butter		
Average price	\$1.532	+0.38
Whey protein concentrate		
Average price	\$8.890	-2.07
Class III milk		
Average price	\$18.18	—
Class IV milk		
Average price	\$15.26	—

Feed

Corn (Per 100 pounds)		
Dairy Feed Supply	\$11.25	—
Land O'Lakes	\$13.00	—
Rangen	\$12.60	—
Barley (Per 100 pounds)		
Rangen	\$9.50	—
Ogden	N/A	N/A
Pocatello	\$9.00	-1.75
Burley	N/A	N/A

Hay (Mid/Ton)

Alfalfa (Supreme)	Low \$160	High \$230
Alfalfa (Good)	Low \$160	High \$200

Small grain

Rangen	Ask	N/A
Wendell Elevator Co.	\$9.00	—
Ogden	\$7.95	+0.50
Pocatello	\$6.50	—
Burley	\$7.00	-1.15

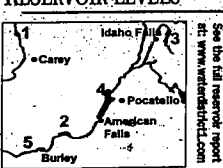
Dry beans (per 100)

Rangen		
Pinto	\$33.00	—
Small Red	\$40.00	—
Pink	\$32.00	—
Sorano		
Small Red	\$33.00	—
Small Red	\$40.00	—
ADM (Not releasing prices)		

Price quotes as of Monday afternoon. Prices subject to change at any time. To be included in this table, call Joshua Palmer at 208-735-3231.

More commodities on C2

RESERVOIR LEVELS



1. Little Wood: 98%
 2. Lake Walcott: 98%
 3. Ririe: N/A
 4. American Falls: 75%
 5. Milner: 99%
- *Percentage of reservoir capacity

So far, so good in south-central Idaho

High temperatures affecting milk producers in southwest

By Joshua Palmer
Staff writer

Summer heat is affecting milk production in southwestern states earlier in the season compared to previous years, say officials with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

But south-central Idaho has managed to avoid production declines — such as those in California and New Mexico — due to late winter temperatures.

"In the West, hot and dry conditions are negatively impacting the milk flow," U.S. Department of Agriculture reported on Friday. "Temperatures in the triple digit range were reported in many

Southwestern areas during the current week.

South-central Idaho made its way through a weekend with temperatures above 90 degrees, but milk buyers say the supply has been affected very little by the rising temperatures — higher temperatures reduce milk production.

"Last week it was kind of flush, and it was probably because of the heat," said Russ DeKruy, milk procurement manager with Glanbia Foods Inc. "But we still are up about 4 percent since last month, which is a

normal year for us."

Meanwhile dairies in California are experiencing much higher stress on the dairy herds as temperatures

Please see MILK, Page C2



USDA releases crop report



Corn grows in a field along Golf Course Road in Jerome County.

Sugar beet crops tumble; wheat and corn on the rise

By Clady Snyder
Correspondent

Moister Nature and a bull market combined to change grower's minds this spring, especially sugar beet growers.

Each spring the U.S. Department of Agriculture surveys growers across the country in March to see what they intend to plant and again in June to see what was actually planted.

Increased competition from other crops in Idaho such as corn, wheat and even dry beans, had growers planning to plant just 144,000 acres of sugar beets in March, down from 169,000 acres in 2007. But by the time growers battled cool temperatures and incessant winds, growers planted just 131,000 acres — that's the lowest planted acreage since 1977, according to the Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service.

Paul Patterson, an extension economist with the University of Idaho in Idaho Falls, was surprised to see the acreage drop that much between the March 31 planting intentions report and the June 30 acreage report. He had estimated a 5,000 to 6,000 acre drop.

"With a drop in planted acreage, followed by more frost, hail and even more wind, growers have abandoned more acres than usual. Sugar beet growers usually harvest about 99 percent of the acres they plant."

Last year, for example, 167,000 acres of the 169,000 acres were harvested.

"Not this year. Growers indicated they plan to harvest only 117,000 acres of the 131,000 acres they managed to get planted. And that raises questions about the health of the sugar beet industry in Idaho."

"They know they'll get higher yields (this year)," Patterson said, "but it's tough to compensate for that many fewer acres."

Nationwide, sugar beet acreage is down 52,000 acres, about 25 percent of that reduction came from Idaho. Both in Idaho and the U.S. as a whole, the only crop to see an increase in planted acreage between the March and June reports was corn. Nationwide, producers planned to plant 86 million acres of corn in March, but had

IDAHO CROPS

Intentional	Planted	Intend to harvest for grain
Winter wheat	900,000 acres	870,000
Spring wheat	540,000	520,000
Barley	550,000	540,000
Corn	300,000	383,000
Soybeans	24,000	109,000
Sugar beets	140,000	127,000
	140,000	75,000
		73,000

220,000 acres of winter wheat
570,000 acres of spring wheat
139,000 of sugar beets

470,000 of spring wheat
520,000 of dry beans
88,800 of dry beans

Based on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's March 31 planting intentions report.

Based on the USDA's June 30 planting report.

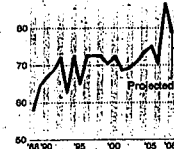
USDA SOURCE: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Statistics Service

Smaller harvest

Farmers are expected to harvest less than 79 million acres of corn this year, down nearly 9 percent from 2007.

U.S. corn production, projected

90 million acres



SOURCE: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture - AP

planted 87.3 million acres by June 1. While it appears that more acre is being planted, especially in western Iowa and Nebraska, the full effects of flooding are still unknown.

One early indication from this report comes from the projected harvested acres for grain. The USDA expected a loss of 7.2 million acres in May, that widened to 8.4 million acres this month.

Corn was the only crop in Idaho to show a gain in acres between March and June. Growers planted 30,000 more acres of corn than they had anticipated. With no change to the acreage expected to be harvested for grain, Patterson expects the additional acres were all planted to silage corn.

"I suspect dairymen convinced producers to plant silage rather than barley or wheat," he said.

Coincidentally, barley acres in Idaho are down 30,000 acres from the March estimate. Nationwide, barley acres are up 3 percent to 4.123 million acres.

Hay acres may also give livestock producers a bit of a concern in this report. In March, the Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service projected all hay acres would hold steady at 1.5 million acres, but that estimate fell to 1.46 million acres in June.

The hay market was already tight and then with the cool, slow start to the growing season; hay fields are expected to be down.

Now with an estimated loss of 40,000 acres, hay supplies will be even tighter. "It's going to be a hot market on hay," he said.

Wilson Gray, a University of Idaho livestock economist in Twin Falls, agrees. Feeder hay is already \$150 plus per ton and dairy hay is about \$220 a ton.

"Cattlemen are going to have to learn to minimize their dependence on feed grains and hay," he said. Whether that means using more pasture or a longer fall pasture season.

He also expects to see producers background cattle longer to minimize the amount of time cattle spend in a feedlot.

"We're going to see heavier animals go into feedlots just to put some finish on them," Gray said.

AGRIBUSINESS BRIEFS

IDAHO

Bacteria killing product's effectiveness confirmed

BOISE — Research conducted by food science faculty at the University of Idaho and Washington State University indicate that a commercially available fruit and vegetable wash, when used in a food-manufacturing setting, can decrease the number of disease-causing organisms in produce-processing washwater — reducing the potential for contamination. The study, written by bacteria lab scientist and E. coli.

The research will be published by the Journal of Food Science in August and is currently available at <http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/10.1111/j.1365-2745.2008.01610.x>.

Gov. Otter promotes barley opportunity

LEWISTON — Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter, BGLife Barley, Idaho Barley Commission and Pacific Northwest Farmers Cooperative announced last week that food barley is an emerging economic opportunity for Idaho and the Pacific Northwest.

BGLife Barley is a new high fiber food barley variety that promotes healthy blood sugar, reduces cholesterol, healthy blood pressure and helps control weight.

Overseas market demand created an opportunity for the Idaho Barley Commission to collaborate with Pacific Northwest Farmers Cooperative to export BGLife Barley. Other Asian markets such as Taiwan are also interested in BGLife Barley to help improve the fiber content of their rice-based diets.

BGLife Barley's patented varieties are derived from a natural selection process focused on obtaining a nutritional profile and a high concentration of soluble fiber.

More information is available at www.bglifebarley.com.

Driver shortage spurs training

By Laurie Welch
Staff writer

Low unemployment rates and a decreasing number of seasonal farm workers in the Mini-Cassia area have local farmers concerned about getting enough truck drivers to help harvest their crops this fall.

"Getting enough help has been problematic for the past five years and finding truck drivers for harvest is, definitely our largest employment problem," said Dean Stevenson, who farms about 3,000 acres of sugar beets, wheat and malt barley north of Paul with his father and brother. In an effort to address the dwindling number of harvest truck drivers, the Mini-Cassia Chamber of Commerce Agriculture Committee will offer a two-day low-cost harvest truck driver training program.

"With current unemployment rates hitting record highs, many farmers are wondering where they are going to find help for this year's harvest," said Chet Jeppesen of the Idaho Department of Labor and a member of the chamber's agriculture committee.

Please see DRIVERS, Page C2

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of Mutual Funds with columns for Fund Name, Last Price, and Change. Includes categories like Domestic, International, and Bond Funds.

COMMODITIES REPORT

CLOSING FUTURES

Table of Closing Futures prices for various commodities including grains, oil, and metals. Columns include Commodity, Price, and Change.

POTATOES

CHICAGO (AP) - USDA - Major potato harvest for shipping...

CHEESE

Chicago cheese prices on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange...

LIVESTOCK

LIVESTOCK AUCTION - Downtown Livestock Auction on Friday...

METALS/MONEY

Key indexes: NYSE, Dow Jones, S&P 500, etc.

BEANS

Key indexes: NYSE, Dow Jones, S&P 500, etc.

GRAINS

Key indexes: NYSE, Dow Jones, S&P 500, etc.

MARKET SUMMARY

Large table summarizing market activity across NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ, and various indices. Includes columns for Volume, High, Low, and Change.

By Betsy Blaney Associated Press writer
LORENZO, Texas - With the price of diesel skyrocketing, farmers and ranchers around the country are being targeted by ne'er-do-wells armed with siphon hoses and pumps.

Thieves target farm diesel supplies
Lubbock, "With the price of diesel skyrocketing, farmers and ranchers around the country are being targeted by ne'er-do-wells armed with siphon hoses and pumps."

Milk
National Weather Service, high temperatures are expected to move north to Oregon and Washington this week.
Production in south-central Idaho is expected to level off in July, according to the USDA report.

Drivers

Jeppesen said the number of people available to drive harvest trucks has diminished and the shortage of truck drivers means harvest takes longer.
Farmers are limited in the amount of time they have to harvest potatoes and sugar beets, Jeppesen said.

Find more news at www.magicvalley.com

Tempers running high on feed prices

A long last, alfalfa is being baled and shipped to hungry markets throughout Idaho, but the prices are enough to make both cattlemen and dairymen lose their own meal.

Dairies are reportedly taking anything they can get at about \$220 per ton for fair to good quality alfalfa. That's about 70 percent more than last year.

Late-season moisture delayed cutting by about three weeks, and supplies are expected to be tight this year.

All areas in Idaho are haying, and reports from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. But some producers are sitting on their new supply until later in the year — when prices will likely be driven higher by demand.

"It's a bunch of bull," said one cattleman, who was checking cattle prices at the Twin Falls Livestock Commission Company.

"Anyone who has to buy winter feed this year will be paying top dollar for the scraps."

\$10 million men

Like most successful institutions, several unnamed organizations will play a role in making the Idaho Center for Livestock and Environmental Studies a reality in south-central Idaho.

Work has been under way for about three months to generate up to \$10 million in private funds for the center.

The man leading that charge is Frank Doria, a campaign manager from New York-based CCS, a leading fund-raising consulting firm.



FIELDS OF GREEN
Joshua Palmer

"Our challenge goal, or what we plan to raise, is \$10 million from private companies."

Frank Doria, campaign manager from New York-based CCS, a fund-raising consulting firm

"Our minimum goal is to raise \$5 million," said Doria. "But our challenge goal, or what we plan to raise, is \$10 million from private companies."

Why does the center need so much private money?

Through all the hullabaloo generated by the prospect of a 1,500-acre research facility, which could employ as many as 100 full-time workers.

Many people have forgotten that the facility is an institution — an arm of the University of Idaho.

It's an educational and research center that relies on private investment.

Funding for the \$35 million facility will include, \$10 million from the U of I College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, a requested \$10 million from the State of Idaho and up to \$10 million in private investment.

Would the center be possible without the private investment? Officials say, no.

Find more news at www.magicvalley.com

Ethanol availability up at some Idaho pumps

BOISE (AP) — Gasoline blends with ethanol is beginning to show up at more pumps across Idaho, but retailers respond to increases in supply and demand from motorists.

State officials say fuel distributors have raised the supply of ethanol blends by 35 percent in the last six months. Production rose in April to 1.4 million gallons, from 1.04 million gallons in January, said Liz Rodosovich, a spokeswoman for the Idaho Tax Commission.

The state couldn't provide data on how many individual stations — now offer ethanol blends, but retailers say they are getting on board.

John Jackson, CEO of Meridian-based Jackson Food Stores, told *The Idaho Statesman* that almost all of

the 160 Jackson's stations in eight Western states have switched over to offer ethanol blends, many in recent weeks.

The growth in ethanol comes as gas prices continue to escalate and officials look for cleaner burning fuels and alternatives to wean the nation's dependence on foreign oil supplies.

Idaho has two ethanol plants. A plant in Caldwell produces ethanol from potatoes, while another that opened in Burley earlier this year uses corn that at capacity could produce up to 60 million gallons annually.

The increased presence of ethanol is being cheered by some in the Treasury Valley Clean Cities Coalition.

"I would like to see more ethanol here, and stations

with higher blends," said both Baird, coordinator of the Treasury Valley Clean Cities Coalition.

Charley Jones, president and co-owner of Stinker Stores, says his retail outlets have been selling a 10 percent ethanol blend known as E10 for 25 years. The fuel is available at all 50 Stinker stores across Idaho. The company also offers an 85 percent blend, known as E85, at three of its stations in Boise, Nampa and Lewiston, though the blend can only be used in vehicles designed to burn it.

Still, the fuel alternative has some detractors.

Classic car enthusiasts complain ethanol-blended fuels have caused trouble for older engines. And snowmobile enthusiasts and boaters criticize the fuel's performance on

those engines. But federal mandates mean those users may have to adjust. Last year, Congress raised requirements for the renewable content of fuels sold by importers and refiners.

Last year, refiners sold 6.65 billion gallons of ethanol nationally; but to meet the new standard production will have to reach 9 billion gallons, said Al Mannato, the fuels issues manager for the American Petroleum Institute in Washington, D.C.

Four states — Minnesota, Hawaii, Missouri and Oregon — require fuel dealers to sell gas with at least 10 percent ethanol.

"In effect, over 70 percent of the gasoline out there needs to have ethanol in it this year in order to comply with the federal mandate," Mannato said.

Corn prices up 66 percent for first half of 2008

By Madlen Reed Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Back in January, economists were calling food and energy expensive. They didn't know what expensive was.

In the just-ended first half of 2008, commodities prices soared well past most forecasts. Corn shot up 66 percent and soybeans gained 31 percent. Meanwhile, crude oil and retail gasoline prices spiked about 46 percent since Jan. 1.

The surge in food and energy prices has been a boon to many banks and hedge funds who have used commodities trading to turn a profit during the worst credit crisis in decades. But fortunes made on the trading floors of New York, Chicago and London have meant food riots in Africa, Asia and the West Indies.

On Monday, the last day of the quarter, corn prices

retreated from record levels after the government said Midwest farmers planted more corn than expected.

But the Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 145 points to 11,800, the lowest level since 2002. The Dow Jones Industrial Average has tumbled to its lowest level since the fall of 2006.

Meanwhile, the dollar continues to lose value versus the euro, pound, and other currencies.

As a result, traders have found commodities a lucrative place to invest their money. Commodities are priced in dollars, so they are seen as a hedge against the falling U.S. currency.

Meanwhile, investors have been hesitant about fleeing to Treasury bonds — the more typical safe-haven during a shaky economy — due to worries about inflation devaluing the govern-

ment securities over time.

Monday's trading had more to do with the size of this year's crops. The U.S. Department of Agriculture said Monday that farmers expect to harvest 78.9 million acres of corn, down 8.7 percent from last year.

But the number of acres planted with corn, 87.3 million, came in higher than the 86 million acres that farmers forecast back in March.

"We're having some losses, but they're losses off of a higher planted area than people expected," said Jerry Norton, a corn analyst for the USDA.

He added that the amount of corn in stock, 4.03 billion bushels, was a bit better than anticipated as well.

Still, the USDA report estimated that farmers planted 74.5 million acres with soybeans — a lower figure than the March forecast. That shortfall sent soybeans higher.



IDAHO MILK PRODUCTS


HIRING SOON

Magic Valley's newest milk production plant in Jerome, Idaho, could be the career opportunity you've been looking for.

Stay up-to-date with the latest information in the Employment sections of the *Times-News Classifieds*, and on magicvalley.com.

Look Who's Moving Up at MVB!

Rick Youngblood, Regional President, announces the promotions of Sue Grumman and Robert Clancy. Due to the tremendous growth in the Magic Valley area we have formed a Community Business Banking Center in the Twin Falls branch. Sue Grumman, our new business leader, Robert Clancy was promoted to Vice President, Community Business Banking from Executive of the newly formed center. Sue Grumman was promoted to Vice President, Community Branch Manager of the Twin Falls branch. Bob Clancy, former Robert and Sue will still be located in the downtown Twin Falls office and have been significant players in helping Magic Valley Bank grow to be one of the leaders in the area. Stop in the Twin Falls branch and join us in congratulating Robert and Sue!



Twin Falls Branch: 113 Main Avenue • (208) 736-2409

FDIC

Legal Legal Legal

Legal Legal Legal Legal Legal Legal Legal Legal Legal Legal

Legal Legal Legal Legal Legal Legal Legal Legal Legal Legal

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

T.S. No. ID-119558-C Loan No.: 74802928 A.P.N.: RPT6590030300A NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT FIRST AMERICAN TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY the duly appointed Successor Trustee, will on 8/28/2008 at 11:00 AM (recognized local time)...

I. Water System Information Water System Name: City of Hansen Water System Operator: CH2M Hill OMI Address: P.O. Box 170 City, State, Zip Code: Hansen, ID, 83334 PWS ID #: 5420027

2007 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) PWS ID #: 5420027 Number of Customers: 400 Date of CCR Distribution: For Calendar Year: 2007 Regularly Scheduled Meeting(s): Second Monday of each Month...

PUBLISH: June 10, 17, 24 and July 1, 2008

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

T.S. No. ID-1138558-C Loan No.: 065575906 A.P.N.: RPT9410030100A NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT FIRST AMERICAN TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY the duly appointed Successor Trustee, will on 8/28/2008 at 11:00 AM (recognized local time)...

Chemical and Radiological Contaminants Alpha emitters: n/a 15 n/a n/a 6.47 12.68 quarterly Ensured of residual deposit

Health Effects of Contamination Language: Quarterly. Naturally present in or on the environment. Health Effects of Contamination Language: (Include only if system exceeds MCL)

PUBLISH: June 10, 17, 24 and July 1, 2008

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

T.S. No. ID-119072-C Loan No.: 744064308 A.P.N.: RPT1301000016DA NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT FIRST AMERICAN TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY the duly appointed Successor Trustee, will on 8/28/2008 at 11:00 AM (recognized local time)...

Contaminant Violation MCL MCLG Highest Level Detected Running Annual Average Sample Date Typical Source of Contamination Health Effects

Health Effects of Contamination Language: Quarterly. Naturally present in or on the environment. Health Effects of Contamination Language: (Include only if system exceeds MCL)

PUBLISH: June 10, 17, 24 and July 1, 2008

Find it Fast in The Times-News

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Mike Arpin and Jeff Krausk

JUMBLE

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

VELGA
PLUIT
SICCUR
IMPAGE

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

Print answer here: _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: **AZURE SHYLY FURROW FAUCET**
Answer: When the manager kept changing pitchers, the southpaw WAS LEFT.

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KIMBERLY Beautiful home in new subdivision. 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath with granite counter. Large jetted tub in master bath. Nice master suite with big walk in closet. 3 car garage. Nice yard w/ waterfalls. Call 208-345-5550

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TWIN FALLS 306 DuBois New! Remodeled 2 bdrm, 1 bath home, w/ full kitchen, granite counter, 2000 sq. ft. fenced yard w/ sprinklers & irrigation. Call 208-733-1260

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TWIN FALLS 306 DuBois New! Remodeled 2 bdrm, 1 bath home, w/ full kitchen, granite counter, 2000 sq. ft. fenced yard w/ sprinklers & irrigation. Call 208-733-1260

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act. We make it illegal to advertise any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin or to interfere to make any such preference limitation or discrimination. "Familial status" includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians; pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the Act. Our readers are hereby notified that any sale or dwelling advertised in this newspaper is available to all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, or national origin. Call HUD Toll-free 1-800-368-2949 for the hearing impaired or 800-677-8129.

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GOODING Gooding County EXECUTIVE HOMESITES RANGA located on 20 acres 1 mile west of town. Absolutely beautiful views, in pasture irrigated by 19 share of Bluff Creek. Power to property, private road access. Offered by owner at \$140,000. (208)764-2888

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Equi Realty

TWIN FALLS Free Home Search www.magnifyrealty.com

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Equi Realty

TWIN FALLS 140-Buhl-S.West-2 bdrm, 1 bath, great location, \$655/month, 1 year lease. No pets. (810) 555-0144

TWIN FALLS 161 Van Siles-4 bdrm, 3 bath, full upstairs and basement, finished front and back, some tile ok with extra, 3700+ dep. 404-6720

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TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm \$600 + \$600 183 Canyon* 3 bdrm \$700 + \$700 143 West Falls* 3 bdrm 2 bath \$850 763 Cawwell Ave W* KIMBERLY All available July 2nd! \$1500-2500

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm \$600 + \$600 183 Canyon* 3 bdrm \$700 + \$700 143 West Falls* 3 bdrm 2 bath \$850 763 Cawwell Ave W* KIMBERLY All available July 2nd! \$1500-2500

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DRIVERS Hiring over the road drivers, 2 years experience preferred. Medical insurance and 401k offered, vacation after 1 year, \$35 per mile Apply at: 45 S. 200 E. Jerome, Idaho 208-324-3515 Gilmer Milk Transportation

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trailer, 10'00 long.
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6 5
10 9 8 7 5
4 3
K 8

SOUTH
K Q
J 9 8 7 3
4
3 2

FORD '03 F150 Super crew cab, 4 door, cond. Excellent. \$10,950. 281-5609. 281-5609. Stock # 2KE37828D

GMC '04 Canyon, crew cab, 4x4, Duramax, 73K miles, loaded. \$26,000. Call 208-733-3033

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CHRYSLER '02 Impala, 4 door, leather, nice for a family. \$5000. 208-283-7340

DODGE '01 Intrepid 121K miles, excellent condition. \$4350. 208-318-1833

South
8 6 5
J 10 4
Q 10 8 7 5

South
8 6 5
J 10 4
Q 10 8 7 5

South
8 6 5
J 10 4
Q 10 8 7 5

FORD '03 F150 Super crew cab, 4 door, cond. Excellent. \$10,950. 281-5609. 281-5609. Stock # 2KE37828D

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DODGE '01 Charger SE, V8, auto, air, power windows, locks, AM/FM/CD, alloy wheels, cond. Excellent. \$16,988. Stock #2029

South
8 6 5
J 10 4
Q 10 8 7 5

South
8 6 5
J 10 4
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South
8 6 5
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Q 10 8 7 5

FORD '03 F250 crew cab, 4 door, cond. Excellent. \$16,900. 281-5609. 281-5609. Stock # 2KE37828D

GMC '98 HD 1500, crew cab, SLE, short-bed, 454, 90K miles, \$11,900. 281-5609. 281-5609. Stock # 2KE37828D

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South
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South
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INSIDE: Composting with old files, D4 | Work with shrubs, D4

Remembering the CCC

1930s agency was big Idaho employer

By Ariel Hanser
Staff writer

RUPERT — Standing near a carefully constructed rock wall, the two men with white hair looked around. They splines erect, admiring the beauty of the park at Lake Walcott and the wall that predated it. They didn't build that wall, but they could have. Edward Schuckert, 85, and Harold Schuckert, 87, both of Twin Falls, were among more than 3 million men who were "CCC boys," workers with the Civilian Conservation Corps. The agency, started in 1933 as part of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal to combat the Great Depression, employed the men — most between 17 and 20 — to fight fires, build roads, lay rock and complete other projects across

the country. This year marks the 75th anniversary of the creation of the CCC, although no commemorations are planned in south-central Idaho.

The Schuckert brothers, born in Los Angeles, each spent one six-month term in California's CCC. Harold's stint was in 1938 doing odd jobs, like driving trucks, operating the company store, and working as a clerk, before going on to a career as a printer. Edward, though, found his calling doing CCC work. His firefighting stint, from January to June of 1942 — when Congress shut down the CCC as it prepared for World War II — led to a career with the U.S. Forest Service.

"For a kid that age, 17, 18 years old, it was an experience to earn some money other than mowing lawns, things like



Ed Schuckert, 85, left, and his brother Harold Schuckert, 87, both past members of the Civilian Conservation Corps in California, visit Lake Walcott State Park near Rupert on June 19.

Please see CCC, Page D3

INSIDE
Is Magic Valley forgetting?

Celebrate the CCC
See page D3

Where to see history



7 Camp Hagerman CCC company 2529 at Camp Hagerman D6-60 in Hagerman on July 15, 1936.

8 Shoshone Falls Dennis Bowyer, parks and recreation director for Twin Falls, said much of the rock work at Shoshone Falls was completed by CCC workers. The park was donated to the city in the early 1930s. Walk a few hundred yards up Continental Trail and look back over the park, and much of the rock work will be visible, he said. There is other rock work in city parks — including an old fireplace at Harmon Park — that looks as though it were completed during the same era, but Bowyer doesn't know whether workers from the CCC or another New Deal agency, the Works Projects Administration, did the work. The WPA did build the band shell in City Park, he said.

2 Galena Toll Road The CCC project at this site, called PEB1, was begun in May 1934.

3 Horton Peak CCC workers built a lookout building here in 1938.

4 Redfish Lake At one of three major CCC camps in the Sawtooth National Forest, the Redfish Lake camp workers built the Sawtooth Valley Ranger Station and Redfish Lake Guard Station, and worked on fire suppression, bridges, road construction and campground work.

5 Sunbeam At Sunbeam Hot Springs, a natural hot springs on the banks of the Salmon River, 170-degree water mixes with cool river water. There is a historical CCC building on the site, the Sunbeam Hot Springs stone bathhouse, which can be

found three-fourths of a mile upriver from the confluence of the Yankee Fork and Salmon River, its actual date of completion is undetermined, and the building is currently closed to public use.

6 Big Smoky Campground At another of the three major CCC camps, Big Smoky workers built the Soldier, Big Smoky and Liberal ranger stations, and built roads connecting the Soldier and Big Smoky stations as well as South Boise Road.

10 Harrington Park The Harrington Park picnic area isn't far from the camp that CCC workers used in the winter when the Porcupine Springs camp was closed. About 200 workers operated out of the camp, working on projects started by the Porcupine Springs workers, including graveling and widening of Rock Creek Road.

9 Lake Walcott State Park Rock work laid in the 1930s by CCC members still stands at Lake Walcott State Park outside of Rupert. A kiosk near hole 12 of the disc golf course explains the history of the park, including the CCC's role in building the rock walls that enclose the park today. The site was numbered BR-27 and called Camp Minidoka, and workers there also irrigated canals, worked on the sewer system, built a service building and protected wildlife nesting areas. The camp was closed in 1941, and the CCC buildings were torn down.

11 Porcupine Springs Near the heads of Goose Creek and Rock Creek, this summer CCC camp housed as many as 2,000 men between 1933 and 1941. The workers fought fires, built the Oakley-Rogerson Road, installed telephone lines, managed insects and timber and built structures at the Bostetter, Oakley, Shoshone and Rock Creek ranger stations. At nearby Bostetter Campground, visitors can see signs of the CCC work.

12 Rainbow Campground Marked on a U.S. Forest Service map as "Rainbow Campground," it is near Mount Harrison; no additional information was available.

Sources include Sawtooth National Forest documents, U.S. Forest Service documents, Dennis Bowyer, kiosk at Lake Walcott State Park, gwp.avey.com.

About the map

The *Times-News* was unable to find a comprehensive database of the locations of Civilian Conservation Corps camps in south-central Idaho, or of the work the "CCC boys" did that remains today. Although the CCC legacy and alumni association's Web site includes a list of camps in Idaho, it doesn't state what work was done at each location, or specifically where each camp was — just the nearest town and railroad.

The Sawtooth National Forest administrators knew to have been connected to the CCC, but no details on the work done. Here is a map of the sites the *Times-News* was able to uncover, with what we learned about those sites. Some, like Lake Walcott State Park, have placards detailing the CCC work done there, while others, like Shoshone Falls, have structures known to be CCC work but little information.

— Ariel Hanser



Ed Schuckert, 85, holds an old brushhook engraved with "CCC" for Civilian Conservation Corps. Schuckert used similar tools to fight fires during his time in the CCC and afterward as a U.S. Forest Service firefighter. He salvaged this one as a reminder of his time in the agency.



Rock work completed by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s remains at Lake Walcott State Park near Rupert. Posing nearby are former "CCC boys" Ed Schuckert, 85, left, and his brother Harold, 87. (Staff photo by Scott Jackson)

COMMENTARY

Is Magic Valley forgetting?

It's been 75 years since the Civilian Conservation Corps was founded as part of Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal to bring the country out of the Great Depression, and some of the CCC men who fought fires, built roads and laid out the wilderness. Edward Schuckert and his brother Harold are just two of those with first-hand memories of the CCC, but at their ages 85 and 87, respectively, it won't be many years before those memories are lost.

Idaho had more CCC camps than any other state except California, and the state ranked second in the program's per-capita spending, too. Yet the *Times-News* was unable to find any central database of documents, photos or CCC structures in south-central Idaho. The Sawtooth National Forest provided a map showing where CCC work was done on its lands, but no key, no description of what was at those locations.

A search of the Internet yielded little. A document on the Web site of the National Association of Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni shows the identification numbers of the camps in Idaho, which CCC companies worked there, which railroads they used and which post offices, but no specific locations or tasks. Details can be found on the CCC's role in developing Idaho's first state park at Lake Chatcolet and work done near Boise, but not

much about work done in Magic Valley.

In 1983, *Issue of Idaho* Yesterdays marking the 50th anniversary of the CCC, Judith Austin wrote about the projects, which she describes as having a dual nature: "the conservation of land and forests, and the conservation of the young men who served in the CCC." Despite some interesting statewide statistics, she wrote very little about what was actually done in Magic Valley. Instead focusing on the Lake Chatcolet and Boise work.

Not much information is easy to find. Before all the men who worked the forests and lands of Magic Valley as "CCC boys" are gone, an effort should be made to gather their memories — not just of their experiences, but of the specific places they laid roads, dug roads and cut trees. This information should be posted at these locations and compiled somewhere it can easily be found. Then, when these men have died, children climbing the walls or walking the roads they built will not know whose hands are responsible, and the history will not be lost to dusty archives. If you can't find it on Google, the world is beginning to believe, it must not be important.

We shouldn't let Magic Valley forget what the CCC boys did around here, and what those efforts accomplished for the country.

—Ariel Hansen

CCC

Continued from page D1 that," Harold said. In the Depression, there wasn't much money or work to be found, so the government's offer was very attractive: \$30 a month — \$25 of which was sent home to the men's families — plus room, board and night classes.

"That was the scheme, to get that money into the family," Edward said. "That was such a great program, I'll tell ya. It was my salvation, totally."

Their father had left the family when the boys were young, and their mother died when Edward was 13, leaving him "bounced around" for four years until he turned 17, old enough to join the CCC.

"I had no home, I had nothing, a big zero," Edward said. Signing on with the CCC changed that. "I had superiors. I had care, I had meals. ... I had a roof over my head, clothes for my feet, clothes for my eyes."

The CCC boys were given military fatigues from World War I, and in the camps they were organized by military officers. But when they went to work, it was usually for other government agencies like the Forest Service. They learned skills that for some like Edward proved useful in careers.

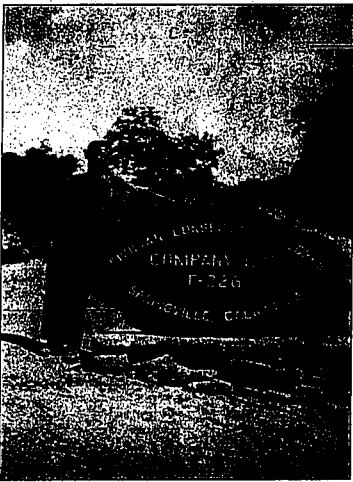
"It was good with a brushhook," he said, describing a tool used for fire control. He also learned road maintenance and firefighting. After the CCC, Edward was hired by the Forest Service, which took him to a rank equivalent to captain. "It was my foundation for what I became. I give it a lot of credit."

Of course, it wasn't all work. With the \$5 a month they had left over, CCC boys would buy chocolate or cigarettes — 2 packs for 25 cents — or booze, or would go to the movies in nearby towns. On weekends, Harold would hitchhike home from the camp he worked at near Porterville, Calif. They never hopped trains, though once a cop nearby told Harold and a friend to the station on that suspicion when he found them walking near the railroad tracks. (The boys talked their way out of it.)

Not all some of the early CCC boys spent their nights in army surplus tents, Harold describes it like camping out. "We didn't suffer too much." And, he noted, there was plenty to eat. "I'll tell you one thing, they fed you good."

No luxuries like sodas or potato chips, but the lunches of thick sandwiches and an apple filled them up. And for breakfast? "There's nothing like army pancakes," Edward said, saying they "flew like Frisbees."

In retirement, both brothers found their way to Idaho.



Harold Schuckert poses with a Civilian Conservation Corps sign in California in 1938. Schuckert enrolled in the agency at age 18 and spent six months doing a variety of work.

Do you have CCC information?

The Civilian Conservation Corps Legacy is seeking information about the CCC in Idaho. Write 2752 CCC Legacy, or Marie Edger, 303 12th Ave., Lewiston, ID 83501. Also, the *Times-News* is seeking information and memories about the CCC in south-central Idaho. If you have memories of working in the CCC, or know where a structure or other remaining public available CCC site is, please write us at: Ariel Hansen, c/o Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303. We may publish these locations and recollections in a future issue of the newspaper.

young men and camps with their families. Edward moved here in 1979, and Harold followed in 1983.

"I've always loved to be out in the boonies, as we call it," Edward said. "Our family always loved to be out in the mountains."

Though they've been here more than 25 years, they know very little about what the CCC did in southern Idaho. Harold didn't know the park at Lake Walcott was there, 11 miles northeast of Rupert, let alone the origin

Facts about the CCC in Idaho

- Camps in Idaho: 51/83 national forest; five state for east; one private forest; five Soil Conservation Service (one state park)
- Judith Austin's article in *Idaho Yesterdays* differs on this point; she wrote that the state had 163 camps, including 109 Forest Service, 20 in state forests, nine on private forest lands, eight under the Soil Conservation Service and 16 under the Grazing Service. She notes that the majority were south of the Salmon River.
- Total number of men who worked in Idaho: 86,775; of these, 28,074 were from Idaho.
- Total number of CCC enrollees across the country: More than 3 million between 1933 and 1942; when the program was disbanded (from Wikipedia).
- Total expenditures in Idaho: \$82,145,878.
- Idaho projects: Lookout houses and towers: 238; Impounding and large diversion dams: 91; Telephone lines: 3,034 miles; Trees planted, reforestation: 28,614,000; Fighting forest fires: 484,149 man-days; Tree and plant disease and insect pest control: 841,464 acres; Rodent and predatory animal control: 1,049,974 acres.
- Other projects in Idaho: bridges, roads, campgrounds, picnic areas, buildings in public areas (often built with native materials), restoration of historical sites, fish planting, game count and check stations, winter playgrounds, swamp drainage, mosquito control, fences, erosion control, riparian zone buffer and control.
- Information compiled by Idaho Public Television for its documentary on the CCC in Idaho.

Celebrate the CCC

On July 12, Idaho's first state park, Heyburn State Park at Chatcolet Lake near Pomeroy, will be 100 years old. Idaho's parks and recreation department is commemorating the occasion by holding celebrations at all state parks that day, including free day passes. The Idaho chapter of the Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni may join the celebration to celebrate the CCC alumni who were responsible for developing Heyburn State Park. Many of the park's structures were built by the CCC, which may be the Idaho site most widely associated with the CCC. Information: CCCI at ccclegacy.org, or the park at: parkandrecreation.idaho.gov or 886-634-3246.

of the carefully constructed rock walls that crisscross it. As he walked the path he talked and joked with Edward, who remembered building similar structures to support roads used in the CCC and proud of their involvement in the organization that gave so much to them, to millions of their peers and to the country as a whole.

"I was one of the very last CCC boys," Edward said. "That's a bunch, 3 million, and I'm glad I was one of them."

Ariel Hansen may be reached at 208-735-3376 or ariel.hansen@lee.net.

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IN YOUR GARDEN

Composting with old files

By Scott Akar
Special to The Washington Post

I have yards of old business and personal files I need to dispose of. They can't go into the blue recycling bin for privacy reasons. I wonder if they could be shredded for composting. My office shredder, which handles five sheets at a time, is out of the question. I am thinking of firing up my five-horsepower garden shredder for the purpose.

A: Check with the manufacturer of your garden shredder to make sure it can handle the paper. Yard waste is rich in organic matter and contains more moisture than paper, and you may overtax the engine or dull the blades with dry paper.

You can compost paper as long as it is free of inks or dyes that might be toxic to the soil or the plants growing

in it. Newsprint free of toxins makes good compost or mulching material. Thomas Donvito of US Ink, which supplies the ink used by The Washington Post, said his company has not conducted safety tests for garden use but knows that its inks are free of lead- or cadmium-based pigments, including the colored inks used for the comics.

There may be a small possibility that glossy inserts, not printed by the newspaper and not using US Ink products, may use some lead-based pigments," he said in response to an inquiry. He also pointed out that, by weight, ink constitutes just 1 percent of the printed newspaper.

Because paper is com-

posed of cellulose fibers, it will require a lot of nitrogen to break down. You can mix it with bagged poultry manure, blood meal or grass clippings to give the fungi and bacteria what they need to break down the paper fibers.

You may also enlist the help of earthworms, which are often bedded on shredded newspaper in worm composting bins. Though office paper may be thicker and less to their liking, it will serve the same purpose of keeping their food aerated by preventing matting of kitchen waste, clippings and other organic debris that you add to the worm composting system. As the paper breaks down, they will eat it and speed its decomposition.

Work with shrubs, not against them

By Scott Akar
Special to The Washington Post

Q: We have many shrubs around the house that spread by runners, namely oxleaf hydrangea, nandina, fothergilla and clethra. I have tried to cut back the suckers but this method is time-consuming and getting harder each year. Could I use Roundup or another spray that would kill the suckers without harming the parent plant? If not, what would you suggest?

A: Instead of fighting the natural tendencies of these shrubs, work with them. Like most shrubs, yours produce new branches from the base to replace old ones that are no longer vigorous. If you use Roundup on the sprouts, it can seep into all parts of the plant, resulting in injury or death.

Of the shrubs you mention, only the nandina truly has rhizomes that can sprout a significant distance from the parent shrub. You may want to consider replacing your nandina with something else. The dwarf forms of

nandina are much less likely to produce these rhizomes. The other shrubs don't have rhizomes, but do grow vigorous shoots near the base of the shrub. Instead of focusing your efforts on removing that new growth, concentrate on removing some of the oldest branches. Cut a few of them to the ground every three to five years. The younger shoots will fill in, and you will be rewarded with healthier foliage and larger masses of flowers on the more vigorous branches.

How to tackle unwelcome visitors on herb pots

Newsday

Q: I am growing herbs in containers on my deck and am finding small green bugs on the underside of them—specifically, my mint, parsley and cilantro. I've never encountered that problem in the past. I don't use chemicals to kill them. I've tried a solution of mild soap, vinegar and water in a spray bottle. Am I doing something wrong and can you suggest something other than my solution?

A: Without actually seeing your little green visitors, we can't be 100 percent sure what they are, but our guess is they're aphids, especially on the mint and cilantro. Measuring one-eighth of an inch long or less, these soft-bodied plant lice come in a range of colors, including green.

They congregate around stems and under leaves, upon which they feed. They pierce plant tissue with their needlelike mouths, and at some point a sap-saliva exchange occurs, causing distorted leaves and galls on the plant. Sometimes this even involves transmission of a virus. To make matters worse, their excrement—ironically called honeydew— attracts ants, flies and wasps and rolls out the red carpet for sooty mold, which in turn blocks sunlight to leaf surfaces. As you know, it's not pretty.

Your first line of defense should be water. Wash the leaves early in the day with as hard a stream of hose water as the plant can handle. If you find you need more help, get your hands on some lady bugs, sold specifically for this purpose at nurseries and garden centers, and set them loose on your plants. They'll make a meal of your aphids so that you can make meals with your herbs.

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