

B2 · SATURDAY · OCTOBER 18, 2008

LOCAL NEWS

THE NEWS TRIBUNE.COM

FROM OUR READERS

APPLAUSE

Wednesday was the second annual Project Homeless Connect event in Pierce County. More than 900 homeless folks came for a variety of essential services.

As one of the nearly 600 volunteers, I am proud to help us connect. An elderly man who is nearly blind was able to get help using a cane. A 50-year-old man who had lost his job and had no home got his hypertension medicine refilled. A young woman with painful feet got a pair of shoes without holes. I am proud to work with caring people who by working together to provide services to those in need.

Homelessness is only one disaster away for most of us. Wednesday at the Tacoma Dome, we were all neighbors, and some were fortunate that others. Who knows which of us were more blessed that day, the givers or the receivers?

JAN RUSBECK Tacoma

To submit Applause and Open Mike items, write to The News Tribune, 8140 E. 16th, 3000 Tacoma WA 98504. Or call 252-52704. Or e-mail janrusbeck@news-tribune.com. Limit 150 words. Submitters are the property of The News Tribune and may be edited and published in any format.

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THE NEWSROOM

JOIN OUR NEWS MEETING

Our main news meeting is held weekly at 9:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. and open to the public. If you'd like to attend, call Grace Ryan at 253-597-8622 to schedule a visit.

OUR EDITORS

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READER REPRESENTATIVE

If you have questions or comments about the paper, our reader representative will be happy to talk with you. A volunteer staff member will take calls from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

To reach us, call 253-597-8400, or toll free from Seattle, 206-467-0242, Ext. 862. From Federal Way, 253-961-9700. Ext. 8622, and from Lacey and Olympia, 360-352-2264, Ext. 8622. Send e-mail to readerrepresentative@thenewstribune.com.

WASHINGTON DAILY GAME: 8/7-0

KENO: 6-3-5-9-2-5-25-28-29-34-41-42-52-54-57-63-64-69-74-77

MATCH 4: 2-8-9-21

HPF 8: 0-21-15

6-Drawings: Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays

0-12-18-28

No big winner

Toddy: 12000000

LOTTO: Oct. 16

6-Drawings: Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays

94-27-29-42-43

No big winner

Jackpot: 174 million

MEGA MILLIONS: Oct. 17

6-Drawings: Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays

745-27-28-37

Mezz: 547.5

No big winner

Friday: 122 million

OREGON MEGALUCKS: Oct. 15

6-Drawings: Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays

2-4-6-25-35-48

No big winner

Jackpot: 138 million

POWERBALL: Oct. 15

6-Drawings: Wednesdays, Saturdays

3-5-35-38-48

PowerBall: 12

No big winner

Toddy: 152 million

Six teens charged in robberies

One man died in crimes prosecutors say were related to marijuana

Six teenagers enter not-guilty pleas in a pair of robberies in which one man died. A seventh awaits extradition from California.

BY ADAM LUTWY adam.lutwy@thenewstribune.com

Pierce County prosecutors charged six teenagers Friday in a pair of marijuana-related robberies that led one man dead and two others wounded.

No guilty pleas were entered until about 10 a.m. Friday. The defendants are age from 16 to 19. They all are being prosecuted as adults in Superior Court.

An arrest warrant also has been issued for a seventh teen, Phillip Kiyavich Ochoa, 16, is suspected of shooting all three victims, according to court records. He is in a California jail, awaiting extradition to Washington State.

Prosecutors contend in charging documents that members of the group decided on two separate occasions to rob people they knew to be public marijuana buyers.

They also contend Ochoa opened fire in each case without provocation.

Johnna Thomas Gashburn, 20, died in one of the robberies Sept. 3 after being shot when he answered the door to his apartment in Tacoma's South End, the documents state. His roommate also was shot and survived.

Three men suffered gunshot wounds when some of the teens robbed him Aug. 26 near Larchmont Elementary School, the charging documents state.

The defendants arraigned Friday are: Ronald Urzua, 16. He is charged with one count each of first-degree robbery and conspiracy to commit first-degree robbery for allegedly participating in the Aug. 26 incident.

Keith Mark Conaman, 18. He is charged with one count each of first-degree robbery and conspiracy to commit first-degree robbery for allegedly participating in the Aug. 26 incident.

Jonathan Choong Thai, 16. He is charged with one count each of first-degree murder, first-degree burglary, conspiracy to commit first-degree robbery and attempted first-degree robbery in the Sept. 3 incident.

Billy Leones Gomban, 18. He is charged with one count each of first-degree murder, first-degree burglary, first-degree robbery and attempted first-degree robbery and two counts each of conspiracy to commit first-degree robbery and second-degree unlawful possession of a firearm.

Prosecution contend he took part in both incidents.

Cashy Jean Dumalal, 19. He is charged with one count each of first-degree murder, first-degree burglary, conspiracy to commit first-degree robbery and attempted first-degree robbery in the Sept. 3 incident.

Leary Sauer, 18. He is charged with one count each of first-degree robbery, conspiracy to commit first-degree robbery and second-degree unlawful possession of a firearm in the Aug. 26 incident.

Superior Court Judge Lisa Wronowicz ordered Urzua, Conaman and Sauer jailed in lieu of \$100,000 bail. Wronowicz ordered the rest jailed in lieu of \$1 million bail. All are to appear Nov. 13 for a pre-trial hearing.

Ochoa is charged as an adult with attempted first-degree murder, attempted first-degree robbery and conspiracy to commit first-degree robbery in the Aug. 26 incident. He also is expected to be charged in Gashburn's killing after his extradition.

Adam Lutwy 253-597-8644 adam.lutwy@thenewstribune.com

SOME PARENTS CONCERNED ABOUT AIR QUALITY, MOLD

School inspections decision on hold

Lawmakers must decide in their next session how to pay for additional health inspections at schools, says the state Board of Health in a debate decision.

The Associated Press

The state Board of Health has postponed a decision on whether to require local health districts to inspect schools annually for health and safety violations, until lawmakers decide who will pay for the inspections.

Under the proposed rules, schools would be inspected annually for clean air violations and potential hazards in high-risk areas. The inspections would include checking pesticides and chemicals for harmful chemicals, and inspecting playgrounds, laboratories and bathrooms.

The proposal also includes regulations for building new schools and for significant remodels.

The state Board of Health began reviewing the rules about four years ago after several parents complained about school safety issues, mostly mold and air quality.

Board members postponed a decision on the rules until lawmakers decide who will pay for the inspections.

Executive Director Craig McLaughlin said the board will wait to vote on the proposed rules, likely until June, to allow lawmakers an opportunity to discuss money to pay for the inspections during the session that begins in January.

"It's not clear from the direction of the board members that they believe the rule should be in place regardless of how the Legislature decides it should be funded," McLaughlin said. "The Wenatchee Model for a study Friday."

The proposal is a revision of 38-year-old health and safety rules that require schools to be inspected "periodically," a term that has never been defined.

None of the state's 35 health districts has a school inspection program.

The intention is a good one, said Chelcie Douglas Health Director Marie Mangis, who will pay for the inspections?

Like most health districts statewide, the Chelan Douglas Health District inspects 25 percent of its workforce and several programs to make a \$320,000 deficit in its 2009 budget. Schools are ignoring their belts as transportation, food and personnel costs rise.

"Our children spend many hours of every day inside school buildings and we want to ensure they have healthy environments to live," Mangis said. "I think in some form it's almost certain to be passed."

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Teekah poster to be featured on truck sides

BY STACY MALICK malick@thenewstribune.com

The continuing search for Teekah Lewis, one of Tacoma's long-missing children, is getting on pace as the Homebound Bound program.

Who will be the latest missing child featured as part of the Homebound Bound program? The Washington State Patrol and Gordon Trucking of Pacific Beachhead launched the program in 2006 to help bring missing children home.

Under the program, the photos of 15 missing children have been featured on the sides of Wash Gordon Trucks, which treat the nation's highways.

The new Teekah poster will be unveiled at a safety fair in Federal Way, Tacoma police spokesman Mark Fighman said. Lemaria Jones, a 4-year-old girl who went missing from Tacoma in 1995, also has been featured.

Teekah has been missing since Jan. 23, 1999. The 2½-year-old, she was last seen about 10:15 p.m. at New Frontier Lanes bowling alley, 4723 S. Corner St., in Tacoma. She was wearing a red and white plaid shirt and a red and white plaid skirt.

Family members and law enforcement officers have been searching for her since. No trace of her has been found in more than nine years.

Stacy Malick 253-597-8244 smalick@thenewstribune.com

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North Idaho Co. logs, from a logging site, are piled up in a wooded area.

Clarence Duncan, superintendent of the state's Puget Sound fish hatchery at Vogel's Creek, helped a netful of salmon in October 1957. It was the largest run in years, with record numbers of the fish returning to the creek near Orting. One estimation put the population there at 6,000 salmon.

LOOKING BACK

A SCOTTISH HISTORY THROUGH WORDS AND PICTURES

10 YEARS AGO TODAY: OCTOBER 18, 1998

Warmer of various clubs in Tacoma will give a minster show to raise funds for the Ferry Museum.

30 YEARS AGO TODAY: OCTOBER 18, 1978

A World War II mine, about three