



Renewed push, vigil in Teekah Lewis case

13 YEARS: Police examine tips that may be linked to the case.

BY STACEY MULICK
Staff writer

An ice-crushed through more than 700 tips called to Tacoma police after little Teekah Lewis vanished from a bowling alley 13 years ago, detective Lindsay Wade came across three that made her stop.

The sheets detailed three incidents involving children approached by a stranger in and around New Frontier Lanes. One incident occurred just hours before Teekah, a brown-eyed, 2½-year-old, disappeared Jan. 23, 1999, from the bowling alley as her family bonded near-by. In another incident, a 4-year-old boy was sexually assaulted.

See TEKAH, back page

IN THE NEWS

Jury duty? Pick me

You notice a jury summons in your mail. You are (a) required to your fate, (b) a working, talking gripe machine for the next two weeks, (c) drafted. The Tacoma was overruled at the chance to be part of one of the latest judicial systems on the planet despite its flaws. See ARCHIVE MERRYMAN'S COLUMN, Page A3

Giffords will step down

Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, D-Ariz., announced Sunday that she will resign this week, about one year after sustaining massive injuries in a massacre in Tucson that killed six. See story, Page A5.

TODAY'S WEATHER

Sunshine with a few showers. High: 43. Low: 35. No heat has. Details, Page B6, story, Page A6

dealsaver
60 Minute Massage, Chiropractic Exam & X-Rays \$29
Discover it! Chiropractic

dealsaver.com/tacoma

WHAT'S INSIDE

Bridge column	C1
Classified	C1
Classics	C6
Crossword	C6
Local News	A3
Lottery	A2
Movies	A2
Obituaries	A2
Opinion	A9
Sports	B1
Television	C4

Task force lays out partial pothole plan

TACOMA: Panel suggests higher property taxes, car-tax fee, bonds; even that would barely begin to fix road woes

BY LEWIS KAMR
Staff writer

Tackling Tacoma's rampant road problems will require asking voters to raise their property taxes, along with lowering city utility revenue

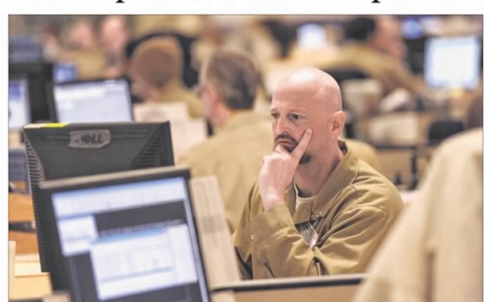
And even that's just a fraction of the money needed to deal with the city's aging and falling streets. Or so says a 13-member citizens committee formed last year to study how the city might deal with criti-

cally needed street transportation infrastructure repair estimated to cost at least \$800 million. After more than four months of work, members of the "mobility stakeholder funding task force" last

week and imposing a new city car tax fee to collectively raise about \$344 million over the next six years.

See POTHOLE, back page

State dips its toe in 'Lean' process



Inmate Patrick Lowden works on the computer recently at Stafford Creek Corrections Center. He's part of a state "Lean" manufacturing experiment.

EFFICIENCY: Gregoire sees process as way to make government more effective; critics aren't so sure

BY BRAD SHANNON
Staff writer

INSIDE GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY—Inside the Stafford Creek state prison, an inmate serving time for murder works quietly at a desk, using computer-assisted design tools. He is putting final touches on a blueprint for a bunk bed that might be built for a university's dorms.

Other inmates take furniture orders at one end of a long row of desks in the prison's furniture business office. The desks are arranged in the sequence of the decisions that have to be made, helping orders move into production within 36 to 48 hours compared with two weeks previously.

Right next door, the Correctional Industries' factory has carefully placed equipment for manufacturing — tables, steel filing cabinets, chairs and other cubicle furnishings — in small zones devoted to each task. The number of tools and steps



As inmates must show an ID with a bar code to get their mail at Stafford Creek Corrections Center. The scan prevents an inmate from getting two meals.

is minimized, using the "Lean" industrial design principles pioneered by Toyota Corp. more than two decades ago. "Everything is put in flow. Everything is placed strategically," said Joanne Miller of Washington Correctional Industries, on a recent tour of the Stafford Creek facility. Correctional Industries — a division of the Department of Corrections that puts prisoners to work, combining job training with the production of uniforms, food and office furnishings used by government agencies — was one of the first

See INMATES, back page

Area lawmakers search their souls on same-sex marriage

BY JORDAN SCHLAGER
Staff writer

Some see marriage as a divine institution, and some Washington politicians have struggled to reconcile their own internal divisions.

Whether by searching their souls or by the political consequences, a few state lawmakers representing South Sound have had tough decisions to make as votes line up in

rights that he supported. "But referendum 71 didn't pass in my district. In my mind, if this law is to pay attention to the people's represent."

with a comfortable margin, just like Referendum 71 did, said Tacoma Rep. Steve Kirby, referring to the 2009 "proving ball marriage" expansion of domestic-partnership

Some remain on the fence. "I frankly think if it went to a vote of the people, it would pass

See MARRIAGE, Page A4

