

METRO/IOWA

DAILY NOTEBOOK

TODAY/Dec. 13, 1996

MEETINGS

10:30 a.m. — Linn County Commission of Veterans Affairs, 119 Third St. NE, Suite 217.
Noon — Cedar Rapids City Council, agenda meeting, mayor's office, City Hall.
1:15 p.m. — Cedar Rapids City Council, OPN Architects meeting on council chamber upgrade.

MAYOR'S CALENDAR

Cedar Rapids Mayor Lee Clancey's tentative schedule:
Noon — agenda planning meeting; **3:30 p.m.** — Osada ribbon-cutting ceremony.

ENTERTAINMENT

Entertainment events in Weekend magazine.

LECTURE

"The Death Penalty in Iowa," by John Ely Jr., 7 p.m., Marion Public Library, Room B; sponsored by Iowa Ethical Union.

RECYCLING

Cedar Rapids drive-through recycling site, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Public Works complex, 1201 Sixth St. SW.
 Cedar Rapids recycling truck, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Hy-Vee, 4035 Mount Vernon Rd. SE.
 For other recycling information, call Bluestem Solid Waste Agency, 398-1278.

LOTTERIES

IOWA LOTTERY

\$100,000 CASH GAME: 10-14-20-34-35
DAILY MILLIONS: Red: 6-7; White: 8-11; Blue: 8-11
 No one won the Daily Millions drawing.

ILLINOIS LOTTERY

PICK 3 MIDDAY: 3-0-3 **PICK 3 EVENING:** 8-1-5
PICK 4 MIDDAY: 9-8-6-7 **PICK 4 EVENING:** 0-5-4-0
6-of-54 JACKPOT: \$4 million

Lottery numbers available on CITYLINE, 363-7000 or 337-7000, category 2900.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

MERCY
Dec. 11 — Devonne and Randy Cooper, 1706 13th Ave. SW, a daughter.
Dec. 12 — Diane and Alvin Benesh, 1682 Fernow Rd., Marion, a son; Sara and Darin Ulmer, 6510 Brookview Lane NE, a son; Cheryl Jennerjohn and Joe Fannon, Manchester, a son.

ST. LUKE'S

Dec. 11 — Shellah Martin, 922 Seventh St. SW, a daughter.
Dec. 12 — Chastity Jellison, 3404 Queen Dr. SW, a son; Jeanne and Christopher Brenner, Lisbon, a son.

DEGREE-DAYS

Total for Dec. 11, 1996 29
 Total July 1, 1996 — Dec. 11, 1996 2,049
 Total July 1, 1995 — Dec. 11, 1995 1,969
 Percent of normal year 31%
 Total normal year 6,703

Compiled by MidAmerican Energy Co.
EDITOR'S NOTE: Degree-days represent the difference between the day's average temperature and 65, the temperature at which indoor heating usually is needed. The figure provides a way to compare heating fuel needs for different dates.

THE LOG

Information for The Log is collected by The Gazette from public safety agencies in Eastern Iowa. Charges are subject to review by county attorneys' offices.

Linn County

DRUNKEN DRIVING CHARGE

Daniel A. Meyer-Huerter, 34, 983 Eastview Dr., Marion; arrested Thursday in the 3100 block of Seventh Avenue in Marion.

ASSAULT CHARGES

Frank Ray II, 37, 1954 Mount Vernon Rd. SE, charged with assault causing bodily injury; accused of assaulting Brett Opperman on Thursday at 800 F Ave. NW.
 Garth W. McMann, 45, 810 N St. SW, charged with assault causing bodily injury; accused of assaulting Jennifer Jolley, same address, Thursday at their residence.
 John P. McNamara, 22, of 404 W. Clark St., Hiawatha, charged with assault causing bodily injury; accused of assaulting Doreen Jones, same address, Wednesday at their residence.

Johnson County

DRUNKEN DRIVING CHARGE

Sherry A. Kuba, 22, 209 18th Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids; arrested Thursday at mile marker 3 on southbound Interstate 380.

Rescue: Marion woman aids man

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"I knew I couldn't run anymore. ... I couldn't breathe."
 About the same time — 10:30 a.m. — Henry, 20, of Marion, was making a delivery for Future Systems Inc., where she works for her mother.
 "It's kind of a weird coincidence," Henry said.
 The payroll service company's normal deliveryman was out of town, and the replacement worker was sick.
 That brought Henry down F Avenue NW near 13th Street, where she spotted Mullen clutching his chest.
 Unsure of the situation, Henry continued on and made her delivery but decided to drive back on the same road.
 By that time, Mullen was on his hands and knees.
 Henry made a U-turn and stopped in the middle of the road.
 Henry thought Mullen might be having an asthma attack, so she offered him her inhaler.
 He just told her to call an ambulance.
 Instead — although a bit hesitant that Mullen might be faking an illness and intended to rob her — Henry offered to drive him to the hospital.
 "I just knew he was in pain," she said. "I figured if I was on

the ground, I'd want somebody to stop."
 At St. Luke's Hospital, employees asked Henry for Mullen's name, address and other information.
 She was at a loss until Mullen tossed her his wallet and asked her to phone his girlfriend, Mercedes Bailey-Holt.
 Henry made the call, then waited in the emergency room until Bailey-Holt arrived.
 At the time, Bailey-Holt, 21, of Cedar Rapids, said she was so worried about her boyfriend that she didn't ask Henry her name.
 At Mullen's request, she went to the media to try to determine Henry's identity.
 All Bailey-Holt knew was her first name, that she had reddish hair and was wearing a green coat.
 Henry's father heard the request for information on WMT radio and called Henry.
 Mullen, who was recovering at Bailey-Holt's parents' home last night, said he thought it was important to thank Henry in person.
 "Out of 20 cars that passed me by, she was the only one who stopped," Mullen said. "I don't know if I would've stopped."

2 acquitted in Cedar Rapids

Trial to continue in fraud, money laundering case for 6 defendants

By Dick Hogan
 Gazette staff writer

U.S. District Judge Mark Bennett on Thursday dismissed federal charges of money laundering and mail fraud against two of eight defendants on trial in Cedar Rapids.
 Bennett issued a judgment of acquittal for Sandra Hildebrand, 38, of Greene, and Donald Borgmann, 55, of Chanhassen, Minn.
 All eight defendants sought acquittal at the close of government evidence Wednesday, claiming evidence was insufficient for a jury to find them guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.
 Attorneys argued the motions before Bennett without the jury present. Bennett issued the acquittal judgment for Hildebrand and Borgmann at noon.

The defendants were indicted in September on mail fraud and money laundering charges. They are accused of bilking 6,832 people in 49 states and two Canadian provinces out of slightly more than \$2 million between January 1993 and October

1994.
 The trial, now five weeks old, continues Monday for the other six defendants. The first defendant to present evidence may be Allen Zurcher, 69, of Greene.
 Neither Borgmann nor Hildebrand could be reached for comment. Borgmann's attorney declined comment

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because the trial of the other defendants is still in progress.
 But in opening statements some five weeks ago, Borgmann's attorney, Leon Spies of Iowa City, told the court his client was "two times a victim" because he put his faith and money in others and lent his good name to the organization.
 The alleged scheme was based on the premise that the Internal Revenue Service, the Federal Reserve System and its banks were fraudulent and unconstitutional.
 Prosecutors charged that the defendants falsely told people that a class-action lawsuit against the federal government had been won in Colorado and that they were authorized to pay millions of dollars in "new money" to anyone who filed a claim form and paid a \$300 processing fee. In actuality, the lawsuit had

been dismissed.
 Borgmann, a successful businessman in Minneapolis, paid \$300 each for several claims for himself, family and friends because he believed so strongly in the cause, Spies said.
 Borgmann was recruited by people he trusted and agreed that money orders received with claim forms could be put in his name. Spies said Borgmann also opened a bank account in Minnesota under his name but never handled any of the money.
 "The prophecy began to fail in late '94," Spies said.
 Promises by Scott Hildebrand and others "soon began to ring hollow" as the distribution dates for the "new money" kept getting pushed back, Spies said. In October 1994, Spies said, Borgmann and others confronted Hildebrand about needed changes. The government moved in a short time later.
 Sandra Hildebrand's attorney, Paul Papak of Cedar Rapids, said in his opening statements that his client was not involved in a conspiracy and committed no crimes. There is no evidence she knew anyone was being defrauded, Papak said.
 "She was an office secretary in her farmhouse in Greene, Iowa. She was involved because she believed in what her husband was doing and she

The remaining defendants are accused of bilking 6,832 people in 49 states and two Canadian provinces out of slightly more than \$2 million.

wanted to be closer to him." She never signed any checks, made any money or pitched the alleged scheme to anyone, Papak added.

The remaining defendants in the trial are: Zurcher; David Gardemann, 61, Mankato, Minn.; Kenneth Kraklio, 58, Davenport; Joseph Menlick Jr., 52, Colby, Kan.; and Larry Webb, 54, and his wife, Joan Webb, 50, both of Cedar Falls.

Separate trials are scheduled later for Scott Hildebrand, 38, of Greene, Sandra Hildebrand's husband, and his father, Quentin Hildebrand of Greene.

The remaining defendants have professed innocence, saying that because they believed in what they were doing, they had no intent to defraud anyone or were unaware of the total circumstances.

Lying around the library



Zachary McComas, 4, of Coralville, spends an afternoon in the children's room of the Coralville Public Library. Zachary, who likes books about snakes, sharks and riddles, goes to the library once a week and checks out several books at a time. On Thursday, he was visiting the library with his mother, Pamela McComas.

Photo by Jeanine Brown, Gazette intern

Tourism official: Traveling in Israel is safe

By Lyle Muller
 Gazette Johnson County Bureau
IOWA CITY — Despite reports of Middle East violence, religious sites in Israel are safe for tourists, an Israeli tourism official said here Thursday.
 "Ninety-nine percent of the tourist attractions can promise you that it is safe," said Tsion Ben-David, Midwest director of the Israel Government Tourist Office.
 In a talk to about 20 area clergy on how to set up Holy Land pilgrimages, Ben-David did his best to present Israel as an attractive destination for tourists.
 Ben-David, of Israel's Chicago consulate, said acts of violence in trou-

bled areas such as the Gaza Strip and Lebanon get attention in the United States. "Our major problem promoting Israel is for those who are afraid to go to Israel," he said.
 Tourism is Israel's largest industry, generating \$3.3 billion worth of business annually. The country's leaders promote it as the birthplace of Judaism, Christianity and Islam.
 Once people have visited the country, Ben-David said, they are satisfied with the trip. "They want to see the Bible come alive," he said.
 Moreover, there are other tourist attractions such as the Mediterranean

Sea beaches and the Red Sea, he said.

Still, achieving peace has been a deliberate process in the region. On Wednesday, an Israeli mother and her 12-year-old son were killed by gunmen near Palestinian-controlled Ramallah, in the West Bank.

"We're in the midst of negotiating peace with the Palestinians and I'm very optimistic," Ben-David said. "I think that sooner or later they will join us."



Tsion Ben-David

Spoke to 20 area clergy

Inquest to reveal evidence in death

Father, grandmother fight over baby ex-C.R. woman left

By Lynn M. Tefft

Gazette Johnson County Bureau
IOWA CITY — Authorities investigating the death of Laura Van Wyhe plan to reveal all the evidence they've collected during an inquest today in Quincy, Ill.

An inquest is a proceeding, conducted before a jury, to determine the circumstances surrounding a death.

A trucker found Van Wyhe, 21, formerly of 1026 E. Washington St., along Highway 136 near Kahoka, Mo., in the early morning hours of Oct. 26.



Laura Van Wyhe

Died after being found along Missouri highway

She died later in a Quincy, Ill., hospital. Adams County, Ill., Coroner Chris Boyer ruled that Van Wyhe died of multiple injuries consistent with being struck by a car.

Also, other investigators have said Van Wyhe was not struck at the location where she was found.
 Van Wyhe and her son, Samson, had gone to Bonaparte to visit the family of Donald Knight, Samson's father and Van Wyhe's ex-boyfriend, the night before she was found in Missouri.

A hearing to determine custody of 16-month-old Samson was held Thursday in Johnson County District Court.

Van Wyhe's mother, Lee Ann Thomas of 1026 E. Washington St., is challenging Knight for custody. Knight now lives in Bonaparte.

Judge David Remley may make a ruling in the next two weeks. Remley denied requests from the media to observe the hearing.

Evelyn Nikell of Pella, Van Wyhe's aunt, said testimony was to center not on Van Wyhe's death but the comparative parenting skills of Thomas and Knight.

Members of Knight's family, who have been caring for Samson, declined comment about the hearing. Nikell said the families have an adversarial relationship.

Hinde was released from custody after promising to appear in court at a later date, Johnson said.

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issue Co-chairman Jim Foote said voters would have to approve a second ballot question allowing the district to raise its total bonding levy above its current limit of \$2.70 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.
 The bond issue is estimated to add \$2.25 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation to the \$1.27 the district is currently levying toward some \$10 million of debt related to bonds sold after the last bond election in 1993.
 The new total of \$3.52 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation will still be under the state's ultimate ceiling of \$4.05, Foote pointed out.

committee members believed nixing the new high school option for a reconfigured district with a new elementary school was the most economical solution. The plan also calls for moving fifth graders to the elementary schools and creating a middle school for grades six through eight in the intermediate school building.
 "In essence, the community will be getting a new high school because junior high students will be moving out," Wilson said.
 In answer to another question, Linn-Mar board President Tom Miller said the board also looked "really hard" at whether the district would have operat-

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ing funds available to open a new school and was confident the answer was "yes."
 "We didn't want a situation where we had a nice building, but couldn't afford to open it," Miller said.
 MILLER AND others also said they were working to change state practices regarding on-time funding of new students but did not calculate those changes into their operating cost projections.
 Public referendum on the \$25 million bond issue is scheduled for Feb. 25, pending presentation of the proper public petitions to the Linn-Mar school board.

School bond: Plan defended at public hearing

Sex abuse charges emerge from boy's therapy

INDEPENDENCE — Allegations of sexual abuse that emerged during an Iowa teenager's therapy sessions are the basis of a charge against a former Independence woman.
 Michelle Jo Hinde, 23, now of Waterloo, turned herself in Saturday to Independence police after a two-month police investigation into allegations raised in

month period from March to August 1987, when the victim's mother lived in Independence with Hinde and her father, Independence police Sgt. Tim Johnson said.
 Hinde was released from custody after promising to appear in court at a later date, Johnson said.