

Have a seat

Learn about the "politics of seating"

ACCENT

TODAY

Partly cloudy
Wind: NNW 5-10
High **73** Low **52**

SATURDAY

Mostly sunny
Wind: S 5-15
High **81** Low **58**

Weather Report, 6F

Latest forecasts online
<http://www.kcrg.com>

TODAY

Sold

BBQ Roundup brings spice to Cedar Rapids

The annual roundup spotlights barbecue styles from seven vendors. The grills will be going through Sunday. **DETAILS, 1B.**

Carroll O'Connor

John Lee Hooker

Carroll O'Connor, John Lee Hooker die

Carroll O'Connor, TV's Archie Bunker, died of a heart attack Thursday. He was 76. **DETAILS, 3A.**

Veteran bluesman John Lee Hooker died Thursday in California. He was 83. **DETAILS, 2A.**

C.R. woman made 1,000 rosaries

After a decade of work, Florence Brown has kept her promise. **DETAILS, 1B.**

Winged sprints to fly at Hawkeye Downs

The fastest cars to run at Hawkeye Downs Speedway make their return this weekend. **DETAILS, 1C.**

Iowa car insurance is cheapest in nation

A low claims rate keeps costs down for Iowans. **DETAILS, 7B.**

'Overalls' parody needs blue suede shoes

The Left Bank bar's unofficial Overalls entry pays homage to the king of rock 'n' roll. **DETAILS, 1B.**

TOMORROW

Pint-size players take the field

RECREATION

www.gazetteonline.com

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St. Luke's adds floors, parking

\$15 million project begins this summer

By Dave DeWitte
Gazette assistant financial editor
CEDAR RAPIDS — St. Luke's Hospital will break ground this summer on a new 350-vehicle parking structure and an addition to the Nassif Heart Center — work with a combined price tag of \$15.1 million.

The Nassif Heart Center addition will take the form of a fifth and sixth floor above the existing four-floor structure, adding 40,000 square feet of

space. It will house the offices of a cardiology practice owned by the hospital, United Heart Associates, and add space for diagnostic facilities, heart health programs and support services.

The 350-stall parking structure will be built on the hospital's west parking lot on the north side of A Avenue. With three levels of parking, it will increase by nearly 50 percent the patient and visitor parking available.

Both of the projects target customer convenience and access issues, St. Luke's President and CEO Stephen Vanourmy said.

Construction will begin in August and take about 14 months. The general contractor is Ellerbee-Beckett Construction Inc., Minneapolis.

The heart center improvements consummate a long-range plan the hospital set forth in 1999 to offer a full range of cardiology services under one roof, according to Vanourmy. The parking garage will ease parking shortages and reduce visitors' exposure to the elements.

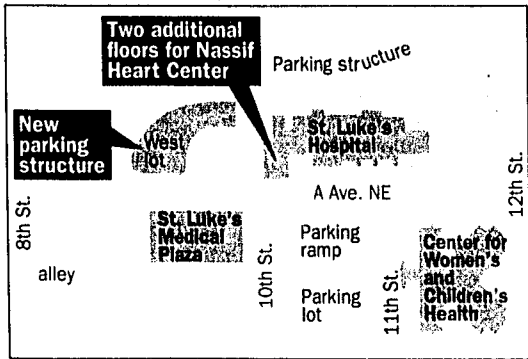
St. Luke's will build the projects without borrowing or issuing bonds, but the project "will take up a good deal of our capital over the next two

years," Vanourmy said.

St. Luke's has been on an aggressive building program to beef up its heart and women's care facilities, areas of expected growth. About \$36 million has been spent on the heart center and women's center.

To replace parking lost during construction, St. Luke's will turn over its A Avenue

St. Luke's expansion



staff parking ramp to patients and visitors.

Contact Assistant Financial Editor David DeWitte at (319) 398-8317 or davidd@fyiowa.com

Murder has Chicago links



Linda Gilbert, whose son Tyrone, 28, was killed early Thursday morning in southeast Cedar Rapids, buttons the vest of her youngest son, while an older son watches Thursday. The Gilberts, Linda, her husband and their four youngest children, were dressed to attend a funeral.

Neighbors used to gunshots but cautious

By Elizabeth Kutter
Gazette staff writer
EDAR RAPIDS — Neighbors surrounding the scene of an early morning shooting in the 400 block of 15th Street SE say they aren't afraid.

Their actions say otherwise. Charles and Kathy Smith have been through this before.

"You get used to it," Charles Smith says. "I got a place in the hallway near the attic where I go to" when the shooting starts. "They'd have to go through three doors to get to me."

Smith has lived at the corner of Fourth Avenue and 15th Street SE since 1984. "My house is bought and paid for," he says. "I'm stuck."

His wife says she heard the

"When it turns dark, I close the curtains and stay in the house."

Kathy Smith

shots sometime after midnight Wednesday. She had just gone to bed.

"I wasn't even going to get up," Kathy Smith says. "It sounds terrible to say this, but it happens a lot. You get so you just ignore it."

"When it turns dark, I close the curtains and stay in the house," she says. "That way you don't see anything or hear anything."

On Washington street, a group of young men are talking about the shooting. "It's confused," one of them says, who

won't give his name.

"Drugs, Chicago," says another before they all turn and walk away.

Across the street from the house where Gilbert's body was found, adults sit on a porch. Yellow crime-scene tape stretches from their house to the house across the street.

"It's happened before — last year," 14-year-old Abdullahi Abdi says. He translates for the adults, natives of Somalia.

"We're not afraid," he says, speaking for an adult cousin. "But we're thinking about mov-

ing.

"We were sleeping," Abdi says. "I heard firecrackers last night, but I don't think it was gunshots. A lot of people do bottle rockets and cherry bombs."

Elsewhere, music from a neighbor's stereo plays '80s rock music while kids ride scooters and sit on the stoop, watching the police and TV cameras. They'd like to be on TV or in the newspaper, they say, but that won't happen without their mother's permission. When they ask, she sweeps them inside.

"I'm their mother," she says. "And they haven't seen anything."

Contact writer Betsy Kutter at (319) 398-8263 or betsyk@fyiowa.com

Victim's brother acquitted in 1999 gang-related killing

By Steve Gravelle and Elizabeth Kutter
Gazette staff writers
EDAR RAPIDS — Tyrone Gilbert died early Thursday on the porch of a run-down, rental house in southeast Cedar Rapids, around the corner from where Jamar Magett, a Chicagoan with gang affiliations, was fatally shot two years ago.

Gilbert's younger brother Paul was acquitted in Magett's death, and some neighborhood residents are connecting Tyrone Gilbert's shooting death to Chicago gangs, even if police aren't.

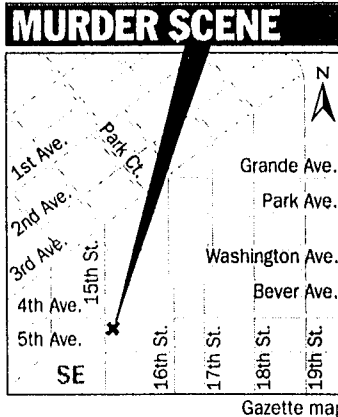
A woman who refused to give her name said Gilbert, 28, stopped at her home in the 1400 block of Fifth Avenue SE on Wednesday night. Gilbert told her he was afraid to go home because of "problems" with men who'd recently moved to the neighborhood from Chicago.

"There's a lot of worried neighbors, a lot of concern there may be some payback," said Russ Oviatt, president of the Wellington Heights Neighborhood Association.

Police Chief Mike Klappholz said it's too early in the investigation to confirm, or rule out, any factors in Gilbert's death.

"We're just getting started," Klappholz said. "For me to speculate at all on any possible

■ Turn to 7A: **Murder**



Poll: More see nation of haves, have-nots

Most unhappy with country's direction

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans increasingly see an economic divide between the haves and have-nots, according to a new poll that also finds a majority of people dissatisfied with the country's direction.

The poll, released Thursday, indicated the economic boom of the 1990s helped the upper middle-class and wealthy, but

had little impact on the outlook or financial condition of those who make less money.

"The boom has passed these people by," said pollster Andrew Kohut, director of the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press.

Overall satisfaction with the country's direction has fallen in the past six months, with 43 percent now saying they're satisfied and 52 percent saying

POLL HIGHLIGHTS

When results don't total 100 percent, the remainder either didn't know or refused to answer.

Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

Satisfied, 43 percent
Dissatisfied, 52 percent
(Down from 55 percent satisfied, 41 percent dissatisfied in January.)

Do you think of America as divided into haves and have-nots, or

don't you think of America that way?

Yes, divided into haves and have-nots, 44 percent
No, 53 percent

(In August 1988, 26 percent thought the country was divided and 71 percent thought it was not.)

Thinking about the money you owe on credit cards and installment loans (excluding your mortgage), would you say you ...

Owe more than you can afford, 28 percent

Owe about what you can afford, 31 percent

Owe less than you can afford or do not have debts, 40 percent

(In January 1992, 21 percent owed more than they could afford, 31 percent owed about what they could afford, 46 percent owed less than they could afford or had no debts.)

■ Turn to 7A: **Poll**

Murder: Victim knocked on door before shots fired

■ From page 1A

motives would be inappropriate.

An autopsy was conducted Thursday, with results expected today, police Sgt. Cristy Hamblin said.

No arrests have been made.

GILBERT MAY have been seeking help or shelter at 412 15th St. SE when he was shot on or near that home's porch at about 1:30 a.m., according to Aymanda Weber, one of those in the house.

She said Gilbert rapped on the door, but no one opened it. "It's not our business," said Weber. "We were just sitting inside."

Weber, 18, said she was near the front of the living room when she heard rapid footsteps on the street outside, followed by what sounded like an argument. It sounded like Gilbert was surprised to encounter his assailant, she said.

There was a shot, Weber said, followed by a shout — possibly a man's name — and two more shots.

"I said, 'Someone call the cops, because I can't,'" Weber said.

The police dispatch log shows a man who lives near the house called 911 at 1:35 a.m.

Weber said Gilbert, whom she didn't recognize, was wearing a gray shirt and blue basketball-style shorts.

Police spoke to a cab driver who reportedly picked up a fare about a block west of the shooting around the time Gilbert was shot.

FOUR BLOCKS from the spot where her son was shot to death, Linda Gilbert, her husband and their four younger children continued with plans to go to a funeral Thursday morning.

"We're going to a funeral, then this happened," Linda Gilbert said, wiping tears from her eyes.

She spoke reluctantly, having dealt with the media and the police before. Tyrone and Paul, her two oldest sons, have been in plenty of trouble.

Tyrone's lengthy record includes assault and drug charges dating to 1990, along with single counts of theft and burglary.

But even on the darkest day, she remembered the good times.

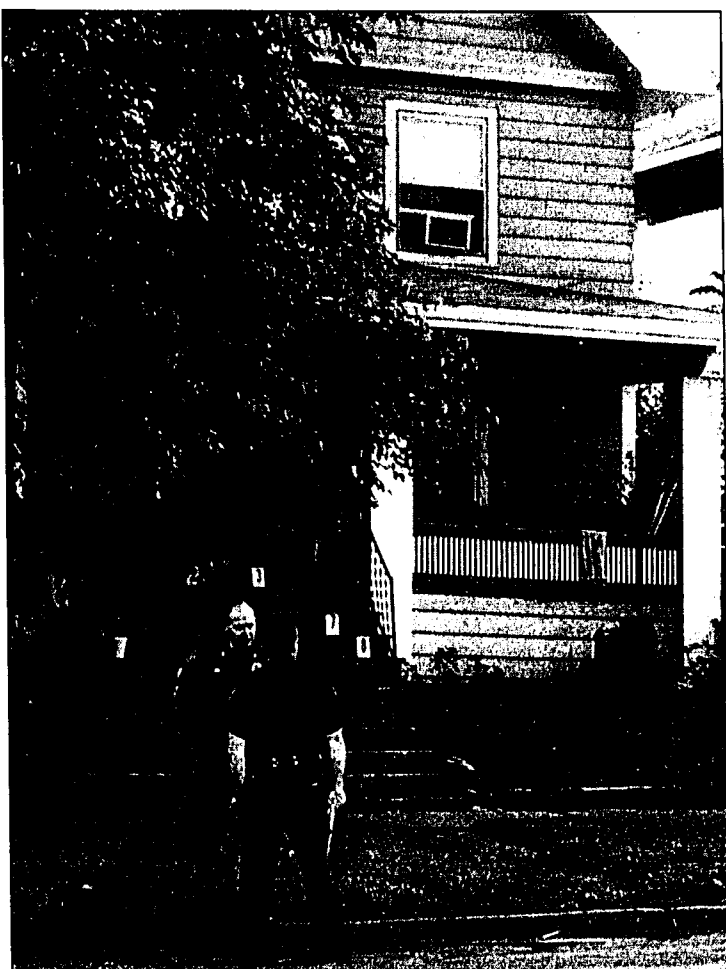
Tyrone, she said, was big, "just like a teddy bear."

"He liked to work out," she said, pointing to a weight bench on the front porch of their house at 375 19th St. SE.

Nearby a grill lay half-assembled. "He was going to put that together for Fourth of July," she said, shrugging her shoulders. "Now, ..."

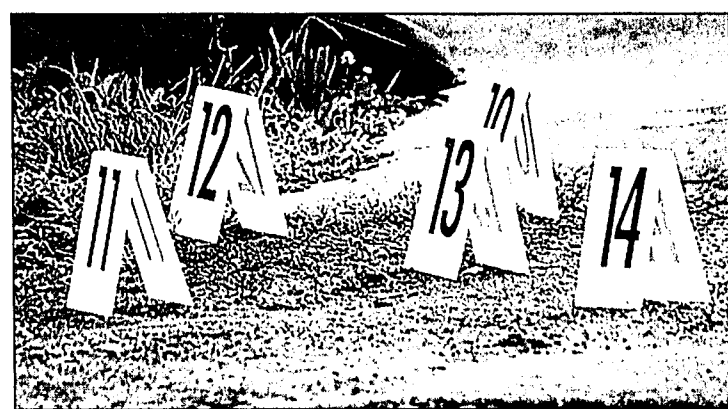
Tyrone was born prematurely, she said, but he loved to eat. And he loved his job at Buffalo Wild Wings.

He went to Cedar Rapids schools through middle school before getting mixed up with a



Gazette photos by Mark Christian

ABOVE: Cedar Rapids police talk in front of the house at 412 15th St. SE where Tyrone Gilbert, 28, of Cedar Rapids, was shot to death near the porch at about 1:35 a.m. Thursday. BELOW: Markers show where police found shell casings at the crime scene.



bad crowd and drifting away, Gilbert said. He finished his GED and had attended a year of college at Kirkwood Community College.

"He loved to play football," she said.

Like his mother, Tyrone was a member of New Testament Deliverance Church, which he sometimes attended with her.

Last summer was relatively quiet in the inner-city Wellington Heights neighborhood — peace that was shattered by two pipe bomb explosions late last week and then Thursday morning's homicide.

Gilbert's fatal shooting happened on the same block as the Nov. 27, 1999, shooting death of Willie Brooks, 49. In that shooting, too, a neighbor reported hearing an argument, followed by a gunshot.

Earlier that year, on May 10, 1999, Magett, 19, of Chicago, was shot twice as he stood in

the 1400 block of Fifth Avenue SE.

A jury acquitted Tyrone Gilbert's younger brother Paul, now 20, of that murder in a September 1999 trial.

The trial explored Magett's connections with the Gangster Disciples gang in Chicago and Paul Gilbert's association the Shotgun Click, a loose-knit local gang.

Tyrone Gilbert's death is the second homicide in Cedar Rapids this year. On March 11, the body of Sally Malacas, 26, was found in the basement storage closet of her apartment building in southwest Cedar Rapids. Her brother-in-law, John Buenaventura, 26, has pleaded not guilty to first-degree murder in connection with that death. The case is scheduled for trial Oct. 15.

Contact writer Steve Gravelle at (319) 398-5819 or stevegr@tjowa.com

NEWS TIPS?

Please call us with your tips for stories and photos:
(319) 398-8254 in Cedar Rapids
(319) 339-3155 in Iowa City
or 1-(800) 397-8212

Poll: Less than half in good shape financially

■ From page 1A

they're dissatisfied. That dropoff from a 55-41 positive split in January was led by a decline among women and minorities.

The number of people who think the country is divided between those who have enough and those who don't has grown steadily and now is at 44 percent — up from 26 percent in 1988.

Just over four in 10 in the new poll thought President Bush was mostly concerned with helping those who have enough, while one in 20 said he was interested in helping those who don't. Four in 10 said he was treating both groups about the same.

The president has pitched his recently passed tax cut as a way to help all Americans. But just over a third said they were looking forward to getting their

income tax rebates, while almost six in 10 said they hadn't thought about it.

Less than half, 44 percent, now say they are in good or excellent financial shape personally, a drop of 8 percentage points from a year ago.

"The economic gains the middle class have made seem to be very much threatened by the credit crunch and by energy costs," said Kohut.

The people who say they have more debt than they can afford to owe have grown from a fifth of Americans in 1992 to almost three in 10 in 2001. More than a third of those who have family incomes of less than \$50,000 said they have credit card and loan debts that are more than they can afford.

A fourth of people in the survey said not having enough money to make ends meet was

the biggest problem facing them and their families. High prices were right behind that.

The poll of 1,200 people was taken last Wednesday through Sunday and had an error margin of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

Those at the lower end of the economy saw few signs of economic progress.

"The survey gives a lot of evidence that poor people remain about as poor as they were in the early 1990s," Kohut said.

The numbers who said they didn't have enough money for food, clothes and health care were all up slightly from other polls taken over the past two decades.

However, middle-income and wealthy people said it is now easier for them to afford housing, appliances and vacations.

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Stricter fuel economy rules for SUVs seen

The Washington Post WASHINGTON — The federal government is moving toward imposing stricter fuel economy standards on popular sport-utility vehicles, minivans and other light trucks for the first time in 26 years, according to congressional Republicans and Bush administration officials.

The auto industry, backed by powerful allies in Capitol Hill, has long resisted efforts to close or eliminate the gap between the fuel economy standard for vehicles classified as cars, which must get an average of 27.5 miles per gallon, and those classified as light trucks, which must meet a standard of 20.7 miles per gallon.

But with lawmakers eager to be seen as responding to the country's energy problems, the administration is coming under increasing pressure to impose stricter limits on light trucks, which compose nearly half of all passenger vehicles sold in the United States. Republican members of Congress and administration officials said Thursday it appeared increasingly likely that the government would tighten the fuel economy standard this year.

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