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MARK**

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FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 2012

The Seattle Times

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Police talks go to mediation

CITY, JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

Community groups slam city plan as 'vague,' demand role in talks

BY MIKE CARTER AND STEVE MILETICH
Seattle Times staff reporters

After months of unfruitful talks, city officials and the Department of Justice are engaged in intense negotiations with a mediator as they attempt to reach an agreement to bring about sweeping changes in the Seattle Police Department, Mayor Mike

McGinn said Thursday.

"Even without the mediator, progress is being made," McGinn said of the effort to resolve the Justice Department's finding that police officers routinely use excessive force.

The mediator, identified as Teresa Wakeen, is highly regarded in her field and was immediately acceptable to both sides, according to sources fa-

miliar with the talks. Reached at her office Thursday, Wakeen said she could neither "confirm nor deny" her role in the talks and declined further comment.

According to her website, Wakeen, the president of Wakeen & Associates in Seattle, has successfully mediated more than 4,000 disputes nationwide
See > POLICE, A16



JUDGE WON'T dismiss civil-rights suit over arrest
> B1

COPS ON A RESCUE MISSION

"We wanted to do more than put the bad guys in jail ... It's personal for us. It's way more than a job."

DETECTIVE BRIAN TAYLOR
King County sheriff's Street Crimes Unit



PHOTOS BY DEAN RUTZ / THE SEATTLE TIMES

King County Sheriff's Deputy Andy Conner talks to volunteers at The Genesis Project, a drop-in center to help prostitutes.

Frustrated — and heartbroken — by the violent, abusive cycle of the sex trade, these cops go "above and beyond the call of duty" to help victims.

BY SARA JEAN GREEN
Seattle Times staff reporter

The young woman with long brown hair turned and waved at Detective Brian Taylor as he watched her from a parking lot off International Boulevard in SeaTac.

He maneuvered his SUV behind a building, but when she turned and waved again, he abandoned stealth for a face-to-face meeting.

"I think she's got me pegged as a cop," Taylor said with a sigh. "Let's go see if we know her."

As dusk darkened on a recent Friday, the woman crossed a side street and waited for Taylor to pull up.

"I knew it was you!" she said as Taylor climbed from behind the steering wheel. "I swear, I'm just walking. I'm not working."

For Taylor and the two other detectives assigned to the King County sheriff's Street Crimes Unit, such encounters are a nightly ritual as they patrol Highway 99 — also known as International
See > SHELTER, A10



Deputy Andy Conner, left, first had the idea for a drop-in shelter. Detective Brian Taylor, Sgt. Rich McMartin and Detective Joel Banks helped get it going and let women know that services are available.

Oyster grower sounds an alarm

IN BATTLE TO SURVIVE, OPENS HATCHERY IN HAWAII

Ocean acidification threatens state's shellfish industry

BY CRAIG WELCH
Seattle Times environment reporter

After 34 years rearing shellfish in Wilapa Bay, Dave Nisbet was in a bind: Nature had stopped providing.

Oysters were no longer reproducing naturally on the Washington Coast. Oyster larvae were even dying in nearby hatcheries, which use seawater to raise baby shellfish that get sold as starter seed to companies like Nisbet's Goose Point Oysters.

But when, in 2009, Nisbet heard oceanographers identify the likely culprit — increasingly corrosive ocean water, a byproduct of the same greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming — the oysterman did the unthinkable.

Nisbet took out a loan and spent three years testing and building a new hatchery that opened recently. In Hawaii.

Most of Washington's \$100 million-a-year oyster industry has been whipped
See > OYSTERS, A11

Automatic cuts in defense could cost 1 million jobs

Seattle Times news services

WASHINGTON — Across-the-board budget cuts scheduled to hit the Pentagon in January would eliminate nearly 1 million jobs by 2014, with Virginia, California and Texas absorbing the biggest hits, and Washington state losing more than 25,000 positions, according to an analysis released Thursday.

The job losses probably would include about 750,000 private-sector positions, including about 100,000 jobs in manufacturing, even as President Obama is promoting manufacturing as key to the nation's economic recovery.

The report, by the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), is the latest in a growing heap of studies warning
See > DEFENSE, A3

DOMESTIC programs also at stake if Congress fails to act > Close-up A3

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