



Abilene Reporter-News

50 cents

January 18, 2005

www.Reporter-News.com

Brrrrrr! It's cold everywhere

Think Monday morning's 22-degree low in Abilene was cold? It was balmy compared to Embarrass, Minn., where the temperature plummeted to 54 degrees below zero Monday. "You keep living, but it gets old after a while," said Christine

Mackai, town clerk for the community of 691 people in north-east Minnesota.

Mackai said Embarrass had been prepared for bitter cold as early as last Thursday. "It only got down to 28 below, and that's nothing. That's no big

deal," she said.

Well-below normal temperatures Monday stretched from Minnesota to the Gulf Coast of Mississippi and throughout the eastern portion of the United States.

— Staff and wire report



Don Kozak uses a snowblower to clear his driveway Monday in North Kingsville, Ohio.

Families trying to cope with boy's death

By Ken Ellsworth
Reporter-News Staff Writer

Highland Church of Christ members spent much of Monday trying to deal with an accident that killed a young church member and injured six other youth and one adult Sunday afternoon.

Seven middle school aged children were returning to Abilene from a church retreat in the Dallas area when the driver, Julie Folwell, 49, lost control of her Suburban on Interstate 20 near Putnam, according to the Department of Public Safety. The vehicle rolled over onto its top, the DPS reported.



Bourland

Brody Bret Bourland, 11, was pronounced dead at the scene.

Folwell and the six other youth in the Suburban were taken to regional hospitals. Two youth were released Sunday night. None of the other injuries appear to be life-threatening, said Stormy Higgins, a church member.

Three children remained Monday night at Cook Children's Medical Center in Fort Worth. A hospital spokesman said Austin Lemmons, 11, and Chris Cope, 12, were in critical condition, and Jon Westin Bennett, 11, was in serious condition.

Amara Childers, 14, was in stable condition Monday night at Hendrick

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Greyhound drops stop in Colorado City

By Staci Semrad
Reporter-News Staff Writer

Greyhound Bus Lines is discontinuing service to Colorado City effective Feb. 3.

David Stubblefield has operated the bus stop since 1987 at his Gas and Grub convenience store.

His store is the only bus stop in Colorado City for Greyhound, which is the only line servicing the city, he said.

The bus line currently makes three daily stops at the store. Stubblefield first learned about the change when an official with Greyhound in Dallas called him New Year's Eve, he said.

"They told me (it was) so they could serve the majority of their customers better," Stubblefield said.

Greyhound officials in Abilene could not be reached for comment Monday.

Stubblefield said he can't see a financial advantage to Greyhound no longer stopping in Colorado City, because the line comes through town on its way to Big Spring.

Furthermore, he said he collects for Greyhound about \$2,300 per month in freight fees and passenger tickets. Stubblefield receives about a 10 percent commission on that revenue, he said.

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Moving in Unity



Participants in the annual march in memory of Martin Luther King Jr. sing as they walk Monday toward downtown. More than 100 people gathered for prayer, song and excerpts from King's writings.

Events honoring MLK focus on past, progress

Abilenians of all races joined together Monday to celebrate the life and works of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., American's foremost civil rights leader who was slain in 1968.

They gathered at The Grace Museum Monday morning to hear noted authors Donna Grant and Virginia DeBerry, who

later spoke at the annual Martin Luther King dinner at the Abilene Civic Center.

They joined forces in a march over the MLK bridge in east Abilene Monday afternoon before attending the evening dinner.

Symbolically, Abilenians joined with Americans from coast to coast and people of other nations in paying tribute to King, who was assassinated in Memphis, Tenn., on

April 4, 1968.

Five years before he was fatally shot, King delivered perhaps his most famous speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. In that speech King eloquently told of his dream for America. He envisioned a nation of equality in which people of all races moved forward together.

— Loretta Fulton

Love of books binds authors

Authors Donna Grant and Virginia DeBerry seem to share the same soul.

The pair led a lively and humorous discussion on their lives and their work together as novelists Monday morning at The Grace Museum in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The event was sponsored by the Abilene Black Chamber of

Commerce.

When the two met 23 years ago they were competitors vying for the same jobs. They were both plus-size models working in the same market.

"Our relationship began in competition and we ended up as running partners," DeBerry said.

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'Harriet Tubman' tells tale

In a long black dress and her gray hair in a bun, the likeness of Harriet Tubman crept onto stage.

All eyes gazed upon her as she spoke her first words.

"I was a slave. The daughter of a slave and the granddaughter of a slave," said the dramatic monologist, Casandra Jordan.

She played the part of Harriet Tubman, the underground rail-

road heroine who helped hundreds of people escape slavery in the 19th Century.

Jordan, a counselor at Lee Elementary School, was part of the entertainment lineup at the 14th annual Martin Luther King Jr. dinner, attended by hundreds of people Monday night at the

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NOTE TO READERS

Because of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, today's newspaper does not have an Editorial page, a Big Country section or a Business section. All will return Wednesday. Chalkboard and Carl Kieke's Kids are All Right column, two features normally in Monday's newspaper, are in today's Life section.

Iraqis in U.S. begin registering to vote in homeland election

By Gillian Flaccus
Associated Press

IRVINE, Calif. — Hussan Al Taei woke before the crack of dawn and drove seven hours from Arizona, but he was all smiles Monday after registering to vote in an Iraqi election for the first time.

Al Taei, 37, of Phoenix, was among thousands of Iraqi expatriates who showed up at polling stations in 14 countries from Australia to the United States on Monday to register to vote in their homeland's first independent election in nearly 50 years.

"I get happy and my family's happy because they come for voting. For many years we don't do voting in Iraq. Saddam Hussein, he took all the voting," said Al Taei, a Shiite Muslim who said he fled Iraq 10 years ago and now owns a smoke shop in Phoenix.

Cities in four other states — Michigan, Tennessee, Maryland and Illinois — held registration for the Jan. 30 election. About 240,000 Iraqis are eligible to vote in the

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United States, according to Roger Bryant of the International Center for Migration, which is in charge of the overseas voting for the Iraqi government.

Eligible voters can be American citizens, but must be 18 or older, have been born in Iraq, hold citizenship or prove that their father was Iraqi.

Preparations for the election around the world mirrored those in Iraq itself, where the top U.S. general there predicted violence during the national election but pledged

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