

Man faces multiple charges for burglary

A man is being charged for burglaries in the Calera area.

Search warrants were issued and some of the items that had been stolen were found. Mason Russell Craddock was arrested and charged with four counts of burglary in the second degree, one count of larceny at night and one count of knowingly concealing stolen property.

According to a press release, the Calera Police Department was notified on Wednesday of eight vehicles that had been "burglarized during the late hours of March 17 and early morning on the 18."

The report also stated that "an investigation is still ongoing. Charges will be turned over to the district attorney this morning."

FOOD

Continued from Page 1

leader in the Health and Human Services Department. He is also calling for new requirements that all food companies have written safety plans, annual federal inspections of facilities that make high-risk foods and other reforms.

Mackay's call for major changes could boost President Barack Obama's efforts to remake the system.

Last week, Obama launched a special review of food safety programs, which are split among several departments and agencies, and rely in some cases on decades-old laws. Critics say more funding is needed for inspections and basic research.

"The recent outbreak illustrated that the U.S. food safety system must be strengthened," Mackay said in his prepared remarks. "We believe the key is to focus on prevention, so that potential sources of contamination are identified and properly addressed before they become actual food safety problems."


Peanut Corp. produced not only peanut butter, but peanut paste, an ingredient found in foods from granola bars and dog biscuits to ice cream and cake. More than 3,490 products have been recalled, including some Kellogg's Austin and Keebler peanut butter sandwich crackers.

FDA inspectors swooped down on the Georgia plant in January and found multiple sanitary violations. The problems included moisture leaks, improper storage and openings that could allow rodents into the facility.

Tests by the FDA found salmonella contamination within the plant. After invoking bioterrorism laws, the FDA obtained Peanut Corp. records that showed the company's own tests repeatedly found salmonella in finished products.

How persistent problems at the Georgia plant managed to escape the attention of state inspectors and independent private auditors is one of the main unanswered questions in the investigation.

On the Net:
Peanut Corp. of America:
<http://www.peanutcorp.com>



BANKRUPTCY

Alan M. Perry
Attorney At Law

Oklahoma and Texas Bankruptcy
580-326-0008
108 Duke Street • Hugo, OK 74743

A Debt Relief Agency

GROWING

Continued from Page 1

counties to benefit from the housing situation in the whole region," Long said.

Of the state's three metropolitan areas, only Lawton lost population between 2000 and 2008. It dropped to 111,772 people in 2008, a decline of 2.8 percent from 2000.

Meanwhile, 54 of the state's 77 counties showed population gains from 2007 to 2008, according to census estimates. Among the areas losing population is a swath

of southwest Oklahoma, including Jackson and Comanche counties.

Estimates show Tulsa County ranked No. 1 in the state in total population increase for a one-year period, growing by an estimated 7,841 people from 2007 to 2008.

Tulsa Metro Chamber Economist Bob Ball said a strong local economy during that time may have contributed to the population increase in Tulsa.

"People move where the jobs are," Ball said. "If you want to weather a recession and make some money, the

opportunity is better in Tulsa, because of the nature of business here."

The census data also detailed migration patterns in "micropolitan" areas, which are population centers around cities of between 10,000 and 49,999 people. Of Oklahoma's 17 micropolitan areas, eight of them had higher rates of people moving in than births since 2000.

Of those areas, Stillwater and Durant posted the largest percentage gains in population since 2000. Altus, Ponca City and Miami, Okla., all lost population during the same period.

STRATEGY

Continued from Page 1

"no institution should ever be 'too big to fail.'"

"Replacing Citibank-sized financial institutions with Citibank-sized regulators would be a grave mistake," he said.

Dodd suggested it could

make more sense to give the FDIC, which has the expertise in that area, the authority to resolve big failing institutions.

But Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., chairman of the House Financial Services Committee, and other lawmakers have proposed the Federal Reserve assume the role of systemic regulator to

monitor against the kinds of risks that plunged markets worldwide into distress last year.

Both Congress and the Obama administration are starting to craft their strategies for revamping a patchwork regulatory system that dates to the Civil War as they strive to prevent a repeat of the global crisis.

BURGLARIES

Continued from Page 1

was arrested for public intoxication and larceny of merchandise from retailer. He stated to the officer that he knew what he was doing was wrong."

On Tuesday, Lt. J. Sebourn went to a business along the 1000 block of N. Fifth Avenue. An employee had discovered a window unlocked and groceries and a radio missing.

At about 2:45 p.m.

Wednesday, a fire department crew arrived at the 300 block of E. Roberts Drive, where someone was supposedly burning tires. The report stated there was nothing on fire, but a person had been burning tires. The individual was advised not to do so again.

A few minutes later, firefighters responded to a grass fire at Bryan Road, which was started from trash being burned. About three acres were burned.

A crew responded at about 4:42 p.m. to a brush

fire along Red Bud Lane. The report stated that an individual had been burning without a permit and was told not to do so after the fire had been extinguished.

The department also responded at approximately 4:45 p.m. to a motor vehicle accident along the 500 block of University Place. The report stated that a patient had a C collar put on her and then placed on a backboard. Upon arrival of the Bryan County EMS, the fire department helped load a patient.

Oil hits high for 2009 as dollar plunges

BY CHRIS KAHN
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

NEW YORK (AP) — Oil prices hit news highs for the year today after a decision by the Federal Reserve to spend billions snapping up U.S. bonds sent the dollar tumbling.

Oil is priced in dollars and when the U.S. currency weakens, it essentially makes crude cheaper.

Benchmark crude for April delivery surged \$3 to \$51.14 a barrel in light trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Oil prices hit \$52.25 earlier in the day, a price last seen on Dec. 1.

With the April contract set to expire Friday, most of the trading had shifted to the contract for May delivery. Crude prices on the May contract jumped \$2.86 to \$51.76 a barrel.

Analysts said investors flocked to crude stocks after the Federal Reserve announced late Wednesday it would buy long-term government bonds, a measure that's expected to jolt the economy with lower rates on mortgages and other consumer debt.

The Fed also said a \$1 trillion program to jump-start consumer and small business lending could be expanded

to include other financial assets.

"You're seeing wild swings in a lot of commodities today," said Phil Flynn, analyst at Alaron Trading Corp. "The government is basically printing money to buy back all this paper, and it devalues the dollar."

The U.S. dollar dropped against other major currencies this morning. The euro traded at \$1.3542, up from \$1.3424 late Wednesday.

Flynn said the rise in oil shouldn't be taken as a sign that the economy is on the mend. The Fed is using all of its powers to prop up American businesses, "and this is one of their last shots," Flynn said. "If this doesn't work, they're out of bullets."

The jump in oil comes despite a government report today that said jobless claims set a new record for the eighth straight week. The Labor Department said continuing claims for unemployment insurance jumped 185,000 to a seasonally adjusted 5.47 million, another record-high and more than the roughly 5.33 million that economists expected.

However, initial claims dropped to a seasonally adjusted 646,000 from the previous week's revised figure of 658,000. That was better than analysts' expectations.

Natural gas prices surged today on a government showing that U.S. stockpiles fell slightly more than expected last week.

The Energy Information Administration report said inventories held in underground storage in the lower 48 states fell by 30 billion cubic feet to about 1.65 trillion cubic feet for the week ended March 13.

Gas prices increased 1.3 cents a gallon overnight to a new national average of \$1.933 per gallon, according to auto club AAA, Wright Express and Oil Price Information Service. Pump prices are 2.7 cents a gallon cheaper than a month ago and \$1.346 a gallon cheaper than last year.

In other Nymex trading, gasoline for April delivery jumped by more than 6 cents to \$1.4292 a gallon, while heating oil rose more than 9 cents to trade at \$1.3574 a gallon. Natural gas for April delivery rose 44 cents to \$4.121 per 1,000 cubic feet. In London, Brent prices rose \$2.62 to \$50.28 on the ICE Futures exchange.

Associated Press writers Ernest Scheyder in New York, George Jahn in Vienna, Austria and Alex Kennedy in Singapore contributed to this report.

Hawk released after adventures in New York store

YORKTOWN, N.Y. (AP) — A red-shouldered hawk that lived for weeks inside a New York Home Depot has been returned to the wild.

The Teatown Nature Center in Yorktown released the hawk Wednesday. It was treated at The Raptor Trust in Millington, N.J.

It moved into the Cortlandt, N.Y. store in January. It was spotted by a customer buying school supplies for his daughter.

Workers said the hawk

seemed to favor the building-materials section.

Volunteers made numerous efforts to capture the creature. They finally succeeded in February, after it was stunned by flying into a window.

At the nature preserve

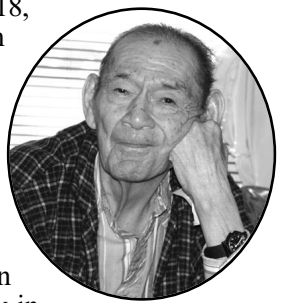
Wednesday, rescuers said the hawk appeared to call out to them as it circled above the trees and disappeared.

Information from: The Journal News,
<http://www.thejournalnews.com>

Obituaries

Henry Ramos, 87

Services to celebrate the life of Henry Ramos, 87, and lifelong resident of Durant who passed away on Wednesday, March 18, 2009 in Durant, will be held on 10 a.m. Friday, March 20, at Brown's Funeral Service Chapel. Dale Randolph will officiate.



Henry was born Jan. 26, 1922, in Durant to Pete and Juanita (Pena) Ramos. He attended school in Durant then later proudly served his country in the United States Army. He was co-owner and operator of KC Waffle House in Durant for many years. He was a member of the DAV and was of the Baptist faith. He enjoyed fishing, watching boxing, football, spending time with family and friends, but his greatest joy in life were his grandchildren and great grandchildren. Henry will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Henry was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Mary Ruth Walker; brothers, Lupe and Tommy Ramos; son in law, Ronnie Barkley; and great-grandson, Jaden Kelley.

Those left to cherish his memory are his loving and devoted companion, Nancy of the home; daughters, Judy Barkley of Calera and Vickie Anderson and husband David of Durant; sister, Louise Peterson of El Paso, Texas; adopted daughter, Louise Temple and husband Terry of Paoli, Okla.; grandchildren, Ladonna Hobbs of Mead; Ronnie Barkley and wife Vicki of Calera, Patrick Barkley of Calera, Angela Anderson of Durant and Mandy Anderson of Durant; great-grandchildren, Preston and Parker Barkley, Cirara Hobbs, Amanda, Amber and Amy McGaha, Austin Withers and Makayla Anderson; other relatives and a host of dear and loved friends.

Interment will be in Highland Cemetery with Ronnie Barkley, Patrick Barkley, Preston Barkley, Parker Barkley, Alan Hobbs and John Dulin serving as pallbearers.

The family will receive friends at the Funeral Home today from 6-8 p.m.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.brownsfuneralservice.com.

Brown's Funeral Service, Durant is handling the arrangements.



Brown's Funeral Service

Texoma Cremation Service

Nora Roberta McMennamy, 52

Services are pending with Cunningham Funeral Home in Colbert for Nora Roberta McMennamy, 52, of Kemp, who died Thursday morning, March 19, 2009, at the residence.

Johnnie Ray Argo, 65

Services are pending with Cunningham Funeral Home in Colbert for Johnnie Ray Argo, 65, of Caddo, who died Wednesday morning, March 18, 2009, at Texoma Medical Center.

TAXING

Continued from Page 1

including all their toxic assets — whose collapse in normal bankruptcy could cause calamity in the financial markets.

Republicans have pointed their criticism at Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, questioning how much he know about the bonuses in advance and efforts by the administration to stop them. And they complained anew

about being locked out of discussions earlier this year when Democrats decided to jettison a provision in the economic stimulus bill that would have revoked the payments.

"The fact is that the bill the president signed, which protected the AIG bonuses and others, was written behind closed doors by Democratic leaders of the House and Senate. There was no transparency," said Sen. Charles Grassley of Iowa, the senior Republican on the Senate Finance Committee.

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY

Application or Appeals

Call for free phone consultation...Don't wait to be denied!

Former staff attorney
Social Security Administration

No Fee Unless You Win



Law Office of
Ken Popkess
(800) 730-8761
(903) 891-0110
Fax: (903) 813-0922

www.popkesslaw.com
319 W. Houston - Sherman, TX 75090

THE DEMOCRAT

(USPS 163-000) Established 1900: The Durant Daily Democrat is published daily except Saturday and widely observed holidays, at 200 West Beech St. in Durant, Okla., periodicals postage paid at Durant, Okla., 74701.

Subscription rates

Carrier delivery: \$96 annually; \$48 six months; \$24 three months; \$8 monthly.

By mail: Bryan County (including P.O. Boxes): \$109 annually; six months, \$54.75; three months, \$27.50.

By mail: Outside Durant trade territory in Oklahoma: \$156 annually; six months, \$78; three months, \$39.

By mail: Outside Oklahoma: \$169 annually; six months, \$84.50; three months, \$42.25.

Prices above include sales tax where applicable.

POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to:

Durant Daily Democrat
P.O. Box 250
Durant, Okla.
(580) 924-4388
200 W. Beech



WIN BIG!

What if it's your Lucky Day!
Got your Lotto Ticket?

KWIK CHEK

201 S. 9th • 724 N. 1st
2320 W. Main

Powerball	Pick 3	Texas Cash 5	Lotto Texas
<p>Wednesday 16-26-29-41-45 Powerball: 1 Power Play: 2</p>	<p>Wednesday Oklahoma 6-3-2 Texas 4-2-3</p>	<p>Wednesday 6-7-9-18-32</p>	<p>Wednesday 4-15-20-22-24-34</p>