

Good Morning, here are today's top stories and the weather forecast for Thursday August 12, 2010.

Albuquerque Weather: High 94

Rio Rancho Weather: high 94

Espanola Weather: high 90

Santa Fe weather: high 88

Belen/Los Lunas weather high 94

and now the news:

>Key Primary Elections Held In Several States

(Washington, DC) -- Key primary elections were held yesterday in several states. In Colorado, Democratic U.S. Senator Michael Bennet won the chance to seek another term. Bennet, who had President Obama stumping for him, defeated former Colorado House Speaker Andrew Romanoff, who was endorsed by former President Bill Clinton. In Connecticut, former World Wrestling Entertainment CEO Linda McMahon skated to an easy victory over former Representative Rob Simmons in the Republican Senate primary. In Georgia, Nathan Deal holds a narrow lead over Karen Handel in the Republican runoff for governor.

>>NTSB Probes Crash That Killed Five, Including Former Alaska Senator

(Anchorage, AK) -- The National Transportation Safety Board has investigators on the ground in Alaska looking into the crash of a small plane that killed five, including former U.S. Senator Ted Stevens. Among the four survivors was Sean O'Keefe, a former administrator of NASA and the current North American chief of the European aerospace company that makes Airbus aircrafts. The survivors are being treated for various injuries at Providence Hospital in Anchorage.

>>Remains Believed To Belong To Missing AZ Boy

(Undated) -- The search for a boy who disappeared from a campground in Arizona last month has come to a tragic end. The Yavapai [[yah-vuh-pie]] County Sheriff's Office reports that skeletal remains discovered in a wash about two miles from the Beaver Creek Campgrounds are believed to be those of two-year-old Sylar Newton. Police announced last week that Newton's disappearance had become the focus of a criminal investigation.

>>Governor Meets With Border Sheriffs In San Antonio

(San Antonio, TX) -- Texas Governor Rick Perry met with border sheriffs in San Antonio yesterday to discuss security issues. Perry says that law enforcement personnel constitute the state's first line of defense against the growing drug-related violence that is tearing apart northern Mexico. Perry has urged the feds to approve his request to send one-thousand National Guardsmen to the Texas border.

>>Spacewalk To Repair Cooling System Could Happen Today

(Houston, TX) -- NASA officials say a space walk outside the International Space Station to repair a broken component on the cooling system should happen today. A coolant loop on the station failed and many onboard systems have been shut down to minimize overheating. Flight Engineers Doug Wheelock and Tracy Caldwell Dyson will perform the space walk. NASA officials say the failure of the coolant loop poses no threat to the occupants of the International Space Station.

>>John Lennon's Killer Sees Parole Hearing Postponed

(Attica, NY) -- The man who killed John Lennon has had his parole hearing postponed for another month. Mark David Chapman hopes to convince a New York state parole board to release him from the Attica Correctional Facility. When the hearing does happen, it will be the sixth time that Chapman has formally asked to be released from the maximum security prison. The now 55-year-old Chapman shot and killed the world-famous Beatle outside Lennon's apartment on Manhattan's Upper West Side on December 8th, 1980.

>>Bristol Palin's Ex-Fiance To Run For Wasilla Mayor

(Undated) -- Levi Johnston plans to run for mayor of Wasilla, Alaska. TMZ.com reports that his candidacy will be part of a new TV reality series called "Loving Levi: The Road to the Mayor's Office" that will follow the 19-year-old through his campaign. The announcement comes just days after Sarah Palin's 19-year-old daughter Bristol broke off her second engagement to Johnston. Sarah Palin served as Wasilla's mayor before becoming Alaska's governor and later the Republican nominee for vice president in the 2008 presidential election.

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>Murder Suspect Back In Albuquerque Jail After Bonding Out

(Albuquerque, NM) -- A murder suspect who bonded out of a New Mexico jail was recaptured yesterday. Thirty-three-year-old Mark White bonded out of jail over the weekend but was taken back into custody after U.S. Marshals learned White was wanted as a person of interest in a Connecticut murder. White was booked in Albuquerque on a warrant for failing to appear at court for another offense. Metro Court Judge Linda Rogers was not aware at the time White was wanted for the out-of-state murder.

>>Investigators Say Arizona Escapees May Have Killed Traveling Couple

(Santa Rosa, NM) -- Two Arizona escapees may be responsible for the deaths of a couple found in a burned-out trailer near Santa Rosa last week. Investigators say Gary and Linda Haas ran into trouble near Santa Rosa on their drive from Oklahoma to Colorado. Investigators now say they believe the couple came across the Arizona men, who escaped July 30th in the Kingman area of Arizona.

>>Five-Year-Old Girl Tests Positive For Meth

(Dona Ana Co., NM) -- A five-year-old child has tested positive for meth in Dona Ana County. Sheriff's deputies arrested the girl's mother, Marlene Sandoval, after receiving a tip the girl had burns on her arm. The mother then told deputies she didn't want the girl to test positive for meth, so she did not take her in for medical treatment. The girls has been transferred into foster care.

>>President Obama Signs State Aid Bill

(Washington, DC) -- Around 199-million dollars is on its way to New Mexico after President Obama quickly signed into law a measure passed by the House yesterday. The legislation appropriates 26-billion dollars nationally to save teachers' jobs around the nation and help states meet their Medicaid expenses. The measure was passed earlier by the Senate. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office said the measure would actually cut one-billion dollars from the federal deficit because it would close certain tax loopholes for multinational corporations. New Mexico is set to receive 199-million dollars of the pie.

>>House Passes Spending Bill To Boost Border Enforcement

(Washington, DC) -- Congress has agreed to fund more federal agents along the U.S. border with Mexico. The House of Representatives passed the 600-million dollar spending bill on a voice vote. The Senate adopted the measure last week but a technicality will keep it from the President's desk for signing until September. The bill pays for another thousand border patrol agents and 250 customs officers at southwestern points of entry. It'll also keep another 270 customs agents on the job. Money that doesn't go toward personnel will be used for unmanned drones that'll patrol the skies in border areas. Federal agencies will also have the money for better communications and for investigating drug smuggling operations in the region. The funding will come from raising visa application fees on companies that import workers from overseas.

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>>Muslims Mark Ramadan With Month-Long Fast

(Undated) -- Today marks the start of the Muslim fast of Ramadan [[rah-mah-DAWN]]. University of Rochester professor of religion Emil Homerin [[EE-mill HOMER-in]] says for the world's more than one-billion Muslims, Ramadan is a time for fasting to strengthen their faith. Celebrated during the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, the fast is observed each day from sunrise to sunset. Muslims may not eat, drink, smoke or have sex during the hours of fasting. Ramadan then concludes with a three-day festival to mark the end of the fast.

[[Note Content]]

>>Churches Set Ground Rules For Sex Offenders Wanting To Attend Church

(Kansas City, KS) -- Churches around the country are working to set up safeguards to make allowances for registered sex offenders who want to attend Sunday services. United Methodist Church of the Resurrection a megachurch in the Kansas City area recently faced the issue. They set up some rules for just such a local man wanting to attend church. They told him he must go straight to the sanctuary before service and leave immediately after it ended, no dawdling, no direct contact with church staff, only a single-stool restroom on the church campus could be used, and under no circumstances could he enter the children's wing of the church. According to the "Kansas City Star," church spokesman Peter Metz described it as a practical solution, better than denying access to the church.

>>Texas Home To High Share Of Top-Ten Megachurches

(Houston, TX) -- Hartford Seminary's Hartford Institute for Religion Research has a survey that shows 3 of the top 10 megachurches in the U.S. are in Texas. The Houston "Chronicle" says the survey done in partnership with Leadership Network shows Lakewood Church as #1, Second Baptist #2, and Fellowship of the Woodlands #10. Megachurch generally refers to any Protestant congregation with a weekly attendance of 2-thousand persons or more. While the average attendance for megachurches is 38-hundred, Lakewood, pastored by Joel Osteen, has an average attendance of 45-thousand on a weekly basis.

>>Back To School Shopping Can Help Kids In Need

(Undated) -- Kids around the country are learning about helping other kids in need while back-to-school shopping. A statement from Operation Christmas Child says families can help a child in need by keeping the box from their new school shoes and filling it with small gifts. The ministry founded by Samaritan's Purse plans to hand-deliver shoe box gifts to more than 8-million struggling children in 100 countries this year. One of the countries the organization will visit is Haiti, where the youngest victims of the earthquake are in desperate need of encouragement. The shoe boxes can be filled with school supplies, toys, necessity items, hard candy and a letter of encouragement. For more information log on to www.SamaritansPurse.org.

>>Priest From Belarus Shines Light On PCUSA Drift From Orthodoxy

(Undated) -- A leader of the Orthodox Church of Belarus expressed blunt disappointment with the Presbyterian Church USA at the denomination's recent General Assembly. According to

Baptist Press, Archpriest Siahei Hardun is unhappy with the PCUSA's drift from biblical orthodoxy regarding sexual morality. The archpriest traveled to the General Assembly to thank Presbyterians for their generous help in rebuilding the church in Belarus after severe communist persecution, but also took time to share his thoughts about issues facing the PCUSA. Before the greeting brought by the Archpriest, the assembly voted to approve the ordination of non-celibate homosexuals.

>>Supreme Court To Weigh In On Tax Credits For Donation To Arizona
>>Nonprofit Schools

(Washington, DC) -- A public policy law group filed a brief with the U.S. Supreme Court in case involving tax credits for donation to nonprofit schools in Arizona. A statement from Liberty Counsel says Arizona Christian School Tuition Organization v. Kathleen M. Winn involves parents that challenged an Arizona school choice law that provides dollar-for-dollar tax credits to taxpayers who make contributions to independent organizations, which in turn grant scholarships to attend private schools. Liberty Counsel represents the American Association of Christian Schools which includes Arizona private schools that will be directly affected by the ruling that struck down the education choice law.

>>Another Westboro Church Lawsuit Filed

(Topeka, KS) -- A member of Westboro Baptist Church in Topeka, Kansas, has filed another federal lawsuit against Nebraska prosecutors. Shirley Phelps-Roper claims they violated her constitutional rights by investigating her "protected expressive activity." Phelps-Roper was arrested during a 2007 protest of the funeral of a soldier in Bellevue, Nebraska. Authorities say she let her son stand on an American flag. Westboro members have gained national attention by protesting at the funerals of U.S. soldiers saying their deaths are a result of America's tolerance of homosexuality.

That's the news, I'm Frank Haley, cjf for God's Glory alone..