

Good Morning, here are today's top stories and the weather forecast for Wednesday August 25, 2010

Albuquerque Weather: High 83

Rio Rancho Weather: high 83

Espanola Weather: high 83

Santa Fe weather: high 79

Belen/Los Lunas weather high 85

and now the news:

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>>McCain, Meek Win Primary Elections

(Undated) -- Primary elections were held yesterday in several states. In Arizona, Senator John McCain easily defeated his Republican challenger, former Congressman J.D. Hayworth. McCain, the unsuccessful GOP candidate for President, spent a whopping 20-million dollars in his primary battle, the most of any U.S. Senate candidate. In Florida, Republican gubernatorial candidate Rick Scott won the nomination of his party as his opponent, Attorney General Bill McCollum, conceded defeat this morning. Also in the Sunshine State, Miami Congressman Kendrick Meek handily won the Democratic nomination for U.S. Senate.

>>Former President Jimmy Carter In Pyongyang

(Seoul, South Korea) -- Former President Jimmy Carter has arrived in North Korea in a bid to win the release of an American prisoner. The 85-year-old Carter and his wife, Roslyn, left the states yesterday in a private jet on a humanitarian mission to free Aijalon Mahli Gomes. He's serving an eight-year sentence of hard labor after being convicted in April of illegally entering North Korea. The country's state news agency reports the 30-year-old man from Boston has attempted suicide at least once since being incarcerated.

>>Police Say NY Cabbie Stabbed For Being Muslim

(New York, NY) -- A New York City cab driver is hospitalized after he was apparently stabbed for being Muslim. NYPD investigators say the incident occurred Monday night near 24th Street and Second Avenue in Manhattan. NY1 [[New York One]] reports a 21-year-old passenger asked the cabbie if he was Muslim, and when the driver said yes, the assailant stabbed him in the throat, arm and lip. Tensions in Manhattan have been running high since plans for a proposed mosque and Islamic community center two blocks from Ground Zero were unanimously approved by a city commission.

>>FEMA Better Able To Respond Post-Katrina

(Washington, DC) -- Five years after Hurricane Katrina tore through the Gulf Coast, the chief of the Federal Emergency Management Agency says the response time to disasters has improved. Craig Fugate believes FEMA can now handle whatever problems arise. The agency drew heavy criticism in the aftermath of the deadly 2005 storm. Fugate says although FEMA has made strides, people should be prepared to help themselves in a disaster in case the government can't respond quickly enough.

>>FDA Will Conduct Hundreds Of Inspections Of Egg Producers

(Washington, DC) -- The FDA will conduct hundreds of inspections of egg producers to make sure they are following the agency's new safety rules. FDA Commissioner Margaret Hamburg calls it an "unfortunate irony" that the new egg safety rules took effect in early July. The Salmonella outbreak that has prompted a recall of more than half-a-billion eggs from several Iowa farms had likely already begun at that time. The new rules require farms to do egg and facility testing for Salmonella, protect feed and water from contamination, and buy chicks and young hens from suppliers that monitor for Salmonella.

>>Lindsay Lohan Exits Rehab Stint Early

(Los Angeles, CA) -- Lindsay Lohan is out of rehab. TMZ.com reports that the "Mean Girls" actress left UCLA Neuropsychiatric Hospital yesterday after just 23 days. That's a fraction of the 90-day term to which the 24-year-old originally was sentenced. Lindsay will reportedly undergo outpatient care following her discharge. According to TMZ, doctors at the facility told Beverly Hills Judge Elden Fox that the actress should be released immediately and the judge authorized the release. A court hearing to review the actress' progress is scheduled for today.

>>Woods Prepares For PGA Playoffs, To Address Reporters

(Paramus, NJ) -- Tiger Woods is expected to address the media today for the first time since his divorce was finalized earlier this week. Woods will be speaking ahead of the Barclays, which is the first of four tournaments in the PGA Tour playoffs. Woods will be trying to defend his FedEx Cup title in this year's playoffs. The world's number-one golfer comes into this week's event ranked 112th in points and will be in the first group to tee off on Thursday morning.

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>>Police: Mom, Son Were Murdered

(Albuquerque, NM) -- Albuquerque police now believe the two people found dead in a weekend house fire were murdered. Among the remains of Sunday's fire near the seven-hundred block of City View Drive were the bodies of 21-year-old Yuriko Santana-Hernandez and her one-year-old son Julian Hernandez. Officials first believed the two died in the fire but homicide detectives now say they were murdered. No suspects have been identified but police say they have located an orange 2007 Chevy Cobalt that was stolen from the home and hope it will offer clues into what happened.

>>Lowe's Won't Build SW Albuquerque Store

(Albuquerque, NM) -- The proposed building of a home improvement mega-store in southwest Albuquerque has been scrapped. City officials have learned that Lowe's will not set up shop in the Unser Crossing Shopping Center as originally hoped. According to KOAT, officials at Lowe's would not comment but the city was told the do-it-yourself chain has made similar decisions at other sites around the country. The proposed store would have welcomed roughly five-hundred new jobs to the area.

>>Health Advisory For Montoya Arroyo

(Rio Rancho, NM) -- The State Environmental Department has issued a health advisory after a sewage line broke and leaked into the Montoyas Arroyo yesterday. Crews have already made temporary repairs to the line that broke as a result of a heavy downpour. Officials are uncertain how much sewage was released into the waterway but say water and wastewater service should not be affected. Residents are advised not to enter the arroyo until the advisory is lifted.

>>Homeless Told To Leave Camp Site

(Albuquerque, NM) -- City officials dismantled several campsites in the International District yesterday that were used as homes by transients. Frequent complaints by neighbors led to the decision. Crews found mattresses, pillows, blankets and shoes left behind at the camp sites. In order to help the people who still need a place to stay, workers from the Albuquerque homeless shelter Joy Junction said they would monitor the location weekly and help vagrants seek refuge elsewhere.

>>Area Home Sales See Double-Digit Drop

(Albuquerque, NM) -- Statistics released yesterday by the National Association of Realtors showed a sharp decline in home sales in the Albuquerque market. During the month of July, home sales here fell a whopping 24-percent from a year ago. The association believes the decrease was due to the expired April deadline for using the federal homebuyers tax credit. Nationally, the association reported that July's statistics were the worst in the U.S. in 15 years.

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>Texas Church Leads National Facebook "Fast" Today

(Houston, TX) -- A Texas church is sponsoring a national Facebook "Fast" today. Woodlands Church in the Houston area is undertaking a one-day initiative of logging off social media and

spending some actual "face-time" with a friend. Church leaders and "New York Times" best-selling authors Kerry and Chris Shook say they are not bashing technology but issuing a challenge for participants to take one day, set it aside and act intentionally in their relationships. They claim they are getting back to the basics and inviting people around the country to do the same for one day.

>>"Back To Church Sunday" Campaign Surpasses One-Million Invitations

(Undated) -- Organizers of "Back To Church Sunday" are applauding the level of participation for the initiative set for September 12th. The "Back To Church Sunday" campaign was founded to reach unchurched friends and families of participating congregations. As of August 15th, the number of print and electronic invitations was nearing 1-point-2-million. Philip Nation with LifeWay Research is national spokesperson for the initiative and says seeing the number of invitations break the one-million mark and, quote, "encourages me to believe that God is actively using Christians to impact their communities."

>>World Vision Can Require Employees To Be Christians

(Undated) -- A Christian-based humanitarian organization can require its employees to be Christians. That's the verdict from the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which ruled World Vision is exempt from a provision in Title Seven of the 1964 Civil Rights Act barring religious discrimination. Three former World Vision employees sued after they were terminated when they disavowed the Christian doctrine of the Holy Trinity. In rejecting their appeal, a three-judge panel agreed the employees were fired for religious reasons. However, it said a lower court was correct that World Vision is exempt from the federal statute because it is a nonprofit organization that is "primarily religious" and "holds itself out to the public as a religious institution."

>>Minister Faces Church Trial For Marrying Same-Sex Couples

(San Francisco, CA) -- A retired lesbian minister in Napa, California, is facing a Presbyterian Church trial for officiating at same-sex weddings. Church officials have charged the Reverend Jane Adams Spahr with violating her denomination's constitution when she married dozens of same-sex couples during the five-month window in 2008 when gay marriage was legal in California. While the Presbyterian constitution doesn't explicitly mention gay marriage, it does define marriage as, quote, "a civil contract between a woman and a man." Spahr could face censure and be defrocked if she's found guilty.

>>Today In Christian Books

>>Jungle Warfare And A Manual For Christians In Sales

(Undated) -- A professional sales person used a World War Two Basic Field Manual on Jungle Warfare to produce words of wisdom for sales and business professionals. Christopher A. Cunningham's "A Basic Field Manual for Christians in Sales" was adapted from his grandfather's Jungle Warfare manual. He used its rules of engagement to fit the basic needs of the Christian sales person who is on the front lines of business every day. Christopher A. Cunningham is a salesperson who has worked at the vice president level in marketing on both domestic and

international advertising and public relations programs and is a frequent corporate and retreat speaker.

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The state Game Commission will accept comments from the public this weekend on a proposal to increase the number of bears and cougars that hunters can kill.

The commission meets Saturday in Albuquerque and will consider proposed changes in hunting rules for bears, cougars, deer and pronghorn antelope.

The commission is expected to vote on the hunting rules at a meeting in Ruidoso on Sept. 30.

At the meeting in Albuquerque, the commission also is to hear a report on Gov. Bill Richardson's executive order to temporarily ban trapping in part of southwestern New Mexico while the Department of Game and Fish studies the risks that trapping poses to Mexican gray wolves, which have been reintroduced in the wild.

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ALBUQUERQUE — Albuquerque's international airport has received a \$2.4 million federal grant to install solar panels that will provide electrical power at a parking facility.

The money comes from a Federal Aviation Administration project. It will pay for a solar photovoltaic array atop the airport's multilevel vehicle parking facility.

The award was announced in a joint news release from Sens. Jeff Bingaman and Tom Udall and Rep. Martin Heinrich, all D-N.M.

They say the airport is contributing to regional air-quality goals under the Clean Air Act.

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