

MORE LOCAL

Garden fish

Koi ponds and gardens are highlighted in the Riverside area on Sunday as the Inland Koi Society hosts its annual tour. **C6**



# NATION & WORLD

SECTION



FRIDAY  
JUNE 4, 2010

ILLINOIS: EX-GOVERNOR'S TRIAL GETS UNDER WAY



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich and his wife arrive at the court building in Chicago for jury selection.

## Blagojevich is all smiles

**BIG SHOW:** As jury selection begins in his corruption case, he plays to the crowd before heading into court.

BY STACY ST. CLAIR  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

CHICAGO — With his political career in shambles and his future uncertain, Rod Blagojevich began his criminal trial on corruption charges much like he ended his political career: proclaiming his innocence, clinging to supporters and flaunting authority.

The former governor smiled broadly Thursday morning as he arrived at the federal courthouse for the first day of jury selection in his corruption case. He had been instructed by the U.S. Marshal Service to enter the building without addressing the media or speaking to onlookers, but remaining silent proved too much for the loquacious Blagojevich.

"Play the tapes," he said, before taking a shot at the federal prosecutors who accused him of planning a political crime spree. "They're liars."

As he and wife, Patti, walked past reporters Thursday, Blagojevich spotted supporter Patty Farley

holding a sign that read: "If a man can't talk crap in his own home, take my husband please!"

Blagojevich grinned and tapped his hands over his heart in a sign of gratitude. Though his wife tried to steer him toward the entrance, Blagojevich walked over to the woman and kissed her on the cheek.

With that, about a dozen onlookers swarmed the ex-governor as he shook their hands and thanked them for their support. A few even coaxed him into posing for cell phone camera pictures, as federal marshals tried to control the sidewalk scene and Patti Blagojevich tugged on his arm.

"God bless, you governor," one man yelled, prompting Blagojevich to pull him into a bear hug.

It was Rod Blagojevich as the public has come to know him. "I feel great," Blagojevich said, shaking hands with supporters as if he was working the rope line at a political event. "The truth shall set you free."

Once inside the building, the Blagojevichs swapped roles as Patti stepped before a bank of television cameras and asserted her husband's innocence.

In thanking the people who

supported her family since Blagojevich's ouster from office, the former first lady of Illinois said she was grateful that jury selection was beginning.

"The well wishes, e-mails and rosaries left on our doorstep ... have helped us through a rough time. But today is a good day because today begins the process to correct a terrible injustice that has been done to my husband," she said. "I know my husband is an honest man and I know that he is not guilty."

In contrast to the ex-governor's splashy entrance, his older brother and co-defendant, Robert Blagojevich, arrived at the courthouse 30 minutes earlier with considerably less fanfare. Dressed in a striped suit and a red print tie, a somber-looking Robert Blagojevich said nothing to reporters as he entered the building.

When an onlooker shouted "We support you!" as he neared the door, the elder Blagojevich shot a surprised look in the woman's direction and then entered the building without acknowledging her.

He declined to speak with reporters inside the courthouse as well.

## Data belie border state crime claims

**REPORT:** Amid the region's calls for more troops, federal figures peg the danger there as less than most U.S. cities.

BY MARTHA MENDOZA  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

It's one of the safest parts of America, and it's getting safer.

It's the U.S.-Mexico border, and even as politicians say more federal troops are needed to fight rising violence, government data obtained by The Associated Press show it actually isn't so dangerous after all.

The top four big cities in America with the lowest rates of violent crime are all in border states: San Diego, Phoenix and El Paso and Austin, Texas, according to a new FBI report. And an in-house Customs and Border Protection report shows that Border Patrol agents face far less danger than street

cops in most U.S. cities.

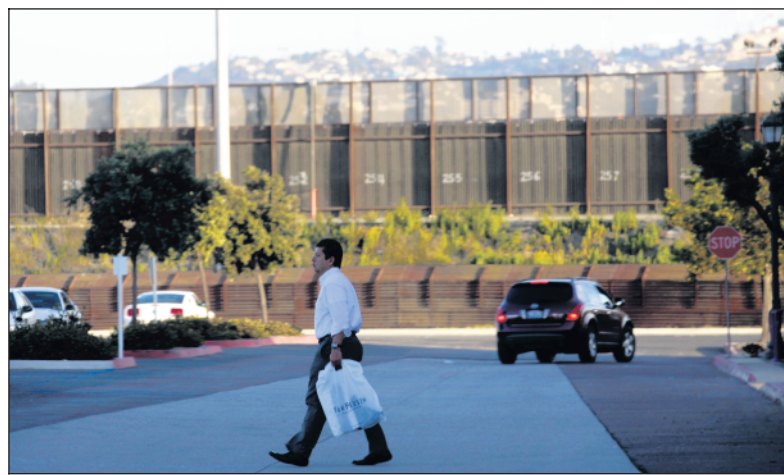
The Customs and Border Protection study, obtained with a Freedom of Information Act request, shows 3 percent of Border Patrol agents and officers were assaulted last year, mostly when assailants threw rocks at them. That compares with 11 percent of police officers and sheriff's deputies assaulted during the same period, usually with guns or knives.

In addition, violent attacks against agents declined in 2009 along most of the border for the first time in seven years. So far this year assaults are slightly up, but data are incomplete.

"The border is safer now than it's ever been," said U.S. Customs and Border Protection spokesman Lloyd Easterling.

He said one factor is that with fewer jobs available amid the U.S. recession, illegal immigration has

SEE BORDER/C3



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A man leaves an upscale shopping mall in front of metal barricades marking the border with Tijuana.

## Neither side gives ground at immigration law face-off

BY DARLENE SUPERVILLE  
AND SUZANNE GAMBOA  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Facing off over illegal immigration, Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer told President Barack Obama that Americans "want our border secured" and called Thursday for completion of a separating fence. Obama underscored his objections that the tough immigration law she signed is discriminatory.

Meeting in the Oval Office, Obama said Arizona's law and similar efforts by more than 20 states would interfere with the federal government's responsibility to set and enforce immigration policy.

Neither side appeared to give ground on the contentious issue although both talked about seeking a bipartisan solution. Obama urged her to "be his partner" in working toward a comprehensive overhaul of the nation's badly fractured immigration system.

The unusual meeting between

the president and the governor was a byproduct of Brewer's decision to sign a first-of-its-kind law requiring police enforcing other laws to check immigration status if

there is reason to believe someone is in the country illegally. The law also makes being here illegally a state crime. Brewer sought the meeting and Obama, who has denounced the law, accepted.

Emerging from the half-hour Oval Office session, Brewer said Obama had assured her that most of the 1,200 National Guard troops he is sending to the U.S.-Mexico border would be going to her state.

"He assured us that the majority of those resources would be coming to Arizona," she told reporters on the White House driveway.

Brewer said she and Obama, at

SEE MEETING/C3



Gov. Jan Brewer

INSIDE



Lab receives honor

The Naval Surface Warfare Center Corona received its designation as a federal laboratory recently. The lab has about 1,000 workers. **C4**

LOCAL NEWS .....C4  
OBITUARIES .....C5  
TV LISTINGS .....C7  
COMICS .....C8-9  
CROSSWORD .....C9

## Nation's jail population declines for first time

BY PETE YOST  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The nation's jail population is declining for the first time since the federal government began keeping count, officials said Thursday, two weeks after reporting a drop in crime rates.

The number of inmates in county and city jails was about 767,600 at the end of last June, down by nearly 18,000 inmates from a year earlier.

Growth in the U.S. jail population has been slowing since 2005. The latest total was down 2.3 percent and represented the first decline since the Bureau of Justice Statistics began its annual survey of jails in 1982.

The reversal took place as crime in the United States fell dramatically. Violent crime fell 5.5 percent last year, and property crime was down 4.9 percent, the third straight year of declines.

The drop in local jail populations, like the crime decline, coincided with the economic downturn that has taken a heavy toll on city and county budgets.

The report found population declines at two-thirds of the 171 jail jurisdictions with 1,000 or more inmates on an average day.

At the end of June 2009, the local jail population was down by more than a thousand inmates in Miami and Dade County, Fla.; down by over 900 inmates in Orange Coun-

ty, Fla.; down more than 750 in New York City; down 420 in Santa Clara County, about 250 in Cook County, Ill.; and 220 in San Diego County.

Miami-Dade County Judge Steve Leifman credited part of the drop to improved diversion programs for people with mental health issues.

"We're starting to get smarter about criminal justice," Leifman said.

"What we've found over the last 10 years is we cannot build our way out of the problem through prisons, jails. So we're doing more pre- and post-arrest and re-entry programming, which are really in their infancy but we're starting to see an impact."

Miami-Dade County Corrections Department spokeswoman Janelle Hall said one contributing factor to jail decline was that both violent and nonviolent crime cases were down from 2008 to 2009.

At midyear 2009, more than 42 percent of local jail inmates were white, more than 39 percent were black and more than 16 percent were Latino, according to the government report.

Unlike prisons, more than 60 percent of people housed in local jails await the filing of criminal charges or their trials.

The rest await sentencing, transfer to state or federal prison or have been sentenced to serve time in jail.

MORE LOCAL NEWS IN SECTION A

REGIONAL NEWS.....A2, 6  
RIVERSIDE/CORONA.....A3  
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY.....A4  
HEMET/SAN JACINTO.....A5  
TEMECULA/MURRIETA.....A12

## Naval center named a federal lab

**CORONA:** The facility is now part of a nationwide network of 700 laboratories.

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

The Naval Surface Warfare Center Corona received its designation as a federal laboratory recently. The lab designation is a first for the Inland Empire and makes the center the only federal lab of its kind in inland Southern California, said officials.

The area's naval base is now part of a nationwide network of 700 laboratories from 18 federal agencies that shares the results of federal research and development with the public. Other California federal labs include NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and Ames Research Center, and the Sandia and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratories.

In a statement announcing the designation NSWC Corona Commanding Officer Capt. Jay Kadowaki said: "We are extremely proud to receive this federal lab designation from the Office of Naval Research. It recognizes our premiere lab facilities and opens up our capabilities and expertise to partner with universities, industry and others to commercialize Navy technology for mutual ben-



SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

The Naval Surface Warfare Center Corona recently was designated a federal laboratory. It's part of a network of labs that shares the results of federal research and development with the public.

Dr. Bill Luebke said, "The programs range from K-12 STEM [science, technology, engineering and math] learning modules to college tuition reimbursements for students who work in federal labs after graduation. The Navy's N-STAR program alone seeks to bring more than 4,000 scientists, engineers and technology professionals into the navy S&T workforce during the next five years."

Luebke said STEM education outreach is key to meeting that goal, and the naval command used its federal lab announcement to do that for America's inaugural National Lab Day, the nationwide initiative designed to motivate and inspire the next generation of young people so they will excel in STEM careers. Organizers say it's more than a single-day event in May; it's a yearlong plan designed to take the nation's labs to the people for a day.

efit." NSWC Corona is the navy's independent assessment agent and is responsible for gauging the war-fighting capability of ships and aircraft and analyzing missile defense systems. The base employs about 1,000 civilians, 75 percent of whom are scientists and engineers, a number that

will grow in the coming years, Kadowaki said. The base is home to three laboratories and assessment centers, including the new \$12 million Daugherty Memorial Assessment Center that opened last year.

The lab designation enables NSWC Corona to participate in cooperative research and development

agreements with industry and academia, to commercialize patents the naval command holds and participate in a variety of educational and fellowship programs to attract the best and brightest scientists and engineers to the Defense Department.

NSWC Corona Technical Director and Senior Exec-

### NEPTUNE SOCIETY

AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE COSTLY MORTUARY-CEMETERY SYSTEM.  
Serving All Riverside & San Bernardino Counties  
Our Location Since October 2007  
5033 Arlington Ave. #C • Riverside CA 92504

Call Collect or Direct  
5033 Arlington Ave #C • Riverside, CA 92504  
Riverside • 951.359.2021

Please send information to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### DATEBOOK

E-MAIL EVENTS TO TBORDERS@PE.COM OR FAX TO 951-368-9023.

#### UPCOMING

##### CORONA

**JAZZERCISE WITH THE STARS**, to benefit the Foundation for Community and Family Health, is set from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday at Santiago High School, 1395 Foothill Parkway. Funds will be raised for the breast cancer program. Tickets will be available at the door. Information: **951-270-0536**.

##### MORENO VALLEY

**OUTREACH MEETING** is set at 9 a.m. Saturday at the Moreno Valley Ranch Golf Club, 28095 John F. Kennedy Drive. Special feature will be Heather Ontiveros and guest speaker will be Eva Montague. Cost is \$12. Information: **951-243-7384**.

##### NORCO

**AQUATIC REGISTRATION** is set for Monday at the Norco Parks and Recreation office, 2870 Clark Ave. This date is for residents only. Lessons will be 30 minutes a day for eight days. Cost is \$70. Information: **951-270-5632**.

##### RIVERSIDE

**HAWAIIAN-THEMED SWING DANCE** presented by the Poly High School Swing Band will be held from 7-10 p.m. Saturday at the First United Methodist Church, 4845 Brockton Ave. There will be live music, refreshments and baked goods. Cost is \$5-\$10. Information: **951-788-7282 EXT. 51023**.

**10TH ANNUAL INLAND EMPIRE JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION** will be held from noon to 6 p.m. Saturday at Bordwell Park-Stratton Community Center, 2008 Martin Luther King Blvd. This free family-oriented

festival will feature entertainment, mini museum, health information, and historical presentations, along with food and merchandise vendors. Information: **888-752-1619 OR WWW.RIVERSIDEJUNETEENTH.ORG**.

**IE ROCK FOR THE CURE 2010** is set from 3-10 p.m. Sunday at Lake Alice Trading Company, 3616 University Ave. There will be live music benefiting the American Cancer Society. Cost is \$10. Information: **951-318-7336**.

**RIVERSIDE AQUETTES SYNCHRONIZED SWIM TEAM** performance is set for 2 p.m. Sunday at Sippy Woodhead Pool at Bobby Bonds Park. The event is to raise

money for national and international competitions. Cost is \$5-\$10. Information: **951-276-9148**.

2 Locations To Serve You

Now offering Web Casting and Video Tributes

**Thomas Miller MORTUARY**

4933 La Sierra Ave  
Riverside, CA  
951-687-0551

1118 E. Sixth Street  
Corona, CA  
951-737-3244

www.SierraMemorialChapel.com www.ThomasMillerMortuary.com  
Lic. #FD1139 Lic. #FD66

Se Habla Español

**ST. FRANCIS DE SALES CHURCH**

**PARISH FESTIVAL**  
June 6, 2010 • 8 A.M. - 8 P.M.

**RAFFLE** \$1,000 - Grand Prize  
\$500 - 2nd Prize  
Flexsteel Recliner - 3rd Prize

**FOOD GAMES FOLKLORICO DANCING LIVE MUSIC PRIZES**

Preston and Simons Mortuary  
3358 Mission Inn Ave.  
Riverside, CA 92501  
(951) 683-7410

Nissan of San Bernardino  
735 W. Showcase Dr.  
Auto Center Mall  
San Bernardino, CA 92408  
(909) 885-3883 • (800) 549-8761

Security Bank  
3403 Tenth Street  
Riverside, CA 92501  
(951) 368-2259

American Box Company  
2111 Iowa Ave. #5  
Riverside, CA 92507  
amboxco@att.net  
(951) 787-7729

Our Lady Queen of Peace  
Catholic Cemetery  
3510 Washington Street  
Colton, CA 92324  
(909) 796-6351 • (877) 833-7526

Knights of Columbus #1638  
G.K. William Bussard  
(951) 218-4923

Flores Ball Bonds  
3333 Central Ave. #C  
Riverside, CA 92504  
(951) 779-1880

Photo Prints of Heaven  
Julio & Jose Chavez  
www.photoprintsofheaven.com  
(909) 917-3815

Glacier Pure Drinking Waters  
www.glacierpurewaters.com  
Frank & Sheri Miller  
(951) 683-3322

4268 Lime St. • Riverside, CA 92501 • 951.686.4004

*Obituaries and Tributes*

For information, please call 951.368.9221 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
View Notices and Tributes online at [www.PE.com/obits](http://www.PE.com/obits)

#### MORE OBITUARIES ON PAGE C5



**VERA GRACE EDWARDS**  
87, passed away peacefully in her home in Hemet, California, on May 29, 2010, surrounded by family and friends. Vera was born at Bishop's College in Lennoxville, Quebec, Canada, on December 25, 1922, the first born to Charles William Baker and Elizabeth Mary (Robinson) Baker. During her youth Vera learned first hand how to live through the ravages of WWII while living in London, England. Her high school education was interrupted by the need of working as an airplane riveter near London. She aptly completed her education with a lifelong love of good books. She married her childhood sweetheart, Albert G.H. Edwards, on April 20, 1942 and gave birth to daughter Anita Marie near the end of the war. After the war they moved to Montreal, Canada and became parents of a son, Gary Allyn. Vera was a stay-at-home wife and mother. In 1954 she migrated with her family to California where she and her family became American citizens and have lived ever since. She was an avid writer and wrote numerous letters-to-the-editor of the newspaper wherever she lived. Vera was preceded in death by her husband of 67 years, Albert Edwards, her parents, Charles William Baker and Elizabeth Mary (Robinson) Baker, her younger brother Clive Baker, her grandson Brhet Bangerter, and her son-in-law Lee Bangerter. She is survived by her daughter Anita Marie Bangerter of SLC, Utah, and son Gary (Ann) Edwards of Chino, California. She also leaves behind 10 grandchildren, Scott, Tiffany, Sean, Bart, Trent, Braydn, Trista, Lori, Mark and Marie and 13 great-grandchildren.

A graveside service will be held at 10:00 AM, Saturday, June 5, 2010 at Covina Hills Forest Lawn -21300 Via Verde Drive, Covina, CA 91724. A special memorial gathering and reception for family and friends will be June 5, 2010 at 3:00 PM at Miller-Jones Mortuary, 1501 W. Florida Ave., Hemet, 92543.

In lieu of flowers, the family would be honored if you would like to contribute to Cornerstone Hospice referencing Albert Edwards: Cornerstone Hospice - 1461 E. Cooley Dr., Suite #220, Colton, CA 92324. Phone: (909) 872-8100

ON-LINE CONDOLENCES  
[www.miller-jones.com](http://www.miller-jones.com)  
(951) 658-3161



**NYLA MARIE SCOTT SANDERS**  
(b.10/19/1918) passed away in her Riverside CA home, May 25, 2010 surrounded by her husband of 61 years, Richard & their four children.

Born in Geddes, SD Nyla was the eldest child of Jack & Clara Scott & loving sister to Dale & Phyllis, all of whom have preceded her in death.

She moved to CA in 1936 to attend Riverside City College. As a young woman she loved attending USO dances several nights a week. She met her husband Richard while they worked for Kress Variety Stores. Married Aug 5, 1949 in Los Angeles, they moved to Riverside in 1953 to raise their family.

Nyla's interests included children, gardening, sewing, antiques, and hummingbirds. She loved traveling all over the USA, preferring to go by car & motor home so she could really see the countryside. She's known for her large cactus garden & for the persimmons she sold each fall from her family's historic home on Magnolia Ave.

She was a devoted wife and mother to her own family and a 2nd mother figure to children she cared for after school and the many RCC students she boarded home while they attended college nearby.

She will be sorely missed by a large extended family of nephews, nieces, cousins & in-laws; but most of all by her husband Richard and children Andrew Sanders of Riverside, Susan Connors of Long Beach, Richard Sanders Jr Riverside, and Gayle Sanders of Encinitas and grandchildren Mona Hall, Andrew Connors, Colin Sanders and Daniel Sanders. Her great granddaughter, Meikah Connors, will miss out on the pleasure of growing up in the warmth of her love.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the UCR Botanic Gardens. Call the Development Office at (951) 827-6449, or write Dr. J. Giles Waines, Botanic Gardens, University of California, Riverside, CA 92521-0124, or email: [ucrbg@ucr.edu](mailto:ucrbg@ucr.edu)

## What's for dinner?

Let PE.com help set the table with our free E-meals newsletter, delivered to your e-mail inbox at noon Monday through Friday. Your daily E-meal e-mail includes:

- A quick and delicious recipe, including ingredients, for the evening meal
- Links to dessert and side dish recipes found on [www.PE.com](http://www.PE.com)
- Links to dozens of grocery coupons featured on [www.PE.com](http://www.PE.com)



There's nothing better than a home cooked e-meal!

Sign up today at <http://www.pe.com/newsletters/>

