

**MORE LOCAL**  
**A day remembered**

About 250 people, including seven Pearl Harbor survivors and dozens of veterans, gathered to commemorate the Dec. 7, 1941, attack. **C3**

# NATION & WORLD

## Elizabeth Edwards dies of cancer

BY NEDRA PICKLER  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Elizabeth Edwards, who closely advised her husband in two bids for the presidency and advocated for health care even as her marriage publicly crumbled, died Tuesday after a six-year struggle with cancer. She was 61.



Elizabeth Edwards

She died at her North Carolina home surrounded by her three children, siblings, friends and her estranged husband, John Edwards, the family said.

"Today we have lost the comfort of Elizabeth's presence but, she remains the heart of this family," the family said in a statement. "We love her and will never know anyone more inspiring or full of life. On behalf of Elizabeth we want to express our gratitude to the thousands of kindred spirits who moved and inspired her along the way. Your support and prayers touched our entire family."

She was first diagnosed with breast cancer in 2004, in the final days of her husband's vice presidential campaign. The Democratic John Kerry-John Edwards ticket lost to incumbent President George W. Bush.

John Edwards launched a second bid for the White House in 2007, and the Edwardses decided to continue even after doctors told Mrs. Edwards that her cancer had spread.

The couple separated in January after he admitted fathering a child with a campaign videographer.

Elizabeth Edwards had focused in recent years on advocating health care reform.

Elizabeth Edwards announced Monday that doctors had told her that further treatment would do no good.

"The days of our lives, for all of us, are numbered," she wrote. "We know that. And yes, there are certainly times when we aren't able to muster as much strength and patience as we would like. It's called being human. But I have found that in the simple act of living with hope, and in the daily effort to have a positive impact in the world, the days I do have are made all the more meaningful and precious. And for that I am grateful."

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# Obama goes on defense



When the tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans expire, "I will fight to end them," President Barack Obama said in defending his tax deal.

**TAX AGREEMENT:** The president tries to ease the backlash from many Democrats over his deal with Republicans.

BY PETER NICHOLAS  
TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU

WASHINGTON — Facing a sharp backlash from his liberal base, President Barack Obama on Tuesday defended the tax deal he reached with Republican lawmakers and sought to ease concerns he is unwilling to fight to protect his core principles.

Obama spoke at a hastily arranged news conference in the White House press briefing room in part to quell an uproar among some Democrats over his decision

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■ President moves to reclaim independent voters. Analysis, **A1**

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■ Economists anticipate a boost from the tax measures. **D1**

to accommodate Republicans who want the Bush tax cuts extended for the wealthiest Americans.

Obama announced the agreement Monday. Apart from extending tax cuts for wealthy families for another two years, the deal would cut the payroll tax from 6.2 percent to 4.2 percent; extend unemployment insurance benefits for 13 months; lower the estate tax; and extend tax benefits aimed at poor families.

SEE **TAXES/C2**

## WIKILEAKS: FOUNDER JAILED IN BRITAIN



Supporters of Wikileaks founder Julian Assange gather outside the court in London where Assange's case was heard. He was denied bail.

# Sex case puts Assange behind bars

BY HENRY CHU  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LONDON — Julian Assange, founder of the WikiLeaks website, was arrested Tuesday morning at the request of Swedish authorities who want to question him about allegations of sexual assault, Scotland Yard said.

Assange, 39, voluntarily surrendered to police and was put under arrest, police said.

Sweden has asked that Assange be extradited so that it can investigate allegations by two women who had sexual encounters with him in that country earlier this

year. Swedish prosecutors say the encounters may have involved "unlawful coercion" and even rape, but Assange has insisted that the liaisons were consensual.

The accusations have stalked Assange since the summer, before his website began publishing portions of the huge cache of U.S. State Department diplomatic cables that have dismayed American officials and other governments around the world in recent days.

But Assange, who is Australian, and his lawyers and supporters believe that the U.S. has pushed the sexual assault case behind the

scenes as a way of embarrassing, harassing and silencing him.

Assange is believed to have been in southern England for much of the past few weeks as the State Department cables have been released. Swedish prosecutors last month issued an international warrant for his arrest, but British authorities did not move to arrest him until this week, apparently because of a technical mistake on the warrant.

At his court hearing, a judge denied bail for Assange while he fights the attempt to extradite him. That legal battle could take

weeks or even months. Assange's attorneys fear that a successful extradition to Sweden on the sexual assault allegations could also make it easier for him to be extradited to the United States if prosecutors there charge him with various offenses relating to the WikiLeaks disclosures.

In the past few days, the net has been closing around Assange and his organization.

Amazon.com booted WikiLeaks from its Internet server, and on Monday, a Swiss bank froze an account Assange had opened to raise funds.

# U.S. drops demand to halt Israel settlement construction

BY MATTHEW LEE  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration has abandoned attempts to convince Israel to slow West Bank settlement activity, officials said Tuesday, in what appears to be a major setback.

After months of trying to broker a formula under which Israel would impose a new freeze in

return for U.S. incentives, two American officials said the administration had concluded their efforts were not the best way to relaunch negotiations. Talks stalled in September, barely a month after they started.

An announcement of the decision was expected Tuesday, one of the officials said.

The officials said the adminis-

tration was not abandoning efforts to broker a peace deal and noted that Israeli and Palestinian negotiators will visit Washington next week for consultations.

The U.S. will engage both sides on key issues in the coming days, one of the officials said. Arab states and other interested countries also will be consulted, the official said.

Israeli and Palestinian officials

refused to comment.

Earlier Tuesday, Israel's defense minister said the U.S. has halted talks with Israel on settlement activity because Washington is distracted by the WikiLeaks release of secret documents.

State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley denied that the U.S. was holding up the talks. "The process has not stopped," he said.

told reporters

The U.S. has pressed Israel to renew a moratorium on new settlement construction in exchange for security and diplomatic assurances. Israel wants those in writing, as well as a pledge that east Jerusalem will be exempted from the moratorium.

Palestinians say they won't re-

SEE **ISRAEL/C2**

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## PERFORMANCE PAINTING

Greg Adamson expresses his emotional reaction from the music he listens to right to the canvas

BY PENNY E. SCHWARTZ  
SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

At the intersection of art and music, Greg Adamson can often be found entertaining an audience with a visual flourish.

The local artist gives "facing the music" a whole new meaning as he whips out large, full-fledged portraits on canvas while jiving to recorded or live music.

He frequently "performs" his painting before street crowds or visitors to his Riverside studio. Often he applies paint to the canvas with his hands, rather than brushes and executes many portraits upside-down. He then flips them over at the last moment to reveal the identities of his subjects to audience members, who are often dancing along with him.

Adamson's musical influences can also result in more abstract paintings, some of which are on display at Ozel Jewelers at 2 E. State Street in Redlands. They will be on view at the store's holiday open houses from 4 to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday as well as for the next couple of months.

"My paintings are a direct representation of the music I am listening to," Adamson said. "I take the imagery out but leave in the emotional reaction to the music, infusing it into my painting."

The artist, who has lived in Redlands for eight years, hails from South Dakota, where he grew up on a farm and ranch. He came with his family to California in the 1970s, attended high school in Ventura and eventually carved



PENNY E. SCHWARTZ/SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

Redlands resident Greg Adamson shows off his abstract artwork, which he painted while listening to music. It is displayed at Ozel Jewelers in Redlands and can be viewed at an open house this weekend.

out a career in corporate banking. His passion for art, however, has never abated since he began drawing at age 10.

"I had an immediate love for it and have tried to keep art in my life as much as possible," he said.

He reignited this passion about 10 years ago and said it has been "escalating" ever since.

"It is a full-time career for me now along with my full-time career in banking. What I don't have is a life," Adamson, 53, said,

laughing. A "life-changing" moment for him came a decade ago when he saw Denny Dent, whom he terms the father of performance painting, give an exhibition.

"I am as passionate about music as art and I always wanted to

be a rock star," Adamson said.

Seeing Dent work, he told himself, "I will do that!"

Performance painting, which he terms "facing the music," is fast-paced and brings energy and life to the process, he said. He chooses rock music, jazz or adult contemporary, depending on his mood. Usually he pre-records his performance music, but sometimes he is accompanied by a live band or musician.

On the first Thursday of each month at the Riverside Arts Walk, Adamson paints before a street audience or for visitors to his studio. His large-scale portraits, usually painted from memory, depict sports or musical figures he admires.

While these exhibitions seem spontaneous and effortless, Adamson said they involve many hours of rehearsal.

"For every 12-minute performance, there are probably 100 hours of preparation," he said.

He donates many of his works to charity, auctioning off the paintings at the end of the performances.

Appearing throughout the country, he has worked with major recording stars, such as B.B. King, and entertained national leaders. He will perform today at Capitol Records in Hollywood at a special tribute marking the 30th anniversary of the death of John Lennon. In January, he will present a studio portrait of Barbra Streisand to the Grammy Foundation when it honors her as Person of the Year at the annual MusiCares charity event.

## A salute for meals deliverers

BY JENNIFER DEAN  
THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

About 100 volunteers got a resounding, "Thank you!" at Riverside Meals on Wheels' annual Holiday Brunch Tuesday at First United Methodist Church in Riverside.

Activities included a breakfast buffet, opening remarks by Meals on Wheels director Debbie Keller, a prayer by the Rev. John Yoon, a welcome by Meals on Wheels president Tom Callahan and a special musical performance by the First United Methodist Church Preschool.

Riverside Meals on Wheels delivers about 115 meals a day to house-bound seniors within the city of Riverside. The meals are delivered by volunteers who work with the nonprofit organization.

Executive assistant Kathleen Parra is the volunteer liaison.

"I manage about 160 volunteers right now," Parra said. "We also have companies like Westerra Credit Union, the National Charity League and volunteers from St. Thomas the Apostle."

Riverside Meals on Wheels has two "depots" where low-cost meals are picked up by volunteers for delivery. The depots are at First United Methodist Church and California Baptist University. Each route has a binder with specific meal instructions and directions.

The food for Tuesday's brunch was prepared by the First United Methodist Church Methodist Women.

During Keller's opening remarks she thanked the volunteers for their



JENNIFER DEAN/THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

Riverside Meals on Wheels volunteers and board members are treated to an appreciation meal Tuesday at the First United Methodist Church in Riverside.

time and effort.

"You not only deliver meals, you deliver a smile and a bright spot in their day," she said. "It's something they might not have otherwise."

Two volunteers who passed away this year were remembered: Phil Castro, who was named the 2010 Volunteer of the Year, and Charles Ford, who delivered meals for the past 28 years and was a past board member.

The nonprofit organization's president, Tom Callahan, praised the dedication of the volunteers.

"I can see the great job you do," Callahan said. "It's a tough job some-

times. There are a lot of lonely people out there, especially this time of year."

Throughout the brunch Mary Rodan played holiday music on the piano in the church's fellowship hall.

Lastly, the morning's activities wrapped up with several holiday tunes performed by the First United Methodist Preschool children, which delighted the crowd.

"It's a labor of love," Keller said of the work done by Meals on Wheels. "We're taking care of our community."

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## 'Build A Box' gifts go to needy kids

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

More than 7,600 colorful shoe boxes filled with toys, school supplies and other items were dropped off at churches and other facilities around Riverside during National Collection Week for Operation Christmas Child.

The gift-filled shoe boxes are now being shipped to needy children around the world.

Even though National Collection Week is over, it's not too late to pack a shoe box. Operation Christmas Child has launched "Build A Box," an online tool offering a personal and convenient way to send Christmas gifts to even more children.

"One more shoe box means one more child — one more life that can have hope and joy this Christmas," said Jennifer Trevithick, west coast regional director of Operation Christmas Child. "The power of a simple shoe box gift is incredible."

The "Build A Box" process is simple: At [www.samaritanspurse.org/occ](http://www.samaritanspurse.org/occ), donors select a child's age and gender; shop through an online selection of toys, necessity items and school supplies; then finish it off with a personalized note of encour-

agement. The gift boxes will be assembled by volunteers at Operation Christmas Child's processing center in Charlotte, N.C. Through tracking technology, donors can "follow the box" to find out where it will be delivered.

"In just minutes, you can highly customize your gifts to bring hope to a child in a desperate situation," said Jim Harrelson, vice president of Operation Christmas Child. "This process is unlike anything we've ever done, and it will allow even more children to receive gift-filled shoe boxes. We want each of these children to know the true meaning of Christmas."

Operation Christmas Child — which calls itself the world's largest Christmas project — is part of the international Christian relief and evangelism organization Samaritan's Purse. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has delivered more than 77 million gift-filled shoe boxes to needy children in more than 130 countries.

For information on Operation Christmas Child, call 714-432-7030 or visit [www.samaritanspurse.org/occ](http://www.samaritanspurse.org/occ).

## Norco's role in aftermath of Pearl Harbor attack recalled

BY BRIAN ROKOS  
THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

Within days of Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor, injured troops were on their way to the site in Norco that on Dec. 7 was a resort that had hosted Clark Gable and Charlie Chaplin, and on Dec. 8 became an important Navy hospital.

The lives lost and saved 69 years ago, and Norco's role in World War II, were celebrated Tuesday in a ceremony on that same site.

About 250 people, including dozens of veterans, gathered outside the Lake Norconian Club. In its current role,

in a former tuberculosis lab and other buildings at Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Detachment Corona, data gathered from Navy tests are analyzed in order to improve performance of weapons.

"The importance of the Navy's mission in Norco today equals that of the Corona Naval Hospital during World War II and the Korean War," said Capt. Jay Kadowaki, the base commander. "It has been a key enabler in keeping our Navy No. 1 in the world, and it all happens right here in your backyard, Horsetown USA."

Seven Pearl Harbor survivors attended the remembrance. James J. Lee, 89, a Beaumont High School graduate and a Chino resident, was recalling the siege when, at 10:55 a.m. Pacific — the time when Japan attacked — his speech was interrupted for the ringing of a bell, a 21-gun salute and the playing of taps.

"Today and every day we draw strength from the moment when the best among us defended an island and a nation from the onslaught of tyranny," Kadowaki said.

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GREG VOJTKO/SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

Riverside National Cemetery All-Services Color Guard presents colors during a Pearl Harbor remembrance outside the Lake Norconian Club.