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INLAND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA'S NEWSPAPER **PE.com**

EMERGING STAR



Riverside King High School sophomore Kalei Greeley is quickly becoming one of the Inland areas's top volleyball players. **SPORTS DAY/B1**

Eastvale is in a homebuilding boom

With hundreds of houses being built, the city is "a real bright spot in Riverside County"

BY LESLIE BERKMAN AND SANDRA STOKLEY
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Richard "Dickie" Simmons, who headed Eastvale's 2010 cityhood drive, has never been shy about his affection for his hometown. When he exclaims "Eastvale is like a boomtown," there's a good reason for his optimism.

In the first eight months of this year, Eastvale issued permits to build 278 new homes — the largest number

for any city in Riverside and San Bernardino counties, according to the Construction Industry Research Board.

"Eastvale is a real bright spot in Riverside County," said Mark Knorringa, the chief executive officer of the Riverside County chapter of the Building Industry Association of Southern California.

"There are people who want to buy, and they want to buy in Eastvale," he said.

In a housing market that is the worst in memory for In-

land homebuilders, Eastvale boasts the greatest amount of homes sold and under construction.

"If you are going to look for successful projects in the Inland Empire, you will find the most successful there," said Tom Dallape, a principal at The Hoffman Co., a land broker that does business in Eastvale, a former dairy enclave where cows outnumbered humans.

A key reason for Eastvale's success is its location, framed by freeways and within a reasonable commute to major employment



DAVID BAUMAN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Crews work on a development in Eastvale. Figures show that in the first eight months of 2011, Eastvale issued more building permits than any other city in the Inland area.

UP NEXT: WHAT'S AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?



PAUL ALVAREZ/FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHER

Thousands of high school students attended the 7th annual Riverside College and Career Fair at the Riverside Convention Center on Monday.



Jim Ruester, of Hawaii, speaks with Norte Vista students Jessica Ruiz, 16, Cassie Trevino, 16, and Evelyn Belman, 16.

RESEARCHING THEIR FUTURE

Thousands of Inland high school students filled the Riverside Convention Center to see what sort of job options might be available to them in the future.

Students, more than 5,000 strong, also could pick from among several workshops covering how to apply for college, how to seek financial aid and how to pursue law enforcement and fire department careers.

The Monday evening event was the seventh Riverside College and Career Fair. People working at about 115 booths provided information about colleges, technical training, military academies and businesses.

Among the groups offering information were the Naval Surface Warfare Center and the Riverside City College Culinary Academy. "Get Free Money for College" was one of the more popular workshops. **STORY, A3**

State loan tab soars

California is No. 1 in borrowing from the federal government to cover jobless benefits, and now it's time to begin paying it back

BY KEVIN FREKING
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — States that borrowed billions from the federal government to keep unemployment benefits flowing through the recession — with California leading the way — now have to start paying those loans back, and they're hitting businesses with new assessments and higher taxes to make that happen.

In all, 27 states owe the federal government nearly \$38 billion. California's total is \$9 billion. The first interest payments on those loans were due Friday and totaled about \$1.1 billion.

Most states charged employers a one-time assessment to cover the charge. But those charges are only part of the story.

Businesses pay two types of unemployment insurance taxes. A federal tax primarily covers the administrative cost of the program, and a state tax pays for the basic benefits that laid-off workers receive.

In most of the states that borrowed from the feds, the federal tax will increase by \$21 per worker next year. Similar increases will take place in subsequent years until the loans are paid in full. Meanwhile, the state taxes have soared in just about every state to deal with the strain caused by the high numbers of people applying for unemployment benefits.

Joe Olivo, owner of Perfect Printing in Moorestown, N.J., with 45 employees just outside Philadelphia, estimates that he'll pay an additional \$24,000 this year in unemployment insurance taxes. He's also dealing with higher expenses

SEE **LOANS/A8**

Parolees get help in breaking prison cycle

The Day Reporting Center at Cal State San Bernardino offers an umbrella of services to decrease their chances of reoffending

BY MARK MUCKENFUSS
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Angela Johnson says she'd most likely be back in prison if Cal State San Bernardino hadn't opened the Day Reporting Center recently to help parolees in the city.

"I was a transient," said Johnson,

48, who has twice been convicted for drug sales and spent more than three years behind bars before her most recent parole release. "I had nowhere to go. I can't get food stamps. I can't work because I'm disabled with osteoarthritis. What am I going to do?"

Johnson, who uses a walker to get around, said she spent one night sleeping on the street several weeks ago, just to avoid being at a friend's place where people would have tried to get her to sell drugs again. Her hope, she said, was the

promise that the people at the Day Reporting Center could help her. That hope was realized the following day, she said.

"They found housing for me," Johnson said. "They went to bat for me like I was flesh and blood. I was standing there so shocked. All I could do was cry, because I couldn't believe people would fight for me like that."

Johnson is one of more than 200 parolees who have sought help at the Day Reporting Center since it opened in February in an un-

marked office building on South D Street, not far from Interstate 10. The center is funded through the state Department of Corrections with a three-year, \$1.2 million grant. The center's staff members are university employees. Most of the material support — meals for the parolees, donated equipment and services — comes from other nonprofit agencies in and around San Bernardino, officials said.

"We're able to garner support from the community," said Carolyn

SEE **PAROLEES/A8**

American Amanda Knox let go, homeward bound

Nothing in Italian law can prevent the Seattle native from leaving Italy now that she's acquitted of her roommate's murder four years ago

BY ALESSANDRA RIZZO AND COLLEEN BARRY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PERUGIA, ITALY — An Italian appeals court threw out Amanda Knox's murder conviction Monday and ordered the young American freed, a stunning reversal four years after she was jailed for the sexual assault and stabbing death of her British

roommate.

Knox, 24, collapsed in tears after the verdict overturning her 2009 conviction was read out, her lawyers draping their arms around her in support. Her co-defendant, Italian Raffaele Sollecito, also was cleared of killing 21-year-old Meredith Kercher in 2007.

SEE **KNOX/A8**



Amanda Knox's murder conviction is out and her sentence for accusing an innocent man is held to time served. Her ex-boyfriend also was cleared.

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Man arrested in '92 slaying

Judith Goodman, 44, was killed in her La Sierra-area apartment. Authorities say DNA indicates Leonard Terrance Woods is the killer

BY JOHN ASBURY
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Riverside police Monday arrested a Moreno Valley man in the slaying of a woman found bound and strangled in her apartment in 1992.

Detectives recently linked Leonard Terrance Woods, 53, to the crime through DNA found under the victim's fingernails 19 years ago.

Woods was stopped about 1 p.m. Monday near his home on Nine-

At the time of the killing, Riverside police fired a flash-bang grenade into the apartment, thinking the killer might be hiding inside. The grenade caused a fire that burned the building to the ground.

Police removed Goodman's body from the apartment before the fire. They discovered the killer had fled before officers arrived.

Goodman died from strangulation, according to an autopsy. She also had deep cuts on the back of her head.



Terrance Woods

Woods had lived in the same apartment complex and had been seen going into Goodman's home, authorities said.

He worked with Goodman and had referred her to the apartment she was renting, district attorney's officials

found with scratches on his face, but they lacked enough evidence to make an arrest.

Forensic technicians recovered DNA samples from the fingernails and determined they matched Woods.

Authorities said the DNA technology wasn't available at the time of the death in 1992.

On Monday, prosecutors charged Woods with one count of murder and use of a deadly weapon. He is set to be arraigned Thursday afternoon at the Riverside Hall of Justice. He could face 25 years to life in prison if convicted.

Norco to vote on county fire services

The city is considering turning over duties to Cal Fire and dropping its local department to save money

BY LESLIE PARRILLA
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Norco city officials are expected to vote this week on a contract to begin using county fire services and dismantle the city's Fire Department.

City officials are meeting on the matter at 7 p.m. Wednesday in City Council chambers at 2820 Clark Ave., Norco.

If approved, the contract for fire and medical emergency services with Cal Fire/Riverside County Fire Department would cost Norco about \$2.9 million, excluding start-up costs. Additional costs include \$149,209 to keep a full-time fire prevention specialist and administrative support and about \$95,000 for additional costs such as building and grounds maintenance, utilities and small tools not covered in the contract, the report said.

Contracting with the county would save the city roughly \$1.4 million a year, according to the report.

The contract would be from Jan. 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 and require the city and Cal Fire to notify each other at least a year before the contract expires to end the agreement.

The city plans to spend

about \$2.9 million for in-house fire services this year from the Norco Fire Department, but that figure does not include overtime, workers compensation and disability claims, which could boost costs to \$4.5 million.

Cal Fire officials say the level of service would not change from what Norco already has, and they can save the city money through longer shifts and more available firefighters. They would provide a fire chief and battalion chief, administrative support, maintenance and repairs for equipment, a medic program, dispatching, communications and information technology and hazardous materials support.

The terms of the contract including keeping all full-time firefighters and making them state employees for Cal Fire. The city would maintain ownership of its fire equipment and two fire stations on Corydon and Hillside streets, continuing to staff them with three firefighters each. But city staff is recommending Norco transfer two of its six fire engines to the county to reduce costs and liability, partly because the city does not have property insurance on its city-owned engines.

The Norco Firefighters Association that represents about 23 city firefighters is suing Norco after it reneged on a 2007 contract to increase retirement benefits this year.

RIVERSIDE: FAIR OFFERS ALTERNATIVES FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS



PAUL ALVAREZ/FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHER

Students and parents wait to attend workshops during the 7th Riverside College and Career Fair at the Riverside Convention Center. The event featured about 115 booths from schools, military academies, businesses and other organizations.

Career, college options touted

The event draws more than 5,000 young people seeking to get guidance on their futures

BY IMRAN GHORI
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More than 5,000 high school students filled the Riverside Convention Center on Monday evening looking to prepare for the job market of the future.

The 7th Riverside College and Career Fair featured about 115 booths from colleges, universities, technical schools, military academies, businesses and other educational organizations providing information to students preparing for life after high school.

"I'm trying to figure out what kind of college I want to go to," said Ryan Powers, 17, a senior at Martin Luther King High School, who was checking out the booths with his brother, Morgan Powers, 16, a junior, and friend Cayla Lowe, 16, a student at Woodcrest Christian High School in Riverside.

"I think it's really great they have everything in one place," said Ryan and Morgan's mother, Diana Powers.

The Riverside City College Culinary Academy attracted a long line at its booths where students handed out freshly made crepes and slices of cakes that they decorated



Riverside City College culinary student Amanda Delapp, 21, demonstrates her cooking skills for fair attendees.

ed in front of the crowds.

"This is actual hands-on learning," said Bob Moghadam, director of the culinary academy.

Austin Leach, 16, a senior at King High, said he found the information at the booth

helpful and was considering attending to pursue his goal of becoming a chef.

"I was thinking about it for awhile," he said.

"He loves to cook," added his mother, Brandy Leach, who said she liked what she saw.

Representatives from the Naval Surface Warfare Center talked to students about science and engineering job opportunities at the agency's Corona division where 1,000 people are employed. Internships are offered to college juniors and college graduates can start at an annual salary of \$62,000.

"We have jobs for them in the local community," said Dianne Costlow, deputy director of the technical division.

Representatives from Completion Counts, a partnership between the city, Riverside and Alford school districts and Riverside City College, surveyed students on where to place 10 kiosks that will provide computer access to college assistance programs.

"The two main focuses are increased college-going and increased college completion rates," said Cindy Taylor, director of the program.

The fair also offered workshops on subjects such as financial aid, how to apply for college and pursuing police or fire department careers. One popular workshop was titled "Get Free Money for College."

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IN BRIEF

Interstate 215 set to close for 3 nights

Interstate 215 through northern San Bernardino will close for the next three nights, starting tonight, so workers can remove structures beneath the new Base-line overpass.

The freeway will close at 9 p.m. each night and reopen at 5 a.m., until Thursday, according to a new release. Closings also will occur from Oct. 9 to Oct. 13.

While the freeway is closed, northbound traffic will exit at 10th Street, turn left on H Street and then left on Highland Avenue, where drivers can re-enter the freeway.

Southbound traffic will merge onto westbound Highway 210 and exit at Highland Avenue. From there, drivers can turn right onto Mount Vernon Avenue, turn left onto Fifth Street, turn right onto H Street and right onto Second Street to rejoin the freeway.

— DUG BEGLEY
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Justices to weigh state's beef law

The U.S. Supreme Court will weigh whether to overturn a 2008 California law barring the meat industry from selling, buying or processing animals too sick or hurt to stand.

The law arose from a nationwide beef recall, which was sparked by an undercover video showing workers abusing so-called downer cows at a Chino slaughterhouse run by the now-defunct Westland/Hallmark Meat Co.

Last year, the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the law, but critics within the meat industry have argued that the law illegally preempts federal meat inspection rules and should not apply to the state's hog industry.

The case, known as National Meat Association v. Harris, is slated for oral arguments on Nov. 9.

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