

Herald Times Reporter

MANITOWOC COUNTY, WIS.

www.htnews.com

50 cents

FRIDAY

February 16, 2007



Reedsville girls rally for win, B1

Learn about Youth Apprenticeships, A2

Riverwalk faces challenges, A6

Peanut butter linked to salmonella outbreak

Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — ConAgra Foods Inc. told consumers to discard certain jars of Peter Pan and Great Value peanut butter after the spread was linked to a salmonella outbreak that has sickened at least 300 people nationwide.

Lids of jars with a product code beginning "2111" can be returned to ConAgra for a refund, the company said.

The salmonella outbreak, which federal health officials said Wednesday has sickened 288 people in 39 states since August, was linked to tainted peanut butter produced by ConAgra at a plant in Sylvester, Ga. How salmonella got into peanut butter is still under investigation, said Dr. Mike Lynch, an epidemiologist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

CDC officials believe the salmonella outbreak to be the nation's first stemming from peanut butter. The most cases were reported in New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Tennessee and Missouri. Wisconsin also reported cases.

About 20 percent of all the ill were hospitalized, and there were no deaths, Lynch said. About 85 percent of the infected people said they ate peanut butter, CDC officials said.

Symptoms can include diarrhea, fever, dehydration, abdominal pain and vomiting.

The recall does not affect Great Value peanut butter made by other manufacturers, the FDA said.

For home delivery, call 888-2347

0 49501 51701 6

MANITOWOC COUNTY, WIS. · FRIDAY, FEB. 16, 2007 · \$0.50



STEVEN AVERY TRIAL

Dean Strang, Steven Avery's defense attorney, questions Bobby Dassey, Avery's nephew and the brother of Brendan Dassey, a 17-year-old also charged in Teresa Halbach's death, during fourth day of the murder trial at the Calumet County Courthouse in Chilton.

Police put on defensive about search procedures

Four sheriff's deputies testify

BY ANDY NELESEN

Special Times Reporter

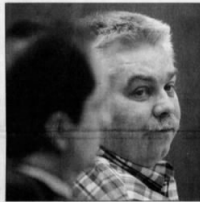
CHILTON — Four sheriff's officers testified Thursday about the massive police search that ensued after Teresa Halbach's vehicle was found in November 2005, and defense attorneys took aim at how well evidence was secured.

Manitowoc County Sheriff's deputy Pete O'Connor said he was dispatched to the Avery property when dispatchers learned that a pair of volunteer searchers had found Teresa Halbach's Toyota RAV4 about 125 yards from the salvage yard's entrance.

Avery, 44, of Milwaukee, is accused of killing Halbach, a 25-year-old freelance photographer, on Oct. 31, and hiding her body and hiding her remains on the family's salvage yard property, Halbach, of rural Calumet.

Follow trial on live video

Follow the Steven Avery trial by watching live video from the courtroom on our Web site at www.htnews.com. The live video begins about 9 a.m. and continues as long as court is in session.



Steven Avery listens to testimony Thursday at the Calumet County Courthouse in Chilton. Avery is accused of killing Teresa Halbach, 25, after she went to the family's rural salvage yard to photograph a minivan he had for sale.

See TRIAL, A4

Judge: No questions allowed from jurors

Defense, prosecution agree with ruling

BY JOHN LEE

Special Times Reporter

CHILTON — Judge Patrick Willis said he doesn't generally allow jurors to ask questions during a trial, especially during a criminal trial, and he wouldn't change his policy Thursday.

A juror passed a note to the judge Thursday noon asking permission to ask a question, and Willis said he denied the request.

Prosecutors and defense attorneys agreed with the judge's decision.

"I think it's a good response," said Avery attorney Dean Strang.

When jurors returned after the noon break, Willis told them questions were the "duty and responsibility of attorneys."

The problem with allowing jurors to ask questions is they might ask about inadmissible evidence or evidence that had not yet been presented but would be later in the case.

The juror wanted to ask a question of J. Brett Bowe of the Calumet County Sheriff's Department, who coordinated security at the Avery property from Nov. 5, 2005, when Halbach's vehicle was found, until evidence searches were completed Nov. 12.

Some jurors drew questions from jurors, but they are usually written and reviewed by a judge before the judge poses them.

Bowe testified about the 24-hour security he coordinated during the eight days of searches. As many as 300 police officers a day searched the 40-acre salvage yard, buildings, adjacent land and vehicles.

The search also included at least three checks each of nearly 4,000 vehicles in the yard — the first time for any sign of Halbach, the second for signs of fire and the third for other evidence.

The search also included search dogs and cadaver dogs, and the investigation that led to arrest has been called the largest ever in Wisconsin.

John Lee: 920-993-1000 ext. 362 or je@htnews.com

Millions needed to update dispatch center

BY KRISTOPHER WEIN

Special Times Reporter

MANITOWOC — Manitowoc County taxpayers could pay between \$3 million and \$5 million to replace outdated equipment at its Joint Dispatch Center.

The equipment will not meet upcoming federal regulations, according to county officials.

The Joint Dispatch Center, built a decade ago in the basement of the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Department, provides county-wide communications for the public to police, fire, emergency medical services, highway, public works and utility workers.

Equipment upgrades are needed because the Federal Communications Commission will require local emergency units to have equipment that works on narrower VHF radio frequencies by 2013.

The technology used by the center's towers, repeaters, radio equipment and most of the radios at emergency stations and in vehicles is no longer backed by manufacturers, according to Nancy Crowley, Manitowoc County emergency management director.

The aging equipment has also periodically failed, Crowley said, most recently three years ago. Other means of communication were improvised because it took six weeks to repair a tower.

Also under consideration is whether to relocate the joint dispatch center to another, county-owned building, Crowley said.

See DISPATCH, A5

Petri joins opposition to Iraq War escalation

BY BRIAN TUMALTY

Special Times Reporter

WASHINGTON — Rep. Tom Petri, who supports Manistowoc County in Congress, has joined a small but growing number of Republican lawmakers breaking ranks with the Bush administration to plan to escalate troop levels in Iraq.

Just saying no is obstructionism, Petri, of Fond du Lac, said in a House speech Thursday.

"What we need is a new way forward to replace the old way that isn't getting us anywhere. It has become clear that trying to establish a multilateral Iraq democracy — while laudable — simply can't be accomplished by non-force."

Instead, Petri suggested the United States should support the partition of the country into a confederation of regions each dominated by Shites, Sunnis or Kurds who "can each govern themselves while leaving the others alone."

See PETRI, A5

Commitment to community celebrated

United Way awards dinner honors those seeking to create better quality of life

BY CHARLIE MATHEWS

Special Times Reporter

MANITOWOC — "What Matters" was the theme of the Manitowoc County United Way 2006 Campaign Thursday night's awards dinner of the organization was highlighted by expressions of support by different individuals of what they truly matters — creating a better quality of life for the residents of the Lakeshore area.

"We can change our communities if

each of us pitches in," Mike Strang, 2006 campaign chair, told those gathered at the Silver Valley Supper Club.

"We can make Manitowoc County a great place to live and raise our families. The lives we change and the community we share is what matters most."

The 2006 campaign goal was \$90,000, with \$60,000 in donations and pledges received as of Feb. 15. Several companies continue to conduct campaigns, and the final total will be announced March 25, with allocations to community agencies awarded in mid-April.

Tom Klein, chairman of the United Way's board, said 2006 had been a year of many challenges.

See COMMUNITY, A8



Incoming United Way Board Chairman Kent Heves, left, presents an "Exceptional Service" award to Concast's Tom Strang.

Fri-Friday, February 16, 2007 www.htrnews.com

Riverwalk faces challenges, seeks community support

Event scheduled for June 24

BY CHARLIE MATHEWS

MANITOWOC — The 2007 Riverwalk will be different and organizers hope for the best.

Organizers said Tuesday that the Manitowoc Riverwalk will be a challenge in staging a successful fifth edition of the local event along the lakefront.

"Our goal is to improve Riverwalk, make it the best discussion of possible event, a showcase for the lakefront," said Paul Cramer, executive director of the Manitowoc Two Rivers YMCA.

"The YMCA is one of four principal organizers and is providing financial backing, along with the Wisconsin Maritime Museum, the Manitowoc Marina and West Western Lakesfront Hotel."

"The last couple years it has become tired, fatigued," Cramer said. "I would like to see it renewed, to see it as a community event."

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

There has been a contraction in corporate sponsorship, decreased involvement of the arts and crafts community, and lower attendance by the public.

The 2006 Riverwalk featured musical and other entertainment on five stages, homemade arts and crafts, vendors, food, and a petting zoo, from 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Organizers said it has been increasingly difficult to find enough volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

Organizers said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event. "We are looking for people who are interested in the project and want to help make it a success," Cramer said.

TRIAL

From A1

O'Connor said that three trucks were leaving the area and were not stopped at the roadblock.

"I was just getting up when they went by," O'Connor said.

The next officers at the scene were flagged down by Tom and Nikole Sturm, who had found what turned out to be Hababak's sports utility vehicle covered in branches, twigs and parts.

Manitowoc County Sheriff's Sgt. James Orth testified that the Sturm were shocked up when they linked up with them amongst the wreck cars on the Avery salvage property about 11 a.m. Nov. 3.

Orth testified that when he looked inside the vehicle, he noted a small piece of paper with the name "Teresa" on it. He said he later learned that it actually was a small memory card for a digital camera.

Under cross-examination, defense attorney Jerome Bering asked if Orth saw any blood in the vehicle's cabin Orth said he hadn't.

Spots of Avery's blood reportedly were found inside Hababak's SUV, Avery's lawyers contend. Another Manitowoc County Sheriff's lieutenant, Robert Bering, said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

TRIAL

From A1

A vial of his blood drawn as part of the effort to free him was in storage at the Manitowoc County property.

Orth told special prosecutor Ken Kutz it would be difficult to use blood because of the dark color of the vehicle's interior and the lighting conditions. He said he could see the writing on the disk because it was in black printing on a light background.

Defense attorney Jerome Bering asked Orth if he could imagine one of his ranking officers planting evidence in Hababak's Toyota Rav4. Orth was the deputy assigned to guard the vehicle; officers took the car to the Manitowoc County property.

Manitowoc County Sheriff's Sgt. James Orth testified that the Sturm were shocked up when they linked up with them amongst the wreck cars on the Avery salvage property about 11 a.m. Nov. 3.

Orth testified that when he looked inside the vehicle, he noted a small piece of paper with the name "Teresa" on it. He said he later learned that it actually was a small memory card for a digital camera.

Under cross-examination, defense attorney Jerome Bering asked if Orth saw any blood in the vehicle's cabin Orth said he hadn't.

Spots of Avery's blood reportedly were found inside Hababak's SUV, Avery's lawyers contend. Another Manitowoc County Sheriff's lieutenant, Robert Bering, said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

HERALD TIMES REPORTER

From A1

A vial of his blood drawn as part of the effort to free him was in storage at the Manitowoc County property.

Orth told special prosecutor Ken Kutz it would be difficult to use blood because of the dark color of the vehicle's interior and the lighting conditions. He said he could see the writing on the disk because it was in black printing on a light background.

Defense attorney Jerome Bering asked Orth if he could imagine one of his ranking officers planting evidence in Hababak's Toyota Rav4. Orth was the deputy assigned to guard the vehicle; officers took the car to the Manitowoc County property.

Manitowoc County Sheriff's Sgt. James Orth testified that the Sturm were shocked up when they linked up with them amongst the wreck cars on the Avery salvage property about 11 a.m. Nov. 3.

Orth testified that when he looked inside the vehicle, he noted a small piece of paper with the name "Teresa" on it. He said he later learned that it actually was a small memory card for a digital camera.

Under cross-examination, defense attorney Jerome Bering asked if Orth saw any blood in the vehicle's cabin Orth said he hadn't.

Spots of Avery's blood reportedly were found inside Hababak's SUV, Avery's lawyers contend. Another Manitowoc County Sheriff's lieutenant, Robert Bering, said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Bering said he saw Avery's blood on the SUV. "I saw it on the floor of the vehicle," Bering said.

Table with multiple columns containing legal notices, court dates, and public information. Includes sections like 'Legal', 'Public Notice', and 'Court Dates'.