

GOLDEN GLOBES
and the
winners
are...
PAGE 8



METH ACTIVITY ON THE RISE AFTER SHORT-LIVED DECLINE

Agencies report more arrests, discoveries of labs and seizures in past few years

By Tim McGloin | The Virginian-Pilot

Off-duty Norfolk motorcycle cop John Murphy was quietly fishing in Blackwater Creek during a bass tournament last summer when he spotted a johnboat with two men in it slide past him in a cove.

The men docked at a small pier and unloaded two coolers, walking them to shore and putting them in a nearby storage container. Murphy noticed they had no fishing gear.

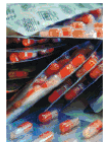
One of the men then came back to the dock and stood, holding an AK-47 assault rifle, staring at Murphy. Murphy slowly motored out of the cove and later reported what he saw to the Virginia Beach Police Department. By then, he learned, Beach police already had that property under ground and air surveillance as part of an ever-widening investigation into a network of methamphetamine distributors and users.

The pier was on property at 3365 Head River Road in the southernmost part of the city. The compound was patrolled by armed security guards, the driveway gated with surveillance cameras watching anyone coming and going, according to a search warrant.

See METH, PAGE 6

the numbers

According to the DEA, the number of meth labs discovered in Virginia peaked in 2004 with 70. It decreased through 2008, but then spiked to 28 in 2009, according to the latest numbers available.



the reasons

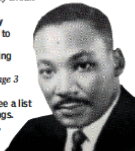
The DEA cites two contributors to the rebound in meth's prominence: Users and dealers have skirted regulations on pseudoephedrine, left, a key ingredient in homemade meth; and Mexican drug cartels have ramped up meth production.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Test yourself How much do you know about the civil rights leader? *The Daily Break*

Learn the legacy Historians work to keep civil rights history from being forgotten. *Front section, Page 3*

Plan your day See a list of holiday closings. *Hampton Roads, Page 2*



STEVE EARLEY | THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT

Mario Blanco visits the grave of his daughter Raven in November. He keeps a chair in his truck for the regular visits. She died in 2007 during a dental exam.

Father tries to save others from girl's fate

He is working to prevent deaths from dental emergencies

By Kristin Davis | The Virginian-Pilot

EVERYTHING seemed ordinary about the day that changed everything. Mario Blanco scheduled some work on his truck at the dealership. Daughter Raven, 8, had a dentist appointment, a routine cleaning and cavity check late that morning.

It was March 9, 2007, a Friday. Blanco dropped his truck off at 9:30, then joined Raven and her mother for the trip to the dentist.

The Chesapeake family would get an early start to the weekend. But it never really came.

Raven stopped breathing in the dental chair.

Blanco bent on the floor of the waiting room as medics took her away.

See FOUNDATION, PAGE 10

U.S., ISRAEL LINKED TO IRAN SABOTAGE

Computer worm tested at secret site, experts say

By William J. Broad, John Markoff and David E. Sanger
The New York Times

The Dimona complex in the Negev desert is famous as the heavily guarded heart of Israel's never-acknowledged nuclear arms program, where rows of factories make atomic fuel for the arsenal.

Dimona has taken on a new, equally secret role in the last two years - as a critical testing ground in a joint U.S.-Israeli effort to undermine Iran's efforts to make a bomb of its own, according to experts familiar with Dimona's operations.

Behind Dimona's barbed wire, the experts say, Israel has spun nuclear centrifuges virtually

See TESTS, PAGE 4

it's not over yet

Some experts who have examined the code in the Stuxnet computer worm believe it contains the seeds for yet more assaults on Iranian nuclear reactors.

the week

Today Celebrate King at local events

It's Martin Luther King Jr. Day. For a list of local observances, see HamptonRoads.com/MLKevents2011.

Tuesday Chinese leader comes to U.S.

Chinese President Hu Jintao arrives in Washington for his first official visit to the U.S. in five years. President Barack Obama will host a state dinner for him Wednesday.

Wednesday House to vote on health care

The House plans to vote on repealing the new health care law.

Thursday A look at the economy

A number of economic indicators will be released, including weekly jobless claims, December home sales and several companies' quarterly financial results.

Friday From 'Black' to 'No Strings'

Natalie Portman takes on a lighter role than her "Black Swan" character in "No Strings Attached," a romantic comedy with Ashton Kutcher.

Follow the coverage in print and all week on PilotOnline.com.

inside CATCH UP ON FOUNDING DOCUMENT

Last week, we printed the Constitution. Now, read the original amendments.

CONTEXT, PAGE 11

NAIL SALONS FACE HEALTH STANDARDS

Beach council hopes new requirements will ensure safety for customers.

HAMPTON ROADS

mostly cloudy

High: low 40s. Winds 5-10 mph. Chance of rain.

Details on the back page of Classifieds



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