

# From the Wire

## 6th month rise in home prices

Associated Press

MIAMI — Home prices rose for the sixth straight month in November, fueled by tax credits for homebuyers.

The Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city home price index released Tuesday inched up 0.2 percent to a seasonally adjusted reading of 145.49. The index was off 5.3 percent from November last year, nearly matching analysts' estimates that it would fall by 5.1 percent.

Fourteen of 20 cities in the index showed gains from October to November.

## U.S. economy moves forward

Americans are feeling better about the economy, home prices are on the rise and companies are forecasting a brighter 2010.

While no one doubts the economy has a long way to go to come back from the punishing recession, the reports Tuesday were signs of progress for a recovery that has proceeded in fits and starts.

"We're definitely moving in the right direction," said Scott Hoyt, senior director of consumer economics at Moody's Economy.com.

## Budweiser ads in Super Bowl

MILWAUKEE — An asteroid is about to hit Earth? Drink some Bud Light. Your plane crashes on an island? Drink more Bud Light. Really love Bud Light? Why not build your house with cans of it ... and then drink up?

Longtime Super Bowl advertising leader Anheuser-Busch returns to humor next month to sell its drinks after a more, well, sober outing last year.

The brewer's five minutes of commercials during this year's game Feb. 7, include straightforward humor.

## Toyota recalls eight models

WASHINGTON — Toyota is suspending U.S. sales of eight car and truck models to fix sticking gas pedals and halting production lines at plants from Texas to Canada to deal with the problem, the latest to confront the world's No. 1 automaker.

The suspended sales, announced Tuesday, involve a significant portion of Toyota Motor Co.'s fleet and some of its most popular vehicles, including the Camry and Corolla. As part of the plan, Toyota is halting some production at five assembly plants beginning the week of Feb. 1 "to assess and coordinate activities."

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## NASA scraps its Mars rover

LOS ANGELES — The Mars rover Spirit has logged nearly five miles during six years of rolling around the red planet. It has driven forward, backward and uphill over plains, plateaus, and even a mountain as tall as the Statue of Liberty.

No more. NASA on Tuesday declared an end to Spirit's roving career after repeated attempts to free it from a sand pit where it's been stuck for nine months.

## 231-mph wind record beaten

CONCORD, N.H. — First the Old Man, now the Big Wind.

New Hampshire's Mount Washington has lost its distinction as the site of the fastest wind gust ever recorded on Earth.

The concession came three days after the World Meteorological Organization posted a clip on its Web site noting a panel of experts reviewing data turned up a 253 mph gust on Australia's Barrow Island in 1996.

## Apple tablet has big plans

SEATTLE — The company whose CEO proclaimed in 2008 that people don't read anymore may now be poised

to sweep in and school the electronic book reader market.

That company is Apple Inc., and its CEO, Steve Jobs, was predicting Amazon.com Inc.'s Kindle would never take off. But if Apple's talks with publishers are any indication, its "latest creation," to be unveiled today, could upend the fledgling e-reader industry.

## \$75B more for stimulus asked

WASHINGTON — Last year's \$787 billion economic stimulus bill is going to be even more expensive — \$75 billion more.

The new Congressional Budget Office estimate, released Tuesday, provides more ammunition for Republicans who say the stimulus has been long on spending and short on creating promised jobs. The additional cost also eats into the savings forecast from the budget freeze President Barack Obama is expected

to propose tonight during his State of the Union address.

Almost half of the additional cost, \$34 billion, is because the food stamp program won't be able to take advantage of lower-than-expected inflation rates.

## Koreas fire at each other

SEOUL, South Korea — Yonhap news agency says that the militaries of North and South Korea have exchanged artillery fire along their disputed western sea border.

Yonhap reported that the North fired several rounds of land-based artillery off the west coast Wednesday, two days after it designated two no-sail zones along the sea border.

Yonhap, citing no source, said South Korea's military returned fire. The report didn't provide further details.

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## LOTTERY

Night Drawings

Mega Millions — 7-8-38-39-48 (22)

Kicker — 2-1-6-1-8-7

Rolling Cash 5 — 11-16-17-33-38

Ten-Oh

10-11-14-19-20-21-27-32-33-37-39-

43-45-54-56-66-68-73-77-78

Pick 3 — 3-9-0

Pick 4 — 5-4-7-3

Day Drawings

Ten-Oh

2-11-16-21-23-33-35-36-38-41-

48-50-52-58-60-64-70-74-77-78

Pick 3 — 3-2-3

Pick 4 — 0-4-7-3



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Sound Off, I'm not sure how you will edit this message but please let it be known that our government is attempting to silence the media that doesn't agree with their policies. This is an obvious attempt to silence Americans who oppose the direction Obama is taking our country. Time Warner Cable sent an email to my home stating that they will drop FOX News on Jan. 01, 2010 over a price dispute. We all know that this is what the Obama government wants; we've heard Obama and his people say so. (Ed. note: while they have reached an agreement now, Fox News and Fox Business News were not in jeopardy. They are covered by a separate contract.)

The section on Fall Scholar Athletes that you printed was a disgrace. I know of at least five students that were omitted from Field School, not to mention several from Waterloo. When I called, your sport's department said that they would reprint a corrected article. Instead, you ran a tiny, one-inch retraction, yet none of the names that I called on, were there. You still have yet to get the corrected names printed. There is no excuse for this. From what you said, you omitted many students from the entire county. Your mistakes are ridiculous! Not only once, but on the reprint? (Ed. note: boy, we really messed this one up. A bad fax omitted some names. We must have printed 2 or 3 corrections because more names were omitted than what we were aware of. Then, we were going to print all of them again, and failed to do that. Our apologies to all the students, their families and the schools.)

For those who quote the Bible: remember that the Word wasn't given to us so that we could use it to condemn others, but rather as a tool for changing our own lives and encouraging others. If we all recited Luke 6:37 and 42, every morning as we looked in the mirror, Christianity might have a better chance of changing the world.

This is to those morons that moved out of their house in Ravenna and left their cat behind. It had to try and take care of itself in those cold winter days and nights. That was awful and you should be ashamed of yourself. I sure hope no one does that to you some day so you don't end up in that situation.

Good morning Mr. Ed. On December 20 I did not get a magazine in my Sunday paper. I know you say this doesn't happen, but it seems to be happening all the time. Please correct.

Are people that work in jails allowed to date people that were prisoners in jail?

I'm calling about that incident with the community leader. I know him and he has really given back to people in the area and I don't think you should have run that story on the front page. It is ridiculous and irresponsible for you to do that. You made him look bad and he has a great legacy.

Thank you to the Ravenna Township Fire Department for sending Santa to the homes of children. My daughter was very excited and it is a wonderful program that you are providing. And many thanks to everyone that gave their time to bring joy and happiness to others. Thank you.

### RAVENNA OFFICE

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