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Murray: Justices must be pro-choice

By Peter Callaghan
The News Tribune

U.S. Senate candidate Rod Chandler said that trying to find out how many would vote on each issue would violate the concept of an independent, impartial judiciary.

Murray has said she was inspired to run for the office after watching intense hearings last fall on the confirmation of Clarence Thomas. Those hearings became controversial when a former Thomas supporter, Anita Hill, accused him of sexual harassment.

Murray has said she would have voted against Thomas' confirmation. Chandler has said he would have voted yes.

The exchange on abortion was one of the few breaks from the day's theme — understanding Chandler's thinking. Murray said she would have voted against the pro-life nominee.

Chandler repeatedly asked the friendly audience of historians if they could tell him Murray's response to questions how she would vote if he were asked to create jobs.

"Don't answer here any idea what I'd do," he asked at one point. "I'll answer that in another place."



Charles Simmons Sr. appeals for motorists' support at South 23rd and C streets. With him are Gregg Aubry and Wendy Chate.

It's 'just a matter of principle,' striker says

By Robert Marshall Wells
The News Tribune

After more than four years as one of the City of Tacoma's lowest-paid electrical workers, Charles Simmons Sr. says working off his job as a mail carrier last week was a difficult decision — but something he had to do.

Simmons said he was not looking for a job to be replaced with a strike. "I'm not asking for that much. But I want to respect" the 27-year-old Simmons, who supports himself, his wife and four children on an annual salary of slightly less than \$30,000, one of 111 electrical workers of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local No. 483.

The electrical workers, who received steadily declining compensation this week while waiting for the 8-day-old strike to be resolved, say the main reason they've left their jobs is fairness, not greed.

"I'm not saying we're better than anybody else, but a lot of these workers get done without a central contract," Simmons said. "I'm all for beautiful things. But these projects are not going to be done unless we have a contract."

State board urges schools to make condoms available

By Elaine Porterford
The News Tribune

State district and commission should ensure that condoms are available to Washington youth, along with programs promoting sexual abstinence, the state Board of Health declared Wednesday.

The board's Monday resolutions, adopted unanimously in Tacoma, are intended to spur discussion of the issue in school districts, private schools and commissions that have been avoiding the topic, said Beverly Long, the board's chairwoman.

It doesn't mean that schools must distribute condoms, she said. Board members believe only five or six school districts in the state have thoroughly explored the issue of sexual abstinence in optional sex education programs, she said.

The board members of school districts that need to have that discussion, she said. "A lot of information is floating out there. We've got to keep talking about this in public, debating about how we are to talk to our young people — they need our help."

The resolution also says that "families, communities, school districts and independent schools should maintain education programs to reduce the prevalence of sexual activity among their school-age youth. They also should ensure availability and accessibility of condoms and information about their proper use to all youth who choose to use sexually correct measures."

Blackie became Lucky after being dragged by a van

By Brian Harnish
The News Tribune

The dog gave names to Blackie, but animal cruelty investigators like to call him Lucky.

Blackie, a black Labrador retriever, was chained to the back of a van and dragged down an East Tacoma street at speeds reaching 45 mph. Harnish said the animal was pulled for about two blocks before the driver stopped.

The dog was finally spotted when it came home, said Dorey D'Amico of the Humane Society for Tacoma and Pierce County. "It was that a walking cat."

He had a spare tire attached to the back doors and a second chain draped in his cage. A K9 resident, but the owner has since moved with his wife and two children.

The dog alone occurred the afternoon of Sept. 17. Harnish said a man drove the van through the intersection of East 12th Street and McKinley Avenue, where the dog trailing on a chain — and continued for about four blocks before stopping.

Vigilantism mistaken for vigilance as paroled criminals cast out

By C. Roberts
The News Tribune

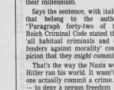
How easy it was to rally the fear and the outrage of a city against Jonathan Turpin. Because of his supposed beliefs and because of what he might do, not because of what he did — we denied him the opportunity to prove himself worthy of our trust.

What a wonderful world this would be if all the rapists and all the child molesters — all the murderers, the arsonists, the burglars — could be locked up and kept forever from our neighborhoods. It's only we who shake by laws we're forced to after parties and families to those who break the law.

But that's the way things work. That's the way our society has evolved. We should know by now the difference between vigilance and vigilantism. We should know the difference between a date paid for a crime committed and a date someone needs for a crime that may never happen.

The measure of the size of our own freedom requires that we sometimes put our safety at risk. And that's the problem with justice. It isn't free. It isn't easy.

But it's better than what they had in the Fatherland.



Paragaph 41 of the British Criminal Code said that all habitual criminals and of leaders against morality could be granted no suspension that they might commit an offense.

That's the way the Nazis worked. That's the way Hitler ran his world. It wasn't random that someone actually commits a crime. All the systems needed to keep a person free from — was suspicion.

Paragaph 41 of the British Criminal Code said that all habitual criminals and of leaders against morality could be granted no suspension that they might commit an offense.