



Jazz Festival organizers blue over gray skies

IT'S NOT
SUPPOSED TO
RAIN, BUT . . .

By LAITH AGHA
Herald Staff Writer

One moment it's supposed to rain, the next moment it's not. An unpredictable weather system is teasing the local water supply and dry hillsides, while

agitating Monterey Jazz Festival organizers.

Festival organizers are hoping to avoid the wet during the 50th installment of the festival this weekend, which opens Friday afternoon.

"It makes us nervous because we want people to have a great experience here," said festival spokesman Timothy Orr. "Hopefully, it will hold off."

The National Weather Service's report Tuesday was ominous, with a chance of rain predicted for Friday and Saturday. By Wednesday, the report had changed to a chance of rain for tonight and Friday morning, with clear skies over the weekend — to the relief of festival organizers.

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Coming Friday

Decades: Legends and Legacies of The Monterey Jazz Festival A Herald special section in celebration of the 50th annual event.

Produce regulation bill planned

IOWA LAWMAKER WOULD GIVE
FDA OVERSIGHT OF CROPS

By MARIE VASARI
Herald Staff Writer

Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, is expected to introduce legislation today that would establish federal oversight of the fresh produce industry in the wake of the most recent lettuce recall.

The Fresh Produce Safety Act of 2007 will call for the Food and Drug Administration to develop and implement mandatory good agricultural practices for growers and good manufacturing practices for producers, said Harkin's communications director, Kate Cyrul.

It is based on legislation Harkin introduced in 1999, the Fruit and Vegetable Safety Act, which called for the FDA to establish processing mandates for the produce industry to protect public health.

Current standards in California are strictly voluntary.

The California Leafy Greens Handler Marketing Agreement, developed after last year's widespread E. coli outbreak in bagged spinach, established best practices for growers and a system of audits by California Department of Food and Agriculture inspectors.

No illnesses have been reported in the recall, which involves 5,058 bags of Dole Hearts Delight salad mix distributed across nine U.S. states and eastern Canada.

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OPENING FESTIVAL RIGHT
Mac McDonald profiles Along Came Betty
Story in GO!



Slide show
Go to: montereyherald.com
for images from 50 years of the Jazz Festival.



"People do recover, families do heal and communities do thrive."

— Robin McCrae of Community Human Services Counseling and Recovery

CELEBRATION OF RECOVERY

EX-ADDICTS GATHER IN SALINAS
FOR NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH



ORVILLE MYERS/The Herald

Above: Sun Street Center resident Juan Vargas, left, helps counselor Roberto Garcia cook hot dogs. Top: Joann Perez of Community Human Services gets a hug from Fred Swanson, a counselor at Door To Hope.

By DANIEL LOPEZ
Herald Staff Writer

He spent five years fleeing from the law and even longer avoiding the root of his problems, but Laurence McCulloch says it is all in the past.

On Tuesday, the 32-year-old recovering alcoholic and others trying to overcome substance abuse gathered at the train station in Salinas to show that recovery efforts can make a difference in one's life. The event was



Go to: montereyherald.com to learn about National Recovery Month and Community Human Services.

among several scheduled this month to commemorate National Recovery Month.

"My life was really going nowhere," McCulloch said as he stood over a barbecue grill while fixing lunch.

Sandra Jacob-Ball, who is a senior counselor for the Door to Hope program and is a recovering addict, said the train station was a fitting place to bid farewell to destructive habits.

"The drug and alcohol problems are very prevalent here," she said, referring to the reputation the area around the station has for illicit behavior. "We have one woman here

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12 percent hike for recruitment, retention, board says

CSU executives' salaries raised by up to \$45,000

By MATT KRUPNICK
MediaNews

California State University's best-paid managers won hefty raises Wednesday as trustees said they should not have to sacrifice quality leaders because of political pressure.

The Board of Trustees voted 15-2 to give the chancellor, campus presidents and other executives raises of \$30,000 to \$45,000 per year, averaging nearly 12 percent.

The board members meeting in Long Beach dismissed concerns of faculty members, employees, students and legislators.

"You can't have good institutions without being able to retain the best or recruit the best," said trustee Jeff Bleich.

Lt. Gov. John Garamendi, repeating points he made in a letter to Chancellor Charles

Herald question of the day
Is the 12 percent raise for California State University executives too much?

Yes No

Go to: montereyherald.com to place your vote

Herald surveys are unscientific

Reed, urged the board to hold off.

"I think it is a very serious mistake in public policy," said Garamendi, also a trustee. "I know everybody would like a pay increase, but . . . this is just outrageous."

The vote followed criticism from student, faculty and employee leaders, who told trustees the raises would be wrong, given the political climate. Legislators repeatedly

Please see **CSU** page A10

Car bomb kills anti-Syria lawmaker on eve of Lebanese presidential election

JUST RETURNED
FROM ABROAD

By SCHEHEREZADE FARAMARZI
and ZEINA KARAM
Associated Press

BEIRUT, Lebanon — A powerful bomb killed an anti-Syria lawmaker

and six others Wednesday in a Christian neighborhood of Beirut, threatening to derail an effort by an already deeply divided Parliament to elect Lebanon's next president in voting to begin next week.

Antoine Ghanem, a 64-year-old member of the Christian Phalange party who had returned from refuge abroad only two days earlier, was the

eighth anti-Syria figure and fourth lawmaker from the governing coalition to be assassinated in less than three years.

Coalition members blamed Syria. Damascus denied involvement, as it has for the previous seven assassinations, including the 2005 bombing

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ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lebanese soldiers secure the scene near a body at the site of a fatal explosion in a Christian suburb east of Beirut on Wednesday.



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Movies/EntertainmentG0!
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