

# PAPAYA THAI

Dining Review, A17

Restaurant keeps this Asian cuisine on the menu in Mesa



# Will D'Antoni coach in N.Y., Chicago, Phoenix?

Sports, B1

JOE'S REAL BBQ HOLDS ITS ANNUAL FREE FOOD DAY TODAY Dining Notes, A18



# EAST VALLEY Tribune



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WHERE LOCAL NEWS IS FIRST

50¢

# Obama, Clinton split N.C. and Indiana

**THE NEWS:** Barack Obama moved inexorably closer to the Democratic presidential nomination Tuesday, holding on to his lead as time runs out on challenger Hillary Rodham Clinton. **Details, AA1**



**NORTH CAROLINA:** Barack Obama swept to a convincing victory in the North Carolina primary Tuesday and declared he was closing in on the Democratic nomination. Returns from 99 percent of precincts showed Obama winning 56 percent to 42 percent for Clinton, a triumph that mirrored his earlier wins in Southern states with large black populations.



**INDIANA:** Hillary Rodham Clinton eked out a win in Indiana as she struggled to halt her rival's march into history. Returns from 99 percent of precincts showed her with 51 percent to 49 percent for her rival, a margin of little more than 22,000 votes out of more than 1.2 million cast. The outcome wasn't clear for more than six hours after the polls closed.

## 60-SECOND TRIB



### D-Backs beat back the Phillies, 6-4

Stephen Drew hits a three-run homer and Randy Johnson earns his 286th victory as the Diamondbacks defeat the Phillies 6-4. **Sports, B1**

### Immigration bill delay

Rep. Russell Pearce, R-Mesa, says House Speaker Jim Weiers should not be holding up a bill that would let voters decide whether local police agencies should deal with federal immigration laws. **Local, A3**

### San Tan Flat party

San Tan Flat owners Dale and Spencer Bell are so excited that their legal tango with Pinal County is over that they're having a party. **Local, A4**

### San Diego drug bust

Dozens of San Diego State University students are arrested after a sweeping drug investigation found that some fraternity members openly dealt drugs. **Nation & World, AA1**

### McCain on jurists

John McCain says that as president he would nominate jurists who believe "there are clear limits to the scope of judicial power" and who are in the mold of Supreme Court Justices John Roberts and Samuel Alito. **Politics, AA2**

## VOICES

**SCOTT BORDOW:** Since the filly Eight Belles broke both front ankles and had to be euthanized after the



Kentucky Derby on Saturday, I have heard people say horse racing is a barbaric sport that should be outlawed. Funny, but I never hear anyone ask for the abolishment of football when a player dies after running wind sprints. **EVTRIB.COM**

• "If this isn't mob rule, I don't know what is. And I think (Sheriff Joe) Arpaio should be arrested for inciting such incidents. If it weren't for his so-called 'crime-sweeps,' there wouldn't be such animosity. Thank you for nothing, sheriff. You really make me ill. Who's next? The Indians? Arabs?" a Venter asks. **Opinion, A22**

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## Expect gas to hit \$3.73 in June, says government

By DAN CATERINICCHIA  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**WASHINGTON** • The government on Tuesday again raised its short-term price forecasts for crude oil and gasoline — trends that are expected to tamp down demand.

The Energy Department predicts average monthly gasoline prices should peak at \$3.73 a gallon in June, an increase of 13 cents from last month's estimate. Regular-grade gasoline is expected to average \$3.52 a gallon in 2008, 71 cents above

### MORE INSIDE

**CAR MARKET:** Auto sales are suffering, and more consumers are having trouble repaying loans, **A14**

**OIL PRICES:** Oil futures hit a record of nearly \$123 a barrel, **A16**

last year's average.

Diesel fuel prices are projected to average \$3.94 per gallon this year, up from \$2.88 per gallon in 2007.

At the pump, gas prices dipped slightly overnight to remain at a national average of \$3.61 a gallon Tuesday, and are well above the year-ago average of \$3.04 a gallon, according to AAA and the Oil Price Information Service. Diesel prices remained at about \$4.24 a gallon, and both were within about a penny of record highs set last week.

EIA expects average daily oil consumption in the U.S. will fall by about 190,000 barrels this year because of the economic slowdown and high prices. That is more than double last month's forecast of a 90,000 barrel per day decrease.

Also Tuesday, Democratic Sens. Jack Reed of Rhode Island and Carl Levin of Michigan asked President Bush to create a federal task force "to investigate whether speculators are driving up prices in energy commodity markets through manipulative or deceptive practices."

# East Valley Mormons decry link to Texas sect



THOMAS BOGGAN, TRIBUNE

**ON A "TANGENT":** Trina Johansson, a member of the Mormon church, reads Friday to her children, from left, Hannah, 8, Matthew, 4, and Adam, 2, during a home-school session at their house in Mesa. "They have some similar beliefs," Johansson says of FLDS members, "but they've taken their own tangent."

## Polygamous FLDS group tars them with same brush

By SONU MUNSHI  
TRIBUNE

**F**or Arizona State University senior Steven Raisor, the more he hears about the ongoing Texas polygamy and child abuse cases, the more he's disgusted at those allegedly involved.

"It's sad what's happening to those little boys and girls," Raisor said on a recent afternoon as he visited the Institute of Religion on campus.

But for Raisor, a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the more the case develops, the other reality also sinks deep.

"It's frustrating that people do think that we're somehow involved,"

Raisor said, adding that he's heard from friends, especially those outside Arizona, who question him about the case and ask what it has to do with "us."

More than 450 children are in Texas Child Protective Services custody, ever since state authorities responded to a call for help last month from a girl claiming she was abused and in a polygamous marriage at a compound of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, an offshoot of the LDS church.

The mainstream LDS church has maintained that it has no affiliation with any polygamous sect, including the one in Eldorado, Texas, whose leader, Warren Jeffs, was jailed in 2006.

Raisor said he's had friends from out of town ask what the Texas case had to do with his religion. It's something he's discussed with friends at his church.

"We all almost wish they had a different name, because it's degrading to us," Raisor said.

Don Evans, Arizona LDS spokesman, reiterated that stance.

"Because our church practiced polygamy until 1890 and they've borrowed our name, some people might be confused, but we have nothing to do with them," Evans said.

Arizona and Utah also figure prominently in the picture, given the pres-

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# Web site compares Valley hospitalization costs

## Learn more

• The Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association has launched a Web site for consumers to compare in-patient charges, average length of stay and other information for common procedures at Arizona's acute-care hospitals. Go to [www.azhospitalchoice.org](http://www.azhospitalchoice.org).

• To compare the quality of care hospitals provide for adult patients with certain conditions and procedures, go to [www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov](http://www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov).

By MARY K. REINHART  
TRIBUNE

Maybe you're in the market for knee replacement surgery or an angioplasty, or looking for alcohol detox treatment.

Now you can go online to compare the costs of in-patient hospitalization for roughly 1,200 conditions and procedures at more than 80 hospitals statewide.

The Hospital Choice Web site, launched Tuesday by the

industry's Arizona Hospital and Health Care Association, uses data gathered by the state Department of Health Services to compare, among other things, average charges, length of stay and the number of procedures performed at each hospital.

The costs don't include bills for surgeons, anesthesiologists or other medical providers, nor are they anywhere close to the rates insurance companies negotiate with hospitals.

Those with insurance still have to call their health plans to find out whether procedures will be covered and still have to use a hospital that extends privileges to their doctor.

But for the growing number of uninsured and self-insured, the online database offers the first look at which hospitals might provide the best buy. And it reveals some eye-opening differences in the cost of care across the state and even across town.

"It's not the holy grail of transparency," said hospital association CEO John Rivers. "It's just the first step down a long road we intend to take."

Transparency has become a buzz word in recent years as the cost of health care skyrockets and more people find themselves uninsured, underinsured or self-insured. Unlike most goods and services, medical costs are often shrouded

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