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# DAILY INTER LAKE

January 14, 2010

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## Tragedy follows quake

### Thousands feared dead, many trapped

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Dazed survivors wandered past dead bodies in rubble-strewn streets Wednesday, crying for loved ones, and rescuers searched collapsed buildings as officials feared the death toll from Haiti's devastating earthquake could reach into the tens of thousands.

The first cargo planes with food, water, medical supplies, shelter and sniffer dogs headed to the Western Hemisphere's poorest nation a day after the magnitude-7 quake flattened much of the capital of 2 million people.

Tuesday's earthquake brought down buildings great and small — from shacks in shantytowns to President Rene Preval's gleaming white National Palace, where a dome tilted ominously above the manicured grounds.

Hospitals, schools and the main prison collapsed. The capital's Roman Catholic archbishop was killed when his office and the main cathedral fell. The head of the U.N. peace-keeping mission was missing in the ruins of the organization's multistory headquarters.

At a triage center improvised in a hotel parking lot, people with cuts, broken bones and crushed ribs moaned under tent-like covers fashioned from bloody sheets.

"I can't take it any more. My back hurts too much," said Alex Georges, 28, who was still waiting for treatment a day after the school he was in collapsed and killed 11 classmates. A body lay a few feet away.

"This is much worse than a hurricane," said doctors' assistant Jimitre Cozuillon. "There's no water. There's nothing. Thirsty people are going to die."



Associated Press

GIRLS CRY as a little girl is removed from the rubble, Wednesday, in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Tuesday's quake left a landscape of collapsed buildings — hospitals, schools, churches, ramshackle homes, even the gleaming national palace — the rubble sending up a white cloud that shrouded the entire capital.

*'This is much worse than a hurricane. There's no water. There's nothing. Thirsty people are going to die.'*

■ Jimitre Cozuillon

Bodies were everywhere in Port-au-Prince: those of tiny children adjacent to schools, women in the rubble-strewn streets with stunned expres-

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## Expanded bull trout habitat proposed

By JIM MANN  
The Daily Inter Lake

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed a new and expanded critical habitat designation for bull trout, the third designation in the last decade.

The agency on Wednesday announced the proposal to designate about 22,679 miles of stream and 533,426 acres of lakes and reservoirs in Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Montana and Nevada.

A 2005 designation that was adopted included a patchwork of just 3,828 miles of stream and 143,218 acres of lakes and reservoirs, and 985 miles of shoreline in Washington state.

But that decision from the Service was tainted in scandal. An inspector general's report found that former Deputy Secretary of Interior Julie McDonald improperly interfered with the process to exclude waters that should have been designated.

"This proposed revision is the result of extensive review of our earlier bull trout criti-

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## Election filing begins

The Daily Inter Lake

Candidates for political offices in November's election can begin filing nomination papers today. Filing continues through March 15.

A primary election will be held June 8 to determine candidates for the Nov. 2 general election.

In Flathead County there will be numerous county races.

Those whose terms are expiring include Sheriff Mike Meehan, County Commissioner Joe Brenneman, Clerk and Recorder Paula Robinson, County Attorney Ed Corrigan, Treasurer Adele Krantz, Superintendent of Schools Marcia Sheffels and Justices of the Peace David Ortley and Mark Sullivan.

Former Undersheriff Chuck Curry announced in December that he intends to run for Flathead County Sheriff on the Republican ticket.

A new position in this year's election is Flathead County's fourth district judge post. Although it serves Flathead County, candidates for the post file with the state.

Ortley announced Jan. 6 that he intends to file for the fourth District Court position in Flathead County. The 2009 Legislature created the new judge position, with the six-year term to start on Jan. 2, 2011. Ortley's current four-year term as Justice of the Peace

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## Local volunteer reported safe after Haiti disaster

By CANDACE CHASE  
The Daily Inter Lake

Shortly after the massive earthquake hit Haiti on Tuesday evening, Gary Freebury of West Valley got a call from his neighbor. He spent the next hour watching the news and worrying about his 71-year-old wife Pat.

"I got an e-mail from her around 6 (p.m.) that said 'I'm OK,'" he said. "They got shook up pretty good."

Pat, who retired from the library at Flathead High School, left Jan. 6 to work with an orphanage in Pignon, a desperately poor area 50 miles north of Port-au-Prince, the area most severely damaged. She had planned to leave Jan. 20 from the Port-au-Prince airport but now has no idea when or how she may return home. News reports say the air-traffic

control tower and landing lights were damaged but the runways remain mostly intact, so service may be restored on a limited basis soon.

Gary said the children at the orphanage are fine and the recently constructed buildings also survived. He said questions remain about how the orphanage will receive food and other supplies that come through the Port-au-Prince airport.

"They get fresh food weekly," he said. "They've got water."

**GARY SAID** that Pat isn't looking to jump on the first evacuation flight available.

"If she knows she's needed, she'll stay there," he said. "She said she'll just have to figure out how to survive on her own."

To leave, she would have to take a small plane out from Pignon and then take a jet out from a major airport to get



Associated Press

PEOPLE STAND on rubble along Delmas Road the day after an earthquake hit Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Wednesday.

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Photo courtesy Gary Freebury

**PAT FREEBURY** is shown with a child at an orphanage in Pignon, Haiti, during her November 2008 trip. Freebury, 71, left Jan. 6 for her second stint of volunteering at the facilities operated by Haiti Mercy Mission.

home. There are no roads connecting this very rural town in Haiti to the outside world.

Gary said the orphanage starts up a gas generator to sporadically provide electricity for using computers and appliances. If and when the gas runs out, the e-mails will also stop.

"When she gets back, she will really have some stories to tell," Gary said.

He's gotten just a few details so far. When the shaking began, Pat was down the road at the river where people wash their clothes. Gary said she rushed back to the orphanage to find the children were outside the building and not hurt.

"It's been an adventure," he said.

**THIS TRIP** was Pat's second arranged through the

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Jan. 11 — Sheriff O'Connell's mind was today rid of a great burden, when an opinion from the office of the attorney general reached him, that under the law he would not be required to visit dining cars for the purpose of reporting them without liquor licenses. This problem, states the sheriff, came suddenly to him one time last summer, two months after his regular inspection trip, as he was riding in a diner, and with double force, as he had just partaken of a dainty portion of the unlicensed liquor.

— The Inter Lake, 1910

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