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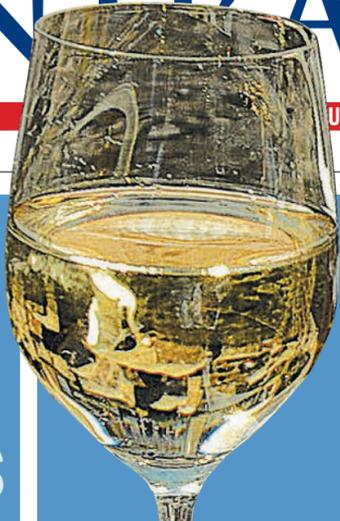
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## HEALTH CARE REFORM



OLIVIER DOULIERY/McCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

President Barack Obama signs the health care reform bill into law Tuesday as Marcelas Owens, 11, of Seattle, looks on in the White House. Below, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-San Francisco, clutches the pen Obama used to make history. But before the ink was dry, efforts to repeal the law were under way. In California, GOP leaders urged state Attorney General Jerry Brown to join a multi-state lawsuit. **Page A5**

## Site takes voices to pinnacle of politics

UC Berkeley-produced Opinion Space lets users tell secretary of state what they think about foreign policy

By Matt Krupnick

[mkrupnick@bayareanewsgroup.com](mailto:mkrupnick@bayareanewsgroup.com)

A UC Berkeley group is helping Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton expand her reading list.

The university's Center for New Media has joined with the U.S. Department of State to help people around the world tell Clinton what they think about U.S. foreign policy.

The "Opinion Space" project — a Web site that looks a bit like a map of the night sky, with ideas represented as "stars" — is an example of Clinton's push for "people-to-people diplomacy," said Katie Dowd, the new-media director for the Department of State. Clinton is keeping track of the site's top-rated ideas, Dowd said.

"She's definitely seen it and is fairly interested in seeing how conversations unfold," she said.

The site, which launched last week, appears different for each person. As a user rates other people's comments, the dots that rep-

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# 'The law of the land'

## FACT CHECK: Rhetoric vs. reality in assessing legislation's impact

By Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar  
*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — The tumultuous health care debate that brought you charges of death panels and socialism has spun off a catalog of popular myths that will keep growing as President Barack Obama and all sides battle toward this fall's midterm elections.

At a White House signing ceremony Tuesday, Obama ventured the hope that Americans on all sides will judge the legislation for what it actually says and

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J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Obama makes overhaul official, applying signature to historic bill

By Jennifer Loven  
*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — Claiming a historic triumph that could define his White House tenure, a jubilant President Barack Obama signed a massive, nearly \$1 trillion health care overhaul on Tuesday that will for the first time cement insurance coverage as the right of every U.S. citizen and begin to reshape the way virtually all Americans receive and pay for treatment.

After more than a year of hyperpartisan struggle — and numerous near-death moments for the measure — Obama declared "a new season in America" as he

See **HEALTH**, Page 15



CHRIS RILEY/VALLEJO TIMES-HERALD

A group of ships from the Mothball Fleet floats in Suisun Bay near Benicia. A firm based in the South Pacific is pursuing a ship-scraping deal.

# From Mothball Fleet to South Pacific?

## COMPANY FROM U.S. COMMONWEALTH plans to bid on contract to recycle vessels moored in Suisun Bay

By Thomas Peele  
[tpeele@bayareanewsgroup.com](mailto:tpeele@bayareanewsgroup.com)

Mothballed ships polluting Suisun Bay soon could be towed and scrapped at a South Pacific island once notorious for its sweatshops

and inexpensive labor, according to a business plan filed there.

A company in the Northern Mariana Islands has announced plans to bid on ship disposal contracts and, if successful, tow the aged vessels

to the islands' biggest city, Saipan, for scrapping. For years, Suisun ships have been scrapped almost exclusively at yards in Brownsville, Texas.

The islands' Ports Authority agreed earlier this month to lease dock space and a warehouse to a company pursuing ship-scraping contracts that would include the

Suisun Bay vessels. The lease allows Worldwide Salvage Saipan to now seek Maritime Administration certification as a recycler, potentially opening the work to inexpensive Asian labor markets.

Because the tiny 14-island archipelago east of the Philippines is a

See **SAIPAN**, Page 15

## MORNING REPORT



KATHY KMONICEK/ASSOCIATED PRESS

**FIGHT THE FLAB:** Older women need at least an hour of moderate activity a day to shed weight as they age, new research shows.

**'LAST SUPPER' TIME:** Researchers use depictions of the "Last Supper" in an effort to find out if food portions have grown over centuries.

### IN BUSINESS

## Google's action angers China, divides Web users



ContraCostaTimes.com  
 InsideBayArea.com

**SILVER & BLACK:** Read a transcript of Tuesday's Oakland Raiders live chat at [ContraCostaTimes.com/live-chats](http://ContraCostaTimes.com/live-chats).

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**WEATHER AA8**  
 Sunny  
 H: 70s L: 40s

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