



## MONEY

### Frugal family

Economides' 'cheap' talk turns into a family business that they've taken on the road. See Tuesday's Money.



## WKU BASKETBALL

### McDonald's fate

Hilltoppers coach will return with new, four-year deal, which includes a pay cut, AD says. Page 1C

## Tomorrow

Cloudy, scattered showers

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Details, Page 2A

# Park City DAILY NEWS



MONDAY

MARCH 14, 2011

Year 156 - No. 73, 20 Pages, 4 Sections

www.bgdailynews.com

Bowling Green, Kentucky

# Japan overwhelmed by disaster

## 1,000 bodies wash up along island nation's coastline

By JAY ALABASTER and TODD PITMAN  
The Associated Press

TAKAJO, Japan — A tide of bodies washed up along Japan's coastline today, overwhelming crematoriums, exhausting supplies of body bags and adding to the spiraling humanitarian, economic and nuclear crisis after the massive earthquake and tsunami.

Millions of people faced a fourth night without water, food or heating in near-freezing temperatures along the northeast coast devastated by Friday's disasters. Meanwhile, a third reactor at a nuclear power plant lost its cooling capacity and its fuel rods were fully exposed, raising fears of a meltdown. The stock market plunged over the likelihood of huge losses by Japanese industries including big names such as Toyota and Honda.

On the coastline of Miyagi prefecture, which took the full force of the tsunami,

a Japanese police official said 1,000 bodies were found scattered across the coastline. Kyodo, the Japanese news agency, reported that 2,000 bodies washed up on two shorelines in Miyagi.

In one town in a neighboring prefecture, the crematorium was unable to handle the large number of bodies being brought in for funerals.

"We have already begun cremations, but we can only handle 18 bodies a day. We are overwhelmed and are asking other cities to help us deal with bodies. We only have one crematorium in town," Katsuhiko Abe, an official in Soma, told The Associated Press.

While the official death toll rose to nearly 1,900, the discovery of the washed-up bodies and other reports of deaths suggest the true number is much higher. In Miyagi, the police chief has said 10,000 people are estimated to have died in his province alone.

The outspoken governor of Tokyo, Shintaro Ishihara, told reporters today that the disaster was "punishment from heaven" because Japanese have become greedy.

Across Japan, most people opt to cremate their dead. With so many bodies, the government today waived a rule requiring permission first from local authorities before cremation or burial to speed up funerals, said Health Ministry official Yukio Okuda.

"The current situation is so extraordinary, and it is very likely that crematoriums are running beyond capacity," said Okuda. "This is an emergency measure. We want to help quake-hit people as much as we can."

Friday's double tragedy has caused unimaginable deprivation for people of this industrialized country — Asia's richest — which hasn't seen such hardship since World War II. In many areas there

See 430,000 LIVING, 6A



Masamichi Genko, The Yomiuri Shimbun/AP

A woman looks today for her father-in-law's "ihai" spirit tablet, a placard to designate his seat in a house, in Ofunato, northern Japan, three days after a powerful earthquake-triggered tsunami hit the country's east coast.

# Hero in translation



Alex Slitz/Daily News

Ali Deen, 8, of Bowling Green, a first-grader at Briarwood Elementary School, will receive an award for calling 911 and translating for his mother after she fell and injured herself.

## First-grader Ali Deen, 8, singled out for EMS award

By JENNA MINK  
The Daily News

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When Caroline Millette started two years ago teaching English to a young student from Iraq, she did not know he would soon be rewarded for using those language skills in an intense situation.

Ali Deen, 8, a first-grader at Briarwood Elementary School, helped translate a 911 call a few months ago after his mother fell at his family's home. The Medical Center's Emergency Management Service is rewarding Ali for his actions.

"My mom fell down, and we called the doctor," Ali said. "And it's OK."

His mother recovered, and Ali will receive his award Thursday at Briarwood. EMS specialists reach out to the public and venture to schools, churches and other organizations to teach people about the impor-

**"He did a great job of answering my questions and was very helpful."**

Tiffany Merten  
Communication specialist

tance of calling 911.

They spoke to a group, which included Ali, a few months ago, teaching the audience when it's appropriate to call 911 and how to communicate with the dispatcher and answer his or her questions, said Randy Fathbruckner, director of The Medical Center EMS.

After a dispatcher recounted her conversation with Ali, they discovered that he had attended one of their sessions. EMS specialists then decided to recognize Ali.

"Children are very receptive to (our lec-

tures). They're fascinated by police, fire and EMS anyway," Fathbruckner said. "It was obvious that this one really paid attention."

Tiffany Merten, a communication specialist with The Medical Center, remembers getting a call from a scared child whose mother had fallen down the stairs.

"I was taking calls that night, and I received a call from a little boy," she said. "He did a great job of answering my questions and was very helpful."

Ali, the oldest of four children, was inside the house when his mother fell. He remembers his baby sister crying on the floor, and his brothers were outside. After his father dialed 911, Ali stepped in.

"We don't have a lot of child callers and the fact that he took the initiative and was able to translate and let us know what was

See FAMILY, 6A

# Club moves ahead with habitat plan

Southern Kentucky Quails Forever looks for city's OK for project near Weldon Peete Park

By ROBYN L. MINOR

The Daily News

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A local conservation group is moving forward with its plans to establish a quail habitat on city land near Barren River.

Southern Kentucky Quails Forever has asked for the use of five acres on the property adjacent to Weldon Peete Park.

Club member Michael Steenbergen said another conservation group gave the club money to use to buy seed for the project.

"We just had a chapter banquet and raised quite a few dollars, so we are looking at doing some other projects as well," Steenbergen said.

The idea of the project near Weldon Peete is to show people what their properties could look like with a wildlife habitat.

The exterior will be rimmed with wildflowers and short grasses, while the interior will have taller grasses.

"You will be able to see it from every direction as you walk the (Greenways) paths that are already there," he said. "We hope to be able to hook up with school groups to bring them there for educational purposes."

The organization will seek approval for the project at Tuesday's Bowling Green City Commission meeting. Steenbergen expects the project to be approved.

See QUAILS FOREVER, 6A

# City's newest commissioner is ready to begin

Melinda Hill spent her spring break studying

By ANDREW ROBINSON

The Daily News

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When Bowling Green City Commissioner Melinda Hill was voted in earlier this month to fill Mayor Joe Denning's empty seat, she had the opportunity to try out her new chair in City Hall.

Tuesday night, Hill will get to settle in.

For the first time since a special-called meeting Jan. 24, the board will be full again.

Hill, a Western Kentucky University instructor, used a week off during spring break to try to get up to speed.

"I'm really looking forward to Tuesday's meeting," Hill said. "I've been reading the last week, trying to catch up."

Tuesday's meeting agenda includes a balance of municipal orders, property rezoning and a couple of ordinances for the commission to vote on. Tuesday will also include a work session for the commissioners, giving Hill a quick glance at how

See GOLF CARTS, 6A

## Correction

Jeff Moore was misidentified in a photo caption on Page 1A Sunday.

## Another view

Special session is required because of political posturing by gubernatorial hopefuls.  
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## Living

Youth kickball league at the F.O. Moxley center gives kids another sports option.  
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