



YAKIMA HERALD REPUBLIC



TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2015 • A DAILY PART OF YOUR LIFE • 75 CENTS • WWW.YAKIMAHERALD.COM

Baltimore descends into chaos

State of emergency, curfew enacted as riots protesting death of man in police custody overtake parts of city; dozens arrested

BY TOM FOREMAN JR.
AND AMANDA LEE MYERS
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BALTIMORE — Rioters plunged part of Baltimore into chaos Monday, torching a pharmacy, setting police cars ablaze and throwing bricks at officers hours after thousands mourned the man who died from a severe spinal injury he suffered in police custody.

The governor declared a state of emergency and called in the National Guard to restore order, and Attorney General Loretta Lynch, in her first day on the job, said she would send Justice Department officials to the city in coming days. A weeklong, daily curfew was imposed beginning today from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m., the mayor said, and Baltimore public schools announced that they would be closed today. At least 15

officers were hurt, and some two dozen people were arrested. Two officers remained hospitalized, police said.

“The National Guard represents the last resort in restoring order,” Gov. Larry Hogan told a news conference. “I have not made this decision lightly.”

Officers wearing helmets and

SEE BALTIMORE PAGE 5A



A man walks past a burning police vehicle Monday during unrest following the funeral of Freddie Gray in Baltimore. Gray died from spinal injuries about a week after he was arrested and transported in a Baltimore Police Department van.

PATRICK SEMANSKY
Associated Press

THE NEW WATER REALITY

Ron Slater stands near a wellhead earlier this month that he installed on his property 15 years ago in eastern Kittitas County. Slater purchased 250 acres and planned to develop a subdivision, but he's not allowed to drill new wells on the site.

KAITLYN BERNAUER
Yakima Herald-Republic



Wenas Valley shooting range may be moved after outcry over safety

BY SCOTT SANDSBERRY
YAKIMA HERALD-REPUBLIC

After neighbors launched a flurry of calls to state and local lawmakers, attorneys and the media, the state Department of Fish and Wildlife may be moving away from its proposal to build a shooting range on a controversial site in the Wenas Valley.

“We’re not locked in at all to that one site,” Scott McCorquodale, the department’s regional wildlife program manager. “In fact, I would say we’re probably less enamored with that idea than we once were, or at least we see more significant issues that would make us conclude that maybe that’s not our site.”

That’s a far cry from the agency’s stance several weeks ago, when Wenas Wildlife Area manager Cindi Confer Morris and department officials toured several sites and called the department’s preferred site “just perfect.”

It is anything but perfect to nearby residents, who fear that irresponsible shooters will endanger their lives and property.

The state agency’s plan for the range comes after years of

SEE RANGE PAGE 5A

Dealing with a dry future

With all water rights claimed, Yakima County is trying to avoid restrictions on rural development that Kittitas County is facing

BY KATE PRENGAMAN
YAKIMA HERALD-REPUBLIC

Ron Slater calls his 200 or so sagebrush-covered acres east of Kittitas practically worthless. His bank recently said the land’s value had dropped too far to be used as collateral for a construction loan. That’s because the property lies in one of Kittitas County’s red zones, areas where landowners won’t be able to purchase water rights for a new well after the end of the year.

“I’m not allowed to drill or build a house unless I want to truck in water,” said Slater, 79. “After I paid the county to create

the subdivisions, now it’s null and void and all I’m allowed to do is watch elk.”

The rules requiring landowners to purchase water rights for any new wells in Kittitas County are the result of years of legal battles between the county, state and environmental groups over management of rural development and water. But as the new regulations take effect, it leaves landowners like Slater feeling like the rules have changed in the middle of the game.

He wants the county to stand by



Online

Watch the video with this story at yakima-herald.com.

documents issued in 2008 affirming that his long-planned development of 36 mostly 5-acre lots and wells to support each was not subject to new water regulations.

County Commissioner Paul Jewell says that’s just not how it works anymore.

“I can empathize with Mr. Slater and his plight, but the (water law) landscape has changed dramatically since he did his subdivision, and there’s not a lot as a

county we can do except ensure that we meet our obligations under state law,” Jewell said.

What happened to Slater could happen in Yakima County. Unlike its neighbor to the north, Yakima County has not been ordered by the courts to regulate groundwater. At least not yet.

To avoid the same fate, Yakima County commissioners are pushing a first-of-its kind water plan. Details are still in the works, but the basic plan is to set up a new water utility that provides the rights to withdraw groundwater so that rural development can continue.

“The county will acquire senior water rights and distribute the use of that water resource to users,” said Yakima County Commissioner

SEE WATER PAGE 8A

Nepal troops ready aid for remote quake-hit villages

Death toll passes 4,400 as tens of thousands remain homeless and aid workers scramble

BY KATY DAIGLE
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GORKHA, Nepal — Preparing to make a push into the most isolated parts of quake-devastated Nepal, soldiers early today were readying food, water and other emergency supplies to be loaded onto helicopters in this small town near the earthquake’s epicenter.

Gorkha, which would barely count as a village in much of the world, is the district’s administrative,

transport and trading center for surrounding tiny villages. It was being used as a staging post to get rescuers and supplies to those remote communities, some of which are believed to be nearly completely destroyed. The death toll from Saturday’s magnitude-7.8 quake rose past 4,400, officials said.

“In the rural areas, 90 percent of the people have been affected by this calamity,” district official Surya Mohan Adhikari said. “They have lost their homes and livestock, they have

no way of getting food.”

“It is very difficult to reach them,” he added. “They are cut off by road slides on the mountain roads, and the wind and rain is making it difficult for helicopters to land.”

Nepal was facing a humanitarian crisis as tens of thousands rendered homeless by the earthquake are living in the open without clean water or sanitation.

Chaos reigned back at Kathmandu’s small airport, with the onslaught of relief flights creating major backups on the tarmac. Four Indian air force aircraft carrying communication gear, aid supplies and rescue personnel were forced to return to New Delhi Monday because

of airport congestion, tweeted Sitanshu Kar, India’s defense ministry spokesman.

The United Nations says it was releasing \$15 million from its central emergency response fund for quake victims. The funds will allow international humanitarian groups to scale up operations and provide shelter, water, medical supplies and logistical services, U.N. spokesman Farhan Haq told reporters Monday.

Trucks carrying food were on their way to affected districts outside the hard-hit and densely-populated Kathmandu valley, and distribution of the food was expected to start

SEE NEPAL PAGE 8A

80 TODAY

509 Classifieds	1-5D
Bridge	8C
Comics	6D
Crosswords	4D
Dear Abby	8C
Deaths	4C
Horoscope	8C
Money	6B
Movies	8C
Opinion	4A
Sports	1-5B
Weather	2A

