



Stressed teens

Parents can help their children facing back-to-school pressures



Bird flies high

Rookie first baseman's clutch homer pulls Yanks to 2.5 games back of Jays

Watertown Daily Times

Hillary released on \$200k bail

STAY-AWAY ORDER: Murder suspect allegedly had contact with victim's mom at her workplace

By **SUSAN MENDE**
TIMES STAFF WRITER

CANTON — Alleged murderer Oral "Nick" Hillary, who was jailed early Tuesday afternoon for allegedly violating an order of protection, is back on the street after \$200,000 cash bail was posted on his behalf.

The Potsdam man who is accused of murdering 12-year-old Garrett J. Phillips was sent to the St. Lawrence County jail

about noon Tuesday for allegedly violating a court order that prevented him from having any contact with the boy's mother.

During a morning court hearing, County Judge Jerome J. Richards ruled that Hillary, 41, of 131 LeRoy St., violated his release conditions and sent him to the county jail with bail set at \$200,000 cash or \$400,000 bond.

Hillary has a stay-away order

that prevents him from having any contact with Tandy L. Cyrus, 37, Garrett's mother and his former girlfriend. That order, signed by Judge Richards in February, directs Hillary to stay away from Ms. Cyrus's home and place of employment.

On Monday night, Hillary was charged with second-degree criminal contempt for allegedly going between 4 and

4:30 p.m. Friday to the Potsdam branch of SeaComm Federal Credit Union, where Ms. Cyrus works as a branch manager.

During Tuesday's hearing, District Attorney Mary E. Rain argued that Hillary was trying to intimidate Ms. Cyrus two months before his November murder trial is scheduled to start. "He went for one and

See **HILLARY A9**



Oral 'Nick' Hillary and his attorney, Edward F. Narrow, listen as Judge Jerome J. Richards sets bail at \$200,000 cash or \$400,000 bond Tuesday in St. Lawrence County Court for allegedly violating a court order of protection held by Tandy L. Cyrus..

MONKEYING AROUND



AMANDA MORRISON ■ WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES

Kimberlie DiLeonardo, 9, exercises on the monkey bars with her running buddy, Watertown High School cross country runner Lydia Fillhart, during the kickoff for Club Vortex Youth Running Club at Thompson Park on Monday afternoon. The club is a chance for children to build strength and endurance through running and exercises.

Houses in city harder to sell

BUYER'S MARKET: Real estate agents cite glut of rental units

By **TED BOOKER**
TIMES STAFF WRITER

WATERTOWN — For-sale signs have increasingly popped up since the spring on lawns of homes in the city, where a strong buyer's market has been created by an influx of new rental housing that real estate agents describe as "overbuilt."

Agents say houses have been much harder to sell in the buyer's market, as civilian and military families have a broader menu of housing options from which to choose by virtue of new apartment complexes. They say some families have been enticed by move-in specials offered by complexes, which have offered free rent and other perks. The Ontario Village Apartments in Watertown, for example, is offering free rent for the first and last months to tenants who sign one-year leases.

While military families often bought homes in the city in recent years because of a shortage of alternatives, agents say, they are now increasingly choosing to rent. The deployment overseas of about 2,900 Fort Drum troops this year — 1,600 in June and 1,300 this month — also has contributed to the rising number of vacated houses.

Statistics from the Jefferson-Lewis Board of Realtors show a total of 106 homes in the city were sold from January through August; that figure is

See **HOUSES A9**



AMANDA MORRISON ■ WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES

For-sale signs are popping up all over Watertown, where a strong buyer's market has been created by an influx of new housing stock and deployments at Fort Drum.

Candidates' jobs a campaign issue

CITY COUNCIL: Questions arise over possible conflicts concerning firefighter DeMar, Ritchie aide Walczyk

By **CRAIG FOX**
TIMES STAFF WRITER

WATERTOWN — City Council candidate Ryan Henry-Wilkinson is questioning whether two of his opponents should keep their jobs if they are elected in November.

During a news conference

Tuesday morning in front of City Hall, Mr. Henry-Wilkinson said voters are asking him whether city firefighter Todd R. DeMar plans to resign from the fire department and whether Mark C. Walczyk can fully represent constituents while working as an aide for state Sen.

Patricia A. Ritchie, R-Heuvelton. "Voters deserve answers before casting their votes," Mr. Henry-Wilkinson said.

Mr. Henry-Wilkinson said he has encountered residents during the campaign who have asked whether Mr. DeMar will sue the

city if he's fired from his job if elected to the City Council in November. In recent days, Mr. DeMar's situation has become a campaign issue, with Councilwoman Roxanne M. Burns bringing it up

See **JOB5 A9**

POPE IN U.S. See story, A3



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pope Francis prepares to depart the airport in Santiago, Cuba, for the United States on Tuesday.

Drugs filter into prisons

SPREAD OF SYNTHETICS: State's growing 'spice' problem includes NNY

By **ELI ANDERSON**
TIMES STAFF WRITER

WATERTOWN — Following a statewide trend, prisons in the north country are battling a surge of synthetic drugs leaking through to inmates.

In Jefferson County, Chief Assistant District Attorney Kristyna S. Mills said there have been several instances where the dangerous chemical substances — often called "K2" or "spice" — have been discovered in local prisons.

"We have been prosecuting a lot of cases of synthetic drugs coming into the prisons," she said. "It is becoming more and more of a problem."

Mrs. Mills mentioned a couple of recent instances where inmates have overdosed on the drug, but said she could not divulge detailed information because the cases are ongoing.

However, she said, the issue has become a real concern for prisons in the north country

and across the state. "We have had quite a few K2 cases come into our offices in the last year," she said. "It has certainly been upwards of 20."

Recently, an inmate at the Gouverneur Correctional Facility in St. Lawrence County injured four guards during an argument while he allegedly was high on K2.

Orlando McGregor, 24, of the Bronx, was taken to Gou-

See **DRUGS A9**

