

## Campaigns Hitting Hard On Medicare Issue

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mitt Romney accused President Barack Obama in person and in TV advertising Tuesday of cutting Medicare “to pay for Obamacare,” launching a strong counterattack to Democratic charges that he and running mate Paul Ryan would radically re-make the popular health care program that serves tens of millions of seniors.

The charge drew a blistering response from Obama’s campaign, which labeled the ad dishonest and hypocritical.

Obama “has taken \$716 billion out of the Medicare trust fund. He’s raided that trust fund,” Romney said at a campaign stop in Beallsville, Ohio, as he neared the end of a multi-state bus trip punctuated by his weekend selection of a ticket mate.

“And you know what he did with it? He’s used it to pay for Obamacare, a risky, unproven, federal takeover of health care. And if I’m president of the United States, we’re putting the \$716 billion back,” he said.

Aides said a commercial containing the same allegation would begin airing immediately in several battleground states, although they declined to provide details.

## Hospital Tech’s Arrest Shows Flaws In System

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — Radiology technician David Kwiatkowski was a few weeks into a temporary job at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center-Presbyterian in 2008 when a co-worker accused him of lifting a syringe containing an addictive painkiller from an operating room and sticking it down his pants.

More syringes were found in his pockets and locker. A drug test showed he had fentanyl and other opiates in his system.

In what may be the scariest part of all, authorities say that when he swiped the fentanyl syringe, he left another one in its place, filled with a dummy fluid, ready to be used on a patient.

But Kwiatkowski did not go to jail. No one in Pittsburgh even called the police. Neither the hospital nor the medical staffing agency that placed him in the job informed the national accreditation organization for radiological technicians.

So just days after being fired, he was able to start a new job at a Baltimore hospital. And from there, he went from one hospital to another — 10 hospitals altogether in the four years after he was fired in Pittsburgh. All of them told The Associated Press they had no knowledge of his disciplinary history when they hired him for temporary jobs.

## Not Poor Enough: Some Can’t Get Medicaid

MIAMI (AP) — Sandra Pico is poor, but not poor enough.

She makes about \$15,000 a year, supporting her daughter and unemployed husband. She thought she’d be able to get health insurance after the Supreme Court upheld President Barack Obama’s health care law.

Then she heard that her own governor won’t agree to the federal plan to extend Medicaid coverage to people like her in two years. So she expects to remain uninsured, struggling to pay for her blood pressure medicine.

“You fall through the cracks and there’s nothing you can do about it,” said the 52-year-old home health aide. “It makes me feel like garbage, like the American dream, my dream in my homeland is not being accomplished.”

Many working parents like Pico are below the federal poverty line but don’t qualify for Medicaid, a decades-old state-federal insurance program. That’s especially true in states where conservative governors say they’ll reject the Medicaid expansion under Obama’s health law.

## Police: Waterboarding Case Tied to Research?

DOVER, Del. (AP) — A Delaware pediatrician who achieved national recognition for his research into near-death experiences involving children may have been experimenting on his 11-year-old stepdaughter by waterboarding her, police said in court documents.

The possible link between Dr. Melvin Morse’s research and the waterboarding allegations was revealed in an affidavit for a search warrant for Morse’s computers. The document was obtained Tuesday by The Associated Press.

According to the affidavit, Dr. Melvin Morse brought the girl “to a possible near death state from the simulation of drowning.”

“This ‘waterboarding’ that he has performed ... would fall into the area of study he practices,” police said in the affidavit. “It is logical that he has therefore written about and/or researched the topic of ‘waterboarding.’”

## ‘Kotter’ Actor Ron Palillo Dies At 63

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Ron Palillo, the actor best known as the nerdy high school student Arnold Horshack on the 1970s sitcom “Welcome Back, Kotter,” died Tuesday in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. He was 63.

Palillo suffered an apparent heart attack at his home about 4 a.m., said Karen Poindexter, a close friend of the actor. He was pronounced dead at Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center.

Palillo was inextricably linked with the character he played from 1975 to 1979 on “Kotter,” the hit ABC sitcom, in which title character Gabe Kotter returns to his Brooklyn alma mater to teach a group of loveable wiseguys known as the Sweatshops. Horshack was the nasally teen who yelped, “Oooh, ooh,” and shot his hand skyward whenever Kotter posed a question.

## OBITUARIES

### Carolyn Sanders

ARMOUR — Carolyn Marie Sanders, 59, died Monday, Aug. 13, 2012 at South Dakota Achieve Tennis Lane, Sioux Falls.

Funeral services are pending with Koehn Bros. Funeral Home, Armour.

### Bernetta Cheney

ELK POINT — Bernetta Cheney, 80, of Elk Point died Sunday, Aug. 12, 2012, at her residence.

Funeral services are at 11 a.m. Thursday at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Elk Point, with visitation one hour prior to the service. Burial will be in Memorial Park Cemetery in Sioux City at 1 p.m. Visitation is from 6-7 p.m. Wednesday at Kober funeral

Home, Elk Point, with a prayer service at 7 p.m.

Kober Funeral Home, Elk Point, is in charge of arrangements.

### Irene Imig

Irene Rose Imig, 92, of Yankton died Monday, Aug. 13, 2012, at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton.

A celebration of her life will be held at 2 p.m. Sept. 28, 2012, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Yankton, with the rev. David Wildermuth officiating.

The family will receive friends one hour prior to the memorial service at church.

To post an online sympathy message to the family, visit [wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://wintzrayfuneralhome.com).

# Afghanistan Bombings Kill 46

BY DEB RIECHMANN AND AMIR SHAH  
 Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Suicide bombers launched multiple attacks in a remote corner of southwestern Afghanistan near the Iranian border Tuesday, killing dozens of people including shoppers buying sweets for a Muslim holiday and leaving charred and smoldering bits of cookies and dried fruit among the bodies on the ground.

A separate market bombing, this one in northern Afghanistan, brought the overall death toll to 46, most of whom were civilians. It was the deadliest day for Afghan civilians this year.

The attacks in provinces on opposite ends of the country — Nimroz in the southwest and Kunduz in the north — come as Taliban insurgents and their allies step up their assaults in a display of force that often results in civilian carnage. Militants are especially trying to weaken the still-developing Afghan security

forces, who are to assume control of security across their homeland in 28 months when most foreign combat troops will have left.

“The Taliban “want to expand their influence — show that they are everywhere,” said Afghan political analyst Jawid Kohistani. “They want to show that the Afghan police are not strong enough so they are targeting the security forces and the government.”

The scope of the attacks in Nimroz, which has seen relatively few insurgent attacks over the past year, was surprising. The bombings took place in the provincial capital, Zaranj, where militants wearing suicide vests detonated their explosives in various neighborhoods, provincial police chief Musa Rasouli said. At least 25 civilians and 11 police were killed, he said.

The Nimroz provincial capital lies about 6 miles (10 kilometers) from the Iranian border. Police arrested three attackers who later apparently confessed that they were from Zاهدان, the capital of Iran’s Sistan and

Baluchistan province near the Afghan border, according to Sadeq Chakhansori, a member of the Nimroz provincial council. The significance of this was not immediately clear.

Authorities said the casualties would have been far higher had they not learned of the plot beforehand. Police killed two potential attackers Monday night and captured three more Tuesday morning. But they could not catch them all.

Rasouli said three suicide bombers detonated their explosive vests, including one in front of a television station and another at an intersection in a bazaar. Most of the casualties, however, were from a bombing in a shopping bazaar in front of a civilian hospital. The area was crowded with shoppers from the city and outlying areas who were buying dried fruit, cookies and other sweets for the coming Muslim holiday of Eid.

“It was very powerful,” Rasouli said.

“Everywhere there was smoke. With my eyes, I saw the dead bodies.”

# Wildfires Blaze Across The Dry West

BY SHANNON DININNY  
 Associated Press

CLE ELUM, Wash. — As firefighters across the West responded to blazes, efforts in Washington state were made especially difficult Tuesday as wind gusts pushed fast-moving flames through a small town, destroying dozens of houses.

The fire in central Washington has burned about 70 homes, scorching along roughly 40 square miles of grassland, timber and sagebrush, authorities said.

More than 400 people have been evacuated, said Department of Natural Resources Fire Incident Commander Rex Reed. No injuries have been reported, but authorities say that because of wind, heat and dry conditions, the fire danger is extreme.

“We’ve had a long prolonged dry period — three weeks with no precipitation at all,” Reed said.

The blaze sparked up at a construction site Monday afternoon near Cle Elum, a small town about 75 miles east of Seattle.

Kittitas County Fire and Rescue Capt. Joe Seemiller said wind made it extremely difficult to turn back the flames.

“Unless Mother Nature helps us out here, we’re going to be fighting this awhile,” he said.

In Idaho, authorities said a firefighter was killed by a falling tree Sunday. Anne Veseth, a 20-year-old who was in her second season as a firefighter, died as she worked a fire near Orofino, the U.S. Forest Service said.

In Utah, a lightning-sparked fire consumed about 34 square miles, threatened a herd of wild horses and shut down the historic Pony Express Road in the state’s western desert.

In California, thousands of firefighters also were contending with dry conditions, strong winds and triple-digit temperatures. The blazes left some areas with smoke lingering in the air.

In Northern California, hundreds of evacuees were allowed to return home as crews



BETTINA HANSEN/SEATTLE TIMES/MCT

**Tom Colvin, 63, of Cle Elum, Wash., takes a break from sifting through his belongings Tuesday after his house succumbed to the Taylor Bridge Fire. “This October I would have had the house for six years,” said Colvin. “I didn’t quite make it.”**

made progress against a wildfire that threatened 500 homes in the Spring Valley and Long Valley communities.

In Southern California, a cluster of four lightning-sparked wildfires in northeastern San Diego County stretched to nearly 4 square miles, state fire officials said.

Officials added there is also threat to electrical distribution lines that serve the communities of Borrego Springs, Warner Springs and Ranchita, some 50 miles northeast of downtown San Diego.

Fires across California have also affected some national parks with road and camp closures, including Lassen Volcanic National Park and Joshua Tree National Park.

Outdoor recreationists were also threat-

ened in Washington state. Vacation homes and cabins pepper the scattered forests around Cle Elum, and summer is a popular time to visit the Cascade Mountains.

Brad Rorem and his two sons were at their family cabin high on a hill up a windy, forest road. They were preparing gear to float down the Yakima River and fish when they spotted the blaze under the bridge from their deck.

“It sort of erupted, and the wind was blowing hard in our faces,” he said. “It just shot up so fast.”

The homes of at least three neighbors were gone, said Rorem, 50.

“We feel really fortunate to have gotten off the mountain in time,” he said.

# Games

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Technical Institute, Southeast Job Link and the Department of Labor and Regulation.

“We’re also going to use the simulator in classroom facilities that don’t have access to the resources we have here at RTEC,” he said. “We’ll be out in Andes Central teaching at the high school level and we’ll also be in Freeman teaching at Freeman Academy and Freeman Public schools during the school year. Yankton High School kids are in this facility on a daily basis, so the Yankton kids will have access to the simulator as well.”

The simulator creates the most real-world experience possible, Svatos said, without being in an actual welding booth. The helmet participants will use is similar to the helmet professionals would use in a real welding booth.

“The only difference people are going to see, hear and feel is that they’re welding in a virtual world,” he said. “All of the training is piped into the helmet. It comes into a little facemask inside the helmet and

it’s like you’re welding in the real world — sparks are jumping and the crackling and the popping is there.”

Robert Olson is a welding instructor and currently works at Kolberg-Pioneer, Inc. He said the simulator is a great start-up tool and will be beneficial for Yankton.

“It’s going to be great for the new people that are maybe thinking about welding for the first time or for people who have never tried it,” Olson said. “It’s going to teach people how to hold the gun and it’s going to teach them how do things with a helmet while looking through a lens. Those are your two biggest hurdles. Somebody who isn’t used to wearing a helmet and holding the gun at the same time has to get past that hurdle first.”

Because of the grant, Svatos said RTEC will be able to service area communities and provide an investment for the future.

“When you look at this from the bigger picture, it’s about building a workforce,” he said. “We know that our roots are right here in the community, but we need to make this a big effort. A skilled workforce is one of the problems we’re facing right now, and by doing things like this we’re breaking down those barriers to adapt and overcome.”

# Nelson, Mack Easily Win Florida Senate Primaries

MIAMI (AP) — Florida Democratic Sen. Bill Nelson will face Republican Connie Mack IV in November after each easily won their respective party primaries.

Nelson had about 80 percent of the vote in early returns Tuesday while Mack had nearly 60 percent. Both had been heavy favorites.

Their wins set up a contest for the Florida U.S. Senate seat once held by Mack’s father, Connie Mack III.

Mack was buoyed by the famous name he and his father share with the Hall of Fame baseball manager.

Three other Republicans dropped out of the race when the four-term Republican congressman got in and immediately took a commanding lead in the polls.

Former Rep. Dave Weldon entered the race just three months before the primary but wasn’t able to build up name recognition or the resources to mount a successful challenge.

Nelson faced minor opposition from political unknown Glenn Burkett.

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*Open House*

**Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup>**  
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**Tyndall Hometown Floral**

*In appreciation after a decade of service Trish Olson will be leaving us and moving to Colorado. Please join us in thanking her and to wish her well. Refreshments will be served.*