

Ranchers, Farmers Kick Out Drug Cartel

TEPALCATEPEC, Mexico (AP) — For lime grower Hipolito Mora, it was time to organize and pick up arms when a packing company controlled by a brutal drug cartel refused to buy his fruit. For Bishop Miguel Patino Velazquez, it was seeing civilians forced to fight back with their own guns that made him speak out. For Leticia, a lime picker too afraid of retribution to give her last name, it was the day she saw a taxi driver kidnapped in front of his two young children that convinced her to join those taking the law into their own hands.

In Mexico they call it "the drop that makes the glass overflow," and it came at different points for the people living for years in fear of the brutal Knights Templar in the western Valley of Apatzingan, an emerald green tapestry of orchards bordered by blue-gray peaks.

"We lived in bondage, threatened by organized crime," said Leticia, 40, who ekes out a living picking fruit and selling chicken on the side. "They wanted to treat people like animals."

Eight months after locals formed self-defense groups, they say they are free of the cartel in six municipalities of the Tierra Caliente, or "Hot Land," which earned its moniker for the scorching weather but whose name has also come to signify criminal activity. What's more, the self-defense group leaders, who are clearly breaking Mexican law by picking up military-style arms to fight criminals, say the federal government is no longer arresting them, but recruiting them to help federal forces identify cartel members.

The Mexican government, which over seven years has repeatedly sent troops and federal police into the area without success, has reached its own limit: an Oct. 27 attack by alleged cartel agents on power distribution plants and electrical sub-stations in 14 towns and cities that were intended to terrorize the public. At least 400,000 people were left in the dark.

Nation Appears To Avoid Storm's Worst

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — One of the strongest storms on record slammed into the central Philippines, killing at least four people, forcing hundreds of thousands from their homes and knocking out power and communications in several provinces. But the nation appeared to avoid a major disaster because the rapidly moving typhoon blew away before wreaking more damage, officials said.

Typhoon Haiyan left the Philippines early Saturday on a path toward Southeast Asia, the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration tweeted. Forecasters said the storm was expected to pick up renewed strength over the South China Sea on its way toward Vietnam.

Nearly 750,000 people in the Philippines were forced to flee their homes.

Weather officials said Haiyan had sustained winds of 235 kph (147 mph) with gusts of 275 kph (170 mph) when it made landfall. By those measurements, Haiyan would be comparable to a strong Category 4 hurricane in the U.S., nearly in the top category, a 5.

Hurricanes, cyclones and typhoons are the same thing. They are just called different names in different parts of the world.

Report On Arafat Death Inconclusive

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — Four investigations, hundreds of testimonies and stacks of medical reports on Yasser Arafat's unexplained death in 2004 have failed to produce hard evidence of what killed him — and findings presented Friday only created more confusion.

Palestinian officials said a report they received from Russia on the role of radioactive polonium in Arafat's death was inconclusive. They spoke just a day after Swiss scientists said the Palestinian leader was probably poisoned by the rare and extremely lethal substance.

Despite those discrepancies, the Swiss and Russian reports agreed that Arafat's death "was not caused by old age or disease, but as a result of a toxic substance," said Dr. Abdullah Bashir, a medical expert in the three-member Palestinian team that has been investigating Arafat's death. This, he told a news conference, is in line with the long-standing Palestinian contention that Arafat was poisoned.

The reports revived Palestinian allegations that Israel was behind the attack, despite its denial.

The Palestinian team's leader, Tawfik Tirawi, said Israel had the technical means and the motive.

Kerry Mounts Diplomatic Push

GENEVA (AP) — With a boost from Russia and China, Secretary of State John Kerry mounted a major diplomatic push Friday to reach an interim nuclear deal with Iran, despite fierce opposition from Israel and uncertainty in Congress.

But day-long talks, including a five-hour meeting that brought together Kerry and Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, failed to resolve differences. Iran's chief nuclear negotiator, Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, described the late-night session as "productive" but added, without elaboration, that "we still have lots of work to do" and talks would continue Saturday.

A senior State Department official said "over the course of the evening we continued to make progress" but "there is more work to do." He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to characterize the talks.

Kerry and his counterparts from Britain, France and Germany arrived in Geneva with the talks at a critical stage following a full day of negotiations Thursday and said some obstacles remained in the way of any agreement offering sanctions reductions for nuclear concessions.

Word that Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and a Chinese deputy foreign minister also were headed to the talks provided fresh hope for at least an interim deal, perhaps on Saturday.

Few Options To Fix Cancellation Issue

BY RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama says he'll do everything he can to help people coping with health insurance cancellations, but legally and practically his options appear limited.

That means the latest political problem engulfing Obama's health care overhaul may not be resolved quickly, cleanly or completely.

White House deputy spokesman Josh Earnest said Friday that the president has asked his team to look at administrative fixes to help people whose plans are being canceled as a result of new federal coverage rules. Obama, in an NBC interview Thursday, said "I am sorry" to people who are losing coverage and had relied on his assurances that if they liked their plan, they could keep it.

The focus appears to be on easing the impact for a specific group: people whose policies have been canceled

and who don't qualify for tax credits to offset higher premiums. The administration has not settled on a particular fix and it's possible the final decision would apply to a broader group.

Still, a president can't just pick up the phone and order the Treasury to cut checks for people suffering from insurance premium sticker shock. Spending would have to be authorized by law.

Another obstacle: Most of the discontinued policies appear to have been issued after the law was enacted, according to insurers and independent experts. Legally, that means they would have never been eligible for cancellation protections offered by the statute. Its grandfather clause applies only to policies that were in effect when the law passed in 2010.

More than five weeks after open-enrollment season started for uninsured Americans, Obama's signature domestic policy achievement is still struggling. Persistent website problems appear to have kept most interested customers from signing up. Repairs are underway, but



KENT D. JOHNSON/ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION/MCT
Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius talks about the Affordable Care Act at the Southside Medical Center in Atlanta on Friday. She was in town to discuss enrollment options available to Georgia residents.

Friday the administration said the website's income verification component will be offline for testing until Tuesday morning. An enrollment report expected next week is likely to reflect only paltry sign-ups.

Website woes have been eclipsed by the uproar over cancellation notices sent to millions of people who have individual plans that don't measure up to the benefits

package and level of financial protection required by the law.

"It was clear from the beginning that there were going to be some winners and losers," said Timothy Jost, a law professor at Washington and Lee University in Virginia, who supports the health overhaul. "But the losers are calling reporters, and the winners can't get on the website."

US Businesses Boost Hiring, Jobless Rate Up

BY CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. economy may be sturdier than many had assumed.

Employers added a surprisingly strong 204,000 jobs in October despite the 16-day government shutdown, the Labor Department said Friday. And they did a lot more hiring in August and September than previously thought.

Not only that, but activity at service companies and factories accelerated last month.

Unemployment rose to 7.3 percent from 7.2 percent in September. But that was probably because furloughed federal workers were temporarily counted as unemployed.

"It's amazing how resilient the economy has been in the face of numerous shocks," said Joe LaVorgna, chief U.S. economist at Deutsche Bank.

Analysts say the economy might be able to sustain its improvement.

They note that job gains of recent months, combined with modest increases in pay, could encourage more spending in coming months. Growing demand for homes should support construction. Auto sales are likely to stay strong because many Americans are buying cars

after putting off big purchases since the recession struck nearly six years ago.

And the nationwide average for gasoline at \$3.21 — the lowest since December 2011 — consumers have a little more money to spend.

Job growth is a major factor for the Federal Reserve in deciding when to reduce its economic stimulus. The Fed has been buying bonds to keep long-term interest rates low and encourage borrowing and spending.

The Dow Jones industrial average surged 167 points to close at a record high Friday after the jobs report came out.

But the yield on the 10-year Treasury note climbed to 2.75 percent from 2.60 percent late Thursday, indicating some investors are worried the Fed might pull back on its bond-buying soon.

For some employers outside the Beltway, the government shutdown scarcely mattered.

Bob Duncan, founder and chief executive of Dallas-based American Leather, said his company is on track for a third straight year of steady revenue gains. American Leather custom-builds sofas, recliners and other furniture for Crate and Barrel and many smaller chains.

Duncan has boosted his 400-member workforce by about 2 percent in the past three months.

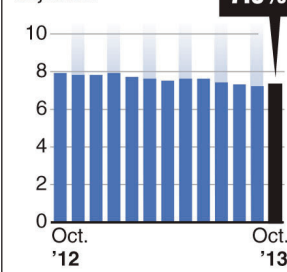
"I think everyone's kind of numb to it," Duncan said, referring to the budget battles in Washington.

More important to Duncan has been a spate of remodeling by hotel chains, many of which had postponed upgrades until recently. Sales have risen as a result.

Economists differed over

Jobless rate

Percent of civilian labor force that is unemployed, by month, seasonally adjusted:



© 2013 MCT
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

how the robust jobs report might influence the Fed. Some said it probably isn't sufficient for the Fed to slow its \$85-billion-a-month bond-buying program when it meets Dec. 17-18.

Come ★ Clean

BEFORE the HOLIDAYS!

Holiday Carpet Cleaning Special

2 Rooms \$75^{95!}
(up to 300 sq. ft.)
must present coupon
Exp. 12/15/13

Steamway CLEANING & RESTORATION

665-5700
1-800-529-2450

DIRECTOR OF NURSING POSITION

The Director of Nursing (DON) has the overall responsibility for the day to day operations of all hospital nursing departments

- Must have a positive attitude and strong leadership skills
- Excellent written and verbal communication required with exceptional problem solving abilities
- Have a strong clinical background and willing to work as part of a diverse healthcare team
- Bachelor's degree in nursing (RN)
- Masters is preferred

Apply online at: www.mobridgehospital.org

Mobridge Regional Hospital and Clinics

Closing Date: November 15, 2013

Hy-Vee EMPLOYEE OWNED

2100 Broadway, Yankton 665-3412

Saluting those who have proudly served

FREE BREAKFAST FOR VETERANS

Monday, Nov. 11

6am - 11am

Veteran's Day Free Breakfast Items: choose from scrambles eggs, hashbrown casserole, sausage, bacon, sausage gravy biscuits assorted pastries and coffee and more!

Hy-Vee Homefront Round-Up

Round up to the next dollar to help Veterans and their families. Hy-Vee will match all funds raised up to \$100,000. All proceeds go to organizations that serve our nations' military Veterans and their families.

ONE DAY SALE!

Monday, November 11 ONLY

Get Ready For **ESNOW**

With our Snow Blower Service Special!

Walk-Behind Snow Blowers \$4750

Labor Only - Parts Extra

Pickup & Delivery Available - We Service All Makes & Models

Includes change of engine oil, spark plug replacement, grease (as needed), check of belts & drive system.

Fred Haar Company:
Freeman (605) 925-4241 • Wagner (605) 384-4580 • Yankton (605) 665-3762
Davison County Implement: Mitchell (605) 996-6633

Scott Towels

6 reg. roll (limit 3)

Save \$3.45

\$2.99

Hormel Always Tender Whole Boneless Pork Loin

(limit 3)

\$1.99 lb.

cut & wrap for free

Hy-Vee Cottage Cheese

12 oz. 1% only

Save .81¢

88¢

Jumbo Muffins

4 ct.

Save \$1

\$2.99