

Religion Claims Place In Occupy Wall Street

BOSTON (AP) — Downtown Dewey Square is crammed with tents and tarps of Occupy Boston protesters, but organizers made sure from the start of this weeks-old encampment that there was room for the holy.

No shoes are allowed in the "Sacred Space" tent here, but you can bring just about any faith or spiritual tradition.

A day's schedule finds people balancing their chakras, a "compassion meditation" and a discussion of a biblical passage in Luke. Inside, a Buddha statue sits near a picture of Jesus, while a hand-lettered sign in the corner points toward Mecca.

The tent is one way protesters here and in other cities have taken pains to include a spiritual component in their occupations. Still, Occupy Wall Street is not a religious movement, and signs of spirituality aren't evident at all protest sites.

Clergy emphasize they are participants in the aggressively leaderless movement, not people trying to co-opt it. Plus, in a movement that purports to represent the "99 percent" in society, the prominent religious groups are overwhelmingly liberal.

Torch Cams To Give Views From Lady Liberty

NEW YORK (AP) — Give me your tired, your poor — your Internet-connected masses yearning to see. Lady Liberty is getting high-tech gifts for her 125th birthday: webcams on her torch that will let viewers gaze out at New York Harbor and read the tablet in her hands or see visitors on the grounds of the island below in real time.

The five torch cams are to be switched on Friday during a ceremony to commemorate the dedication of the Statue of Liberty on Oct. 28, 1886. The ceremony caps a week of events centered around the historic date, including the debut of a major museum exhibition about poet Emma Lazarus, who helped bring the monument renown as the "Mother of Exiles."

The statue's webcams will offer views from the torch that have been unavailable to the public since 1916, said Stephen A. Briganti, the president of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation Inc. "The statue is the most famous symbol in the world," he said. "Most of the people in the world have seen it, but they have not seen it like this. It will be a visit that so many people, including New Yorkers, have never taken before."

Through the webcams, Internet users around the world will have four views, including a high-quality, 180-degree stitched panorama of the harbor with stunning views of Ellis and Governors islands. They will be able to watch as ships go by Liberty Island and observe as the Freedom Tower at the World Trade Center goes up floor-by-floor in lower Manhattan. They can get a fish-eye look at the torch itself as it glows in the night.

'Miracle' Man Faces \$2.5M In Medical Bills

JOPLIN, Mo. (AP) — By all accounts, Mark Lindquist is a hero, an underpaid social worker who nearly gave his life trying to save three developmentally disabled adults from the Joplin tornado. Both houses of the Missouri legislature honored Lindquist, the Senate resolution calling him "a true hero and inspiration to others."

But heroism doesn't pay the bills. The tornado's 200 mph winds tossed Lindquist nearly a block, broke every rib, obliterated his shoulder, knocked out most of his teeth and put him in a coma for about two months.

Lindquist, 51, ran up medical expenses that exceed \$2.5 million, and the bills keep coming. He requires 11 daily prescriptions and will need more surgery.

But he has no medical insurance. Lindquist couldn't afford it on a job paying barely above minimum wage. He assumed workers' compensation would cover his bills, but his claim was denied "based on the fact that there was no greater risk than the general public at the time you were involved in the Joplin tornado," according to a letter to Lindquist from Accident Fund Insurance Company of America, his company's workers' comp provider.

That reasoning has angered Lindquist's family, employer, even lawmakers.

Tunisians Flock To Polls In First Elections

TUNISIA (AP) — The people who started the Arab Spring shared one of its earliest fruits on Sunday: a free election. Tunisians who brought down a dictator nine months ago waited for hours to select those who will help shape their fledgling democracy.

"The old elections were fraudulent and this one is for our children and grandchildren so that even if I soon die, I will be happy and content," said Tayyib Awish, resplendent in a crisp white robe and skull cap at a crowded school-cum-polling station in the working class suburb of Hay al-Tadammon near Tunis, the capital.

The spry 83-year-old voted many times for Tunisia's first two presidents in contests whose results were always known ahead of time, but this time was different. "This is a celebration," he said, gesturing with a finger stained blue by polling station ink.

Women with headscarves and without, former political prisoners and young people whose Facebook posts helped fuel the revolution also were among those electing a 217-seat assembly that will appoint a new government and then write a new constitution.

It was the first truly free election in the history of Tunisia, which was under the control of President Zine El-Abidine Ben Ali for 23 years. Ben Ali was overthrown Jan. 14 by a monthlong uprising,

Paul Wants To Phase Out Fed. Student Loans

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican presidential contender Ron Paul wants to end federal student loans.

The congressman from Texas says that federal lending for college is a failed program that has put students \$1 trillion in debt when there are no jobs and when the quality of education has deteriorated.

Paul unveiled a plan last week to cut \$1 trillion from the federal budget that would eliminate five Cabinet departments, including education. The student loan program is not part of those cuts, but Paul said Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press" that he'd kill the loan program eventually if he were president.

Amid rising tuition, borrowing for college is at record levels. The Federal Reserve says students and parents took out a record \$100 billion last year, and owe more than \$1 trillion.

Libya Free, But Gadhafi Death Questioned

BY KARIN LAUB AND KIM GAMEL
Associated Press

TRIPOLI, Libya — Libya's interim rulers declared the country liberated on Sunday after an 8-month civil war, launching the oil-rich nation on what is meant to be a two-year transition to democracy. But they laid out plans with an Islamist tone that could rattle their Western backers.

The joyful ceremony formally marking the end of Moammar Gadhafi's 42-year tyranny was also clouded by mounting pressure from the leaders of the NATO campaign that helped secure victory to investigate whether Gadhafi, dragged wounded but alive out of a drainage ditch last week, was then executed by his captors.

The circumstances of Gadhafi's death remain unclear. In separate accounts late Sunday, two Libyan fighters said Gadhafi was hurt after being captured, but was able to stand. One said that when he and others placed Gadhafi in an ambulance, the former Libyan leader had not yet suffered what Libya's chief

pathologist said was a fatal gunshot to the head.

Critics said the gruesome spectacle of his blood-streaked body laid out as a trophy for a third day of public viewing in a commercial freezer tests the new leadership's commitment to the rule of law.

Britain's defense secretary, Philip Hammond, said the Libyan revolutionaries' image had been "a little bit stained" by Gadhafi's violent death. Both he and U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said a full investigation is necessary.

Gadhafi's capture and the fall of his hometown of Sirte, the last loyalist stronghold, set the stage for the long-awaited declaration of liberation, delivered by the head of the National Transitional Council, Mustafa Abdul-Jalil.

He did not mention the circumstances surrounding Gadhafi's death — mobile phone videos showed the wounded leader being taunted and beaten by a mob after his capture. But he urged his people to avoid hatred.

"You should only embrace honesty, patience, and mercy,"

Abdul-Jalil told a flag-waving crowd of several thousand at the declaration ceremony in the eastern city of Benghazi, the birthplace of the uprising against Gadhafi.

Abdul-Jalil laid out a vision for a new Libya with an Islamist tint, saying Islamic Sharia law would be the "basic source" of legislation, and that existing laws that contradict the teachings of Islam would be nullified.

He outlined several changes to align with Islamic law, including putting caps on interest for bank loans and lifting restrictions on the number of wives Libyan men can take. The Muslim holy book, the Quran, allows men up to four wives.

Abdul-Jalil thanked those who fought and fell in the war, saying they "are somewhere better than here, with God." Displaying his own piety, he then stepped aside from the podium and knelt to offer a prayer of thanks.

Using Sharia as the main source of legislation is stipulated in the constitution of neighboring Egypt. Still, Egyptian laws remain largely secular as Sharia does not cover all as-

pects of modern life.

Libya's revolt erupted in February as part of anti-government protests spreading across the Middle East. Islamist groups stand to gain ground in neighboring Tunisia and Egypt, which shook off their dictators several months ago. Tunisia has taken the biggest steps so far on the path to democracy, voting Sunday for a new assembly, while Egypt's parliamentary election is set for next month.

Libya's struggle has been the bloodiest so far in the region. Mass protests turned into a civil war that killed thousands and paralyzed the country. Gadhafi loyalists held out for two more months after the fall of the capital of Tripoli in late August. Gadhafi's hometown of Sirte fell last week, but Gadhafi's son and one-time heir apparent, Seif al-Islam, apparently escaped with some of his supporters.

The anti-Gadhafi forces enjoyed strong Western political and military support during their revolt, especially from the U.S., Britain and France, and NATO airstrikes were key to their victory.

Critics Say Wild Horse Panel Is Pro-Livestock

BY SCOTT SONNER
Associated Press

RENO, Nev. — A panel of experts chosen to spend two years generating the definitive study on wild horse management in the West is kicking up controversy before it even gets out of the chute.

Mustang protection advocates contend the committee charged with solving a conundrum that has eluded consensus for decades is stacked with allies of the livestock industry who won't give the horses a fair shake.

The panel's 14 members were picked by the National Academy of Sciences, an independent organization chartered by Congress to advise the government on science. Their first meeting is set for Thursday in Reno.

The American Wild Horse Protection Campaign, Cloud Foundation and others say several of the appointees are outspoken defenders of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management's current management strategy that relies on "mass wild horse roundups and removals at the expense of on-the-range management strategies."

"The heart of the controversy surround-

ing the wild horse issue is the conflict between private livestock and wild horses on the 11 percent of BLM land that is designated as wild horse habitat," said Suzanne Roy, director of the American Wild Horse Protection Campaign, a coalition of environmental, public interest and animal rights organizations.

The public's need for an accurate, objective review of the government's controversial wild-horse management program will not be served unless the National Academy of Sciences corrects the panel's "imbalances," Roy said.

Academy spokesman Bill Kearney said the organization's staff and legal counsel will investigate any concerns about conflicts and consider disqualifying members or adding new ones to provide additional expertise.

The BLM asked the academy earlier this year to assemble the panel of wildlife biologists, rangeland ecologists and others to review the program at an estimated cost of \$1.2 million, after prodding from members of Congress critical of the roundups. The agency, which plans to round up another 6,000 horses in the coming months, argues the gathers are necessary to ease ecological

damage on the range.

Opponents maintain the horse numbers are much lower than historical highs and that the roundups are intended to appease ranchers who don't want the mustangs competing with their cattle and sheep for limited forage on arid rangeland.

The committee is tasked with producing a comprehensive study that addresses, among other things, total herd populations, genetic diversity, appropriate management levels, and population control options including immunocontraception and "managing a portion of a population as non-reproducing," according to the academy's website.

Committee members under fire include Dr. David Thain, former Nevada state veterinarian who is an assistant professor in the Department of Agriculture, Nutrition and Veterinary Sciences at the University of Nevada Reno.

Thain is a member of the Nevada Livestock Association — a "clear conflict of interest," said Ginger Kathrens, executive director of the Colorado-based Cloud Foundation.

OBITUARIES

Thomas 'Tom' Iverson

MECKLING — Thomas "Tom" M. Iverson, 58, of Meckling died Friday, Sept. 9, 2011, at Dougherty Hospice House, Sioux Falls.

Memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2011, at Kober Funeral Home, Vermillion, with burial of ashes at Evergreen Cemetery, rural Meckling with military honors conducted by Gayville American Legion Post #237.

Kober Funeral Home, Vermillion, is in charge of arrangements.

Lyle Koupal

DANTE — Lyle Koupal, 82, of Dante died Saturday, Oct. 22, 2011, at St. Michael's Hospital, Tyndall.

Funeral Mass is at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Catholic Church, Dante. Burial is in St. Leo's Catholic Cemetery, Tyndall, with military honors.

Visitation is noon-5 p.m. Tuesday at Crosby-Jaeger Funeral Home, Wagner. Rosary/Wake services will be 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the church.

Charlotte Block

Charlotte M. Block, age 86, of Yankton, South Dakota, died Friday, October 21, 2011 at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Memorial services are 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, October 25, 2011 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Yankton with Reverend David Wildermuth officiating. Inurnment will be in the Garden of Memories Cemetery in Yankton.

There will be a gathering of family and friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Yankton.

Charlotte was born January 2, 1925 in Knox County, Nebraska to Chris and Nettie (Bourn) Broders. She was baptized and confirmed at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in



Block

Lindy, Nebraska. On April 1, 1946, Charlotte married Floyd E. Block at Trinity Lutheran Church in Yankton. She worked at Yankton Egg Plant and Gurney's Seed and Nursery. In 1961, Charlotte started working at Dale Electronics. She retired in 1981 to care for her husband who was in poor health. Charlotte enjoyed sewing and was an excellent seamstress. She also enjoyed traveling, playing games and going out with her friends. Charlotte was a faithful member of Trinity Lutheran Church and was active in many areas of the church.

Charlotte is survived by her daughter, Judy Block of Sioux

City, Iowa; three sisters: Bernice (LaRue) Bevington of Meridian, Idaho, Fern Schlautman and Laura Lou Greckel, both of Bloomfield, Nebraska; two sisters-in-law, Elma and Gertie; and many nieces and nephews.

Charlotte was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Floyd on June 17, 1988; one sister, Florence Doran; and three brothers, Ervin, Norman and Donald Broders.

To send an online sympathy message, please visit wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
October 24, 2011

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Our care and concern does not end with the funeral service. This week we remember with family and friends the anniversary of the deaths of:

Archie Klaudt
who passed away on
October 26, 2010

James Parker
who passed away on
October 24, 2010

LouAnn Grimme
who passed away on
October 25, 2010

Ronda Taggart
who passed away on
October 27, 2010

This remembrance is brought to you free of charge. If you have a loved one you would like remembered, contact us at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory. Guiding and serving families with compassion and trust.

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And while you have idolized your dad throughout life, you'll want to celebrate times like these after his death. A meaningful funeral allows you to grieve and say goodbye with family and friends.

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