

The Salt Lake Tribune

JUNE 3, 2011 « FRIDAY » SLTRIB.COM



MAVS' HUGE FOURTH-QUARTER RALLY TIES UP NBA FINALS » D1

Pride Fest » Singer, a Utah native, to perform » E1
HOMECOMING

SAVE: Details, A3
\$38
 River rafting for two » \$40
 SLCDailyDeal.com

GRADUATION Joseph Kotara was 13 years old when doctors discovered a tumor on his optic nerve. He died a week later in January 2002. His heart was swiftly flown from Texas to Primary Children's Medical Center in Salt Lake City, where it was placed inside 8-year-old Ixel Miguel, who had been told she had only six months to live. Thursday, she and Kotara's family celebrated her high school graduation.

Always, 'heart sisters'



RICK EGAN | The Salt Lake Tribune

Ixel Miguel, left, hugs Susie Kotara, the mother of Joseph Kotara, the 13-year-old heart donor who saved her life nearly 10 years ago. Kotara, her husband and daughter flew from Texas to celebrate Ixel's high school graduation together on Thursday.

Ten years ago, the loss of a 13-year-old boy was turned into a miracle for a sick girl.

“I honestly didn't think I would get here. I still don't believe it.”

IXEL MIGUEL
 On graduating from high school after having nearly died as an 8-year-old from a virus that ravaged her heart

By **ROSEMARY WINTERS**
 The Salt Lake Tribune

Ixel Miguel never met Joseph Kotara, but she knows they share a love for outdoor activities and Top Ramen noodles. And with each beat of her heart, she knows his death saved her life.

This week, when she graduated from West Jordan High, she celebrated the achievement as theirs together.

Joseph was 13 years old when doctors discovered a tumor on his optic nerve. He died a week later in January

2002. His heart was swiftly flown from Texas to Primary Children's Medical Center in Salt Lake City, where it was placed inside 8-year-old Ixel (pronounced eek-she). A virus had ravaged her own heart, and she had been given six months to live.

“I honestly didn't think I would get here. I still don't believe it,” Ixel, now 18, said Thursday at a graduation party at Intermountain Donor Services' Salt Lake City office, where she has become a frequent volunteer.

Please see **HEART, A4**



Joseph Kotara

More online

To learn more about organ, eye and tissue donation, or to register your wishes to become a donor.
 » yesutah.org

Romney running in 2012

Politics » Former head of SLC Olympics is sure to look to Utah again for support.

By **THOMAS BURR**
 The Salt Lake Tribune

Three years ago, Utahn Fred Hale forked out \$200 to Mitt Romney's presidential campaign because he thought the former Olympics chief was the best White House contender.

And he still thinks so. “He's an intelligent person,” Hale, a retired contractor from Grantsville, said this week. “I'll take it one step further — he's LDS.”

As Romney mounts his second presidential bid, the former Massachusetts governor is likely to see huge support — again — from Utah, a Mormon-dominated state that likes to claim him as an adopted son.

Please see **ROMNEY, A6**

Mormons at White House

Roundtable takes on various topics, such as gay marriage. » **A5**



Huntsman denies Romney feud

Former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman Jr. calls reports of rift “hyperbole of the highest order.” » **A7**



JIM COLE | The Associated Press

Mitt Romney, accompanied by his wife, Ann, arrives in Stratham, N.H., Thursday to announce his 2012 candidacy for president.

BYU prof killer takes plea deal

Court » Man to testify against co-defendant if the case goes to trial.

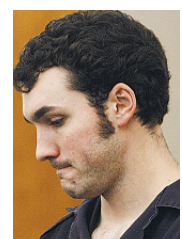
By **AARON FALK**
 The Salt Lake Tribune

American Fork » One of the two men accused of killing a former BYU professor during a 2009 burglary has accepted a plea deal from prosecutors and will testify against his co-defendant if that case goes to trial.

Benjamin David Rettig, 23, pleaded guilty Thursday morning in 4th District Court to aggravated murder and aggravated kidnapping. In exchange for the plea, prosecutors have agreed not to seek the death penalty and drop felony counts of aggravated kidnapping and aggravated burglary against Rettig.

Rettig and 24-year-old Martin Cameron Bond were

Please see **RETTIG, A7**



Benjamin David Rettig
 » Agreed to a plea bargain in murder case



Kay Mortensen
 » Found in his home with his throat cut after a robbery in 2009



COBB CONDIE | Special to the Tribune

Shantelle Vu rests her head on the shoulder of her fiancé, Spc. Josh Seifert, at Burns Arena at Dixie State College on Thursday.

St. George showers love on deploying Guardsmen

By **KRISTEN MOULTON**
 The Salt Lake Tribune

St. George » Thousands of southern Utahns showed their soldiers — and the soldiers' families — with love Thursday night, two days before 475 members of the Utah National Guard's Second Battalion, 222nd Field Artillery deploy to Iraq to help draw the curtain on war.

The soldiers — craftsmen and cops, teachers and technicians — accepted several rounds of ovations and listened to the moving patriotic music of the Southern Utah Legacy Choir and singer Dave Reber during the community's “Embracing Our Heroes” event. City and county leaders along with Guard officials signed a covenant of support

Please see **DEPLOYMENT, A4**

Pastor returns to Utah

NATION » A Utah pastor leaves tornado-ravaged Joplin, Mo., saying, “Before the tornado, people were maybe just a little more selfish and now, today, they're a little less selfish.” » **A4**



You may soon be in a bigger-than-life situation.

B3

HI 65
48
LO

Today » Sunny
 » **C8**

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Sports	D1
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SAVE: Details, A3
66%
Teeth-whitening pen › \$29
SLCDailyDeal.com

NBA DRAFT: JAZZ WATCH WALKER'S STOCK TUMBLE AS KNIGHT'S RISES › D1

Mix » Squatters brewmaster is an innovator › C1
BEER LEADER



POLITICS » RACE TO THE WHITE HOUSE

HUNTSMAN 2012

“Everything is at stake. This is the hour when we choose our future.”

Ex-governor of Utah makes presidential announcement.

By **THOMAS BURR**
The Salt Lake Tribune

Jersey City, N.J. » Former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman Jr. on Tuesday vowed to renew the “promise of America” in announcing that he would seek the presidency, pitching himself as the candidate who can rise above partisan politics and beat President Barack Obama.

Only 2,000 feet from the Statue of Liberty, Huntsman, Utah’s 16th governor and its first to run for the White House, channeled former President Ronald Reagan in saying that it’s “time to make America great again.” Huntsman, a former White House staff assistant under Reagan, chose Liberty State Park in New Jersey for his big announcement, the spot where Reagan in 1980 kicked off his general election campaign.

“We’re not just choosing new leaders,” Huntsman said. “We’re choosing whether we are to become yesterday’s story or tomorrow’s. Everything is at stake. This is the hour when we choose our future.”

Huntsman, who resigned as
Please see HUNTSMAN, A4



AL HARTMANN | Tribune file photo

Huntsman not feeling love of Utah politics

POLITICS » None of Utah’s federal delegation is endorsing Jon Huntsman Jr. for president yet. Rep. Jason Chaffetz, who worked in Huntsman’s administration, said Mitt Romney is his choice. Utah House Majority Whip Greg Hughes, above, said he’s in Huntsman’s corner. › **A4**



STAN HONDA/AFP | Getty Images



At top » Republican presidential candidate and former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman Jr. waves to supporters Tuesday before announcing his candidacy just 2,000 feet from the Statue of Liberty at Liberty State Park in Jersey City, N.J.
Above, left » Huntsman treks with his family across Liberty State Park before his big announcement.
Above, right » Huntsman kisses his daughter Gracie Mei while daughter Asha gives him a hug.



MELEEVANS | The Associated Press

Firings cut Antiquities section to bare bones

Officials blame budget cuts but skeptics see a political motivation.

By **BRANDON LOOMIS** and **JUDY FAHYS**
The Salt Lake Tribune

The Utah Department of Community and Culture on Tuesday laid off the state archaeologist and two assistants, leaving the Antiquities section with just two employees: those responsible for maintaining a database necessary for development of roads, railways, buildings and other projects.

Department acting Director Mike Hansen said he was simply carrying out budget cuts ordered by the Legislature to eliminate programs that receive state funds and that do not carry out requirements
Please see FIRINGS, A7

Indian Affairs » Shirlee Silver-smith is the new director. › **A10**

SUMMER SOLSTICE



AL HARTMANN | The Salt Lake Tribune
Tara Thornely, left, and Mathu Gaia explore with toddler Tama.

Sun Tunnels make longest day of year a lasting ritual

By **GLEN WARCHOL**
The Salt Lake Tribune

Lucin » Retiree Henry J. Casolari has been greeting the summer solstice at Sun Tunnels for 20 years. It’s toddler Tama Gaia’s second trip to the desolate spot northwest of the Great Salt Lake to bear witness to the longest day of the year.

“We’re going to try to keep that tradition going for Tama,” says Mathu, the father of the 18-month-old boy. Why have he and his wife come six times? “It’s the closest we’ve got to Stonehenge.”

Casolari clearly delights in seeing the sun rise over a
Please see SUN, A9

Warnings get graphic

HEALTH » By next year, U.S. smokers will start seeing nine graphic new warning labels on cigarette packs that feature rotting teeth, diseased lungs and the corpse of a smoker. › **E1**

Classified Ads	D8	Money	E1
Comics	C4	Movies	C7
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Today » Sunny, › **D16**



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