

PEOPLEnews

Tony Danza to reprise lead role in 'The Producers'

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Tony Danza will reprise his lead role as Max Bialystock in the Las Vegas version of Mel Brooks' hit Broadway show "The Producers," he told The Associated Press on Monday. "I love the part," said Danza, a former star of TV's "Taxi" and "Who's the Boss," who signed to take over Aug. 13 as the down-on-his-luck theatrical producer who hatches a wildly successful play despite his best attempts to fail.

"My take is, I think Max is a likable guy," Danza said by telephone from his home in Los Angeles. "Sure he's up to no good. But it's almost like he can't help himself."

Mel Brooks, who wrote the play based on his 1968 movie about a pair of con artists who overfinance a Broadway musical in the hopes of producing a flop and making off with the investors' money, called Danza perfect for the show.

Michael Jackson settles lawsuit

NEW YORK (AP) — Lawyers for Michael Jackson have settled a lawsuit brought by a finance company that claimed the pop star cheated it out of \$48 million.

The lawsuit by Prescient Acquisition, of Hackensack, N.J., was settled Monday just as jury selection was to begin in U.S. District Court in Manhattan. Terms of the settlement were not released.

Steven Altman, a lawyer for Prescient owner Darien Dash, said the businessman was owed the money for helping Jackson refinance a \$272 million bank loan and secure \$573 million in financing to buy Sony's half of the Beatles' song catalog that Sony co-owned with Jackson. "We're very pleased with the settlement, although the terms of it we've agreed to keep confidential at Mr. Jackson's request," Altman said. Jackson, 48, had said he never heard of Dash.

Kevin James and his wife have another daughter

LOS ANGELES (AP) — It's another girl for Kevin James and his wife.

Shea Joelle James was born Thursday in Los Angeles, the actor's publicist, Jennifer Allen, said Monday. James and his wife, Steffiana, also have an older child, Sienna, who was born in 2005.

James, 42, starred in the long-running CBS comedy "The King of Queens." He will appear with Adam Sandler in the film "I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry," scheduled to be released next month.

Boy-band mogul Lou Pearlman appears at hearing in Guam

HAGATNA, Guam (AP) — The man who created the Backstreet Boys and 'N Sync agreed to be returned to Florida from Guam to face a federal bankruptcy charge, officials said Monday.

Deputy U.S. Marshal Jimmy Disbrow said Lou Pearlman would be transported from the U.S. territory within 10 days — probably to Hawaii or California. From there, Disbrow said, it could take two or three weeks before Pearlman arrives in Florida.

Pearlman, 53, was arrested in Indonesia last week on one count of bank fraud. He was expelled from the resort island of Bali after the FBI contacted authorities there, then transferred to U.S. custody and flown to Guam.

He is accused of fraudulently securing nearly \$20 million in bank loans with documents from a made-up accounting firm.

Police, city arbitration starts

Police in second year without a new contract

By JEN CARPENTER
STAFF WRITER

HORNELL — The contract debate between the city and the police department union could be over today.

The arbitration session between Council 82 and the City of Hornell was to take place at 10 a.m. today in City Hall. As of March 31, the Hornell Police Department entered its second year of working without a contract.

The arbitration process involves a three member panel,

with one representative from the city, one from the police department and a neutral member. Hornell Mayor Shawn Hogan will represent the city and Interim Police Chief Ted Murray will represent the police union. The arbitrator will hear from both representatives and will decide which position is more favorable.

Hogan previously said the arbitrator will not grant a contract lasting longer than two years. He said the city has asked for no give-backs and would offer a 9.5-10 percent pay increase over three years.

"The main issue with the police department has been the insurance," he said.

Fix for Hornell schools

Continued from 1A

Columbian School, the site of district offices, would house some classrooms for the alternate placement program.

Georgek said moving grades seven and eight would solve problems of overcrowding in the high school and would separate the schools into more age appropriate groups.

The committee also proposed moving the bus garage

HHS teacher resigns

Continued from 1A

was accepted with no discussion. Prior to Stutzman submitting her letter of resignation,

Flip-flop or snafu?

Continued from 1A

press release about him voting for the bill, citing quotes from that release.

"I completely agree with what Randy Kuhl said on Friday morning, but I couldn't disagree more with how he voted on Friday afternoon," Massa said in a prepared statement. "This is the ultimate flip flop; Mr. Kuhl's press secretary didn't accidentally mistype a yes for a no."

"This was a researched, thought out position, and as soon as George Bush threat-

Hornell gets NYCOM award

Continued from 1A

This is the third local government achievement award the City of Hornell has won. The city previously won awards for a partnership on Seneca Street, which created commercial and residential

John Nelson III was a top student at Hornell High

Continued from 1A

"Whenever we saw him he was very friendly," he added.

Partridge said he and his wife, Linda, attempted to identify the body Monday, but were unable to tell for sure whether or not it was Nelson.

"We couldn't tell for sure if it was him or not," he said.

Tom White, who works with the Rink Partridge Insurance Agency, was Nelson's classmate. He said Nelson was a great guy in school, and was "top of the top." He said Nelson was an honors student, was on the student council, was class president, a good athlete and a well-rounded person. He said Nelson was very friendly and outgoing.

"In high school he was just like the all-American," he said.

White said Nelson had several friends, but never had a lot of close friends.

White said after high school, Nelson attended Williams College in Massachusetts. He said he did not have much contact with Nelson after high school, but considered his death to be an "awful tragedy."

from its residential location in North Hornell to a non-residential location.

Georgek said the committee toured the schools and he encouraged the board and community to do the same, so they could see that renovations are necessary.

"If you tour the buildings — if you see what's in front of you — it becomes obvious it's what's needed for the district,"

he said she had been on sick leave through the end of the school year and a long-term substitute had been handling

ened a veto, Randy Kuhl abandoned his responsibility to his constituents and flip flopped to support the president," he added. "This is just one more example of how whipped Deputy Minority Whip Kuhl actually is."

After hearing what Massa had to say, Van Wicklin responded this morning.

"As is often the case, Mr. Massa quite authoritatively speaks of something he doesn't know anything about," he said. "He's wrong. It was my mistake."

Van Wicklin also said this

mixed use space; a sidewalk project, in which the city shares the cost for replacing and repairing sidewalks with the property owner and for the Hornell Depot project.

Hogan said the award shows the efforts of the dedicated staff at City Hall. He said the

Hogan said insurance costs have doubled over the past 10 years. Council 82 President Rich Scavo previously said some police officers are paying 30 percent of their insurance costs, which amounts to about \$400 per paycheck.

Hogan said he has tried to take into account the burden placed on tax payers, and the city budget has had a zero percent tax increase the past two years. He said if the arbitration session leads to a decision against the city, he is ready to take the case one step further and go to court.

"Negotiation is supposed to be a give-and-take situation," he added.

he said.

The committee recommended making classrooms size-appropriate, bright, inviting and comfortable to create a "successful environment."

The committee also recommended making cafeterias quieter and size-appropriate, improving food preparation areas, improving heating and lighting in some locations throughout the district and

her classes.

The sick leave started sometime within the last two months, Kiley said.

morning Kuhl was actually leaning against voting for the bill Friday morning, and for several reasons. Those include a reduction in money for the southern border program, an increase in spending not offset by decreases that raised the budget level, earmarks that were included in the bill "when homeland security has traditionally been earmark-free," and changes made in the intelligence portion of it Kuhl "found to be counterproductive."

"There were amendments to fix these issues, including two

city strives for excellence, and is always looking for new and innovative ways to serve its residents.

The Conference of Mayors represents 580 cities and villages in New York state, and has been in existence since 1910.

gested he may have had a backpack with him.

"We were looking for identification," he said.

Police have found no evidence of foul play, and currently believe the cause of death to be accidental. Murray

75 killed by bombing at Baghdad mosque

BAGHDAD (AP) — A truck bomb struck a Shiite mosque today in central Baghdad, killing 75 people and wounding more than 200, even as about 10,000 U.S. soldiers northeast of the capital used heavily armored Stryker and Bradley fighting vehicles to battle their way into an al-Qaida sanctuary.

The troops, under cover of attack helicopters, killed at least 22 insurgents in the offensive, the U.S. military said. The thunderous explosion at the Khillani mosque in

the capital's commercial area of Sinak sent smoke billowing over concrete buildings, nearly a week after a bombing brought down the twin minarets of a revered Shiite shrine in the northern city of Samarra and two days after officials lifted a curfew aimed at preventing retaliatory violence from that attack.

Gunfire erupted shortly after the blast, which police said occurred in a parking lot near the mosque, causing the outer wall and a building just inside it to crumble.

addressing issues raised by the Building Condition Survey report.

Georgek said some hallways and stairways were being used as storage and the committee decided new storage areas should be created to solve that problem.

The committee also proposed updating the indoor sports and recreation facilities, auditoriums, and band rooms. It proposed technology upgrades, including providing wireless Internet, smart boards, laptops and modified computer labs.

Some of these changes have already been put into motion

by Instructional Technology Coordinator Peter Bacille. For example, Bacille recently awarded a contract to Cisco to install a wireless network.

The committee also proposed interior and exterior cameras be installed and door locking systems improved.

Kiley said the board is scheduled to meet for a work session at 6 p.m. Monday to further discuss and plan the project with the Vision 2012 Committee and the public.

Georgek said he'd like to see the project move at good pace.

"We'd like to take it to vote this year," he said.

amendments Randy offered himself," Van Wicklin said. "They were all denied, so he voted against the bill."

He said Kuhl would consider voting for a revamped bill that fixed those issues.

"If those issues are not addressed and he feels that the bad outweighs the good as he did on the floor last week, then he will vote against it," Van Wicklin said.


The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee also weighed in on the vote, saying the press release stating Kuhl voted for the measure was a "lie."

"As much as he may want to, Randy Kuhl can't rewrite history," said Carrie James, DCCC regional press secretary. "Congressman Kuhl should be embarrassed for voting against a measure that would keep our families safe, and ashamed for trying to mislead his constituents."

In the Kuhl release — that wasn't meant to be sent out — the congressman states that "protecting the homeland is our number one responsibility" and that the bill accomplished that mission.

"There are a lot of great programs and projects funded in this bill to ensure that we're protected from threats to our ports, transportation facilities, buildings and energy supply infrastructure," Kuhl said in that prepared statement. "We also greatly increased the amount available for fire grants which have been so helpful to the volunteer first companies in my district and around the nation."

"Our local first responders are the backbone of our homeland security infrastructure, so it's critical that they are adequately funded to meet the needs they face everyday," he added.



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