

# Noon News



**Today**  
High: 72 Low: 48  
Mostly sunny



**Tomorrow**  
High: 74 Low: 49  
Partly cloudy

**Wednesday, September 2, 2009**

More faculty and staff news:  
[thepoint.healthcare.uiowa.edu](http://thepoint.healthcare.uiowa.edu)

## Candidates tackle issues at forum

How and when to build a third comprehensive high school, budget issues, and how to deal with inequity across elementary schools were some of the top issues at an Iowa City School Board candidates forum last night, the *Iowa City Press-Citizen* reports. Around 100 people attended the forum. Six candidates are vying for three spots on the school board. Voters will decide on Tuesday.

## Tax relief likely for Linn County flood victims

The Linn County Board of Supervisors will likely vote today to forgive property taxes for flood victims for as long as they were deprived of the use of their property, the *Cedar Rapids Gazette* reports. Flood victims will have to apply for a tax abatement over the next 30 to 45 days and demonstrate how long the flood kept them from moving home or reopening for business.

## Democrat wins House seat in special election

Democrats retained a fiercely contested Iowa House seat in a special election yesterday, according to the *Des Moines Register*. Democratic candidate Curt Hanson, a retired schoolteacher, defeated GOP candidate and Jefferson County Supervisor Stephen Burgmeier by 107 votes, unofficial tallies showed. Republicans vowed to gain ground in next year's state House, Senate, and gubernatorial races.

## Planned U.S. layoffs hit 1 million

Planned job cuts announced by U.S. employers fell to 76,456 last month, down 21 percent from 97,373 in July, Reuters reports. While the rate of layoffs has slowed, the total number of job cuts from January to August is 1.07 million, which is 60 percent higher than the same period a year ago.

## Firefighters making progress

California firefighters made gains early today on a massive wildfire north of Los Angeles, buoyed by lower temperatures and higher humidity, the Associated Press (AP) reports. Bulldozers are scratching a line around the perimeter of the fire, which has burned nearly 200 square miles of tinder-dry brush.

## Earthquake hits Indonesia

A magnitude 7.0 earthquake rattled Indonesia today, killing at least 32 people, the AP reports. The quake struck off the southern coast of the main island of Java, where most of Indonesia's 235 million people live. Hospitals quickly filled with scores of injured people; the death toll was expected to rise.

## Israelis, Palestinians open high-level talks

Israelis and Palestinians today held their first high-level talks since Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu took office in March, the AP reports. The meeting between Israeli Vice Prime Minister Silvan Shalom and Palestinian Economics Minister Bassem Khoury focused on economic issues.

## 'Spiderman' fined for Malaysia Twin Towers climb

Alain Robert, the French climber known as "Spiderman," today pleaded guilty and was fined \$570 for sneaking past security and climbing Malaysia's 88-story Petronas Twin Towers yesterday. Robert has climbed more than 70 skyscrapers worldwide, including the Empire State Building and the Tapei 101.

## Board early on Southwest—for a fee

Southwest Airlines said today that passengers can now automatically reserve a boarding position prior to general check-in—for an extra \$10 each way. This would allow those customers to begin boarding the plane after certain elite fliers. Unlike other carriers, Southwest does not offer assigned seating.

## 'Mad Men' renewed for fourth season

"Mad Men," the 1960s Madison Avenue TV drama on AMC, will return for a fourth season, the cable station announced. The show's current season, which began last month, is attracting more viewers. The reigning best-drama Emmy winner is up for the honor again at the Sept. 20 awards ceremony.

## IOC evaluates cities for 2016 Olympics

The four cities bidding for the 2016 Summer Games—Chicago, Madrid, Rio de Janeiro, and Tokyo—received both praise and criticism in a report released today by the International Olympic Committee.

### Today in history

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**On this day in 1963, the "CBS Evening News" was extended from 15 minutes to a half-hour broadcast.**

### MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS ON BACK

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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- Support the Back to School Socks and Underwear Drive today through Sept. 11 by bringing in new, packaged socks and/or underwear (sizes toddler to adult) for the North Liberty Food and Clothing Pantry. Items may be dropped off in Volunteer Services (8025 JCP), any of the four UI College of Medicine Learning Communities in MERF, Hospital Mail Room (1002-2 Shipping Receiving Facility), or UI Health Care External Relations (4144 Westlawn). Distribution will take place in late September. For more information, e-mail [tom-walljasper@uiowa.edu](mailto:tom-walljasper@uiowa.edu) or call 384-1745.
- The UI Health Care Burn Support Group for patients who have experienced burns and similar wounds (Fournier's gangrene and necrotizing fasciitis) meets from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. on the first and third Wednesday of each month, Burn Treatment Center, Elevator H, Level 8. For details, call Jolyn Schneider or Peaches Wytch at 356-2496.
- UI Carver College of Medicine Dean Paul Rothman, MD, will give his annual State of the College address at 5:15 p.m. today in the Prem Sahai Auditorium, Level 1, Medical Education and Research Facility. All faculty, staff, and students of the College are invited.
- Wild Rose Gifts will hold a Late Night Sale from 2 to 4 a.m. tomorrow as part of Fry Fest, which continues through Friday. Fry Fest t-shirts, ornaments, and streets signs available for purchase. Free Hawkeye tattoos with all purchases (excluding stamps) while supplies last. Regular hours: 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekends.
- Everyone working, learning, or volunteering with UI Health Care is invited to a UI Health Care Update Forum from noon to 1 p.m. tomorrow in the Atrium Conference Center, Elevator E/F, Level 7. The forum also will be available as a live webcast. Video will be made available on [The Point](#) after the forum. Topics will include the flu immunization plan for UI Health Care and a UI Hospitals and Clinics financial update.
- Project Art presents Jonny Lipford, who will be performing on his Native American flutes from 12:30 to 1 p.m. tomorrow in Colloton Atrium. Lipford is regarded as one of the foremost Native American flutists.
- The Infertility Support Group meets at 6 p.m. tomorrow at the Women's Resource Action Center, 130 N. Madison Street. The group will discuss fertility-related issues and coping skills. For details, call 335-1486 or e-mail [wrac@uiowa.edu](mailto:wrac@uiowa.edu).
- Physicians: HCIS is offering open lab time Friday from 1 to 4 p.m. in the HCIS Training Room, 11605 PFP, Elevator L, Level 1. If you need support with orders, notes, In Basket, or maneuvering through Epic, you are invited to attend for assistance. HCIS staff will be providing support. For more information, contact Teresa Lane at 356-0002.
- The Medical Museum and Patients' Library will be open from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and closed Monday, Sept. 7, for the Labor Day holiday. Questions? Call 356-2468.
- Register for Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction, an eight-week program to manage stress and chronic conditions and/or promote wellness. Upcoming classes are 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Sept. 15 through Nov. 3; 9 to 11 a.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 16 through Nov. 4; and 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 30 through Nov. 18. Attendance at an informational session is required prior to registering. The cost is \$400; tuition support is available through UI Wellness. For more information, visit [www.uihealthcare.com/mindfulness](http://www.uihealthcare.com/mindfulness), e-mail [mindfulness@uiowa.edu](mailto:mindfulness@uiowa.edu), or call 384-5089.
- Join the fight against blood cancers. The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's annual "Light the Night" walk will be Saturday, Oct. 17, at Kinnick Stadium. For more information or to form or join a team, visit [www.lightthenight.org/ia](http://www.lightthenight.org/ia) or contact Tom Walljasper at [tom-walljasper@uiowa.edu](mailto:tom-walljasper@uiowa.edu) or 384-1745.

## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- We want your input! If you are employed with UI Health Care, please take our Internal Communications Survey, which is online today. Watch your e-mail for a link to the electronic survey on [The Point](#), or pick up a paper copy wherever you get *Noon News*. Deadline: Wednesday, Sept. 16.
- The UI Department of Parking and Transportation has revised its Van Pool Substitute Rider Policy. For more information, go to [www.uiowa.edu/~commprog/vanpool\\_SubRiderInfo.html](http://www.uiowa.edu/~commprog/vanpool_SubRiderInfo.html).

## RESEARCH VOLUNTEERS INVITED

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- The UI Department of Psychology is inviting adults 18 years of age and older who are currently receiving mental health or substance abuse treatment to participate in a research study on personality, mood, and anxiety symptoms. Participants have two options: completing a questionnaire and interview in the lab that takes about two hours, or completing an online or mail-in questionnaire that takes about 1.5 hours. Compensation. For details, call 335-2036 or email [mood-personality@uiowa.edu](mailto:mood-personality@uiowa.edu).

View the most recent study announcements at [www.uihealthcare.com/depts/clinicaltrials/volunteer.html](http://www.uihealthcare.com/depts/clinicaltrials/volunteer.html).

Contact *Noon News* at [noonnews@healthcare.uiowa.edu](mailto:noonnews@healthcare.uiowa.edu). Persons with a disability requiring reasonable accommodations in order to participate in programs at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics may discuss their needs with Concierge Services in advance at 356-1900.