

Contribution: Award given for international assistance

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founder of Mobility International, which will celebrate its 15th anniversary in July.

Mobility International is a nonprofit organization that promotes equal opportunities for people with disabilities in international educational exchange, leadership development, disability rights training, travel and community service.

Since 1981, MIUSA has offered numerous international educational exchanges involving youth, adults and professionals from more than 40 countries.

It also publishes resource books, training manuals, curriculum guides and videos, and it distributes information on travel accessibility for people with disabilities.

"MIUSA was created to give people a chance to share information and strategies to improve situations in their own communities," Sygall said.

The President's Committee, an independent federal agency developed to enhance employment of people with disabilities, will host a reception for Sygall today at its Washington headquarters. It is also Sygall's 43rd birthday, so she has much to celebrate.

"Some friends are coming to Washington, D.C., to celebrate with me," she said. "I feel fortunate to be surrounded with people who have helped me throughout my life."

The award honors an individual who has made significant contributions to enhance the empowerment and employment of people with disabilities.

Sygall, a resident of Eugene, was selected from a national slate of 16 nominees, all individuals nominated by leaders in the disability community.

"The president and the President's Committee are pleased to recognize Susan Sygall for her dynamic leadership in interna-

tional educational exchange programs for people with disabilities, for her mentorship of young people with disabilities and for her active role throughout Oregon, our nation and the world in advancing employment of people with disabilities," said Tony Coelho, chairman of the President's Committee in a news release.

During her freshman year at the University of Colorado, Sygall experienced a spinal cord injury and is now in a wheelchair.

After - rehabilitation, she attended the University of California at Berkeley, where she organized sports activities for persons with disabilities.

In 1975, she co-founded the Disabled Women's Coalition and the Berkeley Outreach Recreation Program.

Working with Congressional leaders, Sygall has been instrumental in increasing the number of participants with disabilities in educational programs sponsored by the United States Information Agency.

In 1995, she was among several disability rights leaders who coordinated the International Symposium on Women with Disabilities at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China.

She has organized international work camps and exchange programs for hundreds of participants for Latin America, Asia, Europe, Africa, the Caribbean and the United States.

She has brought together children and young adults with disabilities from all over the world to discover their own abilities through participation in educational, recreational and leadership programs. Participants have returned to their home countries and communities to work toward disability rights programs and laws related to accessibility and employment.

NEWS BRIEFING

A LOOK AT THIS MORNING'S HEADLINES

Police answering emergency call shoot man brandishing rifle



NORTHWEST

PORTLAND (AP) — Police shot and killed a man after he pointed a rifle at two officers answering a 911 call from the man's wife.

The two officers were talking to Chandra Kibbee in front of her house Sunday when her husband, Lynn Kibbee, 31, appeared at the front door with the rifle, said Lt. C.W. Jensen, Portland Police Bureau spokesman.

The officers told Lynn Kibbee to drop the gun, but instead he raised it and said something threatening, Jensen said. One officer fired several times, and Lynn Kibbee fell back into the house.

The officers retreated and called a special weapons team and hostage negotiators. They tried for several hours to contact Kibbee, not knowing whether he was dead or alive. At about 4 a.m., officers found him dead, Jensen said.

Police had arrested Lynn Kibbee at least eight times since 1981, Jensen said. The charges included two cases of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, drunken driving, menacing, burglary, discharging a firearm in the city limits, attempting to elude police and domestic violence.

Chandra Kibbee said one of the officers insisted on going inside the house to arrest her husband and she tried to prevent it.

"A minute later, four shots were fired into my house," she said. "I'm going to pursue this."

FBI cuts off power to Freeman ranch to inspire negotiations



NATIONAL

JORDAN, Mont. (AP) — The FBI pulled the plug on the electricity at the Freeman ranch

Monday, a day after moving armored vehicles closer to the compound.

The power was cut during the afternoon in "another effort to persuade the Freeman to resume negotiations for a peaceful settlement" to the 71-day-old standoff, the FBI said in a statement.

The Freeman compound appeared quiet. Some neighbors have said they are sure the Freeman have their own generators. But it's not known how long the fugitives could hold out without outside power.

A fuel distributor said his company made a delivery to the ranch last fall, including 290 gallons of diesel that could be used to run generators.

The FBI switched on portable generators to supply power to 41 neighboring homes wired into the same circuit supplying the 960-acre Freeman grain and cattle ranch.

On Sunday, three FBI armored vehicles were moved to within a few miles of the ranch. The agency also has a rescue helicopter in the area. The FBI has said it wants the equipment available for emergency rescues or a move onto the ranch.

However, a government source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the arrival of the equipment does not mean the FBI plans to enter the compound.

Netanyahu balances party politics and promises of peace



WORLD

JERUSALEM (AP) — Yasser Arafat declared that Israel has no right to backtrack on its peace deals

with the Palestinians, and Israel's new leader affirmed his commitment Monday to moving peace ahead — once he sets his strategy.

Prime Minister-elect Benjamin Netanyahu began the delicate process of building a governing coalition that will help determine his policy toward the Palestinians and Israel's Arab neighbors.

Syria's president, Hafez Assad, said Monday that only when Netanyahu's position is clear can peace talks resume.

"The resumption of the negotiations is out of the question now," Assad, one of Israel's principal foes, said in Egypt. "Things are not going in a positive way. We have to be fully alert and on guard."

Netanyahu was courting hawkish and religious parties needed to give him a parliamentary majority — and a viable government. At the same time, he sternly commanded his hard-line backers to keep silent and let him set policy.

Netanyahu, 46, reminded party hawks that he was committed to peacemaking with the Arabs, and said a top aide had already contacted Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority. He said he also planned to meet soon with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Jordan's King Hussein.

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