

Dr. Ram Yogev, director of the pediatric HIV/AIDS program at Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago, examines a former foster child who is now adopted. (AP photo)

AIDS Drugs Tested on Foster Kids Care exposes vulnerable children

(AP) - To gain access to hun- at least seven states - Illinois, Louidreds of HIV-infected foster chil-siana, Maryland, New York, North dren, federally funded researchers Carolina, Colorado and Texas - and promised in writing to provide an involved more than four dozen dif-

materialized, an Associated Press review has found.

available in the marketplace. The practice ensured that foster slowing their rate of death and ex- experimental treatments. tending their lives. But it also exdrugs that were known to have couldn't get. And they say they serious side effects in adults and protected the children's interest by for which the safety for children carefully explaining risks and benwas unknown.

independent advocate to safeguard ferent studies. The foster children the kids' well-being as they tested ranged from infants to late teens, potent AIDS drugs. But most of the according to interviews and govtime, that special protection never ernment records.

Several studies that enlisted foster children reported that patients The research funded by the Na-suffered side effects such as rashes, tional Institutes of Health spanned vomiting and sharp drops in infecthe country. It was most widespread tion-fighting blood cells, and one in the 1990s as foster care agencies reported a "disturbing" higher sought treatments for their HIV- death rate among children who took infected children that weren't yet higher doses of a drug, records

Some foster children died during children-mostly poor or minority-studies, but state or city agencies received care from world-class re- said they could find no records that searchers at government expense, any deaths were directly caused by

Those who made the decisions posed a vulnerable population to say the research gave foster kids the risks of medical research and access to drugs they otherwise efits to state guardians, foster par-The research was conducted in ents and the children themselves.



Police Shooting Tragedy Recalled

Kendra James, the unarmed African American woman killed by police while trying to flee a traffic stop, was remembered Thursday. Among the group marking the two-year anniversary of the tragedy on the North Skidmore I-5 overpass was Perlia Bell (from left), a mother whose daughter was killed by gun violence; community activist Vesia Loving and Huey Martin. The local activism following James' death brought about some policy changes in the Portland Police Bureau.

Insurgents Increase Fight on U.S. Forces

Violent attacks spiral in Iraq

(AP)-U.S. forces hunting down followers of Iraq's most wanted terrorist pushed into a lawless region near the Syrian border Tuesday after meeting unexpected resistance from insurgents hidden in remote desert outposts

along the southern banks of the Euphrates River.

Marines fought house-to-house Monday against dozens of wellarmed insurgents firing at them from balconies, rooftops and sandbagged bunkers in the border town of Obeidi and surrounding villages, the Los Angeles Times reported.

As many as 100 militants have been killed since Operation Matador, one of the largest American



An injured child is rushed to a hospital Tuesday, after a car bomb exploded in central Baghdad, killing at least seven pe and wounding 16. (AP photo)

offensives in Iraq in six months, mediately confirm that. began Saturday night in Qaim, 200 miles west of Baghdad, the military

At least three U.S. Marines have been killed in the offensive, which involves more than 1,000 Marines, sailors and soldiers backed by he-

licopter gunships and fighter jets. A Los Angeles Times reporter embedded with U.S. forces said 20 American troops were wounded,

Gunmen, meanwhile, kidnapped the governor of Iraq's western Anbar province Tuesday and told his family he would be released when U.S. forces withdraw from Qaim, relatives said.

The offensive comes amid a surge of militant attacks across Iraq, often targeting security forces and civilians.

Two car bombs killed seven in

but the U.S. military could not im- Baghdad on Tuesday. **Chemical Blast Injures Three**

Three people suffered minor companies. injuries in an early morning explosion Monday at a chemical houseboat community were asked plant near the Columbia River in to stay indoors with the windows north Portland.

waves and a loud boom through sion. adjacent neighborhoods. Investigators suspect a 500-gallon tank caused the blast.

The plant makes intermediate chemicals for pharmaceutical tamination.

The residents of a nearby

closed, but not evacuated. About The explosion at Lacamas 200 workers at a nearby Laboratories Inc. occurred at Nordstrom warehouse were about 4:15 a.m. sending shock evacuated following the explo-

The Coast Guard and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality were assisting fire crews to evaluate potential con-

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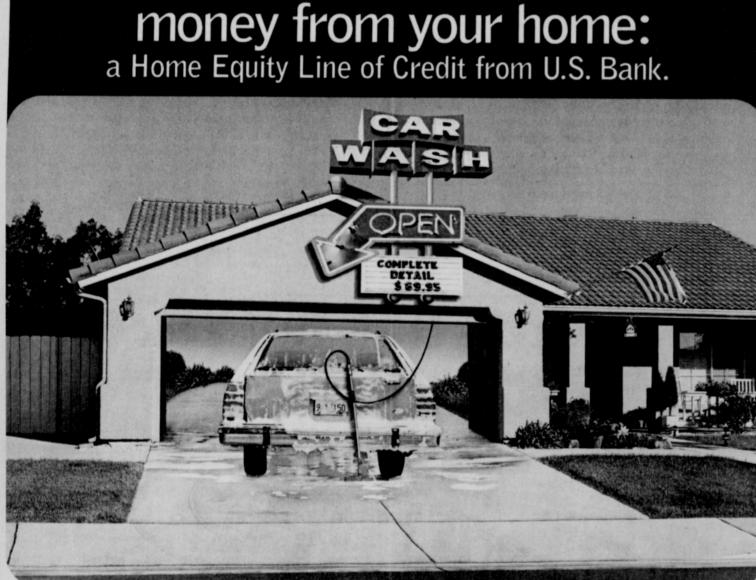
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