

News

World News Briefs

A Cigarette, a Car Backfire: Small Sparks Can Make Big Fires

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A carelessly discarded cigarette, a downed power line, a car's backfire or a chainsaw's pull. Just about anything could have started any one of the wildfires now tearing through Northern California, authorities said.

"Every spark is going to ignite a fire," said Ken Pimlott, the state's top firefighter. He said the risk remains "extreme for new starts."

Pimlott said Tuesday

that investigators are looking into the causes, but no determination has been made at any of the 17 sites of major wildfires blazing in Northern California.

Pimlott, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection director, said "98 percent" of all wildfires are started by people and it's unlikely lightning is to blame for any of the fires that exploded overnight Sunday, killing at least 17 people so far.

California's most dangerous wildfire season comes in autumn, when summer heat and insects have left brush dead and

dried out, and winds are especially hot, dry and strong.

Hotel Questions Revised Timeline of Las Vegas Massacre

A day after authorities revised the timeline of events on the night of the Las Vegas mass shooting, the hotel where the gunman was staying is casting doubt on the changes.

Police said earlier this week that they believe Stephen Paddock shot a hotel security guard through the door of his high-rise hotel suite six minutes before he unleashed a barrage of bullets into a crowd at

a musical performance below. The injured guard ran down a hall using his radio and possibly a hallway phone to call for help, reporting he had been shot in the leg.

That account differs dramatically from the one police gave last week: that Paddock ended his hail of fire on the crowd, where 58 people were killed and hundreds injured, in order to shoot through his door and wound the unarmed guard, Jesus Campos.

But late Tuesday, the company that owns the Mandalay Bay hotel casino questioned the new timeline.

"We cannot be certain about the most recent timeline," said Debra

DeShong, a spokeswoman for MGM Resorts International. "We believe what is currently being expressed may not be accurate."

Trump to Pitch Tax Plan as Boon for Truckers

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump will pitch his tax plan as a boon for truckers in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania Wednesday — the latest stop on a cross-country tour aimed at selling his tax reform proposal.

Trump will be speaking in front of an audience of roughly 1,000 people, including lots of truckers, against a backdrop of big rigs at a local air plane hangar, according to the White House. Trump is pitching a plan that would dramatically cut corporate tax rates from 35 percent to 20 percent, reduce the num-

ber of personal income tax brackets and boost the standard deduction.

At his latest stop, Trump will argue that his tax reform framework will benefit truckers by lowering their tax rates, boosting manufacturing, and making it easier for families to pass their trucking businesses onto their children, the White House says.

"When your trucks are moving, America is growing. That is why my administration is taking historic steps to remove the barriers that slow you down," he's expected to say, according to excerpts provided by the White House. "America first means putting American truckers first."

Trump has left it up to Congress to fill in many specifics of his plan, which leaves out details such as which income levels his new tax brackets would apply to.

Free Resume Help at the Library

By Kirby McCurtis, Administrator, North Portland Library

Unemployed? Considering a career change? Need help with your resume? Multnomah County Library offers free one-on-one help by appointment, resume classes, personalized resume writing tips and computer labs for job seekers. Staff and volunteers can help with resume style, length, and format, and offer personalized advice for specific industries and career levels.

Resume help is offered weekly at North Portland, Hollywood, and Albina libraries.



Kirby McCurtis, Administrator, North Portland Library

Five common resume mistakes to avoid:

- 1. Typos and grammatical errors:** review your resume for spelling and punctuation errors, and then have another person read it.
- 2. No specifics:** be specific with your responsibilities and accomplishments in each job.
- 3. Too long:** your resume should not be so long potential employers don't want to read it. The general rule is no more than two pages.
- 4. No action verbs:** using action verbs demonstrates you actually did the work! Avoid using "responsible for;" try instead "organized."
- 5. Picking the wrong font:** pick a clear font that is easy to read and stick with it throughout the document. Yes to "Arial;" No to "Comic Sans."

Having a great resume is not the only thing that sets you apart from other applicants. Employers also look for "soft skills," or the skills and traits that help you work well with others. These can include strengths in the areas of communication, time management, problem solving or collaboration.

Beginning Oct. 5, Central Library is partnering with Portland Community College to offer the Brown Bag Lunch and Learn series. These hour-long sessions will teach you how to develop and increase soft skills and how to expand your professional network. Topics include building emotional intelligence, using social media to find employment and cultivating trust.

Visit multcolib.org or schedule an appointment with a librarian by texting "multcolib" and your question to 66746.

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Screenshot from 'A Question of Faith'

hit spinoff, "The Facts of Life."

The film unfolds in the City of Atlanta where we're introduced to three families dealing with serious life issues. Theresa Newman (Fields) is worried that her workaholic husband (Richard T. Jones) remains so obsessed with taking over as senior pastor of the church from his father (Gregory Alan Williams) that he might break yet another promise to attend their younger son's (Caleb T. Thomas) basketball game.

Elsewhere, we find aspiring gospel singer Michelle Danielsen (Amber Thompson) being pressured to perform at a record company audition by her cash-strapped father (C. Thomas Howell). Overbearing John's ostensibly more concerned with avoiding an impending collapse of his own business than with diagnosing the cause of his daughter's debilitating, recurring headaches.

Lastly, we have restaurant owner Katie Her-

nandez (Jaci Velasquez) reminding her reckless daughter Maria (Karen Valero) to stop texting behind the wheel while making deliveries. She doesn't want the high school senior to do anything that might jeopardize her chances of becoming the first in the family to attend college.

These parallel storylines eventually converge by chance and in very dramatic fashion. Since it would be unfair to spoil any of the ensuing developments, suffice to say that the protagonists are challenged to rise to the occasion in different ways as their fates further intertwine.

A very moving tale of redemption which not only reveals God's grace but makes a case for cross-cultural tolerance that's sorely-needed in these divided times.

Excellent ★★★★★

Rated PG for mature themes

To see a trailer for *A Question of Faith*, visit: TheSkanner.com.



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