



### Top Stories

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Armenian. Later, these placards were protested by MHP and CHP. The leader of MHP, a fascist political party of Turkey, described the placards saying "We are all Armenian" as "a freak show organized by those who do not participate in martyr funerals"

#### Sex offender pretends to be 12 years-old; enrolls into seventh grade

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then enrolling himself into 7th grade classes around the state, in at least two middle schools.

### Featured story

#### Living fossil caught off coast of Japan



The frilled shark was spotted off the coast of Japan on January 21, 2007 and taken to the Awashima Marine Park in Shizuoka, Japan where it was filmed and later died.

### Wikipedia Current Events

- A curfew is imposed in Beirut after deadly clashes erupted between pro government supporters and Hezbollah-led factions.
- Ecuador's Defense Minister Guadalupe Larriva is killed along with three pilots and her daughter in a crash involving two helicopters. Larriva was the first woman to serve as the country's defense minister.
- 276 people onboard the Cunard Line's RMS Queen Elizabeth 2 are sickened by the norovirus during its 2007 circumnavigation of the world.
- Oleg Khinsagov is sentenced for 8.5 years for smuggling of Highly enriched uranium from Russia to Georgia.
- 29 people are killed after a bus plunges down a ravine in southern Mexico.

#### Amsterdam pet shop owner creates beer for dogs

A woman in The Netherlands who uses her dogs to hunt in Austria, has decided to give her dogs a new kind of treat, beer.

Terrie Berenden, a woman who owns a petshop in Amsterdam created a nonalcoholic-beer for her dogs which is made from malt and a beef extract. The beer is called "Kwispelbier" (Kwispelen means the 'wagging of a [dogs] tail' in Dutch), and was put onto shelves just last week.

"Once a year we go to Austria to hunt with our dogs, and at the end of the day we sit on the verandah and drink a beer. So we thought, my dog also has earned it," said Berenden.

According to Berenden, owners can enjoy the new beer as well, but she also stated that it will cost owners about four times as much to drink the beer than to buy a 'human beer.' A bottle of the dog beer sells at about \$2.14.

The slogan for the new dog beer is "a beer for your best friend" and Brenden hopes that the product will grab international attention. Requests for the beer are already coming from the United States, England and Japan.

"We are overwhelmed with it. From America, England and Japan we have (received) mail and we are just going to think about it, how we can bring it on the market there," said Brenden.

#### Living fossil caught off coast of Japan

The frilled shark was spotted off the coast of Japan on January 21, 2007 and taken to the Awashima Marine Park in Shizuoka, Japan where it was filmed and later died.

"We believe moving pictures of a live specimen are extremely rare," said an official with the Awashima Marine Park.

The frilled shark, *Chlamydoselachus anguineus*, is a member of a 350 million year old family, and

characterised by an eel-like appearance with a distinctive protrusion of the gills.

The 1.6m female specimen was spotted in shallow waters by a local fisherman who contacted the Awashima Marine Park who were able to catch the shark.

The video is available on YouTube and shows the dying shark swimming around the aquarium with its mouth open.

It is unknown as to why the shark was in such shallow waters, but officials say it might have been sick. Its usual habitat is between 120 meters and 1280 meters in depth where it feeds on squid and bony fish. The shark and grow up to 2 meters in length. It is regularly caught by bottom trawlers and used as fish bait.

"They live between 1,968 and 3,280 feet (600 and 1,000 meters) under the water, which is deeper than humans can go," added the park official.

"We think it may have come close to the surface because it was sick, or else it was weakened because it was in shallow waters," continued the official.

This species is a living fossil, having a close resemblance to fossil records of paleozoic sharks. In comparison modern sharks have 5 sets of gills whereas the frilled shark has 6 sets.

### **Ontario Green Party leader to run in byelection**

Frank de Jong, 51, leader of the Green Party of Ontario is running in the Ontario by-election for Burlington, Ontario. He registered Wednesday night, the deadline for people wanting to run as a candidate, at the returning office.

Previously, Cam Jackson was the MPP for Burlington. But, he resigned to run for mayor of Burlington in the Ontario 2006 municipal elections. Jackson won on November 13, 2006. After, the riding was vacant for months and that's when the by-election was finally called.

De Jong is up against Progressive Conservative Joyce Savoline, Ontario Liberal Party and former Burlington city counciler Joan Loughheed, and New Democrat Cory Judson.

A couple of Burlington residents were also interested in running in the by-election, according to chief financial officer for the new riding association, Lawson Hunter.

De Jong has been leader of the Green Party of Ontario since 1993.

### **Sex offender pretends to be 12 years old; enrolls into seventh grade**

A man in Arizona is accused of pretending to be 12 years old, by using make-up to disguise his age, and then enrolling himself into 7th grade classes around the state, in at least two middle schools. The man is also being accused of assaulting a girl, but the name of the girl is not known. Police will not release details about the assault.

Neil Havens Rodreick II, 29, is a convicted sex-offender who is from Oklahoma and police arrested Rodreick when he attempted to enroll into Mingus Springs Charter School located in Chino Valley, Arizona using what school officials thought to be fake documents. Rodreick spent nearly the whole day at the school. Rodreick also attended another charter school from August 14 to November of 2006, Imagine School at Rosefield.

Rodreick attended a total of 50 days at Imagine before he was dismissed from the school for not attending class enough. Rodreick is currently being held inside the Yavapai County jail.

"Our first priority is to help our students and our families establish a sense of security on our campus," said a spokeswoman for the Imagine school, Rhonda Cagle.

Cagle also describes Rodreick as being "quiet."

"He was quiet. He turned in his homework. By most accounts he was aloof and kept to himself," added Cagle.

Rodreick attempted to use fake admissions documents and a fake birth certificate to enroll into the charter school. Authorities are charging Rodreick with misdemeanor assault, failure to register as a sex offender in Arizona, possessing forgery devices, conspiracy to commit forgery, and conspriacy to commit fraud.

Rodreick also tried to enroll into the school using a false name, "Casey Price."

Police are also saying that Rodreick fooled two other men into believeing he was 12 years old.

Lonnie Stiffler, 61 and Robert James Snow, 43, were Rodreick's housemates in Arizona and met Rodreick on the internet in Oklahoma. Both Stiffler and Snow were under the impression that Rodreick was a "preteen," according to police, and that all three men were in a continuing relationship that included sex.

Another man, Brian J. Nellis, 34, was also arrested by police at Rodreick's home. Police say Nellis

followed the three other men from Oklahoma to Arizona. All men were arrested on January 18, 2007.

All four men are being charged with fraud and forgery, but Nellis, Snow and Rodreick will be charged with failure for registering as sex offenders.

Police also discovered a video at the home, that shows Rodreick having sex with what appears to be an underage child. Police do not know who the child is, or how old he is, but that he is a "juvenile."

Rodreick was convicted in 1996 for lewdly propositioning to a 6-year-old boy.

### **Militant group 'protests' placards used in Armenian-Turkish journalist's funeral**

Thousands of people marched in Dink's Funeral to protest his assassination, holding placards that read "We are all Armenian" and "We are Hrant Dink" in both Turkish, Kurdish and Armenian.

Later, as reported by Wikinews, these placards were protested by MHP, a fascist Turkish political party, and by CHP, a political party that the mainstream considers leftist.

Now a Turkish militant group, Turkish Revenge Brigade (Türk İntikam Tugayı), 'protested' these placards by placing a package, which was made to look like a bomb, to the wall of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey (TBMM). The package was rendered ineffective by the Turkish security forces, who found a note inside the package. The note 'criticized' the placards used in Hrant Dink's funeral. It also asked Dink's assassin Ogün Samast and Yasin Hayal, who admitted to incite the assassin, to be freed. The note

referred to these two criminals as "brothers".

There is not much information about the structure of the Turkish Revenge Brigade. It is speculated that this terrorist organization has ties to the Turkish mafia as well as the Turkish Deep State (derin devlet), an influential, violent, and informal anti-democratic coalition within the Turkish political system.

### **Study says to clean your sponge, microwave it**

Studies done on germs and bacteria performed by researchers at the University of Florida show that a dirty kitchen sponge can be cleaned and "sterilized" by microwaving it for 2 minutes, but researchers warn to wet the sponge first.

"People often put their sponges and scrubbers in the dishwasher, but if they really want to decontaminate them and not just clean them, they should use the microwave," said the professor who was in charge of the study that discovered the results, Gabriel Bitton.

"Basically what we find is that we could knock out most bacteria in two minutes. The microwave is a very powerful and an inexpensive tool for sterilization," added Bitton.

The sponges that researchers studied, were placed in "raw wastewater" and then put into a microwave to be "zapped," according to Bitton. The wastewater was a "witch's brew of fecal bacteria, viruses, protozoan parasites and bacterial spores, including *Bacillus cereus* spores," said Bitton.

Researchers say that at least 99% of the bacteria, viruses, spores and parasites in kitchen sponges can be destroyed or "inactivated" by

simply microwaving the wet sponge, on the highest power, for two minutes.

### **Philippine partylist urges bishop's meet to tackle extrajudicial killings**

s the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) enters its second day of its meeting, Bayan Muna party-list appealed to the bishops to include the issue of rampant and intensifying killings in the country in their agenda.

In an open letter addressed to the CBCP Permanent Council, Bayan Muna President Satur Ocampo and Chairperson Dr. Reynaldo Lesaca called on the bishops to include in their agenda "the demand for justice of the families of the victims of extrajudicial killings, and the worldwide uproar over the ongoing slaughter of innocent, unarmed and non-combatant activists and other individuals in the country especially in light of the coming May elections."

Ocampo cited the case of Prof. Jose Maria Cui who was gunned down in front of his students at the University of Eastern Philippines (UEP) in Catarman, Northern Samar last Friday.

Yesterday, two more members of the party fell in a hail of bullets in Sorsogon. Tricycle driver Ruben Ermino was shot dead by motorcycle-riding men after ferrying passengers. Demetrio Imperial was having dinner with his family when gunmen barged into his home and shot him in front of his family.

The killings bring the number of slain Bayan Members to 125. Based on records by the human rights group KARAPATAN, a total of 822 civilians have been killed under the Macapagal-Arroyo government.

"We implore you to use all your powers to demand the dismantling of death squads and to ask President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to order the Armed Forces of the Philippines, the Philippine National Police and her National Security Adviser to cease and desist from wrongly labeling persons such as Prof. Cui and organizations such as Bayan Muna as "communist fronts," making them target of the government's all-out war against the armed revolutionary movement," Ocampo and Lesaca said.

Bayan Muna also expressed alarm over government efforts to lay down the conditions for massive cheating and violence in the coming May elections. "The killings, as well as the fascistic measures to purge local governments of critical officials and moves to pad the voting list point to a deliberate effort to cheat and to use violence in the polls," they said.

The letter was sent yesterday to the Permanent Council's meeting which began on Tuesday and ends on Saturday.

### **New Zealand police defend decision to charge speeding policeman**

The New Zealand police have defended their choice to charge a policeman with dangerous driving after being caught on a hidden speed camera at around 65 kilometres over the legal speed limit.

Sergeant Gregory Arthur Smith was charged with dangerous driving after he responded to a priority one emergency, which requires immediate police attention. Sergeant Smith was caught on a hidden speed camera at 115 kilometres per hour in a school

zone, the legal limit was 50 km/h. Sergeant Smith was discharged without conviction in court yesterday.

Inspector Kerry Griffiths, has said that the police had made the correct decision to charge Sergeant Smith with dangerous driving.

Inspector Griffiths said according to clear police policy, a police officer is not to put the public or other police officers into risk while responding to an emergency, under no exception.

Inspector Griffiths, ex-southern road policing manager, has claimed that there was already other police officer on their way to the crash and Segreant Smith's speed was not warranted. He said that police have a duty to drive responsibly, even though they do have the power to exceed the speed limit.

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A party council member of CHP, a relatively leftist political party, said "we became ashamed of being Turkish. I am Turkish and I protest the assassination. ... The placards that say "assassin 301" are also wrong. As long as we do not want to denigrate Turkishness, we

cannot call 301 an assassin. ..." Article 301 is a controversial censorship article of the Turkish penal code that makes it a crime to "insult Turkishness".

### **Today in History**

- 1565 - The Deccan sultanates defeated the Vijayanagara Empire in the Battle of Talikota, ended the last Hindu kingdom in India.
- 1700 - The magnitude 9 Cascadia Earthquake took place off the Pacific coast of the American Northwest, as evidenced by Japanese records of tsunamis.
- 1788 - The British First Fleet, led by Captain Arthur Phillip, landed at Sydney Cove just outside present-day Sydney, establishing the first permanent European settlement in Australia.
- 1950 - President Rajendra Prasad succeeded Rajaji the last Governor General as the head of state of India and the Commander-in-Chief of the Indian armed forces.
- 1983 - The hugely popular spreadsheet program Lotus 1-2-3 was first released.
- January 26 is Australia Day in Australia (1788), Republic Day in India (1950).

### **Quote of the Day**

I do not believe they are right who say that the defects of famous men should be ignored. I think it is better that we should know them. Then, though we are conscious of having faults as glaring as theirs, we can believe that that is no hindrance to our achieving also something of their virtues.  
~ W. Somerset Maugham

### **Word of the Day**

brandish; v

1. To move or swing a weapon back and forth.
2. To bear something in a showy display.

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(toll-free in the U.S.)  
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(outside the U.S.)  
+44-871-218-6397  
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