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The LEADER

Wednesday, August 14, 2013

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MORE INSIDE

WEATHER



Becoming sunny and cooler. High of 71. Full forecast, **A8**.

LOCAL



Harness racing highlighted the first day of events at the Steuben County Fair in Bath. **A2**

NATION



An Air Force unit that operates one-third of the nation's land-based nuclear missiles has failed a safety and security inspection, marking the second major setback this year for a force charged with the military's most sensitive mission. **A3**

COMING IN PRINT

Thursday in wknd.
 ■ A preview of the ninth annual India Day festival, which will be held Saturday in Corning.

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 ■ 10 coolest cars under \$18,000
 ■ Here's how fast our jobs are draining their retirement savings
 ■ How to build a portable vise

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A DAY ON SENECA

Cuomo hits the wine trail



Gov. Andrew Cuomo talks to Scott Welliver and Gene Pierce, co-owners of Glenora Wine Cellars, during his tour of the Seneca Lake wine trail on Tuesday. ERIC WENSEL/THE LEADER

Governor touts efforts to help wineries, boost tourism

By Derrick Ek
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Gov. Andrew Cuomo spent the day Tuesday touring the wine trail on the west side of Seneca Lake, touting his efforts to boost the state's wine and tourism industries. The day included tours of the Anthony Road, Glenora and Lakewood wineries. Afterward, Cuomo was



Gov. Cuomo checks out the bottling line at Glenora Wine Cellars. DERRICK EK/THE LEADER

SEE CUOMO, A8

SENECA LAKE

Company plans propane facility

By John Zick
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READING | Amerigas Inc. is planning to build a bulk propane-storage facility in the Town of Reading, not far from where Inergy is proposing a similar operation.

At a 2.5-acre site on County Line Road in Reading, Amerigas plans to install two 30,000-gallon above-ground tanks to store propane. The proposal also includes building access roads and parking space, a gravel staging area for the temporary storage of empty propane tanks, security fencing and gates, and pole-mounted light fixtures.

A public hearing on the proposed project is set for 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Reading Town Hall.

The proposal is similar to one announced years ago by Kansas City-based Inergy, which wants to build a large-scale propane/butane storage and distribution hub near its U.S. Salt plant just outside Watkins Glen. The Inergy project has been under review by the state Department of Environmental Conservation since 2009.

Dr. Joseph Campbell, president of Gas Free Seneca, a group that is fighting the Inergy project, took issue with the Amerigas proposal.

"We're pretty frustrated by the whole thing," Campbell said. "The fact that they're trying to ramrod this thing through and bring it in under the radar again is frustrating."

Campbell said residents who oppose gas-storage operations along Seneca Lake should stand up to fight the

SEE PROPANE, A8

HEALTH CARE RATE SHOCK

Half who buy now plan to get aid

By Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar
 The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — About half the people who now buy their own health insurance— and potentially would face higher premiums next year under President Barack Obama's health care law— would qualify for federal tax credits to offset rate shock, according to a new private study.

Many other people, however, earn too much money to be eligible for help, and could end up paying more. The estimate, being released Wednesday by the nonpartisan Kaiser Family Foundation, tries to answer one of the biggest remaining questions about the impact of Obama's law on American families: Will consumers wince — or even balk — when they see the premiums for the new plans?

The study found that 48 percent of families currently buying their own coverage would be eligible for tax credits next year, averaging \$5,548 per family, or 66 percent of the average cost of a benchmark "silver" policy offered through new state insurance markets. "About half of the people won't be paying the sticker price," said Gary Claxton, director of the health care marketplace project

at Kaiser, an information clearinghouse on the health care system. "The people who get help will get quite a lot of help." "Many, but certainly not all, of the people who don't get tax credits will pay more," he said. "How much more will be a function of a lot of different things." For example, some people who don't qualify for tax credits may get jobs that offer coverage, added Claxton, a co-author of

the study. And the bottom line on premiums may not be clear until sometime this fall, after the Health and Human Services Department releases rates for more than 30 states where the federal government is taking the lead setting up new insurance markets for individuals and small businesses.

People can enroll starting Oct. 1, and coverage

SEE HEALTH CARE, A8



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EGYPT

Supporters waiting it out

Pro-Morsi vigil takes on permanent look despite warnings

By Hamza Hendawi
The Associated Press

CAIRO — Instead of rushing for the exits, Islamist supporters of Egypt's ousted president are replacing tents with wooden huts in their sprawling Cairo encampment. Barbershops have sprung up and many tents now have satellite dishes.

There's little sign of alarm over the potential for violence if security forces move to clear this ground zero of resistance to the coup six weeks ago. On Tuesday, solar power panels were added to the encampment's several generators in case authorities cut off power.

The post-coup government has repeatedly warned that the sit-ins outside the Rabaah al-Adawiya mosque and a smaller one on the other side of the city cannot stay. They portray them as a threat to national security and launch pads for terrorism. The protesters say their vigils are peaceful and will end only when Mohammed Morsi is reinstated as president.

As the faceoff has dragged on, participants in the larger of the two vigils have had time to weave a narrative about their cause immersed in religious fervor, revolutionary rhetoric and martyrdom. Thrown into the mix is the evolution of the protest camp into a sort of autonomous entity with its own institutions and social order.

Many protesters frame the standoff as pitting Islam's true followers against enemies of the faith or between revolutionaries and forces of darkness determined

to rob Egyptians of their freedom.

"We are here standing up to a world of infidels that refuses to follow Islam," shouted a speaker on the sit-in's main stage one recent evening.

"Victory may come late because society is not equipped to accommodate righteousness, goodness and justice represented by the nation of the faithful," declares a sign outside a tent that housed a group of men discussing Shariah Islamic laws.

"The people here are on the right side of history," said

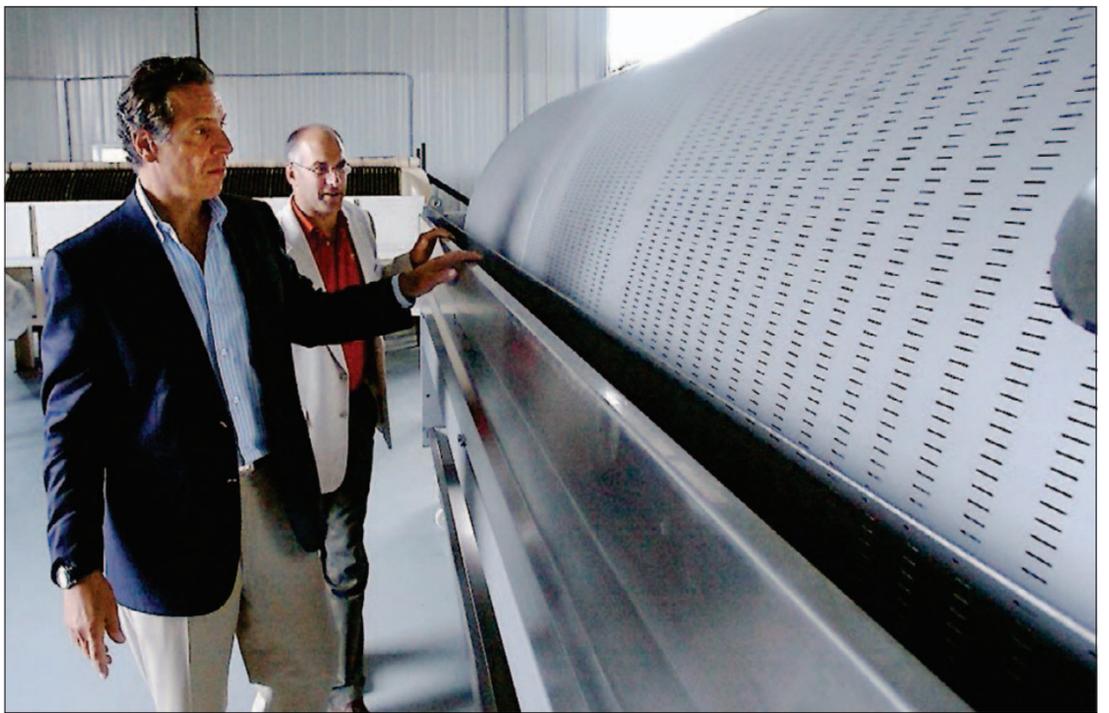
Gehad el-Haddad, a spokesman for Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood. "We are not going to let go of the revolution. We are here for as long as it is needed. It is all up to the will of the people."

But other facts about this crisis go unaddressed.

Little is said about the millions of Egyptians who took to the streets on June 30 to call on Morsi to step down, and even less about the former president's widely perceived failure to effectively tackle any of Egypt's many problems, from a woeful economy and high unemployment to the shortages of staple goods and power cuts.

Also, in portraying the encampment as representing all Egyptians, the protesters say little about the Muslim Brotherhood being the vigil's chief organizer, and, judging by the proliferation of men in beards and women in Islamic dress, almost all the protesters are Islamists.

The sit-ins began as a show of support for Morsi against mass protests demanding that he step down.



Gov. Cuomo gets a tour of the winemaking operation at Lakewood Vineyards from winemaker Chris Stamp. ERIC WENSEL/THE LEADER.

CUOMO

From Page A1

the guest of honor at the 2013 New York Wine and Food Classic, a statewide wine competition held over the past two days at the Watkins Glen Harbor Hotel.

There, Cuomo presented the Governor's Cup, a large silver chalice, to Keuka Springs Vineyards on Keuka Lake, which won top honors for its 2012 Riesling, selected as best overall among 842 wines from the Finger Lakes, Hudson Valley, Long Island, Thousand Islands and Niagara Escarpment wine-producing regions.

Cuomo spent much of his day on Seneca talking up the regulatory changes his administration has made to help the wine industry.

Since taking office, he has also made boosting tourism a main focus of his efforts to improve the moribund upstate New York economy; his "Taste NY" promotional campaign focuses specifically on the food and beverage industry.

"One of the roles of the governor is to promote New York businesses," Cuomo said. "In some ways I'm like a head of a Chamber

"One of the roles of the governor is to promote New York businesses ... In some ways I'm like a head of a Chamber of Commerce. If the governor is doing his job, he's promoting New York business."

— Gov. Andrew Cuomo

of Commerce. If the governor is doing his job, he's promoting New York business."

"Upstate New York has been struggling for a long, long time, and this energy, this focus, this direction was long overdue," he added.

Riding in several large coach buses, Cuomo was accompanied by a large state police security detail, an entourage of press handlers, and dozens of elected officials, winery and restaurant owners, wine distributors, and tourism officials.

Many were from the New York City area.

"It's certainly great to see this kind of attention and promotion given to the Finger Lakes region and what we have to offer here, not just from a wine industry perspective, but also the great culinary opportunities and tourism opportunities," said state Sen. Tom O'Mara R-Big Flats, who

joined Cuomo for much of the tour, along with Assemblyman Phil Palmesano, R-Corning.

"The groups that he's been able to bring up from New York City and elsewhere, to expose them directly to the beauty, to the quality of wines we have, to the quality of food and tourism attractions we have here ... really, it's priceless in terms of the coverage we get," O'Mara added.

Cuomo toured the winemaking operations at Anthony Road, Glenora and Lakewood, and sampled wines at outdoor receptions at each stop.

The governor has eased many burdensome regulations on the wine industry, some of which could be traced all the way back to Prohibition, said Gene Pierce, co-owner of Glenora Wine Cellars.

"This administration, with the state Liquor

Authority, with Ag and Markets, all the people that we have to deal with, we sit down and talk to them and press what our concerns are, and many of the rules and regulations have been changed," Pierce said.

"Over the course of a year, the various permits that you need, or when you go to renew a license, it's just so much simpler," Pierce added.

Along with awarding the Governor's Cup at the New York Food and Wine Classic, Cuomo also announced a new \$1 million ad campaign promoting New York wines, and showed one of the first commercials that will air.

Cuomo was greeted with an array of protestors upon his arrival at the Watkins Glen Harbor Hotel.

A large contingent of opponents of fracking and Inergy's proposed LPG storage and distribution hub near Watkins Glen lined the hotel's back patio during cocktail hour.

Out front was a group of people protesting Cuomo's gun control legislation, the SAFE Act; along with another group protesting his administration's planned closure of the Elmira Psychiatric Center.

PROPANE

From Page A1

Amerigas proposal.

"There's only so many fights you can fight at once. Fighting the Inergy project has been a

full-time job for almost three years," Campbell said. "I think the people who are going to be impacted by this need to turn out."

Amerigas representatives could not be reached for comment.

HEALTH CARE

From Page A1

becomes effective Jan. 1. Most people currently covered by employer plans are not affected.

The law is likely to increase the sticker price for individually purchased coverage next year for several reasons:

— Insurers will have to cover people with pre-existing medical conditions, whose needs are costlier to provide for.

— Policies must provide certain standard benefits, including prescription drugs, mental health and substance abuse treatment and rehabilitative services.

— Policyholders' annual out-of-pocket costs will be capped.

So far, premiums reported by a number of individual states have been coming in lower than initially projected by the Congressional Budget Office. But they are higher — according to industry and consultants — than what people now typically pay for individual plans, which tend to be bare-bones coverage.

However, the law also will pump in billions of dollars in federal tax credits to help the uninsured pay premiums — and ease cost increases for many who are currently buying the skimpy individual policies. The money will go directly to the insurance plan, and policyholders will pay the difference — a discounted sticker price, in effect.



In this June 8, 2010 file photo, President Barack Obama listens as Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius speaks in Wheaton, Md. About half the people who now buy their own health insurance, and potentially face higher premiums next year under President Barack Obama's health care law, would qualify for federal tax credits to offset rate shock, according to a new private study. Many others, however, earn too much money to be eligible for help, and could end up paying more. ALEX BRANDON/ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

The tax credits, available on a sliding scale based on family income, will be offered to people who don't have access to affordable coverage through their jobs and buy policies through the new state markets.

Those making between 100-400 percent of the federal poverty level — between \$11,500 and \$46,000 for an individual and \$23,550 and \$94,200 for a family of four — are eligible for some level of help. Families on the low end of the scale will pay 2 percent of their income for a benchmark plan, while those on the upper end will pay 9.5 percent.

It's expected that a clear majority of customers in the new markets will be eligible for tax credits. That's because the pool will also include uninsured people, who tend to have lower incomes than those who can currently

afford to buy their own coverage. The share will vary from state to state.

HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius recently estimated that in Texas, as many as 9 in 10 people buying coverage in the new market will get a break on costs.

People with individual coverage they buy themselves represent a small sliver of those with private insurance, only about 5-6 percent. That's expected to grow significantly under Obama's law, which will require most uninsured Americans to get coverage.

Estimates of the number of people who currently have individual coverage range as high as 19 million, but Claxton said the Kaiser study used a smaller estimate of about 10 million.

It's based on an ongoing government survey that some researchers regard as more accurate.

NATION BRIEFS

National news from The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, OHIO

Post-blackout rules lead to millions in fines

Regulators have imposed millions of dollars in civil penalties against energy companies that risk the dependability of the U.S. electrical grid since new rules following the 2003 Northeast blackout made such fines possible, including a record \$25 million fine for a power failure in Florida. The 2008 Florida blackout was small in comparison with the Aug. 14 event 10 years ago that swept eight states and parts of Canada.

BOSTON

Bulger verdict brings closure, angst to families

The guilty verdicts against James "Whitey" Bulger brought catharsis and closure to relatives of the 11 victims in whose killings he was convicted of playing a role, but for the families of the eight people whose deaths couldn't be definitively linked to the Boston mob boss, peace will be harder to come by. Steve Davis didn't wait for the jury to be dismissed before he walked out of the courtroom, appearing upset it had issued no finding in the 1981 strangulation of his sister Debra. Outside court, Davis said he doubted whether Bulger personally strangled his sister, as Bulger's former partner and his sister's boyfriend, Stephen Flemmi, testified.

FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Wednesday
Sunny, cooler
High | 71
Low | 45

Thursday
Mostly sunny
High | 76
Low | 45

Friday
Mostly sunny
High | 79
Low | 46

Saturday
Mostly sunny
High | 81
Low | 51

Sunday
P. cloudy, a little more humid
High | 82
Low | 53

National forecast
Forecast highs for Wednesday, Aug. 14

Sunny
Pt. Cloudy
Cloudy

MOON PHASES

First	Full	Last	New
TODAY	AUG. 23	AUG. 28	SEPT. 5

SUNRISE | SUNSET

Sunrise today	6:15
Sunset today	8:10
Sunrise Thursday	6:16
Sunset Thursday	8:08