

Downtown C.R. goals outlined, 3B ■ Brick-oven pizza without the bricks, 8B ■ Three Elms keeps you on your toes, 6C

Work it

Learn how to add personality to your interview attire, 1E

IOWA TODAY

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June 19 ~ July 4

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

- Walk the 'Walk-Skywalk Discovery': Downtown skywalk.
- Voices of Hope Patriotic Concert: 7 to 8:15 p.m., First Assembly of God, 3233 Blairs Ferry Rd. NE.
- Cedar Rapids Kernels Baseball Game: 7 p.m., Veterans Memorial Stadium, 950 Rockford Rd. SW.
- Cedar Rapids Municipal Band: 7:30 to 8:30 p.m., Greene Square Park, 400 Fourth Ave. SE.
- Full schedule on 3B, or (319) 365-8313, www.freedomfestival.com or www.GazetteOnline.com

CORRIDOR

CEDAR RAPIDS

Investigation continues into stabbing, death

Report: Aid missing working poor

Legislators call for expanded efforts to get the word out

By Rod Boshart

The Gazette

DES MOINES — Three Democratic state legislators said Tuesday they will push for expanded outreach in light of a report indicating

thousands of low-wage workers in Iowa are not receiving support intended to help bridge the gap between earnings and basic family needs.

New research by the Mount Vernon-based Iowa Policy Project found that programs, such as child-care assistance, food stamps and subsidized housing fall short of covering eligible lowans who are working but need help in making

financial ends meet.

Specifically, the report, Bridging the Gaps in Iowa, found child-care assistance reached about one-third of 56,000 eligible Iowa children; subsidized housing about one-fourth of 96,000 eligible Iowa households; and food stamps about two-thirds of 318,000 eligible lowans.

"Our research shows that Iowa can do better in reach-



Elaine Ditsler
Iowa Policy Project

ing hard-working families and providing vital support services," said Elaine Ditsler, research associate for the non-partisan policy project. "Work supports play an important role in providing

families with the income and services they need to stay at work."

State Rep. Wayne Ford, D-Des Moines, said some poor working families in southern Iowa are worse off than people in America's Appalachia region. The problem is shared with Iowa residents in inner-city areas as well.

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Trains collide near Tama

Derailment blocks major freight route

By Steve Gravelle

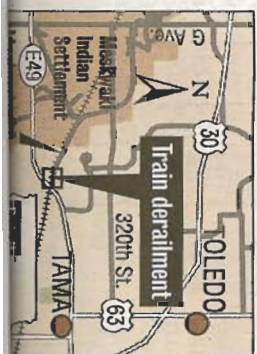
The Gazette

TAMA — Freight trains moving in opposite directions collided with a thunderous crash Tuesday afternoon near Tama.

When the dust cleared, no one was hurt, but a major route for transcontinental freight was blocked.

"You wouldn't believe how loud that was," said Jason Potter, who lives near the accident scene

PUBLIC SAFETY



Poor/ Programs cut from budget

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State Rep. Ako Abdul-Samad, D-Des Moines, said government outreach programs designed to inform eligible residents of potential benefits fell victim to past budget cuts.

"This pertinent information will not only help legislators develop programs to help eliminate some of these gaps," Ford said, "it will also help non-profits across the state gear some of their services to providing information on accessing the services some of their clients aren't getting."

The Legislature provided some help last session by raising Iowa's minimum wage and expanding the earned income tax credit for working Iowans, said state Sen. Jack Hatch, D-Des Moines.

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Trains/Crash cause unknown

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train left the track, Barnes said. Several came to rest across both tracks about 50 yards west of the westbound train.

Just what caused the coal car to leave the track, triggering the collision, remained undetermined last night.

The tracks run through dense woods along the flooded backwaters of the Iowa River, and Potter said railroad crews had been working along the tracks before and after heavy rains in the past week.

Traffic along the line, which often carries more than 60 trains a day, will be rerouted while the wreck is cleared. It is the busiest railroad line in Iowa, according to Peggy Baer, director of the Iowa Department of Transportation.

Ramblin'/McGregor artist's

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colors, according to a 1916 history of Clayton County. While spectators watched, he used his wooden spoons and

tamping rods to create simple designs at first in upright bottles. He advanced to using fancier bottles, filling them while upside down and then sealing them with wax before

political advertisement

**Devante John
was 14 years old
died from kidney
on March 1, 2007
wrongful denial of
coverage and nec
treatment.**

**There are 9 million
uninsured children
America—49,000
in Iowa**