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— Details A8

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Dwarf fossil human

Fossil remains of a pygmy-sized, small-brained hominid that lived 15,000 years ago, was found on the remote Indonesian island of Flores. The new fossils called *Homo floresiensis* represent an addition to the family tree of the genus *Homo*.



Homo floresiensis

SOURCE: Nature

Another branch of human

◆ Scientists find dwarf skeleton with puzzling traits on Pacific island.

By Joseph B. Verrengia
AP Science Writer

In a breathtaking discovery, scientists working on a remote Indonesian island say they have uncovered the bones of a human dwarf species marooned for eons while modern man rapidly colonized the rest of the planet.

One tiny specimen, an adult female measuring about 3 feet tall, is described as "the most extreme" figure to be included in the extended human family. Certainly, she is the shortest. This hobbit-sized creature appears to have lived as recently as 18,000 years ago on the island of Flores, a kind of tropical Lost World populated by giant lizards and miniature elephants. She is the best example of a trove of fragmented bones that account for as many as seven of these primitive individuals.

Fast facts
• Discovery: The bones of a human dwarf species marooned on the remote Indonesian island of Flores.
• Best specimen: One tiny female about 3 feet tall.
• Implications: Flores Man smashes conventional beliefs that modern humans began to crowd out other upright-walking species 160,000 years ago.
• Skeptics: Some researchers say Flores Man doesn't belong to the genus *Homo* at all.

◆ See Human, A4

HOPEWELL/NEWBURG

Merger under consideration

By Marjion Shearer
Shippensburg Bureau Chief
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Elected officials have begun talking about the idea of merging Hopewell Township and tiny Newburg Borough. The borough consists of just 373 residents on one-third square mile. It is surrounded by Hopewell, whose population is about 2,500.

Both municipalities are part of Shippensburg Area School District, and both

◆ See Merger, A4

1 arrest in hooker sting

◆ Cumberland County's getting a reputation that law enforcement is proud to have.

Tiffany Pakkala
Sentinel Reporter
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He was walking his pet poodle across a truck stop parking lot in Middlesex Township when he spotted a woman wearing a tube top, unbuttoned blouse and tight jeans.

"Hey, Baby," she said when he approached her.

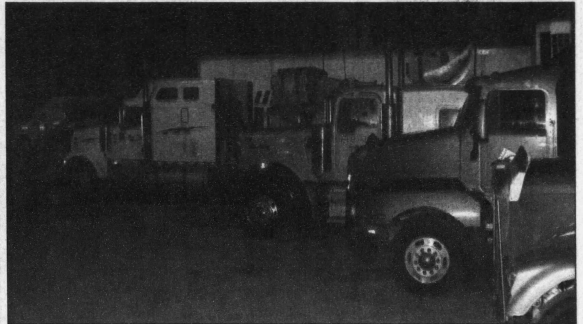
She told him she was looking for company but wasn't having much luck.

"Are you a cop?" he asked.

She held out her arms and said "no" — and they began to discuss prices for sex.

Minutes later, Robert Gary Shelden was in handcuffs, charged with soliciting prostitution. Police say he offered the woman \$50 for oral sex and intercourse. The 61-year-old didn't know he was surrounded by

◆ See Sting, A4



Tiffany Pakkala/The Sentinel

A row of rigs line up at a truck stop in Middlesex Township overnight.

SOUTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP, CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Fire leaves family without home

By Denny Clopper
and Marjion Shearer
Sentinel Writers
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unknown. A state fire marshal is investigating.

Red Cross helping

The blaze reportedly started about 11:45 a.m. in the gray shingled farmhouse Barton and Hershey rented from William G. Haycock of Shippensburg.

Investigators say Haycock had insurance on the property but the tenants had no insurance on their belongings. Cumberland County Red Cross provided vouchers for food and clothing. The residents declined lodging and are expected to stay with relatives.

Barton was at home with her young daughter when she saw flames behind a sofa that had ignited a blanket. She grabbed a pan of water that was boiling

on the stove and unsuccessfully attempted to put out the fire, burning herself with the water.

As the fire spread, she grabbed her young daughter and her purse and ran outside without her shoes.

Hershey and the other three children were not at home at the time.

Barton was treated on the scene for a burned left finger.

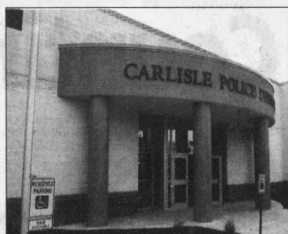
Chief Clyde Tinner of the Vigilant Fire Co. was unable to provide a dollar estimate of the loss by press time.

Crews responded from Vigilant Hose, Cumberland Valley Hose, West End Fire & Rescue, Walnut Bottom, Penn Township, Newburg/Hopewell, Friendship Hose of Newville and Cumberland Valley EMS.



Denny Clopper/Special to The Sentinel

A noontime fire Tuesday destroyed a two-story farmhouse at 104 Goodhart Road. A couple and their four children are homeless.



CARLISLE

Police eager for moving day to new digs

◆ The actual day depends on when the finishing touches are completed.

By David Blymyre
Sentinel Reporter
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Carlisle police hope to be operating from their new \$2.6 million station within two weeks. The facility at 240 Lincoln St. is complete and contractors are installing furniture, telephones, radios and computers, and making sure power is running to the outlets.

The next big step will be coordinating the police department's exodus from the basement of borough hall, where the department has been located since 1957. Police Chief Steve Margeson says the tentative opening date of Nov. 8 at the new building depends on how



Wally Shank/The Sentinel

Above, Carlisle Police Chief Steve Margeson looks over one of four cells in the detention area of the new police station. Top left, an exterior shot of the new police station along Lincoln Street.

much progress is made between now and next week.

The main question will be "do we have phones, radios and computer systems close enough to being up and running," he said Tuesday.

Police will be taking little or no furniture from their current offices, but lots of files, evidence and other property will be moved across town to the new building.

"There is a substantial amount of equipment and property to go," Margeson says. "It will be a chore, certainly."

Triple the space

The new facility will give the borough's 33-member police force more than three times more space than its current 5,500-square-foot home at borough hall.

Residents coming into the main lobby of the new building would first see a large, glass-enclosed dispatcher window and a smaller window where people will go to pay their parking tickets. Margeson says the windows are bullet-proofed and cinder block walls on both sides of the lobby add to the overall security of the offices inside the building.

Compared to borough hall, the work areas are spacious. A new kitchen and lunch room in the new building will be able to function as just that — and not have to double as an interrogation room and evidence storage.

A 15-by-30-foot training room will be used solely

◆ See New digs, A4



SUNDAY

Grind your teeth?

More people than you may realize have "bruxism" — the medical term for grinding teeth. See Family Health in Sunday's People.



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Human

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Scientists have named the new species *Homo floresiensis*, or Flores Man. The specimens' ages range from 95,000 to 12,000 years old.

"So the 18,000-year-old skeleton cannot be some kind of 'freak' that we just happened to stumble across," said one of the discoverers, radiocarbon dating expert Richard G. Roberts of the University of Wollongong in Australia.

Flores Man was hardly formidable. His grapefruit-sized brain was about a quarter the size of the brain of our species, *Homo sapiens*. It is closer in size with the brains of transitional prehuman species in Africa more than 3 million years ago. Yet evidence suggests Flores Man made stone tools, lit fires and organized group hunts for meat.

Volcano victims

Just how this primitive, remnant species managed to hang on and whether it crossed paths with modern humans is uncertain. Geologic evidence suggests a massive volcanic eruption sealed its fate some 12,000 years ago, along with other unusual species on the island.

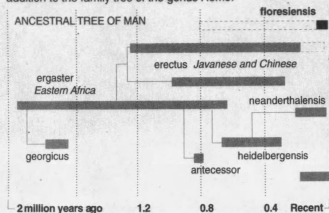
Still, researchers say the perseverance of Flores Man smashes the conventional wisdom that modern humans began to systematically crowd out other upright-walking species 160,000 years ago and have dominated the planet alone for tens of thousands of years.

And it demonstrates that Africa, the acknowledged cradle of humanity, does not hold all the answers to persistent questions of how — and where — we came to be.

"It is arguably the most significant discovery concerning our own genus in my lifetime," said anthropologist Bernard Wood of George Washington University, who reviewed the research independently.

Remote-island fossil human find

Fossil remains of a pygmy-sized, small-brained hominid that lived 18,000 years ago, was found on the remote Indonesian island of Flores. The new fossils called *Homo floresiensis* represent an addition to the family tree of the genus *Homo*.



SOURCE: Nature

Discoveries simply "don't get any better than that," proclaimed Robert Foley and Marta Mirazon Lahr of Cambridge University in a written analysis.

To others, the specimen's baffling combination of slight dimensions and coarse features bears almost no meaningful resemblance either to modern humans or to our large, archaic cousins.

Not genus Homo

They suggest that Flores Man doesn't belong in the genus *Homo* at all, even if it was a recent contemporary.

"I don't think anybody can pigeonhole this into the very simple-minded theories of what is human," anthropologist Jeffrey Schwartz of the University of Pittsburgh. "There is no biological reason to call it *Homo*. We have to rethink what it is."

Details of the discovery appear in Thursday's issue of the journal *Nature*.

Researchers from Australia and Indonesia found the partial skeleton 13 months ago in a shallow limestone cave known

as Liang Bua. The cave, which extends into a hillside for about 130 feet, has been the subject of scientific analysis since 1964.

Near the skeleton were stone tools and animal remains, including teeth from a young Stegodon, or prehistoric dwarf elephant, as well as fish, birds and rodents. Some of the bones were charred, suggesting they were cooked.

Excavations are continuing. In 1998, stone tools and other evidence were found on Flores suggested the presence 900,000 years ago of another early human, *Homo erectus*. The tools were found a century after the celebrated discovery in the 1890s of big-boned *H. erectus* fossils in eastern Java.

Marginal environment

Now, researchers suggest *H. erectus* spread to remote Flores and throughout the region, perhaps on bamboo rafts. Caves on surrounding islands are the target of future studies, they said.

Researchers suspect that Flores Man probably is an *H. erectus* descendant that was

squeezed by evolutionary pressures.

Nature is full of mammals — deer, squirrels and pigs, for example — living in marginal, isolated environments that gradually dwarf when food isn't plentiful and predators aren't threatening.

On Flores, the Komodo dragon and other large meat-eating lizards prowled. But Flores Man didn't have to worry about violent human neighbors.

This is the first time that the evolution of dwarfism has been recorded in a human relative, said the study's lead author, Peter Brown of the University of New England in Australia.

Scientists are still struggling to identify its jumbled features.

Many say they its face and skull features show sufficient traits to be included in the *Homo* family that includes modern humans. It would be the eighth species in the *Homo* category.

George Washington's Wood, for example, finds it "convincing."

Differences questioned

Others aren't sure. For example, they say the skull is wide like *H. erectus*. But the sides are rounder and crown traces an arc from ear to ear. The skull of *H. erectus* has steeper sides and a pointed crown, they said.

The lower jaw contains large, blunt teeth and roots like *Australopithecus*, a prehuman ancestor in Africa more than 3 million years ago. The front teeth are smaller than modern human teeth.

The eye sockets are big and round, but they don't carry a prominent browline.

The tibia in the leg shares similarities with apes.

"I've spent a sleepless night trying to figure out what to do with this thing," said Schwartz. "It makes me think of nothing else in this world."

Sting

• Continued from A1

undercover agents lurking in the shadows of nearby rigs, dressed as truckers themselves.

The woman he approached was the team's newest addition, and she was on her way to nab another "customer" when Shelden allegedly made the offer at 10:50 p.m. Tuesday.

He was arrested quietly while hidden between two rigs.

Then Middlesex Police Chief Barry Sherman got behind the wheel of Shelden's 1996 Peterbilt truck and drove it back to the police station, with Shelden and the dog inside.

Cumberland County Prison officials were processing the St. Robert, Mo., man at presstime today.

His poodle was taken to a Carlisle veterinarian, and his rig is impounded at the police station.

Crackdown continues

Shelden's arrest came during the seventh night of the crackdown since Cumberland County District Attorney Skip Ebert launched an initiative against the crime in September.

The crackdown is a response in part to the murder of two prostitutes and an attack on a third in the region in the past three years.

Cumberland County Chief Detective Les Freehling said prostitutes have been in business in Middlesex as long as its four truck stops have operated along the "Miracle Mile."

The strip of highway connects Interstate 81 and the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

Women offering sex for money come from "Toledo, Wichita, God knows where," Freehling said, but they also come from Cumberland County.

Their customers wait in any one of the hundreds of trucks parked in the lots every night.

Shelden is among a handful of men and women charged since the crackdown began.

And authorities say nights without arrests aren't considered failures.

"The goal isn't to see how many arrests we can get," Freehling said. "The goal is to stop prostitution at the truck stop and to stop the dead bodies showing up."

Every sting has been a success because the county is getting a reputation, he said. "There's chatter on the CBs all up and down the East Coast: 'Don't do it in Cumberland County.'"

Indeed, two undercover women spent Tuesday evening offering sexual favors over a citizen's band radio with few serious takers.

Men skittish

"Watch out, man. There's police out here, man," one man warned over the radio.

"That woman ... ain't no hooker," another grumbled. "She's undercover."

Most of the men wanted to taunt the women or talk dirty, and one made up some pathetic poetry to rhyme with their sultry nicknames, known as "handles" over the radio.

Some men questioned the women about their appearance and made offers, but they backed down when asked for the location of their vehicles.

Two men offered to give the women a place to sit in their trucks while seeking "customers." Though the women didn't take them up on their offers, the men could have been charged with promoting prostitution. As the women flirtatiously offered their "commercial company" over the CB, a man who called himself "Happy Pappy" finally took the bait.

"I just want to know if she's a

Too many bodies

The prostitution crackdown in Middlesex Township comes in the wake of the discovery of the body of 44-year-old Vesta Haufe of Knoxville, Tenn., along the Pennsylvania Turnpike near Plainfield.

Authorities believe Haufe, whose body was partially skeletonized, was dead for more than a week before she was found on June 11.

Investigators throughout the country have added Haufe's name to a list of more than 30 women who fell victim to what they believe is a ring of truckers who kill.

Haufe is one of several women whose trade may have played a role in their death, Cumberland County District Attorney Skip Ebert said last month during a news conference announcing the crackdown.

Dec. 4, 2001, the body of Tina Lynn Myers, 33, was found along Route 34 outside of Mt. Holly Springs. The local woman was last seen alive at the Middlesex truck stop area, where she was engaging in prostitution, Ebert said.

Her remains remained unsolved.

In February a 16-year-old girl was found along the Pennsylvania Turnpike in Silver Spring Township. Police said a passerby spotted the unconscious girl along the westbound lanes near mile marker 2.

She was found in a fetal position with injuries and a temperature below 95 degrees, state police said.

Ebert said the girl acknowledged she was engaged in prostitution and her assailant was a man who she believed would pay for sex acts. So far no arrests have been made in her case.

"Given the transient and faceless nature of potential suspects engaging in travel on the interstate highways, the fact that we have had three cases that remain unsolved even after extensive commitment of resources by the coroner and the Pennsylvania State Police is not unexpected," he said. "No lead or investigative method has been spared in an attempt to solve these crimes."

"I'm just tired of the bodies being dumped in the county," he added. "We've spent a tremendous amount of money on the investigations."

big, old, fat girl or really skinny," he said over his radio.

He said he would blink his lights when the woman walked by, but she was intercepted by Shelden and couldn't find him later.

The undercover agents were the only women advertising sex on the CB, and no prostitutes were seen in the truck stops during the operation.

The crackdown has "deterred (prostitution) a lot," Chief Sherman said. "Girls used to go from truck to truck, knocking on doors."

Now all the truck stops have signs warning "Don't do it here" and "No soliciting," and truckers are wary when anyone mentions sex for money.

"They never worried about police before... only since these details," Sherman said. "Things have really slowed up."

Law enforcement officials also plan to conduct stings at local motels, and formerly sporadic patrols of the truck stops are becoming routine.

Anyone arrested for prostitution or solicitation of a prostitute faces possible fines and up to a year in prison.

New digs

• Continued from A1

for hands-on training in such areas as defensive tactics, use of the baton and handcuffs, Margeson says.

Officers will have 2-by-3-foot lockers and large footlockers to store all their gear. Margeson says the lockers are among the largest on the market.

Police bringing suspects to the

station for questioning will be able to drive inside a secure salyport at the rear of the building. The officer would drive into the bay and close the large doors before getting the suspect out of the vehicle.

The suspect could be brought to one of several cells.

The cells feature much glass on the front but Margeson says the manufacturer says that it

takes more than bare hands to break the glass. Suspects would be searched and any tools or other items like steel-toe boots removed before they are locked up.

An additional security measure — the cells are located inside an enclosed corridor that remains closed whenever the cell doors are opened.

The doors enclosing the corri-

dor only will open when the cell doors are closed.

Police will again be above ground-level for the first time since the 1950s, and the chief and mayor will have offices with windows.

The one-story facility also includes 30 off-street parking spaces for the public at the front of the building and 80 spaces at the rear for employees.

Merger

• Continued from A1

municipalities are served by Newburg-Hopewell Fire Co., whose firehouse is in the borough.

Cumberland County Commissioner Rick Rogvego says he is under the impression Hopewell and Newburg officials would discuss the idea of putting together a study commission and perhaps even appoint members to such a panel at their regularly scheduled meetings Monday.

Newburg and Hopewell leaders say they might not move that quickly.

Newburg Mayor Susan Stump

says she has tried to find Newburg residents to participate but "I've not been getting lot of response so far. I have two names of men willing to sit on it."

Curt Myers, supervisor chairman for Hopewell, said Tuesday he wasn't aware that his board was expected to talk about it Monday.

Support offered

Rogvego says county commissioners would provide "administrative support" for a merger, but "we want to be clear that this is a decision that rests solely with the citizens of Hopewell

Township and Newburg Borough.... We would support whatever decision they make."

Still, "we are saying we believe it's an idea worthy of consideration" because of the future costs of providing government services.

He cites advantages to taxpayers in the January 1998 consolidation between East Pennsboro Township and West Fairview Borough on the eastern end of the county.

"I know the Borough of Newburg needs some help," Myers says, but "we're not just going in there and take our money and

baile them out. We'd have to do some research on it."

"It's a known fact that Newburg doesn't have much money," Stump says. But she points out a recent deal with Cumberland County Landfill could bring another \$20,000 annually to Newburg coffers. Perhaps that means "we've started to make a turnaround."

The borough sometimes has problems filling all the positions on its municipal boards, and the Newburg/Hopewell Joint Sewer Authority faces hundreds of thousands of dollars in repairs at its aging sewage plant.

News Brief

being made worse by a bruised and rotting harvest in California.

Two to three inches of rain have brought picking to a standstill for more than a week, dropping production by nearly 40 percent for the normally busy October. The month is a crossover one

for the nation's top two tomato producers, with California dominating the market June through October and Florida vice versa.

For consumers, the news isn't good either. At the supermarket, prices are nearly double — up to \$3 a pound — for conventionally

grown hothouse and Roma, and it could take more than a month for a drop until the harvest picks up in wind- and water-damaged Florida.

Growers predict the real shortage is still two to three weeks away.

Tomato shortage triples prices

LOS ANGELES — A nationwide tomato shortage brought on by Florida's rash of hurricanes and a nagging pest in Mexico is

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#1 — Since 2001, the average salary for U.S. workers has fallen from \$44,570 to just \$33,410.
#2 — Since 2001, health insurance costs have soared: a family of four pays over \$9,000 a year.
#3 — Since 2001, more companies are moving jobs overseas and even more are hiring immigrants to replace American workers.

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To Strengthen Local Education
Paid for by Searer for Congress, Constitution Party, Roy Jones Treasurer