Boise police report.

A woman who lives in the home in the 9800 block of Sussex Drive was shot in the

The woman's injury did not appear to be life threatening, Hightower said.

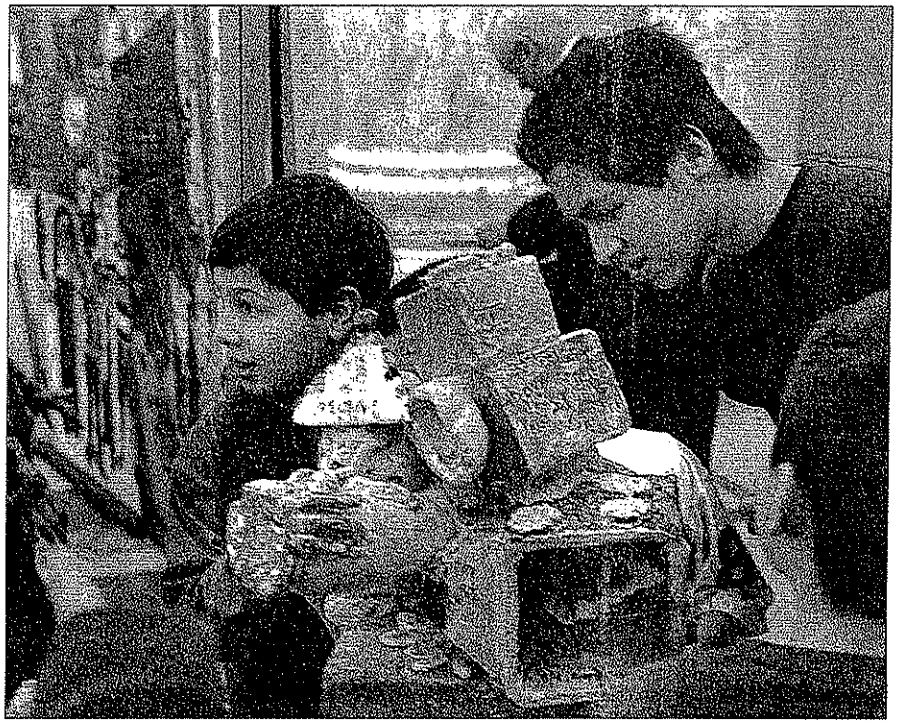
Boise police are still trying

attempted to close the door, one of the men fired a gun and a shot hit the ceiling of the home, witnesses told

other cockfighting equipment, including metal fight-

See Shooting on page 5

Idaho Human
of four roosters
sex Drive early



Joe Jaszewski / The Idaho Statesman

Schoolchildren explore a sculpture that is part of the traveling exhibit "The World Through our Eyes" Monday at the Statehouse. The display features the work of children with mental disorders, and includes paintings, poetry and ceramics. The exhibit will be at the Statehouse until Jan. 20.

Exhibit showcases art of kids with mental illness

By Anna Webb
The Idaho Statesman

A new art exhibit takes children's art from the refrigerator door at home to a space that couldn't be more public — the Idaho Statehouse rotunda.

That placement fits the exhibition's main mission, quashing the stigma associated with mental health issues that can keep families from seeking help.

"The World Through Our Eyes," which opened Monday, will hang in the Statehouse until Jan. 20. It features the work of Idaho children with mental health issues, including severe depression, bi-polar conditions and attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder.

About 300 Idaho children ages 8 to 17 took part in the project that spanned seven months. The exhibition, hung on bright panels, includes a selection of their work.

The show is a project of the Department of Health and Welfare Idaho System of Care and the nonprofit Idaho Federation of Families of Children's Mental Health. It features paintings and ceramic pieces as well as some poetry. The work is meant to show that while a child may be troubled, he or she is also a member of society, able to express thoughts in an external and beautiful form — whether that's through candid words, or tension swirling in a painted belly.

"Art is powerful," said Chandra Story, public information officer for the Department of Health and Welfare.

Barbara Hill is a mother of two teenage sons with mental disorders. She believes fervently in the healing ability of art. At Monday's opening, she said, she was heartened to see one young artist run up to one of the panels and look thrilled to see his work hanging there. Art is a perfect tool for children with mental health issues, Hill said. "My own children seem to be so 'hands-on.' With art you create without having to use words." At the same time, she said, it conveys a message that it's "OK for children to express themselves, and have a mental illness and not be ashamed of it."

Support for the project comes from a federal and state grant that includes money to build connections between children and their communities.

The grant recognizes that mental health disorders and the suicides that can result are highly relevant in Idaho, where suicide is the leading cause of death for young people aged 10 to 24. National studies have shown that 90 percent of the young people who kill themselves have diagnosable — and treatable — mental disorders.

Stigma, which literally means "a mark of shame," can make families keep harmful secrets, said Story. A 1999 study, Story said, found that stigma was the main barrier to treating mental illness. The art exhibition is an attempt to put mental health in a public light.

Kathryn Gillenwater is education and promotions promoter for Idaho Federation of Families of Children's Mental Health.

The group helps parents whose children have mental health disorders to navigate public and private care systems, she said. The group also provides workshops that can

See Art on page 5

See the exhibit

"The World Through Our Eyes" exhibit will be at the Statehouse rotunda through Jan. 20.

After its stay in the Statehouse, the exhibit travels to Northwest Nazarene University, then tours the state.

It comes to Boise State for the Children's Mental Health conference in May.

How to help

Want to volunteer to help kids with mental health illnesses?

➤ Call the Idaho CareLine: (800) 926-2588.

➤ Call the Idaho Federation of Families: (800) 905-3436.

At IdahoStatesman.com

Link to the Idaho System of Care and the Idaho Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health to find out more and get involved.

P&
pla
pov

Air qualit
needed b
building

By Cynthia Se
The Idaho States

Boise Planni
commissioner
Monday night
proposal to bu
al gas-fired po
a city-owned i
just south of t
tory Outlet Ma

Of 17 people
at the public h
posed Mounta
er's proposal, t
ed it and three
but did not exp
Much of the op
mony focused
concerns.

Brent Hunt,
Columbia Villa
from the prop
said, "My prim
air quality."

"The emissi
to end up so
someone's nei
Hunt said. "The
already poor ei
not need to be

Others com
there is no state

What's ne

State, cour
law gives the
ning and Zoni
sion sole auth
decide wheth
power plant c
within city lim
Boise City Co
multi-agency
The propos
go before Boi
cil if someone
commission's

Scho
set fo

Preservati
have a cha
to save So

By Bill Roberts
The Idaho Statesm

Boise School
ers will decide
whether to app
million bond to
$116 million in im
to Boise School D
ings.