

## Defiant S.C. governor considered resigning

By TAMARA LUSH

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SULLIVANS ISLAND, S.C. — Quit. Retreat from public life.

South Carolina Gov. Mark Sanford admitted Sunday that his first thought as the scandal broke about his extramarital affair with an Argentinean woman was to leave office with 18 months to go in his last term. Close spiritual and political associates urged him to instead fight to restore the public's — and his family's — trust.

"Resigning would be the easiest thing to do," he said he thought.

He's sticking it out and now faces endless questions about the affair, whether he used public money to visit his lover and whether his 20-year marriage will continue. Add to it a barrage of criticism from South Carolina politicians who think the two-term Republican should step down.

"Part of walking humbly is you've got to listen to your critics out there," the 49-year-old Sanford said. "And all of us will have critics, and the higher you go, I suppose, the more critics you have."

Sanford spoke exclusively with The Associated Press Sunday morning. He, his wife, Jenny, and sons were in separate cars leaving their beach house on Sullivan's Island, headed to his family's farm — where his 83-year-old mother lives — in Beaufort, an hour south.

He looked like a man of leisure: faded khaki shorts, T-shirt, bare feet. But behind the casual attire, Sanford appeared contrite and spoke of falling from grace and rebuilding his life.

"I am sorry," he said. "I apologize for letting everyone down."

The governor admitted last week to a yearlong affair with the woman he says he's known for about eight years.

He and Jenny say they will try to reconcile. Reconciling with fellow lawmakers and constituents also is ahead of him. Some lawmakers want his resignation because he secretly visited his mistress during a state-funded 2008 trip, and because he was out of touch with his staff during his recent weeklong visit to the country to see the woman. His staff had told the public he was hiking along the Appalachian Trail before the real story of his mysterious absence came to light.

Sanford has agreed to reimburse the state for some of the more than \$8,000 in taxpayer money spent on the Argentina leg of the economic development trip to South America last year. On Sunday, he repeatedly said he never used public money to see the woman.

When it comes to his critics — most notably Republicans — can state Sen. Jake Knotts — and their calls for him to step down, Sanford said he understands where they are coming from.

"I don't begrudge the Jake Knotts of the world," Sanford said. "He's going to do what he's going to do. I gotta do what he's going to do."

The governor's efforts to stay in office appear, in the minds of some lawmakers, to hinge in part on his ability to salvage his marriage. While several critics want a criminal probe and others want him to step down, reconciling with the first lady does have sway among legislators.

"That's almost become a proxy for how some are looking at this. They're looking at Jenny," said state Sen. Tom Davis, a Beaufort Republican and former Sanford chief of staff. "In large measure, it depends on how things work and how people see things are working out between the governor and first lady."

## ADVERTISEMENT AND INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

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2. All Bids must be made on the blank form of the BID proposal attached hereto. No lines on the BID may be left blank. Failure to fully complete the BID will render the Bidder non-responsive, and the Bid will not be read. In the event there is any discrepancy in the PROPOSAL between any price in words, figures, or the extended totals, the price in words shall govern and the extended totals in each case shall be corrected accordingly.

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5. "Buy American" provisions of (40 CFR '31.36(c)(5)) and of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, and Federal Wage Rates under the Davis-Bacon Act (40 CFR '31.36(f)(5)) apply to this contract.

5.1 The Davis Bacon Act applies to this CONTRACT. The CONTRACTOR must comply with the minimum rates for wages for laborers and mechanics as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with the Procurement requirements - Davis-Bacon Act (40 CFR '31.36(f)(5)) and the U.S. DOL Memorandum 207 of May 29, 2009 and Related Acts. During the course of the WORK, for each and every week work under the contract is in progress, the CONTRACTOR and their sub-contractors shall submit weekly Payroll reports to the Owner and for a period not less than 3 years



AP PHOTO

A drag queen dressed as Liza Minnelli waves to spectators during New York's annual Gay Pride Parade Sunday. Marchers marked the 40th anniversary of the Stonewall uprisings, a raid on the gay-friendly Stonewall Inn that was the starting point for riots that lasted several days in Manhattan's Greenwich Village.

## Gay Pride Parade marks 40 years after NYC uprising

By KAREN MATTHEWS  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Decades after a riot at a Greenwich Village bar sparked a movement for equal rights, gay New Yorkers celebrated their gains at Sunday's gay pride parade and lamented the state has not legalized same-sex marriage.

The annual march down Fifth Avenue commemorated the Stonewall rebellion of 40 years ago, when patrons at a gay bar resisted the police. The several days of disturbances that followed the uprising became one of the defining moments of the gay rights movement.

The celebration was tempered by the knowledge that other states, including Massachusetts, Connecticut and Iowa and Vermont have legalized same-sex marriage before New York.

"Hopes and dreams and expectations have been raised, and there is nothing worse than to for people to have their hopes die out, to have the rug pulled out from under them," said City Council Speaker Christine Quinn, New York City's most prominent openly gay elected official.

Gov. David Paterson said he remains hopeful that the state Senate will pass a same-sex marriage bill — if it can resolve the partisan stalemate that has paralyzed it.

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believe we can pass the bill." This year's march featured the usual mix of seasoned activists, dazzling drag performers and floats blasting disco beats.

A faux Liza Minnelli in a slinky dress and spiky wig lip-synched "New York, New York" atop the Stonewall Inn float.

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center's float was sponsored by the Broadway musical "Shrek," whose ogres-need-love-too message was apparently a good fit.

Flavia Rando marched with the Gay Liberation Front, which began in 1969 after the Stonewall uprising.

"It feels like we changed the world," Rando said. "We started a global movement." In addition to Paterson, one of the parade's grand marshals, elected officials marching included Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Sen. Charles Schumer.

Parade organizers claimed as many as 500,000 partici-

## GM to take on future liability claims

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — General Motors Corp. has agreed to take on responsibility for future product liability claims, removing what could have been a sizable roadblock on the automaker's path to a quick sale of its assets and bankruptcy as a new company.

As part of its government-backed restructuring plan, GM wants to sell the bulk of its assets to a new company and leave behind unprofitable assets and other liabilities such as product-related lawsuits. A hearing on the proposed sale is scheduled for Tuesday.

But in a concession to consumer groups and state officials who had threatened to

## Madoff awaits his fate

By ANTHONY M. DESTEFANO  
NEWSDAY

MELVILLE, N.Y. — If Bernard Madoff gets a sentence today comparable to what other big-time corporate fraud defendants have received, he could find himself in a low security facility where life isn't too tough.

Among the former corporate giants spending their golden years at federal correctional institutions are Bernard Ebbers, 67, who got 25 years in the WorldCom case, John Rigas, 84, who got 15 years for the Adelphia fraud, and Jeffrey Skilling, 55, convicted in the Enron case, serving 24 years.

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Federal judge

Ebbers is doing time in Oakdale FCI in Louisiana. Rigas is at Butner Low FCI in North Carolina and Skilling is doing his time at Englewood FCI in Colorado. All are low-security facilities, meaning they have double-fenced perimeters, mostly dormitory or cubicle housing, and "strong work and program components," according to the Bureau of Prisons. Low-security institutions are somewhat stricter than minimum-security work camps, which have no perimeters.

While the cases have differences, federal sentencing history indicates that if Madoff, 71, receives 25 years or less, he may end up in a similar facility.

He could also wind up in a low-security setting because he doesn't appear to be in personal danger from other inmates, said one Brooklyn federal judge who didn't want to be named.

"It is not exactly like the Aryan Brotherhood is out to kill him, unless they invested," quipped the judge, referring to the white prison gang.

Madoff's attorney Ira Sorkin has asked U.S. District Court Judge Denny Chin to give his client a 12-year sentence, which legal observers said is unlikely given the severity of the losses and public clamor for justice. Friday, prosecutors filed papers asking Chin to hit Madoff with 150 years or a life term.

Another federal judge who didn't want to be named said if Madoff gets a sentence of 25 years or more, he would be likely to go to a maximum-security penitentiary such as Lewisburg (Pennsylvania), Lee (Virginia) or Big Sandy (Kentucky). All have high perimeter walls or fences, and close control of inmate movement, officials said.

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7. "Buy American" provisions of (40 CFR 31.36(c)(5)) and the recently passed American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) apply to this CONTRACT. The ARRA require that all of the iron, steel, and manufactured goods used in this project be produced in the United States. In applying this provision, the United States Environmental Protection Agency maintains the authority to approve waiver requests if ... a.) application of this provision would be inconsistent with the public interest; b.) iron, steel, and the relevant manufactured goods are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities and of satisfactory quality"; or c.) inclusion of iron, steel and the relevant manufactured goods produced in the United States will increase the cost of the overall project by more than 25 percent."

8. The Bidder's attention is directed to General Conditions #9 which refer to Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) requirements. Bidders are advised to use the Vermont Transportation Agency's website to obtain the current certified DBE list. That site is: <http://www.aot.state.vt.us/CivilRights/DBEDirectory.htm>.

9. It is understood that the State of Vermont must concur with this Contract award.

10. The Owner will be responsible for payment in accordance with the terms of the Contract.

11. No prearranged site visits are currently scheduled. The prospective Bidders are responsible for inspecting the site and for reading and being thoroughly familiar with the Contract Documents. The failure or omission of a Bidder to do any of the foregoing shall, in no way, relieve any Bidder from any obligation in respect to his Bid.

12. A pre-bid meeting and site inspection is scheduled to be held at the project site on July 17, 2009 at 8:00 AM prevailing local time.

Jericho-Underhill Water District

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As part of the yearlong celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Dutch encounter with New York, Amsterdam officials held a contest for couples to marry in that city, where same-sex marriage has been legal since 2001.

The winners, five couples with one Dutch partner and one American partner, will travel to Amsterdam for its August gay pride celebration and get married there.

"We kept saying we were going to do it here once it was legal in New York state," said contest winner Stephan Hengst, who was born in the Netherlands and now lives in Highland, N.Y., with his partner Patrick Decker. "We hope to see it become legal in New York very soon."

Block the sale because of product liability concerns, the new company will now assume responsibility for future claims involving vehicles made by the old company, according to documents filed in federal bankruptcy court in New York on Friday.

Under the automaker's previous plan, "New GM" would not have assumed any liability for future claims related to GM vehicles made before the sale and creation of the new company. That meant that consumers who wanted to file a lawsuit related to a defective GM vehicle would have had to seek compensation from "Old GM," a collection of mostly unprofitable assets left over after the sale, where there likely would be nothing left to pay their claims.

But under the new plan, "New GM" will not assume liability for already pending claims against the automaker and those people will still be forced to seek compensation from "Old GM."

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But the group said more needs to be done, noting that GM's concession doesn't help people that have already been hurt by its vehicles.

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Bureau of Prisons spokeswoman Felicia Ponce said it takes about a week after a defendant is sentenced for officials to designate a prison assignment. While the length of the sentence is one factor, officials also look at the nature of the offense and whether a defendant is considered dangerous or likely to cause problems.

Madoff has no prior criminal record.

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Investor Phyllis Feiner of Great Neck said in a letter to Chin that Madoff destroyed her family's savings, and promised her health and that of her husband, Harvey, due to stress.

"Our comfort zone has been destroyed by Bernard Madoff," wrote Feiner.

As for Madoff, a man who had four homes and routinely jetted to the French Riviera, it's safe to say he will never find his old "comfort zone" again — wherever he is sent.

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## MONTPELIER NOTICE

RECONSTRUCTION OF SIDEWALKS FY2010

CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The City of Montpelier is requesting bids for the construction and reconstruction of Concrete Sidewalks in various downtown, residential locations, and on VT Route 12.

Work to be performed under this contract consists of the reconstruction of Portland cement concrete and bituminous concrete sidewalks, preparation for synthetic brick sidewalk borders, construction of accessible sidewalk ramps, removing, replacing and re-setting granite curb, and other incidental work items in multiple locations within the Montpelier city limits.

Sealed bids will be received at the Office of the Director of Public Works, City Hall, 39 Main Street, Montpelier, VT 05602, until 10:00 am Friday, July 10, 2009, at which place and time, bids will be opened and publicly read aloud. Each sealed bid must be clearly marked "BID - Reconstruction of Sidewalks."

Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check made payable to the City of Montpelier for five percent (5%) of the total amount of the bid. A bid bond may be used in lieu of a certified check. A 100% performance bond in the amount of the accepted base bid is required.

Qualified contractors must have a current pre-qualification status with the Vermont Agency of Transportation for the applicable required work to be performed under this contract.

Copies of the complete contract documents and specifications are available to interested parties at the Public Works Office at City Hall, 39 Main Street, Montpelier, VT and by calling 802-223-9508.

Thomas McArdle, Assistant Director of Public Works

For more City information, please visit our site on the Web at <http://www.montpelier.vt.gov>