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Seale and his wife, Irene, both 45 and of Lebanon Township, were arrested June 19 and charged with abducting Reso from his Morris Township home. Mrs. Seale pleaded guilty to federal extortion charges and had been expected to testify against her husband

federal indictment against him, confirming that Seale committed the acts, understood they were wrong and intended to commit them.

Builders, entrepreneurs thrive in disaster economy

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PERRINE, Fla. – Welcome to Boomtown, Les Gory proprietor. Like a magician pulling a rabbit from a hat, the building supplier reaches under his counter and produces a 50-pound box of 2inch tin circles used in nailing down roofing felt. That brought a smile to Ted Thomes' face.

But Gory turns down the roofer's request for two boxes. A few minutes later he laughs when another desperate contractor asks for as much as he can spare.

"This is gold," Gory says, toss-ing one of the wafer-light caps essential in fixing roofs on the more than 100,000 homes damaged by Hurricane Andrew. "This is the hardest item to find at this time.'

Tin caps. Plywood. Ice. Gas cans. Child care. Kennels. Pool cleaners. Amid the overwhelming rubble, the nation's most destructive hurricane has created a temporary economic boom typical after disasters natural or manmade.

Along a 20-mile stretch of U.S. 1, from Miami neighborhoods scarred only by toppled palm trees to the wiped-out towns of Homestead and Florida City, hand-painted signs offer jobs or promise services. "Discount Auto Parts – NOW HIRING!!!" "GLASS FOR SALE – All Kinds." "Trailers \$475 to \$900."

Entrepreneurs swearing honesty peddle nails and generators from the backs of U-Hauls. Robert Mulvaney cleared some shelves of stock, packed a trailer and drove from Tallahassee to sell chain

saws in a parking lot amid downed power lines. "It's prof-itable, even selling below list," he said.

State officials report rampant price-gouging and supply shortages

Correction

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOMESTEAD, Fla. - The Associated Press reported erroneously on Sept. 7 that the federal Small Business Administration was offering interestfree loans to victims of Hurricane Andrew. The SBA is offering low-interest loans at a minimum of 4 percent.



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