NYC ATTACK TERMED TERROR

Several experts including a former New York City police commissioner said Sunday the explosion that injured 29 people on a Manhattan street was clearly an act of terrorism. They were perplexed that Mayor Bill de Blasio called it only an intentional act.

“It is absolutely an act of terrorism. I couldn’t disagree with him (de Blasio) more,” Howard Safie, who was police commissioner from 1996 to 2000, said in an interview. “I think they do a disservice to the public when they try to sugarcoat something that is a horrific act.”

Jerome Hauer, former commissioner of the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, said de Blasio might be trying to maintain public calm by not calling the explosion a terrorist attack, “but it is certainly an act of terrorism.”

USA TODAY, 6A

‘To seek out new life’

‘Star Trek’ stirs biologist’s aspirations

By David Sipes

‘Star Trek’ may have launched otherwise placid careers since it first aired 50 years ago this month, but for the iconic television series has inspired the naming of only one pelagic polyp. This far-fetched connection between a show that fictitiously explored the cosmos and the actual discovery of a tiny worm that dwells inside fish near the ocean floor might seem to some “Star Trek” fans, well, slightly illogical, to borrow an eyebrow-cocking phrase that is a show that portrayed the naming of only one species, most of which are worth about half a centimeter.

Blend in his home office where he examines samples of fish and the ocean floor for new species.

LEFT: Chuck Blend in his home office on his workspace. Photo by David Sikes/CALLER-TIMES

By Michael Rubinkam

Whether they shoot BBs, pellets, paintballs or nothing at all, imitation guns can be indistinguishable from the real thing — it’s one reason why some criminals gravitate toward them. Plus they’re cheap and easy to get.

An Ohio authorities investigating the fatal police shooting of a 15-year-old boy whose father said police lied about how he was killed is trying to make his weapon. Law enforcement agencies are grappling with the use of fake guns to commit very real crimes.

“If I can’t go get a real gun, it’s easier for me to waltz into Walmart or whatever store sells those things and get a replica. Because if it’s a costume, it’s legal,” said (a police officer). See GUNS, 3A

Fake guns, real crime

Increase in use of replicas worries police

By Michael Rubinkam

IDEA FOR A SNAPSHOT

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Chuck Blend refers to himself as a modern Orthodox Jewish science hipster. His usual (human) days start at 4 to 8 a.m. He believes in the power of imagination, and that the thrill of finding new worlds, to seek out new life and new civilisations, is to go up into space or down into the deep sea. Whether your mission is to go up into space or down into the deep sea, it doesn’t matter as long as you’re searching,” Blend said. “The primary inspiration to reach undiscovered life at the edge of our known universe is to go up into space or down into the deep sea. Whether your mission is to go up into space or down into the deep sea, it doesn’t matter as long as you’re searching,” Blend said. “The primary inspiration to reach undiscovered life at the edge of our known universe is the power of imagination, and that the thrill of finding new worlds, to seek out new life and new civilisations, is to go up into space or down into the deep sea.”

As the sun began to set on a calm day, Blend said, “I believe in the power of imagination, and that the thrill of finding new worlds, to seek out new life and new civilisations, is to go up into space or down into the deep sea.”

Chuck Blend, who began to collect anima"