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of The Portland Observer

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Registration deadline: Thursday, July 27

# Police News

## New Law Targets Speeders

A senate bill authorizing the use of photo radar in Portland and Beaverton has been signed into law by Gov. John Kitzhaber.

Flanked by Portland City Commissioner Earl Blumenauer, State Senator Ron Ceuse, Rep. Ken Strobeck, Beaverton City Commissioner Cathy Stanton and area residents, Kitzhaber put a stamp on Senate Bill 382 designed to reduce excessive speeding in the metro area. Blumenauer told the Governor

that the largest number of complaints received from the citizens of Portland are about excessive traffic speeds in residential neighborhoods and around schools.

"We have worked hard to implement educational programs and engineering solutions, such as speed bumps, to encourage drivers to slow down, but until now, we have lacked enforcement resources. Photo radar is an excellent traffic safety and neighborhood livability tool," the Port-

land city commissioner said.

The two-year photo radar test period will start Jan. 1. Photo radar is a system that combines a photograph of a vehicle and its driver with a record of the speed of travel as checked by a radio microwave or other electronic device.

During the first month of the test period, only warnings will be issued. Photo radar will be operated out of a marked police vehicle staffed by a police officer only in residential and school zones.

Signs will be posted at major entrances of Beaverton and Portland and a reader board displaying the speed of the vehicle will be posted within 150 feet of the photo radar unit.

Citations will be mailed to the registered owner of the vehicle within six business days and vehicle owners will have 30 days to respond to the citation.

An evaluation of the radar demonstration project will be prepared and provided to the Legislature.

## Man Charged With Child Molesting

Detectives from the Child Abuse Team arrested a 45-year old southeast Portland man on allegations that he sexually abused an 11 year old boy in 1993.

Michael Evan Lewis of 6537 S.E. 87th Ave. was charged with first degree sexual abuse and

three counts of furnishing obscene material to minors. Lewis was lodged at the Justice Center Jail. Judge Dorothy Baker set bail at \$500,000.

Detectives arrested Lewis on Thursday in southeast Portland. While the charges are in relation to a single victim, the detectives

are investigating the possibility that other children have been abused over the past two decades.

The children, all males, have been relatives, neighbors, or members of youth organizations that Lewis was affiliated with.

Reportedly, Lewis worked in several jobs that involved contact

with children, including as a volunteer at the Donald E. Long home, and possibly with the Boy Scouts in the 1970s.

Anyone with information or concerns regarding this investigation should contact the Portland Police Child Abuse Team at 248-52449.

## Woman Dies In Traffic Wreck

An 81-year-old northeast Portland woman died Friday in a traffic accident.

Margaret Cole, reportedly was eastbound on Southeast Main and went through a red light at the intersection of Southeast 162nd.

Her Toyota Corolla was struck on the passenger side by a southbound Pontiac Firebird driven by Teri Lynn Hawkins of Southeast Portland.

Investigators said that Cole was not wearing a safety belt and the impact ejected her from her car onto the pavement.

She suffered head injuries and died at the scene. Investigators said the use of a safety belt could have prevented the fatal injuries.

Police and emergency personnel urged motorists to use their belts each time they drive. No citations were issued.

## Man Arrested In Scam

Portland Police Bureau detectives have arrested a Northeast Portland man in connection with the theft of approximately \$300,000 from a 76-year-old businessman during the fall of 1994.

The suspect, Robert Lee Ristick, DOB 12-17-53, had obtained the money from Richard Kathrens allegedly to purchase and sell automobiles. In addition, Mr. Kathrens was to receive monthly interest payments.

Ristick allegedly never met these obligations, and each time he was questioned about the purchase of vehicles or payments of interest, came up with an excuse and a request for additional cash.

Becoming concerned, Mr. Kathrens' daughter and attorney contacted the Fraud Detail, and an investigation was initiated on February 1, 1995.

The results of that five month investigation was presented to a Multnomah County Grand Jury, and July 18, 1995, Fraud Detail detectives took Ristick into custody on two counts of Aggravated Theft In The First Degree, a class B Felony.

## Chinese Crayons Called Dangerous

Oregon Health Division has issued a health alert for Chinese made crayons contain which contain dangerous amounts of lead.

The box does not carry a mandatory ASTM D-4236 safety assurance label complying with U.S. art safety standards. Art products not carrying this assurance cannot be legally sold or used in schools.

Kauffman said the crayons contain sufficient lead to result in excessive exposure and illness if the crayons are chewed or eaten, which makes them inappropriate for children.

Parents and teachers should be sure that any crayons used by children have the required label notation "Complies with ATSM D-4236." Those that do not should be destroyed or returned to the supplier.

Lead ingestion can cause injury to the brain and nervous systems of young children, even at fairly low levels.

Officials said it is unlikely that persons using the contaminated crayons only for coloring or artwork are at risk for elevated lead. No case of illness attributable to crayons have been identified in Oregon.

Parents concerned about childhood lead ingestion should contact their health care provider.

The Health Division and U.S. Centers for Disease Control recommend that all children under five years of age be tested for blood lead annually.

The crayons were tested after a private citizen provided them to Health Division and inquired about their safety.

They are said to have been obtained from a Portland retail outlet sometime before April 20.

In March, 1994 a similar alert was issued and the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission subsequently recalled large quantities of imported crayons nationwide.

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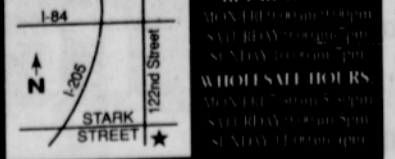
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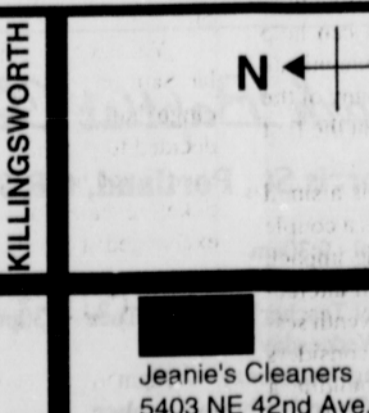
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