

Kafoury Wins National Award

The National Alliance to End Homelessness presented one of its annual awards to former City Commissioner Gretchen Miller Kafoury at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., on March 18, 1999. Kafoury received the Public Sector Achievement Award for Portland's innovations in homeless services and its commitment to the creation and preservation of affordable housing. Kafoury provided leadership for the efforts for over a decade as both a City and a Multnomah County Commissioner.

"Gretchen was honored as an unrelenting and very effective advocate for housing and homeless issues throughout her career," a spokesperson from the Alliance stated. "Portland has been a nationally recognized leader for cities across the country. In recognizing Gretchen, we are honoring Portland's successful work and its continuing efforts."

The awards help to focus national attention on finding and implementing solutions to homelessness. Lakefront SRO in Chicago is the award recipient for the non-profit sector; a Florida based company, Republic Industries, is the winner for the private sector. Now in its 10th year, the Alliance will also recognize the contributions of Andrew Cuomo, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

Portland's successes include the development of new shelters such as the Clark Center for single men, Jean's Place for women, and the Royal Palm for homeless mentally ill. Kafoury Transitional housing for homeless families has also developed, including Richmond Place, the Turning Point, and the Andrea Lee (domestic violence). Alcohol and drug-free housing support services to stabilize people in permanent housing, and innovative outreach services are also important parts of the Portland approach. As the necessary complement to services and shelters, hundreds of housing units have been created both in the downtown area and in the neighborhoods.

"Portland's been working on these issues for over a decade," Steve Rudman, Director of the City's Bureau of Housing and Community Development, stated: "We've pursued creative ways to

finance and develop these approaches; we've kept looking at what should be done differently to be more effective. We've not ended homelessness, obviously. But we keep working at it. Gretchen's legacy continues to push and encourage us to try different ways of looking at the needs and then finding the resources to act."

Bob Villa of "This Old House" on the Public Broadcast System was this year's master of ceremonies. Representatives Earl Blumenauer and Patsy Mink attended the awards presentation to honor Gretchen and the other recipients.



Gretchen Kafoury

Volunteers Needed to Help Clean Up Oregon's Beaches

New Carissa Incident Raises Interest In Cleaning Up Coastline

Saturday, March 27th marks the day for the 15th Annual Great Oregon Spring Beach Cleanup. Thousands of volunteers who care about Oregon's livability are expected to meet at the state's beaches from 10 AM to 1 PM to clean the entire coastline between the Washington and California borders. Volunteers are asked to check in at one of 40 meeting sites, pick up a bag, and head down to the beach to do their part in improving our coastline for wildlife and summer visitors. Coordinators of the event suggest volunteers bring gloves, and wear sturdy shoes. Complimentary bags will be furnished via beach cleanup coordinators. Groups of 20 or more are asked to register in advance with the appropriate Zone Captain. Call SOLV at 800-322-3326 or visit their web site at www.solv.org for more information.

This will be the first opportunity for Oregonians to help clean up Oregon's beaches since oil began washing ashore from the New Carissa. Events surround-

ing the New Carissa oil spill have been closely monitored by SOLV, which was designated by the Unified Command to coordinate volunteer activities associated with the spill. Contingency plans have been implemented to prepare for what is expected to be Oregon's largest Beach cleanup ever. Within a few days of the first grounding of the New Carissa on Feb. 4, SOLV shipped 7,000 extra large litterbags and more than 4,000 gloves to their coastal coordinators in anticipation of an immediate call to action of volunteers.

"Hundreds if volunteers have contacted SOLV, concerned about the potential effects of the spill on Oregon's environment and wildlife. These citizens are eager to be of help," said Jack McGowan, SOLV's Executive Director. The calls have come from as far away as Kentucky, Idaho, and California. "We will keep the public informed as to how the situation develops in regards to new oil impacted areas."

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Is the question of privatization vs. public guarantee a trivial question? No, though in my opinion the political environment in the country is so partisan and the debate so overdetermined by partisan interests that it's really impossible to have a serious dialogue on the best way to handle this engineering issue.

When it comes to questions of genuine social policy debate and a vision for the future of the country, quite frankly, neither organized labor nor organized capital, neither the Democratic Party nor the Republican Party can project one. Why? Because the policy making machine of which they are a part and also control has become too bureaucratized, too institutionalized, and too top-down for a new social vision for the nation to emerge.

What constitutes a genuine social vision for the future? In my opinion, it is a vision of a de-bureaucratized, de-partisanized political reform which takes us beyond top-down, two party-ism to bottom-up multi-party-ism. In that environment, we may freely debate and decide not simply how to develop new ones both private and public which will enhance and enrich the lives of the American people in the next century.

for the Study of Values in Public Life, which conducts teaching and research on the values shaping public institutions and policies. It will be taught by Harvard faculty members as well as clergy and business, legal, and community development professionals from outside the University. Harvard faculty will include Edward H. Marchant, lecturers in Public Policy at the Kennedy School of Government; Lawrence D. Bobo, Professor of Sociology and African American Studies; David A. Thomas, Professor of Organizational Behavior and Human Resource Management at the Graduate School of Business Administration; Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, Professor of African American Religious History;

Cornel West, Professor of Philosophy and Religion in the Divinity School and of Afro-American Studies in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences; and Preston Noah Williams, Professor of Theology and Contemporary Change in the Divinity School, and Director of the SLI. Other faculty include William C. Appgar, Assistant Secretary of Housing-Federal Housing Commissioner.

Numerous case studies will be used in the SLI. Four in particular will focus on pastoral leadership in a community and economic development context. These cases highlight the ministries of former Congressman Rev. Floyd H. Flake, Allen African Methodist Episcopal Church, Queens, NY; the Rev. Dr. Calvin O.

Butts, III, Abyssinian Baptist Church, Harlem, NY; The Rev. Dr. Gardner C. Taylor, Concord Baptist Church, Brooklyn, NY; and the Rev. Michael Walker, Messiah Baptist Church, Brockton, MA. In addition to case studies, lectures, seminars, forums, group discussions, field visits, worship, and specially arranged events will be employed.

Partial funding for the SLI has been provided by the Lilly Endowment, the Ford Foundation, and the Time Warner Foundation. To receive additional application information, please contact the Center for the Study of Values in Public Life, at 617-496-3586.

Summer Leadership Institute applications are due March 30, 1999.

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National Day Of Non-Violence

National Day of Non-Violence will be Easter Sunday, April 4, 1999, the 31st anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The National Black Catholic Congress, Inc. is happy to join with the NAACP in a "National Day of Non-Violence" to encourage young people around the Nation to take a stand against the violence that is plaguing our communities. It is most appropriate for each of us to participate in this "National Day of Non-Violence" on Easter Sunday as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and the 31st anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

We call upon those in leadership positions within our church and especially those who serve in the African

American Apostolate, to include appropriate messages, homilies, and activities on this day to witness our commitment to non-violence. This is an opportunity for our parishes, communities and nation to pray for healing in the land and to demonstrate our emphasis on the value of human life.

This letter is being shared with the 130 Roman Catholic dioceses in the United States who are registered with the National Black Catholic Congress. We specifically request that our Diocesan Implementation Team Leaders share this message with each of our African American parishes and those who serve African Americans. This would also be an opportunity for us to participate in Ecumenical activities as a means of demonstrating our unity with regard to non-violence.

It would be appreciated if you would send us a brief description of activities carried out in your diocese so that we get some notion of the scope of activities conducted on the "National Day of Non-Violence." Please send your brief description of activities to Dr. Hilbert D. Stanley, Executive Director-320 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201-4421 0re-mail NBCC@archbalt.org.

Harvard Divinity School's Summer Leadership Institute Begins June 14, 1999

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Historic Hawthorne Bridge to Reopen

Multnomah county's historic Hawthorne Bridge will reopen to traffic on Sunday, April 25 after a closure of nearly thirteen months for painting, deck replacement and renovation. On Saturday, April 24 the public will be invited to tour the completed project and attend a celebration before the bridge reopens to traffic.

The 89-year old Willamette River Bridge was closed March 31, 1998 for what was expected to be a 12-month closure. In February 1999 project leaders announced the reopening would be delayed three to six weeks due to unforeseen custom work, severe winter weather and corrosion. Project leaders credit improved weather in March and the contractor's cooperation with allowing them to meet the new target date on April 25.

In the next month crews will complete work on decks and sidewalks. Other work remains to be done on the bridge's electrical system and safety signals and to the Machinery House.

Project leader John Lindenthal said the delay would not cause the \$21.8

million project to go over budget. He emphasized that the additional repairs made will help prevent future bridge closings, save taxes dollars and ensure public safety.

Meanwhile, the County is working with community groups, businesses and project partners to plan Hawthorne ROC, as the Re-Opening Celebration is being called. The party will take place on the bridge and its eastside onramps from 10 am to 4 pm on Saturday, April 24. Festivities are expected to include:

A bridge fairs where dozens of organizations with an interest in the bridge will have booths. Participants will include nearby attractions such as OMSI, project partners, Hawthorne-area business and food vendors.

A ribbon-cutting with local leaders businesses and food vendors.

A series of "first bridge crossings" by various transportation modes.

A parade of historic vehicles.

Live music and family entertainment.

Boat and train tours along the Willamette.

Dragon boat canoes and kayaks races.

Securing Social Security Means Securing Political Reform

The politicians would have us believe that the country is getting back to business now that the Senate trial is over and Monica is off selling books in London. Of course, we've all been going about our business this entire time. It's Congress and the White House that were diverted from the process of governing to deal with the tawdry impeachment spectacle. But now they say it's back to work.

Back to work means the so-called big policy debates. Among these is the question of Social Security and how to guarantee its viability into the next century.

The basic controversy revolves around whether and to what extent the system should be privatized; meaning whether and to what extent Americans should have the option of paying into a private retirement fund rather than a public one. Predictably, huge amounts of money are being spent on both sides. The Wall Street Journal reported last week that labor unions (who oppose privatization) and the investment industry (which supports privatization) have spent the largest amount of money of any interest groups on any issue to shape the outcome of this debate.

Adding to the seeming intrigue and anti-privatization liberal Democrats who stood by Clinton during the impeachment scandal and who believe

that the White House owes them for their loyalty but who expressing concerns over whether they can trust the President to stand by them. In Particular, they are worried that Clinton might cut a deal with Republican leaders for privatization. The New York Times summed it up succinctly when it reported, but the major problem, as many liberals see it, is Mr. Clinton's flexible principles on social issues. The President's wandering across the ideological spectrum on welfare, health care and the budget have left them worried that he will sell them out if it is to his political advantage. Perhaps they should have thought of that during the impeachment debacle.

However, the most significant thing in my opinion about the Social Security issue is that it is not an issue at all. The Democrats and the Republicans are projecting it as a monumental one as intrinsic to their respective social visions. But that is misleading because neither party has a social vision. True, they each are less influenced by particular social and economic interests who have differing views on a host of issues, including Social Security. But Social Security is a program that was established with bipartisan support in 1935 and, without fail, the majority of the American people and both political parties have supported its preservation and continuance ever since. The

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CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN APPRENTICESHIP

Are you interested in a FUTURE in the Piping Trades?

U.A. Local 290 will be accepting applications for Metal Trade Pipefitters Apprentices

WHEN:	MONDAY, April 19 through FRIDAY, April 30, 1999. 9am - 4pm weekdays
WHERE:	Apply in person: U.A. Local 290 Training Center, 20220 SW Teton Avenue, Tualatin, Oregon 97062; 691-1997.
AGE:	Must be at least 18 years old (proof required - non-returnable copy of birth certificate, or current driver's license)
REQUIREMENTS:	High school graduate with C average or better OR GED with minimum 255 total score; AND C or better in one year high school algebra. Official transcripts are required and must be mailed directly from the institution to Local 290 Training Center before May 7, 1999.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

The United Association Local 290 Apprenticeship and Journeymen Training Trust Fund admits students of any gender, race, color, national and ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to apprentices at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its apprenticeship policies, admission policies and other Trust-administered programs.

Matt Walters, Business Manager