

Moving Paul Bunyon

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Kevorkian Prison Sentence

Dr. Jack Kevorkian was sentenced by a judge in Michigan to 10 to 25 years in prison for the videotaped death of a Lou Gehrig's disease patient. The euthanasia specialist also received another three to seven years for delivery of a controlled substance. Kevorkian treated 52-year old Thomas Youk with a lethal cocktail of chemicals on September 17 and videotaped the death which was shown later on CBS' "60 Minutes."

NATO Airstrikes

According to President Clinton, the NATO Airstrikes against Yugoslavia are "diminishing and grinding down" Serbian forces. Nearly 5,000 ethnic Albanians poured into Albania recently. So far, more than a half-million ethnic Albanians have fled out of Kosovo since the NATO air began. Boris Yeltsin of Russia has given his word to stay out of the conflict in Yugoslavia but would reconsider that position if NATO troops enter Kosovo.

Feds Condemn Meat

Thirty million pounds of meat made by Thorn Apple Valley Inc. in Arkansas was recalled and declared unfit for human consumption by the federal government. The foods were not prepared under federal law and may contain "physical, chemical and or microbiological contaminants," the USDA said. A portion of the damaged meats were planned by the company for export to Russia and South Korea.

Gretzky To Retire

Wayne Gretzky, the 38-year old hockey star of the New York Rangers is considering retirement at the end of the playing season. Gretzky has played in 223 straight games since signing with the Rangers as a free agent in 1996. His most recent milestone of his career is achieving his ninth goal of the year which gave him 1,072 as a professional.

S&L Wins \$909 Million

A Federal judge ordered the government to pay nearly \$909 million to a California savings association that nearly went bankrupt after Congress and the Bush administration imposed tougher accounting changes on the industry a decade ago. The savings and loan debacle has cost taxpayers \$165 billion—costing each American household \$10.

No Health Coverage

There are 43 million people in the nation that lack insurance, up from 31 million a decade ago. About 34 percent of the nation's 31 million Hispanic people have no health insurance. A large portion of the Hispanic people who lack coverage are from Mexico and Central America who rely on alternative care built on religion, tradition and home remedies.

Historic Hawthorne Bridge Reopens April 25th

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

"I am as excited as area commuters and businesses that the bridge will soon be reopened," said Multnomah County Chair Beverly Stein. "I look forward to working with our government, business, neighborhood and transit partners to create a community celebration for the re-opening. I invite everyone to join us in welcoming this historic Multnomah County facility, with its new look and improved access, back to the community."

Hawthorne ROC, as the Re-Opening Celebration is being called, takes place on the bridge and its eastside on ramps from 10 am to 4 pm on Saturday, April 24th. More than 30 community groups, businesses and project partners have worked with the County to plan a family-friendly celebration. Festivities will include:

- A bridge fair where dozens of organizations with an interest in the bridge will have booths. There will be displays on nearby projects such as the Eastbank Riverfront, as well as booths operated by project partners, Hawthorne-area merchants and food vendors.

- A ribbon-cutting with local leaders and descendants of Dr. J.C. Hawthorne.

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

- A parade of historic vehicles.

- Live music by Pepe and the Bottle Blondes, Boka Marimba, Steel Jammin', Stone Mountain Boys, Viva Mexico Mariachi and Kell's Irish Pipes & Drums. Kung fu demonstration by One With Heart.

- Boat and train tours along the Willamette.

- The Coho Classic Fish Race, benefiting Willamette Light Brigade and Willamette Riverkeeper.



Photo: M. Washington

The bridge will reopen to traffic on Sunday, April 25th at about 2 pm, following completion of a half marathon charity run called Race for the roses. The race departs from OMSI at 7 am and crosses the Hawthorne Bridge to Naito Parkway before looping back. The race is a benefit for two local non-profits, Albertina Kerr Centers and the Boys & Girls Aid Society of Oregon.

The 89-year old Willamette River bridge was closed March 31, 1998 for what was expected to be a 12-month closure. The reopening was delayed 24 days due to

unforeseen custom work, severe winter weather, and corrosion.

Project Manager John Lindenthal said the delay will 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 tax dollars and ensure public safety.

The Willamette's oldest bridge will sport a new look when it reopens. The old yellow lead-based paint has been replaced with red and green urethane-based paint. Workers replaced the steel deck, added wider sidewalk panels, and installed additional

steel supports under the deck and floor beam extensions. The bridge will be wheelchair accessible from downtown to the eastside. Repairs were also made to the mechanisms that raise and lower the 1.7 million pound lift span.

Multnomah County owns and operates the historic Hawthorne bridge, which is the oldest operating vertical lift bridge in the country. When open, it will carry 30,000 cars and trucks, 2,000 bicycles, 2,000 pedestrians, and 760 buses across the river each day.



On Friday, April 9, 1999, a news conference was held at the East Precinct Community Policing Facility, 737 SE 106th Avenue, Portland, to announce and sign a Law Enforcement Non-Discrimination Resolution.

Over seventy (70) representatives of management and labor from Oregon and Washington law enforcement agencies were invited to attend and sign the resolution which denounces race-based profiling. This resolution, believed to be the first of its kind in the United States, was the result of Chief Charles Moose and Superintendent Le Ron Howland, Oregon State Police, drafting and presenting it to the Police Executive Group meeting which was attended by law enforcement agency chiefs, sheriffs and their labor representatives. This meeting was facilitated by Robert Lamb Jr., Regional Director, Community Relations Service, U.S. Department of Justice. Participating law enforcement agencies and their labor representatives offered input and finalized the resolution.

In addition, the Mutual Aid Law Enforcement Agreement and Portland Metropolitan Interagency Pursuit Agreement have been updated and will also be signed by the participating law enforcement agencies.