

Nike Opens New Portion Of Headquarters

BEAVERTON, OREGON — Beaverton-based Nike has opened a new part of its campus headquarters. The Jerry Rice building was opened today as the first part of a major expansion of the headquarters in Beaverton.

The expansion has been one of the state's largest construction projects. It will allow the athletic shoe and apparel firm to have about three-thousand employees who have been working off campus to move onto the grounds.

Weyerhaeuser To Expand In Springfield

SPRINGFIELD, OREGON — Weyerhaeuser has announced plans to expand its operation at Springfield's linerboard plant by updating one of its paper-making machines. The company will spend 18-Million-dollars on the upgrade which will make paper for

lining cardboard shipping boxes for products such as agricultural goods. Earlier, the firm cancelled plans for building a new plant in Arkansas to make the same product. Weyerhaeuser employs about 450 workers at the Springfield plant.

Intel Gets Tax Break With A Twist

HILLSBORO, OREGON — The Washington County Board of Commissioners granted a 200-Million tax break to computer giant Intel, in a deal that could discourage Intel job growth over the next 15 years. The tax break provision requires the world's number-one computer chip maker to pay an

extra one-thousand dollars for each new manufacturing job it adds at area plants above a-thousand in the 15-year period. The county west of Portland is more interested in limiting the impact on strapped schools and other infrastructure, than creating thousands of new jobs.

A Victim Of His Environment?

By Hugh B. Price
President, National Urban League

Is Justin Volpe, the disgraced New York City police officer who late last month admitted savagely assaulting an innocent man, the victim of having to work in a bad neighborhood?

A neighborhood that can be likened to a "war zone"? A neighborhood whose residents are so hostile and lawless that the time he spent patrolling its streets wore him down and corroded his sense of ethical conduct?

Can Justin Volpe be accurately described as like a "marine that jumped on the grenade"? Is he now a "sacrificial lamb to satisfy a public demand for vengeance"—a "political prisoner"?

That's the view Justin Volpe's father, Robert, himself a retired New York City police detective, put forward in speaking with a reporter from the New York Times the day after Memorial Day.

I sympathize with parents who have to face the fact that their offspring have committed a wrong, especially one so heinous as Justin Volpe's brutal sexual assault on Abner Louima.

But Robert Volpe's comments are way off base.

For one thing it's more than a little ironic in this era, when the "lock-'em-up-and-throw-away-the-key" approach to criminal behavior is ascendant, to hear the "environmental defense" plea again applied to excuse a police officer's brutality against a person of color.

When progressive analysts suggest that such environmental factors as family poverty, poor schools, economically-depressed neighborhoods and lack of job opportunities lead most so-called street criminals to errant behavior, they are almost routinely ignored, if not derided.

No, neither the quality of the Brooklyn neighborhood Justin Volpe patrolled—nor the ethnic heritage of most of its residents—can obscure the deliberate act of horrific depravity he perpetrated against a person who had never been involved with the law.

He is responsible for falsely arresting Abner Louima, handcuffing him and beating him on the way to the local precinct station; and then, once there, sodomizing him with a broom handle, which he then smashed into Louima's mouth, breaking several of his teeth.

Beyond that, Robert Volpe seems not to wish to remember that hundreds of thousands of police officers have carried out their duties in even the toughest inner-city neighborhoods within the bounds of the law—and of human decency.

Nor does Robert Volpe seem to remember that the neighborhoods of

America's inner cities are residential areas where many individuals and families who are hard-working, law-abiding, and tax-paying live.

He also seems not to remember that crime has been declining in these neighborhoods, too, thanks to the work of, yes, the police, but also of local community organizations and individuals—and a long-term buoyant economy which has provided jobs for many poorly-skilled workers at the bottom of the occupational ladder.

Indeed, Robert Volpe's comments, coming from someone who was himself a police officer for many years, do more than show one parent's willingness to strew blame everywhere except where it belongs.

They reveal what other evidence shows: That some significant number of white police officers have a very negative view of the neighborhoods most in need of police protection—that they do consider them "war zones," where they can ignore rights enshrined in the Constitution, and just basic rules of decency.

It is that kind of thinking, and behavior, which has produced a widespread distrust of police among African Americans and other people of color.

That distrust has been on stark display all across the country in the months since Abner Louima was assaulted in August, 1997. It intensified in the wake of the police shooting death in New York in February of the young Guinean immigrant, Amadou Diallo.

It's been re-affirmed again this week, in the results of a poll published in the New York Law Journal, a newspaper which focuses on legal issues.

The survey of New York state residents, done by the Quinnipiac College Polling Institute, found that while 75 percent of whites approve of the way police do their jobs, only 24 percent of African Americans did.

When asked whether they'd ever been treated unfairly by the police, just 5 percent of whites said they had; but 41 percent of blacks said they had.

When asked whether whites or blacks are treated better by the police, 44 percent of whites said both are treated equally. But 83 percent of blacks said police are tougher on blacks (and 42 percent of whites also said police are tougher on blacks.)

The Law Journal said the stark differences between the experiences and views of blacks and whites "tracked closely" the findings of two earlier polls on the same issues the Quinnipiac College Institute had done in Connecticut and New Jersey, respectively.

This evidence confirms that the environments people of color inhabit Jim Crow still lurks in the criminal justice system.

ODA Eyes Kids With Food Safety Education Effort

Young children are often more susceptible to food pathogens. Like many grownups, they don't always practice proper sanitation and handwashing. Most of the time, they rely on the judgment of adults to give them foods that are safe and wholesome. That's why the Oregon Department of Agriculture's Food Safety Division is placing an emphasis on the education of kids, their parents, and their day care providers as summer approaches.

"Young children don't have as strong acids in their digestive system, they have lower or weakened immunities," says Leslie Lowry, ODA food safety education specialist. "When children get sick from food borne pathogens, we have a lot more potential problems than we ordinarily would have with adults. We need to take special care in the way we handle and prepare their food."

All of the food safety rules that pertain to adults also pertain to kids. But perhaps even more caution is needed when you are dealing with youngsters.

"You make food decisions for yourself every day, but it's a little riskier for a child," says Lowry. "Adults make food decisions for children and they need to be extra cautious and conservative."

Of course, there are many things kids can do for themselves to be protected from food-associated illnesses. The "Fight Bac" Campaign—a nationwide program of education children—stresses the importance of handwashing. But again, young people need the guardian-like guidance from adults in order to assure safety.

Cleanliness is a key word when it comes to food safety for children. Keeping everything clean, from the food to the plate to the utensils, will help minimize bacterial growth and protect children from illness—not to mention adults as well.

Keeping kitchen equipment clean, and watching for cross contamination between raw and ready-to-eat foods will all lead to safer foods for children.

Then there is the matter of selecting safe foods for kids. Certain foods have a greater chance of producing bacteria known to pose a special hazard to children.

One of those specific bacteria is *Listeria monocytogenes*.

"We have had listeria outbreaks in Oregon before," says Lowry. "Kids should never drink raw milk or eat undercooked meats and poultry. They should be very careful washing their hands if they have handled these types of foods before they eat."

We are especially concerned right now with raw or uncooked hot dogs and soft cheeses made from unpasteurized milk. These foods must be properly prepared before being eaten by children or other people that are at-risk for listeria.

The elderly and the immuno-compromised are also at-risk candidates. But children are more likely to not realize which foods are safe and which aren't.

Another bacteria that can potentially

target children is salmonella.

"We find salmonella in raw eggs, undercooked meats and poultry, contaminated dairy products, and sometimes in sprouts with contaminated seeds," says Lowry. "We need to make sure kids are not eating raw cookie dough, tasting batter, or eating homemade ice cream that contains raw eggs."

Then there is the bacteria that has made most of the headlines the last few years as being responsible for the death of children: *E. coli* O157:H7.

"E coli has been found in undercooked ground beef, raw milk, and unpasteurized apple juice," says Lowry. "Food must be cooked at safe temperatures."

Food safety isn't confined to watching out for pathogens. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control report that every five days, a child dies from choking on food.

"It's very important to know what level of development your child is at and to know whether or not they are more at risk for choking," says Lowry. "The most commonly choked-on foods are sliced hot dogs, whole grapes, hard candy, and nuts."

Making sure the food is cut into small enough slices and that kids thoroughly chew their food will help avert potential danger.

With the approach of summer, adults need to be extra cautious of food safety—especially for children. Picnics, barbecues, and camping all create opportunities for food borne pathogens if food is not properly handled, prepared and stored.

"Kids love picnics," says Lowry. "something to remember with picnics is the danger zone—that's the temperature between 40 degrees and 140 degrees in which bacteria loves to grow. Just two hours in the danger zone, foods can produce bacteria in high enough populations to create the toxins that will make people sick."

Lowry advises adults to try and take just the right amount of food on a picnic so there won't be any leftovers to worry about storing properly. Take clean utensils for preparing food outdoors. Foods that are cooked ahead of time should be properly cooled—preferably in a refrigerator—before being taken outdoors.

Insulated coolers are great at keeping foods cold, but not for getting foods cold in the first place. All foods should be eaten within two hours of being placed on the picnic table or blanket.

Of course, make sure those picnic favorites, like hamburger and chicken, are thoroughly cooked—to 165 degrees for hamburger, 180 degrees for chicken. It may seem strange, but taking along a meat thermometer is a good idea. Use a clean plate for the cooked food. Don't use the same one that held the raw meat.

Proper food safety for kids is a year around job. The summer of 1999 is an opportune time to get started on making good decisions about the foods kids eat, and how those foods are handled and prepared.

For more information, contact Leslie Lowry at (503) 986-4720.

RELIGION

Hand-In-Hand Festival

The 21st annual Hand-in-Hand Festival will be held at the St. Andrew Community Center (8th and Alberta) on June 26th, from 11am to 2pm. The Festival is a carnival-like day of fun and sharing for persons with developmental disabilities and for the many volunteers who serve as a support community to welcome them. Games, clowns, food, prizes, live music, and arts and crafts are among the highlights of the day.

The goal of the Hand-in-Hand Festival is to break down the barriers that separate people with dif-

ferent needs. The participants and volunteers will come from all areas of Portland and beyond.

The Festival is sponsored jointly by St. Andrew Parish and the Office for People with Disabilities of the Archdiocese of Portland, as well as local businesses in northeast Portland. If you are interested in volunteering or participating in the Festival, or if you would like more information, call Janel Esker at 281-4430. Janel would appreciate knowing how many plan to attend.

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Keep Kids Busy

Reduce The Chances They'll Use Drugs

It's summer-vacation time for hundreds of thousands of Oregon students, which means swimming, picnics and summer jobs. It also means an increase in the risk of alcohol and drug abuse by many kids, particularly teens, who have unsupervised, idle time.

Barry McCaffrey, director of the Federal Office of National Drug Control Policy, and Barbara Cimaglio, director of the State Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs, are urging parents to take steps to keep their children busy this summer to reduce that risk.

To help parents, the ONDCP has put together a list of "101 Ways to Keep Kids Busy This Summer." The list is available on the internet or from the state alcohol and drug office in Salem.

McCaffrey and Cimaglio say research shows that adolescents who are involved in constructive, adult-supervised activities outside of school are less likely to use drugs.

"We're urging parents to recognize that there's a connection between unsupervised time and drug use, and to take steps to reduce the risk of drug abuse during summer vacation and the rest of

the year," Cimaglio says.

The list of "101 Ways" suggests activities in sports, games, volunteerism, education, crafts and other areas. Several examples:

- Participate in nature walks together.
- Take kids bowling.
- Urge kids to help an elderly neighbor with household chores.
- Encourage them to volunteer at the local hospital.
- Ask them to help research a major family purchase.
- Suggest that your child walk dogs in the neighborhood.
- Ask them to help with a neighborhood garage sale.
- Send them to church-sponsored activities.
- Enroll them in CPR classes.
- Help them build and maintain a birdfeeder or birdhouse.

The summer-vacation message is part of the ONDCP's National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign, a five-year initiative to fight teen drug use.

The activities list is available on the internet at www.projectknow.com/positive.html or by calling the Oregon Prevention Resource Center at 1-800-822-6772