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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Mosquito Concerns Close Central Park

NEW YORK—Central Park will reopen after it was closed and sprayed with pesticides after authorities found mosquitoes carrying the West Nile virus. Virus-carrying mosquitoes have been found in the park and on Staten Island. The discovery of infected mosquitoes marks the first time that the potentially deadly virus has been found in mosquitoes in New York City this year. Last year, the virus killed seven people and infected 62 others in the metropolitan area.

Colorado Blaze Threatens Indian Ruins

MESA VERDENATIONALPARK, Colo. — Firefighters fear a blaze that has scorched 34 square miles of Colorado wilderness could sweep toward the famed Indian ruins of Mesa Verde National Park. Key sites at the nation's largest archaeological preserve have been spared so far through precautionary firefighting techniques. The advance of the fire was slowed recently, but expected hot, dry weather gives the fire the potential to "get up and run," a spokesman for the firefighters says.

U.N.: 60 Million Affected by Asian Drought

UNITEDNATIONS—Sixty million people have been affected by a severe drought in Central and South Asia that has killed livestock and crops and threatens to uproot families as they look for food and water, the United Nations said. Earlier this week, the World Food Program appealed to donors for \$55.4 million to help some of the estimated 3 million to 4 million Afghans most seriously affected by the drought — the worst Afghanistan has experienced in three decades.

Bomb in Subway Station

LONDON — Bomb threats on several London subway stations plunged the city into disarray as rush-hour commuters and tourists coped with diverted trains, closed stations and suspended services. At least one of the packages, found on the tracks near the Ealing Broadway Underground station in west London, contained a bomb, said police, who were able to detonate it safely. "There were a number of phone calls made in the Dublin area this morning naming threats in three areas of London — Ealing Broadway, Victoria and Westminster stations," Scotland Yard spokeswoman Alex Hathaway said.

Clean Water Act: A Promise Unfulfilled

Nearly 30 years after passage of the historic Clean Water Act, pollution still prevents Americans from swimming or fishing in 40% of the nation's waterways. Critics charge that states are failing to enforce the act and that the Environmental Protection Agency is abdicating its responsibility to make them do so. When penalties are imposed, fines are often too small to discourage polluters and criminal charges are rarely pursued.

Baby Begins Slow Decline

For baby boomers, the end has begun. New Census estimates show that their ranks have begun to shrink for the first time as deaths begin to outpace immigration. At its peak last year, the baby boom included almost 79 million people. The boomers' record numbers, born in the bloom of postwar prosperity from 1946-64, reshaped everything from pop culture to politics worldwide. But now their numbers will dwindle steadily.

Kroeker will recruit police in four cities

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Portland Police Chief Mark Kroeker will travel with a team of recruiters to Seattle, Phoenix, Los Angeles and Honolulu to draw entry-level and experienced officers to the Portland Police Bureau.

The recruiting trips will start with Seattle on Friday and continue through August and September, with the chief generally spending one or two days in each city to chat with prospective applicants.

"I'm just really excited because I think he will attract more attention for us," said Jennifer Lawrence, the bureau's full-time recruiter.

The bureau has tested applicants monthly in its ongoing struggle to fill vacancies, reach its authorized strength of 1,040 officers and prepare for a wave of anticipated retirements in 2002.

An entry-level training academy for 16 recruits began in March, and the bureau plans to begin another Oct. 20. Lawrence hopes the coming recruitment drive will draw at least 700 applicants.

Earlier this month, Kroeker promoted 10 officers to sergeant and urged them to serve as effective leaders and shining examples for the street-level cops under their command. Inevitably, though, the promotions pulled more officers off the street and increased the number of patrol vacancies to 63.

Together with the 22 patrol officers now out on leaves of service, mostly for medical reasons, there are 85 patrol positions open of 744 authorized.

"It's a balancing act," said Lt. Ron Schwartz of the bureau's personnel division. "We need to have supervisors out there, but we also want to minimize the loss on the streets."

Kroeker hopes he will have an effect by accompanying police recruiters and talking to applicants at informal open houses in the cities he visits. In preparation for his Seattle trip this weekend, he recorded a radio advertising spot to alert prospective



candidates.

The chief's trip to Phoenix is scheduled for Aug. 11; Los Angeles, Sept. 7 and 8; and Honolulu, Sept. 13 and 14.

"I think Kroeker's involvement signifies the importance he's putting on recruiting," Schwartz said. "I think it kind of sends a message to potential applicants that he's willing to go out there and spread the word that Portland's looking for high-quality applicants."

The bureau expects its new hiring standards, which relax the college degree requirement and reduce the training hours for police with at least two years of experience, will ease its

recruitment problems.

Under the new standards, police with at least two years of continuous law enforcement experience will be eligible for hiring with either a two-year college degree or 60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours of accredited college courses.

The experienced hires also will face an abbreviated training period of about 12 weeks, compared with a 21-week academy for entry-level recruits. They will be hired at midlevel or top pay.

The bureau's four-year college degree requirement remains in place for entry-level officers.

Concorde crash kills at least 113

ASSOCIATED PRESS

An Air France Concorde en route to New York crashed outside Paris shortly after takeoff Tuesday, slamming into a hotel and a restaurant. At least 113 people were killed when the charter flight of mostly German tourists went down in the first-ever crash of the needle-nosed supersonic jet.

Police said all 100 passengers and nine crew members on board Flight AF4590 were killed, and the Interior Ministry said four others died at the 72-room Relais Bleus hotel. All the passengers were German except for one American and two Danes, Air France said.

At least a dozen people were injured at the hotel. They were in good condition, Prime Minister Lionel Jospin said.

Afterward, none of the Concordes were flying. Air France agreed to temporarily ground its five remaining Concordes, and British Airways, which owns the other seven Concordes, grounded its two remaining flights for Tuesday night.

French television showed a chilling still-photograph of the plane flying low over the airport, flames already trailing from its midsection.

The hotel the plane crashed into was in flames, and sections had been reduced to rubble and twisted metal. Firefighters poured streams of water on the blackened wreckage, which had broken up into scattered, smoking chunks. The remains of the Concorde were barely recognizable as an airplane fuselage.

There was no immediate word on what might have caused the crash of the jet, which had been in service since 1980, had flown 12,000 hours and had just had a mechanical checkup July 21. In the more than 30 years that Concorde jets have flown, none had gone down.

The plane had been chartered by Peter Deilmann Shipping Co., a German tour group, and the passengers were on their way to New York to join a cruise ship.

The jetliner crashed at 4:44 p.m. in an area of farmland crisscrossed by highways and the small town of Gonesse, about nine miles northeast of Paris. It went down soon after takeoff from Charles de Gaulle airport. Witnesses said the supersonic aircraft was not able to gain sufficient altitude before it crashed. Others said a huge cloud of black smoke went up in the air.

Samir Hossein, 15, a student in Gonesse, was playing tennis with friends when they saw the plane go by with an engine on fire. "We saw it lose altitude. It chopped off those trees and headed to the ground," Hossein told The Associated Press. "The pilot tried to bank but the plane rolled over and smacked into the hotel nose first and turned over."

"We saw flames shoot up 40 meters (yards) and there was a huge boom," he said. "The pilot tried to yank it up, but it was too late." Frederic Savery, 21, was driving along a highway on the way home when he saw the plane go down.

"I saw the plane, it passed 30 meters above us, the whole back end of the plane was on fire," Savery told the AP. "We saw it start to turn, but we didn't hear a noise when it crashed. All of a sudden, everything was black."

Air France President Jean-Cyril Spinetta, who said he had witnessed the crash but didn't specify from where, told reporters at the airport: "For those who were witnesses, of whom I was one, it seems that there was a fire in one or more of the engines on takeoff."

Clouds of dark smoke could be seen for miles around. Police blocked off all roads leading to the crash scene, backing up traffic on rural roads in the farm fields near the airport. Dozens of fire trucks and ambulances rushed to the scene.

Jospin and French Transport Minister Jean-Claude Gayssot visited the scene of the crash. "It's a terrible moment," Gayssot said.

When is a CDC's job done?

BY MAXINE FITZPATRICK FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Maxine Fitzpatrick, Executive Director of Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives, Inc. (PCRI), responds to an editorial in the Skanner newspaper titled "When Is A CDC's Job Done?". I felt to do so would give this negative commentary unwarranted value. However, after further consideration and because the article is filled with misrepresentations and inaccuracies I feel an obligation to the community to respond.

To answer the question, "When is a CDC's Job done?" I would like to re-educate the general public about PCRI's origin and the need for its continuance as a community stabilizer. PCRI's mission and purpose has not changed since its formation in 1992. PCRI is not a quasi-governmental group nor is it positioned to strangle the prosperity it was



Maxine Fitzpatrick

designed to promote. PCRI started with assets of a weak and bankrupt corporate investor, now it is a strong, non-profit organization with the benevolent mission of providing affordable housing.

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, hundreds of homes stood vacant throughout inner North and Northeast Portland. Homeownership through conventional means was nearly impossible. Financial institutions did not make loans in the area and consequently, property values plummeted. Several real estate investors stepped in to take advantage of the situation, some were honest and others were not. One group of dishonest investors were the principals of Dominion Capital who insidiously committed real estate fraud on unsuspecting, volatile, low-income residents' desirous of homeownership. Dominion's 272 rental clients fared no better. After years of running

(Please see 'CDC' page 6)

