

Governor sets up new Task Force

Governor Kitzhaber has signed an Executive Order establishing a new Oregon Domestic Violence Prevention and Response Task Force. The group will be formed over the next two months and begin meeting in September.

"Despite efforts around the state devoted to preventing domestic violence and supporting victims of abuse, Oregon continues to see an increase in domestic violence, putting too

many people at risk," said Governor Kitzhaber. "The effect on individuals and children is a tragedy, while the overall impact on communities is profound and unacceptable."

The effects of domestic violence include personal injury, homelessness, lost work time and productivity, alcohol and other drug abuse, increased health care costs, adverse impacts on children, and denial of

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24 Years Ago This Month

The July 28, 1988, issue of *The Independent* included the following news story on page 16:

As many Vernonia area residents are signing petitions asking the state Highway Division to straighten two dangerous curves on Highway 47, another accident occurred, July 12, at the bridge crossing the Nehalem River .9 miles south of town.

Lorna Mae DuPuis, 19, of Vancouver, Washington, received multiple lacerations and a fractured wrist when her southbound 1971 Mercury Capris crossed over the center line into the path of a northbound 1977 Dodge pickup.

DuPuis was transported to Oregon Health Sciences University Hospital by Vernonia ambulance and Life Flight, after she was finally extricated from her mangled auto by members of the Vernonia Fire Department. DuPuis was released from OHSU Hospital on July 16.

The driver of the pickup, David W. Kolko, 32, of Rio Vista, California, was uninjured. His passenger, David Frost, 30, of Vernonia, was treated for minor injuries and released from St. Vincent Hospital.

At the time of the bridge's construction, the north end was aligned with the roadway. The south end was designed to connect with a straight road, but the necessary roadwork was never done resulting in narrow, sharp "S" curve between two stretches of straight highway.

Larry Bernardi, of Vernonia, has spearheaded a drive aimed at getting the road straightened. The City of Vernonia, Vernonia Area Chamber

of Commerce, Vernonia Chapter of Associated Loggers, and the local unit of Oregon Forest Products Transportation Association have all endorsed the road straightening.

Petitions are available at several local businesses, including Brunsman Hardware, Western Auto, Sam's Food Store, MiniMart and Mario's Cafe.

Bits & Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



Mainly this is an open Goodbye letter to the Golden Oldies Band at the Senior Center and all of my friends there. No, I'm not ill or moving, it's just that my treatment days have been shifted to Monday, Wednesday, Fridays, at my request. Why? A good question, but the answer is long and drawn out so I'll just say it uncomplicated several things that keep popping up in my daily scheme of life so I have hopefully fixed it. I will definitely miss the following people; "Sleepy Time Gal", "From a Jack to a Queen", "The Sheik", "Humpty Dumpty Heart", "Gathering Flowers for the Masters Bouquet", the Harmonica solos, and "One Tin Soldier Rode Away". Plus, the many more songs we all join in when they played "Roll Out the Barrel" and many, many more good old tunes that soothe the soul.

Gee Whiz...A girl just won the Pro Stock Car Race. First one ever. Now they can't say it's a man's sport anymore.

The 4th of July has come and gone, T.V. says it's going to be HOT for 9 days – time will tell.

I'm into my new schedule now, same help but many new faces fill the chairs around me, but we all have to adjust to a lot of new challenges (out of our comfort zone) most every day. Life is dull, isn't it? That is, if you let it be. But, I don't like Life, cereal that is. Ho Ho.

A group of us ladies took a trip to Multnomah Falls Sunday afternoon. It was a beautiful sight, even if there were about a million people there to feel the cool spray of the water as it plunged down into the pool. How long has it been since you just took a day off and went out to see the wonders of nature?

Gas ain't cheap, but life can pass us by too quickly.

I'm off to hear blue grass tonight.

Bye now.

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For more information, please contact

Randy Carlton at: 503-429-8252 or 503-791-8309

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