Asian gang hype revisits Portland

Have Portland police been watching too many cop shows?

By Eric Hanak

On June 13, five youths were arrested on charges of assault and criminal threatening with a weapon in Deering Oaks Park. What of those arrests might never have reached the public if the police had not invited them to a news conference on "Asian gangs." 

Lt. Mark Dion told reporters that three of the men were banding together to form an oil spill response organization and invited them to a news conference on "Asian gangs." 

But no reporters bothered to ask the youths involved in the park fights what happened on those two previous days in late May.

Those youths say the police have the story wrong.

"We didn't do anything," said one of the five arrests.

"Youth gang," another said.

Then, one young man stood up and said, "I'm not gangsta."

And while Dion and the police may be bracing for great publicity in Portland, Portland attorney Robert Napolitano said they're doing more harm than good.

"The police and the district attorney have branded these kids as being in an Asian gang without a shred of proof, and they have sent up a storm against an entire group of people," Napolitano said.

Slick solutions, deeper problems

By Paul Sear

On May 13, nine major oil companies with terminals in South Portland announced they had joined a group called Clean Casco Bay, Inc. (CCB). The group's mission is to avert potential oil tanker disasters in Casco Bay.

On May 19, Transmission Pipeline Co. announced that it would be abandoning plans to build a pipeline through South Portland.

But while the headlines tout the "solutions," many of those potential oil spills could do to the harbor, others say it has already been done — on land.

"It's a way to get more money from us," said Eric Crawford, co-founder and former board member of watchdog group Friends of Casco Bay.

"It's the byproduct of 70 to 80 years of oil storage." Crawford says decades of dangerous oily wastes are buried within feet of the Fore River and Casco Bay.

"We have being running black oil oceans," Crawford says. He also worries that hundreds of petroleum were spilled into South Portland tank farms from 1923-1986. One it seeps into the bay, that oil is toxic both to marine life and to people who eat marine food.

"The police may be aiming to drive off the [potential] spill problem, but the real problems on land are extremely important," Crawford says.

"There is a pipeline that would have had a garbage dump working at one end," said one of the mayors.

Continued on next page.

Council nixes garage deal

Why should the city not buy a garage that would have earned $65,000 a year, but lost is $7,000 in property taxes?

That's what the city council asked, voting 6-3 against buying the Gateway garage on Fore Street.

Continued on page 8.

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A Federal probe yields a nuclear love-in. When the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission announced its new approach to nuclear safety regulations, the public rejoiced. The National Council of Atomic Safety, founded by former AEC chairman Dr. Richard B. Russell, praised the move as a "major step forward" in nuclear safety. But critics charge that the new regulations are "a step backward." The regulations, which take effect next month, are intended to improve the public review process. The new rules require that the public be notified of new safety measures before they are implemented.

Adams takes on IBM over South Africa. Former Rep. Henry Adams may be in the market for a new job after a recent article in the New York Times suggested that he might be interested in going to South Africa to work for IBM. Adams, who is known for his outspokenness, has been critical of IBM's policies in South Africa.

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Mariner's Church Bakery

案主旨は、国の選挙の改革を求めるため、多くの民衆が参加した集会が開催されました。活動家たちは、選挙制度の改革の必要性を訴え、より民主的な選挙制度の実現を訴えていました。そして、活動家たちは、彼らの目標を達成するための新たな戦略を立てました。
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Maine law - Maine-style
In the wake of the videotaped
police beating of a black man in Los Angeles
another day the allegations of police brutality
multiply — including a videotaped incident last
year in Biddeford.

A working industry group, the American
Trucking Association, finds the challenge to
the free system.
The court was sympathetic
to the challenge that the police are also making the
state pay the association's attorney fees.

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**Newbriefs**

**Weekly**

*Continued from page 4*

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**Tarps**

The Portland Police Department has been investigating a series of violent incidents in Portland's parks and on local streets. The department has received numerous complaints about aggressive behavior, including the use of weapons. In response to these concerns, officers have been patrolling the areas more frequently and have confiscated weapons when necessary.

One such incident took place last week in Pacific Park, where a group of individuals wassembliesing with knives and clubs. The police were called to the scene, and when they arrived, they found the group threatening other park-goers with the weapons.

The officers confiscated the knives and asked the individuals to leave the park. They also arrested several people for aggressive behavior.

According to the police, these incidents are part of a larger problem of gang activity in the city. The department has identified several groups that are involved in these incidents, and they are working to capture those responsible.

In addition to the patrols, the police have increased their community outreach efforts. They have met with local leaders and organizations to discuss the situation and to see if there is anything they can do to help.

The Portland Police Department is committed to ensuring the safety of all citizens and is working hard to address this issue. They encourage anyone who has information about these incidents to contact them, as they are interested in hearing from the public.

For more information, please contact the Portland Police Department at (503) 823-3000.
**Spills at land as the Rolling Mills tank farms include the:***

- In October of 1990, a Cell Oil truck overturned, pouring 500 gallons of gasoline into the surrounding soil.
- In 1982, a half-used steel tank exploded in an Arroco pipeline, pouring 15,800 gallons of gasoline into Reedsy Creek.
- In 1981, a Beauregard tank tank leaked 57,400 gallons of oil into the soil.
- In 1986, a Beatrice-Petroleum tank leaked 53,000 gallons of oil in Casco Bay.
- In 1986, a Northeast Petroleum tank leaked 80,000 gallons of oil into the soil.
- In 1977, the CCB responded to a spill in the soil with CCB's equipment to absorb or disperse oil, leaving goo—still visible in places—all over the area.

**Spills at sea and in the air:**

- The DEP's Fred Brann, who used to inspect and regulate all the Rolling Mills terminals, and his former assistant, warns that when you're dealing with dangerous materials, it doesn't matter where the spill occurs: it matters both on land and in the water. The DEP's Paul Brown, who used to inspect and regulate all the Rolling Mills terminals, and his former assistant, warns that when you're dealing with dangerous materials, it doesn't matter where the spill occurs: it matters both on land and in the water.

**Blunders at the CCB's headquarters:**

- The CCB has compiled the most complete and well-documented reports of petroleum in the ground at the Rolling Mills terminals. In fact, the CCB's primary concern is the environment, and they are completely aware of the problems they are dealing with. The CCB is one of the biggest polluters on the Casco Bay.

**The Rolling Mills tank farms in South Portland:**

- The Rolling Mills tank farms in South Portland have been operating for over 50 years. Despite their spill problems, none of the Rolling Mills companies have had a significant spill in the last five years. Despite their spill problems, none of the Rolling Mills companies have had a significant spill in the last five years.

**Spills in Portland, Maine:**

- The city of Portland has compiled the most complete and well-documented reports of petroleum in the ground at the Rolling Mills terminals. In fact, the city of Portland's primary concern is the environment, and they are completely aware of the problems they are dealing with. The city of Portland is one of the biggest polluters on the Casco Bay.

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Portland officials tipped the heel of negative publicity about Deering Oaks Park on June 13, when the Portland Police Department called a press conference about alleged Asian gang-related violence in the park. But local officials should encourage people to use the park rather than scare away people with their overblown reports of park violence.

What do people really need when they use a park? The answer, according to one reader, is “beauty, nature and a place to get away from it all.”

Is it no wonder the nickname has stuck. Publicity about prostitution, drug dealing and violence have besieged the park. Portland Police Department confirmed that publicly them­selv­es, when they told the local press to tell them about Asian gang violence in the park, the subject of this week’s cover story.

On June 13, one day after Portland City Manager Robert Grenier in January, asking the city to help people to hang out in the park, it was reported that drug dealers and violence have besieged the park. It was also reported that local officials should encourage people to use the park rather than scare away people with their overblown reports of park violence.

Grenier told the Eagle, a local fringe organization, that they would collect sport equipment for the program. But when Turner went to Portland City Manager Robert Grenier in January, asking the city to help people to hang out in the park, the subject of this week’s cover story.

Another proposal by Turner, to have runners patrolling the park so that people feel safer there, has also been rejected by Grenier be­cause of “economic realities.”

But if the city can pay to cops to call press conferences that add to the shame surrounding Deering Oaks, the city owes it to Parkside residents and to all Portlanders to make Deering Oaks a priority. The city must invest time and money toward the park’s rebirth.

The ball is most definitely in Grenier’s court. Grenier can dribble the wimp who works for him into cold press conferences that reassure the park’s dwellers. He cannot continue to help make Deering Oaks the “park of shame.”

Or he can recognize Deering Oaks for the jewel it is.

Ganley should play ball in Deering Oaks

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Letters

Island indignation

I read with fascination your article about the town of Casco, and the neglect of our Casco Bay Islands by the Casco Bay Islands Association. I was quite appalled by the statements that you quote, and I wonder why this organization continues to exist.

Having spent the last 20 years on Peaks Island, I believe our efforts to improve the quality of life on the island have been thwarted by the lack of an official harbormaster. This has improved the quality of life on the island, and I saw that the lack of an official harbormaster has always been cited as an “economic reason.”

As an islander, I would like to see this improved. The quality of life on the island is determined by how we live and our economic stability. I believe that the quality of life on the island is discovering new residents for the island.

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Or he can recognize Deering Oaks for the jewel it is.
Something's fishy down on waterfront. i

Kidding around: Tonight, dance nights 9 - 1

 pediatrician to discuss the medicinal uses of plants in the past. Discussion of the importance of the environment to the ears (and wallet)!

Cheap thrills: the deliberate tourist.

Something’s Fishy Down On Waterfront.

For the second annual Waterfront Festival and, in addition to the annual blessing of the fleet, you can explore. The ripening of the Movies on Exchange

The second parking lot at the Arts Center. For details, call 874-8791.

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"Killing Mr. Withers"

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MONDAY 6.24
The Chariot Sangare, Flamingo Club, 126 N. 3rd, Portland.

TUESDAY 6.25
La Casa La Bocona (South), 114 S. Farnsworth Ave, Portland.

MONDAY 6.24
ASVOF & Derick E. Asante (Jazz), Warehouse 200, Portland.

TUESDAY 6.25
Nancy Campell, The Boitano School of Dance, 401 House St, Portland.

WEDNESDAY 6.26
The Black Cat, City Hall, 400 Commercial St, Portland.

THURSDAY 6.26
Florida Vinyard (Jazz), 434 High St, Portland.

FRIDAY 6.27
The Zoo, 233 Main St, Portland.

SATURDAY 6.29
The Fat Cat, 26 S. Canal St, Portland.

THE ART OPENING
A ipad f a t 3 o c
The SHAPE THAT I AM - Nancy Campell at
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SHOWING
'SITTING STILL' - a show of
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Don't Go Kiteless This Summer... The Winds Are Up!

Take advantage of this low cost, environmentally sound pastime.

Out of Town

Friends of Casco Bay Bridge: Tuesdays at 6:30 pm and Thursdays at 6 pm; call the Woodford's Market (207) 772-1500.

Maine's newest women's bike group: Wednesdays at 6 pm - 10 pm; call Sandy Washburn (207) 777-3909.

Musk Ox: Saturdays and Sundays at 10 pm.

Nature's Medicine; a rush and a comfort; Fridays; 7 pm.

Helping Hands: The Singing Choir for Diverse People recovering through the 12 Steps.

Wellness

Aid: An Aid in a group of ≥ 100 people meeting through the 12 Steps.

Out Side

Blue & White Ribbons: Sunday mornings at 9 am at Aquinas College, 15 N. College St., Portland.

OFF THE CLOCK

Help People WANT: All donations of $0.00-$999 will receive a $100 gift certificate to Old Port. For more information, call (207) 729-6333 or 729-6000.

The Parks of Province Park will host a free concert series sponsored by Maine's newest women's bike group.

Maine's newest women's bike group: Wednesdays at 6 pm - 10 pm; call Sandy Washburn (207) 777-3909.

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Winners have two free movie tickets compliments of the Maine Mall Cinemas!

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ERNE POK

by Lynda Berry

HAPPIEST THING

LOOKING FOR A SUMMER RENTAL???

For the best selection in Maine call

1-800-797-MAINE

Happy Times

53 Main St., Yarmouth, ME 04096

shop for a 12 oz. can of ginger ale or a can of soft drink, which is

then genuine. In the case of a 12 oz. can of ginger ale, you may

choose to buy the same size can of soft drink, which is

thicker.

I was
told

that

I

was

being

charged

$1.25

for

the

can

of

ginger

ale,

but

the

store

had

a

special

on

flashlight

and

I

could

get

it

for

$1.00.

I

thought

that

was

a

good

deal,

but

then

I

noticed

that

the

store

was

charging

$1.25

for

the

can

of

soft

drink.

I

was

confused

and

asked

the

cashier

why

there

was

a

difference

in

price.

The

cashier

told

me

that

the

store

had

an

offer

for

the

flashlight,

but

it

wasn't

the

same

as

the

one

I

had,

and

therefore

the

price

was

different.

I

left

the

store

disappointed

and

wondering

whether

I

had

been

cheated.

Perhaps

the

store

had

a

policy

of

charging

the

same

price

for

similar

items,

but

I

wasn't

sure.

I

decided

to

check

other

stores

before

making

any

more

purchases.

In

the

end,

I

learned

that

I

had

been

charged

appropriately

and

that

the

store

had

been

honest.

I

feel

bad

about

my

assumption

and

will

be

more

careful

in

the

future.

I

hope

that

other

consumers

will

also

be

careful

and

understand

that

prices

may

differ

even

for

similar

items.

This

experience

has

taught

me

a

valuable

lesson

about

price

differences.

I

believe

that

it

is

important

to

be

aware

of

these

differences

and

to

make

sure

that

we

are

getting

a

good

deal.

I

will

continue

to

shop

smartly

and

to

be

careful

about

prices.

I

thank

the

store

for

its

honesty

and

its

helpful

service.

I

will

be

sure

to

recommend

the

store

to

my

friends

and

family.

I

hope

that

other

consumers

will

also

be

aware

of

price

differences

and

will

shop

smartly

as

well.

This

experience

has

given

me

a

new

understanding

of

the

importance

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