

# Guardian Angels leader visits Portland

by Nathaniel Scott

Curtis Sliwa, founder/president of the Guardian Angels in New York City, will be in Portland on Thursday and Friday, September 16 and 17, for two days of meetings, according to Michael A. Stoops, co-founder of Baloney Joe's.

Stoops adds that Sliwa will have private meetings with Sheriff Ed Pierce and Chief Ron Still in addition to some open forums.

Stoops said Sliwa will speak at Lincoln High School and possibly one or two other high schools in the greater metropolitan area and, if schedules permit, he will meet with city and county commissioners.

In addition, a special meeting will be held for those interested in becoming Guardian Angels. Anyone

interested in becoming an Angel should contact Stoops at 231-7158 or 238-0605 for additional information.

Stoops recently invited Sliwa to Portland to look into the possibility of setting up a chapter of the Angels here. At that time, Sliwa met with a number of city officials. Stoops hopes that this visit will result in the formation of a chapter of the Angels in Portland.

In a recent interview, Stoops said

his conception of the first use of such a group in Portland would be "along the Transit Mall and the Burnside area." He added that the Angels would serve as a deterrent to crime in the city and aid and assist people who may need help who do not require law enforcement.

The Guardian Angels, founded and based in New York City, has formed a number of chapters throughout the country and at least one in Canada.

Easy to identify by the berets they wear, the saying has it that the Angels have been successful in reducing the crime rate, particularly in the area of crimes against persons.

Stoops would not comment on the likelihood of a chapter being formed here, but he did say he is optimistic and he advises those who are interested in seeing the city become a safe place to live and work to attend the forums that are being formed.

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## State offers handicapped program

The State Department of Education is holding a series of public hearings to discuss plans for regional programs for the education of handicapped children — visually impaired, hearing impaired, orthopedically impaired and autistic.

The plan, as directed by the 1981 Legislature, is to ensure that all handicapped children in Oregon, regardless of the area of the state in which they live, will have access to quality educational programs. Currently there are inequities based on area of residence, age, eligibility requirements, type of disability, services available, funding and administration.

Programs for handicapped children have grown haphazardly, according to needs and resources. Currently only seven programs receive federal, state and local money — and they are located in Portland, Eugene and Jackson County. Others receive only federal and local money. In 1981 a mid-Oregon program was initiated to serve 19 counties, but it is only for the visual and hearing impaired.

The new plan is to ensure that every child whose handicap is within one or more of the four categories will be provided educational services. Services must be available from when the disability is diagnosed until age 21 and can be provided for parents of children under age 3.

Under the plan, if adopted by the 1983 Legislature, the State Department of Education will divide the state into six regions; will guarantee access; will set standards, guidelines, eligibility requirements; will provide evaluation; will guarantee due process.

Students will remain the responsibility of their local school districts.

The state will contract with local school districts and educational service districts for administration of the programs which will include budgeting, supervision, staff training, monitoring and working with local advisory committees. Where possible, existing programs will be used.

The plan includes a \$17 million budget request for the biennium which includes \$12 million from the state general fund and \$5 million on federal funds. The estimated cost of the program is \$24 million.

## Iranian students demonstrate

On the occasion of the 18th anniversary of the formation of the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran, M.I.S.S., the Oregon chapter will hold a picket-line and mock execution on September 9 and 10, 1982, at 11 a.m. These activities will be located in downtown Portland, in front of the Multnomah County Library. They are meant to protest the atrocities being committed by Khomeini's regime and to bring to the attention of the American people that 20,000 people have been executed and that the lives of 50,000 political prisoners being held in Khomeini's jails are in danger.

The picket-line participants will be urging the public to sign petitions asking the United Nations to take immediate steps to end the flagrant violations of human rights in Iran.

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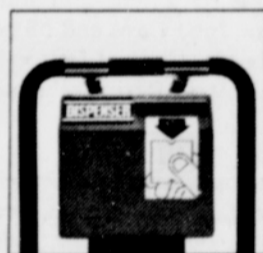
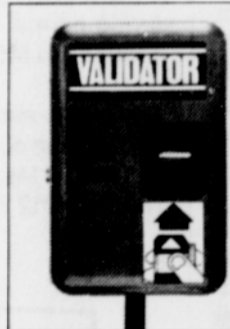
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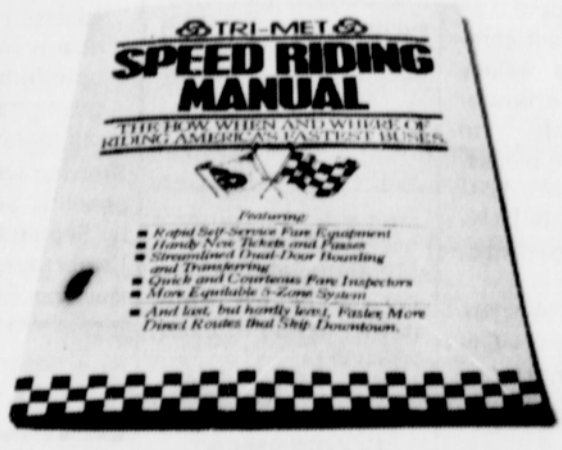


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