

# METROPOLITAN



Volunteers Margaret Neal, David Byrnes and Taasha Harden brave the wind, rain and cold to distribute surplus cheese at King Neighborhood Facility. (Photo: Richard Brown)

## Residents receive surplus cheese

*Grassroots News, N.W.* — On Saturday, June 18, Oregon Food Share distributed government-surplus cheese throughout 14 sites in Multnomah County. The number of people receiving cheese exceeded the February '83 turnout; as people stood in line to receive a buffer in their food budget in the form of a five-pound loaf of pasteurized processed American cheese.

Coordinator Larry Gaff said the cheese was made available to the public because of the surplus in dairy products generated by government subsidies. "There is over a billion pounds of cheese and over two billion pounds of powdered

milk in storage. This is the result of the government buying up ten percent of all the milk that is produced in this country at a very sizable cost of well over two billion dollars. The reason it is being given away is the cost of storage is eating into President Reagan's budget deficit. Some people look at it as a political gesture to unload his financial burden while others look at it as just what it is. Giving food to the poor."

The U.S. Department of Agriculture brings in truckloads of cheese and powdered milk to Oregon. "Our network of agencies coordinates and picks up their cheese to be

distributed throughout the state. This is the largest distribution we've done and it is going smoothly."

At the King Facility most of the people who stood in line felt the system of distribution was fair and the cheese would last for two to three weeks. A few noticed the same people going through the line two and three times. But for the most part, many felt the total system was equitable. One man stated, "I think it's a good deal. A lot of people pay taxes and it is nice to get something back for it." When asked how long he expected the cheese to last, he responded, "It all depends on how hungry I get eating it."

## House memorial promotes freeze

House Joint Memorial 15, the measure which memorializes Congress to enact legislation that will result in a nuclear freeze, was passed unanimously by the Oregon Senate.

Presented by State Senator Ruth McFarland, District 11, the measure passed 20-0 with Senator Frank Roberts excused for reasons of health.

The measure passed in the House May 10 following presentation by House Speaker Grattan Kerans, District 39.

This legislation is at the request of: Citizen Action For Lasting Security (CALS), Oregon Fellowship of Reconciliation-Portland, AFL-CIO-Salem, Peace House-Ashland, Womens International League for Peace and Freedom-Portland, Ecumenical Ministries-Portland, Oregon Human Rights Coalition-Salem, Anti-Hunger Project-Salem, Bay Area Coalition for Peace-Coos Bay, McMinnville Peacemakers-McMinnville, Educators for Social Responsibility-Portland, Women's Rights Coalition, Yamhill County Gray Panthers, Oregon Common Cause, and American Friends Service Committee.

## Slide show free

Dr. Asa Hilliard, Chief Consultant to the Portland School District's Comprehensive Desegregation Plan, will present a slide show on African History and the Afro-American experience on Friday, June 24th, at 7:00 p.m., at Mallory Avenue Christian Church, 126 NE Alberta. The program is free and the public is invited.

## Support builds for freeway protest

by Robert Lothian

Amid the rush of morning traffic and the roar of heavy equipment, a fast moving diesel gives a blast on its horn as it rumbles under the 47th Ave. overpass.

"He's union, too," said Richard, picket captain with Operating Engineers Local 701, one of several unions protesting non-union R.A. Hatch Company's work on a \$26 million Banfield light rail freeway widening project.

Richard said that railroad engineers and truck drivers often acknowledge the pickets, who have been out in force with their picket signs on the freeway overpasses between N.E. 39th and N.E. 82nd.

In one of the most energetic Oregon labor protests in recent years, building trades unions are now asking for support on the picket line from other union members and friends.

"All of the construction craft unions are calling on their brothers and sisters to come out and support us, to share in the brotherhood of solidarity," said Mac Crocker, field representative with Operating Engineers Local 701.

"We need all the help we can get," said Crocker, speaking Saturday at a rally to drum up support as

picket leadership shifted from the carpenters to the operating engineers. Pickets will meet each morning at 6:30 a.m. at 41st and Halsey, he said.

The unions are protesting because their members are experiencing up to 75% unemployment, and because they believe that awarding big state contracts to non-union contractors will tend to drive wages and benefits down for everyone. Safety violations and shoddy workmanship are also at issue.

"It's common knowledge they're out to break the unions," said Ralph Miller, president of Oregon City Carpenters Local 1388. "They've got to start somewhere, we're down, they're trying to kick us out," he said.

"I think the union means united," he said. "United we stand, divided we fall, that's the whole idea of unions." Miller said that carpenters from Vancouver, Troutdale, Oregon City and Salem have joined in the picketing.

Richard, a 13 year veteran backhoe, dozer and loader operator, said he worked only 6 weeks in 1982 and 10 weeks so far in 1983. His savings are dwindling because bills often add up to more than unemployment benefits. "In construction," he said, "when you work, you save, be-

cause you don't know when your next job is coming."

The protest is "very important for Portland and Oregon," he said. "I would hate to see Oregon turn out to be like one of those southern states that don't have the Davis-Bacon Act." According to Davis-Bacon, construction contractors must pay the prevailing rate, usually union scale, for work done on contracts involving federal funds.

While Hatch is supposed to be paying the prevailing wage, the unions have so far been unable to find out exactly what he's paying.

According to Richard, if the unions don't protest, contractors like Hatch will have a green light.

"If he breaks the unions, then he'll say, 'well, I can't afford to pay these wages anymore.' If they break the unions, then they can pay whatever they want to. It'll be just like the South and these contractors will be making a fortune," he said.

"Contractors like this can hire out of state and out of the country if he wants to. What it does for Oregon's economy is that money just leaves the state. When he's done with the job, he's going to take the money and run."

"The people he hires don't stay here, they're transients," whereas "union local" means just that, the

members live in the area, he said.

He pointed out examples of safety violations and shoddy workmanship. Several accidents have been documented with snapshots, he said, including the tipping over of a crane on June 20. It was narrowly situated next to a ditch, with stabilizing outriggers retracted and the boom extended, he said. The boom fell and threatened freeway traffic.

"If there would have been a car coming through there it would have nailed him," he said.

"Half the people out there running equipment don't know what they're doing," he said. "The union," on the other hand, "makes sure that all the safety rules are being followed." Also, he said, union contracts emphasize training essential to avoid costly and life threatening accidents. "It's too easy to kill somebody with a piece of equipment," he said.

"We've got documentation of numerous safety violations, but the state doesn't seem to be concerned about it, they just let them get away with it."

"We've watched the state guys come out here, and they don't take slump tests on the concrete, and they don't take core samples. The state is really backing him, and I don't know why."

## Ogboubiri provides uninterruptible power

by Kathryn Hall Bogle

Ezak Associates, an electronic and computer sales company, has done the impossible. And they have shown their marvel to the world — at the weekend Computer and Electronics Exposition at the Memorial Coliseum right here in Portland.

Thousands of persons stopped and gaped at Ezak's "truly uninterruptible electric power adapter." Some shoppers were unbelieving, others asked for a demonstration (and got it), some bought the desk-top sized adapter.

The adapter, an alternate power supply, that keeps electric power flowing into a computer in operation, or any tool or device dependent on a steady flow of electric power to perform its delicate and precise duty, is the brain-child of E.C. Ogboubiri, a local electrical engineer.

The inventor stands by his claim that the Data Guard contains no transfer switches and that the customer's equipment is continuously protected from all types of

power supply disturbances. The power is always supplied by the batteries even when the main power is on — or off.

Ogboubiri states that for memory devices and other power-sensitive devices, the "True-Ups" is the complete solution. "Dedicated lines, linefilters and line conditioners are not necessary," he says. "It works with a regular deep-cycle 12-volt car battery, easily available. The Data Guard is designed to be plugged directly into 110-volt 50 to 60 hz supply or to 220 volt supply."

"It's for everything from your kitchen stove and refrigerator to the commercial type cold storage of inventory to the ferris wheel at the amusement park. It's your alternate power supply and will get your job done."

The Ezak Company suggests the adapter for protecting computers, security monitors, electronic cash registers, bank proof machines and communications equipment. The machine is compact and light, weighing about 55 pounds or 25 kilograms. It requires input power



Ezak Co.'s "Data Guard" gives uninterruptible electric power supply.

of 110 to 220 volts. Back up time is estimated at two hours.

The Data Guard was exhibited June 17, 18 at the Coliseum by the Creative Computer and Electronics Company of Beaverton. It was first shown this month by the Oregon Ham Operators at their Annual

Convention Hall in Seaside.

First customers were Benjamin Leonard and Caroline Leonard (she is an Evaluation Specialist for Portland Public Schools), who bought their Data Guard to protect their IBM computer and word processor. Ezak Company specializes in structured systems analysis, design and engineering, computers in business, administrative systems, utility systems and security systems.



2621 N.E. 7th PORTLAND, OREGON 97212

"FOR FINE FOODS TO REALLY EAT & ENJOY"

**UNION AVENUE GLASS**  
SINCE 1949

Insurance Claims Invited

- AUTO GLASS
- STORE FRONTS
- WINDOW GLASS
- PLATE GLASS
- STORM DOORS & WINDOWS
- SCREEN REPAIRS
- MIRRORS
- PLEXIGLASS

OPEN SATURDAY 9-12

**289-8887**  
6103 N.E. UNION AV.

**L.A.  
FOR \$3.71.  
NOW  
THAT'S  
INCREDIBLE.**

Long distance rates are lowest between Friday at 11pm and Sunday at 5. Which means for 42 hours you can dial direct to L.A. and talk 20 minutes for no more than \$3.71. If you'd like to call even further away, the most you can pay for 20 minutes, dialing direct, is \$4.14.

So reach out and touch someone today. They'll think you're incredible.

Area	Rate
Portland	\$3.71
Seattle	\$4.14
San Francisco	\$4.14
Los Angeles	\$3.71
San Diego	\$4.14
Phoenix	\$4.14
Denver	\$4.14
Chicago	\$4.14
New York	\$4.14
London	\$4.14

Pacific Northwest Bell

# BEEPERS




## & CAR TELEPHONES

**RAM**  
THE BEEPER PEOPLE.

713 S.W. 12th Street  
Call 224-BEEP for a free demonstration.

## MRS. C's WIGS

Many wigs priced at \$5, \$10, & \$15

### Braids \$3<sup>50</sup> OR 2/\$6<sup>00</sup>



Betty Cabine, Proprietor



Brenda  
by Natalie Cole

Reg. \$25<sup>00</sup>  
**\$22<sup>00</sup>**



Spice  
by Natalie Cole

Reg. \$18<sup>00</sup>  
**\$15<sup>00</sup>**

Featuring wigs by NAOMI SIMS, ANDRE DOUGLAS, BILLIE & NATALIE COLE

## MRS. C's WIGS

**707 N.E. Fremont 281-6525**  
Closed Sun. & Mon. OPEN Tues. thru Sat. 11:30 AM to 6:00 PM