

METROPOLITAN

Minit Market success

by Robert Lothian

Raphael "Ray" Peterson and his wife Barbara have operated Barb's Stop-a-Minit Market for one year, but in that short time their store has caused a comeback for the corner of Killingsworth and Williams.

The store was a tavern before they moved in. Another tavern across the street is also closed. But when the taverns were open, the corner was a prime hangout for drug pushers and users, prostitutes and other nefarious people.

"You couldn't drive by here without getting flagged down," said Peterson, who lives in the neighborhood.

"I used to have a lot of people trying to come in here to buy weed," for a short time after the store opened," he said.

But the drug-trade and related problems have gone elsewhere, and the only people hanging out on the corner now are those waiting for the bus," said Peterson.

They couldn't get a liquor license at first, though, because of the corner's reputation.

"They said no one would ever get a liquor license on this corner again, so we just got some pop and candy and some chips and we proved to them that we could run a store here without any problems."

Business took off once they got the license, he said.

Things were really hopping at the store on a recent Saturday morning.

"Are you complaining about my prices?" he asked one customer.

"That'll be 57 cents American money."

"Where's your hubby at?" he asked another. "Are you having coffee or beer today?"

Barb's offers a unique food item — "chili fritos" — unavailable at any other store in Portland. It's corn chips smothered in homemade chili, a recipe Peterson brought with him from Los Angeles, where he grew up.

A carved wooden box on the counter offers single cigarettes for 10 cents each. "I haven't seen that since I was a kid," said a customer.

Peterson said business has improved steadily. He has been gradually able to expand the inventory from pop and chips to beer and wine, canned goods and household items.

He started out selling ice cream. Peterson's five ice cream wagons were known for their soul music. "They used to come out dancing to the truck," he said.

One of his brothers took over the ice cream business when Peterson branched out to open his first store on Williams near Going.

With what he was able to save with the ice cream business and his first store, he opened Barb's. It's a much better location, he said. "There's more foot traffic on Killingsworth than on almost any other street in the area."

His first store sponsored a women's softball team, and that's how he met his future wife, Barbara. She played left field on the team.

"The community supports the store," said Barbara. "I like it because it's something Ray and I put together with almost nothing and now it's doing pretty good."

Their plans include an expansion into the vacant storefront next door, where they'll have meat and fresh fruit and vegetables. "I still see us climbing up," said Barbara Peterson.



Raphael "Ray" Peterson dispenses food at his Stop-A-Minit Market on the corner of Killingsworth and Williams. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)



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Witnesses' accounts delivered to authorities

by Lanita Duke

GRASSROOT NEWS, N.W. — The attorney for Tony Stevenson's family hand-delivered findings from their preliminary investigation involving at least six witnesses to Police Chief Penny Harrington and Mayor Bud Clark.

On the night of Tony's death (April 20, 1985) he walked to the 7-11. While he was there an alleged shoplifter was apprehended. When the shoplifter attempted to escape and was engaged in a struggle with one of the store clerks outside the store, Tony began to maintain crowd control. He kept members of the crowd, both Black and white, from intervening in a potentially dangerous situation, according to Tom Stevenson, the

family's attorney. "While Tony was calming the crowd an attendant from a nearby gas station became upset with Tony for some reason. Eventually, the police arrived and took the alleged shoplifter into custody.

"By the time the police officers arrived, a verbal exchange between Tony and the service station attendant was taking place. When Tony was approached by the police officers, both Tony and the witnesses at the scene made every attempt to explain Tony's role in the incident and to identify Tony. These efforts were ignored by the officers.

"Tony was then assaulted by several police officers and taken to the ground. The eyewitnesses indicated that at no time did Tony resist or strike an officer. During this time a

hold was administered to him which, according to the coroner's report, resulted in his death."

Among the discrepancies between the official police version and eyewitness accounts are the telephone calls to the police and the racial confrontation which drew in the gas station attendants. Sources close to Grassroot News said the 7-11 clerks detained the shoplifter for 35-45 minutes inside the store. "It was a long time before police came. They (police) said they were undergoing a shift change."

Apparently, there were two calls made to the police: one from inside the store and the other from the gas station attendant. Our sources said the attendant called the police and said an armed robbery was in progress

and he was going to get his '45.'

Sgt. Jay Decker, the police bureau's Public Information Officer, the Stevenson's attorney, and the shoplifter — Joe Nelson — have refused to discuss the case until the public inquest. But before we went to press, we learned the stolen item sparking the resulting tragedy was a bottle of wine.

Katz advised of racist remarks to Calvin Henry

Margaret L. Carter, State Representative, District 18; Jim Hill, State Representative, District 31, and Bill McCoy, State Senator, District 8, have requested the Honorable Vera Katz, Speaker of the Oregon House of Representatives, to consider the following recommendation:

(1) Legislative staff be notified that racial harassment shall not be tolerated;

(2) Capitol Security be instructed to remove any person that may be abusive to staff or visitors in the building;

(3) You may also want to talk personally with Bob Goldstein about the incident with Mr. Henry.

Following are excerpts from the letter from Calvin Henry to Katz:

"I am writing you about the action of Mr. Bob Goldstein. It is my understanding that Mr. Goldstein is an employee of the Oregon Legislative Assembly who works for State Representative Ron McCarty. This individual publicly insulted me with his loud racist remarks on April 18, 1985 in the Capitol Coffee Shop during my lunch hour.

"On April 18, 1985, while I was having lunch with Ms. Pat Welter,

Mr. Goldstein came to our table and interrupted us with his loud remarks. I did not see him coming to the table. He stated, "Calvin, what are you doing in the white section. This is not the Black section. I guess that we can let you eat in the white section." His comments were unwarranted and the Capitol Coffee Shop was not the proper place for me to respond to Mr. Goldstein's remarks.

"It was not enough for Mr. Goldstein to insult me in the Capitol Coffee Shop; he told Mr. James Hoy, who shines shoes in the Capitol, about his insulting and racist remarks that he made to me in the Coffee Shop. Also he tried to insult me again as I was going back to work in the Office of the Secretary of State. Mr. Hoy and one of the Governor's security guards heard his comments and observed his behavior.

"I feel that no person, Black or white, should be subjected to such racist remarks and actions as committed by Mr. Goldstein in the State Capitol Building. His actions were, in my opinion, clear violations of ORS 166.065, ORS 166.155 and ORS 166.165. No Legislative or State Employee has a right to publicly insult or

harass a Black citizen of Oregon in a public building because of the citizen's race. Such actions should be immediate grounds for dismissal from state employment. Because of this, I request that you and Senate President John Kitzhaber take appropriate actions to prevent such racial incidents from occurring in the State Capitol Building." Calvin O. L. Henry

NE Neighborhood Coalition to meet

The Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods, Inc., and the 10 Inner Northeast Neighborhood Associations — Boise, Concordia, Eliot, Humboldt, King, Irvington, Piedmont, Vernon, Sabin and Woodlawn — will hold a Neighborhood Potluck on Sunday, May 5, 1985, at Peninsula Park, beginning at 1:30 p.m.

All citizens of Inner Northeast are urged to attend the potluck and get to know their neighbors and meet people from other neighborhood associations.

For further information please contact the Northeast Neighborhood Office at 248-4575 or Mrs. Opal Strong, chairperson, Neighborhood Potluck Committee, at 283-3250.

Lloyd Stevenson Fund

We would like to announce the creation of a trust fund to aid the family of Lloyd Stevenson, who died from a police choke hold, April 20, 1985. Mr. Stevenson's death leaves his family with not only the terrible loss of a husband and father, but of a hard-working bread winner as well. Those who wish to help with any amount, big or small, should make checks payable to: Lloyd Stevenson Trust Fund, c/o Urban League, 10 N. Russell, Portland, Oregon 97227.



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TO I R S CURRENT AND FORMER EMPLOYEES AND AMERICAN CITIZENS WHO KNOW OF ILLEGAL ACTIONS ON THE PART OF THE IRS

FREEDOM News Journal's continuing investigation of the IRS has uncovered what appears to be a nationwide pattern of unconstitutional activities on the part of this agency, as reported to FREEDOM by current and former employees of the IRS across the country. In recent months, hundreds of responses to FREEDOM's request for information have been received, not only from IRS employees but also from American taxpayers who have been harassed and had their constitutional rights violated by this agency.

Information which has been reported by FREEDOM has included:

- IRS employees are often compelled to make a certain number of seizures of taxpayer property within a specified period of time or face adverse consequences from IRS management;

- A day care center in Detroit was raided by seven IRS agents, and 30 children were held as hostages in guarded rooms while the agents pressured parents to pay money to the IRS which should have gone to the day care center;

- Millions of law-abiding American taxpayers are on discriminatory and harassing IRS "hit lists," according to former agents. Examples given to FREEDOM have included lists of members of certain religions and lists of people employed by direct sales companies such as Avon, Shaklee and Amway;

- In 1969, the IRS created a "national office task force" to act as "an intelligence gathering operation" for the purpose of investigating and establishing files on "Ideological Organizations." The chairman of this task force was to work in liaison with the Assistant Attorney General, Internal Security Division, Department of Justice, to "coordinate matters" with regard to the targeted organizations. Documents received by FREEDOM indicate that

similar task forces may be in operation today:

- Some IRS management personnel are generally more concerned with their bonuses, received by forcing their employees to meet unrealistically high quotas, than they are with honest treatment of taxpayers;

- The IRS directed its agents to go on what one former agent described as "fishing expeditions," auditing the books of such businesses as furriers, jewelers, antique shops, travel agencies and interior decorators to locate names of customers to be targeted for investigation.

FREEDOM, the independent journal published by the Church of Scientology®, is interested in interviewing anyone with information on illegal and discriminatory IRS policies and practices, or evidence of harassing and threatening measures taken by the IRS against taxpayers. FREEDOM is particularly interested in interviewing current or former IRS employees who have worked in the Criminal Investigation Division or who have knowledge of so-called "Special Task Forces" concerning specifically targeted groups.

The constitutional rights and basic freedoms of the citizens of the United States are being threatened and, in some cases, destroyed by this government agency. Reform is clearly needed, and FREEDOM can play a major part in bringing this about by reporting specific abuses to the public. By making this information broadly known, action can be taken to make the IRS an agency that truly serves the people of this country.

If you have knowledge of unconstitutional acts or violations of the law committed by the IRS against taxpayers, groups or even IRS employees, and you feel it is time for these acts to be exposed, and our tax system overhauled and turned into an equitable one, contact:

FREEDOM

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