

The Portland Observer 25¢

Mrs. Frances Schoen-Newspaper
University of Oregon Libr
Eugene, Oregon
97403

News In Brief

Portland Women's Crisis Line

The Portland Women's Crisis Line is pleased to announce openings for its spring volunteer direct service worker training. Volunteers would receive a forty-six hour training, spread out over four weeks, which would prepare them to answer the crisis line. Final date for application for admission to the program is April 28. Trainings begin on May 2.

No experience is necessary. Practicum students are encouraged to apply. Credit is available.

Interested women should call 232-9545 Monday - Friday, 11 am to 7 pm.

Oregon Business Network "Business After Hours" Networking Meeting

*Date: Tuesday, March 31, 1992

*Time: 6:31 PM

*Place: Travelodge Hotel - 1441 NE 2nd Avenue

Business Contacts, Leads, Referrals, Bring Plenty Of Business Cards and Brochures

Join The Hundreds Of Local Area Businesses & Professionals That Have Discovered One Of The Best Business Trends Of The 90's...Networking (small door prizes welcomed, but not required)

P.S. Last month's meeting drew standing room only...therefore we encourage you to arrive early for good seating

Registration Opens for Oregon Writers' Workshop Classes

Registration has begun for spring term classes at the Oregon Writers' Workshop. Taught by well-known Oregon writers, the Workshop classes are open to people of all skill levels who wish to make a serious commitment to writing.

Classes begin the week of March 30 at the Pacific Northwest College of Art, 1219 S.W. Park Avenue, Portland.

For more information, call Kathleen Culligan, 239-0504.

Trip Permit Limited To 120 Days

The Oregon State regulation regarding trip permits has been tightened to limit trip permits for one car to 120 days within the calendar year. Those applying for trip permits must now sign an affidavit stating that they have not used the trip permit for more than 120 days in the calendar year.

However, that does not track the use of permits by individuals.

The fee for trip permits are: \$5.00 for 10 days, \$10.00 for 30 days and 10 days each for each 30 day interval up to 120 days.

History Series Program

Public is invited to attend the History Series program sponsored by the Sons & Daughters of Oregon Pioneers organization, Monday, March 23, at 10:30 a.m. in Beaver Hall at Oregon Historical Society, 1230 S.W. Park. Free coffee and admission.

Speaker will be Mary T. Howard, Editor of Genealogical Forum newsletter, *The Insider*, and a vice president of the Forum. Her topic will be "Oregon Pioneer Cemeteries in Distress." She is active in protection and prevention of vandalism of these older gravesites. An excellent, upbeat speaker, and it will not be a dead subject!

Henry Weinhard's / KPTV Party Cruise Sunday, April 6, 1992

Z100 presents the Final Four NCAA Widows Cruise, an all male review, featuring the Men of Paradise. Celebrate the college Basketball tournament in style! Boarding is in Cascade locks at 6:30 p.m., cruise time is from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 19, 1992

KBOO presents a very special Easter Gospel Cruise featuring the talented Mr. Kirk Green along with his very special guests.

Board at SW Front and Stark at 7:30 p.m., cruise time is from 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. For more information call 221-0244.

Queen's Coronation Moves To New Date

Warmer Weather Decreases Food Stamp Benefits

Food stamp benefits will decrease by \$20 to \$30 per month for about 70,000 Oregon households in April as the result of warmer weather.

Warm spring and summer weather reduce the cost of utilities, a factor in the food stamp formula, which includes living expenses, income and household size. The key to gauging the effect of utility costs is the Standard Utility Allowance, which is lower in the spring and summer, higher in the fall and winter. The lower spring and summer allowance begins in April and continues through September.

About 40,000 households supply information using actual utility costs and are not affected by the seasonal adjustment in the Standard Utility Allowance.

If food stamp recipients' actual utility costs are higher than the allowance, it is to the recipients' advantage to use actual figures rather than the allowance in order to capture the greatest food stamp benefit.

Food stamps are federally founded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture and administered by the Oregon Adult and Family Services Division. The 110,000 households receiving food stamp benefits in Oregon encompass 254,000 individuals. Approximately \$17 million in food stamps are issued each month in Oregon. Over a year's time, that adds up to about \$204 million, channeled through Oregon grocery stores.

PCC Vice President Receives Distinguished Achievement Award

Portland Community College Vice President of Educational Services James Van Dyke was honored as "Scholar of the Year" February 11 by the Hillsboro, Oregon, Chamber of Commerce at its 1992 Distinguished Achievement Awards ceremony.

The PCC educator, who is a Rock Creek area resident, was cited for his achievements as an educator and administrator and also for his longtime community service. Van Dyke is a director of the Lintner Center for Advanced Education, housed at PCC's Rock Creek Campus in Washington County. He is also on the board of the Saturday Academy, a Portland-Vancouver area program of after-school and Saturday activities for sixth to 12th graders, intended to provide access to community resources outside the regular school curriculum. He serves on the board of Ed-Net, and is affiliated with several state and national education associations.

Starting his career at PCC in 1965 as an instructor of mathematics, he has subsequently been department chair, division dean, and executive dean of all three PCC campuses. He was interim president of the college during the 1985-86 academic year. He has held his present position since 1989.

Katz Asks Governor For More State help in Fighting Portland Gangs

Because the "role of the state is key to any success" in battling the region's growing gang violence, State Representative and Portland mayoral candidate Vera Katz today appealed to Governor Barbara Roberts for more help from the state.

"I am writing to ask that you offer your leadership, as you have demonstrated in the past, on a problem whose impact is growing throughout Oregon -- increased activity by violent street gangs," Katz wrote in a letter to Roberts.

"You've been there for us in the past and today we need your help again. I urge you to take additional action by expanding the state's effort to combat rising gang violence," said Katz.

In her letter, Katz cited statistics that indicate that gang activity has increased rapidly in Portland and other communities around the state.

Law enforcement agencies have identified over 2700 gang members statewide, far above the 370 known gang members in 1989. Gang-related violent crime has doubled, and the total number of gang crimes has increased from 1,970 in 1988 to more than 3,240 in 1991.

Katz said she is especially concerned about the spread of gangs and drug activity in Portland.

"Any lasting solution to our gang problem will require involvement of community leaders, parents, schools, police, private and public agencies, the courts, and city, county and state governments."

"Those groups must all be part of the effort to suppress street activities and provide coordinated efforts for intervention programs and prevention," the letter said.

"The role of the state, though, is the key to any hope of success."

In addition to supporting tougher enforcement and penalties for criminal activities, Katz is a strong supporter of multi-level approaches to reducing crime -- education programs, alternative activities, and employment training -- aimed at children and teens. Katz recently called for a more coordinated effort by local governments to fight crime by increasing the number of police in Portland, adding more prosecutors to handle the caseload, creating more jail space, and giving tougher sentences to drug traffickers.

Katz also listed a number of projects the state established in recent legislative sessions to combat drug and gang

continued on page 7

It's In His Blood!



Tony Polk has taken on "perhaps the most ambitious project the Red Cross has ever undertaken."

BY BRIAN RUBERRY

Tony Polk has dedicated his life to something most of us take for granted, but none of us can live without. He is one of the world's authorities on blood banking, the process of testing, storing and making this fragile fluid available to some four million patients every year.

After 26 years in the military's blood program, supplying blood for soldiers during the Vietnam and Persian Gulf wars, Polk has joined the American Red Cross to lead a massive, \$120 million modernization program of its blood centers.

For anyone else, the thought of taking on what Red Cross president, Elizabeth Dole, calls "perhaps the most ambitious project the Red Cross has ever undertaken" may seem like an overwhelming task. But for Polk, the new job is simply the latest challenge in a career that has taken him on a meteoric rise to the top of his profession.

"I always wanted to get into medicine, always wanted to help people," says the affable Polk, who at 49 is a retired Army colonel. "I believe I was put on earth to be in blood banking."

His title at the Red Cross, director of transformation operations, seems

innocuous enough until you read the job description. Polk is overseeing the overhaul of the organization's 50 blood centers which supply more than half of the blood in the United States. Building new blood testing laboratories, retraining thousands of technicians and designing a national computer system are only a handful of his duties.

Polk points out that the overriding responsibility of his new post is ensuring a safe blood supply.

"The Red Cross has the safest blood supply in the world, but the world has changed and we must change with it if we want to keep people's trust," he says, noting that the AIDS epidemic has caused blood banks worldwide to re-evaluate their systems.

For the last eight years, Polk directed the Armed Forces' blood program, the crowning jewel of a stellar military career. His mission at the Department of Defense was to develop and implement a system to get blood quickly from the United States to any battlefield in the world.

Like any good Army man, he drilled his troops until they knew his system inside and out. He had 7,200 pints of fake blood made up to add realism to the drills. His troops practiced packing the bogus blood, icing it, shipping it and unloading it during annual battlefield exercises overseas.

On August 7, 1990, practice made perfect. Polk put his system into action during Operation Desert Storm, sending more than 100,000 pints of blood to Saudi Arabia. The system worked better than even he expected.

Anthony Joseph Polk was born in New Orleans and raised in Lake Charles, La. His parents divorced early in his life. His mother washed clothes and worked other domestic jobs to keep him

Continued on page 7

NAMCO Plans Rally



by E.T. Elliott

Local opponents of a \$5 million construction contract for improvements to Holladay Street in Northwest Portland began picketing activities last week. A coalition of African-American contractors, truckers and construction workers led by the National Association of Minority Contractors of Oregon (NAMCO), charged the City of Portland with practicing a form of institutionalized racism against African-Americans.

According to a flyer being distributed

by the protesters, Mayor Bud Clark, together with commissioners Dick Bogle, Mike Lindberg and Earl Blumenauer voted unanimously to award the contract to Slayden Construction, Inc., of Stayton, Oregon, in spite of considerable opposition.

O.B. Hill, spokesman for the pickets, said, "The award by the City Council had violated the integrity of the competitive bidding process and damaged the credibility of the purchasing Bureau's Minority Business Enterprise

Program."

Slayden was given an additional week to increase MBE participation on the project from 2.5 to 10.6 percent. In doing so he denied an African-American firm, Holefield Construction, the opportunity to negotiate a contract and gave additional work, including work items in Holefield's bid, to out of town firms who did not initially bid on the job.

"What Slayden has been allowed to do is break all the rules of good faith effort by refusing to consider Holefield as a Sub contractor", Hill said.

The demonstrators plan to continue picketing activities and have given the city and Slayden a thirty day notice, demanding that ten African-Americans are provided jobs on the project. Slayden has offered to hire two laborers thus far.

A march and rally is planned on Monday, March 23, at Holladay Park. Located at N.E. 13th Avenue and Multnomah Street, the event is scheduled to begin at 10:00 am. Plans are to have a petition signing, speakers, and a brief march. The organizers are requesting support from all concerned citizens who are against Institutionalized Racism and public officials who aid and support General Contractors and workers from participating in local construction projects,

Bogle Endorsement

The Portland black Firefighters Association and the International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters (IABPFF) have endorsed City Commissioner Dick Bogle for re-election to the Portland City council.

In announcing the endorsement, William E. Kendrix, President of the Portland Black Firefighters Association, said, "I have found the Commissioner of Public Safety, Dick Bogle, has

had an open door policy to the organization and has been supportive to the needs of Black firefighters in the Bureau."

The local chapter of IABPFF represents African American firefighters who work for the City of Portland Bureau of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services.

IABPFF Endorsed City Commissioner Dick Bogle

Whats Inside...

Page 5.....Birthdays

& News Around Town

Page 7....9...Classifieds

Bids & Sub-Bids

Page 11.....Religion

Don't Forget The Albina Plan Rezoning Committee Schedule

March 24th PCC Cascade Campus, Terrell Hall, 705 Killingsworth.
March 31st Peace Lutheran Church, 2201 Portland Blvd. 7:00 PM.
April 7th King Facility, 4815 N.E. 7th Ave. 7:00 PM.