

Vets Gather At Stand Down '94

NECA/IBEW Volunteer Electricians Connect Homeless Camp

As part of the 1994 Stand Down, volunteers from the Oregon-Columbia Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 48 provided the electrical power needed to connect homeless veterans with the services and assistance needed to improve their lives.

In military terms, a 'stand down' is a short period when a soldier leaves the combat area to rest and recuperate before returning to battle. That's exactly what this annual event, which

assists homeless and displaced veterans with medical, legal, dental, employment and housing needs, is about. Stand Down 94 provided four days of rest, care, and assistance for over 600 vets in the Portland/Vancouver/Salem area. The event took place at West Delta Park, across from the Portland International Raceway in North Portland.

"These days you just can't provide this kind of assistance without extensive electrical services," said Jim Johansen, NECA/IBEW-member Friberg Electric's project manager for the Stand Down and himself a disabled Vietnam Veteran. "Computers, faxes, copiers...these homeless vets don't have access to this kind of equipment, much less the electricity to operate it. That's why we contribute our time and effort to this project--and to these veterans who gave so much to our country."

For the fourth year in a row, NECA contractors and IBEW Local 48 electricians provided all the labor, supplies, equipment, and work crews needed to power the Stand

Down for the weekend. Friberg Electric Company donated coordination and supervision of the project while NECA-member West Side Electric donated ladders and other materials to the volunteer effort.

In addition to providing wiring for the equipment that helped homeless vets access medical and dental care, legal assistance, substance abuse and post traumatic stress disorder counseling, job counseling, and VA benefits assistance, the volunteer electricians wired the perimeter lighting, the 48 barracks-style tents

in which many vets stayed for the weekend, and the kitchens that provided them with hot meals.

"These veterans deserve all the help we can give them," said Gary Price, President of Friberg Electric and a twice-decorated Vietnam Veteran. Price served on the veterans committee who originated the Portland area Stand Down four years ago and has been active in the event ever since.

It took more than 250 work hours to complete the extensive wiring needed for the Stand Down, according

to Steve Johnston, Friberg's on-site project manager, who also returned to the volunteer event for the fourth year. "Many of the people on our electrical crews are veterans themselves--so they're very willing to volunteer their time to help out other vets," added Johnston.

"So much of what we provide during the Stand Down directly depends on having electricity," said Mark McMurtrey, Stand Down coordinator and employment specialist with the Disabled Veterans Outreach Program.

Kiwanis Honor 50 Years In Civil Rights

"It doesn't seem like 50 years," mused Celes King, III on the eve of the honoring of his 50 years in civil rights leadership. "My, where have the years gone?"

King, bail bondsman to the civil rights movement of the '60s, former president of the Los Angeles Branch NAACP, prominent black Republican, co-founder of the Brotherhood Crusade, past president of the L.A. Human Relations Commission and current state chairman of the Congress of Racial Equality, will be honored by the Kiwanis Club of Angeles Mesa for this half-century of service in the civil rights arena.

A reception will be held in King's honor on Saturday, Sept. 24, 1994 at the Beverly Hills Country Club from 7 to 9 p.m.

The only child of Celes and Leontyne King, King was born and raised in Chicago's Southside--until 1938.

"My dad was a very good accountant for Murray's Pomade," King recalls. "But in 1936, my dad's uncle, Jimmy Nelson, purchased the black-owned Dunbar Hotel for \$87,500 in cash, and then asked my dad to come out to Los Angeles to manage the hotel for him."

King's first introduction to civil rights was in the hotel lobby. "The civil rights issues were discussed openly every night in the Dunbar Hotel," said King. "And I listened to the elders--men like Sentinel Publisher Leon Washington, journalist Lawrence Lamar and attorney Loren Miller--who were among the men



A former branch president of the NAACP, Celes King III, is honored for civil rights work.

who came in the hotel every night."

Following a stint in World War II as a pilot in the famed Tuskegee Army Airfield, King returned to Los Angeles, went to law school and became active in the NAACP.

In 1966, King was elected president of the Los Angeles Branch NAACP. "Back then, you had to be a worker to get elected to a branch office," King recalled. "Today, if you stay around awhile, the slots eventually become open."

King made national headlines during the famous civil rights movement of the late 1950s and early 1960s.

Having one of the largest bail agencies in the nation, King was called upon to bail out of jail civil

rights workers in the south and Black Panthers in the north.

In those days, however, King couldn't bail out black protesters per se, he remembered. "As resident vice president of the Wabash Fire Insurance Company of Indianapolis, Indiana (the insurance company what underwrote the bonds) I set up an arrangement where he would call the insurance company, and it would call a white bondsman to spring the civil rights workers. They (the whites) never knew I was involved."

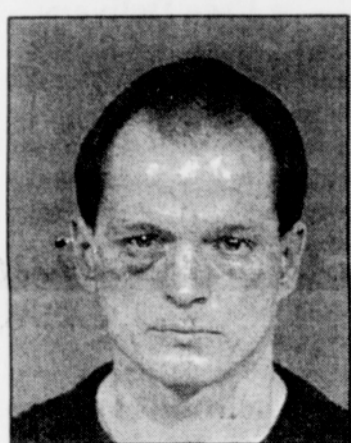
King's civil rights accomplishments are too numerous to mention in this forum. But a host of accolades will be presented at the reception on Sept. 24. For ticket information, call (213) 298-8777.

Crime Stoppers

The Portland Police Bureau and other local law enforcement agencies, are asking for your help in locating Richard John Kalpakoff.

An arrest warrant, charging Richard Kalpakoff with Theft in the First Degree, is currently on file with the Wasco County Sheriff's Office in The Dalles. In addition, investigators in the Portland metropolitan area want to question him in connection with at least nine cases of fraud.

Richard John Kalpakoff is a 37-year-old white male, 5'8" tall, 140 pounds, with brown hair and



hazel eyes. He has a scar above his right eye and the number "13" tattooed on his left arm.

Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information to Crime Stoppers, that leads to an arrest in this case, call (503) 823-HELP.

Employees Quit Day Jobs To Volunteer

Nearly 1,500 volunteers "quite" their day jobs to become Day of Caring volunteers on Aug. 30. they helped kick off the 1994 fund-raising drive by trading the computer and fax machine for a paint brush and hammer to work on projects at local agencies.

"For many human care agencies, the work you do on Day of Caring could not be achieved in any other way," said Megan Clark from Janus Youth Programs' Harry's mother/Runaway Youth Services, who spoke at United Way's campaign kick-off. Thirty volunteers landscaped the grounds and painted the interior of Garfield House, a residential shelter of Harry's Mother, during last year's Day of Caring.

"The kids felt that someone cared about them and they felt less isolated"

Agencies were overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of the teams who came to work for the day:

A Tektronic, Inc. team who painted the exterior of the new Boys & Girls clubs in Hillsboro offered to come back on their own on a Saturday to paint the inside. "The volunteers kept saying that it was their building and they wanted to finish it," said Executive Director Nita Smith.

David's Harp, an agency serving people with mental illness, got just what it needed from Pioneer Place employees. "We started this expansion project a year ago and are

very near completion," said Program Coordinator Mary Kautzer. "Having people come out and help us put on the finishing touches is sort of like putting a bow around the whole package." Volunteers from Walsh Construction Company made an impact on Karen Wagner, director of Project Linkage at Metropolitan Family Service. "It's quite encouraging. We've got a lot of very big hearts walking around right now with very strong arms and legs. it looks to me like the community is helping itself. I strongly affirm and support the efforts of people who want to come out and actually give a helping hand."

Approximately 140 projects were tackled by this year's Day of Caring volunteers, providing 4,500 hours of free labor to local agencies and their clients, including:

Enterprise Rent-A-Car employees throwing a birthday party for homeless youth at Outside In;

A team from Portland General Electric performing yard work for Janus Youth Programs' Harizon House;

Oregon Cutting Systems employees taking senior citizens from volunteers of America on a fishing trip and picnic; and

Epson Portland, Inc. volunteers painting an outdoor mural for Fruit and Flower Child Care Center.

Hearty Fall Savings



Prices effective Sept. 14 through September 20, 1994 at Safeway.

Blade or 7-Bone
Chuck Roast
• Quality beef
• SAVE UP TO
1.19 PER LB
99¢ Lb.

Fresh Bulk
Mushrooms
• White
Or
Crimini
99¢ Lb.

Tillamook
2-Lb. Cheese
• Medium Cheddar
• Monterey Jack
• Colby
• SAVE UP TO 60¢
368 Ea.

Look In The This Week Magazine for your Safeway Shopping Guide for a complete list of specials on sale this week at Safeway!

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Enjoy Extra Savings With The New 'In-Store' Safeway Shopping Guide Available at your Safeway store.