

Freightliner Keeps Portland Headquarters

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Last month, the truck maker won concessions from the four craft unions in Portland which represent nearly 1,200 machinists, painters, teamsters and janitors who voted 762-227 to accept cuts in pay and benefits.

Rainer Schmueckle, president and CEO, said the DaimlerChrysler subsidiary would report a loss this year but the plan should save Freightliner \$850 million annually by 2004.

"This plan is sweeping and it's comprehensive," Schmueckle said at a news conference Friday. "In short, we are completely restructuring this

company."

The company said a final round of 2,700 layoffs would pare the Freightliner work force by nearly half, from a peak of about 25,000 employees in 1999 to 13,300 by the end of 2001.

Freightliner began laying off workers in the first half of last year, and it has been issuing a steady stream of pink slips ever since.

Schmueckle blamed the downturn in the economy, which has hit the trucking industry especially hard.

Freightliner now has about 3,000 workers at its Portland headquarters, an assembly line and a parts plant. In the summer of 2000, Freightliner employed about 5,000 people in Oregon.

Weatherization Workshop

Don't let your heating bills take you hostage. Take action! Weatherize! Come to a workshop and learn how to save energy through material installation, behavioral changes and simple maintenance around your home. The next workshop will be held at the Woodstock Community Center, located at 5905 SE. 43rd Ave. on Thursday, Nov. 1, from 6 - 8 p.m. Call 503-284-6827.



Wellness Week

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Mental Health Summit

Including Keynote Speaker Dr. Julia A. Boyd

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Pitching In for a Clean Beach

A young volunteer is one of about 4,500 people who turned out to participate in the 18th annual Great Oregon Fall Beach Cleanup held Oct. 6 along the entire Oregon coast. An estimated 18 tons of trash was collected in the annual event organized by SOLV.

Walnut Park Theater To Be Demolished

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on the south side made renovation impossible.

Proposals for the site were due October 13. The PDC would like to attract such businesses as a grocery store, a family restaurant, a pharmacy, or a cinema, among others. The PDC will take about two weeks to review the proposals. The finalists will be presented at a public meeting, where neighborhood residents and business owners can make recommendations.

Many will be happy to see the building go. It has been an eyesore for several years, and a home to squatters, pigeons, and graffiti. There are those

who will miss the building, though, and they will be pleased to know that one of Cortell's priorities for the project is the preservation of the theater's sign.

The sign will be placed in the PDC's warehouse, and the goal is to preserve it and incorporate into the new development.

While the building stands, Cortell would like citizens to notify her office at 503-823-3303 if they see any graffiti, tagging, or other problems at the site.

Bidding on the demolition ends on Thursday. Bidders are limited to members of the Sheltered Market program, a city program that gives opportunities to minority- and women-owned contracting firms.

Mailrooms Tighten Security After Anthrax Reports

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sessions given by the California Highway Patrol.

At a meeting of the National Postal Forum in Denver, Postmaster General Jack E. Potter told participants that the U.S. mail is safe.

"We cannot afford for that confidence to erode," Potter told representatives of corporate and government mailrooms. "With additional vigilance and additional work with our public, we won't let that happen."

FedEx Corp. employees were put on higher alert for suspicious mail.

FedEx is carefully screening packages and called the FBI about a few suspicious packages, all of which turned out to be false alarms, said Jess Bunn, a spokesman at the company headquarters in Memphis. The company is also advising making gloves and respirators available to the employees.

In Washington, White House spokeswoman Anne Womack said mailroom security procedures have also been enhanced. She would not give details.

News organizations across the country said the same.

"We will look at packages and unless they say

'confidential,' they will be opened. Junk mail is being set aside for the time being while we streamline the process," CBS spokesman Dana McClintock said.

Some manufacturers are taking steps as well.

Boeing Co., which has factories in the Seattle area and administrative offices in Chicago, has set up new checkpoints to inspect incoming shipments, spokesman Dean Tougas said. The inspection points were set up a distance away from the company's production areas.

At the postal forum in Denver, three seminars on mailroom security were added to the three-day convention. Potter told participants to watch for letters or packages that lack a return address or have a vague address.

He said suspicious pieces of mail should be put in a plastic bag and turned over to authorities. "Don't open it. Don't shake it. Don't smell it," he said.

The CDC also said suspicious letters or packages should be placed in a plastic bag or similar covering. People should then leave the room, close the door and wash their hands with soap and water before notifying police and building security officials.

Sickle Cell Foundation Needs Support

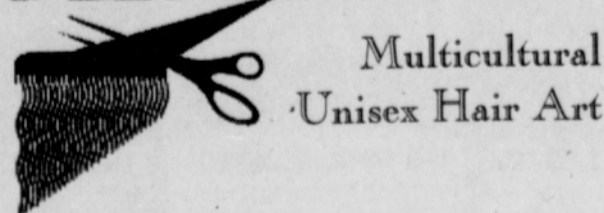
Northeast Portland's Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation will be having their annual telethon on Multnomah Community Television (MCTV) on Nov. 3.

Local musical and variety talents are being sought to participate in this year's event. For those interested in joining, contact Pastor Marcia Taylor of the local office at 503-249-1336.

The foundation works to bring public awareness and education about sickle cell anemia and help patients who suffer from the disease.

The local group is also accepting resumes from potential new members to join its board of directors. Dynamic and enthusiastic volunteers are needed.

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