

METROPOLITAN

Applications open for PDC homes

The Portland Development Commission announced today that it has received six additional properties for Portland's Urban Homestead Program. Open houses for the properties will be held Tuesday, July 24th from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

The properties PDC is presently offering are located at 5614 N.E. 27th Avenue, 4815 N.E. 11th Avenue, 4216 N.E. 16th Avenue, 4834 N.E. 17th Avenue, 4835 N.E. 22nd Avenue and 6552 N.E. 8th Avenue. Program guidelines and fact sheets will be posted at each house. Interested persons must attend the open house to apply for the properties.

A drawing will be held the 30th of July. Those selected will then complete formal applications to verify their eligibility in the program, a process which takes approximately two weeks.

Under the Urban Homestead Program, properties are received by the Commission from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Veteran's Administration (VA) as part of their programs to dispose of mortgage foreclosed properties. The

houses are then transferred "as is" by the PDC to qualified "homesteaders" for their prorated share of taxes, approximately \$500.

Selected homesteaders agree to repair health and safety code items. These repairs usually include, but are not limited to plumbing, roof and furnace repairs and updated electrical wiring. A 3% interest loan is provided to make the needed repairs.

Homestead properties are available to City of Portland residents who are first-time homeowners and who meet the income guidelines of the program. For example, a family of 2 could earn a gross monthly income of up to \$1,538. Homesteaders are further required to live in the properties for five years after purchase.

Twenty-seven families have become homeowners since the inception of the program. PDC is anticipating an additional allocation of homestead funds to allow acquisition of about 15 more homestead houses this summer.

Those people who continue to submit applications on homestead properties will remain on the mailing list.



Secretary of State Norma Paulus helps potential voter get registered at 7-Eleven. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

7-Eleven stores launch voter registration drive

One hundred forty-one Oregon 7-Eleven stores are now involved in a voter registration program, Secretary of State Norma Paulus announced last week.

In an effort to combat the steady decline in voter participation, Norma Paulus announced the start of the voter registration effort in cooperation with the Southland Corporation, parent company of 7-Eleven stores, the League of Women Voters and with the assistance of Multnomah County election officers.

Noting the significant decline in registrations among qualified voters, Bob Geiser, Oregon Zone manager stated, "It is time for government, private business, and citizen groups to renew our aggressive efforts to encourage citizens to actively participate in the

electoral process."

The registration program will be available at 7-Eleven stores throughout Western and Central Oregon, stretching from Medford to Portland, and Bend to Coos Bay. Voter registration cards will be available from displays prominently featured at all participating 7-Eleven stores. Store personnel will be encouraging eligible citizens to complete and mail the registration card.

"I am very pleased with the cooperation and efforts of all 7-Eleven franchisees, and hopeful that many unregistered citizens will be reached by this registration effort," Bob Geiser stated.

The voter registration drive will be an on-going "year-round" effort for Oregon 7-Eleven stores.

N/NE students receive full PCC scholarships

Jerry R. DeVoe, Nga Thi Dinh and Lisa Jones are among North Portland students who are recipients of full tuition scholarships to Portland Community College for one year.

The awards for the 1984-85 school year were given the students by PCC, according to William T. Dobson, coordinator of the college's High School Relations office.

This is the third consecutive year that PCC has made full tuition

scholarships available to graduating seniors in each of the PCC district's 36 high schools. DeVoe is a 1984 graduate of Benson High School. Dinh was graduated from Jefferson High School and Jones is a Roosevelt graduate.

Northeast Portland students winning full-year scholarships to PCC under the same program include Nai Vern Saechao, Madison High School, Cynthia Sue Sleightam, Grant High School, and Leslie B. Muller, Franklin High School.



Korean children march in the folk parade at Neighborfaire, in Waterfront Park, on Sunday. The annual event drew 310,000 for music, ethnic food and fireworks. (Photo: Kris Altucher)

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Community Profiles

by Linda L. Thompson



ALVIN MANUS

(Photo: Bob Pickens)

Love of flowers pays

What happens to a dream deferred? Does it dry up like a raisin in the sun? ...Not for Alvin Manus, owner and operator of "The Flower King Florist, located at 3024 N.E. Union Ave. His dream was not deferred and at the age of 31, his current dream is a current reality. The Flower King is now one of Portland's finest florist shops.

Born here in Portland, June 16, 1953, Alvin graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School and completed two years of college at PSU. After college, he worked in various jobs ranging from construction work to picking beans.

In 1977, while watching the world series, he decided to make flowers his business. Lou Brock, famous baseball player, came on during a commercial and advertised his florist shop. Alvin felt that if a person who already had money would invest in this type of business, apparently there was a profit. He also realized that this was a commodity that is used by almost every business and profession. With these two factors in mind, he began selling flowers from his home. His first real break came when he went to a person that was the catering manager for one of the largest convention centers in Portland and asked for his business. When asked why, Alvin said he could not give him any reason other than he needed a "chance". He was given a chance and has been a continuous success since. Mr. Manus also attributes his success to his grandparents, Mr. and

Mrs. J.I. Manus, who stood behind him morally and financially.

When asked for his formula for success, Alvin answered, "I hate to lose, I work hard and I am not afraid of hard work. There are times when I work 16 hours per day."

"I also keep my ego in check—although I consider myself somewhat successful in business, it is a struggle. I am by no means a millionaire, but a businessman trying to keep his head above the water. I have only acquired the tools to work with in this profession. Many Blacks in business fail because they never get the necessary tools.

"Education is a must. The system will not allow you to be successful and nothing is going to change for you without it. Therefore, you need to deal with it. Education is a valuable tool."

"Appearance is another factor in success. Without the proper appearance, you will never get in the door."

"There is a God and this cannot be ignored. I was raised in a Christian home and realize that all blessings come from God. "One is better off both physically and mentally without substance abuse. It doesn't enhance your potential.

"I have always loved flowers and it is paying off in more ways than one."

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