

News Around Town

LOOKING FOR HOUSES IN ALL THE RIGHT PLACES

The Housing Authority of Portland (HAP) is searching for vacant abandoned houses in your neighborhood. Last fall, HAP received a grant through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to buy and rehabilitate 60 vacant or abandoned houses and place them on its rent rolls for low income families. Your help is needed in identifying three-bedroom houses that could qualify for purchase and renovation under the guidelines of the grant.

The purchase of homes is closely linked with the City of Portland's Neighborhood Revitalization Project and the findings of the City's Vacant and Abandoned Buildings Task Force. Besides adding to the pool of affordable subsidized housing, the goals the project include upgrading vacant housing and bringing it back into use as family housing.

HAP has already obtained options to buy 17 houses and hopes to all 60 optioned by this fall. To qualify for purchase through the grant program, houses have three bedrooms, less than 1,600 square feet of finished living area, and need some rehabilitation. Houses must be in the City of Portland, situated on an improved public street and be served by the municipal sewer system. They also must have been vacant since October of 1988. HAP will buy houses through institutional foreclosures and from private owners at a fair market value, depending on the quality, size, condition, and location of the property.

Sellers of qualified vacant or abandoned houses will find HAP's purchase process to be somewhat different than a private two-party sale. First, the property is offered to HAP at a negotiated price. The agency proceeds to survey and appraise the properties and inspect for such things as energy efficiency and pests and dry rot. Before a purchase is complete, the local HUD office must approve each house as qualifying under the grant guidelines. Once approval is given, HAP initiates closing on the properties.

One strong advantage to the seller is that HAP will pay cash at closings, which are expected to begin in July. "It's an opportunity for owners to be relieved of a house they no longer want or can no longer care for," Clark said. "If the house qualifies, the owners don't have to put another penny into it, and then are paid in cash for the sale."

If you have a three bedroom vacant house you would like to sell, or know about an abandoned house on your block, please call HAP's Development Technician Anne Bluestein at 255-1065. You do not have to have a real estate agent to sell your property to HAP, but licensed real estate agents are encouraged to contact the Housing Authority if they have a qualified property listed.

PSU FOUNDATION ELECTS BOARD MEMBERS

(Portland, OR)—Two new board members have been elected to the Portland State University Foundation, announced Lee Koehn, President of the Board.

Louis Boston is President of Gresham Chrysler-Plymouth, Inc.. Boston has held that position since 1987. Prior to joining Gresham Chrysler Plymouth, he was the owner of Boston Marketing Group in Syracuse, New York. He received his BA from West Virginia State and attended the Executive Graduate School of Business Administration at University of Michigan.

Roberta McEniry is Senior Vice President of Investor/corporate Communication at Benj. Franklin Federal Savings and Loan Association. McEniry, a CPA and Certified Internal Auditor, was Director of Corporate Audit at Benj. Franklin until 1987 when she was promoted to Senior Vice President. McEniry graduated from Portland State University with a BS in Business.

PORTLAND OBSERVER
"The Eyes and Ears of the Community"
288-0033

COMMUNITY MEETINGS - CALENDAR

The Portland Cable Access Board of Directors will hold a special Meeting on Wednesday, May 3rd at 7:00 pm to discuss and take public testimony on the proposal received from the City Attorney on the proceeds from the sale of Roger Cable TV.

The meeting will take place at 2766 NE Union Avenue.

HARRIET TUBMAN CELEBRATION

Harriet Tubman Middle School located at 2231 North Flint Avenue will begin their Celebration of International Week Activities May 5, 1989. Culminating activities will commence at 9:15 AM, May 5, 1989, with more than eighty (80) high school and college students who are attending Portland high schools and colleges. These guests will be representing their native countries from continents around the world. These students will share their cultural, religious and ethnic backgrounds with Tubman students.

Our theme this year is "E Pluribus Unum" - "One of Many".

May 4th at 9:30 our guests will include 2 groups from one of our feeder schools - King. The choir directed by Miss Gifford and the Gymnastic Team under the direction of Cheryl Ritchie. Special Music - Mr. Michael Bishop and friends.

Parents and friends are welcome to one or all of these International week programs.

DR. VERNE DUNCAN - DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, STATE OF OREGON WILL BE OUR FEATURED SPEAKER, MAY 5, 1989 AT P:125 AM.

COMMUNITY LEADER SELECTED TO HEAD HOUSING PROGRAM

The Housing Authority of Portland (HAP) took another step toward a stronger promotion of the community spirit in its developments by selecting community activist Benjamin Priestley as its new program director for Low Rent Public Housing. Priestley has worked with HAP's 6,000 residents for five years as the Tenant Services Coordinator and began his new position April 17, 1989.

Priestley's intense involvement with the community, his broad knowledge of social services, and knowledge of HAP's housing programs will help make him a strong manager for HAP's Low Rent Public Housing Program.

"He's good with people," Executive Director Donald E. Clark said. "Ben will be able to combine his strong network of social services with the housing program and help develop options for all residents."

AFRICAN CULTURAL NIGHT DUE AT PSU ON MAY 19

Hon. Yusuf Usman, Nigerian Consul General to New York, will be the featured speaker Friday, May 19 during an African Cultural Night at Portland State University.

The evening is scheduled to begin at 6:00 pm in the third-floor ballroom of Smith Memorial Center (on *SW Broadway between Montgomery and Harrison Streets).

The address by the Nigerian consul on the "Need for African Solidarity" will accompany a dinner, African art exhibit, fashion show featuring African clothing, and dancing to a reggae band. PSU's Association of African Students is sponsoring the event to help promote social, political and cultural exchange about African related issues between the university and the community at large.

Tickets may be purchased at the door at \$4.00 general and \$2.50 student. Children under 12 may attend without charge. For further information, contact Felix Nnaji at 464-4452.

PROPHET TO SPEAK

"Peace Education" is the topic of the Oregon Peace Institute Speakers Forum, Thursday evening, May 18, at 7:30 pm, Fifth Floor, Galleria, 921 SW Morrison Street Portland.

The speaker is Dr. Matthew Prophet, Superintendent Portland Public Schools since 1982.

Following a distinguished military career Prophet turned to education. He served as Deputy Superintendent in the Lansing (Michigan) School District for six years and as Superintendent for four years just prior to coming to Portland.

He holds a doctorate in educational supervision and administration from Northwestern University, a master's degree from Roosevelt University, and a bachelor's degree from the University of Omaha.

This meeting is open to the public without charge.

The Oregon Peace Institute focuses on educating Oregonians on issues of the nuclear arms race and peaceful conflict resolution on personal, local and global levels.

Oregon Commission on Black Affairs

— in cosponsorship with —

Self-Enhancement Youth Gang Taskforce Portland Public Schools
Minority Youth Concerns Action Program

— Present —

Straight Talk & Frightening Realities YOUTH ANTI-GANG FORUMS

FORMAT: • Skits
• Ex-gang member forum/panelist
• Anti-gang rap (performed by panelist)

DATE	PLACE	TIME
April 26	Whitaker Middle School 5700 NE 39th	1:30 - 2:45 pm (School Assembly)
May 3	Self-Enhancement Spring Rally Whitaker Middle School 5700 NE 39th	7:00 - 9:00 pm
May 10	Tubman Middle School 2231 N. Flint	9:30 - 10:45 am (School Assembly)

For more information, call:
OCBA 378-2969, SEI 249-1721
Alcena Boozer 280-5783, Jimi Johnson 280-2600
Lonnie Jackson 981-9531

PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Commission Meeting

Date: May 10, 1989
Place: The Portland Bldg., 11th Floor
1120 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, OR
Time: 9:30 a.m.

Commission meetings are open to the public. A complete agenda is available at PDC. Call 796-5300.

PDC is the City of Portland's urban renewal and economic development agency.

SMOKEY ROBINSON REVEALS HOW INFIDELITY AND DRUGS DESTROYED HIS MARRIAGE

Veteran recording artist Smokey Robinson tells how an extramarital affair, an illegitimate child and increasing drug dependency threatened his musical career, and led to the breakup of his marriage, in the May EBONY.

In a revealing excerpt from his autobiography, the famed Motown singer who charted numerous hits both as a solo artist and with The Miracles, explains why his life took a downward turn after the death of his father. "It was hard to admit it," Robinson says, "but with him gone, I felt frightened. I wasn't sure what would happen to me." Robinson also explains how the birth of a son outside of his marriage resulted in his subsequent drug use and the divorce of his wife of 30 years, Claudette.

Having rejected the help of relatives, friends and even longtime mentor Berry Gordy, Jr., Smokey reveals how finding the Lord helped him make his miraculous comeback from near self-destruction.

BAN APARTHEID!

A MAN WITH A PLAN

BY Dan Bell

Sam Watson local musician and producer is definitely a man with a plan and the talent to implement it. This native of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, who moved to Portland 2 years ago has accumulated the expertise to sell and produce his own high quality cassette.

Playing music since he was nine years old, his is adept at playing guitar, bass guitar and piano. He focuses his energy primarily on piano and voice.

Upon his release from the service he played with the 'Florida Manna' which was a pop oriented group and 'Rainbow Colored Dance' a straight ahead Jazz group. During his tenure with groups he became involved in the production aspect of the music industry. He worked with such notables as the 'Bee Gees' - Saturday Night Fever album.

The primary catalyst that helped Sam to become a producer, came after working on an album project that failed to come to completion. This episode led to him starting his own production company, called 'Watson', in a renovated room in his Florida home. After numerous bureaucratic obstacles encountered while working with his advertising and public relations agency, he decided to move to Portland.

After a hiatus of 15 months, and with the encouragement of friends and acquaintances, he elected to pursue another try in the music industry. With this in mind he secured a position at Bacchus, and later went on to produce his just released cassette "Session-One". "Session-One" is blues tinged, with a variety of styles that has a little bit for everybody, covering blues, ballads, and pop.

Another unique aspect of this artist is his business acumen in executing the production and marketing of his cassette, utilizing local artists and facilities. He is making quite an impact on the local market.

"Session-One" is available at 'The House of Sound', 'Music Millennium', 'Budget & Tapes' as well as other major music retailers in the Portland area.

Interested musicians would be well served to contact Mr. Watson because he has indicated a desire to be a ballast to buoy other deserving artists thru his recording company "AZONE".

For further information contact: Dan Bell (503) 288-0033.

MRS C'S WIGS



BETTY CABINE
PROPRIETOR
TUFS-SAT
11:30-6:00

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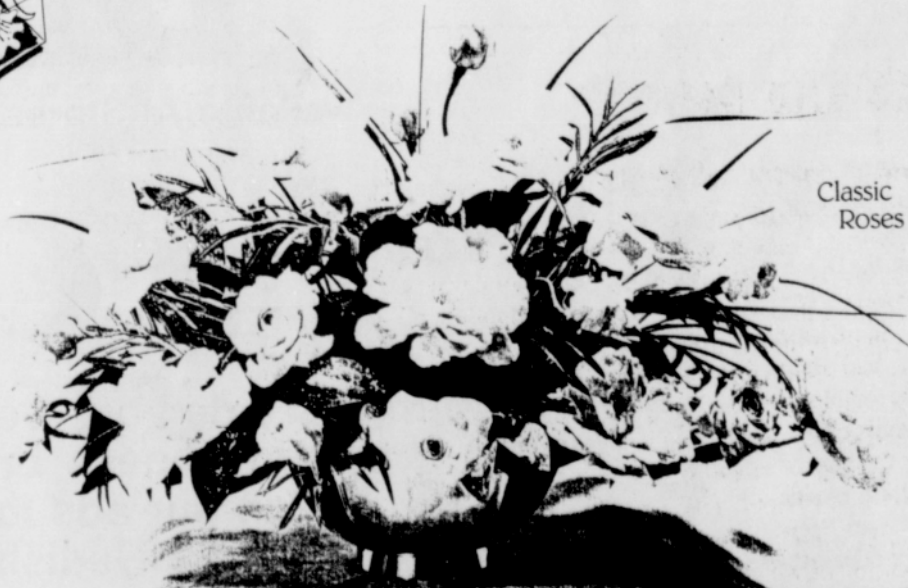
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