

# HOUSING

The Portland Observer

## PORTLAND HOUSING CENTER'S HOME BUYING FAIR



- Talk to housing professionals and find out how you can buy a house.
- Includes Local bankers, real estate agents, Nehemiah Project, Homestead Program, and H.O.S.T. (non-profit housing developers), and housing counselors.

Located at Immaculate Heart Catholic Church 2926 N Williams

July 31st, Saturday 1:00 to 4:00 pm

There will be refreshments served and activities for children.

For more information call 282-7744



*The Portland Housing Center provides counseling and education for low and moderate income households interested in buying their first home. The program offers classes, information, and personal counseling about home buying.*

*The Portland Housing Center is a private, non profit organization. It is supported by the City of Portland, local financial institutions, and foundations.*



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### Former House postmaster pleads guilty to embezzlement

Robert Rota, former postmaster of the House Post Office, pleaded guilty to two charges involving embezzlement, Justice Department officials announced Monday.

The development is expected to advance the investigation of two or three members of Congress in connection with allegations that money was improperly obtained from the House Post Office.

Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, D-Ill., chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, has been under investigation by the Justice Department for several months concerning some \$20,000 his office received over five years for expense vouchers submitted for stamps.

In announcing Rota's guilty plea at the Justice Department, prosecutor Ramsey Johnson said, "Mr. Rota's guilty plea will greatly aid our ability to resolve the allegations of corruption at the House Post office, and underscores our commitment to hold accountable those who have engaged in such corruption."

As part of his guilty plea, Rota "has agreed to provide truthful testimony and to cooperate fully in the ongoing investigation," Johnson said.

In September 1992, the former manager of the House Post Office pleaded guilty to embezzlement and misuse of public funds and agreed to cooperate with federal prosecutors.

There was no immediate comment on the latest development from Rostenkowski, who was out of town. But he was expected to be back in Washington Tuesday to resume negotiations with the Senate on President Clinton's \$500 billion deficit reduction package.

If the Justice probe should result in an indictment of Rostenkowski, House rules would require him to step aside as chairman of the powerful Ways and Means Committee.

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