

HOUSING

Group Fights For Affordable Housing

About 1,000 delegates from the member churches of the Portland Organizing Project are expected to gather with representatives of government and business in a "walking convocation" of the River District on Sunday.

This is the latest step in a dispute over the district, a development plan which calls for \$870 million in spending, including \$160 million in public money.

Since March 2, the project has been negotiating with leading supporters of the district, including members of the central city 2000 task force, the river district steering committee and the members of the Portland City Council.

Members of those groups will be asked to speak at the Sunday event, which starts at Liberty Ship Memorial Park on Northwest Front Avenue at 3 p.m.

Project leaders will ask business and government leaders to re-

spond to the group's updated proposal, calling for a Family Investment Trust.

Nancy Phelps, a leader from Redeemer Lutheran Church, said the trust would put \$15 million in public dollars into a housing fund for affordable, mixed income housing and \$16 million per year for pathways to family wage jobs. Funding for child care services could come later.

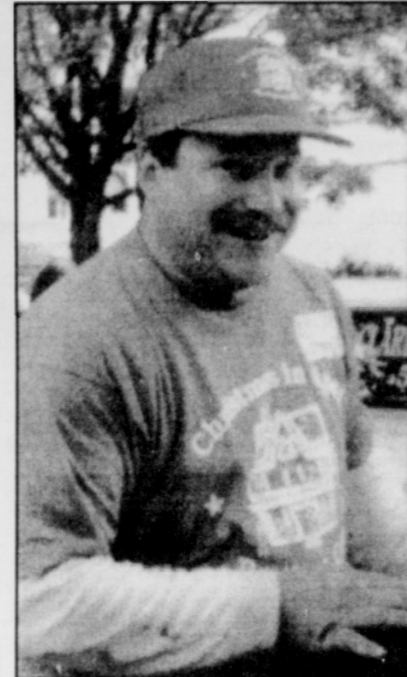
"This is a local GI Bill for starter families, for struggling families making 100 percent of median family income or less, trapped by the squeeze between falling wages, rising housing costs and climbing property taxes," Phelps said.

Valerie Chapman, pastoral administrator at St. Francis Catholic Church said the trust "fills out our Covenant for the Common Good, which is a call for equity across the city, not just in downtown."

Area Homes Get Fix up



Jane Hay and her husband Gerry paint Frieda Murray's residence.



Steven Harrop, a Fred Meyer auditor serves as a team captain of goodwill ambassadors.



Northeast Portland resident Frieda Murray in her newly spruced-up home.

Christmas In April Volunteers Go To Work

About 700 volunteers made minor and major repairs for nearly 40 Portland area residents last weekend in the annual Christmas in April public service program.

The effort is targeted to elderly and low-income residents in need of help. Referrals come from various senior and human services officials.

A big contribution of labor was donated this year by Fred Meyer employees. Electricians, roofers and plumbers also donated their expertise and labor to the various projects.

Ceramic Tile Installation

Installing ceramic tile is a popular means of upgrading the style and value of a home, and there are numerous "how-to" references for the do-it-yourselfer. Along with several books, The Home Depot offers the video, "U-Tile It Yourself," and a free in-store class. Below are some basic guidelines. Your tile dealer can provide more technical advice.

Basic materials and tools include tiles, tile spacers, thin-set adhesive, grout, notched trowel, tile cutter, nippers, squeegee, level, tape rule, chalk line, straight edge and square, putty knife, tile sealer, sponge and cleaning rags.

Measure area to be tiled and calculate the number of tiles needed. Don't force spacing between tiles.

Determine backing surface. Concrete, "Wonder Board" (for high humidity areas such as showers), or exterior plywood are best choices.

Thoroughly clean and dry tiling areas. Divide area into quadrants with chalk line.

Test tile design. Lay tiles and spacers out dry. Start at center and cover one quadrant at a time.

Spread adhesive over small area at a time so it won't dry before tiles are set. With slight, twisting motion, press each tile firmly into place. Stand spacers on end between tiles. Check accuracy with straight edge and square.

Leave small spaces at edges for cut tiles. Wear safety glasses when using

tile cutter. To cut irregular pieces, use tile nippers. Let tile stand for 24 hours. Remove spacers and clean away any debris.

Using squeegee, apply grout diagonally across tiles two or three times. When grout becomes firm, wipe away excess. Reclean surface and polish with dry cloth.

Allow grout to "cure" up to seven days. Then wash surface, polish and add sealer. When dry, buff tile to restore bright luster.

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"Ceramic Tile Installation"—Additional information is available at a Home Depot.

"Insulate Noise With A Garbage Disposal"—Write to: American Standard Inc., P.O. Box 6820, Piscataway, NJ 08854 or call 1 800 524 9797, Ext. 300.

"Water Quality Problems and Solutions"—Phone 1 800 869 2837 and ask for booklet, The Water In Your Life.

"A Front Load Washer"—Call 1 800 245 0600 for more information.

"Pocket Guide To Ceran Glass-Ceramic Ranges"—Write to: Schott Corporation, Technical Glass Division, 3 Odell Plaza, Yonkers, NY 10701.

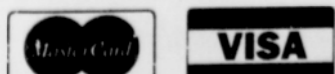
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