

# HOUSING The Portland Observer

## Free "How-To" Workshops At Homebase

Free "how-to" workshops will be offered at all HomeBase home improvement warehouses on Saturday and Sunday, August 26 & 27 and September 2 & 3.

Taught by knowledgeable HomeBase experts and product specialists, the clinics are geared towards do-it-yourselfers. They will include demonstrations and question and answer sessions. The workshops are open to the public; registration is not required.

The free one-hour clinics are scheduled as follows:

### Saturdays (August 26 & September 2):

- "Replacing Screens" 10:00 a.m.
- "Installing Faucets" 11:00 a.m.
- "Basic Wiring" 12 noon
- "Installing Door Locks" 1:00 p.m.
- "Installing Ceiling Fans" 2:00 p.m.

### Sundays (August 27 & September 3):

- "Installing Outdoor Security Lights" 10:00 a.m.
- "Installing Fencing" 11:00 a.m.
- "Taking Measurements for Blinds" 12 noon

For more information about the workshops, please call your local HomeBase warehouse.

One of the nation's leading chains of home improvement warehouses, HomeBase is committed to delivering exceptional customer service, as well as guaranteed low prices on tens-of-thousands of home improvement products, building materials and decor items. The Company, based in Irvine, California, currently operates 78 stores in 10 western states.

## Summertime Tips From Northwest Natural Gas

Nothing quite compares to the flavors and aromas of summer the scent of flowers and fresh mown grass and the taste of food cooked on the grill.

"Northwest Natural Gas would like people to keep these summertime memories happy ones by following a few safety and energy-saving tips. It would mean the difference between a summer full of pleasant or painful memories," said George Pulicella, manager of Customer Equipment Service.

Lawn mowers - fill lawn mowers with gasoline or use cleaning solvents away from all sources of ignition, including natural gas appliances. Spills on concrete floors can spread and vaporize quickly. Always fill your lawn mover in the open, never in a garage, confined area or without adequate ventilation. Always store flammable liquids out of reach of children and away from sources of ignition, such as water heaters and furnaces that have pilotlights or electronic ignitions.

Natural gas grills - use a natural gas grill to eliminate the mess and long warm-up time of charcoal grills. Gas Grills draw fuel directly from a home's natural gas line, eliminating any need to refill a tank or the risk of running out of fuel.

To save energy: 1) Limit pre-heat time; 2) Prepare slow-cooking foods on the grill to keep heat out of the kitchen and to save on air-conditioning; 3) Cook with the grill cover closed to shorten cooking time and to enhance the smoked flavor; 4) Thaw frozen foods before grilling; and 5) Keep the grill clean and properly maintained, following instructions in the owner's manual.

Contact Northwest Natural Gas by calling 226-4211 or 1-800-422-4012.

**Advertise In  
The Portland Observer  
Call 503-288-0033**

## Buying Federal Property

You've seen them -- the ads selling "inside" information on government sales. They make you think there's some special secret to buying government property. These ads are not only misleading, they may be fraudulent.

In contrast, for only \$1.75 the Guide to Federal Government Sales (Item 143B, \$1.75) published by the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) gives you up-to-date information on 18 major Federal sales programs, from the Department of Agriculture to Department of Veterans Affairs, including what they sell, how to buy, and where to get more details. There's also a section that provides you with helpful tips when attending sales. And, the U.S. Real Property Sales List (Item 515B, free), updated by GSA every two months,

informs you of upcoming GSA real estate sales. It lists properties for sale as well as phone numbers to call for more information. To order either of these booklets, send your name and address, the appropriate item numbers and charges to Consumer Information Center, Pueblo, Colorado 81009.

Because each Federal sales program may differ in what items are available and how the actual sales are carried out, it's important to know in advance what to expect and how to prepare. Property sold can include everything from office furniture, medical equipment and computers to cars, trucks, jewelry and real estate. To make a purchase, you may have to pay a fixed price, or be the highest bidder at a public auction. Or, you may be required to submit a sealed

bid either in person or through the mail. Other sales methods may include negotiation and private brokers. Although you may not find the extraordinary deals promised by some "too good to be true" ads, the government still has goods and real estate for sale at reasonable prices.

For example, the July - August issue of the U.S. Real Property Sales List offers a variety of real estate that is available for purchase from the government. There are over 50 homes and condominiums in Southern California; former military housing including residential buildings, fourplexes and duplexes in Bangor, Maine; parcels of land in Virginia, Florida, and California; and a log home in Washington state.

If you're interested in buying government property, be sure to personally inspect it thoroughly in advance.

Once you have been selected as the buyer, it's yours, and there is no backing out because the condition of the property was different than you thought.

To learn more, including what goods and properties are being sold in your area, send for your copies of the U.S. Real Property Sales List (Item 143B, \$1.75). When you write, you'll also receive a free copy of the Consumer Information Catalog.

The Consumer Information Center of the U.S. General Services Administration revises and publishes the Catalog quarterly, so you know it's up-to-date. Its pages list more than 200 free and low-cost Federal publications on a wide variety of subjects.

**25th**  
ANNIVERSARY

The Portland  
Observer

wishes you a Happy New Year  
as we begin Our 25th  
Anniversary of publication.

**PDC**  
PORTLAND  
DEVELOPMENT  
COMMISSION

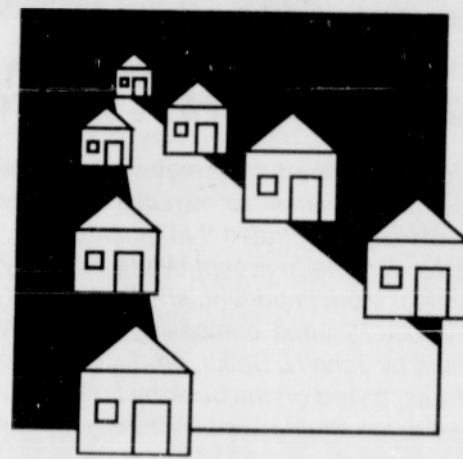
### COMMISSION MEETING

Date: August 16, 1995  
Place: Portland Building  
1120 SW 5th, 11th Floor  
Commission Room  
Portland, OR

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Commission meetings are open to the public. A complete agenda is available at PDC or by calling 823-3200. Citizens with disabilities may call 823-3232 or TDD 823-6868 for assistance at least 48 hours in advance.

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



## Home Ownership a Street at a Time

The Board and staff of HOST Development salutes the diversity and contribution that home ownership brings to the King and Eliot Neighborhoods.

### As Part Of the HOST Ownership Program HOST Home Owners Are Active In the Following Volunteer Work:

- Crisis Pregnancy Center
- Bible Study Group
- Jobs With Justice
- Rainbow Coalition
- Tutoring Hispanic Children In English
- Lazarus (children's art center)
- Donating Art Talent To Local Businesses On MLK
- Private Industry Council, Mentoring
- Helping An Elderly Neighbor
- Caring For Empty Lot Next Door
- St. Vincent DePaul, Food Box
- Franciscan Enterprises (fixing up homes for rentals)
- Portland Organizing Project (churches & syn. identify concerns in area and POP helps)
- Helping An 87 Year Old Friend
- Neighborhood Clean-Up
- NOW
- Red Cross
- Laurelhurst School
- NE Indoor Park
- Decorating Service For Decaying Apartment On Stanton
- Reporting Animals Not Well Cared For
- Friends Of Trees
- Peninsula Park Rose Gardens



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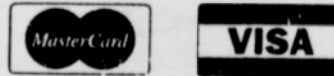
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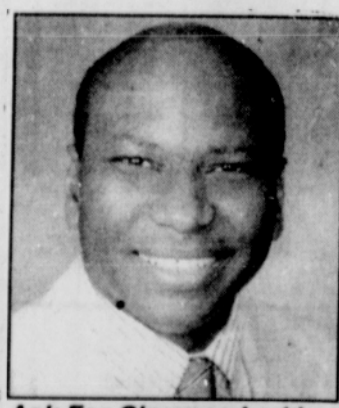
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