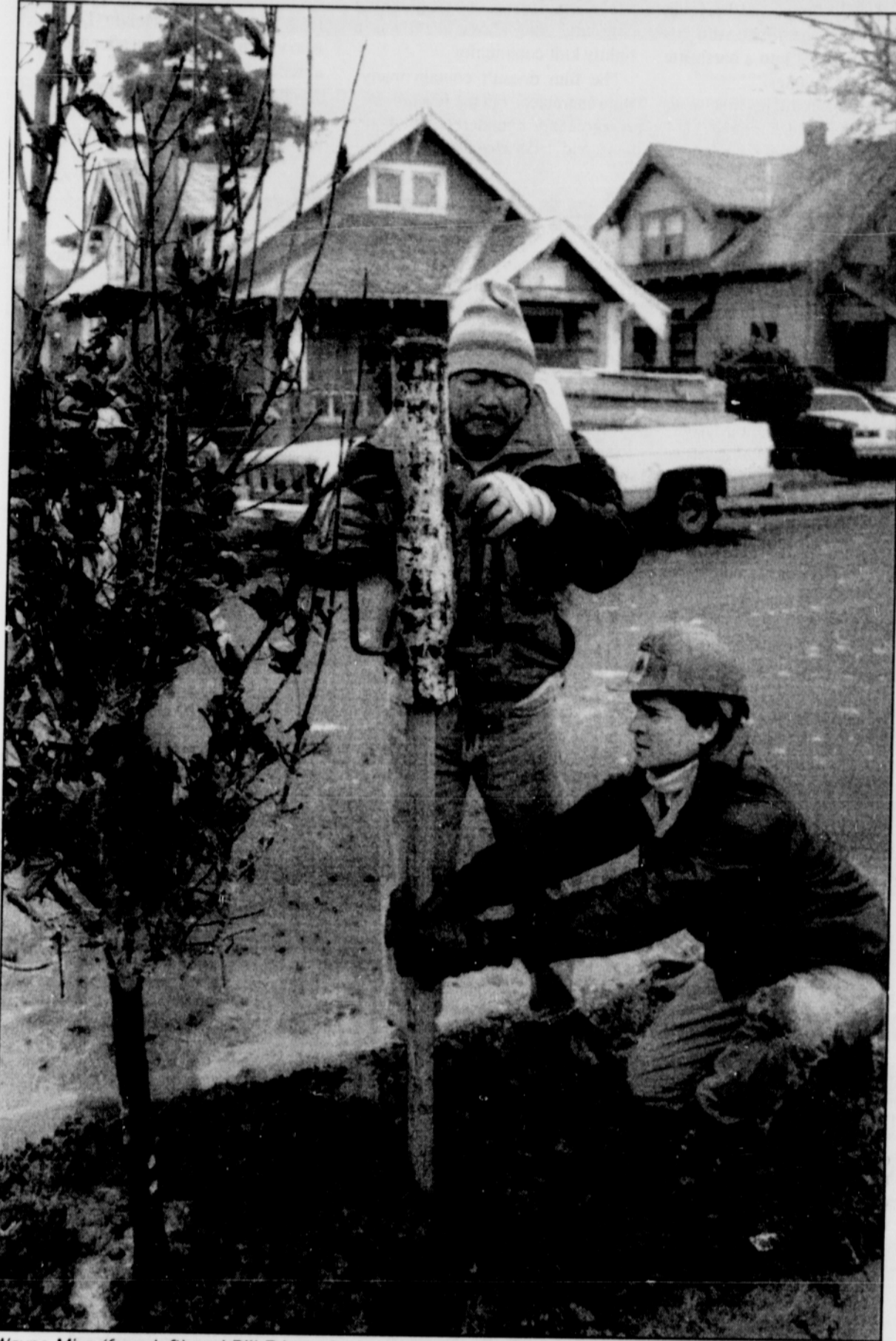


# HOUSING The Portland Observer



Wayne Miya (from left) and Bill Edmonds, both with Pacific Power, joined recently with community volunteers to plant trees along Northeast Alberta Street.

## Tree Planting For King Neighborhood

Several community groups will join residents of the King Neighborhood to sponsor a King Neighborhood Tree Planting Day.

Area residents and citizen volunteers plan on planting over 70 trees in the neighborhood. The volunteers are asked to bring trucks and

shovels if they have them and meet at the Northeast Precinct parking lot at 449 N.E. Emerson by 8 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 10.

Anyone interested in volunteering should call Jamae Hilliard at 282-3249 or Kristin Yarris at 284-8642.

The tree planting effort is co-

sponsored by Safeco Insurance Co., Friends of Trees, Northeast Community Development Corp., Franciscan Enterprise, Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods and District 2 of the King Neighborhood Association.

## New Phone Company Approved

MFS Communications Co., Inc. has won Oregon Public Utility Commission approval to provide competitive local telephone exchange services in the Portland.

In essence, co-carrier status means that MFS is afforded the same rights as the incumbent local exchange carriers, US West and GTE.

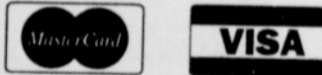
This approval allows Oregon telephone customers to - for the first time - have a choice for their local telephone service, similar to the choice customers can now make when selecting a long distance telephone company.

MFS intends to begin working with the OPUC, US West and GTE to implement co-carrier arrangements, including interconnection of networks and reciprocal compensation.

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