

HOUSING The Portland Observer

CPCU offers free insurance info

CPCU Society offers Free Brochure on Homeowners and Renters Insurance

The CPCU Society, a not-for-profit educational association, is offering consumers a free brochure on homeowners and renters insurance. "make homeowners insurance part of your Home Security System...and protect your investment" explains why homeowners and renters insurance are important and answers some of the most frequently asked questions about these types of insurance coverage. Also included are a Home

Inventory checklist and directions, guidelines to follow if you need to file a claim, home safety tips, and a glossary.

"Make Homeowners Insurance part of your Home Security System...and protect your investment" is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed, #10 envelope to CPCU Society, Communications--Department H, PO Box 3009, Malvern, PA 19355-0709.

The CPCU Society, Founded in 1944, is the nation's leading professional organization in property and

casualty insurance. More than 24,000 insurance professionals who have attained the prestigious Chartered Property Casualty underwriter designation are members of the society. To earn the CPCU designation, candidates must successfully complete ten national examinations, fulfill experience requirements, and demonstrate dedication to a strict code of ethical standards. The Society and its 151 chapters are innovative and productive in the areas of continuing professional education, publication, and research.

Minority Home Ownership Increased

Chase Manhattan, The National Association of Real Estate Brokers and Fannie Mae Join Forces to Increase Homeownership in Underserved and Minority Communities

Approximately 1,500 underserved and minority home buyers in four metropolitan areas will have access to low down payment mortgage financing as a result of a unique alliance announced between Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corporation, the National Association of Real Estate Brokers (NAREB) and Fannie Mae, the nation's largest source of home mortgage funds.

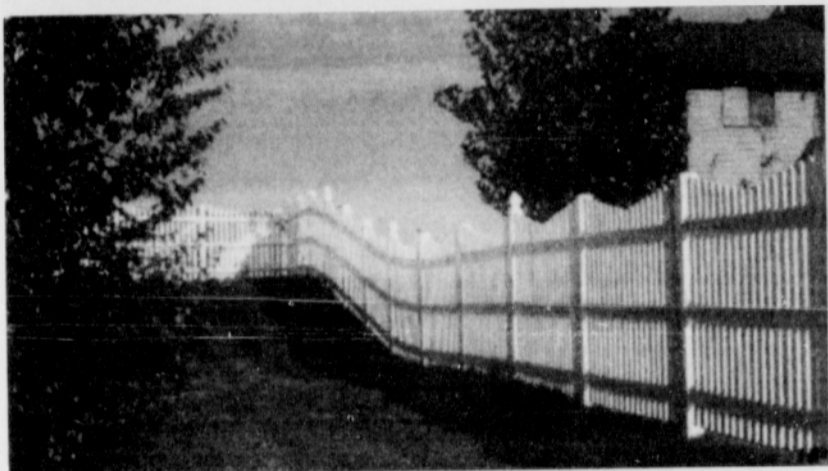
Fannie Mae has committed to

purchase \$100 million of mortgage loans -- originated by Chase Manhattan in Chicago, Los Angeles, Miami and the Philadelphia/Camden area -- in an experiment that allows borrowers to put as little as one percent of their own funds toward the down payment. There are two options in the experiment. Borrowers can qualify for a down payment of three percent, with one percent coming from their own funds and two percent from a grant, gift or seller contribution. Or, with the five percent down payment option, the borrower contributes two percent from their own funds, and the remaining three percent of the down

payment can come from a gift or unsecured loan from a party not involved in the transaction. NAREB will be providing professional real estate services to minority and urban communities.

"We are delighted to be part of this ground-breaking initiative," said Thomas G. Labrecque, president and chief operating officer of The Chase Manhattan Corporation. "We know that homeownership is one of the most compelling factors in stabilizing neighborhoods and improving the quality of life. Helping more people become home owners is an opportunity to make a real difference in underserved communities."

Good Fences Make Good Neighbors



A practical fence can beautify the landscape, too.

About fences, poet Robert Frost wrote "Good fences make good neighbors." The basics of choosing a good fence and being a good neighbor are:

- **Determine the function of the fence.** Just what are you trying to accomplish by putting up a fence? Is a fence really necessary? This step may entail some research, some observation, some talking with the neighbors and perhaps some reading of poetry.

- **Find out how your neighbors feel about fences.** What type of fence would the neighbors support? Although this is not always an obligatory step, making "unilateral" decisions about fences is not a way to become popular in any neighborhood.

- **Discuss sharing the cost with neighbors,** which is not unusual, especially when both parties want the fence and the view is good from both sides.

- **Understand the lay of the land.** Where exactly should the fence be

placed? What style best complements the setting? Personal taste is an important factor, but a landscape designer or fence dealer can offer helpful tips based on broad experience, taking into account the horizon, the various angles from which the fence will be viewed, the slopes of the hills, the twists in the paths and many other factors that may be overlooked by an untrained eye.

- **Research the marketplace** to find the fence that best meets all criteria. Which fence is right for you?

John Forbis, President of Kroy Building Products, Inc. explains, "A local Kroy dealer will not only install your fence but also enhance the appearance of your property through good landscape design."

Good Fences

Today, vinyl fences offer the most choices. There is a style of vinyl fence for every style of conventional wood fence, and there are styles of vinyl fence

for which there is no wood counterpart. Styles of picket fences, for example, range from full-privacy to semi-privacy. The latter have openings between pickets, allowing some visibility through the fence, yet better containment than a three or four rail fence. The "basket weave" style of rail fence is a full-privacy rail fence, which has the horizontal boards woven together like the strips of wood in an old-fashioned picnic basket.

According to the experts at Kroy Building Products, Inc., the days of dilapidated fences, peeling paint and recurring maintenance are gone forever -- thanks to the development of vinyl fences. Whatever style you choose, so long as you choose vinyl, your fence will never need painting.

Because vinyl fences are durable and weather-resistant, they stay "like new" practically forever. The glossy, smooth, bright-white color of a vinyl fence is a part of the bulk of the vinyl -- it's not just a coating.

Good Neighbors

Your neighbors will appreciate that there is no paint that chips or peels -- especially on their side of the fence. Since at least a dozen distinct styles of vinyl fences are available to choose from, you and your neighbor are sure to agree on at least one style. A vinyl fence is a good fence. It makes good neighbors.

Interested in learning more about styles of fences? Send fifty cents and a stamped, self-addressed, business-sized envelope to Kroy Building Products, Inc. P.O. Box 309-HP, York, NE 68467, and you will receive a brochure giving a grand tour of the many styles of fences. **HP**

Free Home Buyer Preparation Seminar

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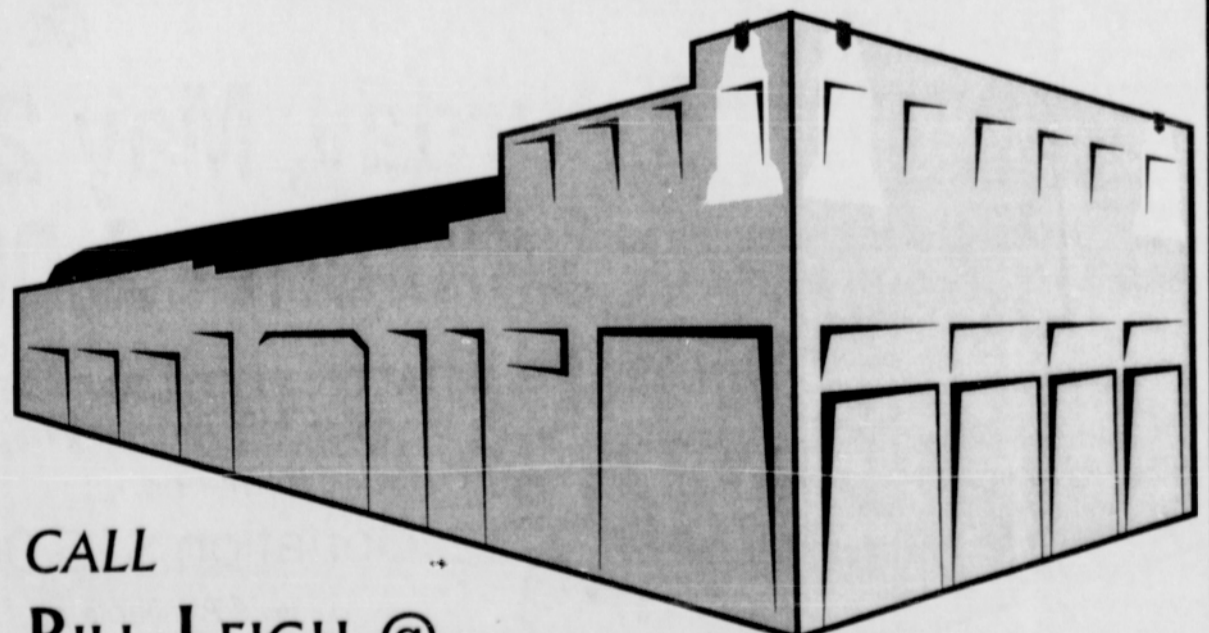
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