



# Business

## Videos Tackle Consumer Complaints

The Better Business Bureau is joining forces with our public library system to distribute videos on some of the most troubling issues facing consumers.

The series was created to respond to current needs, with future video topics driven by consumer demands.

"If you're having difficulty with any consumer issue, call the BBB and let us know, then check the video section of your public library. If the topic is not yet available, tell your local librarian and stay tuned," said Robert Andrew of the Better Business Bureau serving Oregon and western Washington.

The video series includes topics like: Buying a Recreational Vehicle, Corrective Eye Surgery: reading between the lines, Know Fraud: don't be a victim, Opportunists Knock: fraud against the elderly, and Self-Defense for Car Expenses.

Car repair complaints are among the most common problems reported to the Better Business Bureau.

The Car Expenses tape is loaded with advice to help the average car owner get his or her dollar's worth and is essential for all public libraries and strongly recommended for high schools as well.

## Farmers Market Expands to North Park Blocks

The bounty of area farms, orchards and bakeries will soon come to the Pearl District when the Portland Farmers Market sets up shop on the North Park Blocks between Northwest Glisan and Flanders streets.

The markets will be held each Thursday, from July 5 to Aug. 23, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Shoppers will be able to hand pick and purchase heaps of fresh vegetables, flowers, breads and cheeses, along with enjoying musical entertainment and chef demonstrations. Chefs from the best Pearl District restaurants, including Bluehour, Fratelli, Café Azul and Oba! are guaranteed to entertain.

The Portland Farmers' Market was founded in 1992 by a small group of community supporters, local farmers and food lovers. The vision was to create a positive focal point for community interaction and development, and bring a taste of the country into the heart of the city.

The market is run by a volunteer board. For more information, call the market manager, Dianne Stefani-Ruffat 503-241-0032

## Construction to Close West Burnside

West Burnside Street will close for up to three months to build a portion of the Tanner Creek Stream Diversion Project.

The closure will begin on about July 9 and may last until mid-October. Tanner Creek is one of several city projects to reduce combined sewer overflows to the Willamette River. The creek was piped into the city sewer system decades ago. Today, the relatively clean creek water contributes to the sewer overflows. New pipes will take Tanner Creek out of the sewer and carry it directly to the Willamette River.

West Burnside will be closed to through traffic between 14th and 19th Avenues to allow construction crews to dig a diagonal trench across the street and install a six-foot-diameter pipe.



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Paul Pepper of northeast Portland with some of the products he supplies to area chefs and backyard cooks to make a perfect barbecue.

## Portland Man Shares His Barbecue Passion

BY LORRAINE-MICHELLE FAUST  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Paul Pepper has been selling mesquite and wood charcoals for 13 years. His business, Fast Track Marketing has been supplying Northwest Cooking Woods for all of the major barbecue restaurants in the community.

Pepper is a member of the Pacific Northwest Barbecue Association.

Certified as a barbecue judge, he is passionate about a good barbecue.

He says the flavor of wood smoked barbecue is far superior to barbecue cooked over briquettes.

"You wouldn't barbecue

over gasoline or diesel fuel," Pepper said, explaining how briquettes burn petroleum products.

The barbecue connoisseur says too often people will use sauce to cover up the taste of burned meat or fuel at a barbecue.

He believes that properly cooked meat should be good enough to eat without sauce.

"You can barbecue just as good as the professionals. All you need is the right charcoal and wood combination," said Pepper.

If you are interested in Northwest Cooking Woods, call Paul at Fast Track Marketing 503- 254-0774.

## Artharee Named PDC Deputy Director

The Portland Development Commission has named Baruti Artharee as the agency's new deputy director.

Artharee was formerly the housing director for the agency and most recently served as the interim executive director.

In his new role, Artharee will assist in the administration of the agency, focusing on internal systems and management and community outreach.

Before joining PDC,

Artharee served as the Director of the Oregon Housing and Community Services Department.

He was appointed by former Governor Barbara Roberts in 1993 and re-appointed by Governor John Kitzhaber in 1995.

Artharee is also the former President of Coast Industries, one of Oregon's largest minority-owned firms.

Prior to joining Coast, he worked with Boise Cascade Corporation for 15 years in various positions in sales and marketing.

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