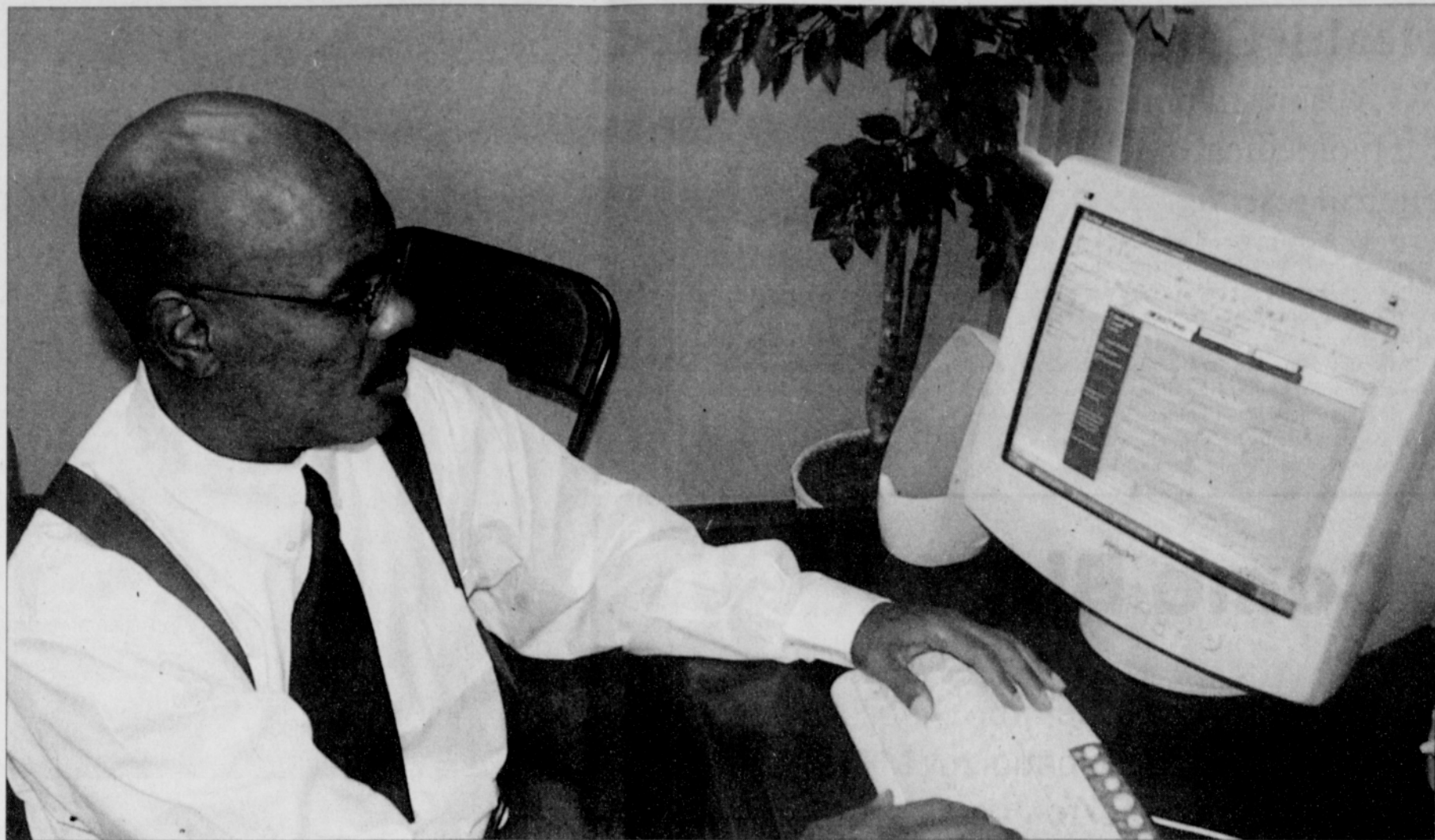


Loan officer Arvell Wilson can help families ride through a rough economy and hold onto their best investment: their homes.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER



Financial Entrepreneur Fights Displacement

Area residents urged to save their home and their credit

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

In this unforgiving economy, a local loan officer is telling north and northeast Portland residents to stay home!

North and northeast Portland homes are in very high demand, according to Arvell Wilson, loan officer with Keystone Mortgage.

Even with a trying economy and layoffs forcing two-income families down to one income, Wilson says he can help residents keep their homes, refinance their debts and even buy a home with no money down.

"North/northeast Portland is the most strategically-

placed area of anywhere in Oregon," he said, within 10 miles from an interstate freeway, the largest mall in the state, a bustling downtown, buses, hospitals and virtually anywhere else Oregonians need to travel.

Wilson says his background in numbers is a strength that his clients can benefit from, by holding onto their homes, avoiding bankruptcy, finding lenders willing to take risks and many other services to ease the struggle through tough financial times.

Wilson specializes in assisting first-time home buyers. He says the biggest myth about buying a home is that buyers need a down payment. According to Wilson, individuals can purchase homes with no money down, building the down payment into the loan and negotiating with sellers to pay for the closing costs.

"Property is an investment guaranteed to appreciate in value," Wilson said. "Plant roots for the next generation and don't be uprooted."

For more information, call 503-408-1432.

Launching Talent, Internationally

African American duo see city as entertainment mecca

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

When listing top entertainment venues such as New York, Los Angeles and Miami, Portland doesn't usually spring to mind. But an African American-owned talent agency, new to Portland, sees the city as a mecca of untapped entertainment possibilities.

The company, Encore Entertainment Industries International, boasts a limitless aspect to their approach. Owner Giorgio Johnson and Anthony Holman, director of talent management, say they are looking for all types of talent, from production teams to actors, models to comedians, singers to dancers. If you and your people can dazzle their people, they want to meet you, and cast you into an international market that few other agencies in the Northwest have the contacts to do.

The company's connections run far and wide, thanks to Johnson's seven plus years of traveling. He toured three continents, building up contacts in every

major market. Besides an office in Portland, which opened three months ago, EEI has offices in Singapore and Holland.

"If anyone is signed to our company, they can expect international contracts and exposure," Johnson said.

"I think most people envision that getting local exposure is the limit of their success. We believe there aren't borders to entertainment and exposure," added Holman.

The creators of EEI believe, as entertainment scouts, they can provide dedicated talent with a vehicle to delivering their success.

"If someone has high hopes for what they want to do, we can assist in fulfilling dreams," said Johnson.

To begin realizing those dreams, visit www.cee-international.com, and then call 503-223-5236 or 866-691-8896.



The Housing Authority of Portland supports minority enterprise development.

HAP encourages disadvantaged, minority-owned, women-owned and emerging small businesses (D/M/W/ESB) with a goal of 20 percent participation of these target businesses on HAP projects.

New Columbia

a new mixed-income neighborhood enhancing the lives of residents and neighbors and creating opportunity for community businesses.

The New Columbia redevelopment provides unique opportunities for D/M/W/ESB businesses, HAP resident-owned businesses, HAP residents and others in the North Portland, Northeast Portland and greater Portland metropolitan area.

Watch for New Columbia contracting opportunities:

- Infrastructure Bid Package October 2003
- Construction Manager/General Contractor for Phases II and III January 2004
- Construction Bid Packages Spring 2004

For more information call:

- HAP (Elaine Holt) 503-802-8509
- Walsh Construction (Dan Snow or Brian Johnson) 503-222-4375
- Housing Development Center: Contractor Support Group (Calvin Mizuguchi) 503-335-3668

Or visit <http://www.hapdx.org/newcolumbia/bids.html>



TUALATIN VALLEY CENTERS

Tualatin Valley Centers is a leading non-profit providing quality and culturally-responsive mental health, addiction and related social services. Our experienced and creative staff offers children, families and adults a range of prevention and treatment services in the Portland metropolitan area as well as the Oregon coast. We have job opportunities in the following areas:

- Mental Health Therapist
- Chemical Dependency Therapists
- Family Support Workers
- Case Managers
- Mentors
- Administrative Support staff

To learn more about our current openings please visit our web site at www.tvcenters.org.

Chase & Weil, LLP

Salutes

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