



# HOUSING

## Hot Spot Billy Reed's is Just the Beginning

### Owner plans second diverse housing project

How can people create a diverse community for nontraditional living? Think blueberries. Think sustainability. Think home.

Diversity is about to get a huge welcome on Graham Street in Northeast Portland.

Bill Reed, visionary builder and diversity advocate, has another big idea in the works. After 15 years of building innovative, energy efficient homes, plexes and the Standard Dairy on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Reed is creating Blueberry Lane to meet the changing needs of homeowners seeking creative and sustainable living.

"It's our crown jewel—a whole new model for infill development," he said.

When Portland was built it had diversity in the size of homes.

"Typically, the bungalows were owned by families. Now, family living is not typical. If you want diversity, you need to build houses that offer different ways of living—for single parents, groups of friends, extended families, you name it.

"Row houses that are suitable for young yuppies actually gentrify the area and don't support diversity. By building larger homes, we attract individuals who want to become



PHOTO BY KATHERINE BLACKMORE/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Bill Reed brought new housing and economic vitality to 2808 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard when he renovated the old Standard Dairy into housing stock and the landmark Billy Reed's Restaurant and Bar. Now he's planning to create a whole new model for diverse housing on infill lots in the neighborhood.

involved in each other's lives. This creates synergy.

"Our vision is to create sustainable cityscapes, with a country feeling, that reward people visually and physically. By building houses synchronized with nature, we save energy. With no asphalt, there's no 'heat island effect' that raises natural temperatures. Utility bills are lower. A village green is like surrounding yourself with green fields," Reed said.

The early plans call for four Craftsman style homes built to Platinum Level Earth Advantage specifications, featuring all master bedrooms and master baths to accommodate group living. Large front porches, upper balconies, edible landscaping, common walkways and gathering spots foster openness and community. Underground garages, one per bedroom, are secured.

What makes Blueberry Lane even more unique is homeowner involvement from the get go. The first planning session is Tuesday, Sept. 27, from 6 p.m. to 8 pm at Billy Reed's.

"We have no preconceived notion of whose going to show up or who will ultimately live there. Everyone is invited to tell us how we can help them create their future," Reed said. "My dream is about creating community. But I can't dream how that community functions. Only those who are going to live there can dream how their home will function best. We're looking for a diverse group of people who have a propensity to live in this kind of environment and who want to help us create a more synergistic ideal."

For more information, call 503-603-9901.

## Disabled Find Barriers in Housing: Discrimination found in up to half of rental inquiries

A new groundbreaking study shows that people with disabilities are often discriminated against when trying to rent apartments.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development agency plans to use the information to educate renters and landlords on their rights as well as provide fair housing advocates with new guidelines and strategies that

will allow them to investigate and detect discrimination against people with disabilities.

"The Americans with Disabilities Act, the landmark legislation signed 15 years ago, has made great strides in reducing barriers to people with disabilities



HUD Secretary Alphonso Jackson

in employment, government, and public places," said HUD Secretary Alphonso Jackson. "That means breaking down the barriers to affordable rental housing

and homeownership that disabled individuals sometimes face."

In the Chicago-based study, hearing-impaired people were discriminated against approximately 50 percent of the time when using a telephone-operator relay to search for rentals. Mobility impaired people using wheelchairs faced discrimination about a third of the time when they vis-

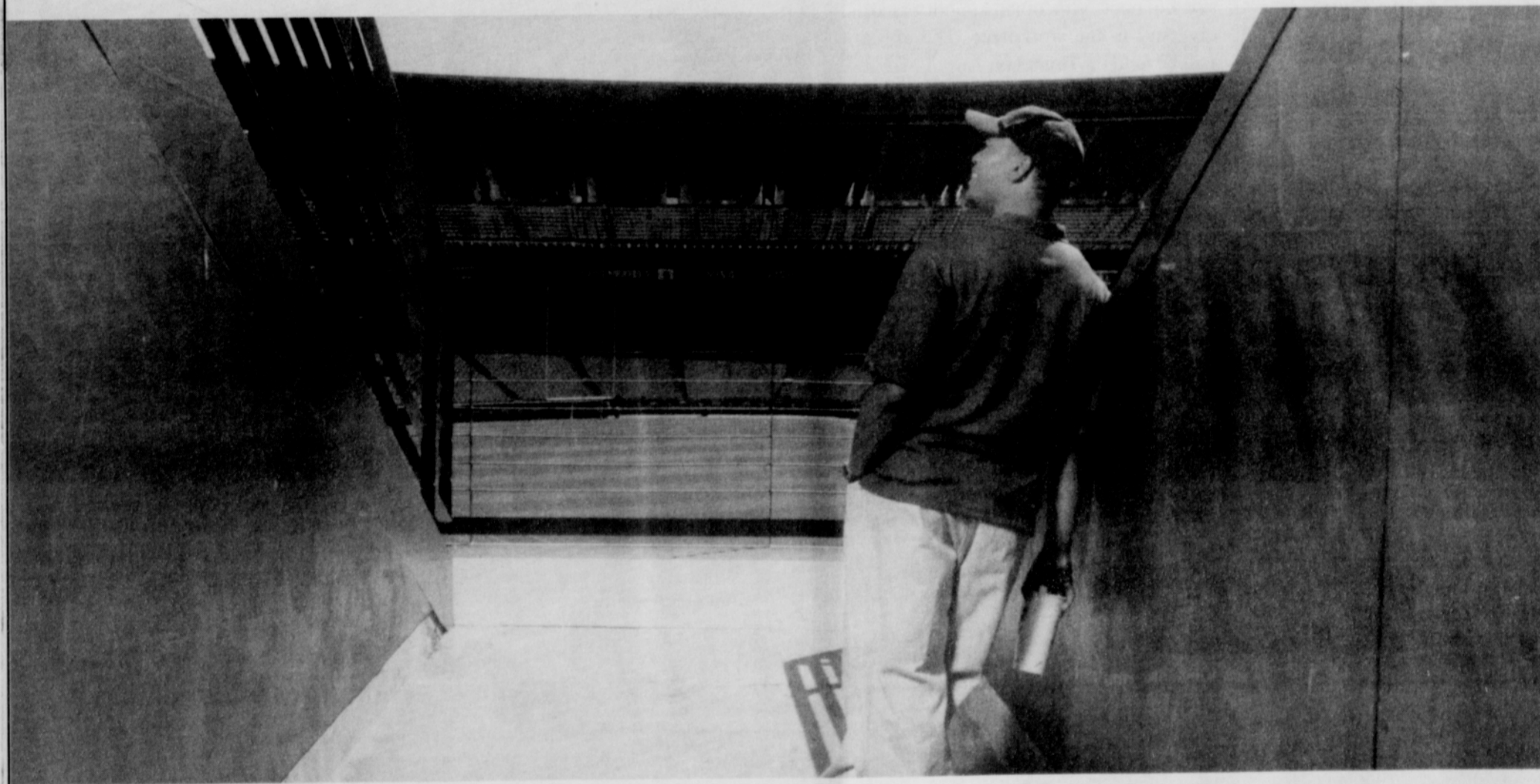
ited rental properties.

"We would all like to think we have made more progress in educating landlords about the Fair Housing Act but, this study paints a different picture of the problems faced daily by people with disabilities," said Jackson. "It is imperative that landlords provide people with disabilities the same attention and respect

afforded all potential renters. We intend to educate both consumers and landlords about the rights of disabled individuals."

The study also found that people with disabilities are frequently denied their requests for reasonable modification and reasonable accommodation necessary to make the available housing fully accessible.

There are seven days in a week.  
Why should you only get to enjoy two of them?



In the best situations, you push your colleagues to do their best work, and they turn around and do the same for you. Sometimes it's the fire of competition that drives you. Sometimes it's just the desire to see the best idea win. Whether it's yours or not. Sound like a place you could respect? Good. We feel the same way. Come check out job openings on our website. Nike is committed to employing a diverse workforce.

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