

METROPOLITAN

Albina library brings King Day to kids

by Robert Lothian

The Albina branch library had a birthday party for Martin Luther King on Saturday, January 19.

About 30 children viewed the film, "Legacy of a Dream," a history of King's civil rights campaigns. They ate chocolate cake inscribed with "Happy Birthday, Martin," played games and entered a raffle for a Martin Luther King T-shirt. The children also talked about what the great civil rights leader meant to them.

Many watching the film were spellbound as they listened to King address an audience just days before his assassination in April, 1968. "No man is free if he fears death," said King. "But the minute you conquer death you also conquer fear."

More was accomplished during the 13 years of King's involvement in the civil rights movement than in the previous 100 years, according to the film's narration.

The movement's beginnings in Selma, Alabama, were covered, as well as the historic year-long Montgomery bus boycott, racist Sheriff Bull Connor was shown leading his



Children play game at the Albina branch library celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

club-swinging police, attack dogs and water cannons against the peacefully demonstrating boycotters. "The

sickness of racism was exposed to the entire world" in Montgomery, said the narration.

"We are standing here before the forces of power in Alabama saying we aren't going to let anybody turn us around," said King in front of the Alabama state capitol. "There will be neither rest nor tranquility until the Black man is free."

Lateef Smith, 9, who attends the Black Educational Center, said the bus boycott scenes were his favorite part of the film. When asked what King meant to him, Lateef said, "I'm proud of him because he helped Black people go to freedom. . . . I'd love to meet him." Talisa Coxeff, 10, a student at Irvington School, said her class listened to a tape of King's speeches. She said she liked him because "He seemed like a fair man."

Ebony Williams, 6, who also attends the Black Educational Center, won the raffle for the T-shirt, but she was too shy to pose for a picture.

Librarian Bobbi Jackson said that "Usually, Martin Luther King's birthday is geared to adults and the children don't get a chance to participate. We wanted to do something for kids."

Political Inn loses license to drug dealers

by Lanita Duke

GRASSROOT NEWS, N.W. — Recognizing that they can't keep denying requests for liquor licenses every time petty drug dealers turn an intersection into a drug drive-in, the City Council unanimously denied the Political Inn tavern's request for a renewal of its liquor license.

The outside of the tavern was a testimony to the decriminalization of marijuana, the citywide demand for it and the lack of employment and employment training for young Black males who blamed the city for their choice of employment.

In front of the Political Inn, located at N.E. 22nd and Alberta, a drug dealer said, "I have tried looking for a job and have given up. I still

have to eat and live. All the brothers you see out here are here because we can make between \$100 - \$300 a day. Don't blame us for the Political Inn closing. Blame all these people who drive up and buy weed." Our interview was interrupted by a car whose passenger paid \$10 for a gram of marijuana.

The drug pushers assumed every car and everyone who drove or walked by the tavern was a potential buyer. Thus, businessmen and neighborhood groups said neighborhood havoc was the result of these drug transactions.

The drug pushers drifted to the Political Inn after the closure of Lu's Higher Ground in January, 1984. Eddie Streylou, owner of the Political

Inn, said he was the victim of poor police enforcement.

"I've narced on so many of these guys that it's unreal. The police will take them off and within hours they are back in front of my place," said Streylou.

However, a representative from the Police Bureau said the Political Inn was the victim of poor management. "We generated 36 narcotic arrests. It was up to the owner to come in and sign trespass complaints. This never happened. The problem was the owner never following through." Representatives from the bureau also said after the closure of Lu's Higher Ground they met with liquor license holders in inner Northeast Portland and prepared their businesses for the possible onslaught of migrating vice, "But the owners of the Political Inn never listened."

Streylou said the drug problem was a community one. "The dealers did not carry much on them. They would walk or catch the bus to my place. When they ran out they would just walk home and get more." Representatives from the Neighborhood Association took offense to Streylou's comments and said his poor management and attitudes about the community reinforced the drug dealers.

Mayor Bud Clark said he recently visited the tavern and called it a nice, clean place. "I did not see anyone outside. But it's clear that you (Streylou) failed to make changes after Lu's Higher Ground closed. This is why and how the problem got out of control."

Black and Jewish teenagers to start dialogue

"What's so special about growing up as part of an ethnic minority?"

Forty teenagers — twenty Jewish youths and twenty Black youths — will share the answers to this question with one another on Sunday, January 27, as part of the "AJC-UL Youth Project."

This unique program has been planned jointly by the American Jewish Committee (AJC) and the Urban League of Portland (UL). Together, the students will explore some of the different, and the not so different, aspects of each other's history and culture.

The schedule begins with presentations on Black and Jewish history in the United States. Dr. Darrell Millner, head of the Black Studies Department of Portland State University and consultant for the multi-ethnic/multi-cultural curriculum development in the Portland Public Schools, will present the Black perspective. David Farber, an AJC Board member whose background includes extensive experience in similar cross-cultural programs in Boston, presents the Jewish perspective. Together, they will facilitate dialogue amongst the teenagers.

The program will also center around the viewing of a film on Ethiopian Jews and their current plight, as a focus for both Black and Jewish cultural identification.

The afternoon together winds up with a social time, and sampling of some traditional ethnic recipes.

The idea for the project grew out of

a discussion following the first meeting of a Black-Jewish dialogue group at Temple Beth Israel. "The united efforts during the '50's and '60's, joining together for the cause of civil rights, are not remembered or even understood by kids today," explains Donny Adair, Chairman of the Urban League of Portland.

David Farber, coordinating the project for his organization, agrees. Commenting on the recent election, Farber continues, "The polls have just shown us significant agreement between Blacks and Jews on issues that are important to both groups — matters such as civil and human rights, equal opportunity, quality public education, fair and full employment."

Both Farber and Adair expressed the enthusiasm shared by their respective Boards for the project. "We all view this program as first in a series," said Adair. "We are looking forward to follow-up programs with the kids, and expect that they will want to assist with future planning themselves."

Farber also anticipates a similar spin-off program for adults. "Blacks and Jews have worked together on many issues in the past," he explains. "Now we need to reconstitute that working relationship in response to current concerns and realities."

For further information about this project, please contact the offices of either the American Jewish Committee at 295-6761, or the Urban League of Portland, Kathleen Saadat, at 280-2652.

for the Portland Public Schools.

Dr. Hilliard presently occupies the Fuller E. Callaway chair at Georgia State University's College of Education.

The focus of the conference will be on implementing multi-cultural, multi-ethnic education in Oregon's colleges and universities.

PCC offers financial aid

Financial aid applications for the 1985-86 academic year are being taken at Portland Community College through January and February, according to Financial Aid Director Corbett Gottfried.

Sessions to explain how to fill out the forms are being held at Sylvania, Cascade and Rock Creek campuses beginning January 15. The workshops conducted by financial aid specialists assist students in supplying the best information so they will have a good chance of obtaining aid.

"Many students are surprised that they qualify for aid," Gottfried said. The financial assistance includes grants, scholarships and work study opportunities.

For times and places of the workshops, contact the college. No reservations are needed.

College scholarship available now

Junior and senior class high school students who are interested in applying for \$1,000 college scholarships should request applications by March 15, 1985 from the Educational Communications Scholarship Foundation, 721 N. McKinley Road, Lake Forest, Illinois 60045. To receive an application, students should send a note stating their name, address, city, state and zip code, approximate grade point average and year of graduation. Fifty award winners will be selected on the basis of academic performance, involvement in extracurricular activities and need for financial aid.

Multicultural education set

The Oregon Multicultural Association is pleased to announce its first conference, "Multicultural Education: A Mandate for Everyone," Friday, January 25, 1985, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Asa Hilliard, nationally renowned educator, who has been a consultant

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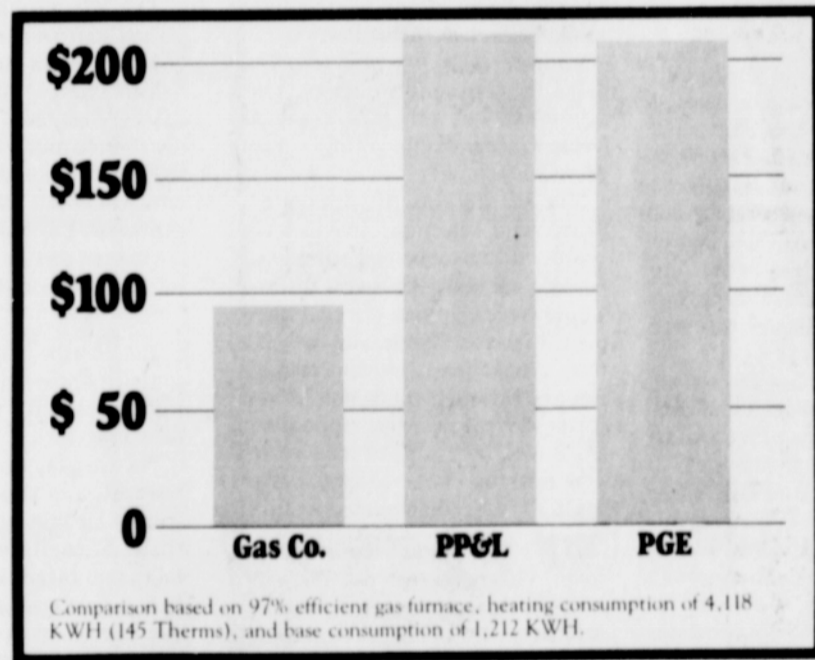
In parts of Europe it was once thought that dancing or leaping high in the air would make the crops grow high, too.

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