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The Eyes and Ears of the community

December 8, 1988

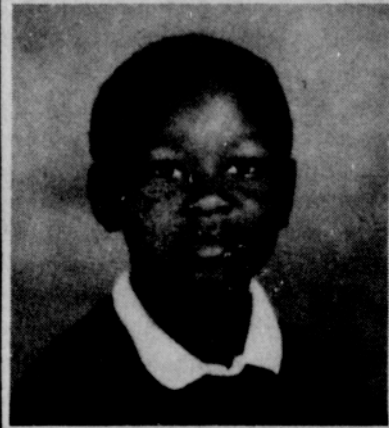
Introducing ...

Portland Observer's
"Family Business of the Year"
"DORIS CAFE"



Rosie & Jewell Thomas
Co-Owners/Managers
Doris Cafe

Happy 7th Birthday!



Brian Washington
1st Grade
Holy Redeemer School

Black Expo '88

Doin' It Again

In October of this year, the Black Professional Network sponsored its first Black Expo, which was attended by well over 450 people at the Portland Community College Cascade Campus. As stated in the October 27th edition of the *Portland Observer*, the Expo was a very profound, inspiring, cultural, business and spiritual gathering.

Labeled as a Bazaar, Black Expo '88 (the first) turned into something the community hadn't witnessed in a very long time; collective work, unity across the board, the presence of traditional African concepts and dress, happiness, rejoicing, information, creativity and a call for greater economic unity. Expo '88 featured African-American vendors, producers and artists who featured their products, services and skills with something in mind for everyone from arts to food to games to crafts.

Well, if you missed the first Expo, prepare yourself for the second one.

On Saturday, Dec. 10th from 12 Noon to 6 p.m., the Black Professional Network will sponsor Black Expo: "A Christmas Bazaar which will once again feature some of Portland's first and very gifted artists, businessmen and businesswomen. Products and services ranging from African-American greeting cards, dolls, artwork, food to financial advice - in addition to having Santa Claus deliver toys to your home.

The community will have an opportunity to have their blood pressure taken, as well as door prize giveaways throughout the bazaar. The event will take place at Harriet Tubman Middle School, 2231 North Flint Street, two blocks north of Memorial Coliseum.

The Black Professional Network is proud and enthusiastic about this upcoming Christmas Bazaar and feel that both the African-American community and the City of Portland will embrace it with all the holiday excitement they can muster.

So, as singer George Benson says, "Let's do it again!" Lets' come out and support the Black Professional Network's effort.

It will be one memorable occasion.

Kwanzaa: A Time For Celebration And Reaffirmation

by Nyewusi Askari

According to author Cedric McClester, "over 13 million African-Americans observed Kwanzaa (December 26th - January 1st) in 1984. Yet in spite of these impressive numbers, confusion still surrounds this most unusual holiday. The confusion primarily stems from the true nature of the holiday's origin." It is estimated that more than 20 million African-Americans celebrated Kwanzaa in 1987 and the numbers are expected to swell for the 1988 celebration which will begin December 26, 1988.

Founded in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Ron Karenga, Kwanzaa has become a nationally celebrated, indigenous, non-religious, non-political African-American holiday. In the Pacific Northwest, Kwanzaa has been observed and celebrated for more than 10 years by Africans-Americans living in the communities of Yakima, Seattle, Eugene, Spokane, Pasco, Portland and points in between. This year will be no exception.

Spearheaded by the Black Educational Center, Portland's African-American community will be celebrating all over the place - fasting, praying, making positive affirmations, visiting relatives and friends, exchanging gifts, etc. It is going to be a grand time to pay tribute to the rich cultural roots of Americans of African ancestry.

For those who are unaware of Kwanzaa, the following information may serve as a guide for preparation of the celebration.

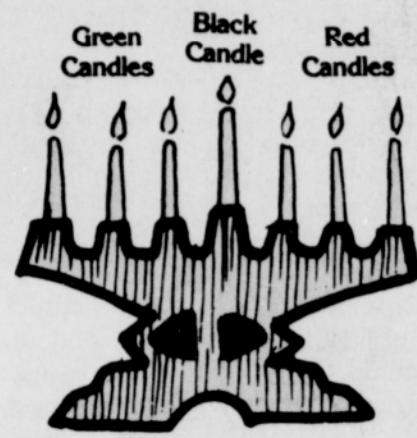


Fruit & Vegetables

Kwanzaa is based on seven (7) fundamental principles which are referred to as the Nguzo Saba. The word Nguzo Saba is Kiswahili. According to our best teachers, Kiswahili was chosen because "it is a non-tribal African language that encompasses a large portion of the African continent." An added benefit is that Swahili pronunciation is extremely easy. Vowels are pronounced like those in Spanish and the consonants with few exceptions

like those of English. The vowels are as follows: A=ah as in father; E=a as in day; I=ee as in free; O=oo as in too. The accent is almost always on the next to the last syllable.

The Seven Principles of Kwanzaa serves as a guide for daily living for millions of African-Americans. They



Candleholder

are: 1. Umojo (Unity; pronounced oo-MOH-jah) = To strive for and maintain unity in the family, the community and thenation. 2. Kujichagulia (Self-determination; pronounced Koo-gee-cha-goo-lee-ah) To define ourselves, name ourselves, create for ourselves and speak for ourselves instead of being defined, named, created for and spoken for by others. 3. Ujima: (Collective work and responsibility, pronounced oo-GEE-mah) = To build and maintain our community together and make our sister's and brother's problems and to solve them together. 4. Ujamaa (Cooperative economics. Pronounced oo-jah-Mah) = To build and maintain our own stores, shops and other businesses and to profit from them together. 5. Nia (Purpose. Pronounced Nee-ah) = To make our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness. 6. Kuumba (Creativity. Pronounced kooj-OOM-bah) = To do always as much as we can, in the way we can, in order to leave our community more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited it. 7. Imani (Faith. Pronounced ee-MAH-nee) = To believe with all our heart in our people, our parents, our teachers, our leaders and the righteousness and victory of our struggle.



Gifts

Continued To Page 6

Martin Luther King Choir: A Dream Almost Realized

by Nia

Last Saturday evening, The Martin Luther King, Jr. Choir dazzled customers, curious on-lookers, friends, parents and relatives as they lit up the Christmas season during a special performance at Nordstroms, Lloyd Center.



Ms. Doshie Clark

Under the direction of Ms. Pam Gifford, the choir grooved and moved the audience with grace and style. Michael Jackson would have been proud to hear his "Man is the Mirror" sung to a Portland beat. Santa would

have been equally as proud to listen to his/her favorite, Christmas standards flowing from the hearts and souls of this talented choir. As one parent put it, "Jingle Bells, don't jingle until the Martin Luther King Choir sings it."

Over the past five (5) years, the Martin Luther King School Choir has achieved wide acclaim for its talent and ability. During the past two years alone, the choir performed for the Governor of Oregon, Portland's Mayor, Rev. Jesse Jackson, Martin Luther King, Jr. III, at Portland State University, the State Legislature, Portland Community College, several local churches, the Black United Front's Gospel Festival, National Basketball Association events, to name a few.

In addition to the support of teachers and principal, one of the main forces behind the choir is the Parent Teacher Council (PTC). The PTC was organized to encourage support and to assist in the enhancement of educational options and experiences for King School students. One of the

Continued To Page 6



Benson High School Techmen

This is indeed the season to be jolly and the Benson High Techmen have spread joy throughout the Portland Metropolitan area with their "don't deny us the championship" brand of football.

In addition to their display of football excellence, the Techmen have shown poise, a commitment to winning, character, respect for the opposition and team discipline. Week after week after week, they have come up winners and come this Saturday, they will attempt to capture the biggest prize of all - the Oregon Class AAA football championship.

The game will take place at Civic Stadium. The opponent - Roseburg. Last year, Roseburg beat Benson 21-19. This year, Benson intends to turn

the tide with a win.

Football aside for a moment, this game is of special significance to citizens of Roseburg and Portland. It signals the coming together of two schools and two communities-bound together by a common bond - the spirit of competition. The two communities are also bound together by memories of last year's racial incident.

This year, the two communities are reaching out to each other. Long before Saturday's game take place, Benson High School administrators, along with the school's booster club, will host a Saturday breakfast with Roseburg administrators. The two communities will socialize, memorize, eat until they are full and settle into Civic Stadium

to watch Benson and Roseburg do battle. Portland's African-American community welcomes this type of effort.

It is within the spirit of high school competition and the spirit of community that Portland's African-American community greet and welcome to our city, the community of Roseburg, Oregon. Our welcome is sincere. Our greeting, unrehearsed.

And, as we salute the Benson High Techmen, we also salute Roseburg football team. To everyone who will attend the game, we say, "settle in, kick off your shoes, grab a hot dog, 'cause this game's gonna be a dog fight. May thye best team win!!!"

The *Portland Observer* is picking Benson as the winner ... all the way.

Celebration Marks Martin Luther King Day



James DePreist

In a musical celebration of the life and ideals of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., National Public Radio, in association with American Public Radio and WFMT-FM/Chicago, Illinois, presents KING: A GLOBAL CELEBRATION.

The two-hour special program commemorating Martin Luther King Day on January 16, 1989, links live concerts across the country from three leading music schools, presenting music associated with King. The program, hosted by acclaimed American conductor James DePreist, will be transmitted live via satellite to public radio stations in the U.S., and, through the European Broadcasting Union, to more than 20 countries in Europe and the Soviet Union. (Check listings for local broadcast times.)

The first part of the program originates live from the New England Conservatory in Boston, Massachusetts, the oldest independent music conservatory in continuous existence in the U.S.; it counts among its alumni Mrs. Coretta Scott King.

Composer George Russell leads the New England Conservatory Jazz Orchestra in his own composition dedicated to King in 1974 - "Electronic Sonata for Souls Loved by Nature." Electronic tape is an integral part of the work, with sounds originating from sources including a Moog synthesizer and music from the Third World.

The concert also includes the New England Conservatory Jazz

Orchestra, led by jazz legend Gerald Wilson, performing three of Wilson's own original works: "Yarddog Mazurka," "Calafia," and "Viva Tirado."

The second part of KING: A GLOBAL CELEBRATION moves from New England to California for a performance by the New CalArts 20th Century Players of the California Institute of the arts, created specifically for students of both the visual and the performing arts. Beginning the performance is dedicated to King, by jazz flutist James Newton. Newton was voted the highest-ranking jazz flutist in Downbeat magazine polls for 1983 and 1984, and has recorded several award-winning albums.

Following is "Magnetic Variations" by Ed Bland, composer of the film score for "A Soldier's Story," among other well-received works, and a widely respected consultant for black music programs around the country. He describes "Magnetic Variations" as an example of his own style of neo-impressionism.

The midwest is the setting for the third and final part of KING: A GLOBAL CELEBRATION, as members of the Indiana University Opera Theater perform excerpts of Leonard Bernstein's "Mass," conducted by Robert Porco.

Bernstein composed "Mass" at the request of Mrs. Jacqueline

Continued To Page 6

Student of the Week



Jewell Lorraine Stevens

Jewell Lorraine Stevens is the daughter of Mrs. Jewell Stevens-Harris. A freshman at Jefferson High School, Jewell aspires to become a model and a lawyer. A member of Greater Faith Baptist Church, she sings in the Choir is a member of the Juneteenth Scottish Rites. A model for five years, Jewell attended Academy One and is currently involved with COBI Techniques under the direction of Ms. Cora Smith and is a member of the ABC Kids School of Modeling.

Of the role models who inspire her, four stands out in Jewell's life: Her mother, Judge Aaron Brown, Rev. Jesse Jackson and Mr. Ron Herndon. "Ron Herndon is one of my main idols," she said. "Locally, he has given me a lot of inspiration, a lot of guidance and direction and much to be proud of just by being himself. He is very committed, very dedicated and worthy of our recognition. Legally, Judge Brown is the person responsible for me wanting to be a lawyer. I feel so fortunate to live in a community where such talent is a telephone call away. I am proud of my community."

The *Portland Observer* is proud of Jewell, too, and is proud to salute her as the *Observer's* "Student of the Week"