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The Portland Observer 25¢

Jefferson Hosts Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration



Above, Mattie Ann Callier Spears sang at the state's largest celebration honoring the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Left, Martin Luther King, Jr. was born January 15, 1929. He was killed by an assassin on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee.

On Monday, January 20, Jefferson High School hosted the state's largest celebration to honor the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. The seventh annual "Keep Living the Dream" celebration offered continuous entertainment and commentary from noon to 6 p.m.

The school auditorium which holds 1,500 people was continually filled throughout the afternoon. The special tribute featured a combination of drama, speeches and song provided by local leaders, musical talent, and gospel choirs from metropolitan Portland and a guest appearance from Total Experience Choir from Seattle. The entire concert and program was broadcast live on KBOO (90.7 FM) and on Paragon Cable Television.

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New Lloyd District Office Building Announced

A 21-story office building with an adjacent parking garage has been proposed near Lloyd Center by S-PAC, a joint venture partnership of Pacific Power and the Ralph Schlesinger Company.

The partnership will own the proposed building, located at 600 N.E. Holladay Street. GBD Architects has been selected as the building architect, and Hoffman Construction as the general contractor for construction.

Pacific Development, Inc., a PacificCorp subsidiary, has agreed to sell the site for the new building, and retains substantial other holdings in the Lloyd District. Pacific Development and Schlesinger were partners in the new state office building, currently in the final stages of construction, nearby at 800 N.E. Oregon St.

The name of the new project is the "600 Holladay Building".

Pacific Power and some PacificCorp staff functions will be the primary tenants of the building, which represents approximately 60 percent of the total office space. Pacific Power and Utah Power are electric utility divisions of PacificCorp. Together they serve 1.2 million customers in seven Western states.

No other leases are signed at this time, though discussions are underway with interested groups such as the



law firm of Stael Rives Boley Jones & Grey. The Ralph Schlesinger Co. will manage and operate the building on behalf of the joint venture.

Plans call for a 480,000-sq-ft office building with an adjacent eight floor above grade parking garage. In addition to providing parking for the office building, the parking structure is expected to serve the planned Oregon arena and replace surface parking being removed as the Lloyd District develops.

There will also be service/retail space on the main levels of the building and parking garage, a daycare facility

and conference rooms and teleconferencing facilities for building tenants.

Schematic building plans go before the City of Portland, Bureau of Planning in January as part of the Design Review process. Actual construction is scheduled to begin in mid-1992, with occupancy in mid to late 1994.

Pacific Power currently leases the Public Service Building on S.W. Sixth and Salmon streets in Portland. It was constructed in 1927. Several firms have already expressed interest in the building and plans for its redevelopment are in progress.

Portland Parks And Recreation Celebrates Improvements At King School Park Playground

Thursday, January 23
11:15 AM
King School Park -
NE 6th and Humbolt

King School park playground has some new equipment and the park has new lighting, benches, and trees - all thanks to funds generated from the Parks Improvement Levy approved by voters in 1989. On Thursday, January 23, one hundred second and third graders from Martin Luther King Elementary School will help Commissioner Mike Lindberg officially cut the ribbon and put a stamp of approval on the completed project.

Joining Commissioner Lindberg and the children in the celebration will be Portland Parks and Recreation Director Charles Jordan, King School Principal Laverne Davis, and Fred Stewart - Chairman of the King Improvement Association.

Levy improvements to the park are not limited to above ground! This spring, the ballfield will be renovated and irrigation improvements will be made to the entire park. According to Commissioner Lindberg, "Our city's neighborhood parks and playgrounds are the backbone of our park system. It is essential that we continue to put resources into our inner-city parks to assure that all our children have safe, fun and accessible places to play."

Community Care Needs Our Help And Support

Our own Clara Peoples has for many years gone the last mile for the community. She has clothed, housed and fed residents for over 20 years, never asking for anything in return, but the ability and resources to care.

Now she needs help. In these recessionary times where unemployment is rampant and individuals and families are hurting, the need is greater than ever before. And Community Care needs our help. Clara Peoples cannot do it alone. Please help; she has done her part, it is time we do ours.

Please send your generous donations to Community Care, c/o Bethel AME Church, 5828 NE 8th, Portland, OR, 97211.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Special Edition

starting on page 11

No Jobs And No Shame, Part I

BY PROFESSOR MCKINLEY BURT

That highly touted economic task force of the Bush Administration has returned from Japan and the signals are mixed; "Disappointing" or "A complete failure." The President's excursion under a table failed to define a new relationship between the two superpowers; but Japan's prime minister has stated that America is a "subcontractor and supplier of raw materials."

The representatives of the Big Three automakers fumed and fussed with declarations of American resurgence in manufacturing skills and quality controls. The category of superlatives was completely exhausted: mastery, primacy, paramount, superb, superior, finest unexcelled, leading edge. Within hours of their return, G.M. was forced

to announce a massive recall of defective engines. However, the company was found to lead the nation when two of its lines were compared with others, "The most frequently stolen cars in America in the past five years are the Chevrolet Camaros and the Olds Cutlass."

It is more than shameful when you have the President of a great nation touring the world on a marketing junket to yesterday's "third world" nations, begging for "QUOTAS AND SETASIDES." Rather ironic, don't you think? A growing fallout from the ill-conceived trip is producing a sobering trauma in the American public. From the Japanese press and parliament we have it that "American workers are lazy, overpaid, and too illiterate to follow written directions or schematics." The most

embarrassing feature of this is that it sounds like a direct quote from an American industry roundtable critiquing our EDUCATION SYSTEM.

There are many of us of the other-than-majority class of disadvantaged citizens (race, gender) who have been acrimoniously accused of seeking an unfair position in society by demanding the Bush-type "Quotas and Setasides." What happened to that old adage "what's good for the goose is good for the gander"? I thought that Anna Quindlen (N.Y. Times) dealt rather well with this matter in her column last week, and in good time too. As the layoffs and plant closures escalated, there typically will be increasing competition, confrontation, stress and overt racism. She had the following comments for those "advantaged" who now believe blacks

and women have it made.

"Nevermind that you can walk through the offices of almost any big company and see a sea of white faces." (Try the offices or shops along Martin Luther King Blvd.). "Never mind that in the good old days preferential treatment was routinely given to brothers and sons of workers in certain lines of work. Perceptions of programs to educate and hire more black citizens as a partial antidote to decades of systematic exclusion have been inflated to enormous proportions in the public mind." ("Partial" is the right word. For years I have pointed out how European immigrants have always been given job and craft preference for 150 years--and that these laws and customs are still in practice--Dept. of Labor cites "a shortage of certain skills")


Now that it has been accepted in the press, Congress and the think tanks that the ill-fated trip accomplished nothing (include union headquarters), what will be the administration's next move in a critical and dangerous election year. Need we be on guard against some headline-grabbing MILITARY ADVENTURE? Will CUBA be attacked? Is an American-backed coup in IRAQ imminent? Will the accused terrorists in LIBYA be forcibly extradited? Certainly, there is a precedent for such escapades since failing governments or administrations have adopted such attention-diverting ploys since time immemorial.

It is obvious that for a decade the nation has been raped and ravaged by gangs of junk bond hucksters, savings & loan executives and other high-level

thieves to the tune of BILLIONS OF DOLLARS--And this while other patriots spun out of their lucrative government jobs to become successful lobbyists and public relations experts in representing Japanese and other Asian manufacturers. How do you think these firms got so solidly entrenched here in the first place? (Add Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore, etc.). Greed and short term profit have run amuck and now the piper demands his price.

Next week this series will develop an approach that specifically addresses the minority situation in all of this. We will look at both the immediate and longterm effects of America's economic fiascos upon black job seekers and families. We are not seeking to "cry havoc," but to define the problem accurately, and to develop solutions.

Perspectives



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