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The Portland Observer 25¢

Wings of Love and G.I. Joes Help the Needy

The holiday season traditionally inspires expressions of love and concern for our fellow man. Individuals and organizations alike, are plunged into the spirit of giving and readily provide gifts and services for the needy.

While these seasonal expressions of generosity are wholeheartedly welcomed by most recipients, the effect is a temporary solution to the continual problems of the homeless, the poverty ridden and the downtrodden. A band-aid applied to a gaping wound.

Mrs. Mays (better known as Sister Mays), owner operator of the Wings of Love, located at 100 N.E. Moore St., is well aware of the need for continued assistance to certain segments of the community, and she is doing something about it. Sister Mays gives of herself not only during the Christmas holidays, but on any given day. Sister Mays will do what she can to help people in need. A born again Christian lady, Sister Mays has helped many "street people" overcome drug abuse problems, cope with low self esteem and has given many a lost soul a sense of purpose. Her daily prayer vigils and words of inspiration are a constant at the Wings of Love building.

Sister Mays most recent "labor of love" has been most remarkable. For the past few weeks, Sister Mays has solicited the help from individuals and most significantly, G.I. Joes stores to acquire shoes for the needy. G.I. Joes generously donated several large containers of shoes of various styles, colors and types. Sister Mays and the recipients of these much needed footwear wish to express their profound gratitude to the private donors, and in particular, David Harris, who spearheaded the donations from G.I. Joes store, Dennis Irish and Ken Lauer of G.I. Joes, who authorized the donations.

Joe Keeton, a long time supporter, friend and recipient of Sister Mays incredible kindness, says "were it not for Sister Mays, there is no telling where I would be. I was in the streets, doing all kind of wrong things and Sister Mays helped me." Joe went on to say that Sister Mays prayed with him and helped him to get "on the right track".

Our community is certainly better off with the "Wings of Love" that Sister Mays is so willing to spread and to give of herself so unselfishly.



Ceremony To Mark African-American Passage Into Manhood

Three young men will celebrate the transition from boyhood to manhood at a Rites of Passage Ceremony at the Urban League's Multi-Cultural Senior Center at 5325 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. on December 30 from 7-9 p.m. The ceremony takes place during the Kwanzaa Celebration on the night of Nia or Purpose. Members of the news media are invited to attend.

The three youths and their Swahili "passage names" are Anthony Thompson (La-Mkia), Lee Thompson (Daraja) and Julian Ivory (Wiesie). They are the first graduates of an innovative new program started by the Urban League in January. The 12-month program is designed to teach 11 to 13-year-old boys the responsibilities of manhood.

Since January the youth have interviewed community leaders, visited minority-owned businesses and researched

the lives of African and African-American historical figures. The young men kept a log of pictures, articles and notes related to their initiation. Other activities included researching family history, "adopting" a senior citizen for the year, and performing acts of community service.

According to Program Coordinator Curtis Scott, "The program also emphasizes planning for the future, education, personal discipline and respect for females."

The Passage Ceremony will also include a tribute to Frederick Mitchell (Mstadi), a youth in the program who drowned last summer at Vancouver Lake.

A second group of young men is being recruited for 1993. Contact Curtis Scott, Herman Lessard or Joann Rosevear 280-2600.

The Coalition of Black Men Present Achievement Awards At Kwanzaa Celebration



Thomas Carr and Gloria Phillips, Top; and Mildred Carr Bottom left



The Carr Family received Life Time Achievement Awards from the Coalition of Black Men during the Kwanzaa Celebration Monday night during the third night of Celebration at the Multi Cultural Senior Center. The theme for the night was "A Tribute To Elders. There were several other presentations given to other persons from the community.

Martin Luther King, Jr.
SPECIAL EDITION
COMING JANUARY 13, 1993

Martin Luther King Business Improvement Association, Inc. Announces Formation - Publishes Constitution

Tom Boothe Chairman of the Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Business Improvement Association, announced its formation in the PORTLAND OBSERVERS' December 9, 1992 edition.

The association was formed to address business issues and promote businesses located on the MLK Jr. Blvd. "To offer clear cut solutions and implement positive change."

The following are the boundaries set forth applicable to the association and rules for membership.



Tom Boothe

Portland Boundaries

Any and all businesses having an address location on MLK Jr. Blvd., or one block to the east on any cross street; or one block to the west on any cross street, is eligible for the status of proprietor residential membership; providing the business is legal under the State of Oregon Business Statutes, Multnomah County and the City of Portland ordinances.

Residential membership eligibility starts from a point to the north of the junction of the I-5 Freeway where MLK Jr. Blvd. starts to a point on MLK Jr. Blvd. south to the intersection of Stephens Street.

The residential membership is expressed in three divisions. The north division extends from the I-5 Freeway junction along MLK Jr. Blvd., south to NE Broadway. The central division extends along MLK Jr. Blvd. from NE Broadway to the north, along MLK Jr. Blvd. south to east Burnside. The southern division extends from east Burnside to the north along MLK Jr. Blvd. south to SE Stephens Street.

Associate and affiliate members may have business offices anywhere in the world. The membership is based upon their support of the MLK Jr. Blvd. business improvement objectives.

Membership Rules
1. All businesses located along the MLK Jr. Blvd. corridor shall practice fair trade ethics, so as to establish an honorable business reputation for the corridor.

2. All businesses shall keep their business premises well lighted and as clean as possible

3. When a business has a business complaint concerning an environmental or neighboring business problem, that business should first file the complaint with the association before going to the press or filing a lien suit.

4. The number one objective of the association is to encourage and improve the MLK Jr. Blvd. corridor as a better place to do business.

5. All new businesses who choose to locate along the MLK Jr. Blvd. corridor will be given special consideration as an incentive; likewise any business that wishes to expand to MLK Jr. Blvd. will also be given special consideration under the Federal Community Reinvestment Act.

6. All businesses located along the MLK Jr. Blvd. corridor is eligible to participate in the association's discount certificate program. This program will help retain customers to continue to do business along the corridor.

7. The association will advertise and promote the MLK Jr. Blvd. corridor as a fair and honest place to do business. The association expects its members and all businesses located along the MLK Jr. Blvd. corridor to do their best to set high business standards and live up to them.

8. Only dues paying residential members are entitled for a response to proposals or complaints. All proposals or complaints must be strictly for the improvement of business, or must have a direct effect on business in your division along the MLK Jr. Blvd. corridor. Remember this association is not a complaint club, or a meet and do nothing social club.

9. All proposals and/or complaints must be legibly written and filed by mailing them to MLK Jr. Blvd. Business Association, PO Box 11106, Portland, Or 97211.

10. All dues paying members will receive minutes of meetings and updates on all improvements and actions that may have an effect on business anywhere along the MLK Jr. Blvd. corridor.

11. The public at large can follow the progress of the Association by reading the PORTLAND OBSERVER newspaper. The PORTLAND OBSERVER has been adopted as the association's official communications vehicle for the public at large.

12. All established dues paying businesses located within the association's boundaries are eligible for a feature story to be published in the PORTLAND OBSERVER newspaper.

Perspectives

"Everybody Talkin' About Heaven Aint Goin' There"
The Lord, in his infinite wisdom, knew exactly what he was doing. How dare man put these things asunder — is there nothing sacred anymore?

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Religion

"Prayer The Power Source"
According to scripture, everyone is not qualified to pray and how you qualify? When God comes knocking at the door to your heart, just say, "yes!" to God

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News

"What To Do If Your Child Uses Drugs"
Part one of a series dealing with drugs, your children and their need to realize the harm that drugs can do to them.

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News

Eight Institutions Awarded Grants to Study Coronary Heart Diseases In Blacks
Disparity in the health status of minorities as compared to whites have been documented.

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