

The Portland Observer 25¢

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Real Estate Remains A Strong Investment

Even in uncertain economic times, history shows that real estate is a sound investment, and with mortgage interest rates the lowest they've been in two decades, real estate today is a more attractive investment than it's been in years.

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Slavery

1862: A poll tax of \$5 a year was imposed on "Negroes, Chinamen, Kanakas and Mulattoes." If not paid, the sheriff could put the person to work on public highways...A black or mulatto couldn't own property or make contracts.

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Building Bridges Between Blacks And Jews

We need a people-to-people connection between Blacks and Jews; ordinary folks who are ready to say: "To hell with all our politicians and political wheeler-dealers who are using the tensions between our peoples as a political football.

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Blacks More Prone To Kidney Disease Diabetes: Home Tests Can Help

Common Signs: burning, pudginess, highblood pressure, weakness, vomiting, blood or protein in urine, frequent urination, excessive thirst, extreme tiredness, unexplained weight loss, blurry vision, a relative who has diabetes. Since blacks are a greater risk, regular self testing can make a huge difference.

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Bill Board Single Reviews

E! News Daily will look at how the roles available for African-Americans have changed over the years and where today's leading actors see them going in the future. "Black Film Stars will feature interviews with many contemporary and veteran stars of the silver screen.

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East Portland Business/Neighborhood Community says "No More Crime!"

The project goals are to reduce crime, raise crime prevention awareness and improve responses to crime, vandalism and suspicious activity in East Portland. Volunteer are needed for the outreach efforts.

Metro Page

Jackson: Humanitarian, Friend, Pastor, Drum Major For Justice

BY MATTIE ANN CALLIER-SPEARS

In an era when it seems like everything and everybody is running aimlessly up a blind alley, you encounter a personality like a John Hiram Jackson, III, who appears to thrive on pointing the way for others.

It is not everyday or even every year that we can meet or sit in the very presence of such a man as John Hiram Jackson, III.

John H. Jackson lived through eighty-one of the toughest years in our nation's history. He witnessed and participated in many of the 'meat and potato' struggles in the history of the African American.

One of the events he frequently cited was the fact that his grand father was cornered, holed-up and burned up in his barn by the Klu Klux Klan when he was just a little boy. All that he knew was that he, if it was in his power, would never allow anything like that to happen again.

Jackson believed that education was a powerful vehicle. He believed that it would become the 'master key' to unlock many of the century-long locks and shackles. So--he strove to attain excellence in very area of study he pursued. Jackson fought hard and long until the fear within him had subsided. You see--he no longer felt threatened; but rather, he became the threat.

Jackson persevered. He was bold and relentless. Single-focused. His strong unwavering spirit was felt by countless, thousands-upon-thousands, individuals.

If anyone decided to select a label that would ultimately define who this man really was, it would have to be 'humanitarian'. As I tracked his life, all of his achievements were tied-up in people involved projects and undertakings, such as: restructuring of the State Welfare system, the Housing Authority of



John Hiram Jackson, III

Oregon, After Care Programs for small children (working mothers) -- 4-C and Albina Ministerial Alliance Child Care Program, Founder of POIC, Mayor's Commission, Governor's Commission, Law Enforcement Counsel and so many other organizations in the state and outside of the state of Oregon.

Foremost and above all, he was man of God. Yes! Reverend Jackson was driven, or should I say compelled, to defend, lift and encourage a fledgling community which suddenly found itself involved, up to its neck in social change.

Before coming to Portland, Jackson

was an administrative director over the American Baptist Churches of the Pacific Northwest which was based in Seattle, Washington. He had ten to twelve secretaries under his command. He had also been offered the presidency of a large, well-known university; however, he forfeited any personal ambitions to fulfill what was his chosen destiny.

A church member approached him one day and asked, "Rev. Jackson. Why did you take this small church when you were a such a big-wig in Seattle? And I understand that you handled millions of dollars because you were a loan officer for the American Baptist Convention."

"God told me to preach", he said one day. "I had to come from behind that desk because that was not where God wanted me to be I have to be about my Heavenly Father's business."

Jackson arrived in Portland in 1963 to accept the pastoral responsibilities of the Mount Olivet Baptist Church. Upon his arrival, he began to calculate, discuss and resolve long term perplexities. Through his vast knowledge, he was able to bring about social and spiritual change and justice for all who were willing to listen and take heed.

Several governors and mayors sat under his tutelage; and many, many heads of state will attest to his authenticity and his blunt wisdom.

"To me", says Tony Hopson, Director of Self Enhancement Inc., "Rev. Jackson represented hope."

Rev. Jackson guided his congregation like a doting father. Mount Olivet Baptist Church had in its possession, for twenty-seven years, a priceless gem. Many programs were born under his leadership and are still in place. These programs were created to evoke

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Portland City Council Approves Employment "Clearinghouse"

Mayor Katz Says New Program will Increase Employment Opportunities for Minorities and Dislocated Workers

Portland's City Commissioners approved the creation of a construction "workforce clearinghouse" program to increase the number of minorities and women working for contractors, and doing business with the city.

"This program is an important step in diversifying the workforce of city contractors," said Portland Mayor Vera Katz. "It will provide contractors with the tools needed for hiring more women and minorities as apprentices, and as entry level-workers.

To create the workforce clearinghouse, the city joined forces with Tri-Met and the Oregon Department of Transportation. The Oregon Opportunity Advisory Committee spearheaded the effort. The Portland Development Commission and the City Attorney's Office also played a role in coordinating the project.

"In the past it's been up to women and minorities to navigate the complex process of entering the workforce in the construction trades," said Jennie Portis, Chair of the OOAC Workforce Subcommittee. "Now the clearinghouse will provide information to them to help them enter into construction trade career paths," said Portis.

The clearinghouse program will replace the city's 3-1/2 year old First Source helped residents from Portland's economically disadvantaged areas find contracting jobs. The new program is expected to increase minority

and women employment opportunities in a number of ways.

First, the program is designed to facilitate the entry of women and minorities in the formally recognized apprenticeship programs which are coordinated through the State's Bureau of Labor & Industries.

Second, by monitoring their progress in these programs, the clearinghouse is expected to increase retention of women and minorities through helping them obtain journey-level status in the construction trades.

In addition, the clearinghouse is designed to assist contractors, labor unions, and government contracting agencies by setting up an information system to refer qualified workers to job sites throughout the region.

"The new program will provide a more effective, long-term solution to the problem of underrepresentation of women and minorities in the construction field," said Deputy City Attorney Madelyn Wessel.

"The clearinghouse is an improvement over the current program because it will help entry-level workers as well as journey-level workers find jobs on construction projects," said Jess McKinnley, with the Portland Development commission. "First Source focused

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Judging Packwood, Senate Sacrifices Fairness

Whatever the outcome of Senator Robert Packwood's courtroom battle to limit access to his private diaries by the Senate Ethics committee, he still faces a major obstacle to a fair hearing. If the committee ultimately charges him with misconduct.

The problem lies in current Senate rules. Those rules provide that the same committee members who direct the preliminary inquiry and vote to issue charges also sit in judgment of the charges at a trial-like hearing. By that time, however, the members will no longer be impartial. Why? Because they prejudge the evidence when voting to issue the charges.

The Ethics Committee subpoenaed Mr. Packwood's diaries to get information that may reveal additional misbehavior beyond the allegations of sexual harassment and willness intimidation that were the original focus of the investigation. The subpoena target new information about an alleged solicitation by Mr. Packwood of a job for is estranged wife from lobbyists interested in legislation before a committee on which he served.

Mr. Packwood attacked the subpoena in court for seeking information irrelevant to the original inquiry. The committee defended its subpoena by drawing an analogy to the criminal justice system: At this stage of the case, it argued the committee acts just like a grand jury investigating a crime. Its subpoenas should therefore be allowed the some wide latitude as those of a grand jury that can follow evidence wherever it leads. The trial court sided with the committee, and Mr. Packwood is now appealing.

The criminal justice analogy works for the first stage of the committee process. Like a grand jury that issues and indictment at the close of its investigation, the committee will



Senator Robert Packwood

issue charges against Mr. Packwood at the end of its preliminary inquiry if it finds "substantial credible evidence which provides substantial cause" to conclude that he violated Senate rules.

Once the committee issues charges, however, the analogy no longer holds. In the criminal justice system, the changing and judging rules are separated, performed by different individuals. A grand jury's job is done once it finds probable cause that a crime has occurred and issues an indictment. The task of judging guilt or innocence is left to a petit jury that hears the evidence for the first time at the trial. In contrast, the same Ethics Committee members who as "grand jurors" and vote to issue charges simply switch hats

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EDITORIAL

More Black Contributors To Medicine II

What most people do not realize is that preservations of meats was still a fairly haphazard affair before Hall went to work on the problem.

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REGULAR NEWS

Angelus

Today, Mr. Nascimento is one of the rare vocalists who can draw audiences around the world regardless of language.

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Sports

Coca-Cola And The NBA Team Up Globally

"This joint effort marks the first-ever globally integrated marketing alignment of the brand Coca Cola with one professional

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General News

Budweiser Family Salutes Black History With "Black Experience" Sweepstakes.

Grand prize is a Home Entertainment Center...

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