



# Metro/Religion

## Josiah Hill Memorial Nov. 4

### Portland Leader Remembered

A memorial service celebrating the life of Josiah Hill will be held Saturday Nov. 4 at 4 p.m.

Hill was a longtime leader of the Coalition of Black Men, Physicians for Social Responsibility and numerous other community groups.

The memorial will be held at Irving Covenant Church, 4008 N.E. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

All are welcome. For further information, please call 503-287-5226.



Josiah Hill

## Obituaries

### Portland Poet Dies

Lois Marie Lewis died Oct. 13 at the age of 67.

Lois was born March 14, 1933 in Texas. She moved to Portland in 1962 and retired from Portland Public Schools in 1994.

She loved writing poetry and was also a tax consultant.

Survivors include her companion, Clarence Berry; sons, Edger B. Garner Jr., Elbert D. Garner Sr., and Danny Garner; daughters, Carolyn Parks, Patricia A. Garner and Nora L. Thomas; stepsons, Frederic D. Berry and Jonathan M. Berry; stepdaughter, Annette M. Broussard; sister, Ruth



Lois Marie Lewis

Ramsey; 29 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren;

### Musician, Husband Dies at 42

A funeral will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Oct. 20 in Killingsworth Little Chapel of the Chimes for Jeffrey Charles Metzner, who died Oct. 8, apparently of a seizure, at age 42.

Metzner was born Oct. 17, 1958, in Portland, where he lived all his life.

He served in the U.S. Army. He was a computer technical analyst for Hollywood Entertainment for a year and for DAT Services for the past

month. He was a member of Good Shepherd Church.

In 1995, he married Kita Gail Montgomery.

Survivors include his wife; stepdaughters, Oluwakemi Sosanya and Tolupe Sosanya; mother, Sharon Ordaz; brother, Michael; and sister, Melodie Adams.

Interment will be in Willamette National Cemetery.

### Hatina Brooks Memorial Saturday

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 2930 N.E. 102, for Hatina Dawn Brooks who died in an automobile accident Oct. 21 at the age of 24.

Tina was born on Sept. 9, 1976 to Robert and Judy Brooks in Portland, Oregon. She graduated from Benson Polytechnic High School in 1994.

She liked photography and loved working with children. She was the supervisor at 24-hour Fitness' Kids Club in the Hollywood District. She was known for her beautiful smile and her generosity.

She is survived by her 3 year old son, Ja' Shawn Callen Brooks; parents, Robert and Judy Brooks;



Hatina Dawn Brooks

sisters, Loretta (Brooks) Frazier, Karen (Brooks) Jackson, and Debra and Roberta; brothers, Robert Jr., Darryl and Damon; and a host of family members.

Viewings will be held Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at Caldwell Colonial Chapel, which is also providing the arrangements.

## Carter Breaks Southern Baptist Ties

ATLANTA (AP)—The Southern Baptists, already suffering from defections because of the denomination's conservative positions, have lost one of their best-known members: Jimmy Carter.

The former president, whose evangelical Christian faith figured prominently in his 1976 White House campaign, said in a letter mailed to fellow Baptists that he is cutting ties to the Southern Baptist Convention after struggling with the "increasingly rigid" creed of the nation's largest Protestant denomination.

Some of the group's positions, including recent decisions barring women pastors and declaring that wives should "submit graciously" to their husbands, "violate the basic premises of my Christian faith," Carter wrote.

"I've made this decision with a great deal of pain and reluctance," the 76-year-old Carter told The Associated Press on Friday.

"For me, being a Southern Baptist has always been like being an American. I just have never thought of making a change. My father and his father were deacons and Sunday School teachers. It's something that's just like breathing for us."

But he added: "I personally feel the Bible says all people are equal in the eyes of God. I personally feel that women should play an absolutely



Former President Jimm Carter cuts his ties to the Southern Baptist Convention after struggling with the "increasingly rigid" creed of the nation's largest Protestant denomination.

equal role in service of Christ in the church."

The president of the 15.8 million-member Southern Baptist Convention, the Rev. James Merritt of Snellville, Ga., defended the denomination's positions Friday and said of Carter's departure: "With all due respect to the president, he is a theological moderate. We are not a theological moderate convention."

Carter will remain a deacon at Maranatha Baptist Church in Plains, where he has served as a Sunday school teacher since he was 18. Last month, at Carter's urging, Maranatha voted to divert half its mission contributions from the SBC to a less conservative group of congregations.

Carter said in his letter that he and his wife, Rosalynn, will associate with Baptist groups "who share such be-

liefs as separation of church and state ... a free religious press, and equality of women."

In recent years, the Southern Baptist Convention has boycotted Disney and issued resolutions opposing homosexuality. Merritt said his group isn't getting more conservative; American society is getting more liberal.

"A lot of people say it's society that's too loose. We're willing to take a stand even if it's not very popular," he said. He said he has not seen any "mass exodus" from the faith.

However, more moderate Baptist organizations have grown as congregations leave the Southern Baptists. The Atlanta-based Cooperative Baptist Fellowship now has 1,800 churches after only a decade in existence.

On Wednesday, the Seventh & James Baptist Church in Waco, Texas, voted to sever ties to the Southern Baptists. "As the resolutions have been more and more exclusionary, we've been embarrassed to be associated with the convention," said the Rev. Raymond Bailey.

Bailey said Carter's decision to leave may encourage some moderate Southern Baptists to follow.

"He's a wonderful model of Christian servanthood on an international level, and certainly his positions have an effect," he said.

### College Workshop at Mt. Olivet Church

A free workshop to inform school-age students, and their parents, about steps needed to get into college will be held Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, 8725 N. Chautauqua Blvd.

Designed especially to reach minority youth, the workshop is sponsored by African-American alumni of George Fox University, in cooperation with the University's Undergraduate

Admissions office.

The event is designed to be a first introduction into looking at college and to help high school students understand that it is possible to go on to college.

A question-and-answer time with all presenters will held following the workshop session.

For more information, phone (503) 544-2253.

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### Jewish Experiences Explored

#### Speakers Celebrate Month-Long Event

The Mittleman Jewish Community Center proudly sponsors Jewish Book Month as part of the national celebration of Jewish books demonstrating the full range of Jewish life and experiences. The event is sponsored in part by a grant from the Regional Arts and Culture Council.

From Oct. 31-Dec. 3, the MJCC and numerous Jewish organizations and synagogues, bring to Portland a wide range of authors reading in venues throughout the city. In addition,

Broadway Books helps turn the MJCC lobby into the largest Judaica bookshop in town for the month, selling Judaic books from the religious, to the humorous, historical to great Jewish fiction. Kids books and cookbooks, also.

Perhaps since Jews have been traditionally called the "people of the book," it is only fitting that this month long national event, now held in venues throughout the U.S. has become a major force in the bookseller world.

This year's Portland celebration features both national and local authors. Starting off Oct. 31 will be Mimi Sheraton, former food critic for the New York Times and author of the new book, *The Bialy Eaters*. A patron party will feature Sheraton. This event costs \$25 and is open to the public. Please call the MJCC at 244-0111 for reservations and location.

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