

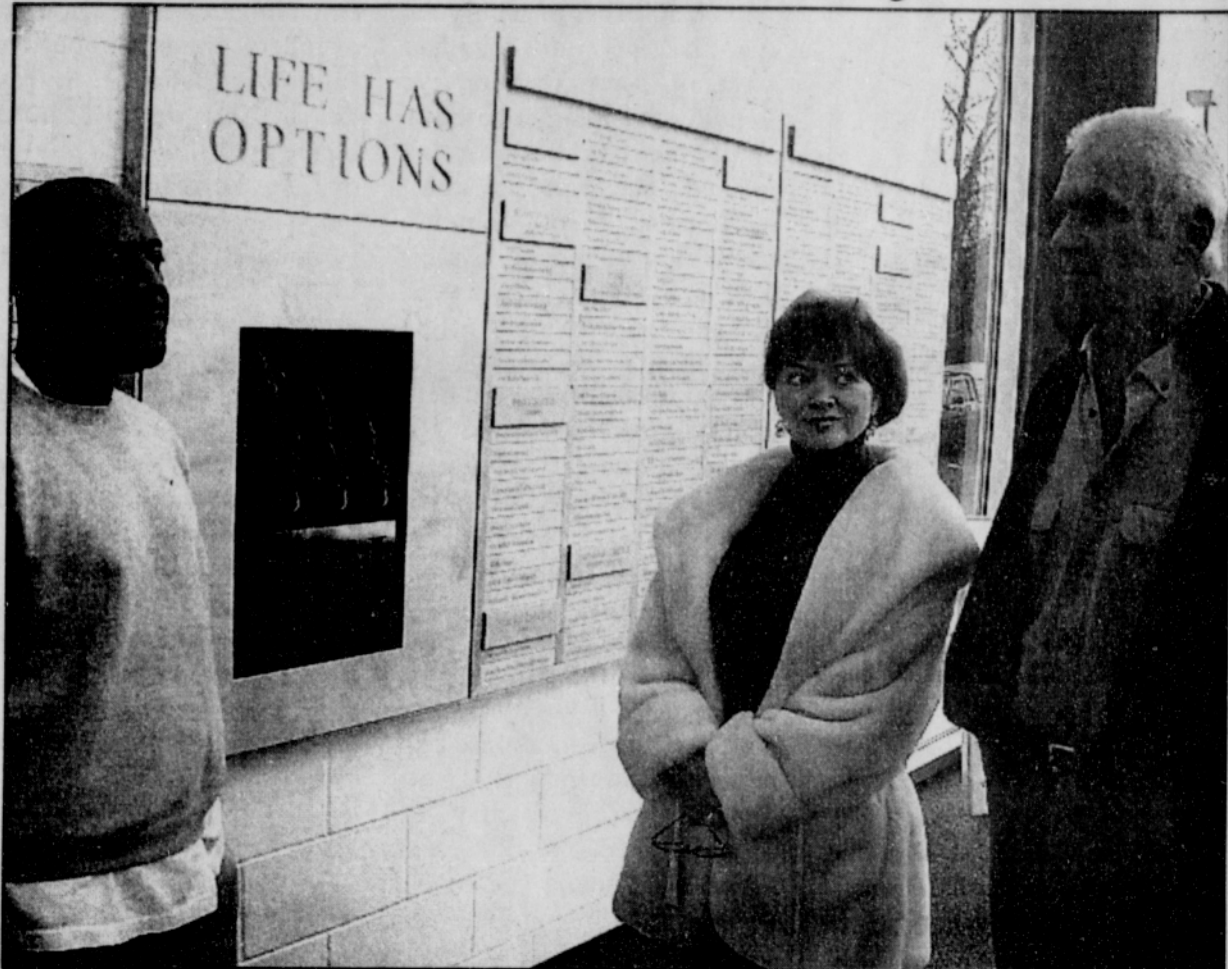


Education



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Program Tour Helps SEI Build a Future for Community Kids



Eli Morgan of Portland (right), a major donor for the Center for Self Enhancement, Inc. and Tony Hobson (left), chief executive officer of the non-profit center, welcomes New York actress Linda Hart to the north/northeast Portland facility. Hart, who has starred in several films, including the recent movie "Beautiful," and past flicks "The Insider," "Tin Cup" and "Crazy in Alabama," was touring SEI's programs for kids.

(PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/PORTLAND OBSERVER)

Help Shape the Growth of PCC's Cascade Campus

Please join PCC staff and other interested community members in a discussion of the future growth of the Cascade Campus. PCC's bond measure will provide for significant expansion of our educational resources. Help us shape the college campus to improve educational opportunities for our community. Your views are important to us.

What: Cascade Campus Community Forum #2 on Campus Expansion

When: Wednesday, February 21, 2001 6:30 to 9 p.m. (Presentation from 6:30 to 7:15; group topics and comments to follow.)

Where: Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth, Student Center Building Cafeteria
Light refreshments will be served.

Parking: Please park at the Renaissance Market, 909 N. Killingsworth. A van will bring you to the meeting on campus. Shuttle bus service will run from 6 to 6:30 and 9 to 9:30 p.m.

Who: All members of the community are welcome.
If you can't attend this meeting, we invite you to send your written comments to:

Dr. Mildred Ollée
Portland Community College,
P.O. Box 19000, Portland, OR 97280-0990



Portland Community College

What Price Slavery?

Group to Discuss What America Owes African Americans

This summer, African-American advocacy groups and government officials will convene at the 12th annual National Reparations Convention in Baton Rouge, La. to discuss the price tag for slavery.

Despite more than a century of activism by reparations advocates, the U.S. government never officially has addressed what it owes, if anything, to African Americans whose ancestors were slaves. At a meeting in Chicago Feb. 2, National Reparations Convention organizers discussed how they might better organize their efforts by using the convention.

"More and more people see reparations as a possibility now," said Johnita Scott Obadele, a member of the National Reparations Convention planning committee. "So our theme this year is 'positioning ourselves to get paid.' What we mean by that is devoting more work to preparation and organization." Reparations advocates estimate that 30 million African Americans are direct descendants of slaves and could be included in a reparations settlement with the U.S. government. They often compare this settlement to the \$1.2 billion the U.S. government paid to Japanese Americans interred during World War II.

That figure broke down to \$20,000 per Japanese person. If this number were applied to 30 million African Americans, for example, reparations could top \$600 billion—although estimates range as high as \$10 trillion.

The National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America (N'COBRA), which is sponsoring the reparations convention, won't name an official amount. "We don't see the value of putting down a figure," Obadele said.

"We're more interested in a package deal that may include some land, some manufacturing capabilities, some tax relief for black people and perhaps an educational fund or a fund for business development. A lot of different things could be offered." Getting the U.S. government to seriously discuss the issue is the first step. Toward that end, two African-American congressmen—Rep. Bobby Rush, D-Ill., and Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich.—have introduced "The Commission to Study Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act."

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