Jimmy "Bang Bang" Walker, publisher of the "Clarion

Defender." (PHOTO COURTESY OF OHS)

Rose City Elks Lodge #111, of

which he was a 1906 charter

member. Cannady was also the

famous "hat man" at the Port-

land Hotel; for decades he

checked as many as 300 hats an

evening and without use of a

ticket check always returned the

hat to its proper owner. Beatrice

Cannady was a tireless civil rights

advocate, with a steady stream

of local speaking engagements.

She was also a speaker at an-

nual National NAACP conven-

tions and the first Pan African

Congress in New York, and

helped organize local NAACP

chapters in Bend and Vernonia.

Yancy Franklin and continued

as editor of the Advocate. E.D.

Cannady continued in real es-

tate until his death in relative

obscurity in 1941. The Advo-

cate ceased publication in 1933,

having never missed a weekly

issue, providing an intimate pic-

ture of daily life in the African American community for 30

The Portland Times was pub-

and William McLamore as As-

years.

n 1930, the Cannadys di

vorced and Beatrice mar ried Advocate typesetter

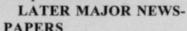
in the Northwest to be admitted to the Oregon State Bar, having attended Northwestern School of Law in night classes while raising two sons. Both of the Cannadys were prominent in social and political circles, and E.D. Cannady reigned for 15 years as Exalted Ruler of the sistant Editor.

can American news dominant press. Supported by

subscriptions and advertising from the African American community, these papers could exercise an independent voice and present an alternative vision issues and activities. These early papers were Portland's

contribution

to the long-



In 1938, Atlanta-born Bill McClendon came to Portland and co-founded the Portland Observer with Charlie Garrett, who operated the Madrona Radio and Record Shop. The paper ran until 1943. McClendon followed with the People's Observer from 1943-45, and then The Observer from 1945-50. Many of his riveting editorials are contained in his book "Straight Ahead: Essays on the Struggle of Blacks in America, 1934-94". They fully convey the intensity of the local racial issues of the eras and many are as relevant today as

The Northwest Clarion Defender was published in from 1943-61 by Arthur & Etoile Cox. Mr. Cox, who came from Kansas City in 1941, also established eration continues today at 2736

The Clarion Defender was lished from 1913 until 1923, with published from 1960-70 by Jimmy "Bang Bang" Walker,

The power of the Afri

paper resided in its ability to counter-balance the neglect and distortions African American news and individuals suffered in the hands of the

standing and respected body of the national African American press.

PAPERS

when they were published.

Cox Funeral Home, where op-NE Rodney Avenue.

Dr. James Merriman as Editor who came to Portland in 1955 to

pursue a boxing career. Mr. Walker also founded the Miss Tan Oregon and then the Miss

Black Oregon pag-

Focus

The Hortland

Observer was established by Rev. Alfred Henderson, Bethel AME pastor, in 1970 through the efforts of the Albina Ministerial Alliance. The paper continues publication today at 4747 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd by the sons of late publisher Joyce Washington;

The Skanner was established by Bernie Foster in 1975. It also continues publication, relocated in 1997 to 415 N. Killingsworth.

A number of other African American newspapers were published for a short time from the 1950's to the 1960's.

This information is drawn from "Cornerstones of Community: the Buildings of Portland's African American History",

published by the Bosco-Milligan NE Killingsworth and at local Foundation. The book is available at Reflections, located at 446 documentary is underway.

libraries. A companion video



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Pays Tribute To Black History Month