

Metro/Sports

Community Advocates Honored by Blazers

The Blazers have put the spotlight on seven local African American heroes.

Fach individual was chosen based on their dedication and service to the community, as well as their commitment to making a difference to individual lives every day.

The honorees received \$500 to donate to the charity of their choice. In addition, the Blazers donated \$5,000 to scholarship funds at "Bridge Builders" and "Links," two local African American organiza-

The first honoree, Ron Herndon, has been the director of the Albina Head Start program since 1975 and is the current president of the National Head Start Association. He is a former teacher, counselor, college instructor and VISTA volunteer. He also had a hand in founding many community-based organizations including the Black Education Center, Black United Front, Oregon Human Rights Rainbow Coalition, Black United Fund, NE Community Development Corp., Youth Gang Task Force and the NE Economic Development Alliance. Healso helped develop the National Head Start Training Academy at Texas Tech Uni-

Andrew Shoals, student body president at Grant High School, was the second of the seven individuals honored during the celebration of Black History Month. Shoals maintains a 3.94 GPA and is ranked 32nd in a senior class of 407. He is a member of SUPERSAC, an advisory council of students that report to the district superintendent, sings with the Royal Blues, Grant's elite performance choir, is a member of the Grant Jazz Band and has participated in numerous stage productions at the school. Shoals is also the vice president of Perspective Gents, an organization for African American youth that performs community service.

Rosie Dean has been a Trail Blazer in her own right for years. In 1987 she opened Doris' Café with the goal of creating a few jobs for neighborhood kids. In the last 13 years, she's become a community advocate, hired and trained disadvantaged kids and is known for her tradition of delivering Thanksgiving meals to hundreds of elderly and handicapped

Anthony 'T' Dixon truly believes in giving back to the community's children; he's dedicated his life's work to it. Dixon works at the Albertina Kerr Center for severely abused children. He is a true gift to Albertina Kerr, the kids are inspired by his actions, emulating him and even actingoutjust to hangout with him in the time



Willie Mae Hart

out room. Dixon is also a foster parent to

Randy Corradine is the current Boys & Girls Clubs of Portland Youth of the Year. Amember of the Boys & Girls Clubs since he was seven, he is their youth ambassador for the entire organization. Last year, he helped lead the Blazers Community Builders Youth Corps in donating \$10,000 to charities of the clubs' choosing and helped in several community service projects. Corradine helped raise his younger siblings with the help of his grandmother while maintaining hon-



ors grades at school. He is the past president of the Keystone Youth Leadership Club, and has represented the Boys & Girls Clubs of Portland in regional and national leadership conferences.

Angela Jefferson grew up in a home where hundreds of kids passed through; her mother was a foster parent who took care of children who needed help. Now Angela, 29, is helping others just like her



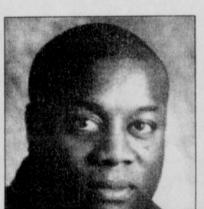
mother did. She's been a foster parent for eight years, dedicating her life to helping kids who are the victims of physical and emotional abuse and neglect. To date, she's cared for nearly 72 children.

Willie Mae Hart an 85-year-oldnortheast Portland resident, remembers the day the Oregon Legislature made it illegal to discriminate on the basis of race. It was 1953, and then new state Representative



Mark Hatfield was behind the bill. Willie Mae was one of hundreds of African Americans who drove to Salemina caravan to support the bill, and was there when it passed. Hart is involved in volunteer and church organizations, and remains active in the community.

Each of the seven honorees is making a difference today, everyday, in the Portland community.







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Classifieds/Bids

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