

Portland's Digital Underground Railroad: Continuing the King Legacy

Rev. Ralph Abernathy (left) and a concerned and King speak to a reporter in Albany, Georgia. Dr. King used the media to his advantage to give attention to the Civil Rights Movement.



award-winning girls' leadership and mentoring program built around community activism, effectively use the World Wide Web and email for their 21st century activism tactics. After a

relentless and determined struggle, the Sisters moved a previously unmovable force, Tri-Met, to do something positive for its customers: lower their fares for students.

Now all of Portland must give "props" and a "shout out" to our young 21st century Harriet Tubmans; leading us on the "Digital Underground Railroad to Freedom. You go girls!

BY JERRY WATSON FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Martin Luther King transformed the freedom movement by utilizing the new technology of television to get access to and transform the world community. Today, many Portland area individuals and organizations have continued Dr. King's legacy. They're achieving success by utilizing today's new technology medium, a "Digital Underground Railroad to Freedom" called the Internet.

Free and Open Access in the 'Hood

The North Portland branch of the Multnomah County Library has a computer lab upstairs that enables library patrons to reserve a computer to write and use online tutorials to practice computer skills. Also, free Web, e-mail, resume building, spreadsheet and word processing classes are available. Basically a free first class ticket on the "Digital Freedom Train." Better get your ticket now, because with the current Oregon recession and budget crisis, you never know how long Multnomah County can keep this access portal open to the "digital underclass." It was closed during the Christmas holiday week due to a staffing shortage.

Cash, We Don't Need No Stinking Cash...Barter Online!

Bianca Hein has created a truly revolutionary concept—free

online bartering. The e-Trading Post online at www.e-tradingpost.com is a free service. Barter preserves cash, improves productivity, works in good or bad economic cycles and expands one's network of business partners. "Home girl" Hein has already received over \$60,000 worth of free stuff! Ultimately, this may be the biggest "Free Gravy Freedom Train" ever. The "doors of trade freedom" are open. "Just Grab It" with all your online hands.

Layin' the Digital Railroad Tracks in the 'Hood

State Senator Avel Gordly, Senate Bill 622, consultant Ray Leary, Qwest, the Portland Development Commission and the state Economic and Community Development Commission are basically forming a "virtual partnership" to develop both fiber-optic and DSL (digital subscriber line) technologies in the economically depressed areas of North/Northeast Portland by 2003. This might also introduce a new round of gentrification and displacement of the "digital underclass." On the other hand, those that "get onboard" this digital train in the hood today, might be "livin large" in the 'hood tomorrow!

Dump Truck a Light Railroad and Create a Digital Railroad Too?!

Want a Light Railroad? James Posey has the dump truck con-

tract to develop the new Tri-Met Interstate Light Railroad.

Want a Digital Railroad? Mr. Posey also has the Eliot E-mat Cafe. You can do your laundry, shop in the convenience store, get a video, eat at the deli and access the internet without ever leaving the room. Why would anyone ever NEED to leave the Eliot E-mat Cafe? Ok, you might want some sleep at some point.

Fight the Power! Hit 'Em from the Digital Underground!

Sisters in Action for Power, the



The Portland Police Bureau supports the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

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Martin Luther King, Jr.

January 15, 1929 - April 4, 1968

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How we get there matters.

www.tri-met.org