



Jerome Mouton (from right), John Chism, Fred Jackson, Keith Houlemard, Ed Stalworth and his daughter, Victoria, do their part for Earth Day by picking up litter and collecting recyclables in northeast Portland. The men are all members of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, founded in 1911 at Howard University.

Fraternity Takes Time to Give Back

BY JEROME MOUTON

FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

In recognition of Earth Day, the brothers of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, along with other volunteers, participated in a neighborhood clean-up effort on both sides of Northeast Alberta, from 15th to 33rd, and from Prescott to Ainsworth.

The group walked through the neighborhoods picking up litter and collecting recyclables. The effort was very tiring, but also very fulfilling. By the day's end there were a few sore backs and legs among the group.

The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity was founded in 1911 at Howard University. The Portland chapter called Aeta Nu is composed of about 12 - 15 graduated African Ameri-

can brothers.

The group's motto is "friendship is essential to the soul."

In addition to social action efforts, like neighborhood cleanups, the chapter also gives out 40 to 50 food baskets to needy families at Christmas time, awards three \$500 scholarships to students annually and mentors students.

The brothers are committed to providing positive leadership and mentorship in the Portland community, with the purpose of continuing to work to help make a difference in the lives of people, especially kids.

The fraternity has a field trip to the Nike complex for students that is planned for later this month.

King Elementary School Kids Honor Mom



Shanaqeda Coleman (from left) enjoys a day at school with her second grade son, Davontae and his classmate Cabbil Roneesha, during a Mother's Day buffet at King Elementary School in northeast Portland. Several students' mothers, grandmothers and guardians attended the fourth annual event Friday.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Summer School Takes Signups

Portland Public Schools is offering an exciting summer, school experience for students in grades five through eight who are not meeting the state or district standards in reading and mathematics. During the 2001 summer a total of 760 students completed the 24-day program during June and July. Students showed statistically significant gains in all goal areas, at all grade levels. For more information, contact the summer school office at 503-916-5840, ext. 359.

New Prospective Gents Inducted

African-based rite of passage ceremony Sunday

The Bridge Builders, a community based organization will induct 33 young men into the Prospective Gents Club on Sunday, May 19 at 6 p.m. at Bethel AME Church, 5828 N.E. 8th.

The inductees are Kenny Brandon, C.J. Frazier, Quann Jones, Quinn Jones, Corey Mason-Sanders, Gabriel Shank, Timothy Greenidge, Paul Peters, Antonio Anderson, Bryce Frazier, Jason Norris, Brandon Dixon, Michael Gaither, Cedia Jabbie, Terrell Kent,

Cody Leduff, Chris Minnie-weather, Joshua Peters, Matthew Sundby, Ryan Hardy, Royce Haughton, Willie Hurst III, Donovan Lawrence, Franklin Lee-Hall, Brad Lindsey, Jr., David Lomax Jr., Deron Patterson, Deondra Randle, Demetric Sanders, Olaremi Sobomehin, Jamell Taylor, Vincent Thomas and Antonio Wilkins.

The objective of the Prospective Gents/AGAPE Circle is to elevate the African-American

male to the status of true manhood by administering an African-based rite of passage program that promotes scholarship, high moral character, values and community service. The club consists of 100 high school students and the AGAPE Circle is made up of nearly 60 Gentlemen in late adolescence, from 19 - 25 years old.

The induction ceremony is a free community event. For more information, call 503-306-2960.

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