

Bethel Concerts Honor Black History

Black History Month is alive with music and praise at a local church.

The Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, 5828 N.E. 8th Ave., is honoring African-American history with two special performances.

The Bethel Youth Choir presents "A Musical Concert" at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 22.

Any youth or choirs interested in singing should call 360-771-3561.

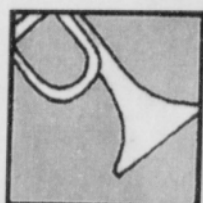
On Sunday, Feb. 29 at 4 p.m., the Bethel Cathedral Choir presents "The Negro Spiritual In Song and Dance: Deepening Our Roots, Extending Our Reach." The 30-voice choir is under the direction of Rochelle McElroy. For more information, call 503-287-9583.

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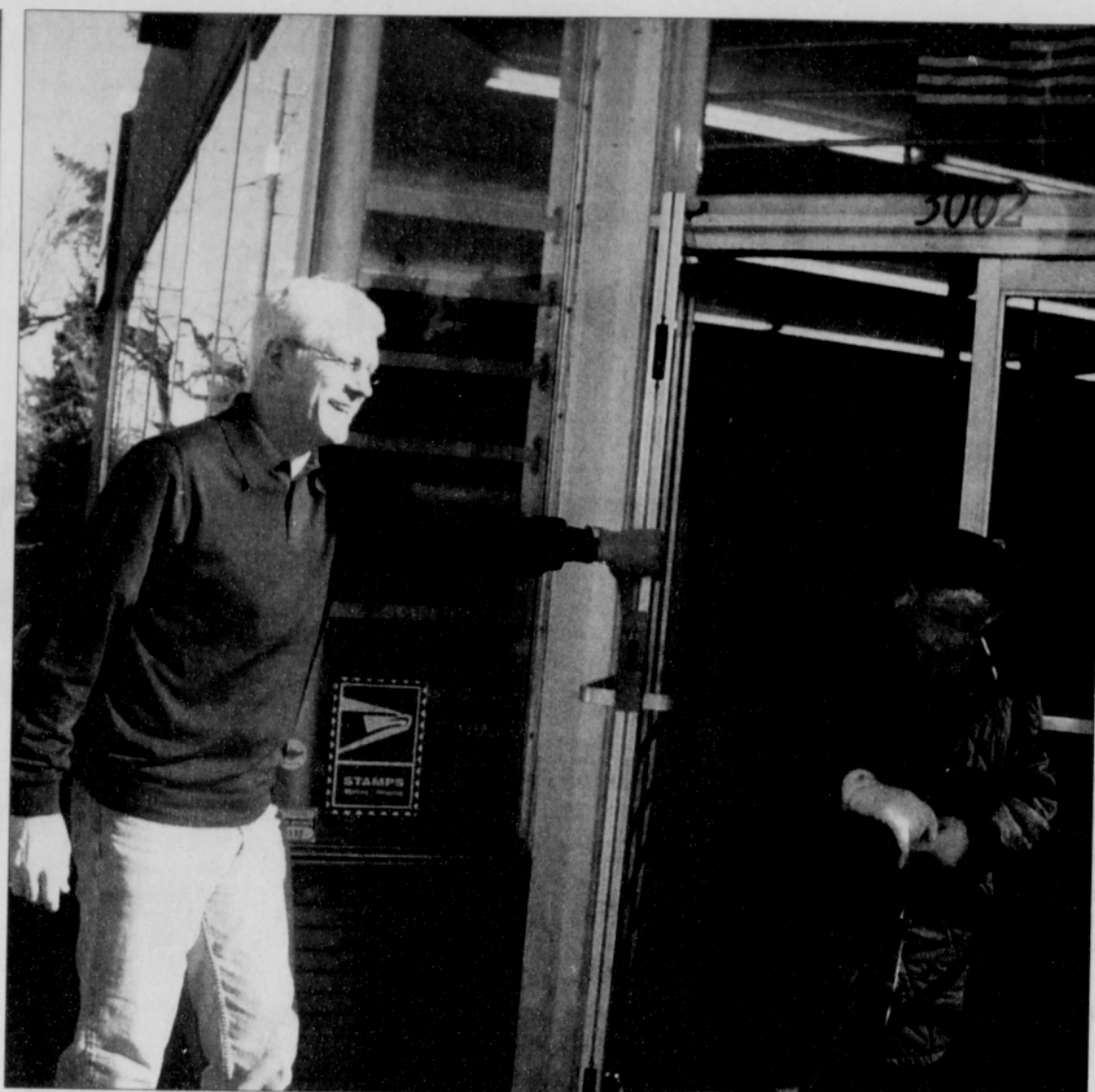


PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Ainsworth Pharmacy owner Ken Hatch helps one of his longtime customers. The landmark store at Northeast 30th and Ainsworth will soon close, ending an era for the Concordia Neighborhood.

Ainsworth Drug Closure to End Era

continued from Front
for accepting monthly payments for utilities and sells a variety of stationery and mailing supplies, greeting cards

and other goods. "It's hard to imagine the intersection without the store there. It's been such an institution, and such a service to that community," said Jennie Portis, longtime northeast resident and a neighbor of the store

for 10 years. Portis said the store provided such an added benefit because of its walking distance for people in Concordia, especially seniors. "It will be a real loss," she said.

Ask Deanna!



Real People, Real Advice
An advice column known for its fearless approach to reality based subjects!

Note: Special Column for Black History Month

Dear Deanna!

I have a hard time celebrating Black History Month. I get so annoyed when February rolls around because that's the only time everybody jumps on the bandwagon of black inventions and cultural stuff and I'm sick of this going on every single year. --Jabari M.; Memphis, Tenn.

Dear Jabari:

People like you make society ignore the truth of blacks and their role in the creation of this world. Next time you're driving look at the stoplight created by Garret Morgan keeping you safe on the roads. When you want a cold soda, thank John Standard for creating the refrigerator. I suggest you celebrate the many lives saved by Charles Drew's creation of the blood storage system and celebrate and nurture your Black History too.

Dear Deanna!

When did Black History month first begin? I'm in my early 30's and don't remember this monthly holiday as a child. At first I thought I didn't know about it because of the town I live in. Then I kind of fell into the swing of things and thought that it's always been around. --Shannon; Portland, Ore.

Dear Shannon:

Dr. Carter G. Woodson started

writing black Americans into national history in 1915 under the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. He launched Negro History Week (which later became known as Black History Month) in 1926 during the second week of February because of the birthdays of Frederick Douglas and Abraham Lincoln. This also was the month blacks received the right to vote, Malcolm X was shot and the NAACP was founded. As time went on, blacks began gaining a respectable presence in the nation that could no longer be ignored and their contributions had to be honored and recognized.

Dear Deanna!

I'm a counselor in an urban neighborhood. The kids and staff like me but continue to ignore my cultural knowledge. Our recent disagreement focuses on black inventions. A big argument started because people think Alexander Graham Bell's assistant Watson was black and helped him create the telephone. I say he was the one answering on the other end. Did Watson have anything to do with creating the telephone? --Josh Carson; Brooklyn, N.Y.

Dear Josh:

You did the right thing by asking a woman about the telephone! This hasn't been highly publicized, but a black man was instrumental in the telephone creation. A little known black man named Lewis Latimer developed the plans for the first telephone. Without him Alexander Graham Bell's telephone would not have succeeded. When the phone rang, Watson was indeed on the other end. Ring, Ring. Are you there?

Ask Deanna is written by Deanna M. Write Ask Deanna! Email: askdeanna1@yahoo.com or write: Deanna M, P.O. Box 88847, Los Angeles, CA 90009. Website: www.askdeanna.com

Black Jewels

Memories can be as precious as jewels.
Protecting them can be as easy as sharing them.

We realize all of the names of history makers didn't make it into history books. That's why we'd like to acknowledge all of those who withstood and endured, who dried tears and cried tears, who stepped in and courageously kept on. Who defied injustice to any as proudly as they praised justice for all. Who believed in right enough to suffer wrong. Who hurt and too often bled but never gave up the fight. Who mourned and yet still marched, who clasped hands and walked on, who sat in but most of all stood up for civil rights.

Although the world may not know your individual names,
together you made a world of difference and changed the course of American History.
We Salute You All!

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