

City Acquires Blighted Grant Warehouse

continued ▲ from Metro

removal activities, the EPA began an effort to recoup the government's cost of cleanup — more than \$1.2 million. The EPA eventually filed a lien on the property and in December 1999 began foreclosure proceedings. For three years, the PDC participated in settlement negotiations with the EPA and the property owner to acquire the property.

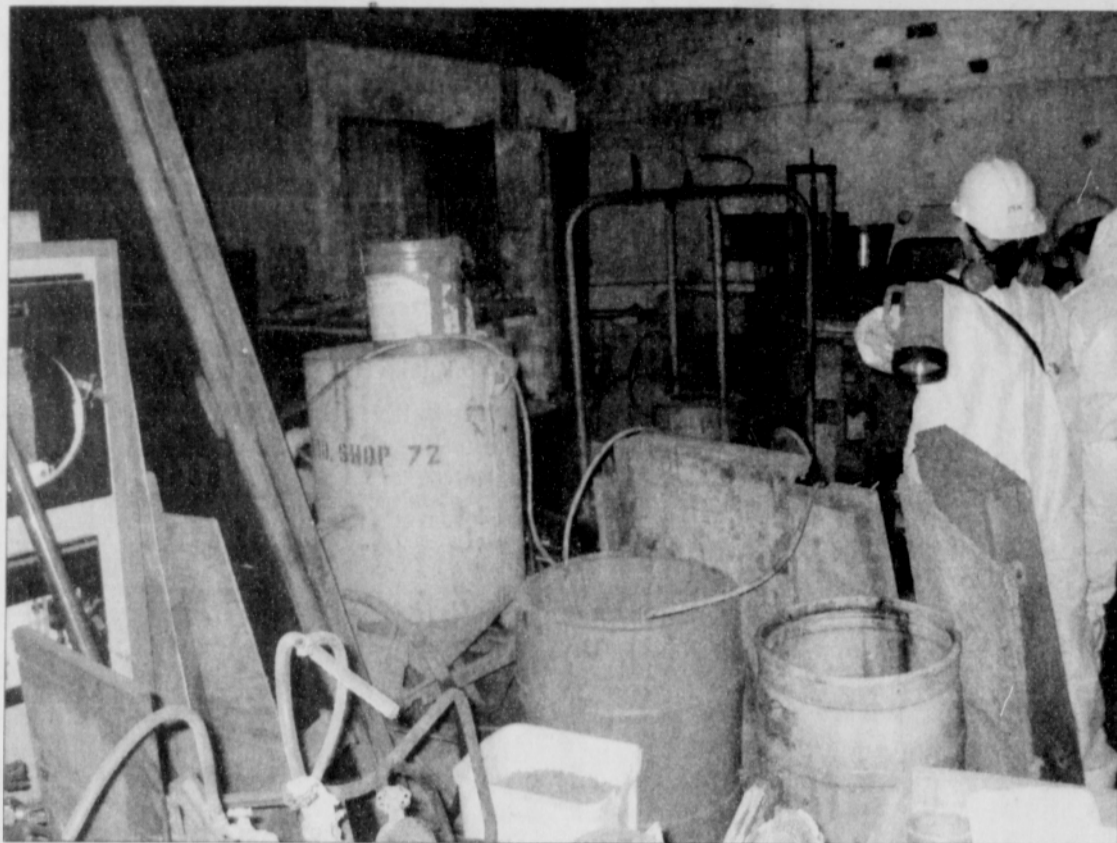
The PDC finally purchased the warehouse from Grant for \$177,000 in late January.

One of those neighbors who kept pressure on city agencies to take control of the property was Christine Charneski, an Eliot resident for 14 years.

"I'm someone who has not felt like the neighborhood has developed wonderfully. I'm still waiting to see MLK turn around and the quality of community life to improve," Charneski said.

Mike Warwick, land use chair of the Eliot Neighborhood Association and chair of the Martin Luther King Advisory Committee, has lived in the community for 26 years. He attributes Grant Warehouse's cleanup to neighbors like Charneski, who kept the issue on the public's radar.

"To see something develop on



The Environmental Protection Agency disposed of dangerously deteriorated drums of highly concentrated heavy metals during a cleanup a few years ago that cost more than \$1 million.

that land would be a way of showing the rest of the community that inner northeast is a good place to live, work and play," he said.

The PDC's environmental staff and consultants will clean up the property in accordance with residential codes this summer.

Insiders say the property will become a mixed use building with a business on the ground floor and housing above.

Charneski envisions an artist's space or nonprofit agency occupying the property in a land trust, to keep leasing

rates affordable.

"MLK is a place to try some unconventional projects to see what happens," she said. "We continue to think that under the right circumstances, the Grant Warehouse and surrounding properties will prosper."

Living Faith Ministries

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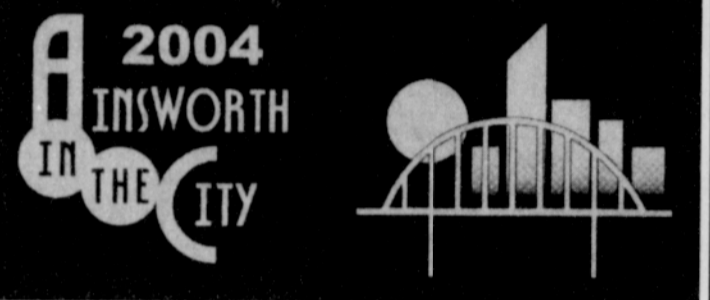
David & Sherrie Littleton
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Service Times
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A three-day celebration hosted by the congregation of Ainsworth United Church of Christ (AUCC), whose activities include social response and action in the greater Portland area, support for community issues, and promotion of interfaith understanding, takes place May 14-16. Proceeds will support the mission and ministry of AUCC, as well as our community partner for 2004, Elders In Action. AUCC is also offering a special raffle for a 7-Day Mexican Riviera Cruise. This year's theme for AITC is "Ainsworth in the City Celebrates Community."

Friday, May 14
Gala Dinner, Dance & Silent Auction

When the sun goes down in Stumptown, we will gather at Sheanigans Restaurant, on the Willamette River, 4575 N. Channel (Swan Island), in North Portland. From 6p.m. to 11 p.m., we will enjoy a delicious buffet dinner, have a great fun with our silent auction, Live Music — Featuring our own Dan Gaynor & Friends! — and dancing.

There will be something for everyone's taste. Tickets are available now: \$55 per person (\$16.50 of which is a tax-deductible donation). Call the church as soon as possible at (503) 284-8767.

Saturday, May 15
Family Festival

Saturday marks the Third Annual Family Festival, featuring food, beverages, an inflatable "BounceHouse," a clown, face painting, a Portland Fire Truck; and a jewelry, plant & book sale. Festivities run from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. right next to the church on a closed N.E. 30th Ave.

Sunday, May 16
Celebration Worship Service and Birthday Party

When you are as welcoming as AUCC, the worship service offers inspiration, jubilation and the Word of God brought to you by people of profound faith, witness and service.

Ainsworth's Pastor Lynne Smouse Lopez's sermon topic will be "Opening the City to the Glory of God." Rooted in AUCC's traditional Four Seasons Birthday Celebration, the after — church activity will honor and celebrate everybody's birthday with scrumptious food, cake, punch and beverages. The drawing for the Mexican Cruise will be done at the Birthday Celebration. Winning the drawing includes the cruise for two (Nov. 5-12, 2004) and round-trip airfare from Portland to Los Angeles.

Obituaries

Loving Son, Father, Brother Dies

A funeral was held on Saturday, April 3 at Maranatha Church in northeast Portland for James Jahar Perez, who died on March 28.

Perez was born on Jan. 11, 1976 in Portland, to Deborah Perez and the late James Perez.

He attended Peninsula Elementary School and Harriet Tubman Middle School. He also attended Jefferson High School, and received his G.E.D. in 2001. He was previously employed with West Coast Loaders.

A loving father, son and brother, Perez will be remembered by his family and friends for his pranks, his humor and his insatiable appetite.

Perez cared about and was protective of his family, especially the children in his family. Relatives



James Jahar
Akbar Perez Sr.

knew they could call on him whenever they needed him.

Besides being intelligent, Perez was also artistic.

His memories will be cherished by his mother, Deborah Perez; his son, James Jahar Abdul Perez Jr.;

brothers Phillip Perez, Ricky Perez, Bobby Perez, Adron Collins and Asad Perez; sisters Tahliba, Samayah, Ayesha, Fatima and Aqueelah Perez; several aunts, uncles, cousins and a host of other relatives and friends.

Resident Dies at 92

Rosa Lee Morrison

A funeral service was held Tuesday, April 6 in Caldwell's Colonial Chapel for Rosa Lee Morrison, who died March 29 at age 92.

Rosa Geary was born Nov. 10, 1911, in Eufaula, Okla. A homemaker, she moved in 1943 to Portland. In the 1960s, she married Henry Martin; he died. She married King Morrison in the 1980s; he later died.

Survivors include her stepson, Louis Martin; daughter-in-law, Sharlot Martin; six grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Her daughter Ruby Mae Howard died in 1998.

Remembrances should be donated to charities of choice.

Longtime Community Member Dies

Doris F. Graves

A funeral was held for Doris F. Graves on Friday, April 2 at St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church. She died March 27 at age 51.

Mrs. Graves was born on Aug. 3, 1952 in Portland to Bennie and Aszolar Gardner. She graduated from Washington High School, earned a business administration degree from Portland Community College and attended Concordia College.

She married Dwight Graves on Aug. 17, 1968. This union was blessed with four children.

She was employed through Webb and Associates at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from 1997 until her illness. She was very active and faithful to her church. Her spirit was like sunshine that warmed the hearts of all she met.

Survivors include her husband; daughter, Datisa; sons, Dwight,

Jr. (and his wife Joy), Darnell and Devonne; sister, Deloris Gardner; mother-in-law, Bertha Graves; sister-in-laws Noell, Marcella, and Patricia; brother-in-law Donald; and nine grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Bennie Gardner, Jr.

Arrangements were made by Killingsworth Little Chapel of the Chimes.

Retired Shipyard Worker Dies

Andrew Williams

A graveside service was held Friday, April 2, in Skyline Memorial Gardens for Andrew Williams, who died March 28 at age 85.

Mr. Williams was born Jan. 28, 1919, in Warren, Ark. He moved in the 1940s to Portland and was a laborer in the Swan Island shipyards.

Survivors include his son, James; daughter, Jean; and two grandchildren.

Arrangements were handled by Caldwell's Colonial.

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OUR MISSION IS:

- T—Train the Saints in the word and ministry
- C—Encourage the Communion of the saints in true unity.
- W—Win the lost to Jesus Christ.
- O—Offer meaningful service to the community.
- W—Worship God in Spirit and in Truth.

