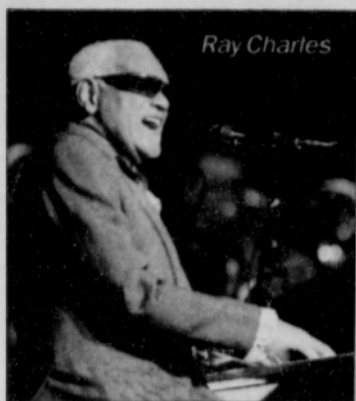


Ray Charles Tribute Planned



(AP) — Friends of the late Ray Charles will sing his praises during a tribute concert planned for the fall.

Bill Cosby will host and Michael McDonald, James Ingram, Gerald Levert and Angie Stone are slated to perform at the Sept. 29 concert at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.

Charles, famous for such hit songs as "What'd I Say," "Georgia on My Mind" and "Hit the Road, Jack," died June 10 of acute liver

disease. He was 73.

The event will raise money for the \$15 million Morehouse College Center for the Arts in Atlanta.

Charles gave the black liberal arts college \$2 million to help fund the complex, which will contain a performance space in his name.

"This college is near and dear to his heart," Digney said. "He performed there, it's in his native Georgia, and it was where he received his honorary degree."

ROBERT CRAY & BUDDY GUY
Sunday, August 15th \$22
Blues legends double header

WELLS FARGO Summer Concerts
AT THE OREGON ZOO
 25th Anniversary
"PLUS" CONCERTS
 Free for Zoo Members at the "Plus" level or higher*, \$9 for non-members

JAOJOBY
Thursday, August 19
king of Madagascar's salegy dance music

ALL SHOWS START AT 7 PM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED
 TICKETS FOR PREMIUM CONCERTS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE ZOO WITH NO SERVICE CHARGE, ONLINE AT WWW.OREGONZOO.ORG OR AT ANY TICKETS WEST SAFEWAY TICKET CENTER. CHARGE BY PHONE AT 503-894-8499.
 PLUS CONCERT TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE ON CONCERT DAY AFTER 4 PM
 WE'VE GOT YOUR DINNER WAITING!
 PRE-ORDER A GOURMET PICNIC AT WWW.OREGONZOO.ORG
 * FOR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL 503-894-8499.
 TAKE MAX TO THE ZOO!
 LISTEN ONLINE - VISIT WWW.OREGONLIVE.COM TO HEAR THESE GREAT BANDS!

COURAGEOUS

AFRICAN AMERICANS

BY JUNE ACOSTA FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

My Friend James Thomas Jackson

Throughout the 300 years of the importation of black slaves to the Americas, individuals responded to the influx of adversity in a variety of ways. Whether the torment of being transported in the cramped, filthy, stinking holds of the slave ships while bound in chains, or the long afterwards of being sold to white masters, those certain individuals have responded to their miserable circumstances with extraordinary courage, strength of character, and greatness of spirit.

After the formal abolition of slavery, the Emancipation Proclamation, signed by Abraham Lincoln on Jan. 1, 1863, there followed in the southern states more than 90 years of institutionally approved racism.

Change only began to take place after the bold stand made by Rosa Parks when she knowingly sat down in the white section of the bus and refused to give up her seat, in Montgomery, Ala. on Dec. 1, 1955.

Envisioning that "big change that was on the way," as he saw it, was poet, essayist, dramatist, journalist, novelist and writer of short stories, James Thomas Jackson.

A high school dropout, Jackson

dedicated his life to writing, a habit that kept him in poverty; he worked at odd jobs until his death at age 59.

He was born in Temple, Texas. As a boy in Houston, he regularly confronted the reality of coping as a black man under laws that enforced white superiority. It galled



James Thomas Jackson

him, but it never caused him to lapse into victimhood or to feel less worthy as human or equally loved by God.

Drafted into a segregated Army in 1943 at the age of 18, he first felt the urge to write. Letters home were as easy as breathing. He began writing letters for Army buddies earning beer and cigarette money. After 8 years, he returned home

and found his 'niche in the word,' to quote him from an essay first published in the Los Angeles Times in 1975.

The essay, 'How Waiting in Line at the Drug Store Awakened a Young Black' became the cornerstone for a book, a collection of all his work titled, *Waiting in Line at the Drug Store*, published by the University of North Texas Press in late summer of 1993. The book is now being used in some black studies programs.

He judged all by the 'content of their character,' to quote Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a hero of his. His friends were of many stripes and colors.

He died in early spring of 1985 in the hospice ward of the West Los Angeles Veterans Administration Hospital, three days after doctors predicted he had three months to live. It was as if his magnificent spirit had whispered softly: "Move on brother, it's time to go."

He was my friend.
 June Acosta is a freelance writer from Raleigh Hills and retired book-keeper from south-central Los Angeles.

Minorities Win New Parking Deal

continued from Metro
 council was looking for the best deal for taxpayers. We delivered and certification had nothing to do

with the award."
 Over the past year, under the management contract, the joint venture partners made impressive strides to improve ethnic minority

contracting and employment, an area the selection committee was impressed with during the group's presentation. The partners will assume responsibility in September.

REVIEWS ON EXCITING NEW VEHICLES BY THE WORLD'S LEADING MANUFACTURERS

The Portland Observer

World of Autos

The 2005 Ford Escape Hybrid Compact Sport Utility Vehicle

Gas Engine: 2.3L aluminum double overhead cam (DOHC); 16-valve Atkinson cycle inline 4-cylinder

Electric Motor: Permanent magnet AC synchronous

Transmission: Electronically Controlled Continuously Variable Transmission (eCVT)

MSRP Price: \$26,970 (per Ford's web site)



The Ford Escape Hybrid gas-electric sport utility is the first to hit the market, late this summer. It is also the first built in the United States. The Escape Hybrid is a "full" hybrid vehicle able to run either its gasoline or electric motor or both. Its computer determines which power will provide optimum fuel efficiency and performance.

Ford is working to minimize the environmental impact of its vehicles. The Escape Hybrid produced 99.4 percent fewer emissions than a new car in the 1960s. It will produce less than one pound of hydrocarbon emissions

when reaching over 100,000 miles.

This vehicle offers unique IP gauges, including battery gauge, green zone tachometer and message center, optional navigation system with instantaneous energy flow and fuel consumption diagrams and audiophile sound system. Ford has made it impossible for the driver to know if you're using gas or electric or both. The customer will find that electric is used more in the city than the highway. The estimated fuel economy is 35/30 city/highway. Ford estimates that consumers will get

400/500 miles from a tank of gas.

There is very little difference in appearance between the Escape and the Escape Hybrid, other than an emblem of a hybrid and towing capacity is about 500 less than the gasoline Escape. Ford states that it is comparable to the V6.

The Escape Hybrid overall is a great vehicle. It has a smooth ride with great handling performance. Americans will be very receptive to this concept especially, Oregonians that take measures in saving Mother Earth.

"I Couldn't Stop Laughing!"
 - Jet Magazine

AVAILABLE ON DVD & VHS
AUGUST 10TH

CEDRIC THE ENTERTAINER
JOHNSON FAMILY VACATION
 WITH BOB WILLIAMS AND HARVEY
 The Wildest Road Trip Of The Year!

Your Care Our First Priority

Dr. Marcelitte Failla
 Chiropractic Physician
 (503) 228-6140

We are located at
1716 N.E. 42nd Ave.
Portland, OR 97213
 (Between Broadway and Sandy Blvd.)

We specialize in:

- Automobile accident injuries
- Chronic headache and joint pain
- Workers Compensation injuries

Call for an appointment! (503) 228-6140