

Black History Month



Birth of the Cool

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Music lovers capered and listened appreciatively to Be-Bop in 1949. Bebop, popularized by such greats as Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie and Thelonius Monk, was at first rejected by many critics because of its harmonic rhythm structure that stood out more than the melody. People soon found, though, that they could provide lively dance to it.

Reflections of the Way Life Used to Be



PHOTO PROVIDED BY OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
African Americans lived in even the most rural parts of the state. Sybil Harber, of Lakeview in Southeast Oregon, a midwife and the mother of cowboy Bert Harber, poses for this photograph in 1895.

Irvington Observes Black History

On Saturday, Feb 19, Irvington School in northeast Portland will host its 3rd Annual Black History Celebration to raise awareness of black history and to recognize the accomplishments of the school's diverse student body.

The theme "Bridge of Opportunity" will be highlighted by school

choir performances, readings and an African drum ensemble. The King Elementary School Choir is also slated to perform.

Keynote speaker, Jonah Edleman, executive director of Stand for Children, will address specific ways that students, parents, staff and community mem-

bers can help all children cross bridges of opportunity.

Refreshments will be served. All interested neighbors and community members are invited to celebrate with Irvington's students, parents and staff. Festivities begin at Noon in the school gymnasium.

For more information, contact Kevin Atchison at 503-290-6258 or Kathy Cooke at 503-281-4930

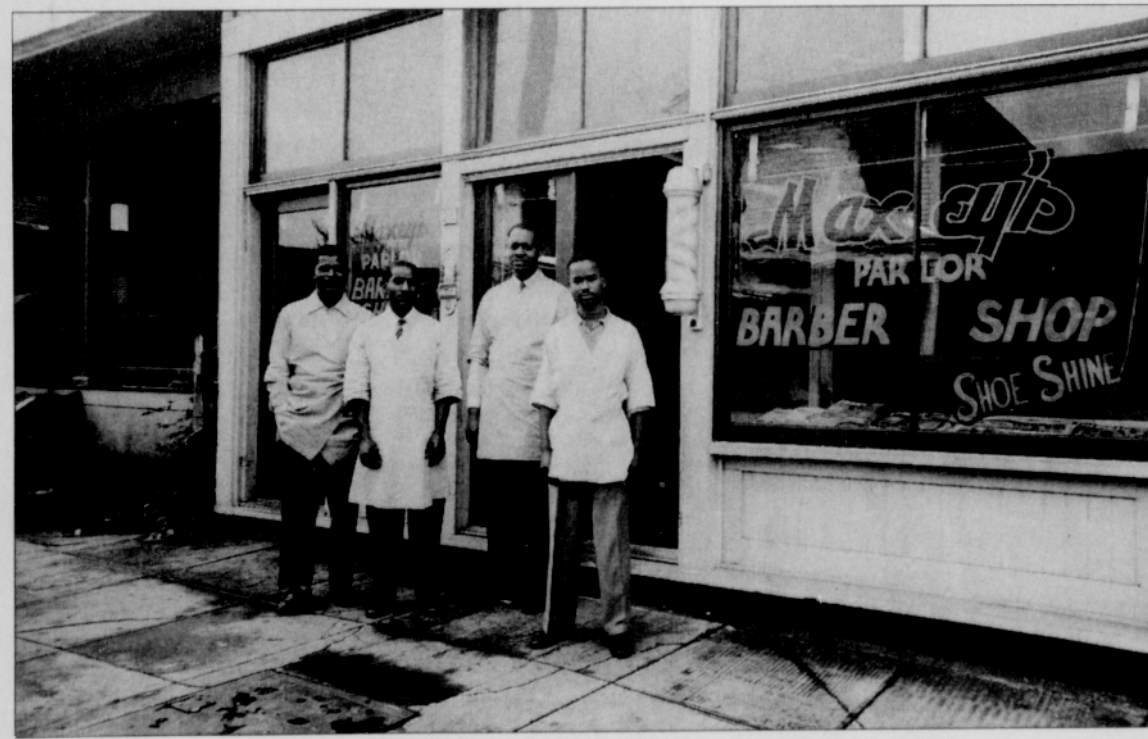


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Haircuts and Conversation

African American barbershops and salons have traditionally provided community meeting places for generations, like Maxey's Barbershop in this historic photo.

Documentaries Profile Courage

Mt. Hood honors Black History Month

Mt. Hood Community College celebrates Black History Month with special films honoring significant historical figures. The geography and criminal justice departments are sponsoring the following documentaries:

On Wednesday, Feb. 16, "Ten Thousand Black Men Named George" will be presented. This

is a made-for-cable feature which dramatizes the struggle of Asa Philip Randolph (played by Andre Braugher) and Ashley Totten (Mario Van Peebles) to organize a group of over-worked and underpaid black railway porters against the staunch opposition of Barton Davis (Kenneth McGreggor), head of the Pullman Railway Co. and a fierce opponent of both unionization and civil rights initiatives.

On Wednesday, Feb. 23, "The Underground Railroad" will be shown. This movie is the story

of Harriet Tubman, a runaway slave from Maryland, who became known as the "Moses of her people." Over the course of 10 years, and at great personal risk, she led hundreds of slaves to freedom along the Underground Railroad, a secret network of safe houses where runaway slaves could stay on their journey north to freedom.

The films will be shown in Room 1575 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. These showings are free and open to all. For further information contact Chris Gorsek at 503-491-7321.

In Celebration of Black History Month

The Portland Development Commission
is proud to be a sponsor of
the African American Alliance

Unity Breakfast

Thursday, February 17, 2005

Irvington Village
420 NE Mason Street

The Alliance is working to support wealth creation and community development efforts in the city as well as strategies that promote and sustain the well being of African Americans.

For breakfast information, or to make reservations, please call 503-282-7973.

Investing in Portland's Future

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