



Sen. Jackie Winters

Jackie Winters Recovers from Heart Surgery


Saying all went well, Sen. Jackie Winters, R-Salem, was released from Salem Hospital on Monday to recover from triple bypass surgery.

Winters will now recover at home where her doctors have told her she will be able to make phone calls and read as she feels up to it. The African-American lawmaker hopes to be back in the Senate in time to vote on bills related to the state budget.

Winters praised both the staff at the hospital and a program called Heart Pillows in her recovery. Pillows made by students and hospital staff are provided to patients to help relieve the pain associated with coughing after heart surgery. "This pillow became my life support," Winters said.

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Longtime Resident Remembered

Funeral services for Martha Louise Ollison, 72, who died March 9, 2005, will be held Thursday, March 17 at the Life Change Christian Center, 3624 N. Vancouver Ave., with Rev. Johnny Pack IV officiating.

She was born April 15, 1933, the daughter of Mattie Reader Peters and Robert Peters in Florence, Ala. She moved to Portland in 1942, where she lived until her death.

Martha completed grade school in Vanport. She attended James Adams, Roosevelt and Lincoln High Schools. She held several jobs in the Portland area, including Northwest Natural Gas, where she worked until 1980.

In 1958, she became a member of Friend Baptist Church and later became a member of Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church, where she remained until her death.

Martha was previously married to the late Russell Cravens and later married the late Robert B. Ollison.



Martha Louise Ollison

She was a very loving and caring mother, grandmother, great grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin and friend. She enjoyed doing

for others, going out of her way to get the needs of others taken care of before even thinking of her own needs. She was a very strong and determined woman. Although, Martha endured a lot of heartache due to the loss of her two daughters, Rhonda Grace Ollison (Oct. 16, 2003) and Phyllis Renee White (April 9, 2004) she did not let the losses deter her love and faith in our God. Martha was saved and has gone on to be with our Lord.

Also preceding her home-going was her mother and father; brother Robert Peters Jr. and sister Virginia McDonald.

Survivors include her sons Jerome Ollison, Cedric Ollison and Ernie Ollison all of Portland; daughters Rosella Peters, Armeda Peters Jones, Cewilla Cravens and Sonja Arigbon, all of Portland; brother Lawson Peters and sister Margaret Willis of Portland; twenty grandchildren, and a host of great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, family and friends.

Chitlin' Fest Comes to North Portland

On Saturday March 26, Friday's Espresso and Café will play host to the first annual Portland Chitlin' Fest. This cultural banquet is an opportunity for people of all strides of life to gain first-hand knowledge of the 'black experience' during the days of slavery and Jim Crow.

All proceeds from the event will go directly to Celebration Academy of the Performing Arts (CAPA). CAPA was started in the fall of 2004 as a result of the overwhelming need to provide first to eighth grade boys and

girls with a first-class education in a time of budget cuts and school closures.

Aside from the various pork dishes, Portland Chitlin' Fest will be serving other traditional foods such as fried chicken, black-eyed peas and rice, corn on the cob, greens, 7-up cake, barbecue ribs, and much more.

The event is from 5 to 8 p.m. at Friday's Espresso and Café, located at 8139 N. Denver. Tickets are \$20 for the all-you-can-eat served buffet. To reserve your spot, please call 503-286-2590.



Spring Blooms at Japanese Garden

Spring already abounds at Portland's Japanese Garden with the blooming of the Weeping Cherry in the Flat Garden. Cherry blossom viewing has been a Japanese custom since the 7th century when the aristocrats enjoyed looking at the cherry blossoms and wrote poems. The garden expects the trees to stay in bloom for at least another week.

Birth Announcement: Azaylia Dawn Marie McLemore

Azaylia Dawn Marie McLemore was born March 3, 2005 at Portland Providence Medical Center, the daughter of Tonya Lynn McLemore. She weighed 7 pounds, 3 ounces and was 19 and 1/2 inches

long. Her brother is Hayden DeWayne Stone, 6; her grandparents are Dawn and Scotty McLemore; and her great grandparents are Tomas and Linda Peacock and Genny.

Tax Help Volunteers Figure the Numbers

continued ▲ from Metro

to tax professionals but it's expensive and not everybody can afford it. Some individuals are being taken advantage of by refund loans."

Howell said that for many people, tax preparation is the last thing on their minds because issues like paying rent, putting food on the table or keeping up with bills takes precedence. But funds returned from taxes can help with exactly these issues.

Families aren't required to

file if their income is less than \$10,000, but filing is the only way to find out if they're eligible for withholdings or earned income credit.

"For many years, I wasn't aware that my family was eligible for EITC and other tax credits," said Cynthia Hanna, a student at Portland Community College. "The first year I filed, I received over \$5,000. I was amazed. The money helped me to purchase household necessities, like beds for my children, new towels, and cleaning products, as well as pay for added

childcare assistance. I know that I can count on the EITC every year to be a critical part of my family's budget."

"We want to make sure that if someone thinks they qualify that they follow through and get help," Howell said. "It gives them a place that they can go to."

Free Tax-Aide sites are available throughout the Portland metro region until April 15. For more information call, 1-888-227-7669 or 1-800-829-1040 or visit www.aarp.org/money/taxaide/taxpreparation/.

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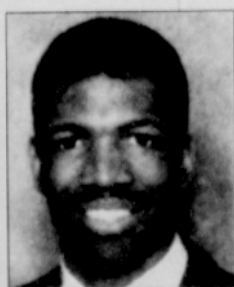
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