



Ball Elementary Principal Tamala Newsome leads her students in Monday's ceremony celebrating the construction of a new school to replace the outdated and aging Ball school site.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

# Reality for New Columbia School

continued ▲ from Front

"I'm excited to see us move forward with this investment for families in this north Portland neighborhood, said Dan Ryan, a Roosevelt alumnus serving his first term on the School Board. "The children will have a state-of-the-art facility that will build on the school's academic achievement created by Principal Tamala Newsome and her staff. The presence of the Boys & Girls Club on-site will also benefit a number of the surrounding schools in the Roosevelt cluster."

The project, which is supported by private fundraising and a significant contribution from the Housing Authority of Portland, incorporates shared space with the Boys & Girls Club of Portland, and a new gym being constructed by Portland Parks and Recreation at the University Park center.

Slated to open in September 2006, the entire project is valued at more than \$20 million but will cost the school district less than \$9 million

as a result of the partnership with HAP, the Boys & Girls Club and the use of New Market Tax Credits.

The district sees the new school as a demonstration of its commitment to stretching available tax dollars to meet current and future student achievement needs, create partnerships to advance community and district goals, and attract families back into Portland Public Schools.

"This wonderful partnership has drawn together public, private and non-profit organizations to build a new neighborhood school for the benefit of our community" said School Board Co-Chair David Wynde. "With capital dollars so scarce, we want to use this experience as a model to come up with creative solutions for important projects in

other neighborhoods in our school district."

"This is not the type of project that housing authorities typically have undertaken," added Kandis

Brewer Nunn, Chair of the Housing Authority of Portland. "However, we live in a new day and age. This combined facility both complements our core goal of providing new, affordable housing at New Columbia and reinforces that strengthening children and their families ultimately benefits the immediate neighborhood and the larger community beyond."

Construction will begin immediately. Eighty percent of the new residents of New Columbia, a neighborhood forged from the destruction of the old Columbia Villa housing project, will have moved into new housing units by next year's fall opening. Other children living in the surrounding Portsmouth neighborhood will also attend the new Ball Elementary.



An artist's rendering shows the look of the new Boys and Girls Club which is slated to be built next to the new Ball Elementary School in north Portland's New Columbia community and adjacent to the current University Park Community Center.



Bertha Gilbert, 22, is led away by police after she tried to enter a segregated lunch counter in Nashville, Tenn., in this May 6, 1964, file photo.

## Civil Rights Era Women

continued ▲ from A3

"After the bus boycott got going and (Martin Luther) King got involved, they wouldn't even let Rosa Parks speak at the first mass meeting," she said. "She asked to speak, and one of the ministers said he thought she had done enough."

Olson added that Parks is often depicted as a deferential woman who defied segregation laws at the urging of movement leaders, but in fact she had for years quietly pushed for racial justice — and she had carefully planned the actions that led to her arrest.

"She was not just a symbol," Olson said. "She was an agent."

Septima Poinsette Clark, often called the "queen mother" of civil rights, was an educator and National Association for the Advancement of Colored People activist

decades before the nation's attention turned to racial equality.

Fannie Lou Hamer, a Mississippi sharecropper, was beaten and jailed in 1962 for trying to register to vote. She co-founded the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party and gave a fiery speech at the 1964 Democratic National Convention.

Vivian Malone Jones defied segregationist Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace to enroll in the University of Alabama in 1963 and later worked in the civil rights division of the U.S. Justice Department.

Even today, Bond said most NAACP members and most local branch presidents are women.

"There's a Chinese saying, 'Women hold up half the world,'" Bond said. "In the case of the civil rights movement it's probably three-quarters of the world."

Obtenga Vacuna de Gripe, No la Gripe.

Get the Flu Shot,  
Not the Flu.



Flu Shots are Covered  
for People with Medicare Part B.

For Information, call **1-800-MEDICARE**  
or visit **www.medicare.gov**

Medicare Paga por las Vacunas de Gripe.  
Para Información, Llame al  
**1-800-MEDICARE**  
o visítanos al **www.medicare.gov**

CMS



CDC