

ROSA PARKS

Mother of Modern Civil Rights

A timeline of major events in Rosa Parks' life:

- **Feb. 4, 1913:** Rosa McCauley is born in Tuskegee, Ala. In her childhood she worked as a field hand, took care of her younger brother, and cleaned classrooms for tuition.
- **December 1932:** Rosa marries a barber, Raymond Parks.
- **Dec. 1, 1955:** Rosa Parks is arrested for refusing to give up her bus seat to a white man in Montgomery, Ala.



Rosa Parks at a press conference with Montgomery civil rights leader E.D. Nixon (left).

- **Dec. 5, 1955:** First day of bus boycott by some 40,000 blacks in Montgomery after calls by civil rights leaders and preachers. Montgomery Improvement Association is formed with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. as president.
- **Feb. 1, 1956:** A suit is filed in federal court challenging the bus segregation law.



Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King Jr.

In 1955, Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., then a Baptist minister in Montgomery, Ala., became a national figure when he came to the assistance of Rosa Parks. The Montgomery Improvement Association chose King to spearhead the Montgomery's bus boycott to protest segregated buses. After the boycott, Parks frequently joined King, by then old friends, in support for civil rights efforts, including the March on Washington in 1963.



Rosa Parks with Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (in background) in 1955.

- **June 19, 1956:** The federal district court in Montgomery rules 2-1 that bus segregation is unconstitutional.
- **Nov. 13, 1956:** The U.S. Supreme Court upholds the district court ruling against segregated buses.

The City of Portland, Multnomah County and Metro Honor the Spirit and Dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Martin Luther King, Jr. receiving congratulations and the signing pen from President Lyndon Johnson during the historic signing of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.



Martin Luther King, Jr. hugs his wife Coretta following the news of receiving the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The City of Portland, Multnomah County and Metro believe that silence about the inequities of discrimination is unacceptable, both in our workplace and in our contracting practices. We are striving to diversify our employees, as well as increase the numbers of minority-owned, women-owned, and emerging small businesses that do work for us.

Please contact the following agencies about contracting and consulting opportunities:

Multnomah County- Lisa Williams • 503-988-5511 ext. 22596 • www.multcopurch.org

Metro- Cinna'Mon Williams • 503-797-1816 • www.metro-region.org

City of Portland:

Bureau of Purchases- Greg Wolley • 503-823-6860 • www.portlandonline.com/omf/purchases

Portland Water Bureau- Corbett White • 503-823-7490 • www.portlandonline.com/water

Bureau of Environmental Services- Harvey Lockett • 503-823-7892 • www.portlandonline.com/bes

Office of Transportation- Richard Gray • 503-823-5250 • www.portlandonline.com/transportation



Rosa Parks in 1964.

- **1965:** Parks joins U.S. Rep. John Conyers successful congressional campaign.



Parks shown wearing the Spingarn Medal awarded from the NAACP in 1979.

- **1979:** The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People awarded Parks the Spingarn Medal, its highest honor.

- **1980:** Parks receives the Martin Luther King Sr. Award.

- **1983:** Parks is inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame for her achievements in civil rights.

continued ▼ on page B8