

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH and the American Experience**



PHOTO BY ISAIAH BOUIE/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER  
The newly named Martin Luther King Jr. Loaves & Fishes Center is powered by local residents, including (from left) volunteer Nelly Coney; Travis Sango, a volunteer driver for 18 years; kitchen coordinator Mae Kofi; kitchen manager David Lomax; and Christel Kilpatrick, a meal site steering committee member for 10 years.

## Meal Site Named for Martin Luther King Jr.

The Northeast Loaves & Fishes Center is being renamed the Martin Luther King Jr. Loaves and Fishes Center with permission from The King Center in Atlanta.

A rededication ceremony was scheduled Wednesday, Feb. 22 at 3 p.m. with State Sen. Avel Gordly as keynote speaker; an invocation by the Rev. Johnny Park IV of Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church; and a perfor-

mance by the St. Andrew Nativity Elementary School Singers under the direction of Liala Roberts.

The meal site opened in June 1991 inside the Northeast Multicultural Senior Center at 5325 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., combining several smaller Loaves & Fishes Centers in the north and northeast Portland area.

The center serves more than 250 meals daily to seniors in their

dining room and through the Meals-On-Wheels program.

Since 1970, Loaves & Fishes has provided a nutritional and social lifeline for seniors, through 30 meal sites in Multnomah, Washington and Clark counties and Meals-On-Wheels delivery to homebound seniors. With the help of more than 6,600 volunteers, the nonprofit agency now serves 4,000 meals daily and more than 1 million meals each year.

## Journalists Honored for Black History Contributions cited in new exhibit

(AP)—The first book written by a black person. America's first black newspaper. The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s signature on the Time magazine issue naming him "Man of the Year" for 1963, the year of his "I Have a Dream" speech at a historic civil rights march in Washington.

These items and dozens of other works featuring blacks in journalism and their contributions to the profession are on display in the nation's capital for Black History Month in connection with the National Museum of African American History and Culture, which is to be built on the National Mall near the Washington Monument.

"Throughout several centuries, black contributions to journalism have been critical to educating and informing an entire class of people about events in its own community — events ignored or largely neglected by the white press in America," said Mark E. Mitchell, a collector of black memorabilia.

A 29-cent spiral notebook bearing author Alex Haley's name is said to document the writing of the final portion of his first major work, "The Autobiography of Malcolm X." Haley, who died in 1992, also used the notebook to record progress on his other writings, including "Before This Anger." That was the working title of what be-



The signature of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. on a copy of Time Magazine naming him as 1963 Man of the Year is featured in an exhibit of black journalism.

came his epic book, "Roots," in which he traced his family to one African man.

When the book "Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral" was published in 1773, it was the first written by a black person — Phillis Wheatley, who was kidnapped from west Africa and transported to Boston where she was bought by John Wheatley.

The exhibit includes copies of abolitionist newspapers, along with various news pages announcing milestones in black history, including Jackie Robinson breaking baseball's color barrier by joining the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947, Cassius Clay (now known as Muhammad Ali) winning boxing's world heavyweight championship from Sonny Liston in 1964, and King's assassination in 1968.

## Allen Temple Anniversary

Allen Temple CME Church, 4236 N.E. Eighth Ave., celebrates its 57th Anniversary under the theme "Redeemed For the Purpose of Doing Good Works."

A memorial worship service will be held Sunday, Feb. 26 at 4 p.m. with guest speaker Elder Roy Maxie of Church of the Living God. On

Sunday, March 6, also at 4 p.m. a Friends and Family worship service will be held with Pastor C.T. Wells of Emmanuel Temple Full Pentecostal Church as the guest speaker.

For information, call Allen Temple Senior Pastor Dr. LeRoy Haynes Jr. at 503-287-0261.

## Matt Dishman Center Celebrates

In celebration of Black History Month, the Matt Dishman Community Center, 77 N.E. Knott St., will host a free event Saturday, Feb. 18 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Participants can enjoy music, food, arts and crafts, plus a trib-

ute to civil rights icons Rosa Parks and Coretta Scott King. Special guests, including A. Halim Rahsaan, Joyce Harris, the Humboldt Elementary Readers and Congregation Choir, will join the celebration.

"We're continuing the Black

History Month celebration, and it's nice for the community to come out and have a good time," said Jock White, teen council coordinator for Portland Parks and Recreation.

For more information, contact White at 503-823-5200.

## Katrina Housing Center Closes

The Interim Housing Center for Hurricane Katrina survivors in Portland, on the site of the former Washington High School in southeast Portland, had its last day of operations last week.

Information on services available to hurricane survivors and

the entire community is now available by calling 211, a local information and referral resource or 503-222-5555.

Local officials said about 500 hurricane survivor families have been placed in permanent housing in and around Portland since the center's inception shortly af-

ter the Aug. 30 hurricane devastated the Gulf Coast of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

Many Portland-area organizations, community groups and individuals came together at the center to provide resources, information, and compassion to serve those in need during a time of crisis.

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