

'Reflections' Anchors Northeast

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Gloria moved to Portland, where she started and managed a construction business for 13 years.

In 1995, McMurtry and two others joined in establishing Reflections, the first business in the newly built Walnut Business Center on the corner of Northeast Martin Luther King Boulevard and Killingsworth Street. Located on the other side of their building is the Northeast Precinct of the Portland Police Department.

When Walnut Park first opened, Reflections was a coffee shop, a bookstore and a gifts and flower shop. The bookstore is now called Talking Drum Bookstore.

Her business also serves as

When Walnut Park first opened, Reflections was a coffee shop, a bookstore and a gifts and flower shop.

a meeting place for everything from new authors to local musicians, and a variety of business groups.

Seated in the core Portland's African-American community, Reflections has always been the place to go for community residents, young and old. However, with a gentrifying process going on, Gloria has to review both her menu and her goals. Each year, the area is seeing more African

Americans leaving and more whites moving in. As her clientele changes, so must her approach to doing business.

With her many years of business experience as well as sales and management, Gloria will have no trouble "going with the flow." Despite any challenges that she may face with northeast Portland's ever-changing environment, one thing is unchanging. That

is her due diligence, dedication and hard work on a continuing road to success.

In a business world consisting of Wall Marts, Starbucks, McDonalds and many other large chain stores, McMurtry proves her winning formula. At the same time, she mentors generations of black women who dream that "someday," they too might become a businesswoman.

Reflections Coffee House continues to be the great place it has always been. Thanks Gloria for the extraordinary hot coffee or tea, good food, great books and quality lessons in business management.

Ron Weber is a regular contributor to the Portland Observer.



Tara Herrick

Natural Healing

Tara Herrick is a purveyor of natural, energetic healing. Her business draws on her diverse background to deliver individualized care and a compassionate ear.

Herrick holds a Masters Degree in psychology and is the owner of Tara's Healing at 3769 S.E. Milwaukie Ave. She moved to the location after starting her business in the Northeast Alberta Arts District.

Her services include Reiki, a relatively new form of energy work called Holographic

Repatterning, and discussion groups for parents. Reiki (pronounced ray-key) is a gentle, hands-on, energy healing therapy often used to treat stress and pain.

Herrick said she took the plunge into her own private practice after dividing her days between a part-time practice a full-time job in research.

She said her business has grown almost entirely from satisfied clients who make referrals.

For more information, call 503-777-1551.

Raising Capital

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Master's Degree in business administration.

Black Entrepreneurs of Clark County host monthly business round tables and networking sessions each month, working to expand empowerment and close opportunity gaps through advocacy, contacts, fellowship and the ex-

change of expertise and ideas.

Services also include a mentorship program for entrepreneurs, executives and emerging leaders. All are welcome regardless of race, residence or venture.

To attend, RSVP to Shareefah Abdullah, president of Hot Ovations Communications Coaching & Training Co. at 360-604-8583 or shareefah@hotovations.com.

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African American Business Support

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age Center - a \$68 million development project intended to institutionalize jazz in San Francisco, creating a mixed-income, mixed-use develop-

ment project contributing to the revitalization of the historic Fillmore Jazz District in San Francisco.

Wells Fargo launched its African American Business Services program in 1998 to

provide outreach, education and increased access to capital among African American business owners.

For more information, visit the website at www.wellsfargo.com/aabs.

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As president of the Portland Community College District, I embrace our role as an engine of economic development. Minority-owned businesses are a key component of our local economy, and we support these minority enterprises by:

- Working closely with minority businesses as vendors. During our bond construction activities PCC insisted on utilizing qualified and available minority-owned businesses.
- Building a skilled workforce through our many college degree and certificate programs.
- Offering concentrated, short-term job readiness training.
- Providing direct services to businesses, such as our Customized Workforce Training program, our Small Business Development Center, and the many other services of our Extended Learning Campus.
- Having the largest English language acquisition program in the area.
- Investing in areas of the community that need economic stimulation.

Dr. Preston Pulliams, District President
Portland Community College

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