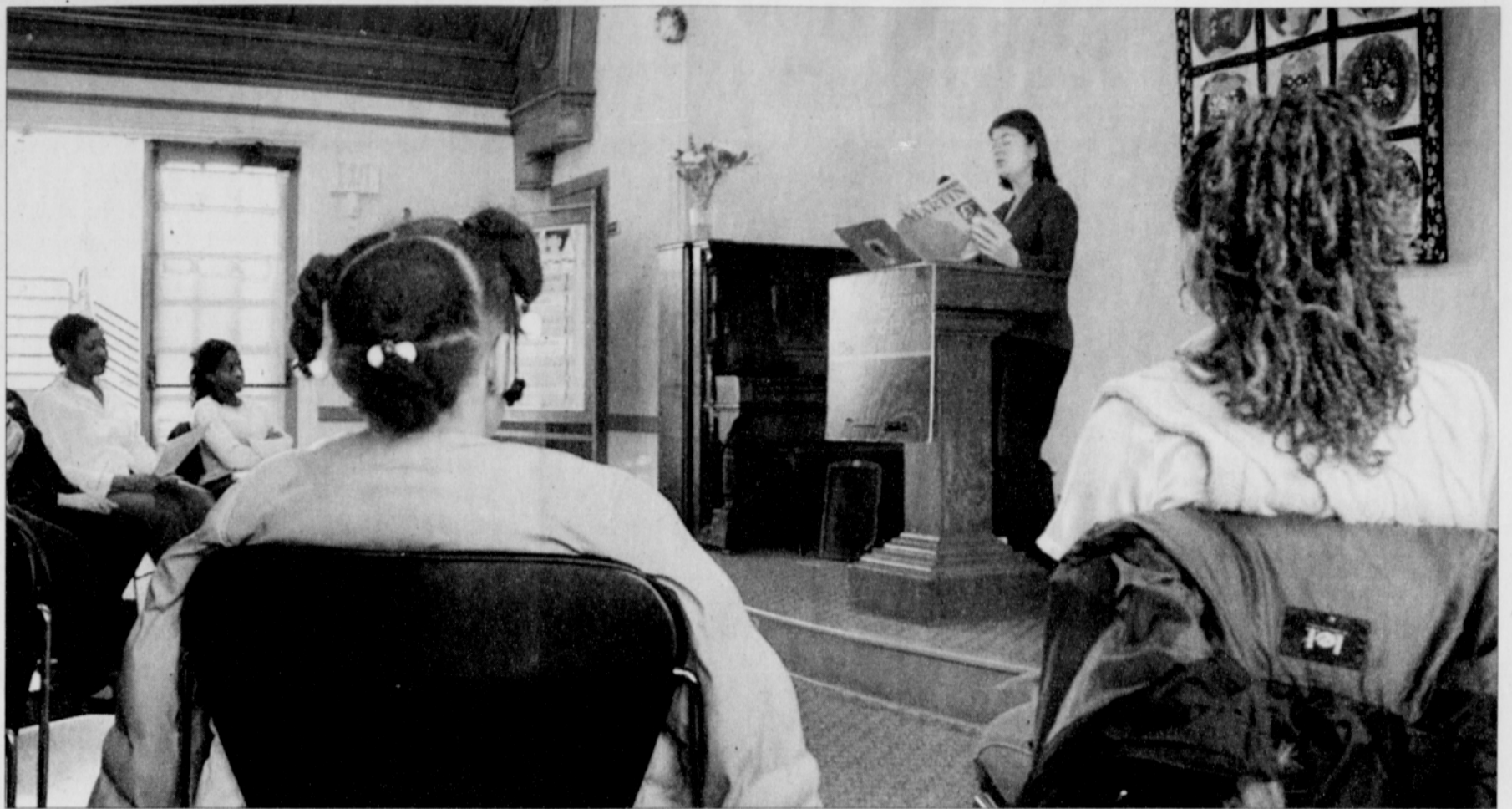


African American Authors Celebrated

Portland Public Schools Superintendent Vicki Phillips reads "My Brother Martin," by Christine King Farris, sister of the Rev. Martin Luther King, during the 18th annual African American Read-In on Sunday at the North Portland Library. Schools, churches, libraries, bookstores and community and professional organizations participated in the two-day Read-In, sharing the works of African American writers in conjunction with Black History Month.



America's Cradle-to-Prison Pipeline

continued from A4
 as insubordinate or disruptive. In these cases, "zero tolerance" disciplinary standards are frequently applied. Thousands of students with behavior problems are suspended or expelled with minority students bearing the greatest burden of policies to remove students from schools. Furthermore, schools increasingly are becoming the point of entry into the juvenile justice system as more and more children are arrested on school grounds for

subjectively defined behaviors such as "disorderly conduct" and "malicious mischief." Disparate treatment based on income and race plays a role at virtually every decision point in the clogged American system of justice, from arrest through incarceration. Too few judges offer poor and minority youthful defendants alternatives to incarceration—restitution, community service, electronic monitoring or drug treatment. We must dismantle the "Cradle to Prison Pipeline" now because all children are sacred. We should start

by guaranteeing health and mental health care to every kid in America, investing in Head Start and public education, checking the explosion of school suspensions and expulsions, and supporting community programs that mentor and empower children. The effects of the "Cradle to Prison Pipeline" constitute a scourge of epidemic proportions. We must act to dismantle the pipeline now. We fail at our peril. *Marian Wright Edelman is the president of the Children's Defense Fund.*


Dad Charged in Using Stun Gun on Son

(AP) - An Albany father has been arrested on suspicion of using a 100,000 volt stun gun on his 18-month-old son. Investigators say the boy's 21-year-old mother brought him to the Albany Police Department Saturday. She told police that her husband,

23-year-old Rian Whittman, had been using a stun-gun device on her son. Police say they discovered Whitman had used the stun-gun many times on the toddler over about a three-week period. The child's injuries were treated

at Samaritan Albany General Hospital. He was then taken into protective custody by the Department of Human Services. The injuries were not described as life-threatening or serious. Albany Police arrested Whittman on multiple assault charges.

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October 27, 1891
 Philip B. Downing
 Inventor of the Improved Mail Box

April 26, 1892
 Sarah Boone
 Inventor of the Improved Ironing Board

June 11, 1893
 Thomas W. Stewart
 Inventor of the Self-Wringing Mop

November 23, 1897
 John L. Love
 Inventor of the Portable Pencil Sharpener

November 15, 1898
 Lyda D. Newman
 Inventor of the Improved Hair Brush

November 20, 1923
 Garrett A. Morgan
 Inventor of the Automatic Traffic Signal

February 9, 1960
 I.O. Carter
 Inventor of the Nursery Chair

July 6, 1971
 Henry T. Sampson
 Inventor of the Early Gamma-Electric Cell

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