



Miracles Club Gets Lifeline

continued ▲ from Front

to build high-rise apartments on the site. In December, the Portland City Council granted Miracles \$500,000 from the General Fund to enable Miracles to purchase property along MLK. The goal was to help the club transition from renting space to a more secure position of ownership.

"The Miracles Club is a vital resource in our city for individuals and families dealing with drug and alcohol issues," stated City Commissioner Dan Saltzman. "In addition to the Club's work with individuals in recovery, it continues to provide essential services in the reduction of crime in the general area."

In April, the City Council sought the expertise of the PDC and requested the agency's assistance in bringing Miracles into the urban renewal area.

PDC Chair Mark Rosenbaum led the Commission's unanimous approval by saying, "This is a terrific project for an organization that has more than a decade of success in providing prevention and treatment services."

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Miracles Club board members Elijah Cochran and Korona Presley stand outside a vacant lot at 4218 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. and hold a picture of what's planned as a new ground floor home for the community organization along with the addition of needed affordable housing.



PHOTO BY RAYMOND RENDLEMAN/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A Sign of Yesteryear: A reader board that is at least five years old advertises regular gasoline at just \$1.14 a gallon, taunting drivers on Northeast Killingsworth Street. The repair shop no longer serves as a gas station.

Gas Prices Sting

The statewide average price for gasoline jumped seven cents to \$3.07 per gallon this week.

Gas prices on the national level have increased an average five and

a half cents in the past week to \$2.88.

According to AAA, the increase in gas prices comes after crude oil hit a record \$93 per barrel on Monday.

Driving While Distracted

continued ▲ from Front

Today's cell phone is light years ahead of its clunky, boxy Miami-Vice-looking ancestor of the early '90s. The Blackberries and I-phones of today are portable, satellite-uplinked, Internet-accessing stock options for many people with music-video playing and other

accessories that look like something out of Dulce and Star Trek.

And though they seem like a necessity in today's fast-paced information age, the electronic devices relied upon for daily living are more and more becoming a risk to keeping your eyes on the road.

Correction

The Portland Observer regrets some errors and false impressions left from an Oct. 17 article titled "Business Center Obstacles."

The story referred back and forth between the Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs and Brooks Staffing, and it should be made clear that these are two separate organizations.

Sam Brooks, who heads both organizations, would never use the term wheeler-dealer in describing his professional life. The

60-year-old executive has more than 30 years experience in the areas of workforce and business development. He plans to remain active with OAME even after his term as president ends, by serving as chair of the OAME Board of Directors.


The term "sub-standard" does not accurately describe the current condition of the OAME building headquarters.

Jorge Guerra was the former Operating Director of OAME.

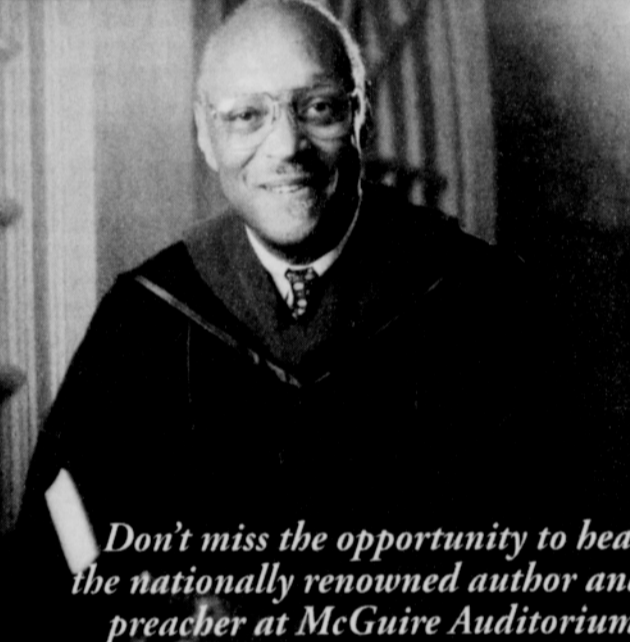
The Portland Observer regrets any harm the article may have caused the Brooks family.



Sam Brooks




Dr. James Earl Massey



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