

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## Consequences of Urban Renewal

### African-American community displaced

Emanuel Hospital's patient capacity was expanded by a 1970s urban renewal project. Clearing land for the project displaced a significant number of Portland's Albina neighborhood residents, including many African Americans.

A significant number of African Americans migrated to Portland during World War II due to the availability of jobs in the shipyards. Housing was scarce for both whites and blacks. After the war ended, approximately 10,000 of the 20,000 to 25,000 African Americans who migrated during the war remained in Portland. The majority of these families lived in the area known as Vanport—a temporary settlement for war workers and their families.

Vanport housing was not meant to be permanent, but it became so for many African-American families. In 1948 the Columbia River flooded, and the dike protecting Vanport broke. Nearly 17,000 people were left homeless as a result of the flood, and those left homeless were disproportionately African American.



Albina residents picket Emanuel Hospital prior to its 1970s expansion.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

After the flood, many African Americans moved to the area that is now known as the Rose Quarter. This area was located between the downtown and the Eastside both of which were in the process of being developed.

In November 1956 the decision was made to build a sports coliseum in the current Rose Quarter district. The city planning commission claimed that housing in the area was substandard. This was just one of several projects that forced many African Americans in the area to move once again.

The African-American community protested the expansion of Emanuel because they were frustrated at continually being forced to move to make way for development. Successive post-war construction projects in the Albina neighborhood—the Memorial Coliseum in the 1950s, Interstate 5 in the 1960s, and the Emanuel Hospital expansion in the 1970s—resulted in a steady migration northward.



## Black Men Built the United States Capitol

### Book shines light on achievements

Black History Month is a time to honor the achievements of African Americans throughout the United States, but the contributions of African Americans to our nation's greatest monuments and memorials in Washington, D.C. are often glossed over by historians.

Author Jesse J. Holland's *Black Men Built the Capitol: Discovering African American History in and around Washington, D.C.*, presents little-known details and statistics about the role of

blacks in the creation of the White House, the Lincoln Memorial and other historic sites.

For example, several places inside and outside the Capitol can be directly linked to slave labor, including parts of the Statuary Hall, the old Senate chamber and the exposed original stone work of the East Front extension of the Capitol.

The National Mall was the site of several slave markets visible from the U.S. Capitol, including two locations near the current Department of Education.

The first tell-all book about life inside the White



Jesse J. Holland

House was written by an African-American slave, Paul Jennings, who was owned by President James Madison.

*Black Men Built the Capitol* also provides information on special monuments dedicated to the contributions of African Americans, including the African American Civil War Memorial and the Frederick Douglass Museum.

Holland has covered politics from the U.S. Capitol and the White House for *The Associated Press*. More information about his book can be found at [jesseholland.com](http://jesseholland.com).

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## diversity in Print

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**The Portland Observer**  
"City of Roses" Published in 1970 Committed to Cultural Diversity  
[www.portlandobserver.com](http://www.portlandobserver.com)  
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### Week in the Review

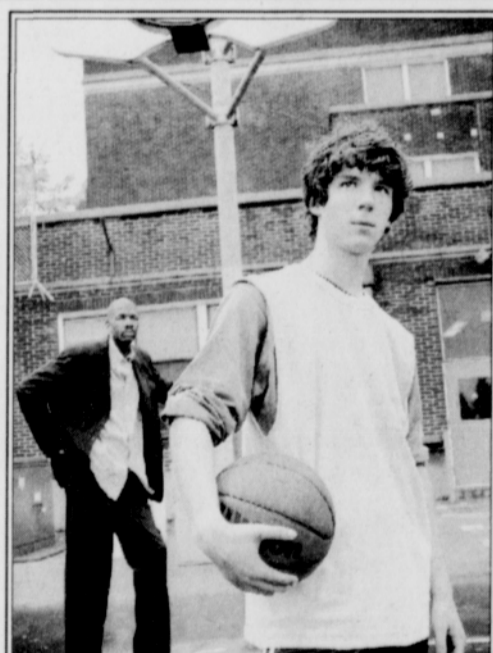
**Teens Record After Flood**  
A 17-year-old female girl who survived the flood after her car washed and washed 200 feet down a river may have been saved by her classmates, which prevented the separation of a child left in her car, according to Lewis and Clark's faculty and staff. The school district's flood relief fund, which was set up to help victims of the flood, is now being distributed. The school district is also providing counseling services to the flood victims. The school district is also providing counseling services to the flood victims.

**Many Americans Quality Working Poor**  
One in every five U.S. jobs pay less than a poverty-level wage for a family of four, according to a study by the Economic Policy Institute. The study also says that the number of Americans who are working poor is rising. The study also says that the number of Americans who are working poor is rising.

**Changsha Storms often not be wanted to be known. The storm is a big disaster. The storm is a big disaster. The storm is a big disaster.**

**Book Review Laughed Off**  
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It's his theater and his basketball combined when Portland's Michael Foster (left), a former Fred Stone and Sam Stone, a class high school sophomore and professional Oregon Chopin's Theater student, star in the production 'The Famous One-On-One Basketball Champions'.

**ONE-ON-ONE**  
Premiere bonds live theater to live basketball  
Live theater, live basketball. One-on-one premieres, no risk, no fall, no the theater. Oregon Chopin's Theater presents the Oregon Premier of 'The Famous One-On-One Basketball Champions' Friday, Oct. 15.

### Election Ballots On Way

People of color find a political fit

**By Jonathan R. Cook**  
The Black and Hispanic Ballots in the November General Election will be mailed to voters and many voters are ready to vote. The election is a big deal for many voters, including the Black and Hispanic communities.

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To contact  
**The Portland Observer**  
Call 503-288-0033  
or email [ads@portlandobserver.com](mailto:ads@portlandobserver.com)