

Shop Owner's Passion for Treasures

Margie Booker's inspiration for starting Hidden Treasures Gift and Resale Shop in northeast Portland was her love for gently worn items.

Between bargain shopping and selling on consignment with various shops in the area, she grew very fond of the gift and retail industry.

Raising a family on a humble budget, she furnished her own home with something new and something old.

"I carried that theme from my home to my shop," Booker said. "Now that my kids are grown, the youngest 21 and married, my nest is empty and my days are full. My children are all secure in their careers now it is time for me to pursue mine."

Booker has also found inspiration through her family.

"My mother-in-law, Mary Julia Booker, taught me all about bargain shopping," she said. "We call her a professional shopper." My multi-



Margie Booker offers one-of-a-kind treasures and more at her Hidden Treasures Gift and Resale Shop at 1703 N.E. Alberta St.

talented husband has a knack for restoration of recycled items and he also builds some of our display cases. I am fortunate to have my children volunteer for me on some weekends and an abundance of family support to keep me going."

Booker says she always knew she would go into business for herself.

"Originally I had planned to open a café on Alberta since I love to cook and entertain guests. But when it was all said and done, I had to choose between cooking all day and night or treasure hunting all over Oregon or where ever I'm vacationing and showcasing what I found."

Hidden Treasures was the outcome. The shop, at 1703 N.E. Alberta St, opens Tuesdays through Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Fridays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Saturdays from noon to 6 p.m. Phone: 503-281-0927.

Career Made Advancing Human Rights

Teacher honored by his peers

A local African-American educator who has made his life work the achievement of children with the greatest need through integrating the arts, education and youth enterprise is being honored by his peers.

Michael "Chappie" Grice recently received the prestigious "Ed Elliott Human Rights Award" for sustained contributions to human and civil rights from the Oregon Education Association.

Although some education leaders, like OEA vice-president Gail Rasmussen, say it was long overdue, Mr. Grice expressed just the opposite view.

"My work is just cresting now," he said. "Sometimes I feel most inadequate to address the job that needs to be done in public education and community development, especially in African American communities. But



Longtime educator Michael "Chappie" Grice (center) receives a civil-rights award from the Oregon Education Association for his lifetime commitment to the achievement of children. Also pictured are OEA President Larry Wolf and Gail Rasmussen, the group's vice president.

it's a big job and only a vision and unified purpose will help move us from the constraints of a 'probable future' to a place of designing and delivering a 'possible future'."

Ken Berry, have been behind the World Arts Foundation, Inc., a local nonprofit arts and education group that has produced "Keep Alive the Dream" a gospel music and community arts spectacle celebrating the birthday of Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. every year since 1985.

The tribute was begun in 1978 as a portrayal of Dr. King by Mr. Herb Cawthorne with the world renowned Willa Dorsey in concert. Since that first production, at the New Hope Baptist Church in Portland, "Keep Alive the Dream" has evolved into one of the premier tributes to Dr. King in the nation.

In addition to his mentors, Dr. Matthew Prophet, Congressman Augustus F. Hawkins, John Frohnmayer and Rev. Lee Owen Stone, Grice is quick to credit the creative force of musician and composer Thara John Memory whose young band student, 16 year old trombone phenomenon, Javier Nero, was recently awarded a full scholarship to the Julliard School.

In the past 12 months, Nero has played on the main stage at the 50th Monterey Jazz Festival and the 50th Anniversary Grammy Awards in Los Angeles.

"Javier is just one of several kids who Thara's artistry and teaching have touched. He has significantly informed and inspired my teaching... which is what I really do best," says Grice.

For the past decade, "Chappie" Grice has been an executive administrator and consultant with the public schools in San Francisco. From 1994 to 1998, he served as president for the National Council on Educating Black Children; founded by California congressman Gus Hawkins.

His documentary films "Black Families and the Railroad" and "Mr. Title I: The Amazing Gus Hawkins" were selected for the San Francisco Black Film Festival in 2005 and 2007 respectively.

Mr. Grice has been invited to return to Portland in July to serve as the new Director of Development and Research for World Arts Foundation, Inc.

Urban League Job Fair

Spring is in the air and so is the opportunity for a new and exciting career! The Urban League of Portland's hosts its 16th Annual Career Connections Job Fair, Thursday, May 29 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the World Trade Center, 121 S.W. Salmon St. Admission is free.

Participating companies will include representatives from banking, education, public transportation, government, healthcare, media, insurance, sportswear, technology, utilities and others.

Job seekers are encouraged to dress professionally and bring lots of resumes! If you pre-

register for the job fair at info@ulpdx.org and attach your current resume, it will be distributed to all of the employers involved in the event.

The job fair will also offer workshops in English and Spanish to help you improve your resume writing and interview techniques

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