



Little Elephant Named 'Sam'

The Oregon Zoo's new sweetheart Samudra stands with his mom Rose-Tu. The zoo announced last Friday that the public had selected Samudra or Sam for short as the name for the newborn.

Former Nation of Islam Leader Dies

Moved followers into mainstream Islam

(AP)—Imam W.D. Mohammed, who succeeded his father as leader of the Nation of Islam but abandoned its teachings of black supremacy and moved thousands of its followers into mainstream Islam, died Sept. 9. He was 74.

Obviously, it's a great loss for the entire Muslim community," said Dawud Walid, executive director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations in Michigan, where Mohammed led a convention last month. "He was encouraging his followers to accept the best of their humanity and to extend the moral and ethical values of Islam to the general American public."

When Mohammed's father, Elijah Muhammad, died in 1975, his son was named leader of the Chicago-based Nation of Islam, which promoted self-reliance and black supremacy, a belief that mainstream Muslims consider heretical.

Mohammed quickly abandoned that teaching and led the Nation toward orthodox Islam, empha-

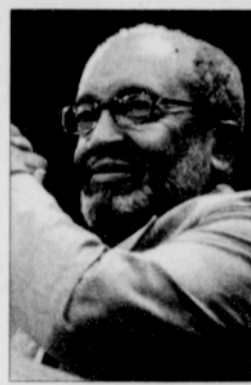
sizing the faith's message of racial tolerance. He had been a friend of Malcolm X, who abandoned the Nation to embrace mainstream Islam before he was assassinated in 1965.

Minister Louis Farrakhan, who broke with Mohammed over the change, separately revived the old Nation of Islam.

Jimmy Jones, a Muslim chaplain and religion professor at Manhattanville College in Purchase, New York, joined Mohammed's movement in 1979, during the transition toward orthodox Islam.

"He asked the believers to stop reading and learning what his father had taught and start listening to him," Jones said after learning of Mohammed's death from a movement leader.

Mohammed changed his name several times from his birth name, Wallace Muhammad, to Warith Deen Muhammad and W.D. Mohammed. Jones said the renaming partly reflected the imam's struggle to maintain a triple identity: Muslim, African-American and American.



W. D. Mohammed

Obituaries

Father, Grandfather's Homegoing

Bernard C. Taylor

Bernard C. Taylor, the son of Robert Taylor and Henrietta Chambers, was born on Feb. 26, 1937 in Coffeyville, Kan., where he attended school and accepted Christ at an early age.

It was in Kansas that he met and married the love of his life, Barbara J. Folks. Within this union they were blessed with three sons and a daughter. They were married for 49 years when she passed away on April 11, 2006. It was a joyous day in heaven, when they were reunited on Sept. 8, 2008.

Bernard and Barbara resided

in Los Angeles from 1963 to

1978, and then moved to Portland where they resided for 24 years. They both worked and retired from Nabisco and moved to Las Vegas, Nev. in 2002.

Bernard moved back to Portland in 2006 to be closer to his family.

Leaving to cherish his memory are his children, Drake Taylor, Barry Taylor, Kevin Taylor and Shelley Taylor, all of Portland; a sister, Barbara Taylor of Louisville, Ky., 12 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren and many other family members and friends.



In Loving Memory

Ruby Dillon

A memorial service for Ruby L. Dillon who died Aug. 28, 2008, will be held Monday, Sept. 22 at 3 p.m.

at the Disabled American Veterans Hall, 8725 N.E. Sandy Blvd.

She was born Aug. 7, 1930 to Gertrude and Rev. John Dillon in Bremerton, Wash. She was loved and cared for by her companion, T.J. Gooseberry for over 50 years. Her favorite pastime was playing bingo.

She was preceded in death by her mother and father; and a sister, Leanna.

Survivors include her life long companion; brothers, James and Jack Dillon of Port Orchard, Wash., a sister, Dr. Mary Dillon-Wenzel of Chicago; and two aunts, Alberta Heines of Fresno, Calif. and Vertina Ellis of Vidalia, La.



A Loving Father

Joshua Polk

Services for Joshua Polk will be held Thursday, Sept. 18, 2008 at 11 a.m. at Life Change Christian Center, 3635 N. Williams Ave.

He was born to Elbert and Ozie Polk on Oct. 15, 1942 in Lula, Miss. He attended Washington and Brown High School. He was called home Sept. 12, 2008. He leaves to mourn his beautiful wife, Gwen whom he was married to for 44 years; and his children Teri, Perry, Bruce Donald, Bryant, Teresa, Joshua Jr., Joycelynn, Daren, La Darcus and Jamar.

'Old School' Remembered

George Player

Funeral services for George 'Old School' Player, will be held Friday, Sept. 19 at 1 p.m. at Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church, 4009 N.



Missouri Ave.

He was born June 9, 1937 and died Sept. 14, 2008.

Survivors include his wife, Anita Trevino-Player and daughter, Shery Woodland.

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Dwight A. Terry
Oregon License CO-3644
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Please Join
The Portland Observer Newspaper
at
Community Service Awards Banquet
Celebrating Mayor Tom Potter

Friday, November 14, 2008
7 PM to 10 PM

This celebratory event will include music from local talent, awards of scholarships, and community service awards for those in the community that realize the potential in our city and communities who strive to continually give of themselves.

Charles Washington, the Publisher of the Portland Observer Newspaper carries on the legacy of his mother's hard work in the community and her efforts in helping those in the community.

for tickets or table information contact:

Kathy Linder email kathyl@portlandobserver.com or call 503-288-0033