

# FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## Oregon Experience: The Logger's Daughter

Documentary recounts family history

Gwen Trice, like many girls growing up in La Grande during the 1970s liked skiing, hiking, the Mary Tyler Moore Show and boys. But as the only African-American kid in her class, she always felt a little different.

Years later, living in Seattle, she was still an outsider -- only this time it was her rural background that branded her as different.

The next episode of Oregon Public Broadcasting's Oregon Experience, "The Logger's Daughter," tells the story of Trice's exploration of her family's past and how she found a community that embraced her. It's a "family" she never knew she had.

Large timber harvests require many workers, and logging camps were once common in the Oregon woods. But few of those camps housed whole families -- the fact that Maxville did made the town distinctive.

Maxville was built in 1923, almost overnight, by the Bowman-Hicks Lumber Company near Wallowa in eastern Oregon.

The Maxville workers came mostly from out-of-state, transported by the company directly from the deep South. But what made Maxville unique was that 50 to 60 of its citizens were African-American.

It was home to the only segregated school in Oregon. Its black residents lived in a group of houses across the tracks from the white residents. Yet conflicts across racial lines were few and friendships many.

Maxville was officially closed in the early 1930s, though a few loggers and their families stayed on for another dozen years. And most of what happened there during its short existence is not



Some of Oregon's early settlers were black loggers who worked the forests of eastern Oregon.

widely known.

Enter Gwendolyn Trice. A black woman from La Grande, Gwen never knew much about her father's early years in Oregon. She only recently learned that he had left Arkansas in the 1920s with his father to live and work in this place called Maxville.

A couple of years ago, Gwen set out with a tape recorder and a video camera to learn more about Maxville. Her gathering of oral histories took some unexpected turns as she became immersed in a much wider community. The story of that community, its history and its people is revealed in "The Logger's Daughter."

An original production, the documentary airs on OPB-TV on Monday, Feb. 9 at 9 p.m. and repeats on Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 3 a.m.; Sunday, Feb. 15 at 10:30 p.m.; and Tuesday, Feb. 17 at 4:30 a.m. The documentary can also be seen online after Feb. 9 by visiting [opb.org](http://opb.org).

Oregon Experience is an exciting new history series on OPB-TV that brings to life fascinating stories that help us understand who we are and that reinforce our shared identity as Oregonians.

The series, co-produced by the Oregon Historical Society and Oregon Public Broadcasting takes advantage of the extensive film, video and stills from the archives of both organizations, and draws upon the expertise of OHS researchers and historians.

A historic photo shows students at a segregated school near Wallowa in eastern Oregon. The school served children of black timber workers who were transported to Oregon from the South to work in the forests.



### LOCAL COLOR

### Racism in Oregon

Oregon Public Broadcasting will broadcast the 1991 documentary "Local Color" which chronicles the little-known history of racism in Oregon and the moving story of people, both black and white who worked for civil rights.

This historic documentary preserves stories that might otherwise be lost and forgotten. It will air for Black History Month on Thursday, Feb. 5 at 9 p.m.

### Artist Auctions King Portrait

A portrait of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by renowned performance artist David Garibaldi has gone to auction on E-Bay to benefit a local volunteering group.

The portrait was created during half-time of the Portland Trail Blazers vs. Milwaukee Bucks game on the national Martin Luther King holiday on Jan. 19.

Created in a matter of minutes, this 6-foot tall canvas came alive with oil paints splashing around, as David painted with both hands in rhythm to music and the image of Dr. King began to appear.

All proceeds of this auction benefit Hands on Greater Portland, a non-profit dedicated to connecting people in the greater Portland community with meaningful volunteer opportunities.

To learn more about the artist, visit his web site [garibaldiarts.com](http://garibaldiarts.com).



Performance artist David Garibaldi and the portrait of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. he created during a recent Trail Blazer game is going on the auction block for charity.

### THE SPINA COLUMN™

An ongoing series of questions and answers about America's natural healing profession.

#### Part 4. Stress: How Chiropractic can help ease life's day-to-day pressures.

**Q: I hear a lot about stress these days. Just how serious is it?**  
**A:** Stress causes high blood pressure, which in turn is a major cause of strokes and heart disease. It can lead to asthma, arthritis, insomnia and migraines. It impairs the immune system and is estimated to cost the nation over \$100 billion each year in lost productivity, absenteeism and health care costs. That's pretty serious.

**Q: I have a very stress-full job. How can Chiropractic help me?**  
**A:** Modern Chiropractic care can help de-stress your body. By helping your nervous system work more smoothly, Chiropractic helps assure that all your body functions (including the ones negatively affected by stress) are working properly.

What's more, today's Chiropractors can also help you with natural relaxation techniques such as yoga, massage and visualization. For less stress, or more answers to any questions you might have about your health, you'll find that Chiropractic is often the answer. Call us for an appointment today.

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