

BLACK HISTORY

Power through Education

Myles Horton believed that education was the foundation for greatness.

A civil rights activist and founder of the Highlander Folk School in Monteagle, Tenn., in 1932, Horton believed that the purpose of education was to make people more powerful, and more capable in their work and their lives.

For many years, the school was the only place in the South where white and African-American citizens lived and worked together, something that was illegal in that strictly segregated society.

His school was a free space in an oppressive atmosphere – a place where labor organizers, civil rights activists, antipoverty workers and others assembled to develop solutions and plans for forward progress.

The list of students at Highlander is a roll call of social activists: Rosa Parks, Eleanor Roosevelt, Pete Seeger, Woody Guthrie, Martin



Myles Horton

Luther King Jr., Andrew Young and Fanny Lou Hamer.

Horton's school, now known as the Highlander Research and Education Center, continues to be a catalyst for social change in the early 21st Century. Myles Horton died on Jan. 19, 1990.

Portland Renewal and Removal

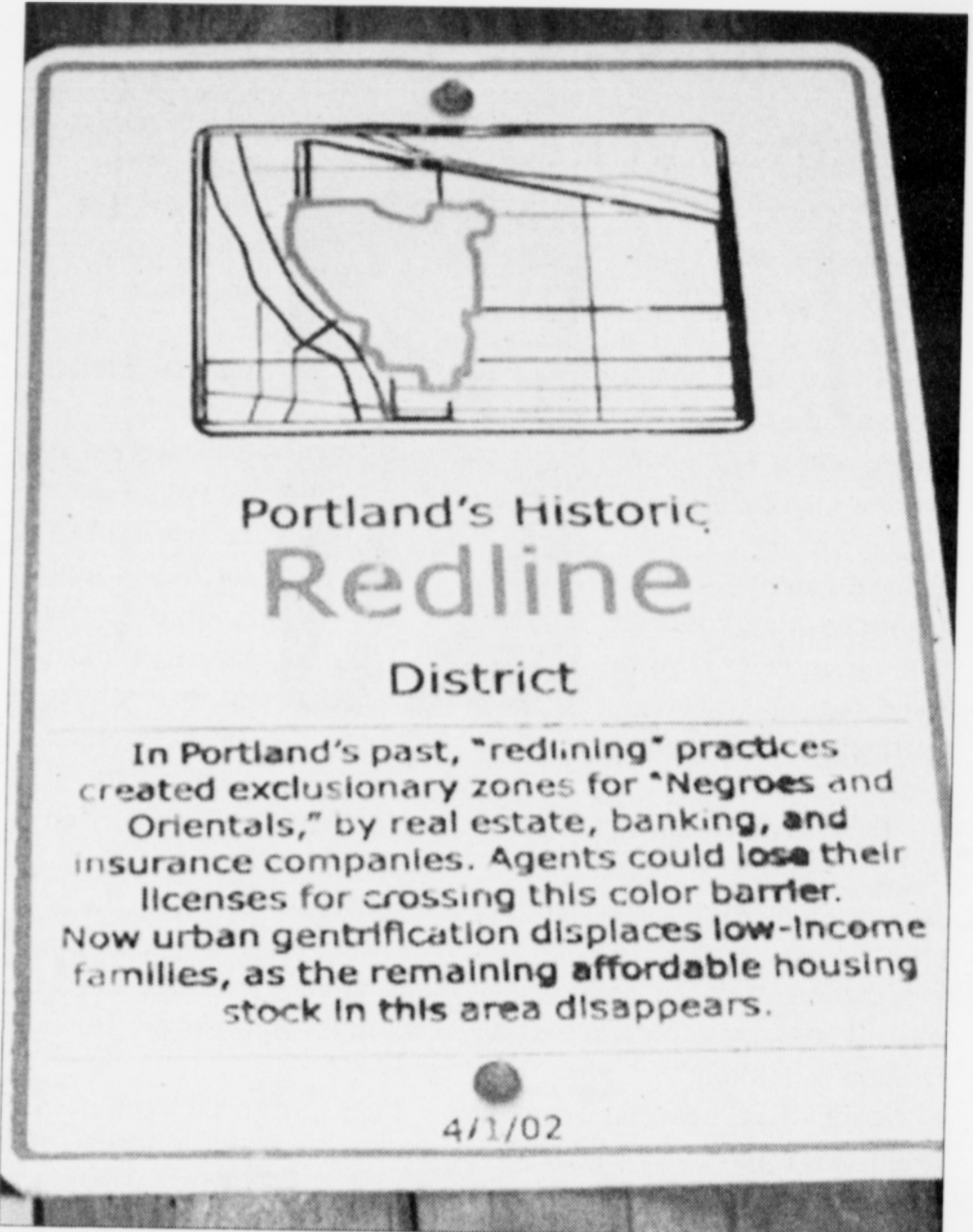
Black History Month gets center stage during a History Pub series night at McMenamins Kennedy School, 5736 N.E. 33rd Ave.

"Renewal and Removal in North and Northeast Portland" is the topic of the Monday, Feb. 22 discussion, co-sponsored by the Oregon Historical Society and Holy Names Heritage Center.

The 7 p.m. talk will focus on the dramatic changes brought upon the predominantly African-American community radiating from Northeast Broadway and North Interstate Avenue, beginning in the 1950s.

Carl Abbott, Portland State University professor of Urban Studies and Planning, will introduce the topic and provide a contextual framework. Thomas Robinson, Historic Photo Archives, follows with a slide presentation of vintage photos of the changing landscape. Donna Maxey and Harvey Rice will then share their first-hand accounts about the community that was displaced by these developments.

The event is open to all ages and is free, although a donation of canned goods for the Oregon Food Bank is welcome.



A street sign explains Portland's historic Redline district.

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Pastor's Legacy Honored

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– after the Feb. 28 dedication – will be known as the Rev. John H. Jackson Reading Room.

The collection paints a fascinating portrait of a man deeply committed to the welfare of his community.

Included in the collection's documents is correspondence with noteworthy politicians of the day – including U.S. Sen. Mark O. Hatfield, Gov. Vic Atiyeh and President Jimmy Carter, among

others – and a proclamation signed by former Portland Mayor Bud Clark declaring Aug. 30, 1987, as the Rev. John H. Jackson Day.

"We're very excited to officially dedicate the Rev. Jackson Collection," said Cascade Campus President Algie Gatewood. "Not only because he was such an important part of Portland history, but also because the collection will remain as an academic and historical resource for generations to come."

Former State Sen. Margaret Carter, who also will speak at the dedication, described the Rev. Jackson as a genuine man who "lived his ministry."

"He was a very strong advocate for the community," Carter said. "He worked incredibly hard with people to elevate their consciousness around issues of livability and social justice. He was a true protector of the people. It was wonderful to know a person whose walk so completely coincided with his talk."

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