

# Observing Vancouver

## A Helping Hand on MLK Day

By picking up litter, pulling invasive weeds and planting trees, volunteers in the Vancouver area will honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s message of a healthy community by turning Monday, Jan. 16, into a day of service.

Helping hands are needed from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. to remove litter along the Columbia River shores, rake leaves, clean playground equipment and handle other general maintenance. Meet in the south parking lot of Vancouver Lake Regional Park, 8800 N.W. Lower River Rd.

Volunteers are also needed from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. to remove blackberry vines and mulch around pear trees in the old orchard on Northwest 21st Av-



Volunteers help restore Old Vancouver Cemetery on the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service.

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enue just off Northwest 119th Street.

At Whipple Creek Park, the needed task is trail maintenance. Parking is limited, so carpooling

is encouraged. Volunteers are asked to bring wheelbarrows and shovels, if possible, and dress appropriately for the weather, and include sturdy shoes and

gloves. For more information or to sign-up for one of these projects, visit [parkhero.org](http://parkhero.org) or call 360-487-8344.

## WSU Tackles Justice Issues

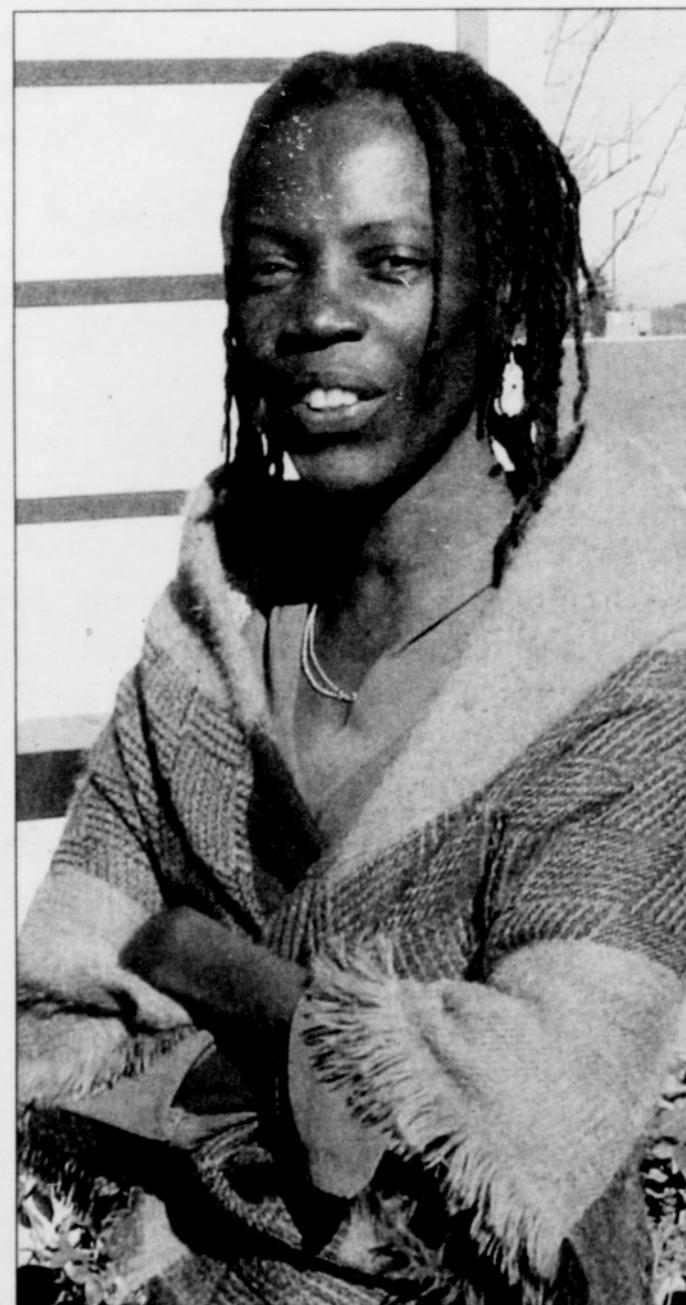
Washington State University Vancouver will observe Martin Luther King Jr. Day by addressing the gap between sustainability and social justice. The program will take place Monday, Jan. 16 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the Firstenburg Student Commons.

Long-time voice for Portland's under-represented communities and a leader in the struggle against racial and economic injustice, Jo Ann Hardesty (formerly Bowman), will deliver the keynote speech. Hardesty is co-host of "Voices from the Edge," a weekly program on KBOO radio. She previously served as a state legislator, executive director of Oregon Action and chair of Portland Community Media.

Throughout the day, participants may choose to attend presentations by Brian Tissot of the School of Earth and Environmental Science at WSU Vancouver; Jon Shellenberger and Emily Washines of the Yakama Nation; and Desirée Williams-Rajee, sustainability outreach coordinator for the Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability.

"The service aspect of this year's event is built around the concept of gaining knowledge and putting that knowledge into action, not just on one day, but throughout the year and throughout life," said Bola Majekobaje, assistant director for student diversity.

WSU Vancouver is located at 14204 N.E. Salmon Creek Ave.



Jo Ann Hardesty