



## His Legacy Will Live On

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## Fashion Boutique a Go-to Shop for Women

Portland native opens business

BY KAYLA TATUM

Portland's first exclusive shoe boutique "Thirty27" celebrated its grand opening this August.

"On the day of my opening I felt a deep feeling of happiness," says Christina White, the Portland native and owner of the shop located at 3519 N.W. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

White said she was motivated to open a boutique that carried shoes, dresses, and accessories that women had great difficulty finding in Portland.

Many would describe her as a "fashionista," but growing up she described herself as a "tomboy" involved in a variety of sports.

"The only girly thing that I actually did as a child was ice skate. I ice skated for about 7 or



Christina White

health, but felt the need to go a different route.

"In my free time I was always very creative. In college, I made my own clothes by hand and wore them. But I didn't know what I know about fashion now,"

## Saluting Minority Business Week

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Thirty27 boutique owner Christina White gets helps from her sister Theresa White (pictured), who manages the exclusive shop for shoes, dresses and other fashion accessories at 3519 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

8 years," she said.

For her first year of college, White attended Portland State University. She later transferred to Hampton University, a private historically black institution in Virginia, and graduated with a degree in psychology. But upon moving back to Portland, she struggled to find a job in her field.

Eventually she graduated with a master's degree in public

White said.

Over the course of approximately two years, White had been planning to start a business but procrastinated about the idea, "I just dragged my feet about it. I kept telling myself 'I'll get to it.' I just didn't know where to start."

White admits that initially she

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