

# Library Branch Manager Honored

Patricia Welch, the recently retired North Portland Library Branch Manager, is being honored for her 17 years of advocacy for literacy education, community involvement, leadership and attention to diversity.

Welch will receive a Celebrate Literacy Award from the Portland Reading Council, a local chapter of the International Literacy Association, during an awards ceremony on Thursday, May 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the Monarch Hotel in Clackamas.

Welch moved to Portland from Detroit in 1996 and transformed the North Portland Library during her tenure by raising community engagement, exhibiting local artists, partnering with PassinArt to host a Juneteenth celebration, kick-starting the annual African American Read-In and launching the library's Black Resource Center.

Two years ago, Welch was awarded the 2015 Fleming Award for her commitment to social justice. To attend the upcoming ceremony or learn more, visit [portlandreadingcouncil.org](http://portlandreadingcouncil.org).



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## Segregation in Portland Explored

The community is invited to discover how segregation was justified in Portland from the period around World War II through the end of the 20th century from Dr. Karen Gibson, an associate professor and scholar at Portland

State University

Gibson will explore how public officials, the real estate industry and citizens justified de facto segregation in Portland and how it shaped the Albina district of inner north and northeast Portland during a free community conversation, "Portland's Black Belt: Motives and Means in Albina Real Estate, 1940-1990."

Sponsored by the Oregon Historical Society, the discussion will take place at McMenemy's Kennedy School Monday, May 22 from 7-9 p.m.

Gibson is a regular contributor to many publications and was a recent visiting scholar at UC Berkeley's Institute of Urban and Regional Development.

*Block leaders from the Albina Neighborhood Improvement Project in March 1964. Photo courtesy of City of Portland Archives.*



### Joyce Washington

Born: 1937 - 1996

*Joyce Washington Believed in this Community and all those that made this Community Great.*

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*The Portland Observer*

