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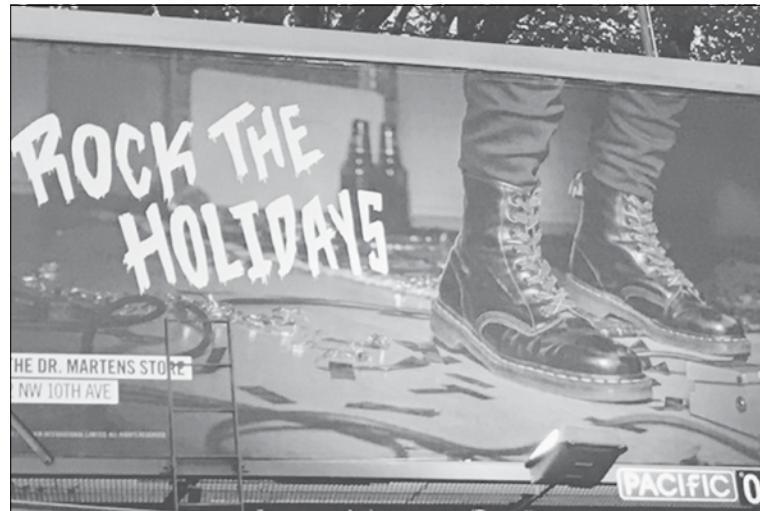
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The King Neighborhood Association is complaining that a billboard on Northeast Sandy Boulevard and other locations carries a racist message. (KATU photo)

## Billboard Called Racist

### King Neighborhood asks for new message, apology

A seemingly innocuous billboard advertising Dr. Martens boots that has popped up around northeast Portland and in other locations has been called out as harboring a racist message. The billboard, which reads “Rock the Holidays,” features a picture of boots with red laces, a symbol of white supremacy, activists said.

In a letter from the King Neighborhood Association directed to Pacific Outdoor Advertising, the company responsible for putting up the advertisement, the citizen-directed group explains how red-laced boots

have been used as racist imagery for a person who has violently attacked a person of color.

The letter cites the Southern Poverty Law Center’s online guide to skinheads, which states that “racist skinheads will often randomly attack non-whites to ‘earn’ their red laces.”

“Consequently, your billboards are offensive to us, our neighbors and our neighborhood,” the letter states. “Surely you would not let your billboard portray the burning crosses of the Ku Klux Klan, yet Dr. Martens’ display is simply a more subtle communication of a similar message,” the letter added.

The letter calls for the billboard to be taken down, an apology message to be posted in the same spot and that the advertising company “publicly disavows” the racist message of the image.

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| MONDAY - FRIDAY  | SUNDAY   |
|--|--|
| 12 Midnight - 3 A.M.<br>MIKE SHANNON                   | 12 Midnight - 3 A.M.<br>MIKE SHANNON               |
| 3 A.M. - 7 A.M.<br>TOM JOYNER                          | 3 A.M. - 6 A.M.<br>TOYA BEASLEY                    |
| 7 A.M. - 10 A.M.<br>TONI TERRELL                       | 6 A.M. - 12 NOON<br>SUNDAY MORNING GOSPEL W/ANGELA |
| 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.<br>REV. AL SHARPTON (KEEPING IT REAL) | 12 NOON - 1 P.M.<br>HIGHLAND C.C. LIVE BROADCAST   |
| 1 P.M. - 3 P.M.<br>KENNY SMOOV                         | 1 P.M. - 4 P.M.<br>PAPA SMURF                      |
| 3 P.M. - 7 P.M.<br>D.L. HUGHLEY                        | 4 P.M. - 12 Midnight<br>DOUGLAS WILLIAMS           |
| 7 P.M. - 9 P.M.<br>PAPA SMURF                          |  |
| 9 P.M. - 12 Midnight<br>MIKE SHANNON                   |  |



**Rev. Al Sharpton**  
10am - 1pm



**Tom Joyner**  
3am - 7am



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Rev. Dr. T. Allen Bethel



Rev. Dr. LeRoy Haynes

## Pastors as Advocates for Social Justice

### Haynes and Bethel honored for community service

Two African American Portland pastors dedicated to advocating for social justice and social change, Dr. LeRoy Haynes of Allen Temple CME Church and Rev.

Dr. T. Allen Bethel of Maranatha Church, were recently honored for their longtime work in the community.

In December, Haynes and Bethel were awarded the Lowenstein Trust Award, named after Steve Lowenstein, a late Portland leader, activist, Jewish scholar and former Peace Corps member who advocated for civil rights and was a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14