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Concert to celebrate Portland's soul music history

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Progressive candidates and causes do well

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PHOTOS BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Housing advocates and construction company officials from Portland's African American community made the opening of the Beatrice Morrow apartments possible and Thursday they gathered for the official grand opening. Pictured (from left) are Aneshka Colas-Dickson, Colas Construction founder Hermann Colas, Portland Community Reinvestment Initiative, Inc. (PCRI) Executive Director Maxine Fitzpatrick, and Colas Construction President and Chief Executive Officer Andrew Colas.



The Beatrice Morrow's affordable apartments at Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Cook Street are the first to open under the city's new right-to-return policy for displaced African American residents.

First Preference Housing

Beatrice Morrow first to open under new policy

BY DANNY PETERSON
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Affordable housing advocates are celebrating the opening of The Beatrice Morrow apartments, an African American-led housing complex that is the first to open

under a preference policy for displaced residents.

The building, which opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Thursday at 3368 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. is part of Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives, Inc.'s (PCRI's) Pathway 1000 initiative, a 10-year plan to construct 1,000 new affordable homes and rentals.

The Beatrice Morrow, encompassing 80 affordable housing apartments prioritized for historic residents of north and northeast

Portland, is named after Beatrice Morrow Cannady, a renowned Portland civil rights advocate from the early 20th Century who was editor of the Advocate, the state's largest African-American newspaper at the time, and one of the founders of the Portland NAACP.

"I feel really good, mostly for the community. You know, being able to provide a place that people can return to communities they've lived in for generations," said PCRI Executive Director Maxine Fitzpatrick.

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Dr. Bishop Steven Holt, who chairs a community oversight committee on housing policies and anti-displacement efforts, joined in celebrating the Beatrice Morrow opening.

Holt recounted his own past struggling to find housing and make rent in northeast Portland when he was a young married man. He spoke to the importance that hous-

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