



The historic Billy Webb Elks Lodge in north Portland has won support for its operations from the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund.

Heritage Funding for Billy Webb

Black culture group lends support

The historic Billy Webb Elks Lodge in Portland's Albina neighborhood has grown new support for its operations.

The African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund (AACHAF), a program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Tuesday announced its award of \$140,000 to Billy Webb Elks Lodge #1050. The Action Fund is the largest U.S. resource dedicated to the preservation of African American historic places.

Funding will allow the lodge to hire its first staff member, a part-time executive director/op-

erations manager for two consecutive years and place it in a better position long term, officials said.

"A new wave of hatred and prejudice has been sweeping America, and it is important now more than ever to preserve sites that can provide essential services and resources to marginalized communities," says Louis McLemore, Billy Webb ruler. "Though the lodge was borne from segregation, our hope is that it can serve the community in the future as a place of racial harmony and unification."

The Billy Webb Elks Lodge on North Williams Avenue in Portland is on the National Register of Historic Places, in recognition of its historical significance for Portland's Black community. It sustained significant fire damage last September.

New Pleas for Abortion Rights



Demonstrators gather outside the Supreme Court in Washington after the Supreme Court ended constitutional protections for abortion that had been in place nearly 50 years. (AP photo)

New Fears Stir after Supreme Court Decision

(AP) -- The recreation to last month's U.S. Supreme Court decision eliminating the right to an abortion has upset many women across the country.

Abortion restrictions in a number of states and the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade are having profound repercussions in reproductive medicine as well as in other areas of

medical care. Before it overturned Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court never allowed states to ban abortion before the point when a fetus can survive outside the womb — roughly 24 weeks.

Dr. Tyler Handcock, an Austin OB-GYN, said his clinic has heard from hundreds of patients seeking sterilization since the Supreme Court's June 24 decision. Many choose this route because they fear long-acting birth control or other contraceptives could also become targets, he said.

In this country, black women are roughly three times more

likely to die from pregnancy-related causes than caucasian women. This information comes from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, who also add that nearly a third of all abortions in this country are performed on black women, making them, proportionally, the largest group affected by overturning Roe v. Wade.

The Democratic National Committee has already launched a digital ad campaign to energize voters on the issue, warning that Republicans' ultimate goal is to outlaw abortion nationwide.

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