African American History in Washington State

K-2 RESOURCES

Bush Prairie Homestead
Photo courtesy of the Olympia Tumwater Foundation

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MRS. ROBERTA BYRD, CO-PRINCIPAL OF THE EAST MADISON Y. M. C. A. FREEDOM SCHOOL, LECTURES ON NEGRO HISTORY

Freedom Schools Have Varied Staffs

By MARSHALL WILSON

Teachers, preachers and students home for spring vacation were among the teachers and principals who manned the Freedom Schools in Seattle today.

At Mount Zion Baptist Church, 824 18th Av., where more than 200 pupils from junior high schools registered, Mrs. Maurie Tranchese, a substitute teacher in the Highline School District, [illegible] church checking in the classes in progress.

IN ONE CORNER, Tom Phillips, a student at Williams College, Williamstown, Mass., knelt in the middle of one group to get the attention of his pupils.

Just below him, Pat Weinstein, on vacation from Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn., conducted another class.

Rev. Ralph Mace, pastor of the Kirkland Unitarian Church, talked to another group.

The groups were jammed so closely together it was virtually impossible for the teachers to make themselves heard.

AT THE EAST Madison Y. M. C. A. school, 1700 23rd Av., dignitaries estimated [illegible] pupils were attending classes.

Mrs. Roberta Van Wagoner, a substitute teacher in the Seattle School District, and Mrs. Roberta Byrd, [illegible] teacher at John Muir Elementary School and moderator of an educational television show, were co-principals.

Rabbi Norman Mark of Temple Beth Am and the Rev. Peter Raible, pastor of [illegible] were teaching in other Free Schools.

NOT ALL the Freedom School participants were [illegible] at Private Hall, Temple, 7th Avenue and Cherry Street. The high school pupils met, the principal was Harris.

He said he hopes to [illegible] a newspaper [illegible] But, for now, Harris is [illegible] in a restaurant.

CORE anti-discrimination march
Seattle, June 15, 1963
Photo by John Vallentyne, Courtesy MOHAI

Belle Alexander, May 6, 2006
From video by Sarah Miner & James Gregory

Top photos by Matt M. McKnight,
Courtesy of Crosscut
Bottom photo courtesy of the Vivid Matter Collective

Seattle Youth Poet Laureate 2020-2021
Bitaniya Giday
Photo courtesy of Seattle Arts & Lectures

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