

directory of
Spiritual Programs

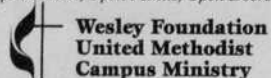
Oregon Hillel:

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Thursdays:

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Contact Dave at 342-4844 or david@glchurch.org
www.glchurch.org



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Wednesdays, 9:00 pm
Midweek Social & Student Mass

Faith Community

Engaging Masses
Meaningful Retreats
Guest Speakers

Confirmation Class

April 10, 4—6 pm

Webfoot Gala

Saturday, April 9, 5:30 pm

Societal Commitment

Mexico Mission Trip
Charity Fundraisers
Social Service Projects

RCIA

Wednesday, April 13th, 7:00 pm

1850 Emerald Street (south of Hayward Field) • 346-4468
Visit our Web site at newmanctr-uoregon.org
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Sponsors: Sex offenders top list of concerns

Continued from page 1

last month's neighborhood meeting, and within weeks flyers were circulating in the neighborhood denouncing the program's presence because of its involvement with sex offenders.

Sponsors, Inc. Executive Director Ron Chase, Greene, parole and probation officer Larry Wibbenmeyer, and a Sponsors employee fielded questions from attendees regarding the type of crimes committed by people in the program and the type of supervision they will have at the apartment quads the organization is looking to purchase. The men said no specific property has been identified.

No sex offenders who have been classified as being predatory or a risk to college-aged students will be living at the property, Greene said.

"I can't promise there'll be no sex offenders at all," Greene said, adding that the amount of sex offenders within the prison system makes it almost a given that programs like Sponsors may be dealing with people who have been convicted of sex crimes.

Greene said between 75 and 100 parolees and ex-convicts currently live in the neighborhood, meaning that Sponsors is not bringing ex-convicts into the area but merely providing better supervision to those already there.

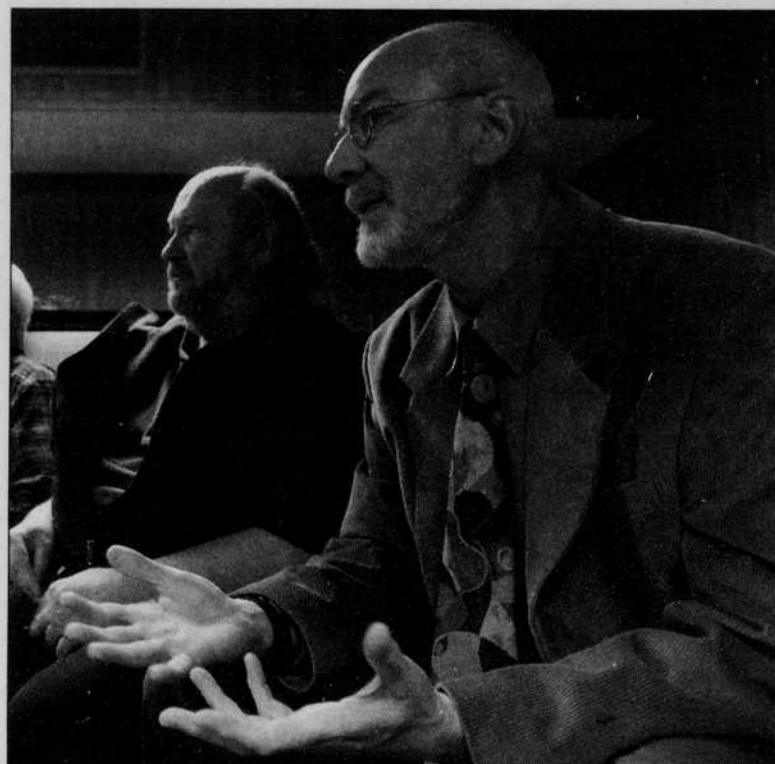
"We're basically doing more than updating what we currently have," Greene said.

"The concentration and density will be exactly the same as it was before," Chase added.

Eugene police officer Randy Ellis spoke in support of Sponsors.

Ellis, who patrols the West University neighborhood, said he has received many phone calls from people concerned about the program but has spoken with parole and probation officers and understands that the people Sponsors supervises do not pose any sort of threat to the community.

"I'm finding myself caught here between the neighborhood who's



MARCUS LARSON | FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHER

Sponsors, Inc. Executive Director Ron Chase, left, and Board of Directors Chair Richard Greene attended Thursday night's West University meeting that addressed residents' questions about the purchase of a group of quads west of Patterson Street.

against it and Sponsors, the group I know the truth about from my co-workers," Ellis said.

Greene said the people who will be living at the property will be those who have already completed the three-month Sponsors treatment and rehabilitation program and have been classified at a low or medium risk level.

Board member and University student Craig Laupheimer welcomed Sponsors to the neighborhood and said it is the community's duty to give the people involved with programs like Sponsors a chance in the world.

"We owe them a chance," Laupheimer said. "We have to assume they will not commit again."

Police chief Lehner discussed the looming rise of neighborhood power in city politics and said community policing is a big part of some of the changes that will be happening. He also participated in a group discussion about parties in the neighborhood and talked about the role of the police in breaking up parties and what circumstances warrant what punishments.

Also at the meeting, the West University Neighbors elected neighborhood resident David Wallace as its 1st Vice Chair and University student and neighborhood resident Marie Valle as a board member.

meghanncuniff@dailyemerald.com

**ASUO
Elections**

Vote on DuckWeb

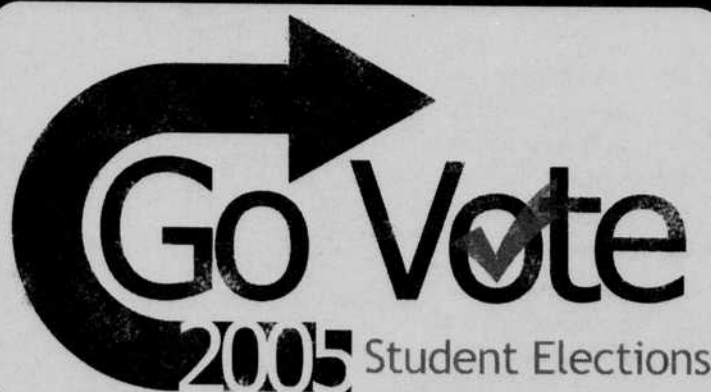
Online voter guide accessible through DuckWeb

PRIMARIES

Today is the last day to vote for primaries—voting ends at 5pm

Generals are Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of next week

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