

# Concern spurred by injured child

By Heather Wright  
Of The Print

Have you ever thought about what would happen if your child was injured while you were away? Jeanne Peters, a full-time sophomore at Clackamas Community College had but she never thought it would happen to her.

"I really didn't think it could happen to my child," Peters, a work-study student for the Women's Resource Center, said.

Because of an accident Peters' daughter experienced not too long ago, Peters was inspired to make treatment consent forms, called "Authorization For Another to Consent to Treatment of Child," available on campus.

These forms, which are required by Willamette Falls Hospital when a child's parents or guardians aren't available to consent to treatment, are available in the Women's Resource Center, the Wellness Resource Center in the student health trailer and the Campus Children's Center.

Peters found out about the consent forms the hard way. It all started a couple of weeks ago, when Peters went out one evening and left her two-and-a-half-year old daughter, Lynette, with her mother and brother. At approximately 10:30 p.m. Lynette fell and hit her head on the corner of a coffee table, causing her head to bleed.

Peter's mother and brother drove Lynette to the emergency room at Willamette Falls Hospital where they learned no treatment could be given to the child without the consent of a parent, guardian or an "Authorization For Another to Consent to Treatment of Child" form the hospital provides.

After waiting a long period of time, the doctor decided to treat Peters' daughter with the child's grandmother's consent. Peters said Lynette returned home about 1 a.m. Peters returned home after that time.

If Peters had a consent form filled out for her child, she would have received im-

mediate medical treatment from the hospital. "I felt guilty that I didn't have a form for my children. I was lucky that her (Lynette's) accident wasn't more severe," Peters said.

When asked if Peters was angry at Willamette Falls Hospital for not treating her child immediately she said, "No, not at all. I've dealt with Willamette Falls Hospital on a number of occasions, in fact this is the only time we've had to wait for treatment."

Peters added that Willamette Falls "really put a lot of effort into making the situation positive for my little girl. They even gave my daughter a sticker that said 'I Was A Hero At Willamette Falls Emergency.' My daughter thought that was really neat."

The consent forms are available at Willamette Falls and they give a person 18 years of age or older authorization to consent to treatment for a child.

The forms are valid only if the person authorized is at least 18 years old, however. Should a 16-year-old babysitter bring in a two-year-old child to be treated, for example, a spokesperson for Willamette Falls said the hospital would try to contact the parents at the phone numbers listed on the consent forms before any treatment would take place.

Laurie Jack, head of admitting at the hospital said if there was a real emergency, such as a life-or-death situation, the hospital would provide immediate treatment. "It's really up to the doctor and the hospital is liable if the parents decide to sue," she added.

Jack explained that the forms are approximately two months old, and Willamette Falls has received requests for the forms from schools and concerned parents.

Parents can list up to three children on one treatment consent form, which can be used for children up to 15 years of age. Youths older than 15 years do not need the form because they can sign their own consent form, Jack said.

For further information about the treatment consent forms, contact Willamette Falls Hospital at 656-1631, ext. 3368.

# Farm forest seminar slated

By M. Ekholm  
Of The Print

The John Inskeep Environmental Learning Center (ELC) is offering a one-day seminar in management of the small farm forest on Saturday, Nov. 17 from 9 a.m. - 12 noon.

Wendell Harmon, an ELC member, and award-winning forester and tree farmer, will conduct a tour of his acreage.

Harmon is life-long promoter of tree management farming. In regards to Christmas trees, Harmon said, "Many people come from all over. I never advertise. They come and cut their own tree for Christmas."

Harmon has many unique ways to manage timber. He stated "I do things that I think would bring the most financial return and that would leave the land in better shape to provide for a future for the next crop."

On his tree farm, Harmon uses permanent sample blocks for 1/10 of an acre to stake on each corner developed.

By his special way of farming he provides more food for wildlife. Harmon is very interested in wildlife.

Harmon has given two national shows in two years. One to the Society of National Forestry and the other to the American Forestry Association.

Harmon sells his trees for use as telephone poles, lumber and Christmas trees.

Another of Harmon's unique farming methods is to over plant, and do pre-commercial thinning, removing the poorest trees.



WENDELL HARMON, ELC member and tree farmer will speak at farm forest management seminar.

Photo by M. Ekholm

Harmon said, "I promote forestry and a method of managing timber good for Oregon."

Harmon retired in 1968 as a National Forest Ranger. He has been a full time tree farmer ever since.

"Helping others is a key in a life mission. Since I like forestry, I like to promote it," Harmon said.

Harmon owns over 1,000 acres. 250 of those acres are at

his site at Beaver Creek. He will be explaining ways of unique management and profit-making from harvesting Christmas trees, cedar products and firewood.

Fees are \$5 for the general public, and \$3 for ELC Members. There is a limit of 22 people.

For additional information and registration, call the ELC at 657-8400 ext. 351 Tuesday through Friday.

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