

Clinic to open in January

by CAROL THURLKILL
Post Correspondent

The new Hoodland community medical clinic will be open for patients the first of January in temporary headquarters adjacent to the Welches Post Office, officials planning the facility have announced.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held Wednesday morning at the site with representatives from the Hoodland Chamber of Commerce and Providence Medical Center, operators of the clinic, manning the shovels.

Temporary home for the clinic will be a two-section custom built trailer on Welch Road. A Hoodland contractor donated a 90-by-180 foot lot for the temporary site of the facility.

Plans for a permanent clinic are in the preliminary stages. How extensive that facility will be will depend on response of the community to the temporary clinic, according to Providence information officer Dale Cauldwell.

Hoodland chamber president Lowell Njust said he expects additional equipment and services will be made available as the need for the center increases.

The chamber was an active participant in getting the center under way. A chamber resource committee of five laid out plans with administrators from Providence for the center.

Doctors and administrators from the Portland center wasted no time laying the groundwork for it once the talks started. They met with the chamber two months ago for the first time and began right away making plans to set up shop.

Establishment of the center will alleviate what has been termed a critical need for primary and emergency medical care on the mountain.

The temporary facility will have 6,000 square feet of space. Equipment to be used will be for general ailments and treatment of emergency patients. An X-ray lab and 24-hour call-in line will be



PROVIDENCE MEDICAL Clinic Administrator William Connelly (left) prepares to shovel a spadeful of dirt in groundbreaking ceremonies for the new Hoodland Com-

munity Medical Clinic. With him are Hoodland Chamber of Commerce president Lowell Njust and Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Metzger.

available for emergencies.

Five physicians from the Providence staff will work on a rotating basis until two permanent physicians are assigned in July, Cauldwell said. A nurse practitioner will also be hired.

There has been no shortage of doctors interested in working at the center, Cauldwell noted. Many doctors live in the Hoodland area and several have indicated a willingness to work there.

In addition to the doctors at the clinic, patients there will be able to take advantage of resources and other doctors at the Providence center. Those

facilities include a cancer treatment center, coronary care unit, kidney dialysis center, a computerized scanner, radiology unit and a nuclear medicine lab.

Cauldwell pointed out that patients who visit the Hoodland clinic are under no obligation to continue extended treatment at Providence if such care is needed.

The cost of an initial visit will be based on a uniform fee schedule comparable to independent physician charges, he added.

The chamber committee is eyeing the

possibility of locating the permanent facility near the Hoodland Shopping Center, according to Rick Carey, committee member in charge of land and financing.

One area under consideration is a one-acre parcel located near Welches School owned by the Welches School district. The chamber plans to approach the school board to request that the land be donated for the permanent clinic site.

If the transaction takes place, the chamber would lease the property to Providence for the permanent facility.

Snowmobilers keep Trillium RV area

by MARK FLOYD

After several months of consideration, the U.S. Forest Service has decided to continue to allow snowmobiles in a 30-square mile area near Trillium Lake known as the Mud Creek basin.

An environmentalist group, Quiet Trails, had begun an active campaign to have the area closed to snowmobiles and presented the U.S.F.S. with the proposition in late summer.

The group cited several reasons for the request including the area's suitability for foot travel, the history of cross country skiing in that region and a general lack of snowmobiles in the area.

"In 1972 the Forest Service originally looked at the Trillium Lake area because there was a parking lot nearby which is a critical point," said Quiet Trails chairman Richard Roy. "But that has changed; there are a lot of parking lots in other areas."

"Cross country skiing has greatly increased in the last four-six years," he added. "There are a lot more people and the Trillium Lake area happens to be one of the best skiing spots around."

"We took a survey and our questionnaire shows that cross country skiers almost unanimously prefer to ski without snowmobiles around," Roy said. "They don't like the noise or the exhaust."

However, members of the Forest Service met with various civic groups in the Hoodland area and decided to keep the area open to the snowmobilers.

"It's a personal bias," said Pete

Brost, resources assistant for the U.S.F.S. at Zigzag. "They think that snowmobile use conflicts with skiers."

"It's our opinion that with the tremendous amount of people in the area everyone needs to be more compatible," Brost added. "There just isn't that much room."

Brost said that the Forest Service took into consideration the fact that several other parts of the Mt. Hood National Forest, including all wilderness areas, are closed to motorized vehicles and that the Mud Creek basin contains the only marked snowmobile trail in the Zigzag district.

The entrance to the Mud Creek basin is across U.S. Highway 26 from Snow Bunny Lodge. To help accommodate the large number of the trail's users the Forest Service constructed an additional path which will be designated for skiers.

"We cut a trail parallel to the road to allow skiers to get to Summit Meadows area on a separate trail from snowmobilers," Brost said. "The Summit Meadows area is closed to snowmobilers; it always has been and always will be."

"The snowmobile trail leads up to the ridge which is three or four miles past the meadow," Brost said.

Brost added that he hopes the additional trail will help eliminate some of the congestion across from Snow Bunny caused by skiers, snowmobilers and inner tubers.

"We try to have as few closures as possible," Brost said, "especially when we can see no environmental damage at all."

Chamber supports Welches sewage plant

The Hoodland Chamber of Commerce voted unanimously Tuesday night to go on record in support of the proposed sewage treatment plant for the Welches area.

Approximately 25 chamber members agreed to support the proposal which would create a Hoodland Service District for the purpose of building the treatment plant.

The Clackamas Public Works Department has proposed that the \$3.1 million plant be built to serve residents within the service district boundaries and American Guaranty Life Insurance Co.'s Rippling River development. Also served would be Timberline Rim subdivision and a commercial area in Rhododendron.

The plant would serve a maximum of 10,500 people.

Petitions are being circulated in the Hoodland area to gather enough signatures to put the question of construction of the plant to a popular vote.

If the required number of signatures are not gathered by Dec. 11, the county commissioners will have the authority to approve or disapprove creation of the

service district at its regular meeting that night.

The chamber also heard a report from the state Highway Department on the possibility of expansion of Highway 26 from two to four lanes in the more heavily populated areas of Hoodland.

Regional Engineer Ed Hardt told the gathering that there are no plans for expansion under the existing six-year forecast for highway improvements. But he added the department updates the plan every year and changes in it to accommodate expansion of Highway 26 are not entirely out of the question.

He told the group that improvements to federal highways are funded on an 86-14 (federal-state) basis. He added that the defeat of the proposed two-cent tax increase by voters in June has meant the state will not be able to go with as many improvements as it would have had the measure been approved.

The chamber decided to set up a committee to gather information on the use of the highway and the number of accidents in the stretch from Brightwood to Government Camp.

Commissioners approve zone change

OREGON CITY — The Clackamas County Board of Commissioners paved the way for light industrial development in Boring when it approved a zone change request on Monday from R & S Development of Boring for its property along Highway 212 across from School Avenue.

The 2-1 vote overturned Clackamas County Hearings Officer Richard Crist's September decision that the request be denied.

The commissioners followed planning staff recommendation in making their approval, thus excluding property north of Highway 212.

No one testified against the zone change at Monday's hearing. It had faced heavy opposition by about 20 Boring residents at an August hearing before the hearings officer.

Residents and members of the neighboring Assembly of God Church complained the industrial use would be too noisy and would create even more traffic congestion on Highway 212. They added that Boring did not need such development.

Commissioners Robert Schumacher and Ralph Groener voted for the zone change. Schumacher said the zone change from single family residential to light industrial was within the guidelines of the comprehensive plan.

"Since it is adjacent to a major highway, railroad tracks and an industrial area, light industry is the most logical use of the property," Schumacher said.

Commissioner Stan Skoko, who cast the dissenting vote, said he did not feel the applicants had demonstrated public need. "They did not present absolute,

concrete evidence of the need at this time. I think the request is premature, although the land is suitable for future industrial use," Skoko said.

Lyle Trammel, attorney for the applicants, presented evidence on Monday in response to local residents' objections at an Aug. 31 hearing to the zone change. Trammel said he did not find out about the resident's objections in time to prepare evidence for that hearing.

Trammel told the commissioners Monday the applicants were not going to build a truck stop on the property because it is not allowed for an I-2 light industrial zone.

At the August hearing, Boring residents feared R & S Development Co. would establish a truck stop at the intersection, as had been proposed.

"I think the idea of having a truck stop there is what infuriated most people and that possibility is completely out," Trammel said.

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Trammel said the county gave his clients permission to partially open a road now closed and use it as an access to Richey Road. Trammel said the Assembly of God Church has been using Fireman Way road as a parking lot but his clients would not open the road so far as to interfere with this use.

Trammel said one possible use of the property might be for building material storage since the area has drainage problems, thus limiting industrial water use.



STUDENTS AT Welches School show off their booty collected for Christmas baskets.

John Kline photo

'Say Thanks' basket program tops goal

Residents of the mountain drove through an icy storm Sunday to deliver 38 baskets of food to needy families in the "Say Thanks By Giving" program.

Each basket contained a turkey and other ingredients for Thanksgiving dinner as well as a large supply of staple foods. A total of 2,400 cans were donated in the drive.

Program organizers were aiming to deliver baskets to 30 families, three more than were helped last year. But the amount of food donations exceeded all expectations.

Students at Welches School collected over half the total — 1,289 cans. An eighth grade business math class taught by Jim Bigey served as the collection center for the non-perishable goods. Class members kept a daily chart of the number of cans brought in by each class in the school.

The seventh grade homeroom class of Mark Hamby took first place in the contest.

"The program was a giant success," noted chairman Karyn Priest. "It is a reflection of the true spirit of Thanksgiving in our community."