The Bortland Observer

Celebrities Support Sickle Cell Anemia



Celebrities and public service representatives gather to give their time, money and a little hope to the children of the Marian Anderson Sickle Cell Anemia Care and Research Center at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia. A Janet Jackson concert sponsored by Sony Music helped raise money to continue research aimed at eliminating the pain of sickle cell disease.

Powerful Psychotropic Drugs More Often Used On African-Americans

African-American activists along potentially deadly drugs." with other psychiatric activist groups have expressed concern that the African-American population is being targeted by racial psychiatry. Many are concerned the government may institute a "violence initiative" which, critics charge, would unfairly target minorities, including young children, for "treatment' with powerful mind-altering drugs and other means.

Dr. James Aungst, spokesman for the Citizens Commission on Human Rights (CCHR), stated, "Racist psychiatry has been around for a very long time. Recent statements by people inside the industry and studies by the profession itself are now bringing this into the light. We here at CCHR are appalled that the psychiatric industry would target people of color as predisposed to violence and then subsequently drug them with powerful and

Furse Calls For Abortion Services

In order to ensure that pregnancyrelated services are included in health care reform legislation Rep. Elizabeth Furse and dozens of House colleagues sent a letter to House Speaker Thomas Foley (D-WA) stating that those services must be available in order for them to support reform ef-

The letter stated that "we feel compelled to convey to you our strong commitment that any health care reform package that comes before the House must contain coverage for contraceptive and abortion services if it is to gain our support."

At a news conference to release the letter, Furse said that while she was touring the District last week, the top concern was health care.

"The one message that I heard over and over again is that Americans don't want the government making choices for them in their private decisions," Furse said. "They don't want some member of Congress deciding whether or not they can get an abortion. Abortions are legal in this country. That's a personal choice that must be left to a woman and her doctor.

Women will continue to get abortions. This is not a question of abortions or no abortions. It's a question of safe or unsafe abortions. At this time, a majority of women's insurance covers reproductive services; we must not diminish their health care coverage with health care reform."

All Oregon democratic representatives signed the letter to Speaker

The House is expected to vote on health care reform legislation within the next few weeks.

A recent study published in the American Psychiatric Association's "Hospital & Community Psychiatry" explores why adult African-Americans in the psychiatric system are 1.83 times more likely to get a form of twitch-inducing permanent brain damage (called T.D.) from the powerful family of neuroleptic-type drugs, such as Haldol, Prolixin, Mellaril, Thorazine, etc. While not finding a conclusive reason for the high rate, they did make a stunning observation about African-Americans and the long-acting version of the neuroleptic.

The authors of the study stated, "To our knowledge, we are the first researchers to document that black patients received higher doses of neuroleptic medications and were more frequently given high-potency depot neuroleptic than white patients...

Summertime Blood Donors Needed To Meet Patient Needs

The good old summertime: The parks are packed with people, the beaches are getting plenty of business, and the mountains are crammed with campers. Unfortunately, regional hospitals are also flooded with cus-

hospitals are always filled with people cer cure. who need blood and blood products. While summertime travel and outdoor activity often increases accidentrelated blood use, blood is needed on an ongoing basis by surgery and cancer patients, people with blood diseases, and many others.

Red Cross blood donors are the sole source of this lifesaving fluid. Just one blood donation can help up to four people sidelined by surgery, accidents or diseases including leukemia and sickle cell anemia get back into the game of life.

Portland residents can help ensure that regional hospitals have an adequate supply of blood and blood products by giving blood at the Maranatha Church, 4222 NE 12th, on Thursday, August 11th, from 3:00 to 7:00 PM Donors should be 17 or older, weigh at least 105 pounds, and be in good general health.

Our results indicate that the higher doses given to black patients can be explained entirely by more frequent use of high-potency depot neuroleptic." While about one-fourth of the study subjects were African-Americans, fully one-half of those at the baseline of the test being given depot neuroleptic were African-Americans.

Dr. Aungst commented, "In my opinion these drugs do nothing more than turn these people into shuffling

"For the psychiatric industry to make claims that a person is predisposed to having a mental illness on the basis of his skin color is outrageous. The American people need to take heed and take a very close look at what the psychiatric industry is doing to their country before it is to late." Aungst concluded.



Cancer Research: New Progress

(NAPS)-The cure for cancer comes ever closer, thanks to research done by talented young scientists whose work is supported by the Cancer Research Fund of the Damon Runyon-Walter Winchell Foundation.

Your contributions can bring No matter what the season, area scientists closer to finding a can-

> One of these scientists is James M. Slauch, PhD., who had a Damon Runyon-Walter Winchell Fellowship at Harvard Medical School. Slauch studied Salmonella typhimurium, a bacteria which causes a deadly typhoid-like disease in mice. Dr. Slauch and his colleagues were after virulence factors, deadly genes that become active only in certain environments.

> The team identified 50 virulence genes that enable the bacterium to live in the mouse. This discovery will likely lead to a comparable method for detecting virulence factors in viruses, including those retroviruses tied to cancer.

You can help such important research projects to continue by sending a contribution to the Cancer Research Fund of the Damon Runyon-Walter Winchell Foundation, 131 East 36th St., New York, NY 10016. One hundred percent of every donation you make to the Fund goes to cancer research.

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Kaiser Permanente Offers Health Education Classes

are being offered in North Portland this summer and fall through Kaiser Permanente. For registration information, call Kaiser Permanente's Health Education department at (503) 286-6816.

"COUPLES COMMUNICATION"

Communication and decisionmaking skills for many couples are easy to learn but hard to put into practice. Kaiser Permanente's "Couples Communication" class helps couples learn and practice basic communication skills. The eight sessions will be from 6:30 to 8:30pm on Thursdays, Aug. 11 through Sept. 29, at Kaiser Permanente's Education and Conference Center (Town Hall), 3704 N. Interstate Ave., Portland. Cost is \$80 for couples who are Kaiser Permanente members, \$140 for the general public. Please register at least 10 days before the class starts.

"DIABETES BASIC SERIES"

Uncontrolled diabetes can lead to serious health problems. Kaiser Permanente offers several classes where you can learn self-care skills to control your diabetes. The three-session "Diabetes Basic Series" will be from 9am to noon on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Aug. 29, 30 and

Several classes open to the public 31, at Kaiser Permanente's Education & Conference Center (Town Hall), 3704 N. Interstate Ave, Portland. Cost is \$15 for Kaiser Permanente members, \$75 for the general public. A spouse or other person is encouraged to attend at no extra cost.

"MANAGING STRESS AND

ANXIETY" Kaiser Permanente's "Managing Stress and Anxiety" program can help manage stress which accompanies the pressures of life. The eight sessions will be from 6:30 to 8:30pm on Thursdays, Sept. 1 through Oct. 20, at Bess Kaiser Medical Center, 5055 N. Greeley Ave., Portland. Cost is \$80 for Kaiser Permanente members, \$140 for the general public (fee includes textbook). Please register at least 10 days before the class starts.

"EMERGENCY CARE OF THE YOUNG CHILD"

This is a first and CPR program for parents of newborns. The two sessions will be from 6:30 to 9:30pm on Tuesdays, Sept. 6 and Sept. 13, at Kaiser Permanente's Education & Conference Center (Town Hall), 3704 N. Interstate Ave., Portland. Cost is \$30 for Kaiser Permanente members/ couples, \$60 for the general public. Please register at least 10 days before the class starts.

JANA TORAN

ATTORNEY AT LAW

Nr. Hood

Festival Of Jazz *

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