

Events Bring Excitement to Dawson Park

Legacy Emanuel Hospital and its adjacent neighbors are banding together to make inviting changes to Dawson Park.

The hospital in cooperation with the Eliot Neighborhood Association have kicked off a series of events to revitalize the park and turn it into a valuable community resource. The celebrations will range from weekly picnics to a parade, all occurring in the park located at North Stanton and Williams.

The events began with a Walk in the Park last Tuesday and will continue through the summer and possibly indefinitely.

The public is welcome to join in either a 20 or 40 minute walk around the hospital campus by meeting at Dawson Park on Tuesdays at 11:15 a.m. and again at 12:15 p.m. Weekly community picnics at the park began Thursday, and will continue each Thursday rain or shine from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. An initial "Pretty Up the Park" day was also held last week, where participants helped rake, mow, prune, clean up debris and plant new flowers and shrubs to help beautify the park. Future dates will be scheduled throughout the spring and summer. When all the clean-up is finished,



Area residents are welcomed to a community picnic at Dawson Park in the Eliot neighborhood.

(PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER)

ished, a big celebration with a kids' parade, entertainment and refreshments will take place on June 2.

Dawson Park is named in honor of an Episcopal minister, the Rev. John Dawson, who was an advocate of child welfare and civic improvement in the 1920s. The space was once a cow pasture and then a ball field used by the Immaculate Heart Church and School. It

was also a frequent stopping place for small circuses and medicine shows. It was acquired by the Portland Parks Bureau in 1921 and contains a basketball court, playground, gazebo and rest rooms. For more information on the Dawson Park revitalization project, call 503-415-5725.

Profiles of Enduring Black Love

By TARESSA AND CALVIN STOVALL
WARNER BOOKS, 2000

This book is a heartfelt, down-to-earth portrait of African American married love as it really is. From sophisticated urban centers to vibrant down-home rural areas; from everyday, ordinary people to those who live in the public eye, you will meet twenty dynamic, unforgettable couples. You'll hear how they fell in love under circumstances that range from unexpected to near-impossible — and how they make it all work in a new century of complex personal, career and cultural demands.

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