

Back to School Items Needed

Participating merchants at Jantzen Beach Super Center will be gathering new backpack and school supplies for students returning to school this fall.

Families are encouraged to donate new backpacks and supplies at participating stores.

The school items will be given to the Touchstone Program, part of the Multnomah County Department of Community and Family Services, and to several programs in Clark County.

School backpacks and sup-

plies are important for students because it enhances self-esteem and a desire to pursue educational goals.

"I would like to see every child begin the school year with a new backpack," said Jackie Harris, marketing director at the SuperCenter.

Items can be dropped off at Kmart, Staples and the customer service counter in the center food court area through Sept. 9.

For more information, call Harris at 360-699-4644 or 503-286-9103.

New Bike Racks

Tri-Met has decided to install bike racks in all its low-floor MAX light rail cars next month.

The racks will allow riders to hang their bikes from the ceiling. Each car will be able to hold four bikes.

Transportation officials de-

ecided to put the racks in when other riders complained they got bike grease on their clothes from standing near bikes parked near the doorway.

The current policy allows bikes on trains if riders hold them in the open space near the doors.

Exercise to Regenerate the Body



Fang Ning uses slow hand movements to draw from the energies of nature.

Area residents can learn how to use an inner visualization technique, combined with slow hand movements, to draw from the energies of nature and create a self-healing in a popular Chinese exercise called the Heaven, Earth, Sun and Moon Qigong.

Classes on this dynamic technique will be given by Master Ou Wen Wei, an internationally renowned author and lecturer from China at Nature's 'Wellness Center', located at 3535 N.E. 15th and Fremont, Friday through Sunday, Aug. 24-26. For more information, call 503-675-9809 or go online to www.pangushengong.org.

Blood Test to Detect Early Breast Cancer

While mammograms remain the best defense in detecting breast cancer, a new type of blood test might soon complement the role of mammography in finding breast cancer early.

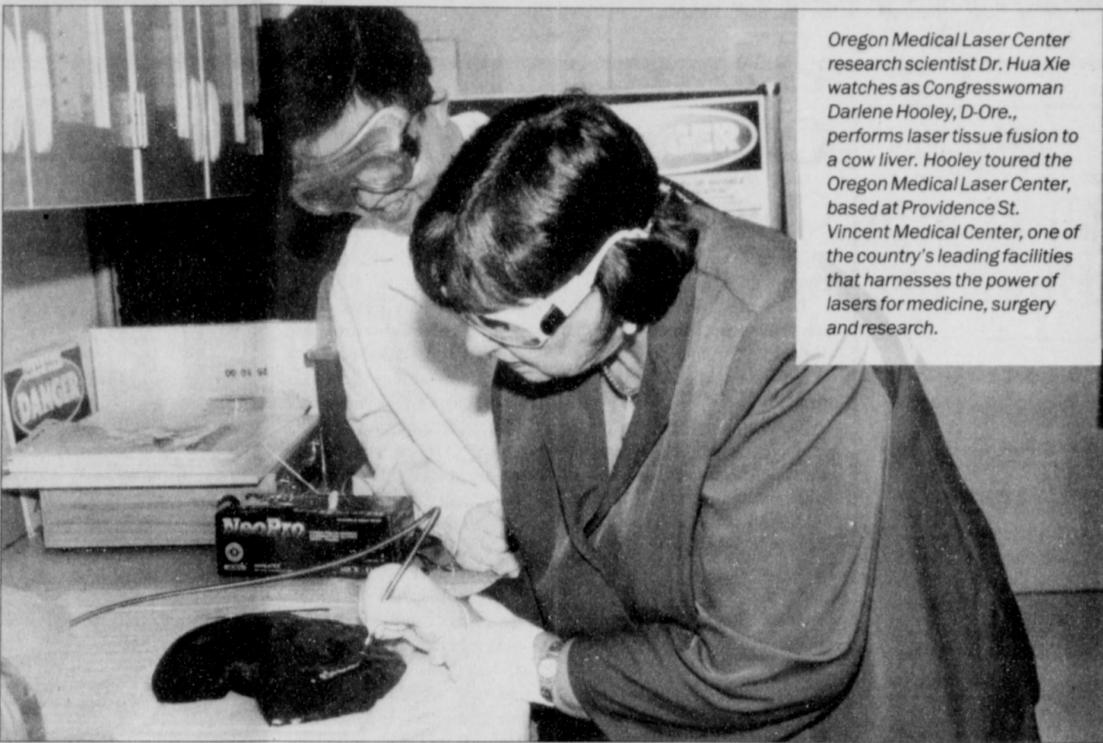
Providence Portland Medical Center is one of only six medical research centers in the United States that is enrolling patients in a clinical trial to examine the effectiveness of the blood test.

Called the NMP66 blood test, this new diagnostic tool developed by Matritech, Inc., uses a technique called "mass spectrometry" to measure the elevation of specific proteins in the blood.

In earlier trials, elevated protein levels were found in all samples from women with invasive breast cancer. The protein levels were normal for women who did not have breast cancer.

For more info., call Jon Siegal at 508-647-9782, extension 15.

Congresswoman Gets Lesson in Medical Lasers



Oregon Medical Laser Center research scientist Dr. Hua Xie watches as Congresswoman Darlene Hooley, D-Ore., performs laser tissue fusion to a cow liver. Hooley toured the Oregon Medical Laser Center, based at Providence St. Vincent Medical Center, one of the country's leading facilities that harnesses the power of lasers for medicine, surgery and research.

County Moves Into Blanchard Building

Multnomah County has moved into a portion of the Blanchard Building, located at 501 N. Dixon Street, from the Portland School District.

County officials say this partnership demonstrates the county's support for the schools by providing much-needed financial assistance and is a creative way to fill Portland Public Schools' excess space.

An advisory group, led by Multnomah County Chair Linn, recommended to the PPS Board that the Blanchard Building was underutilized and excess space should be leased to outside tenants.

In early spring, the county and PPS negotiated a 99-year, \$3.5 million lease for approximately 46,000 square feet of the Blanchard Building.

"This is a prime example of the

type of creative, revenue generating partnerships the county should be entering into. It enabled us to continue to provide financial support for the schools while meeting the physical space needs of departments," states Chair Linn.

The school district has also transferred its fleet maintenance to the county with the acquisition of the fleet maintenance shop at the Blanchard facility.

Tuition-free Classes for Seniors at PSU

Registration for fall quarter will officially begin Sept. 17 for Oregon seniors who are taking advantage of tuition-free classes at Portland State University.

The program is open to any Oregon resident, aged 65 or

over. Seniors may audit any of the university's regular classes at no tuition on a space-available basis.

The Senior Adult Learning Center is a part of the Institute on Aging at the College of Ur-

ban and Public Affairs, and is located in the Urban Center Building at Southwest 6th and Montgomery.

For more information, call 503-725-4739 or visit the campus center.

Patients Sought in Research Study

An area researcher is seeking people who suffer from ulcerative colitis to participate in a clinical research trial to test a new delayed-release anti-inflam-

matory drug.

The study will include free lab work, study-related physical exams, study-related medication and sigmoidoscopy.

Prospective men and women, age 18 to 75, who might be eligible for the study, should contact Dr. George Koval at 503-292-6452.

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