Senior Transportation Group Looks to Expand

Effort may boost shuttle rides to neighborhood services

A group specializing in keeping older residents in their single family homes is conducting a survey to expand transportation service for seniors and people with mild disabilities in inner north and northeast Portland.

The R.A.R.E. Services Group, made up of representatives from various senior service agencies, is asking area residents such questions as: Where do you need to go shopping? What days and times of day do you need to go to the bank, medical appointments, prescription pickups and refills, grocery shopping and some recreation? Which of your transportation needs is

According to Harvey Rice, an independent consultant for the effort, plans call for distributing the survey via area senior housing groups and aging and disability service agencies.

Once completed, Harvey will lead focus groups to gather more information about unmet transportation

The effort may lead to new schedules for shuttles rides to neighborhood services. Currently, shuttle services are provided to the Safeway Food and Drug on Northeast Ainsworth and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard every first and third Tuesday of each month. The service is collaboration between the African American Chamber of Commerce, RAZ Transportation and Safeway. The service is free to seniors age 60 and over.

Harvey, also the Safeway Concierge, said the hope is to expand mobility problems. and develop an effective Safeway shopping network between the four banks along MLK and non-profit medical services in the adjacent ping," Harvey said neighborhoods that will improve



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER RAZ Transportation Driver Gordon Young (from left) senior rider Zeola Thompson and Safeway Concierge Harvey Rice gather during the recent remodeling celebration for the Safeway Food and Drug on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

"With more budget cuts and cuts

the quality of life for seniors with ecutive Roy Jay said northeast Courts, Irvington Village, McCoy Senior Shuttle, which respond to are averaging 68 riders per month,"

of services, we need to find ways to decade due to the opening of Albina meet senior's needs to go shop- Corner Apartments, Unthank Plaza, St. Vincent de Paul Apartments, African American Chamber ex- Allen Fremont Plaza, Mallory

Rosemont Court and Alberta to expand, community leaders said. Simmons Plaza

in senior population during the last Martin Luther King Jr. Building, grocery shopping service will need

In order to keep pace with this approximately 30 riders a month remodeling of the store has put it a growth, programs such as Safeway and by the end of February 2003, we

Portland has experienced a growth Village, Walnut Park Apartments, the increasing demand for senior says Gordon Young driver for RAZ Transportation Trolley.

> Troy Steele manager of "We began in August 2001 with Ainsworth Safeway, said a recent position to meet the needs of more

Multnomah Pet License Enforcement

Multnomah County has started mailing infraction notices about 148,000 dogs in to Portland area residents who fail the county, just an esto license their cats and dogs.

The pets are required to be censed. Ten percent of licensed with Multnomah County the approximately Animal Services once they have 161,000 cats are lilived in the county for at least 30 days or have reached the age of 6 months, whichever occurs later.

Currently, out of timated 37,000 are licensed.

past six months and are confident supply stores, veterinary offices "Holding pet owners responsible the trend will continue when hold- and in neighborhoods through

take," stated Mike receiving repeated reminders con-Oswald, director of tinue to violate the law."

Multnomah County The county began an aggres-Animal Services. "We sive campaign to increase pet lihave seen significant censing rates last summer. Educaincreases in pet license tion and outreach efforts were excompliance over the panded in local parks, pet food and is a necessary step the county must ing accountable those, who after door-to-door outreach teams.

Mediation Trainees Wanted

Resolutions Northwest, a non- Facility, 4815 N.E. 7th Ave. and are profit community dispute resolution due March 31. tion services, is seeking a diverse pool of community members to train as volunteer mediators.

Application packets are available at the Neighborhood Mediation Program Office in the King Moland at 503-823-3152.

center that has contracted with the Interviews will be scheduled the City of Portland to provide media- week beginning April 7. Final selections will be made by April 18.

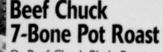
Minorities and people with second language skills are encouraged

For more information, call Tamara









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