

Chamber Sponsors Holiday Hams



Harold Williams II (from left), Nick Fish, Harold Williams Sr., Harold Johnson, Pastor Gail Hardy and his son Gail Hardy III, Roy Joy, Bridgett Flanagan and Charles Derrick distribute "Hams for the Hungry" in northeast Portland. The event last Wednesday benefited 81 seniors and others in need and was sponsored by the African American Chamber of Commerce, Hormel Meats and Safeway.

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MARK WASHINGTON/
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Clinic's Life Support on Ropes

continued ▲ from Front

Taylor said that patient demand alone is so great that she needs more, not less staff and more space to continue serving more than 2,500 children a year on a

North Portland Nurse Practitioner Community Health Clinic staff (clockwise from left) Jose Lettenmaier, office manager; Leandra Alanis, office support and Oregon Health Plan screener; Nurse Practitioner Mariah Taylor; Barbara Powell, certified medical assistant; and Amy Robben, clinic coordinator; contemplate the future of the clinic.

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\$300,000 annual budget. The clinic operates out of a cramped 800 square-foot office with two exam rooms and one small office for a staff of five.

In 2000, Taylor earned national publicity for her goodwill on the Oprah Winfrey show. She has been honored with Winfrey's "Using Your Life" award, Marylhurst University's "Woman of Faith" award and other honors for her career dedicated to providing quality healthcare to needy Oregonians.

Taylor has faith that a tighter financial belt, reduction of services and tough money management decisions will see the clinic through.

"We can't see this clinic closing," said Taylor. "Too many people are relying on it."

Celebrating Kwanzaa

Community, family and culture honored

Kwanzaa was created to introduce and reinforce seven basic values of African culture which contribute to building and reinforcing family, community and culture among African Americans as well as Africans throughout the world.

These values are called the Nguzo Saba, which in Swahili means the Seven Principles:

Umoja (Unity) — To strive for and maintain unity in the family, community, nation and race.

Kujichagulia (Self-Determination) — To define ourselves, name ourselves, create for ourselves and speak for ourselves.

Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility) — To build and maintain our community together and

make our brothers' and sisters' problems our problems and to solve them together.

Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics) — To build and maintain our own stores, shops and other businesses and to profit from them together.

Nia (Purpose) — To make our collective vocation the building and developing of our community to restore our people to their traditional greatness.

Kuumba (Creativity) — To do always as much as we can, in the way we can, to leave our community more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited it.

Imani (Faith) — To believe with all our heart in our people, our parents, our teachers, our leaders and the righteousness and victory of our struggle.

The first day of Kwanzaa is Friday, Dec. 26. The last day of Kwanzaa is the first day of the new year, Thursday, Jan. 1.

Kwanzaa Events Fill Local Calendar

Public events are planned in the coming days to celebrate Kwanzaa with loved ones and family members.

First up is a Kwanzaa Harvest Celebration on Friday, Dec. 26, from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Matt Dishman Community Center, 77 N.E. Knott St.

Co-sponsored by Portland Parks and Recreation, the celebration will include a drum processional, libation, remembering ancestors and honoring elders ceremony, Kwanzaa candle lighting, African kings and queens fashion show and African marketplace.

A children's "Kwanzaa Kwest" will be held Saturday, Dec. 27 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the North Portland Branch Library, 512 N. Killingsworth.

The Bridge Builders Kwanzaa Gala and Ball will be held Saturday,

Dec. 27 at 7:30 p.m. at Newmark Theater on Southwest Broadway and Main Street. For information call 503-306-2960 extension 3.

A Support African-American Business Day takes place Monday, Dec. 29 with candle lighting ceremonies at 6 p.m. at participating African American stores, shops and other businesses. For more details, call Kathi at Ahmire's at 503-282-4888.

The celebration concludes on Wednesday, Dec. 31 with a full afternoon of activities celebrating the seven principles of Kwanzaa at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N. Interstate Ave. Children's activities are scheduled from noon to 2 p.m., a candle lighting ceremony begins at 2 p.m. and a Karamu dinner is served from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

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