

Devoted to the Uninsured

continued ▲ from Front

ing area and are at least 18 years old.

The clinic's goal is to be accessible after work—initial open hours are Thursdays from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Clinic coordinator Roslyn Farrington anticipates the staff—two doctors and two nurses—will see up to 20 patients a night. She said the goal is for physicians and nurses to volunteer once or twice a month.

Staff will provide minor care for illnesses and injuries, and ongoing care for chronic problems like diabetes and high blood pressure. Kaiser Permanente has donated medical equipment, and a score of friends and organizations provided legal assistance, medical goods, insurance and financial management.

Patients can obtain prescriptions through the Interstate Fred

Meyer pharmacy and a program called RX Assist. The clinic receives a discount on medication, which they pay for with monetary donations and future fundraisers.

The tiny building on North Williams Avenue is a contrast to the two-story condos springing up across the street on either side of Blandena Avenue. But looks can deceive—the clinic has a promising backyard Farrington jokingly refers to as the “Bill Gates Wing.”

She said they plan to put a wheelchair accessible ramp in the back, next to a useful storage shed they soon hope to fill. Farrington said they also hope to build a screen for the front porch, converting it into the waiting area.

Clinic volunteers celebrated opening night with a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by neighbors and friends, and about five or six patients. Farrington said they welcomed the easy pace that suppressed opening night jitters.



PHOTO BY SARAH BLOUNT/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Patricia Ashwood consults with nurse Tony Brown at the new North by Northeast Community Health Center, founded by Pastor Mary Overstreet Smith of Powerhouse Temple Church and Dr. Jill Ginsberg of Kaiser Permanente.

By 6:30 p.m. on the clinic's second night, Aug. 24, one patient sat in the cozy waiting room while another, Patricia Ashwood, sat in exam room one talking with Kaiser

Sunnyside nurse Tony Brown.

Ashwood is diabetic and takes a prescription drug for enzyme replacement. She said she was laid off from her job a few months ago and had an

appointment at another clinic, but that's not until Oct. 24.

“My friend read about this clinic,” Ashwood said, “So I drove by around 4 p.m. today and Dr. Jill told me to

come back at 6 p.m.”

Meanwhile, the clinic's front office buzzed with anticipation, as neighbors walked past, slowing in curiosity at the new sight.

PROPER Festival to Open Hearts, Minds

Annual event at Kenton Park

As summer winds down and the weather begins to cool, the 12th annual PROPER festival gets ready to happen at Kenton Park in north Portland. This year's celebration will take place on Saturday Sept. 9 from 12 to 4 p.m.

PROPER, which stands for People Reaching Oppressed People Expecting Restoration, is always a highly anticipated and welcomed event for the Kenton community, and this year is no exception.



Apostle E.D. Mondaine and Belief will perform during a free community concert Saturday at Kenton Park in north Portland.

Area residents are invited to free food and drink and a variety of children's activities, community information booths, and great entertainment.

The line up will feature Apostle Mondaine and Belief, a Portland gospel group that just recently released their debut album, The Blessing Box, and have been receiving rave reviews with their live performances. The festival also features Farnell Newton & Friends, Matt Stowell, Vienna, Blue Reign and more.

The PROPER organization's prin-

ciple goal seeks to improve our local communities through proactive communication and greater awareness by generating open dialogues and lasting relationships between local businesses, organizations, churches and individual people.

The goal is to unite people across all lines, which includes not only race, but class, gender, age and religion. The annual PROPER event is sponsored by Celebration Tabernacle, a multicultural church of the performing arts at 8131 N. Denver Ave.

PROJECT NO: 78,104

A NEW PLACE TO PLAY.

It's been more than 30 years since Oregonians have gotten a new full-service state park, but that's about to change. In the summer of 2007, 1,755 acres of hilly forestland between HWY 26 and Vernonia will become “Stub” Stewart Memorial State Park. The purchase of this new parkland was made possible with Oregon Lottery profits. They also helped to build the park, which will offer 80 campsites; trails for hiking; horseback riding and mountain biking; a cabin village; a horse camp; a hike-in camp for backpackers; a sheltered picnic ground and a hill top observation tower for sightseeing and stargazing.

State parks are some of Oregonian's favorite places, which is why they voted to use money generated by Lottery games to take care of the ones we have and add new ones. And Buying new parkland is just one of the ways Oregon wins when Oregonians play. Lottery profits also go to economic development, education and watershed enhancement across the state.

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