Community Example Set by Church Leadership

Pastors get tested for HIV

Church leaders from Portland's black community gathered Tuesday to get tested for HIV and raise awareness about the virus disproportionately affecting minority populations.

The pastors of the Albina Ministerial Alliance sought to set an example for other African Americans in an effort to end the silence surrounding a worsening epidemic.

"We can no longer accept the status quo," Rev. Leroy Haynes said in a statement to the press. "We must stand up and address this horrendous disease that is killing us and others."

Haynes, of the Allen Temple CME Church, called for community churches to lead a fight against the shame and stigma that prevent African Americans from being tested. Although less than 13 percent Americans are black, African Americans account for an estimated 50 per-



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Rev. Lynn Lopez (from left), Bishop A. Wells, Rev. W. G. Hardy, Rev. T. Allen Bethel, Rev. Leroy Haynes and Bishop Grace Osborne participate in HIV testing at a community event to raise awareness about the virus.

cent of new cases of HIV.

With several other well- Church in northeast Portland, of news reporters, photograknown community pastors at each of the faith leaders took an phers and supporters.

Robert Ned's Bethel A.M.E. oral-swab test for HIV in front

Events scheduled to raise prayer service at Bethel, 5828 awareness about HIV dispari- N.E. 8th Ave., on Sunday, ties include an HIV/AIDS March 16 at 4 p.m.

N.Y. Official Aligned for Governorship

If scandal removes incumbent

governor, David Paterson is sud- did not mention resignation. denly in line to be only the third

If Spitzer quits, Paterson auto-

black governor since Reconstruction, and the first in New York.

"He's the next governor and probably quite soon," said Maurice Carroll, director of Quinnipiac University's Polling Institute and a longtime New York political reporter.

Lt. Gov. David Paterson Attention turned to Paterson immediately after word licans and Democrats. surfaced Monday that Gov. Eliot Former New York City Mayor Spitzer had been linked to a high- Edward Koch recently called Paterpriced prostitution ring. In a brief son "very capable, not withstanding along with people," Carroll said.

(AP) -- Less than two years after appearance in front of reporters, he reluctantly ran for lieutenant Spitzer issued a vague apology and

matically becomes

governor and would complete Spitzer's term, which ends Dec. 31,2010.

There was no immediate comment from Paterson. Paterson, a 53-

year-old Democrat from Harlem who is mostly blind, is well respected by Repub-

his near sightlessness. It's never impeded his public actions or his personal actions, and he's really overcome it in an extraordinary way.

Paterson, who does not use a cane or a guide dog, can make out shapes and even people up close. He lost most of his sight as an infant when an infection damaged his optic nerve. He still talks of his fragile self-esteem in childhood and recalls not being invited to parties because "people thought I would fall and hurt myself.'

Paterson's disability has never been an issue in Albany in his 20year political career. He has memorized lengthy, impassioned speeches without missing a mark.

"He's knowledgeable about New York state government and politics, and he's a guy who likes to get



The foundation has been poured the walls are in the process of being poured for the new Salvation Army Gresham Corps Community Center.

Salvation Army Grows with Gresham

USPS 959-680

Construction has begun for by reaching out and meeting the The project at 194th and Stark a Salvation Army Gresham immediate needs of a growing Street is phase one of a three-phase Corps Community Center to community, both spiritually and serve the needs of East County physically.

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development that includes a church, youth center and administration offices. The second phase is the social-services offices and warehouse, and phase three is the gymnasium.

The Salvation Army has committed donations to complete the initial construction, but subsequent phases are on hold until fundraising is complete.

"We know that the community is behind us in spirit, so we are just hoping they will also get behind us financially," says Bill Hathorn, lo-

cal Salvation Army pastor. The Salvation Army provides assistance programs that include food boxes and clothing for all ages, along with prescriptions and other material assistance for seniors. The Worship Center offers youth activities, outreach and spiritual programs for all ages.

Volunteers are greatly needed year-round in all areas of these programs including clerical assistance, maintenance and mentoring.

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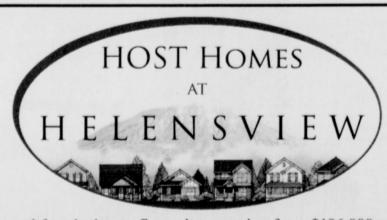
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