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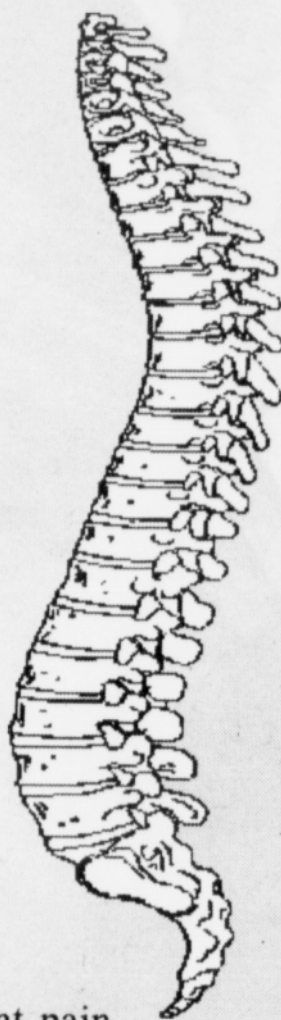
PHOTO BY JAKE THOMAS/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Parole officers Ron Kates and Lisa Lewis roll through Old Town on two-wheels on their way to check up on clients.

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1ST ANNUAL MEN'S SPIRITUALITY, HEALTH & WELLNESS CONFERENCE



"THEME: DARE TO BE A MAN"
 1ST Corinthians 3:11-15

Friday, June 11th - 5:30 - Registration
 Workshop Sessions - 6:00 - 9:00 PM
 Light dinner served

Saturday, June 12th - 7:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Registration: Continental Breakfast, Praise & Worship
HEALTH & WELLNESS & INFORMATION SEMINARS ON:
 Colon & prostate cancers, diabetes awareness, blood pressure screenings, importance of exercise, "Free Farmers Market", plus "brother to brother" question & answer session
 Free haircuts for young men, Prizes, Hearty Lunch!
 Registration \$25.00 includes all meals and conference materials. Young men 13-21 - \$10.00

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MEN'S ANNUAL DAY

SUNDAY, JUNE 13th

3:00 PM
 Guest Speaker

Rev. Robert E. Houston, Sr.

Pastor, 1st Bapt. Church, Frankfort, Kentucky

Music by: Men of Hope, Antioch Distinguished Gentlemen's Choir, "The Legendary Beyonds", Vancouver Ave BC Men's Choir, R&R Dance Troupe, Minister Jerry Thomas & More:
 Questions? 503-351-9807

Parole on Wheels

continued ▲ from front

ment of Community Justice launched the bicycle pilot project with the aim of making it easier to make contact with clients, many of which are homeless and difficult to contact.

"Being on a bike, you see so much more," said Lewis.

Wearing black shirts with "Parole Officer" emblazoned on the back and tan cargo pants, Lewis and Kates mount two mountain bikes and head out to several transitional housing buildings run by Central City Concern.

While riding through downtown the officers draw bewildered looks from passersby. One man yelps "whoop, whoop" in imitation of a police siren.

After arriving at the Shoreline, a transitional housing facility, officers ditch their bikes in the lobby and climb the stairs to knock on doors of clients, a routine they'll do at two

more facilities.

"I didn't do it," exclaims a man in the hallway jokingly, a claim Lewis said parole officers quickly get used to hearing.

After asking a couple clients how they're doing, how the job search is going, and doing a quick search for contraband, it's off to the waterfront to check on some harder-to-reach clients.

Kates works mainly with sex offenders out on parole, many of which are homeless and hard to find. He's looking for a client in white van that he usually parks by the river that he thinks he's spotted from the west side of the Willamette. The officers cross the Morrison Bridge and delve into the warehouses that line the Eastside of the Willamette River.

After a quick search, the officers find their man. He's in his early 60s and wearing a plaid shirt, seated in a white van with the

door open. Kates inspects a crumpled paper bag full of medication, while chatting with him. The rapport he's developed with Kates is evident from the loud bursts of laughter that pepper their conversation.

Kates said that he used to spend hours walking all over downtown and the river front and downtown to contact clients, and now gets the same amount of work done on bike.

"You are just more aware of everything," said Kates who on the ride spotted a particularly dangerous sex offender downtown, and makes contact with him.

On the way back to the office for the paperwork that will consume the rest of the day several passersby stop to banter or ask for directions, an aspect Lewis is fond of.

"I really like the community building aspect," she said. "You're more approachable on a bike."

Making a Difference

continued ▲ from front

on the issues, and contacted some local organizations inviting them to make a pitch for \$5,000 of grant money that they had available from the Oregon Community Foundation, which was donated by Northwest Natural.

After several applications were reviewed, they settled on supporting Friends of the Children, the Portland Women's Crisis Line, and Raphael House. Allen said that the class settled on relatively

smaller organizations because they are often a bit more nimble and better plugged into their issues.

Roosevelt instructor Barb Hansen said that students learned to better empathize with people in tough positions. She also said that they benefited from learning about the grant process, and were introduced to a pressing social issue.

"A lot of students didn't realize it was happening," said Hansen.

Jnessa Datema, program coordinator for the Oregon Commu-

nity Foundation, which backs Community 101 programs in 57 Oregon schools, says participating students often develop a long-term connection to a pressing social issue, and also benefit from working with others to award the grant.

"The consensus building process is huge," she said.

But students like Allen have a more basic concern.

"I'm just hoping that the organizations are going to get out and do their mission," she said.