

Hospital siting recommendations expected Feb. 28

Feb. 28 is the date that Governor Ted Kulongoski is scheduled to deliver the state’s preliminary state hospital siting recommendations to Oregon legislators.

The two recommend sites – one for a new state hospital in the northern Willamette Valley, and one for a new state hospital in Western Oregon south of Linn County – will come from the list of 16 potential sites the Oregon Department of Administrative Services received last fall.

DAS and DHS are currently reviewing the sites using the selection criteria adopted by an interim legislative committee in the summer of 2006.

KMD Architects, the consulting firm with which the state contracted, recommended Oregon replace its aging state hospital with a 620-bed facility in the Salem or Portland area, a 360-bed facility in Western Oregon south of Linn County and two 16-bed facilities in Eastern Oregon.

The Governor’s recommended budget for 2007-09 includes money to begin purchasing and preparing land, engaging architects and doing other pre-construction work.

After reviewing state-owned parcels and inviting sites from property brokers and developers, DAS assembled 16 potential sites including the existing state hospital site in Salem and three other state-owned properties. The other sites are privately owned.

Representatives of DAS and DHS are ranking the sites based on technical, program, patient, employee, community and other site-selection criteria.

Among the technical criteria on which sites are being ranked are size, cost, zoning, utilities, topography and proximity to major transportation.

Among the program criteria are availability of professional staff, retention of current staff, access to other medical facilities, availability of community treatment facilities, proximity of public services (e.g., fire, police, library), public transit and local support.

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Diversity Spotlight

By Rebecca A. Sweetland

By age 18, **John Gentry** had lost his hearing in one ear due to mumps, lived through the '67 Detroit race riots, and watched and met great performers such as Smokey Robinson, Diana Ross, Marvin Gaye and Tony Bennett. He also witnessed the various responses to the Vietnam War, and he saw friends and neighbors die of gunshot wounds or fatally overdosing on drugs. John, an OSH security staff member, spent his first 18 years growing up in Detroit.

Once as a teenager, John, with his uncle and one of his three younger brothers, went to visit his dad at work, a local steel foundry. John did not recognize his father who was covered with black steel dust and wearing a flimsy mask. John and his brother decided then and there that a job like that was not right for them. Later, after his father had worked there for 30 years, the steel foundry went bankrupt, leaving him with no job, no pension and poor health.

As a youngster, John consciously made the choice to survive. Playing sports was his ticket to a better life. With minimal education, John's parents raised their nine children (four boys and five girls) in Detroit's poor black ghetto. Against all odds,

all nine survived to adulthood, most attended college, and all are successful and healthy. Both John and his wife, Mary, worked for the Oregon Department of Corrections for several years. He and Mary, currently a program administrator for the state, have five adult daughters and 14 grandchildren, all of whom live in Oregon. Pride radiates from John as he talks about his wife and daughters (one of whom works for OSH, Melissa Poteet), whom he describes as the love of his life.

After graduating from the premier junior college in California, John moved to Klamath Falls where he attended Oregon Tech on a football scholarship. He married Mary, a Hungarian/Cherokee native Oregonian. Due to their bi-racial marriage (John is African-American), they experienced difficulty in renting homes. John did receive wonderful football opportunities, with chances to try out with three great teams, eventually playing with the Dallas Cowboys. His football career ended when John broke his neck playing football. He considers himself fortunate that after only nine months of recuperation he was up and about again, officiating basketball and football games and watching his daughters excel in sports of all types. Sports are still a big

part of his life. In 1996 he did a veterans' camp for the Portland Trailblazers. Currently, John is in training for the 50+ Olympics this year; his goal is to win four gold medals in track and field.

John says, "I think the world is making progress with respect to breaking down racism, but it's taking a while and this country still has far to go. For example, it doesn't make sense to simultaneously tell someone of color to 'get past' or 'work through' their feelings or the hurt they may have experienced in the past, and then to broadcast inflammatory programs like *Rosewood* or *Amistad*. That gets a lot of people riled up all over again. Really, it starts one-on-one, when the individual decides to dig a little deeper into him or herself and to think about how to live a more honorable, open-minded life."

John thinks it is sad that a tragedy such as 9/11 has to happen to bring people together, but it also brings out the good in people. He is glad that his generation seems to better understand that people need to embrace each other for who they are.

John made the choice do better. He did that and then some, in all the ways that really matter.

Opportunities to Celebrate Black History Month

By *Clemintene Benjamin*

February is Black History Month. Members of the Valuing Diversity Committee (VDC) have been hard at work organizing a variety of events for staff and patients at OSH, which will take place over the next month.

◆ **Essay Contest** – Any staff or patient from Portland or Salem campus is welcome to submit a one-page essay about a famous black person. Entries need to be submitted to Rebecca Sweetland in Building 29 by Feb. 16, via GroupWise or hard copy. The VDC will judge the essays on Feb. 21.

◆ **Number of Influential Leaders Contest** – Which ward can name the most influential African-American leaders? All entries need to be submitted to Rebecca by Feb. 16. A committee will judge the entries on Feb. 21.

◆ **Ward Display Contest** – Portland and Salem campus wards are encouraged to get creative and create a ward display honoring black history. Displays should be finished by Feb. 23 and will be judged by a traveling committee on Feb. 26.

◆ **Ward Collage** – Each ward is encouraged to participate in creating a collage on poster board to celebrate Black History Month. Entries should be completed and taken to the Sip n' Safari in Building 35 before Feb. 28

◆ **Daily Trivia Announcements** – Linda Marshall will be sending out daily GroupWise messages hospital-wide regarding African-American culture, history, people and events.

◆ **Lift Every Voice, Celebrate Black History Event** – On Feb. 28 at 12:30 p.m. in the Sip n' Safari, there will be a poetry reading and entertainment by OSH staff, patients and musicians. Johnny Lake, Ph.D., instructor and student at the University of Oregon, will be the guest speaker. The ward collages will also be displayed and winners of the above contests will be announced. All are welcome.

December Milestones

20 Years of Service

Juel Dulany, Rehab Services

Sarah Franck, 41C

Kaarin Wood, 50I

10 Years of Service

Crystal Esqueda, 50E

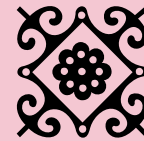
5 Years of Service

Doug Arensmeier, 50G

Terre Banks, 35A

Marion Hopper, 35A

Marta Sigmund, 48B



Looking ahead:

March is Women's History Month and Irish American Month.

Staff and patients are welcome to attend the next VDC meeting to help with planning activities. The next meeting will be held Feb. 21 at 1:30 p.m. in the Brooks Conference Room.

Please contact Rebecca Sweetland at (503) 932-8835 for more information.

AS400 Update

By Chris Betts

The AS400 Migration Team began the new year at a fast pace. There is a lot happening now, and there will be much to come over the next few months.

We've begun archiving important data and deleting unnecessary data from the AS400. As with so many other activities on this project, it would not be possible without the input and response we get from you, the staff, to our requests for information. Thank you. This is a major task and will take most of our time over the coming weeks.

The new hospital visitors list application has been enhanced

to include a more user-friendly look and feel. It now has function buttons and better search capabilities to improve efficiency and data security.

Overtime calendars have been moved to GroupWise. This is a major paradigm shift and is now in effect hospital-wide. The old AS400 OT Calendars (up to three years old) will be archived. The trainings offered so far have been well attended by staff, and more will be made available as needed.

The Office of Information Services system application developers are now prototyping the database solutions OSH staff

asked for in our meetings this past fall. Watch for opportunities to learn about and begin using them in the next few months.

The food tray tickets in the food service department are now printing from the mainframe over the Novell network rather than through the AS400. Similar efforts are now under way to duplicate this configuration for the pharmacy and laboratory.

Our project's end is now on the horizon. We no longer think the light we see at the end of the tunnel is a train headed in our direction!

Be a Hero

By Jessica Loewen Preis

The Oregon Food Bank distributes emergency food to thousands of families and each year it relies on the Governor's State Employees' Food Drive for a huge portion of that food.

Last year OSH employees collected 75,217.8 pounds of food, or the equivalent of \$12,536.30. "**Be a Hero**" is the theme of this year's Governor's food drive which started Feb. 1 and will go through Feb. 28.

It is estimated that 194,000 people in Oregon and Clark County, Wash., ate meals from an emergency food box last year. Of the households receiving emergency food, 49 percent had children. Many adult recipients have jobs, but just don't make enough to cover the bills. The need for food is great.

"HERO" continued on page 5

Welcome, New Staff

By Vern Eggiman

Barb Pfaltzgraff and I are pleased to announce the selection of two new staff members for the Community Reintegration Program (CRP). They will be assigned to the Supported Employment and Education Team, specifically working as Employment Specialists.

Brenda Laughrey has been working as a Mental Health Specialist on 48C since April 2005. Prior to coming to OSH she held positions as a counselor, teacher/faculty member, business owner and psychosocial rehabilitation supervisor.

Brenda received her bachelor's in psychology from Lewis-Clark State College in Idaho, and her M.Ed. in counseling and human services from University of Idaho. Brenda is credentialed both as a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor and as a Licensed Professional Counselor. She is pursuing her LPC and CADC III for the State of Oregon.

Carole Gannon has worked as an Occupational Therapist (OT) at OSH for five years, most recently on 41A. Prior to coming to OSH Carole worked as a staff OT, rehabilitation services manager, OT clinical director, senior rehabilitation case manager and business owner/CEO.

Carole received her bachelor's in occupational therapy from College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, Minn. She currently is credentialed through the National Board of Certified Occupational Therapists.

Both Brenda and Carole transitioned to their new positions during the latter part of January.

I am also pleased to announce the selection of **Linda Raney** as the new CRP Executive Support Specialist on Jan. 8. Most recently Linda worked as a volunteer at OSH with the psychology department. Prior experience includes working in residential care facilities as a cook, caregiver, director of food service, and administrator.

In her new position, Linda will provide administrative support for CRP and will additionally provide the psychology department with support for psychological testing.

"HERO" cont. from page 4...

You can help by donating money, participating in payroll deduction, participating in the monthly sustainer club, bringing non-perishable food or participating in one of the many fundraisers going on this month.

A complete calendar of events will be sent hospital-wide via GroupWise throughout the month of February. The 23 staff members from various OSH departments who have graciously volunteered to be area coordinators this year began working in mid-January to plan fundraising events and get donation forms ready for you.

The deadline for your donations to count toward the OSH total is Thursday, March 1, but any contribution you can make at any time to the Food Bank is always much appreciated.

For additional information, or to find out who the area coordinator is in your work area, please contact Jessica Loewen Preis at (503) 945-2892.

OSH Diversity Meal

By Heike Tash

On Monday, Feb. 26, OSH Food Services will be serving a special meal to patients in honor of Black History Month. It will include crispy chicken, Hoppin John (black-eyed peas and rice with bacon, onions and seasonings), collards and ham, cornbread, Soul Salad (sliced tomatoes, olive oil dressing and sliced green onions) and sweet potato pie.

For more information, please contact Food and Nutrition Services at (503) 945-2915.

EDD Schedule

Following is a list of classes being offered at the OSH Education and Development Department (EDD) during the remainder of February. Classes are located at EDD unless otherwise noted. For more information about these classes, call 503-945-2875.

General Orientation

Feb. 5 – 9 & 12 - 16,
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Ed Day

Feb. 6 or 27, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Motivational Interviewing

Feb. 6 or 13, 8a.m. – 12 p.m.

Medication Aide

Feb. 6 & 7, 13 & 14, 20 & 21
or 27 & 28, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Road Craft Driver Training

Feb. 7, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

CADC HIV Training

Feb. 8, 3 – 7p.m.

Strength-Based Practice

Feb. 9 or 16, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Pro-ACT Refresher Training

Feb. 13, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., &
Feb. 14, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

CMA Pharmacology Class

Feb. 15, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Pro-ACT Refresher Training

Feb. 15, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., & Feb.
16, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Pro-ACT Refresher Training

Feb. 20, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., & Feb.
21, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

DSM-IV Training

Feb. 21 or 28, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Pro-ACT Refresher Training

Feb. 22, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. & Feb.
23, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Healthy Emotions I

Feb. 22, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Stages of Change

Feb. 23, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

General Orientation

Feb. 26 - 28, March 1-2, &
March 5 –9, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

February Calendar

1st — Governor’s State Employees Food Drive Begins

Contact Jessica Loewen Preis:
(503) 945-2892

8th or 12th — 12:10 p.m. Brown Bag Lunch and Movie for Staff - “Mighty Times: The Legacy of Rosa Parks”

Ed. Development Dept. (EDD)
Contact Carol Snyder:
(503) 945-2880

12th — 10:00 a.m. OSH Foundation Meeting

Callan Room
Contact Jessica Loewen Preis:
(503) 945-2892

16th — 8:15 a.m. Wellness Committee

Callan Room
Contact Sue Wimmer:
(503) 945-2886

19th — Presidents’ Day

21st — 1:30 p.m. Valuing Diversity Committee

Brooks Room
Contact Rebecca A. Sweetland:
(503) 945-2806

28th — 2:30 p.m. General Staff Meeting

30 Building Gym
Contact Pam Dickinson:
(503) 945-2852

28th — 12:30 p.m. Lift Every Voice - Celebrate Black History

Sip n’ Safari, 35 Building
Contact Clemintene Benjamin:
(503) 945-9477