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NEWS

Lynch to begin new building next month

BY BILL LIVICK, OREGON OBSERVER EDITOR

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Work on a new home for the Stoughton Hospital Rehabilitation Clinic in Oregon should begin in late June, according to developer Paul Lynch, president of PLH & Associates LLC.

Lynch, who received the Chamber of Commerce 2006 Civic Improvement Award for constructing a building at 954 Janesville Street on the village's south side that houses Pizza Hut and State Farm Insurance, is about to begin construction on the green shell that used to be Melton Motors, next to his Pizza Hut mall. Last month a construction crew "knocked down the gas station on the lot and started some ground work" there, Lynch said.

He returned to the Village Planning Commission earlier this month and won approval for a revised facade and a larger building to house the rehabilitation clinic.

"Now that we have the approvals, the final set of plans are being drawn up and then they have to go off to the state for approval," Lynch said. "In the meantime, we're going to be getting our financing together, and you'll probably see us going to work sometime in late June."

Lynch said he's put his own "dime and nickel" into the \$1.2 million project so far.

Lynch plans to construct a 9,217-square-foot, two-story building in place of the old Melton Motors. The first floor will provide about 4,417 square feet for the rehabilitation clinic, which will move from its present location at 110 Main Street in downtown Oregon. The second story will be about 4,800 square feet.

Lynch said the new building will look similar to the Pizza Hut mall. "It's going to keep that same look and feel," he said. "Everything has been approved by the village, and I think it'll be a real nice addition to that part of town. It's going to be a real good looking building."

Lynch said he is still seeking a tenant for the building's second floor. He also has 1,166 square feet of space for rent next door in the mall, along with 350 square feet of outdoor seating and a drive through service.

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