



# NHHS...in the news...

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Wednesday, June 3, 2015

Volume 112, Number 18 | 2 Sections, 24 Pages **75¢**

## Hospital releases design of new clinic

**BY MICHELLE NEDVED**  
OF THE MINER

NEWPORT – Designs are finalized for a the new clinic at Newport Hospital and Health Service. Ground-breaking is expected this fall, and construction will be complete within a year.

The facility is designed with the patient in mind. The waiting room will include a fireplace and televisions, a coffee stand and area for children. Lots of natural light will come in through a bank of windows.

The clinic will be built on the northeast corner of Spruce and Cass, behind the current hospital and clinic. The facility includes 32 exam rooms and two treatment rooms, and the center of the building consolidates provider work

stations, business offices and the triage nurse and care coordinator.

The clinic will also include a tele-health exam room for the delivery of services via telecommunication technologies such as the Internet.

Aside from health care, the clinic includes a classroom for the public that will be accessible even when the clinic itself is closed.

A behavior health room will be used by Pend Oreille County Counseling Services for mental health services.

The hospital district is building the \$5.5 million clinic with a combination of reserve funds and a bank loan. It will consolidate the two clinics now in service – one attached to Newport Hospital on Pine Street, and

SEE CLINIC, 12A



A stone façade, exposed beams and a neutral color

THE NEWPORT MINER

### CLINIC: Capacity for 12 providers

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the other located on the corner of First and Scott.

The new clinic will have the capacity for 12 doctors. The district now employs 10 health care providers, including six medical doctors, a surgeon and three physicians assistants.

The two clinics the district now utilizes total about 15,000 square feet, but that space isn't well used, CEO Tom Wilbur said. The new clinic will total 17,000 square feet, and versatility is a priority.

"We're trying to make this as flexible a building as possible," said Christina Wagar, director of primary care and ancillary services.

Most all storage will be movable, offices will be comprised of movable cubicles and shelving and finishes will be low main-

tenance.

Aside from function, the building is designed to be visually pleasing.

The exterior is comprised of a stone façade, exposed timber and a neutral color palate.

The planning committee used the Priest River Event Center as inspiration and visited Clearwater Hospital in Orofino, a floor plan they liked.

The facility is designed by NAC Architecture of Spokane. Bids from builders will be due in July.

*The Newport Miner*  
June 3, 2015

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