

# Sessions to make communities self-reliant

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Of the Emerald

The first of four sessions of a series designed to make community groups and local neighborhoods self-reliant will be held Thursday in the Francis Willard

Community School gymnasium. The session, which starts at 7:30 p.m., will focus on alternative strategies for economic development and consequences for the different communities.

The sessions, according to Bob Groth of the Community De-

velopment Library, the main sponsor of the sessions, are an attempt to reach the citizens of Eugene by opening specific issues to the community.

"The main objective of the session is to create dialogue in the community," Groth explains. "It's

something that they can become interested in and get them thinking about issues as a community."

One issue to be discussed is the alternative strategies now on Eugene's agenda: who pays for development and what the benefits are.

It is more apparent now that locally based neighborhoods and community enterprises are more advantageous than employment provided by bureaucracies and large corporations that move into Eugene, Groth says. The locally based enterprises may provide more opportunities for employment.

"More importantly, the development of these enterprises is a type of growth control," explains Groth. "They would be utilizing sources already available, which is a more appropriate way, economically, to create jobs.

"Also important, neighborhoods would be working towards self-reliance, and not as much dependency on large corporations. It would also improve the quality of life, because certain products could be more accessible to the community it served, he says.

One example of this development, Groth says, is the Whiteaker neighborhood that received a Community Block Grant from the federal government. The money went directly into developing neighborhood-owned enterprises specifically to build a community greenhouse. Those people would provide much of their own produce and become

more self-reliant, he says.

Another example of self-reliance development is Garbagios, a Eugene recycling cooperative designed to benefit the community by picking up the garbage rather than have a larger corporation do the job. Groth says this is "more environmentally enhancing. It's not as hard to get in touch with a local enterprise, and therefore there is much more accessibility to people they are serving in the community."

A comparative assessment of proposals for a Port District will also be discussed. This calls for an enlargement of the Eugene airport, ultimately making Eugene more easily accessible, because it would be able to land bigger planes and bring in more people.

Groth points out that "it would be more inviting for businessmen, by enabling them to fly from Denver to Eugene without changing planes in San Francisco."

Another topic that will be discussed is the possibility of putting together Community Development Corporations (CDC), where people in the community join together and form their own corporation.

CDC will be discussed in more detail at the second session on Feb. 23, along with Appropriate Technology. Economic Development, Growth and Housing will follow in the third session, March 9, and Communication and Effective Organization will be discussed April 6.

## IFC turns down program funds

The Incidental Fee Committee (IFC) vetoed requested funds for two ASUO programs and assigned tag persons to investigate funding for two new programs Wednesday night.

IFC members voted 4-3, with Scott Bassett, Janet Eggleston, Ted Walker and Mary Gilmore dissenting, not to allocate \$30 to the ASUO Course Guide for an advertisement in the faculty publication, Oregon Week. The ad was to thank faculty members for their help with course descriptions, with the intent of spurring those members to participate again.

The Committee voted unanimously not to reconsider a motion to fund travel expenses to an American Institute of Architects (AIS) convention attended by architecture students.

Phi Beta Lambda, a business, computer sci-

ence, economics, advertising and public relations student group asked for funds to cover some basic office expenditures and an informational brochure. Doug Benson was assigned as tag person to study the request and to report to the Committee next Wednesday.

Another new group, University Veterans, asked for \$174 to send letters to veterans. Ted Walker was assigned tagperson and will report to the Committee next week.

In other business, the Committee voted 4-3 to transfer \$25.20 from the EMU Board's wage and salary line item fund to the advertising and publicity fund to pay for an advertisement for a needed new member. Jeff Warren, Eggleston and Bassett voted against the measure.

## Matchmaker

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Henderson tries to clear out the hard-to-sell inventory first.

"See this sourpuss," she says showing a picture of a pineapple-faced old woman. "A man came in here and I slapped this picture down in front of him and said 'You're going to marry her'"

The man did not buy this at first. But after the first date, things started looking better.

"Here they are now," says Henderson, showing a picture of the couple smiling big goopy grins. "Happily married!" Gin.

She recalls the case of the woman who had arthritis up to her neck.

"She waddled like this," says Henderson, holding out her arms and looking a little like Frankenstein. "I spent months looking for her match."

Finally she matched her with a man who had been severely burnt in a gas explosion. The two hit it off, and now live in a nice home.

Some customers are harder to please than others. Henderson now has a Seventh Day Adventist in stock who refuses to marry a man who smokes or drinks, and would prefer one who regularly attends church. Henderson is still working on this case.

Professional men with high salaries are big sellers, but her inventory of these is running low.

"I believe in God," says Henderson, as if naming her favorite brand of detergent. She readily praises the Christian virtues of marriage, and is married to a man of 74.

"Everyone should be married," she says.

"People don't realize how bad it can be when you're alone."

Her clients agree.

"Dear Grace" reads a letter from a prospective customer. "I honestly believe my life will not be complete unless I am fulfilled as a wife and a mother. I can't think of anything more rewarding than making a man happy... With the grace of God, I hope your service will be the answer to my prayer."

"We wouldn't have divorces if everyone thought this way," says Henderson, expressing her chicken soup dialectic.

Henderson has had other satisfied customers. There was the man whose first wife burst a blood vessel while going out for a head of cabbage. "He came in and cried, I didn't know what to do with him," she declares. Eventually she sold him a replacement. When the replacement died, he came back again and recently

married his third Henderson-wife. A regular customer.

One Eugene couple, married for two years, met after months of browsing through Henderson's stock. "I had no chance to meet anyone through my work," says the husband who went through eight Henderson-persons before meeting his present wife. "It's hard to find someone interested in the same things you are, with the same life style and background."

His wife window-shopped for six months before making her decision. "Before the service I had met some people through church, but they didn't interest me," she says.

Both are interested in good music, restaurants, opera, outdoors and dancing. A marriage made in heaven via hobby cards they filled out. "Some people come in here and spill their guts," says Henderson of the cards.

Henderson says some clients have not been happy with their results. One woman married a man, divorced him and is now running a business with his money. "I wouldn't mention that one," says Henderson. But in the end, she says, most are happy with the ser-

vice. She once sent a potential wife several thousand miles to meet a man. The man responded with a card reading, "Dear Grace, get her out of here." Henderson refused to take her back, and the two are now happily married.

Henderson refuses to talk about the profit return on her matchmaking business. "My husband would hit the ceiling if I mentioned it," she says.

Some misunderstand Henderson's business. Once she received an order for three women, one night, \$300. The Register Guard refuses to let her advertise.

Even satisfied customers are reluctant to tell their parents they met through a paid matchmaker. It ruins the romantic elan. Says one couple, "we figure it's no one's business but our own."

Henderson says her business has suffered as a result. She is always fishing for new clients. "I have so many eligible young men in their twenties," she says. "I wish some of those young University girls would join up."

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