

Local involvement urged

# Canal could reduce low-cost housing

By CAROLYN RAMSAY  
Of the Emerald

Eugene's newest city councilor is worried that low-cost housing in the University area would be reduced if the proposed Emerald Canal waterway is constructed.

So councilor Cynthia Wooten wants to draft "a serious set of recommendations to deal with replacing low-cost housing," if

the canal is built.

Wooten, who is full-time assistant to Rep. Jim Weaver, D-Ore., replaced Scott Lieuallen as Ward 7 councilor in January.

The Emerald Canal project — which Wooten supports — would create construction jobs and stimulate tourism once completed, she says.

However, Wooten says she most appreciates the canal project for its aesthetic value. She envisions an attractive waterway flowing through the city, lined with cafes and accentuating the beauty of Eugene's summer.

The proposed canal would connect the Willamette River to the Amazon Canal via the Millrace, flowing through downtown and the West University area.

But the effects of the canal's construction on these areas is Wooten's major concern.

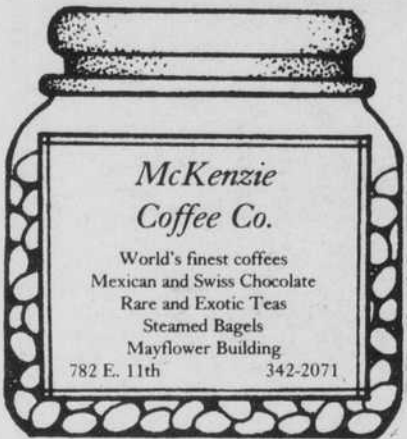
"Some kind of program is needed to prevent devastation of neighborhoods with unique characteristics that people treasure," Wooten cautions.

Wooten says she is wary of windfall speculators who could buy up low-cost housing before the canal is built and later replace it with expensive condominiums and other high-cost housing.

Such housing could keep students and senior citizens from living in the neighborhoods, she explains.

Wooten has heard little on the canal proposal from the people who live in low-cost housing. They may have mixed feelings, she says, and want to see what program is developed before deciding.

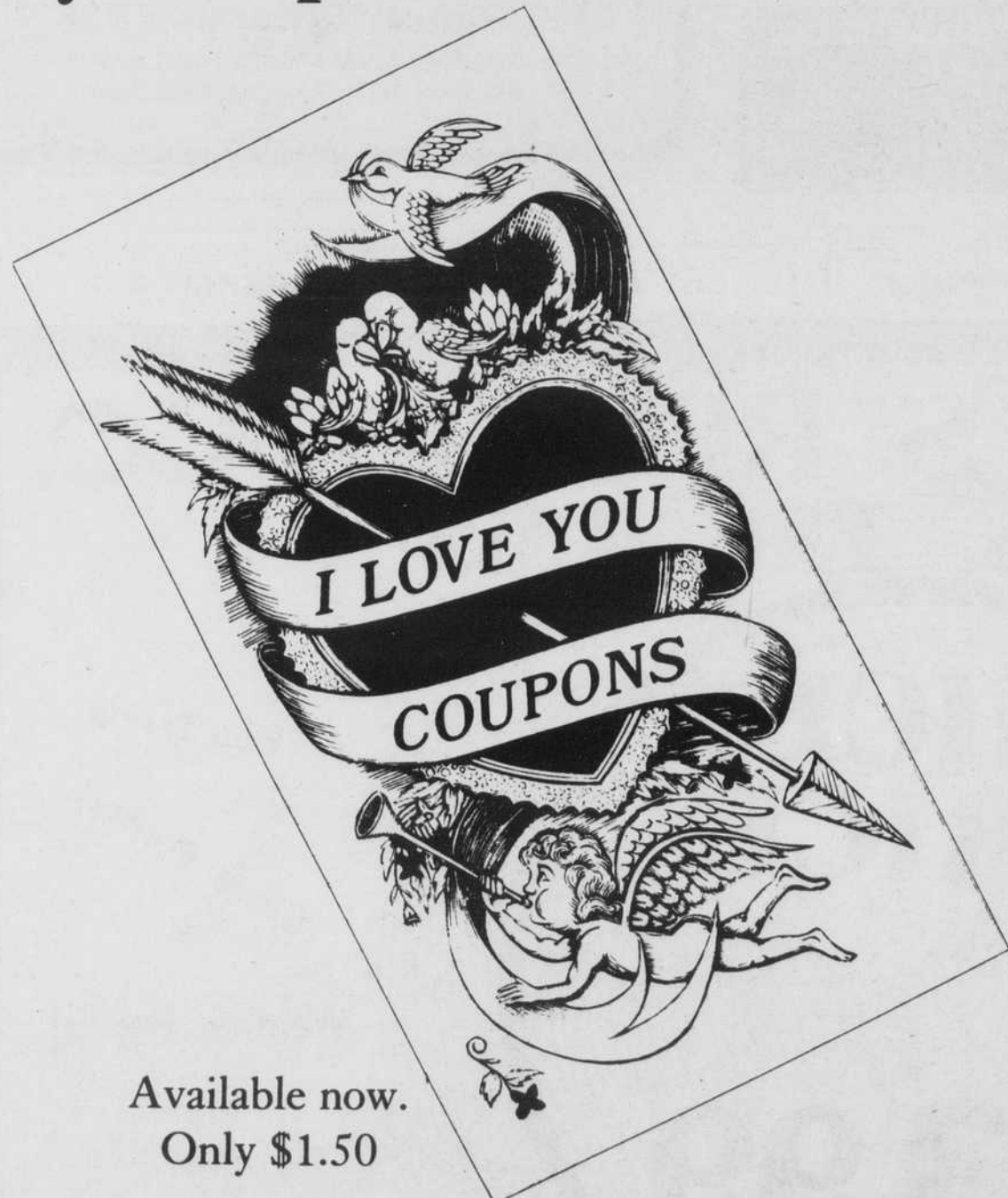
Wooten adds that University students should respond to issues that affect their community.



Cynthia Wooten

Photo by Steve Dykes

## The perfect gift for your special Valentine.



Available now.  
Only \$1.50

Don't forget to check out our special Valentine book table.

**UO BOOKSTORE**

13th & Kincaid  
Mon-Fri 8:15-5:30  
Sat 10:00-2:00

Only in The Book Department  
at the UO Bookstore


Textbooks 686-3520 • General Books 686-3510 • Supplies 686-4331

 Do you have trouble finding clothes that "REALLY FIT"?  
I can help with custom fitting, altering and sewing.  
Melissa  
683-2303  
after 5:30

Eugene residents will have to help the city council decide how to pay for the canal if it is constructed. Wooten says some money will come from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, but the city can't rely on the corps to cover a substantial part of the cost.

Wooten says a bond-levy election probably would be held and a program matching private and public funds also would be developed.

Take Your Valentine to the  
**HAPPIEST SHOW OF THE YEAR!**



**PRESERVATION HALL JAZZ BAND**

Friday, February 13 8 PM  
South Eugene High Auditorium

\$12 Reserved \$9 General Admission  
\$6 Child (6-16) General Admission

Tickets on sale at EUMA office, 115 W. 7th Avenue  
For more information call 484-7242

Sponsored by the  
Eugene & University Music Association