

J.T. Brouillette Public Safety Training Center nears completion, set to open in May

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Staff Writer

The James T. Brouillette Public Safety Training Center (PSTC), now under construction near the Clackamas Town Center, is nearing completion.

The \$5 million training center is the result of a proposal by former police officer James T. Brouillette, who after retiring from police duties became an instructor and director of the criminal justice program at Clackamas Community College. Brouillette retired as director in 1996 and died last winter, just as construction was about to begin on the center.

Construction is following deadlines so far and the center is due to open for business in May of 1998.

Brouillette originally proposed a shooting range to teach law enforcement students proper gun handling techniques; he suggested that be combined with a public shooting range to foster cooperation and understanding between law enforcement officers and the communities they are sworn to serve and protect.

The idea has evolved into a state-of-the-art training facility paid using privately-raised funds. The facility is a for profit enterprise managed by CCC administrators.

"We are a beta test for other community college programs across the country and we are being closely watched for the results of the program," said Rick Stone, Director of the Public Safety Training Center.

The PSTC will bring together law enforcement training and pub-

lic education in firearm safety. The facility incorporates the latest in shooting range technology.

The building features three classrooms seating a total of 100 for both law enforcement training programs and for rent to the public.

Community education includes handgun safety training, hunter safety, juvenile air gun safety, scouting merit badge certification and corporate seminars and product demonstrations. It also includes security officer in-service firearms certification.

"The State of Oregon now mandates that private security personnel that carry firearms be certified," said Stone. "There are 3000 security guards in the state and growing."

A 20-lane indoor range uses three range target systems. 10 lanes have targets that are retrieved by moving towards the shooter. Eight lanes have flip targets. The flip target spins sideways to the shooters so that they can't see the target until it flips back the other way.

The lanes also have special lighting to dramatize different shooting situations. These lanes are designed for special law enforcement training.

The range will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with a range master and staff so that law enforcement officers can use the range during all shifts.

Two more special lanes use computer-generated graphics that present judgment scenarios for both law enforcement training and hunter education.

The law enforcement student is given a shoot/no shoot scenario that requires him or her to judge a situation quickly before firing.

The hunter safety program "gives the hunting student a scenario such as a deer coming out of cover up ahead," said Jim Wiseman, program manager for the Regional Law Enforcement



ROBERT SCHOENBERG / Clackamas Print

Construction continues on the James T. Brouillette Public Safety Training Center which is scheduled to be finished in May of 1998.

Training Group. "The student then brings up a special gun that is connected to our computers."

"In the simulation, say, another hunter then steps in the line of sight of the hunter and the deer. The computer will note and analyze the student's reaction to the situation. We can change the situation at any time, so that the simulated hunter or another animal steps out from the left or the right. This is a major technological step in hunter safety."

The PSTC facility also is utilizing the latest in range environment safety. Using special roof baffles and a three stage filter system, along with special firing range ammunition, to eliminate

lead dust and gunpowder from the air.

The range area, the classrooms, the retail shooting accessories sales area and all the offices and walkways are designed using overhead skylights, lots of windows and extra lighting to be light, bright and safe, said Stone. The open areas will be carpeted and accent trimmed with oak and brass.

The 22,000-square foot facility is meant to be user friendly bringing together law enforcement, the community college and the public to promote firearm safety.

The PSTC is located at 12700 S.E. 82nd Avenue, Clackamas, Oregon. There is also a web site for more information at www.cccpstc.org.

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Jim
Wiseman
Program
Manager

ELC: Stop the rain

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It is apparent that the run-off is going directly into the creek causing the water to cloud.

Bales of hay have been arranged to stop the run-off from reaching the headwaters of Newell Creek. The bales are a temporary solution but can only stop a limited amount of run-off.

"I think the contractor isn't paying enough attention to the sediment getting into Newell Creek," said Chuck Scott, associate dean of instruction for science.

Part of the college's values are to protect the environment and to operate the college in a way that is respectful to the environment. The construction sludge mixed with rain are two factors causing Clackamas to fail at upholding these values.

In Washington County, fines are given by an enforcement team that looks for hazardous environmental activity. If say, Clackamas were in Washington County, the college and eventually the contractors could be fined.

"The sediment that lays in streams is a huge problem in watersheds," said LeCavalier. "Animals need oxygen.

It's hard on them because most use a gill system. The dirt acts like sandpaper on their gills. At what point are we going to get active about our goal?"

When the sediment is settled into the creek the eggs that are in the stream get covered up with a fine sediment and the offspring never get out.

The solution to this problem is to immediately take action and clean up the areas that are causing problems for the creek. This environmental problem effects more than the headwaters of Newell Creek. Each and every spot down stream from the creek has to change and adapt to the polluted water.

The pond at the ELC acts as a detention facility for Clackamas. This prevents the rain that falls from flooding the college. The water detention facility is getting dirtier as each drop of run-off finds its way into the water. Although the flow of runoff into the facility is saving the college money because it is detaining flooding, the price that the environment is paying is life-threatening. We have to make the choice to either save a buck or save the ecosystem of hundreds of animals.

"You can't enforce this kind of stuff. It's got to be 'do the right thing' from your heart," said LeCavalier.

Graduation: Unlimited guests

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The second ceremony was for GED and AHSD graduates who have not taken a class or registered for a pretest. This ceremony has had a good turnout in the past.

In an effort to eliminate the confusion and increase the level of participation for all events, the presidents council has approved that this year there will still be two ceremonies but one will be for two year and one year certificates and degrees, and the other will be for GED and AHSD graduates.

"When we first went out with this proposal to the areas that would be affected we weren't sure how they would respond to it, but they were very positive and excited about it," said Graduation Coordinator Becky Carnahan.

The GED/AHSD graduates' ceremony will be held Thursday June 11 at 7 p.m. in the Randall Gym. Using the same sets, flowers and other decorations, the Certificates and Degrees ceremony will take place Friday June 12 at 7 p.m. in the Randall Gym. The reception location for both events will be announced at a later date, but will be on campus.

GED/AHSD graduates will also be wearing caps and gowns this year, which is new.

The cost will be \$10, for gown rental and cap and tassel (to keep) for graduates attending either

ceremony.

Further information will be mailed to all eligible graduates who fill out a petition for graduation. GED/AHSD graduates don't need to fill out a petition.

Each graduate is encouraged to invite as many guests as he or she would like since there will be no limit this year.

"It's been one of the hardest things about planning the graduation ceremony is having to see people disappointed because they couldn't bring everyone they wanted to bring," said Carnahan.

The expected turnout for the GED/AHSD ceremony is about 180 students.

"It's going to triple or quadruple the number of people attending," said Carnahan.

"Clackamas is a testing center for a lot of high schools," explained Judi Mills, coordinator of assessment services/GED chief examiner.

Schools from Washington County as well as all district schools test at Clackamas because they do not have their own test site.

The goal of the new procedures is to make the process as simple as it can be for students and staff. Carnahan and Mills will coordinate both ceremonies.

"I really appreciate the support of the administration. For them to say 'If this is what staff and students want to do, we will support you financially to do it,'" said Carnahan.