

Bond essential for student growth overload

MARIA FIFE

Of Oregon City High School

Maria Fife placed first in News Writing at the Clackamas Regional Skills Competition last Thursday. This is her winning piece.

If the two bonds pass, both Oregon City High School and Clackamas Community College will be beneficiaries of taxpayers' dollars.

Oregon City School District is proposing a \$67.5 million bond. If it passes, the entire high school student body will be moved to the Moss Campus. Being located next to the college will make additional courses, such as auto-body, auto-mechanics, natural sciences and construction, available to more students, according to Oregon City District Superintendent Barry Rotrock.

Clackamas is asking for \$47 million to update resources, renovate older buildings and add an additional building.

"People love the college," said Corky Kirkpatrick, spokesperson for the college. "If we want to continue to serve you, we need more space."

Clackamas will turn 35 years old next year and has become one of Oregon's fastest-growing economic centers.

Like Oregon City's schools, Clackamas is experiencing a student growth overload. The college enrollment has increased 25 percent over the past five years, and this year is expecting another five percent increase. Areas that were once used for classrooms and study areas are now being used for offices and services.

"There's really no student space left," explained Kirkpatrick. "You'll see students here out in the hallway studying."

According to current estimates, if the bond passes, taxpayers will pay an additional 20 cents per \$1000 assessed property value. In other words, an owner of a \$150,000 home will pay \$31 more annually.

"It's about the price of a few pizzas," Kirkpatrick said.

Kirkpatrick realizes that voting on the two bonds at the same time may hurt at least one of the schools.

"We really hope they (taxpayers) will support both (bonds)," she said. "With the Oregon City population having these two pieces together, it's really, really a plus."

The last day to register to vote is April 25. Voting will be May 16. For more information, contact the Clackamas County Elections Office, 825 Portland Avenue, Gladstone, or phone 655-8510.

Books donated to Asia

MATT SHERPERT

Staff Writer

Clackamas' bookstore has donated books to Asia for the past five years, through Bridge to Asia, a San Francisco based non-profit organization promoting education and research in developing Asian countries.

Donated books are sent to Cambodia, China, and Vietnam. The bookstore represents one of over 200 donating schools, including Mount Hood Community College and Chemeketa Community College.

The age of the books is not important since the countries can use books that are old. Often they are books that have new editions published, or books in useable condition which students were unable to re-sell.

"They can take books that are old, even 10 or 15 years," said Steve

Cameron, bookstore shipping and receiving clerk.

English books are in high demand because it is the language used with science and computers, and is the primary means of communication in the West.

Bridge to Asia can use textbooks in almost any field: journals, magazines, reference materials such as dictionaries, encyclopedias and other materials such as teaching aids, syllabi and sheet music; donations are tax deductible.

Books that are not needed include computer books keyed to specific systems, foreign language books aside from English, "life style" books and books that proselytize a religion or political view.

Last year 28 boxes were shipped, 20 to 50 books in each and weighing 1,472 lbs. This is over twice the normal shipment, which is usually about 10 boxes.

Students attend school-to-work opportunity fair



MANDY GOOD / Clackamas Print

High School students gather at the U.S. Army booth to hear a recruiter talk about their incentives. The jobs fair was hosted in Randall gym last Thursday during the Clackamas Regional Skills Competition. Over 50 different professions were represented.

Census 2000 brings jobs, tallies people

Starting March 6, a census form will be mailed to every household in America to be completed and returned by April 1, 2000

DIANA SCRIVNER

Associate News Editor

The 2000 Census offers part-time work for students as thousands of jobs open up for Americans.

Due to the mass census that is taking place, many jobs are available in Clackamas County and throughout America. Census takers and office clerks are paid between \$8.25 - \$12.25 an hour.

The Census is an attempt to count every man, woman and child in America, according to Census Bureau officials. Every resident will receive a census form by mail beginning March 6, to be completed and sent back by April 1. If the form is not completed correctly, or is not re-

ceived by then, a representative will visit the house address and request the occupants to fill out the census form and return it as quickly as possible.

For individuals with no permanent address, census forms will be available in public locations.

It takes approximately 10 minutes to fill out the short form and 38 minutes for the long form according to the census website.

Investing this time could have a direct effect on everyone in the community. The census results are used to determine where new schools need to be built, and where money should be distributed for education, hospitals, highways and stadiums. The information collected is also used to update 911 emergency system

maps and in helping to plan public transportation services, according to Census Bureau officials.

Census data will be published for businesses and the public by April 1, 2001.

All information that is collected during the census is kept confidential. When the information is used, it is summarized and grouped together so it will not show the answers of one certain individual. The information is kept confidential for 72 years, after which time it may be used for genealogical research.

More information is available on the census website at: www.census.gov or by calling the Salem Census Office at: 1-888-325-7733.

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