

Two new weekly sports columns

Check them out on pages 6 and 7



Robert Brown shares the secrets of Hollywood

Check out the profile on page 5



New art on display in Pauling Gallery

Check out the profile of the artist on page 4

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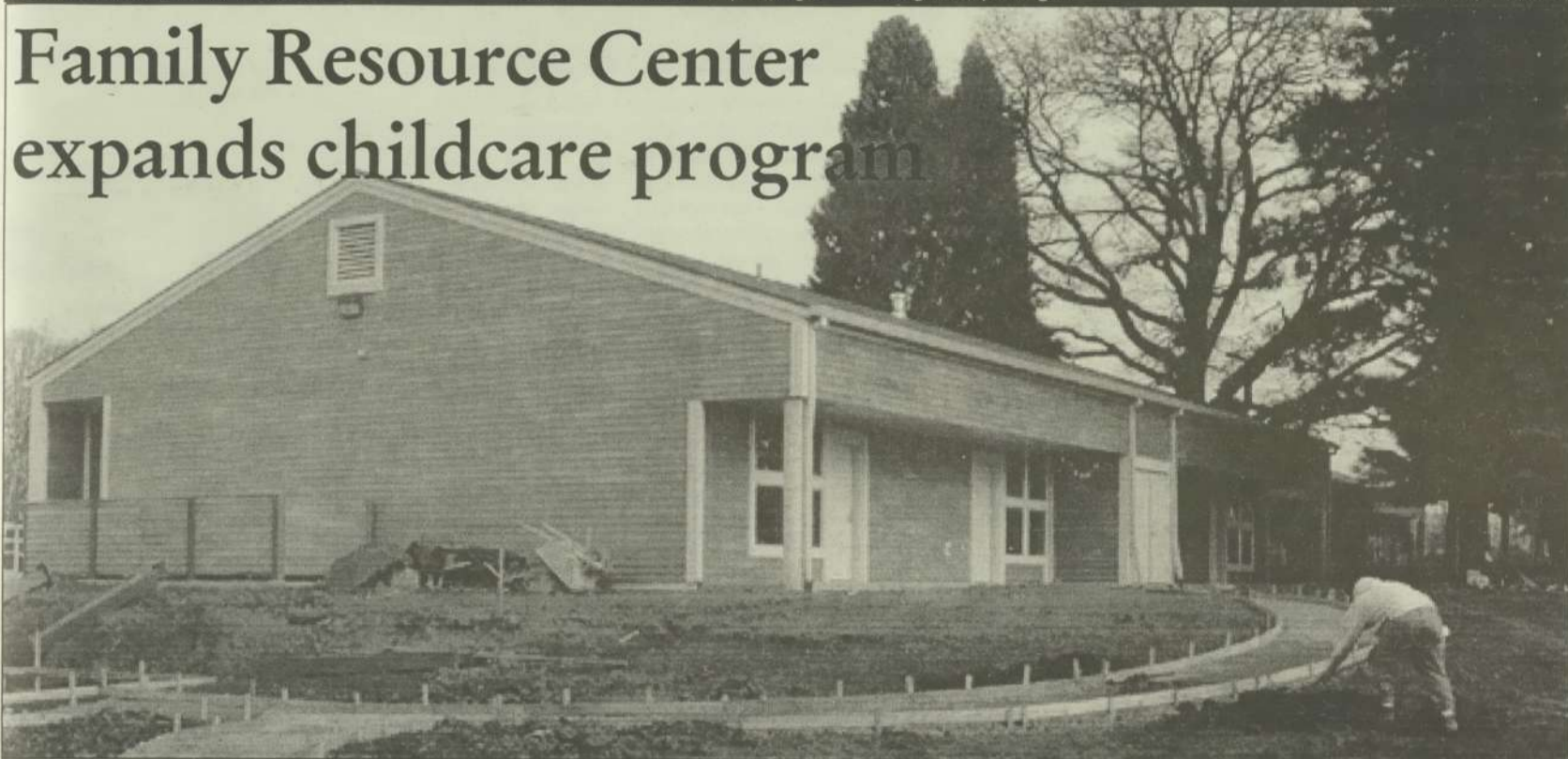
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Clackamas Community College

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## Family Resource Center expands childcare program



MIKE POLLOCK / Clackamas Print

After three years of construction, the newly completed wing doubles the capacity of the YMCA Child Development Center and makes a new kindergarten class possible.

STEVE NIELSEN  
News Editor

Several of Clackamas' youngest attendees will be on hand next Tuesday, Jan. 23, for a celebration and dedication of the newly completed wing of the Elizabeth McClung Brod Family Resource Center.

The dedication and celebration, held from 4-5:30 p.m. in the center, will include guest speakers, guided tours of the new wing, entertainment by student musicians and a Mother Goose storyteller.

The new wing adds six more rooms to the YMCA Child Development Center and more than doubles the licensed capacity of the center. Construction on the

new wing started three years ago and has been funded mostly by private parties and the CCC Foundation, a separate charitable non-profit organization dedicated to raising funds for the college.

"In the last ten years, the center has gone from being licensed for 44 children to 180," said Judy Kling, director of the YMCA Child Development Center (CDC).

The addition made it possible for the center to offer a kindergarten program for the first time, this year, to children of parents who work or go to school full-time. The new wing also enables the center to provide care on a more short-term basis.

Kathleen Smith is an administrative assistant at the college. Her

son Jeremy has been attending the CDC since he was seven weeks old.

"It's been a godsend," said Smith. "I don't know what I would have done without the facility."

The center provides care primarily for the children of Clackamas students, but also serves many other community families. Some parents have continued to use the center for childcare even after they finished at the college and moved on to work in the community.

There are about 180 children enrolled at the center and an additional 300 on the waiting list. The demand for childcare is increasing.

"We see more and more older students going back to college who need a place for their kids,"

said Kling. "It's wonderful watching the kids grow up."

The center is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m.- 6 p.m. Monthly fees range from \$75 to \$600 depending on the ages of children and how many days a week they are at the center. According to Kling, over half of the families that use the center receive financial assistance to help them with the cost.

Kling is one of the original 16 people that staffed the CDC when it started in 1991 and was housed

in temporary green buildings provided by the college. When the contract for operation of the center passed from Mt. Hood Council of Campfire, a youth service organization, to the YMCA in July of 1998, the staff decided to stay with the center.

"There's no measure of how important [the center] is," said Kling. "There's a shortage of quality childcare and we feel that we step up to the plate to help fill that shortage."

## Grant expands PGE training

DIANA SCRIVNER  
Editor-in-Chief

Clackamas College's Wilsonville Oregon Advancement Technology Center's (OAT) partnership with PGE has recently been awarded a \$52,000 grant from the Oregon Workforce Investment Board.

The grant, which goes into effect in February, will be used to develop a Workforce Readiness Certificate Program for women and minorities and focuses on training workers when the company shifts job duties.

"The federal legislation wants people to be in, or enter into, the workforce as quickly as possible so that the economy keeps going," explained Glenn Ferris, associate dean for industrial pro-

grams. "So by retraining workers, you increase their skill levels and reduce the possibility of layoffs."

PGE has been training employees at the college's OAT center for over two years. They train them using a power grade simulator so students can obtain a number of skills in meter reading, recycling, garage work, communications, as well as learning job skills as linemen and service inspectors.

"We're retraining them to go to a different phase of employment within their company," said Ferris. "These jobs also tend to be higher paid jobs, family wage jobs."

Employees are paid during job

training and the grant pays for their schooling.

A new phase to the training program with PGE will begin later this year with the building of an outside training center at the OAT center. It will include high rise power lines and wires for student learning in line training, insulation and repair.

Clackamas College's connection with PGE provides many internship and cooperative work experience opportunities for those seeking employment with the company.

"A lot of our programs prepare students for work at PGE," said Ferris. "It is such a huge company that there are a lot of aspects of business involved."



MIKE POLLOCK / Clackamas Print

Skateboarders at Clackamette park in Oregon City test the new facility Sunday. The free community skate park officially opened to the public last weekend. Rollerbladers and BMXers also came to try it out. The hours of the park are from dawn to dusk.