

## around the county

*Mt. Hood Stables effort abandoned*

# General Telephone continues facility search

by PATTY FARRELL  
of The Outlook staff

General Telephone Co. will not appeal Clackamas County's denial to use the Mt. Hood Stables southeast of Gresham as a support facility, Gresham manager Henry Kutschia said Friday.

Clackamas County commissioners were applauded by a crowd of citizens last week for denying GTE a conditional use permit to use the vacant stables off U.S. Highway 26 for vehicle storage and repair work.

"Since the county and those people feel so strongly that they don't want us in there, we're looking for another site," Kutschia said.

Residents complained that the property was intended as a horse stable and said there are too few places to keep horses near Gresham. Stable operators have gone into bankruptcy once and are again subject to foreclosure.

Kutschia said the company decided

pushing for an appeal would foster poor public relations. "We don't want to aggravate the customer. We're a utility and we have to watch for that sort of thing."

"We want to fit into a community that wants us."

That sends the telephone company scrambling for another site to relieve its already cramped quarters. It had planned to relocate its support facility at the corner of Division Street and Northeast Hood Avenue and move some engineers from the business office at 265 NE Second St.

"We needed the space yesterday," Kutschia said. "Our original plan was to move into the new facility by August or September of 1979."

"Now with no location pinpointed, we will probably have to delay it until the first or second quarter of 1980."

The company may lease space until that time, Kutschia said. GTE's

Gresham office is growing at a rate of 10 percent to 14 percent a year, he said.

Losing the stable site may cost GTE at least \$500,000 because the company will have to build a facility, Kutschia

said. "Unless we can find something suitable for remodeling, which really is dreaming because there are no facilities like that available in Gresham."

The company is intent on finding a site close to Gresham. "That will save us in driving time, fuel consumption, dispatching and managerial efficiency," he said.

The new support facility also will be large enough to set up a maintenance shop for GTE's vehicles, he said. They now must be serviced in Beaverton, which takes one or two days.



GENERAL TELEPHONE CO. has dropped plans to convert the Mt. Hood stables southeast of Gresham to a truck maintenance facility after Clackamas County

rejected a conditional-use permit request.

Staff photo by John Forbes

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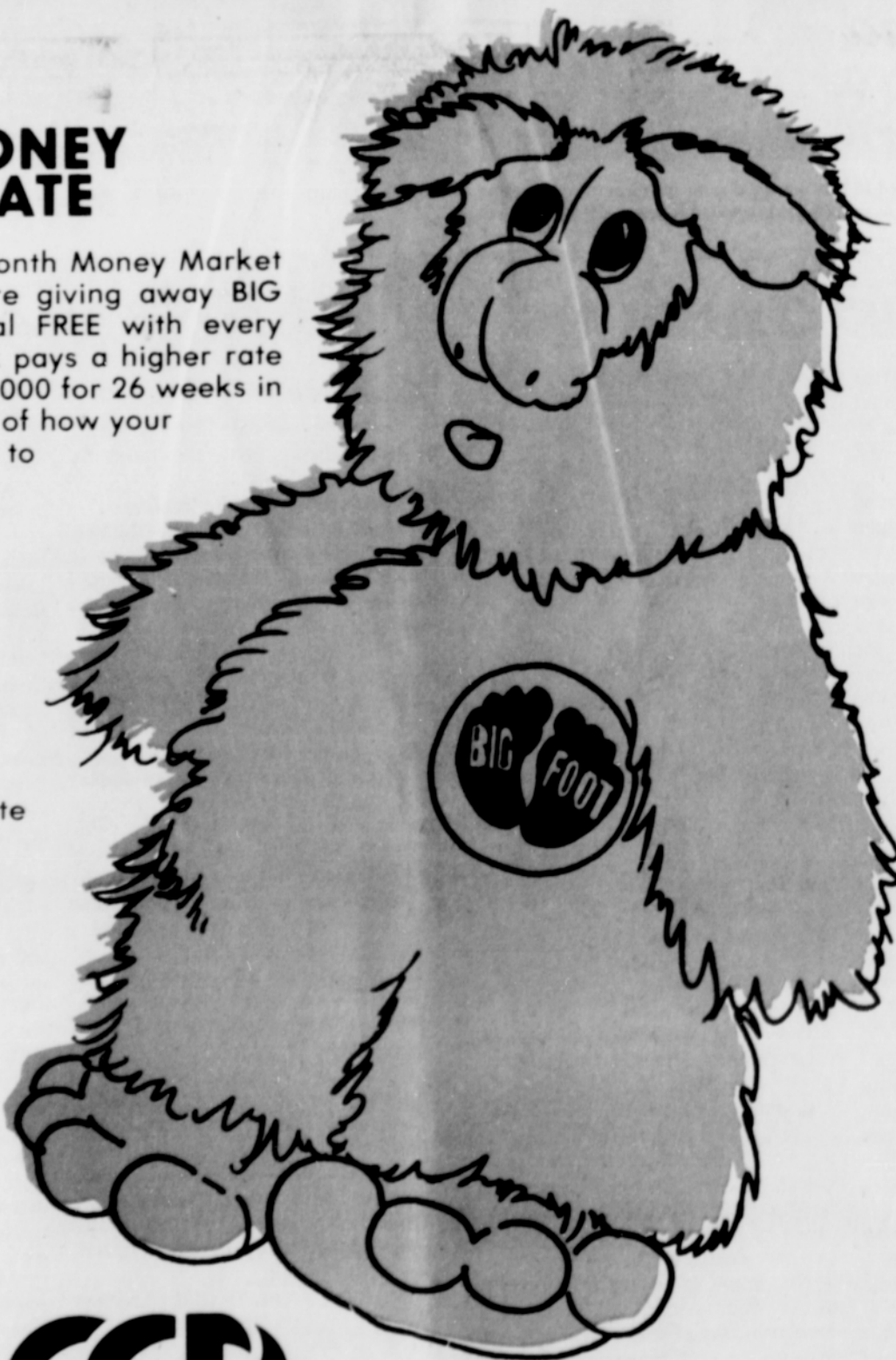
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## County citizens to air opinions on growth

CLACKAMAS — country planners want citizens to voice their opinions on future growth of the county.

A new publication, "A Choice of Futures: Urban Growth Options for Clackamas County", explains three alternatives for growth of the urban portion of Clackamas County. It includes a questionnaire for people to make their choices, according to Ardis Stevenson, coordinator for the Department of Environmental Services.

Color maps show alternative locations for single family and multi-family homes, commercial and industrial lands, and parks or open spaces. The three concepts would allow for population growth ranging from 53,600 to 84,000.

Responses to the questionnaire which are received by the Department of Environmental Services by July 16 will be used in developing a discussion draft of proposed comprehensive plan amendments. Comments received after that date will be used in revisions to the draft proposal, as will information received from citizens at August and September meetings.

The "future growth" publication is available at the following locations: board of county commissioners office, 906 Main St., Oregon City; Clackamas County Planning Division, 902 Abernethy Road, Oregon City; Clackamas County Library, 999 Library Court, Oregon City; Oregon City Library, Seventh and John Adams, Oregon City.

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