

Golden State Offers Customers A Taste of Mexicana

by Jerry Garner

A few years ago Jackie Williams had an idea: She wanted to open up an eatery serving a Mexican menu in North Portland. "Once I made my idea known to friends, they tried to discourage me from doing so, and, instead, suggested that I open up a soul food restaurant. There are several such establishments already in the Black community. I didn't want to open another one. Besides, I am better at cooking Mexican food than soul food."

So with the moral and financial support of her husband and father-in-law, Williams decided to open up Golden Star Taco Shop. The Taco Shop, which is located at 3940 N. Williams Ave., serves a wide variety of Mexican cuisine. Besides providing their customers with original Mexican food, Golden Star offers fresh fish, fish sandwiches, barbeque beef sandwiches, and desserts. The restaurant has been in operation since August of this year.

"Since we've been in operation, business has been great. We give our customers a good product for their money so they'll come back," Williams said. She said at first some people came in out of curiosity. "They thought that the restaurant was owned by Mexicans. They are surprised to see a Black cooking Mexican food."

Cooking Mexican food is nothing unusual to Williams. The San Diego, California, transplant lived in an area of San Diego that was inhabited by Blacks and Mexicans. She said her mother, who is now deceased, taught her how to prepare Mexican dishes at an early age. "My mother could make Mexican food from scratch. Growing up in



Jackie Williams cooks Mexican food on Williams Ave. Photo by Richard J. Brown

San Diego, we ate Mexican food daily. Even today my family eats mostly Mexican food."

After moving to Portland, Williams was surprised to find that there was no Mexican eatery in the Black community. That is when she got the idea of opening up a restaurant. Instead, she started an adult foster home. She said although she enjoyed the business, it was too confining. So after six years she got out of the foster care business and fulfilled her dream of owning a Mexican restaurant.

Williams said although the idea of Blacks owning a Mexican restaurant may sound strange to some Ore-

gonians, the practice is common in San Diego.

She hopes that business will get even better once people are aware that they're in the community. "All our dishes are made from scratch. Very few Mexican restaurants serve original Mexican food like we do

Portland Meadows Enters 41st Season of Horse Racing

Portland Meadows will enter into its 41st season of horse racing this year with a lineup of 31 stakes races and a new emphasis on marketing and promotion of the Delta Park facility.

The 79 day Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing season will begin Friday, October 24th, and run through April 26th, 1987. Every Friday, an evening program will start at 7:00 pm, while Saturday and Sunday's 12 race card, begins at 1:30 pm. In addition, Portland Meadows will hold two special holiday programs for the 1986-87 season - on the day following Thanksgiving, Friday, November 28th, and on Presidents Day, Monday, February 16th.

The Stakes schedule will be kicked off on Saturday, October 25th, with the "Inaugural Stakes" at six furlongs. The highlight of the schedule is the \$25,000 "Portland Meadows Mile" on March 15th, and the

Blood Clinic

A public Hypertension (blood pressure) Screening clinic is scheduled Thursday, November 6, from 1:30 p.m., at the new King City Retirement Center, 11777 SW Queen Elizabeth, King City. The clinic will be staffed by registered nurses from Meridian Park Hospital, Tualatin. The clinics are scheduled the first Thursday of each month, appointments are not necessary, and there is no charge. For more information, call 692-2656.

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here at Golden Star Taco Shop," Williams said. Golden Star is open 11:00 a.m. until 10:30 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday; and 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday. Golden Star is closed Sundays and Mondays.

rich "Oregon Triple Crown" series which ends March 29th, with the "Oregon Derby". Portland Meadows has also placed the "Rose Cup Stakes" on its agenda with the \$5,000 added purse offered on Sunday, December 28th.

Donna Davis of Vancouver, Washington was the first woman to ever win the leading trainer title at Portland Meadows, and she will return along with Chuck Peery, Tex Irwin, and leading Quarter Horse trainer, Baxter Andrus.

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