

### Single Family Lease Agreement With Housing Authority of Portland

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Housing Authority of Portland today executed a renewable lease for a single family acquired property at a rate of \$1.00 a year. This home will be used to provide shelter for homeless families and represents one more piece in the Portland emergency assistance network.

This action is a continuation of the joint cooperation between the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, the City of Portland, and the Housing Authority to provide both housing stock and support services for homeless individuals and families. In executing the lease for HUD, Portland Manager Richard Brinck noted "Families with children are the fastest growing segment of the homeless population and that scarcity of affordable housing is the primary cause of homelessness."

This particular program being used today was established by Housing and Urban Development Secretary Pierce to use housing stock available to the federal government through the FHA mortgage insurance program. Strict limits have been placed on the housing provided to assure that this activity will in no way jeopardize the FHA mortgage insurance fund. This lease represents the first of an admittedly small program but can provide unique housing opportunities for homeless families.

### Students Learn Language Skills With 'Vocabulary Patch Kids'

Cabbage Patch Kids and Garbage Pail Kids don't have possibilities as teaching tools.

But "Vocabulary Patch Kids" do. Just ask the fourth-grade class of teacher Timothy Hahn at Creston Primary School, 4701 S.E. Bush St.

His students select the descriptive names, research the definitions and draw the pictures to produce their own "Kids" cards as part of their study of language usage.

For further information, please contact: Timothy Hahn or Creston principal Greg Wollack, 280-6340; or James M. Voigt, public information specialist, 249-3304, Portland Public Schools.

### Self-Defense Class For Women Offered

Women can learn the skills needed for self-defense during a course sponsored by St. Vincent Hospital and Medical Center.

The classes, held on two Saturdays, will focus on intense instruction in defense and assertiveness for women. There also will be a discussion on the "whys" of violence against women. All instructors are female.

The course starts Saturday, March 7 and will be completed Saturday, March 14 at the Hospital's Health and Lifestyle Center, 11640 SW Parkway. Each session is held from 9 a.m. to noon.

To register for the \$27 course, persons may contact the Health and Lifestyle Center, 626-0890.

### Lowering Cholesterol

"Change of Heart—Lowering Your Cholesterol", is the subject of a special community education program scheduled Monday, March 9, 1987, 6:30-8 p.m., at Meridian Park Hospital, Tualatin.

Presented by staff dietitian Martha Hirsch, R.D., the program will offer information on nutrition and the prevention of heart disease, as well as tips on grocery shopping, do's and don't's in food preparation to lower cholesterol and fat intake. Recipes will be available. The fee is \$15 per person, \$20 per couple.

For additional information or registration, contact the community education department at the Tualatin hospital.

### PP&L Teaches Higher Math

Four Pacific Power & Light Company engineers in Portland are instructors in an innovative program that teaches higher math concepts to inner-city fourth and fifth grad students.

The engineers are the first corporate volunteers in a program called Project SEED, Inc., whose purpose is to pump up the self esteem of less-advantaged children through successful learning experiences in advanced mathematics.

SEED instructors use the Socratic method where questioning is used to guide students to reson answers. The students are allowed to respond in unison. Hand signals show agreement and disagreement to problems.

"A SEED classroom is a highly energized place," said Horace Sanders, a Pacific volunteer. "Students learn quickly that it's fun to participate. It's exciting to watch class participation rise as the class progresses, especially when the kid slumped in the back row joins in," Sanders said.

Math was chosen as a way of reaching out because it transcends language and cultural barriers. "Higher math is the great equalizer," said Joseph Schmidt, Project SEED coordinator in Portland. "When you are learning a new concept, such as exponentiation theory or logarithms, every student begins at the same level," Schmidt said.

SEED classes are being taught this year at Boise-Eliot, Humboldt, King, Peninsula, Sabin, Vernon, Woodlawn and Irvington elementary schools.

Staff and administration costs are supported by funds from the Portland School District. Pacific Power has donated the time of its engineers to train for and teach the SEED classes.

Pacific volunteers are Horace Sanders, Portland; Roland Gilchrist, Gladstone; Paul Capell, Beaverton; and Don Feltz, Portland.

"The SEED goal is to build confidence in these kids that will spill over into their daily lives. As I see their eyes light up during class, I know this program is working."



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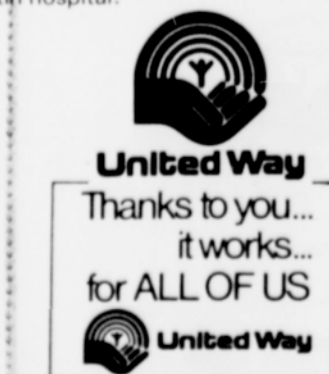
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