

# HOUSING

The Portland Observer

## Senior Housing Receives Pre-Development Funds

The Oregon Housing and Community Services Department has provided \$20,000 to Columbia Cascade Housing, for pre-development costs associated with the construction of a senior housing development. The State Housing Council approved the award at their December 19, 1997 meeting in Salem.

The proposed 20 unit facility designed to provide housing for low income seniors with incomes at or below 60 percent of area median income. The development will be adjacent to a recently completed development, West Park Place in The Dalles, Oregon, and will share the on-site management and community center. Columbia Cascade Housing intends to apply for additional fund-

ing and tax credits in 1998 to complete the financing for this new construction project.

"The Department has been supportive of Columbia Cascade Housing's mission of developing affordable housing in their community by providing technical assistance and financial assistance on both West Park Place Apartments and East Hill Village. Both of these projects are well managed and successful," said Victor Smeltz, Housing Finance Manager. "The Department looks forward to future successes by Columbia Cascade Housing."

Columbia Cascade Housing has previously developed several smaller housing developments that address the needs of the specific counties in

which they serve. The sponsor currently owns five projects consisting of 54 units serving families, farmworkers, mentally disabled persons, and seniors. The consultant for the development, Anna Geller, has facilitated the construction or preservation of 780 units of affordable housing since 1993.

Oregon Housing and Community Services Department is the state housing finance agency, providing financial and program support to create and preserve opportunities for quality, affordable housing for lower income Oregonians. The Department also administers federal and state anti-poverty, homeless and energy assistance community service programs.

## Selection Committee Gives Nod

PDC Negotiates Memorandum of Understanding with InnVentures, Inc. A selection committee has reviewed proposals for a hotel at RiverPlace and has selected a 240-room extended stay Residence Inn by Marriott submitted by InnVentures, Inc. of Bellevue, Washington. The new hotel will be located south of the PG&E Gas Transmission Northwest building and is bounded by S.W. River Parkway, S.W. Moddy Ave., and the Marquam Bridge.

In 1997, the Portland Development Commission (PDC) worked with architects, urban planners and area business leaders to complete a development strategy for the remaining four parcels of land in RiverPlace (parcels

3,5,8, and 6). All the new developments are intended to complement existing development within the RiverPlace project and proposed residential and commercial development in the North Macadam area.

The RiverPlace Development Strategy targeted parcel 5 for the development of an extended stay business-oriented hotel and a Request for Proposals was issued in October 1997. Four proposals were received in December:

- \*Prime Hospitality Corp. of New Jersey for American Suites
- \*Gatehouse Capital for Westin Hotels of Dallas, Texas
- \*Larkspur Hospitality Co., of Lark-

spur, California

\*InnVentures, Inc. of Bellevue, Washington for Residence Inn by Marriott

The selection committee, comprised of PDC Executive Director Felicia Trader; PDC Development Director Larry Dully; and PDC Commissioner John Eskildsen, reviewed the proposals and selected InnVentures based on the company's ability to best meet the objectives of the development strategy.

InnVenture's proposal also makes efficient use of the site with its number of hotel rooms as well as parking.

## US West rewards grant

NECDC was a successful grant recipient for the US West Foundation Community Outreach Program. The funds will be used to implement NECDC's Home Revitalization Program in Walnut Park of the King neighborhood. The program is designed for senior, disabled and low-income homeowners who are unable to afford home improvements due

to fixed incomes. This no-cost program will identify and assist in the revitalization of run-down, owner-occupied single-family homes within Walnut Park. As a vital piece of NECDC's ongoing revitalization efforts in the area, the Home Revitalization Program will make LIFE BETTER HERE through enhanced living conditions and additional neighbor-

hood beautification, helping to reestablish hope and pride in a previously blighted and neglected community.

The US West Foundation will present a check to NECDC on Friday, January 23, 1998 at the McCoy Village Development on NE MLK Jr. Blvd & Prescott Streets. A tour of the McCoy Village followed the presentation.

## Increased Construction Opens Opportunities

With 12 homes on its construction schedule this year, Portland Habitat for Humanity is able to offer more qualified applicants than ever the chance to help build and buy their own homes.

Potential applicants must have a steady source of income and meet Habitat's income guidelines, based upon the number of people in the household (typical applicants earn approximately \$22,000 for a family of four). Applicants must also have a current housing need and be willing to partner with Portland Habitat over the course of a 30-year mortgage. Habitat distributes applications at informational meetings held twice each month, on the first Thursday at 11 am and on the third Thursday at 7 pm. All meetings happen at the Portland Habitat office, 1478 NE Killingsworth (corner of NE 15th and Killingsworth), and Spanish translation is available at every 7 p.m. meeting. The next meetings will happen on February 5 at 11 am, and on February 19 at 7 pm. For more details, call 287-9529.

Habitat is an ecumenical Christian development corporation that builds homes in partnership with low-income individuals and families in need of decent housing. Volunteers build the homes, which Habitat then sells to approved applicants at zero interest.

The essence of Habitat's work is partnership. Approved applicants work alongside Habitat construction supervisors, office employees and community volunteers to complete 400 hours of "sweat equity," or volunteer work, as a partial down payment on their homes. In 16 years, Portland Habitat has helped more than

40 people help themselves by becoming responsible homeowners.

"Habitat is a big family with a lot of love, and I feel so proud to be a part of it," said Maria Sanchez at the dedication of her family's home last year. Become part of the family -- apply for a Habitat house in February!

## AMCALL CORPORATION

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### Did You Know?

(NAPS)—To help keep your kitchen germ-free, wash your sponges in the dishwasher or with a bleach/water mixture, advise the experts at Spontex sponges.

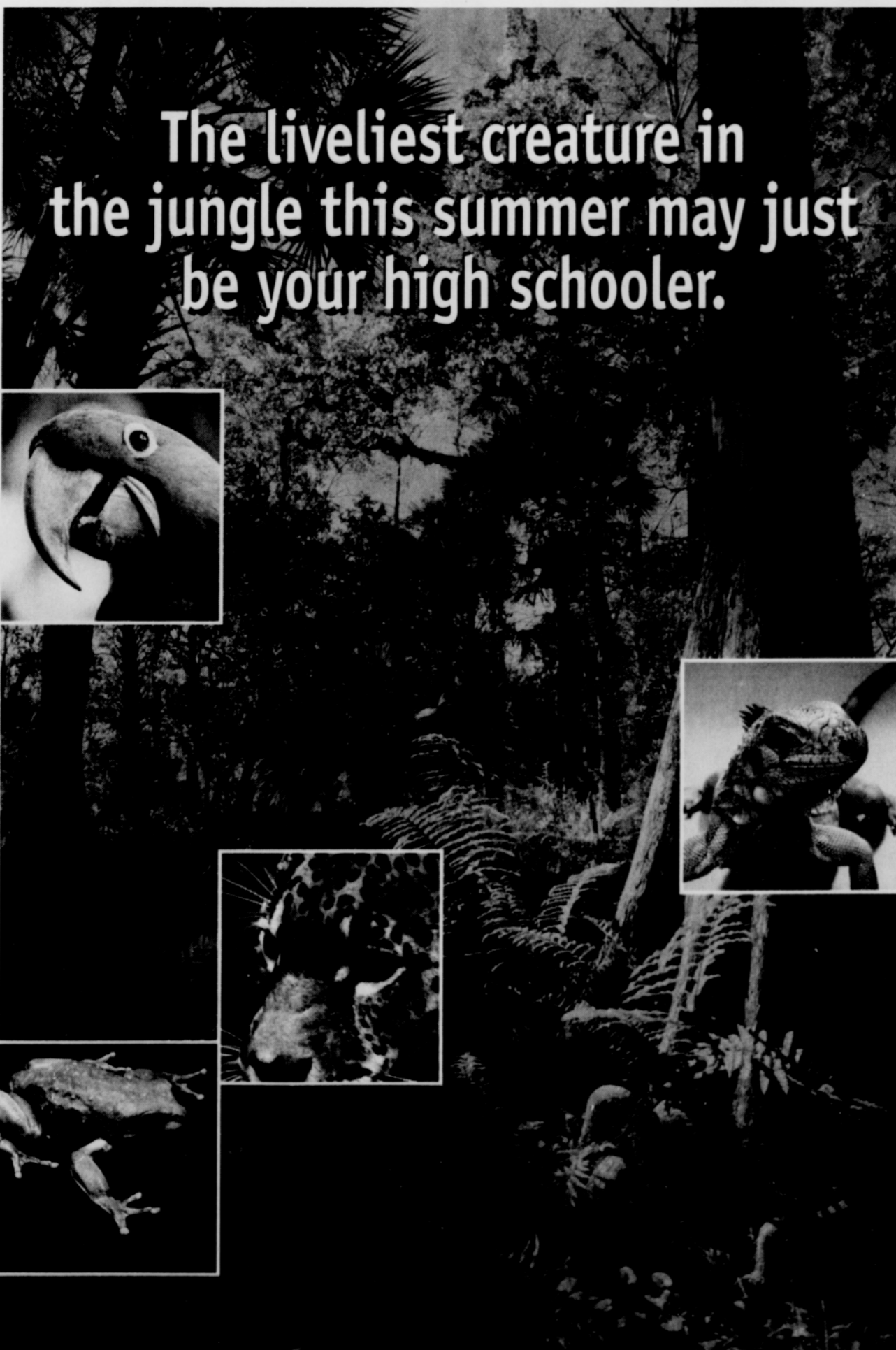


The All-American banana split includes a firm Dole banana; chocolate, strawberry and vanilla ice cream, two toppings, nuts, whipped cream and a cherry.

Across the country, On the Border Mexican Cafes are introducing Border Branding Iron meals on a skewer.

Grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$150,000 go to American dance companies from the Philip Morris New Works Fund.

Four competitively-priced gas grills are now available exclusively at Kmart.



ON JUNE 20, PACIFIC POWER'S 3RD ANNUAL BOUND FOR BELIZE CONTEST WILL SEND FOUR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND ONE TEACHER TO THE JUNGLES OF CENTRAL AMERICA FOR A WEEK-LONG TROPICAL FORESTRY ECOLOGY COURSE. DURING THEIR STAY IN BELIZE, STUDENTS WILL WORK IN THE RAIN FOREST, TRACK EXOTIC ANIMALS AND EXPLORE MAYAN RUINS. CONTEST ENTRIES MUST BE IN BY MARCH 12. ASK YOUR SCHOOL'S SCIENCE TEACHER FOR DETAILS OR CALL TOLL FREE 1-888-221-7070 FOR MORE INFORMATION. Eligible students must attend a high school served by Pacific Power.



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