PCC CASCADE CONNECTION

Envision Yourself in the Classroom

BY ALGIE C. GATEWOOD

Children are a never-end-The wonder with which they view the world can be a welcome reminder to adults who have sometimes become jaded by the demands of workthis firsthand recently when a cially group of students from Ockley Green Middle School paid a visit to Cascade Campus.

The kids got the red-carpet treatment. They checked out our classrooms and science laboratories, took a look at our music studios and multimedia labs, and enjoyed a barbecue lunch. They spoke with proerally got a taste of what college life is about.

More importantly, they saw older than they are, who represent diverse cultures, study- from the truth. ing hard and working to improve themselves.

behind a microscope, or at the controls of a studio mixing board. Once they see that

people just like themselves are close-up look at a college cam-

those

on their way to bigger and better pus is the first step toward one ing source of joy and humor. things, the idea of a college edu- day becoming a college student. cation begins to seem less like a Seeing that something is posfar-off dream and more like a sible can make it possible in natural step waiting to be taken. someone's mind. That's why I Overcoming this perceptual was happy to host the Ockley barrier is of critical importance. Green kids and their teacher, ing life. I got to experience Too many young people, espe- Mr. Lee Williams, during their from day at Cascade Campus. And make, Dr. Gatewood?"

> Sometimes, getting a closeup look at a college campus is the first step toward one day becoming a college student.

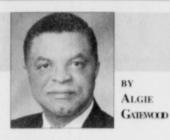
the hand that circumstances students not so very much have dealt them. In reality, how- der and delight ever, this could not be further

a short step to envisioning academic support. And for they saw. themselves in the classroom, those with social and economic

fessors and students, and gen- underrepresented backgrounds, that's why I was so pleased to believe that a college education receive a bundle of handwritten is something that is denied by letters from them, recalling what they saw here with such won-

the letters as to what each Ockley Green students hit on Community colleges are student enjoyed the most were the most important question relatively inexpensive, emi- as diverse as the kids them-Once young people have nently accessible, and offer a selves, but all of them were this firsthand perspective, it is high level of instruction and excited and inspired by what charge?

> But it was after the tour was obstacles in their path, signifi- over when the fun really began, is president of Portland cant financial aid is available. at least for me. The kids as- Community College's Cas-And sometimes, getting a sembled in the hallway near my cade Campus



office to listen to me speak about education and working hard to better oneself. When I was through, they asked me a few questions, a couple of which we adults have been trained not to ask.

"How much money do you

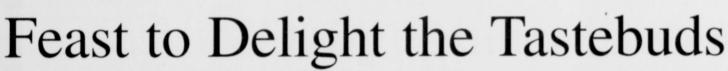
Leave it to a child to cut right to the chase. "Did you have to go to school for a long time to be a Campus

President? What kind of car do you drive? Do you have to wear a suit every day?"

Important stuff, really-exactly what I would be wondering in their shoes. I was only too happy to answer, especially if in doing so I helped some of them connect the dots between higher education and the car, the suits, and the of-The opinions expressed in fice. And of course, one of the of them all:

"Do you like being in

Again - leave it to a child. Algie C. Gatewood, Ed.D.,



Creole Jambalaya dinner supports meal site

Loaves & Fishes Center is host- Director Joan Smith, both of ing its second annual Authentic whom have connections to Creole Jambalaya Dinner on Sat- Southern Louisiana. urday, Aug. 11, from noon to 5

The pair will be using a tradi-

meals to in northeast Portland. tastebuds!" Zydeco music and dancers will

help diners learn the steps. The Martin Luther King, Jr. & Fishes Centers Executive tin Luther King, Jr. Center has beverage and dessert. Cost is evolved over the last year to \$10 for adults and \$7 for chilinclude a variety of soul food dren. Tickets are available entrées," said Center Manager from the center. Meals are David Lomax. "The food has available for take-out. tional Creole-style recipe passed received such good reviews that The culinary team for this down in Benjamin's family. This we decided to make it available & Fishes is located at 5325 N.E. event is headed by Loaves & is the second year for the Creole to the general public for one Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Fishes Centers Board Member Jambalaya event, which raises special night. We guarantee a Formore information, call David

The menu includes authenprovide entertainment, as well as tic Creole-style jambalaya (a non-seafood version is avail-"The daily menu at the Mar- able), along with bread, salad,

Stressed out? Learn to Cool-down Expert shares communication tips

Shareefah Abdullah, a local authority in business communications, will keynote Clark County Chamber of Commerce's August meeting with the presentation "Don't Sweat the Small Stuff: Curbing Conflict by Learning to Chill."

The session, part of the chamber's free Monthly Speaker Series, includes refreshments and time for networking, is 7 to 9 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 14, at Big Al's, 16615 S.E. 18th St., in East Vancouver.

Abdullah-whose Hot Ovations company earned a chamber Best-in-County Award in County, a multicultural busi-2005 - has garnered recogni- ness round table providing free tion for her communications educational sessions and work and civic achievements. mentorship. She also operates the community-service program Black 258-1181 or info@clark Entrepreneurs of Clark chamber.com.



Shareefah Abdullah

RSVP to the chamber at 360-

Trust Supports Concordia Library

The M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust of Vancouver has Executive Director Steven awarded \$1.1 million to Moore said the grant was a Concordia University for stateof-the-art technology in the new nership with the school. library building planned for its Northeast Portland campus.

Murdock trustees affirm Vancouver community," he Concordia's mission to prepare said. leaders who will transform society," said Concordia Univer- nounced an anonymous gift of sity President Chuck Schlimpert. \$1 million to be divided equally "We will apply these funds to- between construction of the new wards providing excellent edu- library building and an endowcation, and we hope this grant ment dedicated to long-term will attract additional resources support of service learning to help Concordia serve our stu- through community engagement dents and our community."

Murdock Charitable Trust natural next step in a long part-

"We believe that Concordia is making a tremendous contri-"We are so grateful that the bution to the Portland/

> In January, Concordia anprograms.

p.m.

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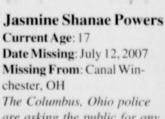
Have you seen me?

Missing and Exploited Children 1-800-THE-LOST

> Endangered-Missing Non-Family-Abductions



Amanda Lynn Mooney Current Age: 15 Date Missing: July 12, 2007 Missing From: Maud, OK Amanda was last seen with an older white male.

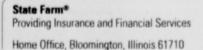


The Columbus, Ohio police are asking the public for any information about the abduction of Jasmine.

If you have any information please contact: The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678)

> This public service announcement provided by the Portland Observer Newspaper

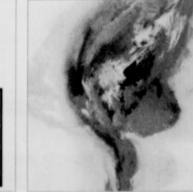




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