

# CAREERS

## College Planning Starts Early

### Big Brothers Big Sisters kids earn savings award

The Oregon College Savings Plan has donated \$1,000 college savings accounts to 15 children in the Big Brothers Big Sisters Columbia Northwest program.

The awards were the result of the Start Something College Savings Advantage, a program designed to help Big Brothers Big Sisters kids start thinking about college.

Five of the winners, 5th graders at Vernon Elementary in northeast Portland, are Dorine Cadet, Kobe Glass, Leonardo Johnson, Alyssia Maxwell and Kae'lyn Wright.

The Start Something competition invited children in grades one through 12 to creatively describe what they hope to achieve after college.

Participants worked with their mentors to submit entries in a number of creative formats, including essays, videos, drawings and books. A panel of judges selected the 15 entries from a pool of 52.

This marked the third year of the Start Something partnership between the Oregon College Savings Plan and Big Brothers Big Sisters.



Kobe Glass, a 5th grader at Vernon Elementary in northeast Portland, starts thinking about college with his \$1,000 college savings account. Pictured with Glass are Andy Nelson (from left), Big Brothers Big Sisters Columbia Northwest executive officer, Mohan Nair, Big Brothers Big Sisters board member and Michael Parker, executive director of the Oregon 529 College Savings Network.



Dorine Cadet



Leonardo Johnson



Alyssia Maxwell



Kae'lyn Wright



Gresham city Inspector Johnny Vollendroff inspects a new home under construction with the use of students at the ACE Academy for Architecture.

### Construction Students Focus on Safety

In honor of Building Safety Month, Gresham's City Building Division received a second floor addition for its educational, small-scale model home constructed with students from the ACE Academy for Architecture, Construction and Engineering.

Building Safety Month focuses on the need for modern building codes and a well-trained

workforce to ensure public safety.

The model home lets residents see the underside of many home construction systems and learn why and when building codes and inspections are required for safety.

City inspectors will host a demonstration of the home at the Gresham Farmers Market, on Saturday, June 1, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### Honored for Mentoring

Mt. Hood Community College has announced that Landra Glover has been named the National Head Start Parent of the Year.

The mother of a 5-year-old son who is enrolled in a Head Start program, Glover has a "commitment to achieve goals, despite all barriers," says Jane Adams, National Head Start Association director of projects and partnerships.

Glover has worked to increase positive male involvement with children in association with Portland area organizations, including MHCC's Head Start program and the Healthy Birth Initiative.

Glover's inspiration for being an advocate is personal.

"As an adult, I now see how not having a father figure in my life played a huge role in everything I do. I love and appreciate my mother, but I still needed and longed for my father," Glover says.

Glover's book on the subject, "The Arms That Are Needed - Daughters Reflect on Fatherly Love," features 37 interviews with women age 16 to 83 who talk about their relationships with their fathers.



Landra Glover is recognized for her advocacy of early childhood education.