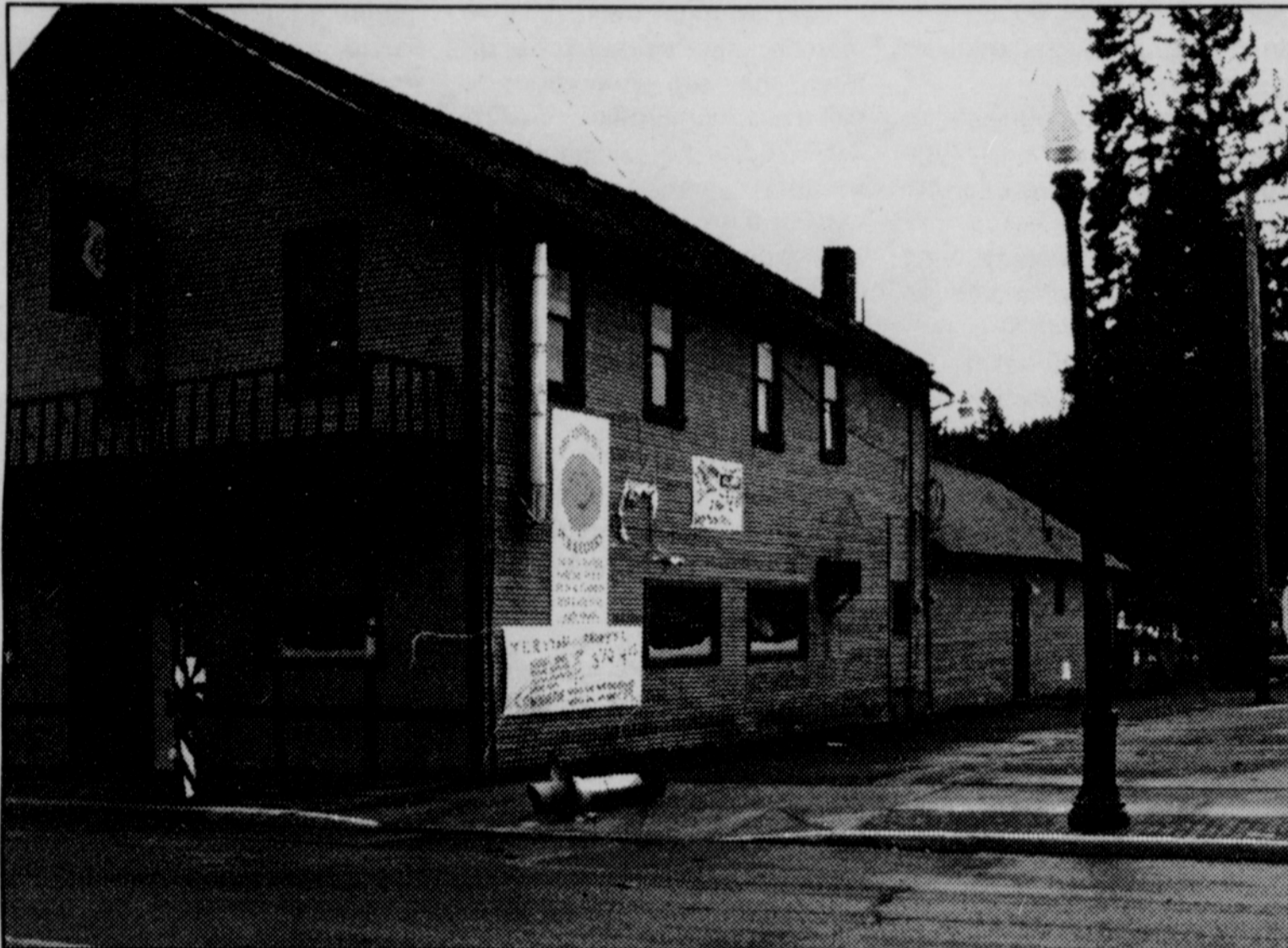


Business Notes

Wind-blown chimney flue flew off roof EQIP conservation funds available through USDA



Chimney flue from The Lyon's Den was a casualty of last week's windstorm. This photo, taken during the last hour of the storm, also shows a light standard bending in the wind.

PCC Alumni schedule second annual Job Fair

Portland Community College Alumni Association is hosting its second annual job fair for residents of the Portland metro area and surrounding communities.

The job fair will be from **Food Handler's class, January 14**

A Food Handler's Class will be held on Tuesday, January 14, 2003, at 7:30 a.m., at Lew's Place, 934 Bridge Street, Vernonia.

All attendees should bring a pen or pencil and it is strongly recommended that anyone planning to take the test read the Food Handler's booklet before test day. The booklet is available at the Vernonia Public Library or may be purchased for \$2.00 from Columbia County Public Health, 2370 Gable Road, across from St. Helens High School.

For more information, call Mark Edington at 503-366-3828.

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10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Monday, January 13, in the upper mall of the CC Building on the Sylvania Campus, 12000 S.W. 49th Avenue. The fair provides networking opportunities for students, employers and people seeking new career options.

Employers who are scheduled to be on hand include Tri-Met, Kaiser Permanente, New Horizons Computer Learning Centers, Western Specialty

Products, Inc., Providence Health Systems, Right Now PC, Ltd., The Employment Guide, Oregon Air National Guard, Albertina Kerr Centers, PCC Foundation, Associated Students of PCC, American Red Cross, Pacific Northwest Regional Blood Services and many others.

For more information, call Ron Sumner, assistant director of the PCC Foundation at 503-977-4416.

Applications are now being accepted by USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). The application deadline for 2003 funding has been set at January 31, 2003.

EQIP is a voluntary conservation program for promoting agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible goals. Through EQIP, agricultural producers may receive financial and technical assistance for installing conservation practices that address natural resource concerns on the land they own or operate.

EQIP can also assist producers in complying with state and national regulations by addressing natural resource concerns about water quality, soil quality, wildlife habitat or others.

Eligible land for EQIP may include cropland, pastureland and non-industrial forestland that is part of an agricultural operation.

If an applicant is eligible and

funding is made available, NRCS will write contracts ranging from two to ten years, depending on time needed to carry out practice installation and management. Typical conservation issues that have been addressed with EQIP in Columbia County include providing manure storage that reduces nutrient runoff, nutrient management on cropland and pasture, pasture management improvements with practices like cross fencing, water developments and rotational grazing, stream bank protection with practices such as tree planting and bank stabilization measures, wildlife habitat practices and others.

For more information, contact the local Soil and Water Conservation District and USDA-NRCS office in Columbia County at 2514 Sykes Road, St. Helens, or call 503-397-4555. In Washington County, SWCD-NRCS is located at 1080 SW Baseline, Hillsboro, phone 503-648-3014.

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Wed.—Chicken Dumpling Sat. & Sun.—Various

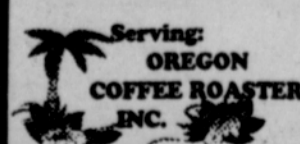
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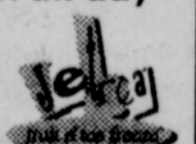
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