

Inmate work camp proposal seems a winner for everyone

By ERIC GORANSON
of The Oregonian staff

A proposal to have Multnomah County join with the U.S. Forest Service to fund an inmate work camp in the Columbia River Gorge was designed with the idea of both creating space in overcrowded jails and doing much-needed rehabilitation work in the forests.

In my opinion

Multnomah County commissioners are scheduled to discuss funding for the plan Tuesday. The proposal would seem to put everyone involved in a winning situation — even the non-dangerous prisoners who would live at the camp.

The plan was formulated by Jon Stewart of the Mount Hood National Forest's office in Corbett and Gerard Welch of the county corrections division. It contemplates initially housing about 15 men on probation

for misdemeanors and low-risk, non-violent felonies in a tent camp on Larch Mountain and putting them to work on trail projects in the Columbia River Gorge. The number of prisoners would grow later to 30.

The program is designed to:

- Get productive community service out of felons and misdemeanants.
- Save taxes since the program is expected to be less costly than if they were incarcerated.
- Keep high-risk inmates in jail.
- Give judges a tool to punish offenders who violate probation but are not imprisoned because of lack of jail beds.
- Possibly reduce overcrowding in the county-run jail system.
- Open more trails and recreation areas to hikers and outdoor enthusiasts in the gorge.
- Eventually bring more outdoor enthusiasts to East Multnomah County and more business to compa-

nies catering to recreationists and the work camp.

- Possibly help reduce repeat offenses.

The Forest Service would provide the facilities while the county would contribute \$271,000 annually to pay the salaries of five supervisors and for food.

Some 80 men would be expected to use the camp during the course of a year, with terms running from 15 to 120 days. Work hours would be 10 a day, with much of the time involving hiking to and from the work areas. Workers would prepare their own meals.

Evening programs would be held to attack problems that resulted in the felons' sentences. The programs also would be designed to teach people work and life skills that could change their lifestyles.

Most of the felons would be people convicted of driving with a suspended license or under the influence of

intoxicants. Some could have drug problems. Many would be probation violators who failed to perform ordered community services or attend treatment centers.

Judges and juries have been able only to slap ineffective longer probation terms on them owing to lack of jail beds. The work camp would be an alternative punishment.

Many would be given a choice of a shorter work program in camp or a longer prison sentence and probation. Incarceration in jail probably would be out, however, due to space restrictions.

All would be screened to keep out violent offenders, according to Welch, who has put other convicted offenders to useful work in the gorge and in the Beaver Hotel.

The Northeast Multnomah Coun-

ty Community Association, a group of residents in the Corbett and Bridal Veil areas, already has been apprised of the program and generally has had its concerns addressed.

Some of the proposed work is deep in the forest. Having such work contracted out hasn't panned out because of the time lost getting to and from the site. With workers camped nearby, more could be accomplished while saving taxpayers money.

Estimated cost of the program would be \$25 to \$30 a day per man, according to Welch. Inmate cost is \$46 a day at the Multnomah County Corrections Facility in Troutdale and \$80 in the Justice Center jail in downtown Portland.

Initial projects would be to recon-

struct the trails from Larch Mountain to Multnomah Falls and Oneonta Gorge and reopen the Bell Creek Trail, which has been largely neglected since World War II. The last would open up a high-level trail between Larch Mountain and Mount Defiance near Hood River.

Another project, if time allowed before the onset of bad weather, would be to complete the upgrading of Tanner Creek trail.

County officials are expected to seek the needed funds from the state of Oregon along with \$480,000 for a 160-person women's residential center and \$600,000 for a 120-person mental health treatment program. The last two are more complicated projects that would require much more work before they are implemented.

In the military

Deanna L. Heard

Sgt. Deanna L. Heard has been awarded the U.S. Marine Corps good conduct medal, recognizing three years of activity. She is at the Marine air station at Jacksonville, N.C.

She is a 1979 graduate of Parkrose High School and the daughter of Stefnie L. Heard, 4545 N.E. 86th Ave.

Steven E. Lewis

Steven E. Lewis has completed recruit training in the U.S. Navy at Great Lakes, Ill. He is a 1982 graduate of Gresham High School and the son of Sylvia Wakefield, 1210 N.W. Division St., Gresham.

Daniel J. Jurgensen

Daniel J. Jurgensen has completed recruit training in the U.S. Navy at Great Lakes, Ill. He is a 1986 graduate of Marshall High School and the son of Mike J. Jurgensen, 6335 S.E. 85th Ave.

Michael J. McNassar

Michael J. McNassar has completed basic training in the U.S. Army at Fort Dix, N.J. He is a 1985 graduate of Parkrose High School and son of James P. and Jeoannea P. McNassar, 3607 N.E. 126th Ave.

Donald F. Gerspach

Sgt. Donald F. Gerspach has completed a primary leadership course in the U.S. Army. He is a military police specialist with the 3rd Infantry Division in West Germany.

Gerspach is a 1975 graduate of Parkrose High School and the son of Norma L. Gerspach, 221 S.E. 192nd Ave.

Ronald T. Vincent

Airman Ronald T. Vincent has been graduated from the U.S. Air Force electronic computer and switching systems course at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss. He is a 1984 graduate of Medford High School. His father is Ron Vincent, 15121 N.E. Clackamas St.

Daniel G. Doyen

Pvt. Daniel G. Doyen has reached

West Germany for duty with the 54th Army Engineer Battalion. He is a construction equipment repairman. He is a 1986 graduate of Centennial High School and the son of Thomas E. and Marion Doyen, 3348 S.E. 180th Ave.

Theodore J. Baisch

Seaman Theodore J. Baisch of the U.S. Navy has returned from a deployment to the Indian Ocean aboard the combat ship USS San Jose, which visited the Philippines, Singapore, Oman, Kenya, Diego Garcia and Western Australia. He is the son of Bill and Beverly R. Baisch, 10770 S.E. Stevens Way.

David W. Knapp

Pvt. David W. Knapp has reached West Germany for duty with the 60th Air Defense Artillery in the U.S. Army. He is a 1986 graduate of Reynolds High School and son of Ronald C. and Adele L. Robinson, 16110 N.E. Siskiyou St.

John R. Pickett

John R. Pickett has received the silver wings of an aviator in the U.S. Army and has been appointed a warrant officer upon completion of the rotary wing aviator course at Fort Rucker, Ala.

The course trains fliers in leadership and flying helicopters as well as instrument flying. Pickett is a 1978 graduate of Gresham High School and son of Jeanette E. Pickett, 957 N.E. 122nd Ave.

Neal L. Martin

Neal L. Martin has been promoted to the rank of specialist four in the U.S. Army.

He is a mechanic in West Germany. He is the son of Joan M. and Ed H. Martin, 9219 S.E. Fuller Road.

Kelly M. Amos

Kelly M. Amos has been promoted to airman first class in the U.S. Air Force. She is a production control specialist at Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D.

She is the daughter of Robert L. and Jennie M. Wilson, 13102 S.E. King Road.

Rick D. Berry

Sgt. Rick D. Berry of the U.S. Marines has been awarded a certificate of commendation for work as communications watch supervisor and naval warfare publications library clerk at the Marine Helicopter Air Station in Tustin, Ga.

He is the son of Jerry E. Berry, 2131 Corbett Hill Road, Corbett.

Yvonne M. Kimmel

Yvonne M. Kimmel has completed recruit training as a U.S. Navy airman at Orlando, Fla.

She is a 1985 graduate of Sandy High School and daughter of Glean G. Kimmel, 18172 Seaman Ave., Sandy.

Angela M. Baton

Angela M. Baton has graduated from Air Force basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

She is a 1985 graduate of David Douglas High School and daughter of MaryAnn Baton, 2372 S.E. 141st Ave.

Mike Mansker

Mike Mansker, constructionman apprentice in the U.S. Navy, has left for an eight-month assignment in Bermuda. He will take part in several building projects for the U.S. Naval Air Station on Bermuda.

He is the son of Thomas E. and Pamela J. Mansker, 1425 N.E. 192nd Ave.

Rochelle K. Fimmel

Airman 1st Class Rochelle K. Fimmel has graduated from the U.S. Air Force law enforcement specialist course at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

She is a 1984 graduate of Parkrose High School and the daughter of Kathy K. Farley, 138 S.E. 136th Ave., and Richard O. Fimmel, 8901 N.E. Halsey St.

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Kiwanienne auction set in Milwaukie

MILWAUKIE — A player piano and a refurbished juke box with hit songs from the 1950s will be among items offered for sale April 24 at the second annual Kiwanienne for Kids Auction in the Milwaukie Elks Lodge, 13121 S.E. McLoughlin Blvd.

Sponsoring the event are seven clubs of Kiwanienne, the women's arm of Kiwanis Club, said Pat Beylund, vice president of the Tigard Kiwaniennes.

Other participating clubs are from Gresham, Canby, Molalla, Milwaukie, South Riverside, which covers the Portland metropolitan core, and Greater Southwest, which covers immediate Southwest Portland neighborhoods.

Proceeds of the auction will go to

the Mount Hood Kiwanis Camp at Zigzag, which benefits mentally and physically handicapped children and adults. Beylund said the 1986 auction raised \$10,000 and that this year's goal was \$20,000.

Other large items that will be auctioned include a fox tail fur coat and a new, full-sized Brunswick pool table, she said. In addition, there will be a Kozy Korner cash-and-carry country store open from 5 p.m. until the auction ends selling items such as cookbooks, fresh vegetables and baked goods.

Admission to the auction is \$6, which includes a spaghetti dinner at the Elks Lodge from 5 to 7 p.m. A silent auction begins at 6 p.m. and the oral auction at 8 p.m.

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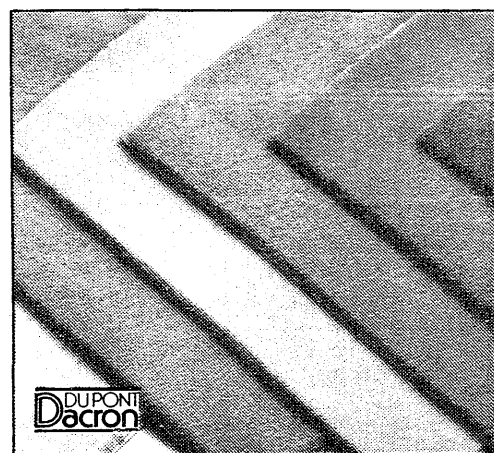
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