

Candidate Hooper pledges 'continuity of performance'

Clackamas County treasurer candidate Thelma Hooper pledged a "continuity of performance" if elected to succeed retiring Wayne La Farge in an address Tuesday before the Sandy Chamber of Commerce.

The incumbent now represents her as campaign manager for the May 23 primary.

Mrs. Hooper, 56, is running as a Democrat, although she feels that the office should not be considered political.

She presently serves as chief deputy in the county treasurer's office, a position she has held for nine of her past 18 years of staff service.

Ill health of LaFarge has left her in charge of the office recently, with her major assigned responsibility the past five years that of the county investment pool.

She told the chamber that the county's investment pool for other government agencies within the county has been a showcase for other states and counties of Oregon, with the state's own investment pool patterned largely after that of Clackamas County.

"My biggest concern," she said of her decision to run, "was the possibility that I would follow in the footsteps of someone who has spent over 28 years completely dedicated to giving his best for our county."

"Under Wayne's leadership, the office of county treasurer has become without a doubt the most

economical and profitable in the county government."

The county's investment pool serves 570 accounts, with 480 individual investments made by the county treasurer for 195 taxing bodies or trust and agency accounts.

Many cities and other entities have more than one account.

The county treasurer, as investment officer for the various participating government agencies within the county, deposits pool money in local banks and savings and loan institutions throughout Clackamas County.

Total investments as of March 31 totaled \$51.97 million. The rate of interest for various accounts vary from 6.58 percent to 7.5 percent.

She stressed local investment of county investment pool money—generally in lumps of \$100,000—as a plus for the county.

"Oregon's economy has a multiplier effect of at least 2.5 percent on personal income," she said. "This means that every dollar invested locally has a potential of producing \$2.50 in increased personal income."

She noted that interest earned on all investments for 1976-77 was \$2.172 million.

"This prudent investment of funds is helping stretch your tax dollars and helps provide some of the services for our rapidly growing

county," Mrs. Hooper told the Sandy Chamber.

Interest earned for this year, she said, will be close to \$2.75 million.

For districts preparing proposed bond sales, interest costs and amortization schedules are available from the county treasurer's office, she said.

"Assistance is given to attorneys for bonding capacity and debt service certifications."

Upon completion of a bond sale, the receipts are invested, since call for bids and construction may continue for months.

All interest, she said, is credited to the fund.

"With inflation and spiraling costs of construction," she said, "I have known in some cases where a district depends on these earnings to complete a project."

She cited as another plus for the present operation of the office the practice of depositing receipts from all county departments daily. These include district court fines and fees, circuit court, planning and development service.

Considerable attention is

being given by the Board of County Commissioners to the Robert Elfers Report (a management and financial service) for a more effective program of budgeting and cost accounting and urging various departments to adopt zero base budgeting.

Zero base budgeting, Mrs. Hooper said, helps determine program priorities.

The continuation of the treasurer's investment program, she said, "could certainly not be called ineffective or wasteful with an over \$2 million annual return for an annual operational budget of \$146,000."

The 1977-78 budget provides for a staff of eight, including a county treasurer, chief deputy, three investment clerks, two accounting clerks and a part-time bookkeeper.

"If elected," Mrs. Hooper said, "I shall make every effort to continue to provide strong leadership in the management and investment of all funds for those entities wishing to participate," she said of the investment pool.

She is a resident of Canby and a lifetime Clackamas County resident.

Youth wrecks car

A 15-year-old youth was injured early Sunday morning after the car he was driving struck a large rock on the side of Marmot Road, turning completely around before coming to rest on its

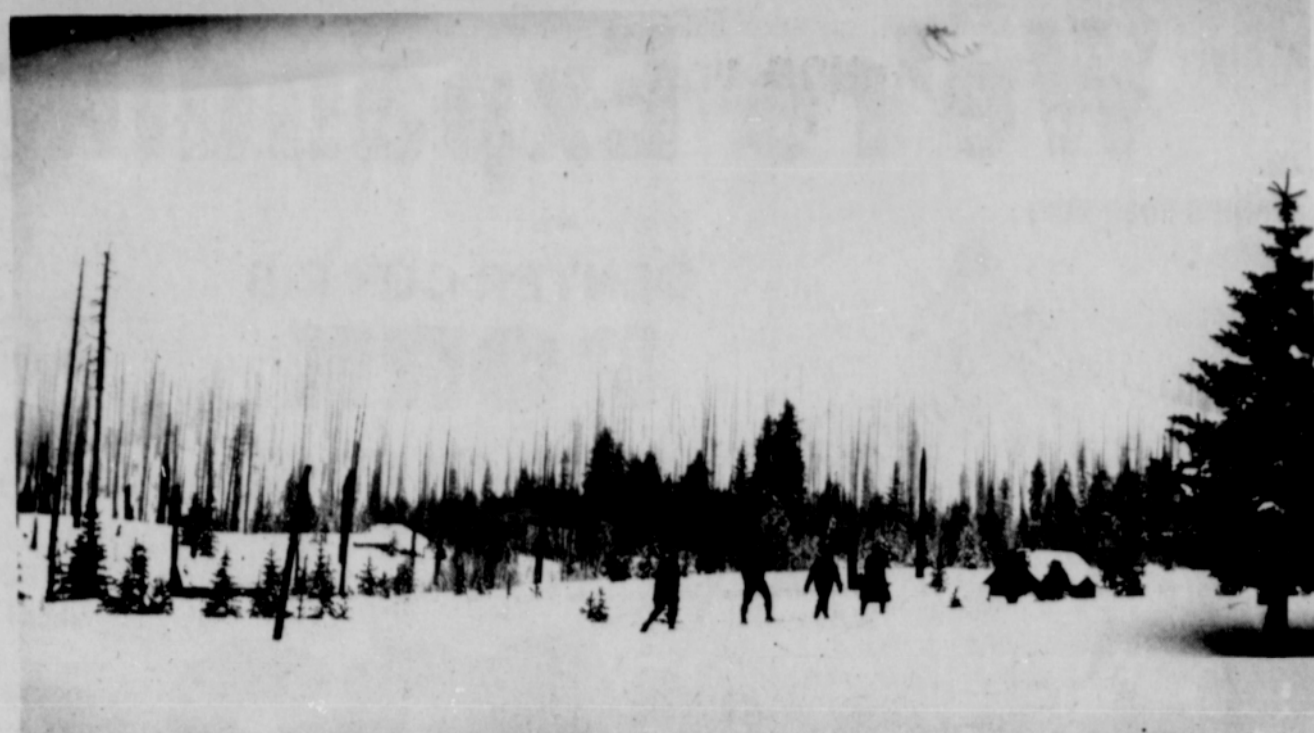
right side. James Randall Shibley of Vancouver, Wash., was transferred by Alpine Ambulance to St. Joseph's Hospital in Vancouver from Gresham Community Hospital.

He suffered facial lacerations and a fractured right leg, according to a spokesman for the Hoodland Fire Department.

Clackamas County Sheriff's deputies reported that Brian James Nelson, 14, of Brightwood—a passenger in the Volkswagen—was slightly injured in the collision. No citation was issued in the incident.

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STANFORD TOPS AGAIN
MBA magazine has again rated Stanford University's graduate School of Business as the best academically in the country, a position it has held since 1971. Harvard was second.



MEMBERS OF Quiet Trails are protesting motorized uses of Summit Meadows, shown here in a picture taken in 1929. "Historically, Government Camp and

the Trillium Lake - Summit Meadows Basin have the longest history of heavy non-motorized winter use on Mt. Hood," said a member of the group.

Quiet Trails group protests use of snowmobiles near lake

Quiet Trails, a group organized six years ago "to get snowmobiles out of the Trillium Lake basin," will sponsor a public hike into the historic Summit Meadows area on April 30.

The club will also circulate petitions asking the U.S. Forest Service to close the Trillium Lake area to snowmobiles during the winter, said spokeswoman Betty Jones of Portland.

She told The Post that the "time has come" to close the area to motorized uses such as snowmobiles.

"Snowmobiles have excellent areas elsewhere," she said, adding that the

Trillium Lake basin does not get heavy use from snowmobiles.

The area is a popular spot for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing, according to Mrs. Jones. "It's wrong to put snowmobiles and these kind of skiers together in the first place."

Mrs. Jones said snowmobiles previously needed the area because there were few other places for snowmobiles to park their cars and trailers on the highway. "This is no longer the case with the Sno-Park permits," she added.

Summit Meadows is already closed to

snowmobiles, but Mrs. Jones said "that doesn't mean they always stay off."

She added: "There is sometimes a person who misses the sign or who can't miss the temptation."

Members of Quiet Trails will meet at 1 p.m. on Sunday, April 30, on Highway 26 across the road from Snowbunny Lodge.

"We're going to assume there's going to be no snow, but we don't know," she said. "That will depend on the weather."

Members of the group will lead hikes down into the area throughout the afternoon.

"We're going to take the people and show them a little bit of the Barlow Trail," she noted.

"It was a veritable oasis for the weary travelers and their livestock, affording ample water, wood and grazing," said one historian, who wrote about the meadow in a Bicentennial edition of "Barlow Road" published by the Clackamas and Wasco County historical societies.

A pioneer cemetery is located near the meadow, as is the former site of the Summit House, built by Perry Vickers in 1868.

Land use planning methods criticized

A group calling itself the Home, Farm and Landowner's Protective Association is rapidly growing in Clackamas County, according to founders Bill Sanderson of Estacada and Don McIntosh of Canby.

The two said that interest in the rural county organization started less than two months ago and that they have brought the membership from a dozen to several hundred persons now on the mailing list for their

newsletter. "Two thousand copies of the organization's latest newsletter were distributed," Sanderson said.

The two say they are prepared to spend time providing their contentions, "researching complaints from members and others and marshalling support for positive action against persons or official bodies using any authority or material beyond that authorized by law."

Sanderson said he believes the county planning operation is "currently at its lowest level."

"Misinformation, bad information or the inability of concerned citizens to get any information at all from the county planning bureaucracy is one of the sure signs of inefficiency," he said.

Sanderson has been especially critical of the

Clackamas County Rural Zoning Project.

The association held an organizing council in Redland on March 29. At that time the group defined its purpose and objectives and elected a governing body to replace the two founders who had been acting as temporary co-chairmen. Forty members and delegates took part in the organizing procedure, according to Sanderson.

Progress slow in college talks

Negotiations between Mt. Hood Community College administrators and faculty members have not progressed past clarification of contract proposals with hard negotiations expected to begin within a week, spokesmen for both sides said Tuesday.

"We haven't set any records," MHCC President Stephen Nicholson said. "We're quite a ways from settlement. We're in the second year of a two-year contract that expires June 30—that's our goal (to ratify a contract by June 30) and we think we can accomplish that."

Negotiations began in

October with both sides presenting contract proposals in January.

"We've spent since January just answering questions from the board team," Rick Kotulski, faculty spokesman said. "We really haven't begun the process of bargain and exchange."

Neither side is using professional negotiators, but each has formed a negotiating team to try to hammer out an agreeable contract.

Both Nicholson and Kotulski said specific contract proposals have not been made. Negotiations will continue Thursday.

Mt. Hood sets strategy session

Election strategy will be discussed at a special meeting of the Mt. Hood Community College board tonight.

The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the home of MHCC President Stephen Nicholson, 2150 NE Francis Ct., Gresham.

The board is expected to discuss dollar amounts to be sought in a tax base election May 23. In all likelihood, the

board will approve a \$5.1 million figure but that decision cannot be made until the next regular board meeting, April 12.

Voters turned down a one-year \$2.5 million levy in a special election March 14 but by a margin of only 200 votes out of 8574 cast.

The board also may look beyond the May election to a special levy vote in June, should the tax base go down.

Renters due refund

Relatives and friends of patients in long-term care facilities, who do not own their own residences, are reminded that individuals in these facilities may be eligible for a renter's refund, according to state revenue director John J. Lobdell.

For the purposes of the renter's refund program, long-term care facilities are considered to be the homestead of the patient.

Eligible for the refund are renters who occupy an Oregon homestead as a renter on Dec. 31, 1977; have a total household income of less than \$16,000, and pay

rent on a homestead that is subject to property tax.

To file for the refund, renters must complete Form 70R in the Oregon income tax packet. Completed refund claims must be mailed by April 15, 1978.

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