

Action, Senior Centers gain from Gleaners program

by SCOTT NEWTON

Maggie Schwab didn't really consider herself a leader, but the cause was right.

Schwab is the Sandy team leader for the Gleaners of Clackamas County Inc.

The Gleaning program involves the gathering of crops, usually after harvest, by low-income people.

Food is shared through an adoptee program, with a healthy picker donating some of what has been picked to a senior citizen who is unable to get out into the fields, or to a handicapped person.

The Sandy Senior Center has received 200 pounds of green beans, seven crates of boysenberries, 50 pounds of dwarf plums, 400 pounds of squash, zucchini and yellow crook neck, 200 pounds of apples, 200 pounds of pears and 400 pounds of corn.

The Sandy Action Center has received 1,800 pounds of green cabbage, 1,100 pounds of corn and 300 pounds of apples.

"It's just a matter of letting the farmers know that we are sincere, that we want to do this work," Schwab said.

The Gleaners of Clackamas County are stronger in the south end of the county, she said, but in this area farmers are not familiar with the program, or if they are they have misconceptions about it.

Car pooling to the south end of the county is expensive, she pointed out, adding that if people



Maggie Schwab

can't afford food they can't afford gasoline either.

Gleaners did receive federal assistance, but that aid was cut off in September of last year.

Considering the high unemployment, Schwab considers the Gleaning program more important than ever.

One need not be in a low-income bracket to join Gleaners, although Schwab said more service is expected of those who are not low-

come. As a general rule members are asked to donate 50 percent of what they pick to an adoptee or to one of the local senior or action centers.

There is also work for disabled people or senior citizens who are not able to work in the fields, Schwab said.

Commercial farmers are eligible for a 10 percent state tax credit for donating to Gleaners.

Family gardeners are also eligible for deductions under certain guidelines.

The goal is to "get food into the homes that desperately need it," Schwab said. "I'm really excited about it. The more I'm involved with it the more good I can see."

A food club is also in the formative stages, and in the past exchanges have been worked out with other Gleaning organizations.

Though Schwab was reluctant at first to become involved as she was busy with other things, she found the proof she needed in the Book of Ruth in the Old Testament, where farmers are told to leave some of their crops for the poor to go in and pick for themselves.

Schwab called the Gleaning program "a total ministry."

Schwab, who runs a day care center, and her husband, Joe, who works at Esco, have six daughters between them. They live in the Boring area.

A team meeting is set for Oct. 9 at 7:30 p.m. at the Sandy Senior Center. For more information call Schwab at 663-5249.

Party leaves 'good feeling'

Rain did not dampen the spirits of approximately 25 teenagers who recently were guests of Kurt Brewster at his home in Marmot, just east of Sandy.

All the youngsters are alumni of the Easter Seals Camp, where they were either campers or volunteers.

Brewster spent four weeks at Camp Easter Seals as a counselor-volunteer this summer.

The camp is located near Coos Bay on a large, inland lake.

Two bus drivers from Sandy Union High School volunteered their time to drive the severely handicapped from Portland. Almost all required wheelchairs, and help.

One girl, Sunshine, who had been abandoned by her parents when she was one and had spent her life in a series of over 18 foster homes, was exuberant.

"We wondered what kind of parents you were and if you realized what you had gotten into. People just don't have parties for us in their homes," she told the Brewsters.

Many of those attending are on their own as their families have not

been able to handle the problems of their handicaps.

Walter, even though he had a difficult time speaking, was always joking. He was a normal teenager until his 16th birthday, which he spent in the hospital with a brain tumor. Doctors were unable to remove all of the tumor, and he is fast losing his sight and coordination but hopes to attend Portland Community College this fall.

Mike arrived late, and everyone was afraid he might get lost as he can neither hear nor speak.

Standing 6 foot, 3 inches and weighing over 200 pounds, he was essential in lifting many of the girls in and out of the whirlpool.

"It was probably one of the most exciting parties I ever attended," said Ginny Brewster. "It gave me a good feeling for days after."

The party ended with Kurt playing a song he wrote, "Camp Easter Seals," which tells about how the person inside is not what appears to be in the world around them.

Kurt is entering his second year at Antioch College in Yellow Springs,

Ohio, where he is majoring in psychology. He is the editor of the student magazine this year.

He urges involvement with the Easter Seals program.

Hawks, Smith to perform on Oct. 2

Larry Hawks and Laura Smith of Bellingham, Wash., will perform Oct. 2 at 8 p.m. at the Hoodland Women's Club.

They play a variety of music, including old-time country, spirituals, nostalgic pop songs from the '20s and '30s, and other topical and tropical songs.

They play a variety of instruments, including guitar, banjo, mandolin and jew's harp.

They are sponsored by Mountain Music. Call Will Frank at 622-3130 for more information.



Larry Hawks and Laura Smith will be at the Hoodland Women's Club on Oct. 2 at 8 p.m. for a Mountain Music-sponsored concert.

Mountain People festival planned

People who live and work on the slopes of Mt. Hood star in the "Mountain People" Festival at Timberline Lodge on Oct. 9 and 10.

From 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. on both days there will be booths displaying work in jewelry, ceramics, weaving, quiltmaking, painting, photography, stained glass, woodworking and other crafts by talented people who live between Hood River and Estacada. It's all original work and all for sale.

There will be special booths by organizations such as the Larch Moun-

tain Country Artisans, the Damascus School of Pioneer Crafts and the Wy'East Artisans Guild. These organizations will display the work of members and provide demonstrations of craft techniques.

More booths will offer mountain honey, books by mountain authors and tastings of mountain fruit wines.

There will be informative displays of mountain climbing equipment and of the aids used in mountain rescue operations. Multi-

image slide programs by Tom Iraci of the U.S. Forest Service will give visitors a look at the Timberline Trail and an informative overview of the fine crafts of the 30s that

Lions set Pumpkin Bazaar

Once again the Mt. Hood Lions Auxiliary is getting ready for its Pumpkin Patch Bazaar.

This year it will be Oct. 23 and 24 at the Lions Hall in Welches.

Doors will open at 10 a.m. to rows and rows of

mountain crafters displaying their wares.

Anyone living on the mountain who wishes a table, call Pic Erickson, 622-4471, at Flowers By Fireside. Better hurry though, they're going fast.

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