

**'We see it as a ministry'**

# Hoodland gleaners grow by 400 percent

by PHIL CHRISTENSEN  
Correspondent

Nearly 50 Hoodland families have had their summer food budgets stretched by a new local chapter of the Gleaners. The Gleaners have been distributing surplus bread, fruits and vegetables from Clackamas County growers and merchants.

Ken and Beverly Wisher of Hoodland head the local team, and have watched it grow from a dozen

families in April to 48 now. Bev says that many individuals in the area depend on the food as a primary source for feeding their families.

The Gleaners' headquarters and warehouse for this area is in Clackamas, where the organization stores food for low-income families and volunteers. Specially trained volunteers approach growers and merchants, offering to distribute any surplus foods that would otherwise be discarded.

There is no public funding for Gleaners; it is entirely funded and staffed by volunteers, like the Wishers. "It's like a full time job at times," Bev exclaimed. "Whenever we get calls (that a new shipment is available), we have to run into town and pick up the products."

At that point, a tightly organized network of homemakers notify each other the food stuffs have arrived and pick up their shares from the Wishers' home.

Wisher was unsure of the status of Gleaner groups in other counties, but understood a Multnomah County team had disbanded some time ago.

"Picks" occur when an unharvested crop is in surplus. Gleaners carpool directly to the fields, leaving small children at home with other Gleaners, and take their harvest of fruits or vegetables home to share with other Gleaners. Growers have experienced bountiful crops this year, and according to

Bev, have been cut off at the canneries because of the bumper crops.

Growers and merchants are eager to help the Gleaners, according to Bev. "It's a tax write off. They get credit for every pound the Gleaners pick up. This year, especially, several of the crops were overflowing."

Ken Wisher, who makes most of the trips into Clackamas, says the spirit of cooperation in the group is an encouragement.

However, until recently, the Wishers have borne most of the burden of gasoline costs, phone bills and time to organize the team. "We see it as a ministry," Bev says.

Recent fund raisers have pooled a little money to draw from for those needs, but the system, including donations, remains entirely voluntary. "If someone has money, they can give to help out, we accept it," says Bev, "but if they can't, that's okay, too."

**Recalls area's recent history**

## Security agent enjoys 24-year career

by PHIL CHRISTENSEN  
Correspondent

Hoodland's Scotty Simpson has a stack of the area's telephone directories that go back to 1962. His security service, Scotty's Mount Hood Patrol, is listed in every one of them.

"I'm a packrat," he says as he looks at the books, "I never throw anything away."

For 24 years, Simpson has contracted privately to patrol many of the secluded homes in the Hoodland area.

The nickname, "Scotty," goes back to his service days. "Everybody on the ship had a nickname." Forbes Simpson was tagged Scotty, for his Scottish heritage, "and it just stuck. I've always carried it with me."

Simpson spins many stories of life in the corridor. He points out a picture in the 1962 yellow pages of the old Chevron station in Rhododendron. "A guy named Middleton used to own it," he says. "Whenever people needed ambulance service, or had any emergency, they'd call him & he'd get you in touch with the right people, or come out himself. He and his wife were ambulance people and real civic minded. A bunch of people got together, and were mad, because he didn't have proper certification. It put him out of business."

Scotty was the first person on the mountain to have a mobile telephone. Well, a mobile telephone of sorts. He explains, "I had a portable telephone in my car. All I had to do was open up any of the junction boxes on the poles and clip the lead of my phone up. Then I'd call Charlie Augustine (the owner of the phone company at that time) from my car."

"I more or less worked for him. I'd drive along on my security routes and if I saw a broken line, I'd fix it. I'd tell Charlie, and he would come out later and usually replace the entire line," Simpson recalls.

Augustine sold the phone company to Sunnyside Telephone Company in 1968.

Scotty's Mount Hood Patrol started out in 1962 with just 13 accounts. "The guy who owned the service was at my house one day and wanted to sell the business for \$500. I told him I'd like to take it, but didn't have the money or any experience in the business. He came back the following

Monday with the list of accounts and just gave the business to me." Simpson says he nearly starved to death the first year, trying to live off the business.

"I built the business up to 200 accounts. I only charged \$25 a year then. When I raised the price to \$35, I lost 15 accounts."

**'I started working at Bowman's 23 years ago. From 11 p.m. to 7 a.m., seven days a week. No vacations.'**

— Scotty Simpson

"Marsh Glos (then owner of Sandy's Glos Ford) helped me out. He took the old station wagon I had and leased me a Torino in 1976." Eventually, Simpson bought that vehicle and still drives it today. "That car has only been driven over 55 mph twice," he says.

Simpson in his silver Torino has been a familiar sight along Highway 26 in the corridor for many years.

Besides his years of patrolling the corridor, Simpson is probably best known for his 18-year role of night watchman at what was then Bowman's resort, now Rippling River.

"I started working at Bowman's 23 years ago. From 11 p.m. to 7 a.m., seven days a week. No vacations." A serious bout with emphysema forced him to resign six years ago.

Simpson says that he's not as active as he once was. "I've cut back a lot because of health. Ed (Wever) takes care of all the house checking now. I never had it so good."

Simpson's experience with people and burglaries has left him with some definite views about crime on the mountain. "The biggest problem is that people don't want to get involved," he says. "They're afraid they'll have to appear in court. Even if the criminals do get to court, there's no room in the jails, so they get their hands slapped and are released."

"We need more jail space and more officers, but no one wants to pay more taxes. The amount extra

at the bend in the highway where R.V. Wonderland Preserve is now located, and was a favorite stop of locals and truckers."

Simpson tells of commuting to Portland before the four-lane went in. It was a two-hour trip. "In those days you went through Cherryville, Kelso and Orient just to get to Gresham. I didn't mind the drive. The only place I had to slow down was Orient. They had a policeman there that wouldn't take 'no' for an

answer. When those signs said 25 miles per hour, they meant it. You never knew where he was at."

Old habits are hard to break. Simpson, now 75, says, "I just cruise these days and keep an eye on the mountain." His police monitor runs constantly. If anything suspicious arises, he notifies either the county or state police immediately via his citizen's band radio.

Suzette, a white poodle, keeps Simpson company these days, at home and in the car. "She's a good girl."

Scotty has a good relationship with the local police, and even has a little fun with them. "I set my cruise control at exactly 52 mph. Once in a while a state trooper will pull up behind me, and tell me over the C.B., 'Take it off cruise control, so we can give you a ticket, Scotty.'"

Fourteen years ago, Scotty was made an honorary member of the Clackamas County Deputy Sheriff's reserve, a title he is proud of, though it is on an unpaid basis. "I used to go out on special calls for them," he says. "Lots of stake outs."

"My honorary member number is 0003; that means there's two others ahead of me, if they're still alive. Who knows? I may be number one now!"

**The typical MHCC student...**



**REGISTER NOW!**  
**CLASSES BEGIN SEPT. 21**

Make Mt. Hood  
Community College part  
of YOUR future  
Call 667-7392



**Mt. Hood Community College**  
**26000 S.E. Stark St.**  
**Gresham, OR 97030**

## Hikers warned about waterborne diseases

Hikers are warned to use precaution before drinking water from a lake, stream or river.

Even in the most remote area, waterborne diseases can be just a stream away, according to a report by Mount Hood National Forest officials.

Giardiasis, also known as Beaver Fever, can be blamed on the beaver, muskrat and other animals who help spread giardia cysts throughout the backcountry. These cysts, found in the feces of wild and domestic animals, may contaminate surface water supplies such as lakes, streams and rivers.

Once the giardia cysts are ingested, it may take five to seven

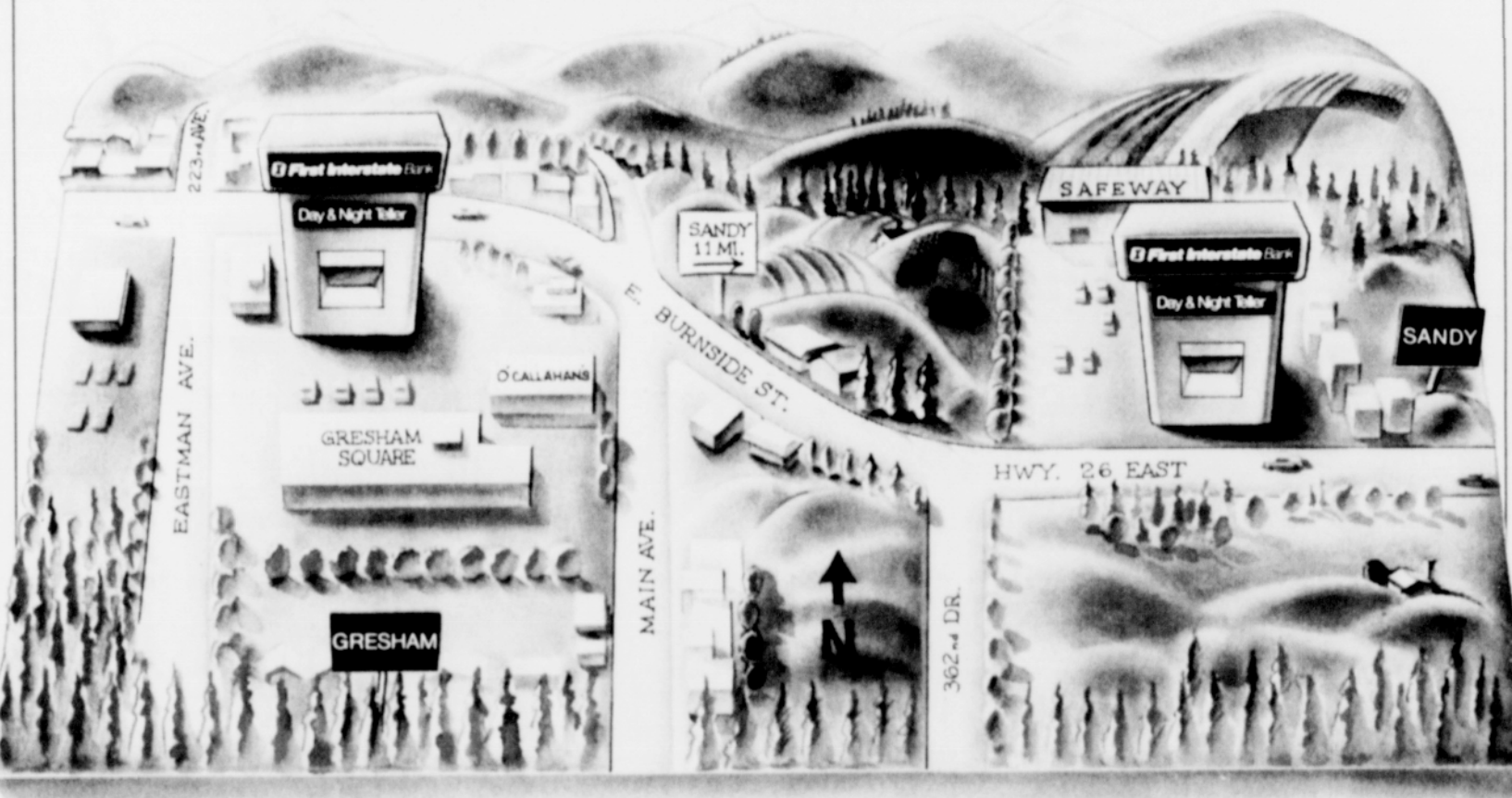
weeks before the symptoms appear. You may lose your appetite, feel weak, lose weight, experience cramps, diarrhea, headaches and chills. Though the disease is rarely fatal, it is never comfortable.

The best treatment is prevention. Take along your own supply of drinking water. Boil water from a lake or river for five minutes. If boiling water is impractical, iodine and chlorine tablets are available at sporting goods stores.

These chemical disinfectants are not considered as reliable as heat in killing giardia, but do work well against most other waterborne bacteria and viruses.

**Open by  
Labor Day Weekend**

**Now banking is even  
more convenient for our  
Gresham & Sandy customers.**



**With two new Day & Night Teller® machines!**

**F**irst Interstate Bank has opened new Day & Night Teller machines in the Gresham Square and in Sandy. And that makes banking easier for our customers. Because you can get cash, make deposits, check your balance and more every day, 24 hours a day, in two convenient new locations.

The new Day & Night Teller machines join more than 120 other machines in Oregon, including a machine at our new branch in Sunriver.

What's more, every First Interstate Day & Night Teller machine is part of the CIRRUSS® network of

automated teller machines that lets you get up to \$200 cash a day instantly at thousands of locations across the continent.

So when you need cash or banking services, remember—our new Day & Night Teller machines are available night and day, every day, to serve your banking needs!

Member FDIC

Gresham Square, near O'Callahan's, 223rd & Burnside.  
Hwy. 26, Sandy Safeway parking lot.



**First Interstate Bank**

### SANDY ANIMAL CLINIC



PET CARE CLINICS FIRST & FOURTH  
WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

|                           |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Rabies                    | \$5       |
| Feline & Canine Distemper | \$5       |
| Parvo Virus               | \$5       |
| Leukemia testing          | \$10      |
| Leukemia vaccination      | \$9       |
| Dog Spaying (female)      | \$35 & up |
| Dog Neutering (male)      | \$35      |
| Cat Spaying (female)      | \$25      |
| Cat Neutering (male)      | \$15      |

**668-4139** Call for Appointments

