



## Mopping up

Mike Easter of Mahama, who works for Jim Miley's Fire Line Inc., sprays hot embers with water during a mop-up exercise after a fire near Alder Creek. The fire burned

about 18 acres of underbrush. A crew of about 25 people worked Monday to make sure the fire was out. Story on Page 1.

## Labor camp

From Page 1A

type of workers he has in his camp," Knapp said.

Knapp said farmers have had a problem with the theft of tools and equipment, but he said none of the problems have ever been tied to the workers staying at Wickersham's camp. He said he has left pickups loaded with tools near the labor camp and they have remained undisturbed.

But Jack Beal said additional migrant workers would spread thin the resources of the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office.

He said that 175 workers conceivably could bring dozens of cars to the camp, and he said that many migrant workers do not have driver's licenses or car insurance.

Wickersham said he would limit the number of cars to four or five. He provides transportation to workers staying at his camp.

Bud Springer said he had nothing

against the migrant laborers, but he said they usually don't have automobile insurance or medical insurance. Having the additional workers in the area would eventually add to "the burden on the taxpayer," Springer said.

Although Wickersham said he would house only laborers — and not their families — some people questioned whether it would actually work that way.

"Some of these people do bring their wives and kids with them," Sinclair said.

"I'll bet dollars for donuts that there will be pregnant women and kids at the camp. I don't see how you can stop that."

Marlene Najdek said the key issue is whether Wickersham really needs 175 workers. A number of farmers claimed he did not because he was able to "loan" his workers to other

growers.

Wickersham acknowledged he could not keep the workers busy from May to October but said he needed them during peak harvesting periods.

He said migrant workers lived in the woods before he began offering housing. "If you'd rather have them go to the woods, then I guess you can force them to do that," he said.

Bill Mathews said Wickersham was running a labor contracting business. Wickersham is not expanding his labor camp "out of the goodness of his heart," Mathews said. "We're talking about labor contracting. There's money being made."

Knapp responded to Mathews' charge. "I kind of resent that a little," he said, adding that other farmers are not able to get the workers at any time but have to plan

around Wickersham's schedule.

"We don't pay Toney anything for them. We pay the men directly," Knapp said.

Sinclair objected to the general state of Wickersham's farm and labor camp. He said in the past there have been weedy areas, beer cans on the road and laundry hanging on the fence.

Wickersham cleaned up his migrant labor camp because the county forced him to, Sinclair said.

Wickersham said Tuesday that he has made improvements beyond what the county requires. He has installed toilets, showers, wash basins and laundry facilities at a cost of about \$65,000, he said.

"I want it to be something modern, something nice for them to live in," he said.

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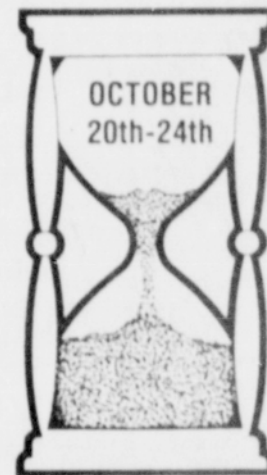


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## Birth announcements

### Christopher Smith

Tony and Rachel Smith of Gresham welcomed Christopher Anthony to the family on Oct. 1. He weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces, and measured 21 inches.

He is their first child. Grandparents are Delores Lynch of Gresham, and Bob and Kay Montgomery of Sandy.

Great-grandparents are Anita Smith of Portland and Ida Kampa of Sandy.

### Stefanie Clements

Keith and Twenka Clements of Gresham welcomed Stefanie Renee to the family on Sept. 23. She weighed

7 pounds, 9 ounces, and measured 20 and 1/4 inches.

She joins Dustin, 8, Jonathan, 6, Christina, 5, and Anthony, 3.

Grandparents are Denita Jones of Milwaukie and Bert and Sandy Aronsen of Alaska, and Christopher and Mary Clements of Eagle Creek.

Great-grandparents are Leona Pollock of Milwaukie and Louise

Craw of Eagle Creek.

### Adam Young

Rick and Jodi Young of Boring welcomed Adam Taylor to the family Aug. 30. He weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces, and measured 20 1/2 inches.

He joins Ryan, 4, and Tyler, 16 months.

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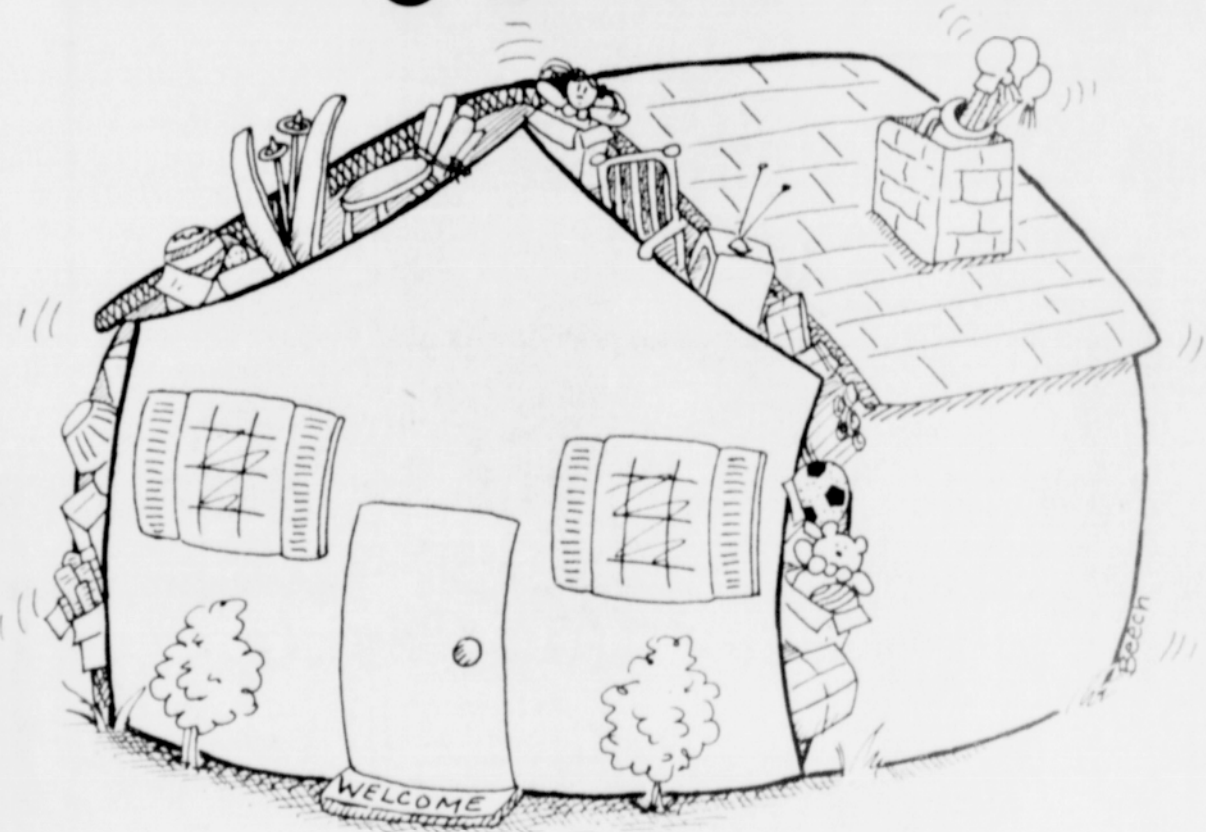
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