

Business



Jerry Buskirk said improvements to the service area are important because doing repair work is an important part of the business. The building also has a new roof, new paint and a new front.

A new look

Business remodels, adds computer

Carlson Chevrolet recently completed about a \$20,000 remodeling project.

It has also joined a computer network, which was even more of a financial commitment than the remodeling.

"We want people to know we're going to be here a while," said Jerry Buskirk, parts and service director. "We feel the community is growing."

The car dealership, which has been in Sandy for over 20 years, has new signs, new paint and a new roof. There have been some minor changes to the front of the building as well.

Some major changes have occurred in the service and parts areas, where a dividing wall has altered the flow of pedestrian traffic.

Buskirk said it is a good idea to keep customers out of the area where mechanics are working for safety reasons.

However, customers can see over the dividing wall to observe the working being conducted in the shop.

The counter in the service area has also been redesigned to make it more organized for employees. New counter tops have also been installed.

The parts department has also been redesigned, and Buskirk said



Parts man Bob Lowe can locate parts easier now that Carlson Chevrolet has joined a nationwide computer network.

the changes should lead to faster service.

Carlson Chevrolet's parts inventory is now listed on a computer, and the computer keeps track of what is sold and what is requested. That helps employees decide what to order, Buskirk said.

"We can't carry \$500,000 worth of parts in Sandy, but we've got \$10 million worth of parts in here," Buskirk said, motioning toward the computer.

Carlson Chevrolet employees go to Portland every day for parts,

and the computer helps them locate parts quickly.

Bob Lowe, parts counter employee, said they had received a request for radiator mounting pads — an item they would not normally stock — at 11 a.m. Monday, and had the parts for the customer by 1:30 p.m.

One-day or overnight service should be the standard in the parts and service department, Buskirk said.

Buskirk said that all the remodeling work was done by Sandy people.

Stones

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Hallmark stores in East Multnomah County.

Stone and his sons did much of the remodeling work at the clothing store in Sandy. The building was formerly home to the Sandy Market grocery store.

Stone said Sandy shoppers would be the beneficiaries of the going-out-of-business sale. He said they have \$700,000 worth of merchandise to sell, some of which was Christmas merchandise.

The sale started on Wednesday. On Thursday, it will again run from noon

to 9 p.m. On Friday, the store will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. On Saturday, it will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.

It will be open for regular store hours after that.

"I hope the sale goes fast and that somebody likes the facility," Stone said. "I'd feel better leaving with a good tenant in the building, rather than leaving an empty building."

Stones will sell Western wear, shoes and boots, suits, sports coats, ladies clothing and jeans for 30 per-

cent to 80 percent off. Even the light fixtures are for sale.

The building will be available for lease. It has 6,000 square feet of floor space and 1,200 square feet of storage. The Stones also have an undeveloped, 31,500 square foot lot on Pioneer Boulevard.

Stone said there is a good flow of traffic in his Gresham store, but added that he could not afford to subsidize the Sandy store.

"It hurts to have to do what we're doing," Stone said. "This is the heart of Sandy."

Hole

Continued from Page 1.

Clackamas County Bank, located across the street, said the bank's customers often shopped at Stones. "Some of our customers seem to frequent certain stores," Proctor said. "We hate to lose them (Stones)."

Proctor said the announcement that the store is closing comes at a time when other local economic in-

dicators, such as the timber and berry industries, are showing signs of recovery from the recession.

Kay Lammers, owner of the Sears catalogue store, said she hopes a new tenant can be found.

She remembered a comment people often made at the Decker and

Scales clothing store. "People would tell them, 'I looked all over at shopping malls and you have it right here,'" Lammers said. "It makes you want to scream."

Redman agreed. She said if people do not try to find merchandise in Sandy first, they cannot expect local businesses to stay open.



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Company donates software package

Mount Hood Hospice was the recipient of a donation of a \$7,000 software package termed "Medicalis System VI."

The software was donated to the Sandy-based hospice by Caduceus Computer Systems of Beaverton.

According to Judith Wesley, director for Mount Hood Hospice, the donation was made by Fred Robbins, owner of the company.

"Because we are a small, community based hospice, it would have been years before we were able to purchase such a system. We are very grateful to Mr. Robbins for his generous donation to our agency."

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