Mink Processing

A group of Boring residents learned recently why Dad has to ante up more than a few shekels when Mom decides she must have a mink coat.

The lesson was derived through a tour of the plant of Pacific Fur Foods, Inc., located just north of Boring on the Haley road.

Incorporated two years ago by 12 local mink farmers, the plant originally was intended merely for preparation of food for the mink — a process more complicated than it sounds. Addition of facilities this year, however, has enabled the plant to process mink pelts.

38 Employed

Manager Lee Paola led the group through the plant, explaining both the feed preparation and pelt processing operations. Some 38 employees, mostly women, were at work, since this is the busy time of year for processing pelts.

The mink are dispatched by gas and skinned before the plant enters the picture. The pelts are rolled when they are brought to the plant, and they remain this way in cold storage until processing begins.

First step in processing is "fleshing," in which fat is removed from the insides of the pelts. Female pelts are done by hand, while machines are used on the tougher male pelts.

Paola said the machines are being tried experimentally, but that more machines probably will be purchased to eliminate the hand work.

Oil Used

Oil obtained from the fat, incidentally, is used in hand creams.

Next the pelts are placed in large, drum-shaped tumblers containing corn cob grit. This removes dirt, grease and other foreign substances.

A wooden frame, shaped something like a paddle, then is inserted into the pelt to stretch it — though not too much, or the pelt will be damaged.

The farmers pick up their pelts and send them to the auction of their choice, primarily in the East. Before the pelts become coats, however, even more thinning of the pelt must take place. This is not done at the local plant.

Some 1,350 pelts can be processed daily. They are brought in not only by local growers, but from points in Washington and California.

Male pelts are a little larger than those of females, but they also are more difficult to process. Male pelts generally are used for trimming and stoles, Paola explained, while female pelts go into jackets and coats.

Prices for a pelt range roughly from \$5 to \$35, depending on quality. Since an average of about 75 pelts go into a single coat, Dad can see where a large portion of the purchase price goes.

Special Diet

And if you think you're a fussy eater, consider the poor mink. The bacteria count in the average fish filet you buy at the market would prove fatal to the furry creature.

Therefore, for its mink food operation, the plant imports carefully selected fish from the coast. This is combined with poultry and a specially-prepared dry cereal produced by a well-known cereal concern

The food is frozen in a huge, drive-in cold storage unit operated by a 150 horse power compressor. It's the first of its kind in the Northwest, Paola said.

In the freezer, 24,000 pounds can be frozen in 24 hours.

Formula Changed

Nutritional needs of the mink change from time to time through the year, and to satisfy these needs the food formula is changed often.

Boring residents taking the tour were Glenn Lewis, postmaster; Mrs. Lewis, operator of Logger's Hut Cafe; Wilbur Shutes, Boring General Store; John Harris, Harris Lumber Co.; Marion Cooper, Valberg Lumber Co.; Don Dayton, Dayton Loading Co.; Andy Waters, Harvey's Tavern; Phil Richards, American Breeders Service; Mrs. Richards; and John Anderson, Duane Setness and Herold James, all of the Soil Conservation Service.

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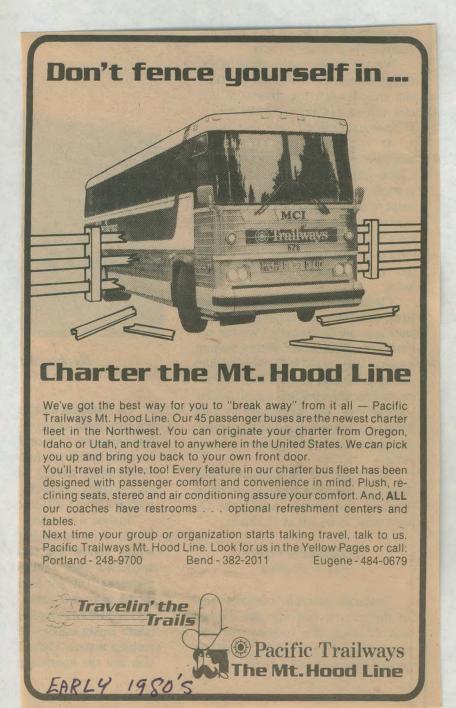
Plant Provides Lesson

PACIFIC FUR FOODS



Taking part in the tour of the Pacific Fur Foods, Inc., plant last week were the Boring residents pictured above. They are, from left, Mrs. Glenn Lewis, John Harris,

Phil Richards, Mrs. Richards, Wilbur Shutes, Marion Cooper, John Anderson, Duane Setness, Harold James, Glenn Lewis and Lee Paola, plant manager. (Outlook photo)



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OUTLOOK JULY1, 1976



Papé Machinery rolls in town

Nursery industry uptick helps fuel equipment dealer's expansion

By SHANNON O. WELLS The Outlook

hen Papé Machinery Inc. took over the Fisher Implements/Farm & Lawn business in the Orient area in September 2012, it inherited a 65-year legacy of agricultural equipment sales in that lo- our business, I think this is recation.

When Papé considered moving closer to the heart of Greshsion taken lightly.

former Sunbelt Rentals space at 1510 E. Powell Blvd. provided the best combination of factors to al- like we weren't going too far inlow Papé — an Oregon business to town." founded in 1938 — to further build its residential as well as larger-scale agricultural cus- age homeowner to combines, tomer base.

search to try to find the right location," said Jake Barge, general Deere equipment dealer with a manager of Papé Machinery's staff of 13 permanent employees Gresham operation. "The strategy behind being here is being three key departments of sales, able to grow our business. This felt like it increases the opportunity to do that."

Dec. 22 at its new location in the southwestern corner of Gresham's business district. The move from 6928 S.E. 282nd Ave. provides a strategic spot for townand country-based customers.



ally a good opportunity to be in IF YOU GO this area and to try to grow that part of it," Barge said. "And we am, therefore, it was not a deci- can still take care of our core group of customers, which are As it turned out, the vacant our agricultural customers. The distance is just a couple of miles (from the Orient location). It felt

From push lawnmowers, generators and pumps for the avertillers and all sizes of tractors "We had a pretty extensive for the gardener and commercial farmer, Papé — a John - concentrates its service on parts and service.

A fourth department, called Integrated Solutions, was re-Papé, a certified John Deere cently added to provide a new equipment dealer, opened on technological element to the farming world.

"That's our technological piece," Barge explained. "It's based on precision farming. It's basically tools we can provide in support to customers that al-"For the residential side of lows them to better manage

WHAT: Papé Machinery, relocated from 6928 S.E. 282nd Ave. WHERE: 1510 East Powell Blvd...

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their business."

With East Multnomah County's extensive nursery business providing a core component of Papé's customer base, Barge and his staff are understandably enthused as the industry continues its emergence from the economic doldrums of four or five

"The nursery business is com- helped the nursing industry." ing back. That's exciting," Barge said. "Quite frankly, it's about time. These guys have struggled

of our growers out here. It's just good to see that finally starting said. "We've upgraded our abilto uptick or rebound."

Left: Employee

Papé Machinery Agriculture &

Turf moves fertilizer spreading

equipment.

Right: Papé Machinery

Agriculture &

Turf Gresham is

located at 1510

E. Powell Blvd.

OUTLOOK PHOTO:

Jeff Stone, executive director of the Oregon Association of Nurseries, agreed the positive industry trend that emerged in the past year continues moving in the right direction.

small greenhouse growers have part of it." all seen upticks in sales and production, which is great news. We had a good, hard, long and dreadful five years."

That companies such as Papé are choosing to expand and invest in new locations is another sign the nursery industry is blooming once again.

"That type of investment is not done on a whim." Stone noted. "It's done on a business model. The general rebound of the economy has helped consumer confidence, which has therefore

Barge, who joined Papé - a fourth-generation Oregon family business — two and a half years out there. It's been tough on a lot ago, noted concerns loyal cus-



tomers of the Orient branch have about the move to Powell Boulevard are typically alleviated when they set foot in the new

"We've had quite a few of those customers come by, and it's apparent (to them that) this is a much better facility," Barge ity to take care of them through the resources we have here."

As versatile as the new space is, customer service remains the heart of the matter, he noted.

"This company cares about its people, and that's reflected. I "In the last year (the industry) believe, on how we try to take has rebounded across almost ev- care of customers every day," ery segment we have. Large and he said. "That's the important

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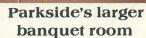
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Small reception hall accommodates up to 50 guests.



Foyer — featuring the warmth of an 8' fireplace.

Gresham

One couple even catches helicopter from adjacent park

By VICKIE L. KAVANAGH

Special writer, The Oregonian

GRESHAM — Gresham residen Terry and Liza Vogel chartered helicopter as the grand finale their wedding, held recently at the Parkside Chapel in Gresham.

"I often hear the sound of Li Flight helicopters from my hor and the thought of taking a ride in helicopter excited me," Terry Vos

The Vogel family, including Ter Vogel's children Aaron, 10, and Ma thew, 8, rode the helicopter to Po land International Airport, whe the family boarded a plane for a ho eymoon vacation at Disneyland.

The Parkside Chapel, 257 S. Roberts Ave., was a logical site f the wedding because the building adjacent to Gresham's Main Ci Park, which served as a landing p

for the helicopter.

Victoria Jenkins, managing dire tor for the chapel for the past 3 years, said the chapel is occasional used for out-of-the-ordinary we dings.

She's turned down a few odd quests. First, there was a pet own looking for a place for his dogs to

the nuptial knot.

Then there was a request for "nudist-colony-style wedding" th

Jenkins politely rejected.

Likewise, she rejected a reque from a couple who wanted to we lingerie for the occasion.

Hindu wedding

The most memorable event Je kins has coordinated was a Hine

The wedding was arranged by t fathers of a couple in their 20s. T couple agreed to go through with t wedding after a two-hour dinn with both families present.

In India, the color white is sy bolic of death, so the bride and atte dants wore red, painted themselv with reddish-brown henna dye ar wore several pieces of gold metal

"Throughout the wedding cer mony guests wandered around, h conversations and ate and drai from a table set up at the door," Je kins said.

Diverse uses

Parkside, named appropriate for its parkside setting, also provid facilities and services for busine

chapel caters to wedding needs



MARY TAPOGNA

Terry Vogel (left) and his new wife, Liza, anticipate the thrill of a helicopter ride following their recent wedding at Parkside Chapel in Gresham. In front are Terry Vogel's children, Matthew (left), 8, and Aaron, 10, who went along for the ride.

dinners, club meetings, banquets and personal celebrations.

"We will help — as little or as much — as our customers choose," Jenkins said.

Leslie VanVoast assists Jenkins as event coordinator, and Willard Erickson is the full-time custodian.

Executive chef Woody Adair designed an extensive menu and leads a kitchen staff of 18 part-time cooks and waitresses. Adair worked as executive chef at the Thunderbird and Red Lion restaurants for 23 years, and at the Benson Hotel prior to that.

A wedding package includes coordination and supervision of the rehearsal and wedding, silk floral arrangements, candelabras, pew bows, a kneeling bench, a guest book and ring bearer's pillow

Dressing rooms for the bride and bridegroom are included.

In her room, the bride will find a professional steam machine, a telephone and a vanity loaded with a basket of grooming aids such as combs, needle and thread, safety pins, personal hygiene products and a bottle of extra-strength tablets for

The cost for a wedding in the

through Friday and \$250 on Saturdays and holidays.

A wedding in the larger chapel is \$500 Sunday through Friday and \$600 on Saturdays and holidays.

The reception package includes the coordinator's time and a crew to set up tables, serve food and drink

The reception package also features the wedding cake, surrounded by fresh flowers; and a cake cutter and all linens, crystal, silver and china. In addition, Parkside supplies engraved napkins, fruit punch, coffee, tea, mints, nuts, goblets for the bridal toast and a bottle of cham-

Package prices vary according to the number of guests and the day of

A small wedding and reception package, a two-hour event for 50 people or less, varies from \$600 to \$750. For a reception only, a couple would deduct \$100 from the price.

The larger package, a four-hour event for up to 100 people, varies from \$1,100 to \$1,500. For a reception only, the cost is \$200 less.

Additional services at an extra charge include wedding invitations; ministers or chaplains; alcoholic heverages: an organist: and a complete menu.

Parkside also provides referrals to photographers, limousine service, musicians or disc jockeys.

The banquet room door leads to the Main City Park, an excellent setting for photographs, Jenkins said.

Historical building

The two-story portion of the Parkside Chapel was the Johnson family home in the early 1900s. The Johnson family homesteaded the property adjacent to Powell Boulevard and used part of their building as a

Gresham resident Lewis C. Carroll later bought the building, added to it and converted it into the Carroll Funeral Home.

When he decided to retire in 1986, he sold the 20,000-square-foot building to Stan Morris, owner of the Bateman Carroll Funeral Chapel in Gresham.

Morris said he wanted to put the building to practical use.

"What can you do with an old funeral home?" he said.

He decided to use the chapel for weddings and renovate the remaining rooms for a reception center.

"So far, I figure I've spent about \$125,000," Morris said.

OUT. JUNE 29,88

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VISA'



awatowa Gresham

A NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE

By NANCY McCARTHY Special Writer

> ike McKeel began life in downtown Gresham, in a house where his parents lived on Northwest Miller Now a dentist in an office just a few blocks

away from his childhood home and the developer of the Oneonta Townhomes three blocks from Main Street, McKeel is making it possible for other families to

enjoy downtown Gresham living.

"I think it's an undiscovered treasure," McKeel said. "Probably in the whole metropolitan area it's one of the last two or

three best-kept secrets."

Bordered by trafficcoated streets including Southeast Division Street, East Powell Boulevard, Eastman Parkway and Hogan Street, downtown Gresham is an oasis of upscale gift shops and gourmet restaurants that sit alongside meat-and-



potato eateries and

antique stores on narrow,



JOHN M. VINCE

Phyllis Flury lives and works in downtown Gresham. The co-owner of Pasta Pazzo on Main Street says she loves all that downtown living has to offer, not the least of which is a view of Mount Hood from her townhouse.

MAX light-rail line offers a direct ride to downtown Portland. Older, modest homes date to the days when Gresham — now the fourth-largest city in Oregon — was a quiet farming community, and the strawberry was king.

Houses, ranging from 850 square feet to 1,746 square feet, are selling for between \$112,000 and \$216,000. Families of all economic levels call downtown Gresham home, but

Please turn to Profile, Page H2

Downtown life has many facets, resident discovers

By NANCY McCARTHY

Special Writer

hen Phyllis Flury moved into Oneonta Townhomes in Gresham two years ago, she thought she would miss her garden. She had loved to putter in the yard at her former house on Binford Lake.

"I haven't missed it in a heartbeat. Other things have taken its place," Flury said, smiling broadly while commenting on her new downtown life. "A lot goes on down here, and a lot more is in the offing, with a brew pub and a gymnasium opening up soon."

Flury's 1,800-square-foot townhouse is only four blocks from the Pasta Pazzo shop that she co-owns with her daughter-in-law on Main Street. Her home is especially comfortable because Flury was able to modify the floor plan while the building was under construction.

The front door facing Northeast Fourth Street opens into an airy living room, where two couches face a gas-burning fireplace. Light comes in from two corner windows. In the winter, before the trees bloom, Flury has a view of Mount Hood from the downstairs area.

The U-shaped kitchen has plenty of cabinets and tile counter space, with a large cooking island in the center. Down the hall is a den with room enough to put a twin bed for guests, and a bathroom with a shower that Flury added during construction. A side door opens into a small, gated outdoor space, which leads to the street behind her unit.

Upstairs, a large bedroom with a fireplace has its own patio, so Flury can sip a morning cup of coffee and watch passersby on the sidewalk below. She hasn't yet decided how she will use the loft above the walk-in closet; she will have to have a ladder built

Please turn to Flury, Page H2





Gresham-born
Mike McKeel is
now a dentist
and real estate
developer in his
hometown,
which he
describes as an
"undiscovered
treasure."
McKeel, left,
developed the
Oneonta Townhomes.

Oneonta Townhomes, above and right, feature pedestrian-friendly walkways out front and porches perched over garages in back. The two-year-old units currently sell for \$235,000 to \$261,000.



BUSINESSBRIEFS

11-03-2015

Pediatric Therapy Services building opens in Gresham

The new Pediatric Therapy Services building at Northeast Third Street and Hood Avenue in downtown Gresham was completed in October, with the practice opening in its new space in late October.

The two-story, 8,500-square-foot building houses one of the largest privately-operated pediatric physical, occupational and speech therapy clinics in the Northwest.

Owner Dr. Jami Baillie chose the location after the clinic outgrew its former practice at 532 N. Main Ave.

Construction started in January on the formerly vacant lot across Hood Avenue from the Plaza for the Arts.

The building, which features a woodframed and brick veneer exterior design, is designed to accommodate the facility's staff of 20 along with its expanding clientele.

The building project team, including Jones Architecture and Dovetail Construction Inc., added a 500-square-foot retail space, intended to accommodate an ice cream shop.

For information on the clinic, visit www.speechtherapygresham.com.



Pediatric Therapy Services has opened its new building at Northeast Third Street and Hood Avenue in downtown Gresham.



Bob Battles, owner of Dovetail Construction, oversees construction of a two-story building at Northeast Hood Avenue and Third Street for Pediatric Therapy Services. The artist rendering depicts the two-story building's wood-frame-and-brick exterior design style.

Therapy center among contractor's growing project list

hen a steadily increasing clientele base prompted an expansion and remod-

eling of Pediatric Therapy Services' downtown Gresham facility in 2009, Dovetail Construction Inc. got the job done with aplomb.

The improvements, however, didn't fulfill the clinic's ever-evolving needs for long.

Just a few years after the project, Pediatric Therapy Services owner Jami Baillie realized she'd be calling on Dovetail again — this time for a new building at the corner of Northeast Hood Avenue and

Third Street.

STORY AND

PHOTOS BY

SHANNON

O. WELLS

"We outgrew this within three years (of the expansion)," Baillie said of the PTS facility at 532 N. Main Ave. "We'd seen

Main Ave. "We'd seen another (vacant) space close by. We realized we would need another building. There was not another one around to meet our needs. It turned into this big project in a big building."

Construction started in January on the vacant lot across Hood Avenue from the Plaza for the Arts. If things go smoothly — particularly if the unseasonably springlike weather persists — the two-story, 8,400-square foot building should

"I wanted a building as close as possible to downtown Gresham, because of the sense of community."

— Jami Baillie, Pediatric Children Services owner

be complete by July.

The building, which features a wood-framed and brick veneer exterior, is designed to accommodate the facility's staff of 20 and an everexpanding clientele.

Baillie and her husband, Bryce, purchased the original Pediatric Therapy Services clinic on Orient Drive in 2006. Designed for children of all abilities and their families, the private outpatient facility is a physical, occupational and speech therapy practice dedicated to improving children's well-being.

"We provide not just physical therapy, but occupational and speech therapy," Bailie explained

"It's a real speciality."

The clinic serves about 250 families a week, including children with cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, autism, sensory integration disorder and speech problems.

By nearly tripling its current space, PTS will offer new amenities such as an aquatic therapy pool and more of a traditional gymnasium to serve children and teenagers, as well as adults seeking treatment for injuries and strokes.

"We have referrals from many sources, including many pediatricians in the area," Ballie said, describing PTS as "probably the largest privately owned therapy clinic" in Oregon. "If a patient needs a service, in East County, we're it."

Baillie was drawn to the Hood Avenue/Third Street location to continue the facility's downtown presence and for its proximity to the Plaza for the Arts, which provides a place for children and parents to relax and play between appointments.

"I wanted a building as close as possible to downtown Gresham, because of the sense of community," she said. "Parents can go shopping, grab coffee or lunch and have some time to themselves."

Bob Battles, owner of Gresham-based Dovetail Construction, said he's pleased to be working with Baillie again while playing a part in downtown Gresham's gradual revitalization.

Dovetail's last major downtown project was building the former 4th Street Brewing Co., now the Mojave Grill & Cantina, at 77 N.E. Fourth St.

"This is actually the first new building in downtown since 2008," he said of the PTS facility. "The (Great Recession) took down everything. But we've been able to stay afloat."

Now Battles' main challenge is keeping up with several projects at once. Dovetail, which has remained East County based for 27 years, is working on a major MBank remodel at Burnside Road and Division Street, as well as a six-unit apartment complex on Division and a three-phase remodeling project at Courtesy Ford and Lincoln at 1313 N.E. 122nd Ave.

"My problem is all the projects got stuffed together," Battles said with a chuckle. "I'm busy until the middle of next year — and other projects are on the horizon."

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STAFF PHOTO BY KELLY MOYER-WADE

The Emporium building at Gresham Town Fair has sat empty for a year, but will now be home to PETSMART.

PETSMART to fill old Emporium building

BY KELLY MOYER-WADE staff writer

PETSMART Inc., the national pet supply retailer, is slated to fill the former Troutman's Emporium building in the Gresham Town Fair by late fall.

Cindy Hogan, business assistance coordinator for the city of Gresham, caid the chain store is currently fulfilling its contract with the city to improve the 22,680 square feet building.

The space has been empty for more than a year, since Emporium — a department store fixture founded in 1955 — filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in early 2003 then announced in February of that year that they would close instead of reorganizing.

PETSMART (Nasdaq: PETM), offers a range of pet supply products, veterinary services, grooming and bathing stations and obedience classes for puppies and adult dogs.

Founded in 1987 in Phoenix, Ariz., the company operates more than 660 stores in the U.S. and Canada and recorded a net income of \$35.8 million in the

first quarter of 2004. The company opened 23 new stores this year and is also building a new store in Wilsonville.

PETSMART stores provide space for shelters to make homeless pets available for adoption and have found homes for more than 1.7 million homeless pets since starting the program in 1994.

The company offers veterinary services inside many of its stores and plans to have a veterinary office at the Gresham store.

PETSMART isn't the only new business coming to the Gresham Town Fair.

Tacos la Paloma, a Mexican restaurant, is currently renovating the space between the Avenue shop and G.I. Joe's.

Owner Gustavo Nava has operated another Tacos la Paloma for five years at 2870 N.E. Hogan Drive, Suite D, Gresham.

Nava hopes to open his second restaurant the first week of September.

Tacos la Paloma will be open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week.

The Oregonian

Northwest Report

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 1974

15

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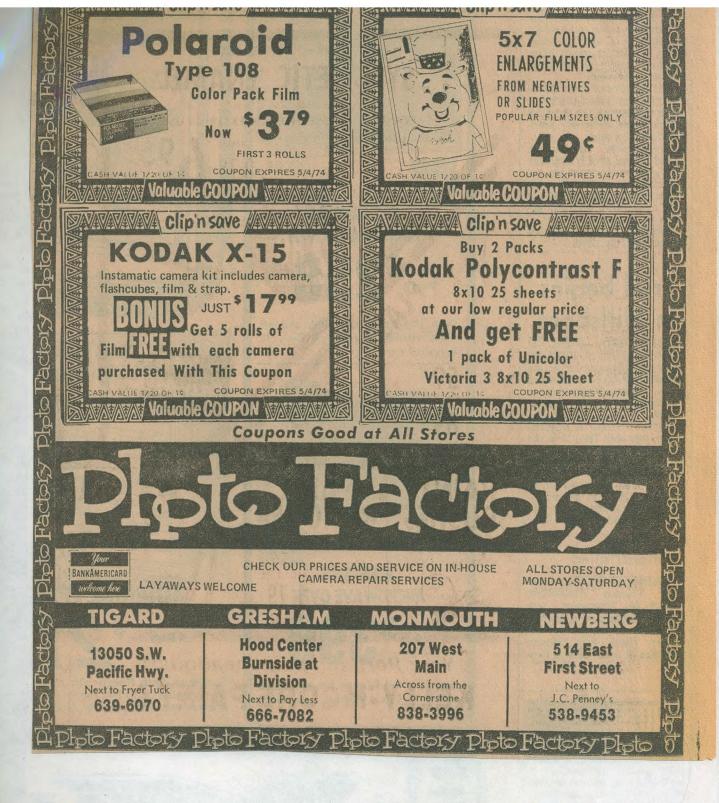
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EACH

Couple falls into the r

Risk pays off for Pic-a-deli's owners

by SUSAN ROMANITIS
of The Outlook staff

Mark and Kathy Johnson, who operate Pic-a-deli Cafe and Grill in the Gresham Village shopping center, might just as easily be in the dry cleaning or day care business.

"I was dissatisfied with my job, so we looked around for a business we could get into," Kathy recalled. "This seemed to be the best deal at the time."

During their search, the Johnsons looked at a variety of business possibilities, including dry cleaners, day care centers and grocery stores, Mark said.

"She wanted something, and she went out and she was going to get something, by golly," he said. "Funny thing is, I thought she was going through a 'phase.' "

Before taking over Pic-a-deli, Kathy, who attended Willamette University and at one time planned to become a music teacher, was employed for about eight years as a sales representative by a Portlandarea food broker. She was among the first women to work in that field, she said

"I didn't really see much future," she said of her previous occupation, explaining why she left it.

When Kathy heard Pic-a-deli was for sale, she expressed her interest in the place to the owner.

"Its appearance was attractive," she said. "It had a nice warm feeling; it looked like a business that wouldn't be difficult to learn."

The cafe and grill also occupies an excellent location at 2402 E. Burnside and the purchase terms "were very good," she said.

The Johnsons purchased Pic-a-deli in August 1982. The country was in the throes of the recession, when buying a business meant "possibly taking a risk," Mark said.

"And then a year later, he quit his job," Kathy said smiling. "He saw how much fun I was having."

A former grocery store food department manager, Mark was employed as a beer and wine salesman by a Portland-area distributor before joining his wife in the family business in October 1983.

Entrepre

"We weren't sure we were going to be able to make a living giving up both jobs," said Mark. "The first month I worked here was our worst month."

Since then, times have changed for the better, according to Mark. Business has doubled since the couple took over the establishment, and

'It had a nice, warm feeling. It looked like a business that wouldn't be difficult to learn.'

- Kathy Johnson

"our standard of living seems to have improved, even if we make less money.

"We hope someday to be a true success — not only on the economic side, but the emotional side, too."

Running a small business requires dedication and commitment, the Johnsons agree. The couple work seven days a week, averaging 50 and 60 hours a week each.

"And it goes up from there," he said. "We do an awful lot of catering. Catering is not something you can always plan on. You can get a call for a wedding of 1,200 at the beginning of the following week."

The Johnsons recently returned from only their second vacation in nearly five years. But, even on their trip to Orlanda, Fla., the couple attended a catering convention.

Mark thinks he and his wife are headed in the right direction.

"We now have a backbone with the (employees) that we have that has allowed us to get away more. We hope to be able to eventually expand and hire more qualified people to handle the business."

Mark, who graduated in 1962 from Centennial High School and attended the University of Portland, enjoys the demands and the freedom he finds in operating his own business.

"Here, the only limits we have are those that we put upon ourselves," he said. "It's very rewarding to make your own decisions because you have to live or die by them."

Mark takes issue with the assumption that a person automatically is considered successful simply because he or she owns his or her own business.

"Working for yourself is not as easy as it may look or as it may seem. I guess the toughest thing to deal with is the fluctuation in business. It's really hard to outguess the public."

What is "in" one day may be "out" the next, he said.

As business partners, the couple share responsibilities and discuss plans thoroughly.

"We talk about every move we make from start to finish," Kathy said. "But I'm the one who pushes: 'Let's do it.'"

Meeting people and being a part of the community "has come along" for the couple since they began operating a business here, said Kathy, who is involved in the Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce. Mark is a member of the Rotary Club.

Before buying the restaurant, the Johnsons — who live in Gresham — did not even shop in the community.

"(Now) we try to do most of our shopping here," Kathy said. "You do kind of form a loyalty. Now, they are not just business people — they are friends."

estaurant business



Staff photo by Terry Farris

Kathy and Mark Johnson have made a success of the restaurant business.





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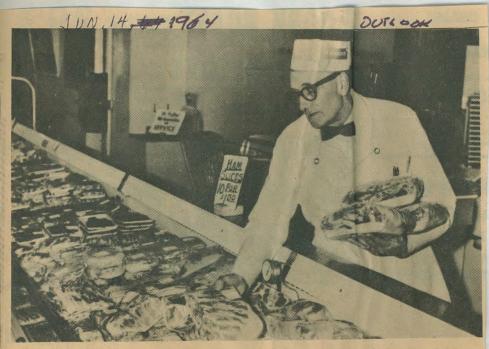
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Lewis & Chalker, located in Piggly-Wiggly at 847 E Powell in Gresham, have been serving the community for over 23 years. Fred C. Chalker knows his meats, having been a cutter 40 years. He is a lifelong local resident. His partner, Harold K. Lewis, is also an experienced meat cutter and has lived here 39 years. "Service" is their motto. They also offer quality meats at moderate prices. Special orders for banquets, or parties promptly filled. They take special pride in helping the "new Bride" know the different cuts of meats. They give everyone the best service always. Don't forget S&H Green Stamps with every purchase. The phone number for your added convenience is 665-0811.



A modernized and enlarged Piggly Wiggly store was opened in the Piggly Wiggly shopping center, Powell at Cleveland during the year—the newest location for the market which has served the Gresham community for more than 30 years. Ron Carter continued as manager of the bright new store, which now also offers an expanded variety department for customers' convenience. The larger store makes possible the stocking of more items than ever before, Carter pointed out, and the bigger parking lot is entered easily from all four directions. The Piggly Wiggly store is open seven days every week for shopping and features a selection of choice fresh produce and meats.



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Pliska's Village Mobil at 16150 S.E. Stark at 162nd, opened March, 1963. This makes the second Mobil station Pliska operates. Bill Winter is manager, specializing in complete automotive repairs plus Thrifty Green Stamps. Drop by or call for free estimates at AL 2-6860.



Hal Pliska's Mobil Service, 887 E. Powell at Cleveland, Gresham, opened March, 1963 to specialize in all automotive needs. Free auto pickup and delivery service, plus S&H Green Stamps; expert brake and tune-up work. Hal has been in service station work 8 years and offers courtesy, promptness and fine service at all times. Come in and meet John Metz, his able assistant. Open 7 A.M. to 10 P.M. seven days a week, or call MO 5-2627.



wners Chuck and Gail Davis became the fourth owners of the estaurant in 1995 and have changed little in that time, save regular aintenance on the building and a periodic update to the menu. Many f the restaurant's offerings are still homemade, including their gnature milk shakes.

Former burger and ice ream place — now full service — is a dining gem in Gresham

Y ANNE ENDICOTT amplin Media Group

riving out Powell Boulevard from Portland, certain landmarks tell you you've rrived in Gresham — Walter's ill, West Gresham Elementa-School, the Mt. Hood The-

v its name.

"Everybody says, 'Oh, the lace with the mouse on top!"" , but once it comes down, it an't go back up. It really is a in at 3 p.m. for coffee. ndmark."

wooden sign, by the way).

Originally a burger and ice vacation. eam joint, Polar King is prob-

these parts.

Breakfast is served all day, servers call customers "honey," and it's your best bet for homemade biscuits and gravy.

Longtime Gresham residents Gail and Chuck Davis bought the Polar King from Barbara and Leroy Reiderlinger in 1995. The Davis' were no strangers to the food service industry, hav-But a little further east on ing previously owned delis in owell, is another notable Clackamas and Beaverton, as uilding not always recognized well as Chails on the ground floor of Gresham City Hall.

But what has provided Polar King with its longevity, Chuck aid Gail Davis, co-owner of Po-said, are the customers. Daily, r King. "I'd love to be able to the sole round table in the resike that sign down and update taurant is at capacity with a group of gentlemen who come earliest customers were served

If one of them is missing For 62 years, that little mouse more than a day or two, someas stood the test of time on the body calls to see if they're OK. orner of East Powell Boule- They've also been known to call ard and Cleveland Avenue (it's the restaurant so somebody can tell the group they'll be on Breakfast is a wait, Gail said,

"We have a lot of clientele ply one of the few remaining who've been coming in here standing reputation as a place technique the pair

on East Powell Boulevard.

via a walk-up window on the Cleveland side of the building. It was later expanded to provide inside sit-down dining, with counter service, but still only seats around 55 people.

nearly every day of the week.

job. Back in the day, kids had Built in 1952, Polar King's few choices for employment Maggie Leach, another other than the berry fields.

Hiring local teens is a tradition the Davis' still honor. Most begin as dishwashers, Gail said. They gain a little experience and move on. But a few have never left. Kim Kelly and Kristina Gonzales, both servers, have worked continuously at Polar King also has a long- Polar King since they were ownership over the last six de- customers because they have

vice to customers, with server, boasting 18

"Kim and Kris really grew up in the restaurant and in Greshvery fortunate to have a won-

Meet the Big Bear at the Corner of Cleveland and Powell Blvd. and enjoy Sandwich and Ice Cream Perfection Polarburgers -- Polar King Ice Cream "The Northwest's Finest Dessert" (ARCHIVE PHOTO: GRESHAM OUTLOOK)

trates, "If it ain't broke, don't fix

"Our Corned Beef Hash is am," Gail said. "We have been still homemade, our biscuits are homemade and our milkderful staff with so little turn- shakes are still handmade with soft ice cream," Gail said. "We Despite a few changes in really appreciate our regular





Polar King may not always be recognized by name, the Davis' said, but everybody knows "the place

advertisement (right) for Polar King dating to 1952, the year the burger and ice cream joint opened

with the mouse on top." The wooden sign is considered a landmark by many. This is an

place," he said. "It's like family."

METRO EAST 11 NOV. 2002

The warmth of Polar King

For half a century, a Gresham restaurant has been feeding and chatting up loyal customers

By BARRY FINNEMORE SPECIAL TO THE OREGONIAN

GRESHAM -

ed Dodson visits Polar King just about every morning to sip coffee, eat breakfast and enjoy good conversation.

He likes the food and atmosphere. It's as comfortable as an old sweatshirt, the kind of place where servers call customers "honey" and "sweetie."

The only drawback is that Dodson, 62, sometimes has to circle the parking lot a few times before a spot opens.

Polar King has served up lively chitchat and good food for five decades. Ownership has changed through the years. The restaurant is a bit larger than it used to be, and the walk-up window has given way to a video poker room. But customers say Polar King remains a welcome respite from the Ineeded-it-yesterday world.

"It's the same — maybe that's why it's so popular," says Dodson, a Gresham resident who eats at Polar King five mornings a week. "It's a nice gathering place. Talk to just about anybody, and they'll say the food's good."

Gail and Chuck Davis bought the restaurant six years ago. The Davises were accustomed to starting businesses — they opened one of the first video-rental stores in Gresham in the late 1970s. They were hesitant to buy an existing operation.

But the opportunity to acquire a

well-established restaurant and the land it sits on was too good to pass up. Neither regrets the decision.

"We've got good customers and good people who work for us," Gail Davis says.

"It's like an extended family," Chuck Davis adds. "Everyone is so close."

Past a subject of debate

The restaurant's history is the subject of lively debate among longtime customers. The Davises figure 2002 marks Polar King's 50th anniversary. It was built by Howard Maxwell, who started it as a drive-through establishment after his brother opened a similar place near Lloyd Center in Portland. The eventual widening of Powell Boulevard meant an end to drive-through service.

In the early days, Polar King featured a kitchen and service window only. A counter and dining room eventually were added. It became known for its ice cream, hamburgers, milkshakes and the sign with the polar bear that Chuck Davis jokes more closely resembles a mouse.

Today, its broad menu and welcome environment draw steady business from a cross section of the community — teachers, contractors, police officers, firefighters, small-business owners, farmers and retirees.

"We have people who come in every day and sit in the same place. The cook knows what they eat and puts it on (the grill) when they walk



Owners Chuck and Gail Davis chat with the breakfast crowd at the

in the door," Gail Davis says.

"If we had to take everybody's order, we'd never get any work done," jokes Maggie Leach, a server who has worked at Polar King for five years.

Leach zips around the dining room, refilling coffee cups, clearing tables and bantering with customers. Like the Davises, Leach considers Polar King's employees and customers to be family. Thirty-five customers came to her wedding last September.

Right decision made

Trained in office work, Leach learned there was an opening at Polar King from a friend who has worked at the restaurant for lyears. The same week, an au dealership also offered her a jo Leach says the office job had bett pay and benefits, but she made the right decision.

"I'm happier here," she says.

The Davises say business steady, and employee turnover low. "If you don't treat people we they won't come back," Chuck Davis says.

Ownership of Polar King had changed hands five times, counting the Davises. The owners have made a few changes, including it stalling video poker machines few years ago for what Chuck Davis calls economic reasons and it



ROBERT BACH/THE OREGONIAN lar King restaurant.

stituting nonsmoking sections before local laws made them mandatory.

Groups of customers gather on certain days at Polar King to chew the fat. Bill and Delores Hartley have been eating at Polar King for two decades and have made it a ritual to visit the restaurant every Tuesday morning.

"You always see the same people, and they know your name," says Bill Hartley, 69. "Most of the (servers) know what people like—how you like your eggs and what kind of toast. The service and the friendliness, that's why you keep coming back."



Construction starts on Pony S Idi r Inn

Construction has begun on the 75-unit Pony Soldier Motor Inn at Cleveland Avenue and Division Street adjacent to Heidi's of Gresham. The facility is scheduled to open in December.

Westwood Corp., developers and contractors, sliced through pavement at the Northeast Cleveland Avenue site Monday to mark where excavation will begin into the parking lot of Heidi's Restaurant, said Dave Curtis, project manager.

Heavy equipment moved in Tuesday to begin excavation for foundations. The first task is to take out the old asphalt, Curtis said.

The motel is being built on parking

used by Heidi's, 1230 N.E. Cleveland Ave. The restaurant is remodeling and will reorganize its parking to adjust for the motel, restaurant officials said.

Motorists passing the site on either Cleveland Avenue or Division Street will begin seeing walls go up on the two-story structure in about six weeks, Curtis said. The project will be completed by Christmas, he said.

The \$1.5 million project will include a meeting room, a courtyard, a pool, hot tubs and laundry facilities. The rooms include executive suites with kitchens, a honeymoon suite and rooms accessible to the handicapped. Non-smoking guest rooms also will be available, as will a laundry room for guests.

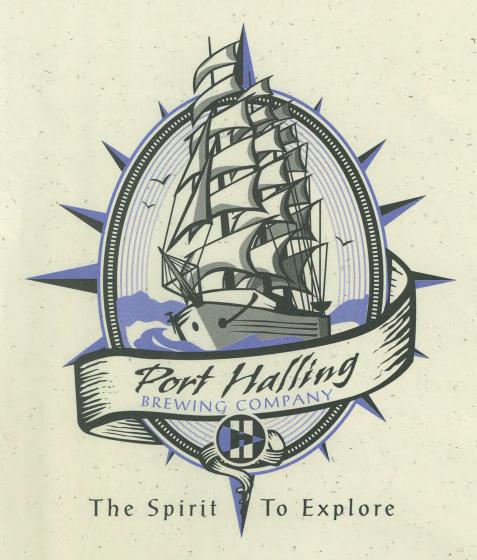
The two-story wood frame building features gable roofs, shingle siding and brick accent panels. It will be set off by lawn and plantings. The atrium area of the lobby and continental breakfast room overlooks a landscaped courtyard with a swimming pool and spa. Guest room patios and balconies also overlook the courtyard.

Once completed, the motel will employ about 15 people, said Dennis Kranz, operating partner of Pony Soldier Motor Inns. Construction site superintendent is Dick Leonitti.



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Brew pub hopes downtown Gresham offers a safe harbor

BY ANNE ENDICOTT of The Gresham Outlook staff

Port Halling Brewing Company will officially set sail in Historic Downtown Gresham on Thursday, May 2, when the doors officially open to the city's newest brew pub.

"There are only two other brew houses in the area and they're both McMenamins," said Joel Schaper, operations manager for the restaurant. "We have a different appeal."

From the nautical-theme atmosphere to the home-cooked menu, Port Halling is the fourth establishment to drop anchor in the brick building on North Main Avenue, but the winds are a-changing.

Amid soft wall colors and large potted silk palm trees, the former Monte Carlo Restaurant has taken on a look of the high seas and tropics. Highly glossed tables are shellacked with photos of ships and nautical maps. Diners are surrounded by sea-related artwork painted by Gresham artist Peter Law.

Port Halling's owner, Barry Belau, is a self-confessed beer connoisseur who learned the art of brewing through personal trial and error and as a former assistant brew master for BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse.

"I've always loved beer," Belau said. "I fell in love with microbrews and started home brewing. So, I decided I wanted to make a living brewing beer if I could."

Belau learned the ropes of restaurant management and organization through a previous business venture he refers to as a "negative experience." Undaunted and undeterred, Belau forged ahead with his plans for a brew pub. When he found the Main Avenue place, he knew his ship had come

"The building was already set up for a restaurant," he said. "Essentially, it was a completed space — tables, chairs, the brewhouse. We made some improvements to the kitchen, but it already had what we were looking for."

Despite utilizing existing facilities and furnishings, Belau's creativity and ingenuity is apparent in his attention to the small details that he hopes will set Port Halling apart.

Chalkboards line the walls in one corner of the restaurant, at eyeball level for little mates who accompany mom and dad to dinner. Belau said the pint-sized games and colored chalk were conceived to keep little ones busy before or after their

"It's so that families can come in and enjoy themselves," he said. "The games and chalkboard are so that their parents can be comfortable. We didn't want to exclude families from the dining market."

Port Halling's bar area also has built-in chalkboards, at a higher level than in the restaurant and intended for more creative big-kid

"We'll probably have a Hangman tournament with prizes," Belau said. "We want to make the bar a fun area with events and music."

Drink specials, concocted in more than one way by bar manager Kelley Harrison, will include house specialties like the Hillbilly Martini, a blend of gin or vodka and vermouth topped with a Lil' Smokie instead of an olive.

"We want the bar to become a hot spot," Belau said.

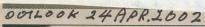
Unlike most brew pubs that offer

location, with a brewery already in fast food fare of burgers, fries and sandwiches, Port Halling's menu is a tempting and diverse array of home cooking.

> "We have pasta, salad, burgers - not boxed burgers, these are fresh hamburgers," Belau said. "We make our own barbecue sauce for our ribs, our own pizza dough and pizza sauce, salad dressings. Even our desserts. It's a step beyond pub grub food."

> For beer lovers, Port Halling will pour from seven home brew taps with names like Nanekei Pale Ale, Sledge Hammer Stout and Coco Porter. Five guest taps will carry the best of local microbrews and a full bar is available for those not into a cold brew.

> Port Halling Brewing Co. opens Thursday, May 2, at 333 N. Main Ave. in Gresham. The pub can be reached at 503-674-4906.





From left, brewer Tom Nims and operations manager Joel Schaper stand in the brew house at the new Port Halling Brewing Co. in downtown Gresham.

00+LOOK 15 Oct. 2003

Port Halling Brewing closes Gresham restaurant for good

Efforts to survive woes fail for downtown pub

BY A.J. BARNUM staff writer

The doors have closed permanently on downtown Gresham's only brew pub, Port Halling Brewing Company.

On Friday, Nancy Belau, coowner of Port Halling, told *The Gresham Outlook* that despite the restaurant's economic troubles, the restaurant should remain open with a possible twoto three-day closure.

However, a sign posted on the restaurant's doors as of Monday, reads, "Sorry! We are closed. We should be re-opened Friday 10-17-2003."

Nancy said Tuesday that the restaurant could stay closed beyond this Friday and when it reopens, it will have a new name and a new owner. She and her husband, Barry, would no longer have a hand in the restaurant.

Nancy and Barry Belau opened the restaurant in April 2002. Some bad business decisions they made when they first opened Port Halling have kept the Belaus from breaking even yet, though Nancy said that milestone was just a couple months away.

The Belaus made several changes to the business last year including a reduction in manage-



FILE PHOTO

Port Halling Brewing Company Brew Master Craig Nicholls, left, with assistant brewer Chris Haveman, organized an organic Brewfest in September at Port Halling. The festival didn't help the struggling brew pub, which closed Monday.

ment and a new chef in the kitchen that were beginning to make an impact on the restaurant's bottom line.

Port Halling's brewer, Chris Nicholls, was also shaking things up on the brewery side with a meet-the-brewer-night every Tuesday and a Mug Club.

Most recently, Port Halling sponsored an Organic Beer Festival in September and brought in breweries and beer lovers from all over Oregon and the Pacific Northwest to celebrate organic brews.

Deschutes Brewery in Bend and Full Sail of Hood River were just two of Oregon's biggest breweries to attend the event.

Port Halling had a full schedule of events and banquets on the books through the Christmas season. Several organizations, including the Kiwanis, Soroptimists and Altrusa have used the brewery to hold meetings.

The Belaus have also contributed time and energy to many Gresham events and causes, said Carol Nielsen-Hood, executive director of the Gresham Chamber of Commerce.

Reporter A.J. Barnum can be reached at abarnum@theout-lookonline.com or by calling 503-492-5118.

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Prairie Market closing downtown store

by STEVE HUNTER of The Outlook staff

8-17-85

The Prairie Market Discount Foods store in downtown Gresham will close Sept. 7 as part of a company plan to phase out all 24 Oregon stores because profits are too low.

"Our market share in Oregon didn't reach what we expected," said Dennis Parker, marketing director for Tradewell Stores Inc. of Seattle, which owns the Prairie Market chain. "The Gresham store was a contributing factor to our decision it's been a real pain in our side."

The closure of the store at 50 N.W. Fifth St. will leave a large empty building downtown as city and business officials attempt to attract more businesses to the core area. Parker said the store hasn't been sold to anyone.

Gresham Mayor Margaret Weil said it sounds as

though the closure is more a reflection of the entire Oregon economy than a problem with downtown Gresham. She hopes the closure leads to stronger efforts to market downtown property.

"I think it emphasizes a need for activity to take place in the downtown area," said Weil. She would like to see the citizens task force for the central area of town put together financing plans that would put large parcels of land under one ownership to attract more businesses.

Doug Walker, head of the Downtown Business Association, also thinks the closure might lead to more activity. "I'm disappointed to see them go. But this could be an opportunity for something else to come in."

Prairie Market has had its downtown store for about 10 years after Safeway Stores moved from the site when it built its new store at Northeast Division Street and East Burnside Road. In an effort to attract more customers, Prairie Market underwent an extensive remodeling last year. A fresh meat department was added, the produce section was expanded, scanner cash registers were installed, the concrete floor was covered and the building was painted.

"But the remodeling failed to boost sales enough," said Parker. "That store has never generated the sales we had hoped for." About 15 employees will lose their jobs because of the closure.

No closure date has been set for the Prairie Market at 14410 S.E. Division St., said Parker. He said negotiations are under way to sell the store to another grocer. Only six of the 24 Oregon stores have been purchased.

Parker said the Prairie Markets in Washington state will remain open. A special going out of business sale will be held later this month.





Regular Luncheon Meat RAIRIE MARKET

12 oz.

16 oz. Bottles 8

Diet, Lie

S.F. Free

Ground Regular Auto/Drip.

3 lb.

High Yield Auto/Drip For All Coffeemakers

| Margarine | Saffola, Soft | 1-lb. 94° |
|-------------------|---|---------------|
| Camay So | ap Bar, 2 pack 8° Off Label | 10 oz. \$1.18 |
| FRO | ZEN FOO | DS |
| Meat Pies | Banquet; Chicken Beef, Turkey | 8 oz. 3/99° |
| Fishsticks | Van de Kamp's Lite Crispy Fillets or | 3½ to \$1.88 |
| Variable | SNOBOY; California or | 000 |

Banquet

DICS Italian Blend 16 oz. 00

Fabric Softener Ragu Sauce Spagher or Home Lemon Juice Reals Snow's Clams Kool-Aid Crystal Light (8 C Asst. Flavors . . Orange, Gr Punch (8.45 Hunt's; Or

Hickory .



Precision Products Co. Plans Expansion

The Precision Products Co., a fast - growing manufacturing firm located between Gresham and Boring, soon will double the floor area of its plant, president Bob Wilcox told a group of touring Portland businessmen last week.

Wilcox talked about his young company to 30 members of the Trade and Commerce Committee of the Portland Chamber of Commerce. The group also visited the Owens - Illinois plant in Parkrose and Gresham Berry Growers on a swing industries last Thursday.

around several East County They lunched with members of the Gresham Chamber of Commerce.

Started 12 Years Ago Wilcox told his guests he started out as a one-man company in 1951. He sunk \$1,500 into the business and set up a machine shop in Troutdale.

Two years later he moved the "plant" to Sandy and five years later to the Gresham area. The company has been in its present building at Boring and Stone Roads, southeast of Gresham, only since last summer.

"Our plans are to increase the floor space to 12,500 square feet starting in August," Wil-"We're just too cox said. crowded now."

Wilcox said his firm has "more work than it can handle even with two shifts going.

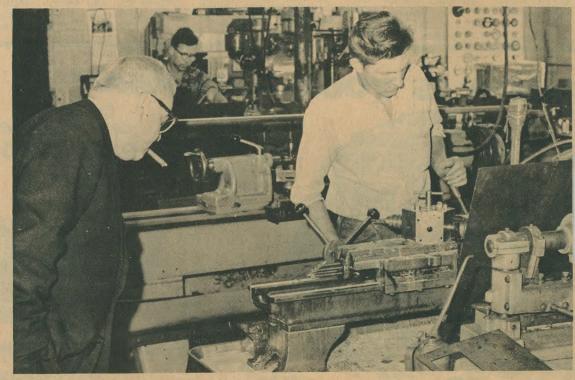
With a smile he added that growth was slow at first. At the end of 1958, seven years after it started, Precision Products had only two employes. Now it has 28 people on the payroll, seven more than at the end of 1962.

Variety Of Products
The firm turns out a broad variety of products, nearly all small and requiring several hand operations. At nearly every drill press, turret lathe or punch press a workman is doing a different operation.

Here are some of the things the company makes:

An extension drill used by electricians and sold across the country.

"A "Kennedy dollar" money clip which holds a penny, a humorous item that the Republicans and Democrats with a sense of humor find quite



One of 30 Portland Chamber of Commerce members touring East County indus-

tries last week stopped to watch workmen at Precision Products Co. adjust lathe. (Outlook photo)

Wire connectors, an electrician's fish tape, a drill stand and a dust mop frame.

New Products Coming Several products now being developed are a drill to drill a curved hole in wood and a hydraulic outboard drive for an inboard motor boat.

Wilcox reeled off a list of the firm's customers. The nearest is Cascade Manufacturing Co. in the Rockwood industrial tract. And one of the biggest is General Electric's Hanford atomic plant. Omark Industries of Portland is another customer.

The quality control inspector at Precision Products, Paul Whitlock, noted that the equipment in the plant could well be worth more than the build-

The touring businessmen were amazed at what machines were doing by themselves, for example, boring and griding one metal "collar" to a tolerance of 1/1000 of an inch. But at the machine a skilled machinist was in control, performing an operation to 1/2,000 of an

7-1-65



Mrs. Howard (Marion) McKeown, left, manager of Professional Answering Service, Inc., shows data to Mrs. Gary Dunn, acting receptionist, as she converses with prospective client. New business is located at 13 N.W. 1st, Gresham and will open officially at 8 a.m. today. (Outlook Photo)

Answering Service Open

Professional Service, Inc. for Mohawk East, will officially open its doors at 8 a.m., Thursday, July 1 and include Mrs. Thyra Coles, 8 began a "live" 24 hour daily, seven days a week personalized 4-8 p.m.; Mrs. Gary Dunn, telephone service. The office who acted as receptionist the is located at 13 N. W. 1st, Gresham.

Mrs. Howard (Marian) Mc-Keown, Gresham resident, is manager of the new business. She is also a partner in the local radio station.

The answering service wil. act as a "personal secretary" when its subscribers are away from the office. "Courteous, experienced operators will answer all calls, forward calls and messages, send and receive telegrams and list all calls with time, date, etc." said Mrs. McKeown.

Optional services include

Answering public stenographer, notary and wake-up service.

> Switchboard operators will a.m.-4 p.m.; Mrs. McKeown, past week, 8 p.m.-12 midnight and Mrs. Clair Klinker, midnight to 8 a.m.



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