

# THAT WAS THEN

Troutdale circa late 1800s



Frederich Meinig circa late 1800s



# THIS IS NOW

Meinig Park



A SPECIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GRESHAM OUTLOOK AND SANDY POST

# Building on the Dream

Since fall 1966, more than one million students have enrolled at Mt. Hood Community College – some to follow their dream for a degree and a career, others to enrich their lives by learning a language or discovering a new interest or hobby.

The very first student at MHCC was **Betty J. Martin**, who “exemplified the need, role and mission of community colleges. She was a mother in her 40s, and she came to enroll for clerical classes in order to prepare for a job,” according to MHCC history.

## MHCC Grads are Everywhere

MHCC’s graduates may be found in just about every industry throughout the Portland metropolitan area and beyond. Public servants, business leaders, educators, healthcare providers, journalists, musicians, technicians got their start – or, in many cases, *restart* – at what ranks today as Oregon’s fourth largest community college.

Those who lived through MHCC’s early days remember civic and community leaders such as **Betty Scheeden** (pictured with scissors in top photo) and others who dreamed big and worked hard to create an education district and later, the college. “We will always be grateful to these pioneers for their vision and commitment to community-based education,” says **Debbie Derr**, MHCC’s current president.

The first buildings constructed were the General Education building in 1967, followed in ’68 or ’69 by the gym and what is now called the Industrial Technology building. Other buildings were added in quick

succession, as back in the day, federal funding was much more plentiful for these kinds of projects. To better serve the community, the college later added two more sites, the Maywood Park Campus and The Bruning Center for Allied Health Education.

## Adapted to Meet Student Needs

The Gresham Campus has remained mostly unchanged over the past 47 years while many building maintenance and enhancement projects have been deferred due to tough economic times and challenging budget considerations.

Although the buildings may not have changed much, the college has adapted to meet the changing needs of business and industry. Outdated programs such as office machine repair have been replaced with cutting-edge programs such as cybersecurity, health informatics and video game development. MHCC has changed in other ways, too, for example, by offering classes to non-native English speakers; this is both a reflection on the demographic changes within east Multnomah County, and a reminder of MHCC’s unwavering commitment to serve the community members who need it the most.

And, more “change” is likely in store as the college launches a major strategic planning initiative this fall to chart a course for the future, and meet the learning needs of the district for years



to come. What will future generations want to study? What skills will future employers seek? What new occupations will exist? What technologies will MHCC need to be proficient with? What cultural offerings will east county value the most?

“We do not know the answers to these questions, but we want to en-

gage the community, students and employees in envisioning their college of the future,” says Derr. “We want to adapt and change wherever necessary so the next one million students will also know that MHCC is the ideal place to achieve their dreams.”

*– By Maggie Huffman*



**MT. HOOD  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**MHCC.EDU**

# NO DETROIT IN GRESHAM

*A prototype vehicle and a plan – but were any cars built in Gresham?*

BY ANNE ENDICOTT

Pamplin Media Group

In the early 1900s, Portland businessman P. A. Combs put Gresham on the map as a major player in the automobile manufacturing business. He built a factory, a prototype vehicle and developed a prospectus to attract investors.

But a shroud of mystery followed Combs and his company.

The dream to make Gresham the "Detroit of the West" ended with lengthy litigation, the loss of investors' money and the biggest question of all — were any cars ever produced in Gresham?

It's the stuff that gives birth to local legend.

Combs was a pioneer with the notion of buying locally made products. The former vice president of an auto supply firm concluded that his fellow Oregonians would purchase automobiles manufactured here if someone made and marketed them.

Combs designed and built the Beaver Six Car in 1912, which he promptly took to driving around Portland and Gresham as advertising for his venture. He collected a handful of Portland executives and founded the Beaver State Motor Company with 300,000 stock shares valued at \$1 per share.

In the company's 1913 prospectus issued to potential investors, the group described the Beaver Six as, "a high-class car with beautiful lines." The vehicle was powered by a six cylinder, 45-horsepower engine and was equipped with the "latest accessories,

including self-starter, lighting system, etc."

Timing is everything in business, so a couple things helped pave the way for Combs' vision of challenging Detroit's domination in the car manufacturing market.

First, the good roads movement had picked up speed since Americans found motoring through the countryside far more pleasurable than riding a bicycle or a horse. Plans for the Columbia River Scenic Highway were on the drawing board and for the first time, a national paved highway system appeared possible.

Secondly, Combs had a convincing sales pitch. Auto manufacturers had factories in several eastern and mid-western states, he said, and a factory in Oregon would save shipping costs for buyers. Enthusiasm in the project was high, making investors plentiful, and included H.L. St. Clair, The Outlook's publisher.

Combs purchased land on the corner of what is now Northwest Eastman Parkway and Division Street. Beaver Motor Company's factory, completed in March 1914, was 204 feet long, constructed of reinforced concrete, and contained a brick curtain that cost nearly \$7,500.

"A very striking and commendable feature of the building is the large amount of window area," The Outlook reported in 1914, "there being over 4,000 cubic feet of glass in the side and end walls, which admirably adapts it to the use of fine machine work and assembling."

SEE "AUTO" / PAGE 5



The Beaver Six touring car appeared in an August 1913 issue of The Outlook, after the announcement that a factory would be built in Gresham to manufacture the cars. This historic photo is one of very few to illustrate the mystery vehicle. OUTLOOK ARCHIVE PHOTO

Ford Motor Company, Inc. was founded in 1903 and Gresham was incorporated in 1905 so they are about the same age. During that time many things have changed (styles of automobiles, the number of residents of Gresham, etc.) but many things remain the same (committed community leaders and innovative products from Ford.) Henry Ford brought "Wheels to the World", and Gresham Ford would like to provide you with those wheels while, at the same time, "Contributing to our community"!

## THEN

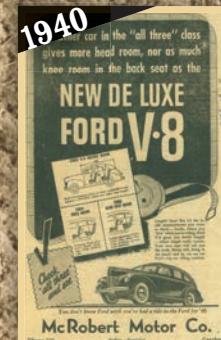


MAYOR SHATTUCK  
first mayor of Gresham



1916

Fords on First National Scenic Highway



HENRY FORD

If I had asked people what they wanted, they would have said faster horses.

## NOW



SHANE BEMIS  
current mayor of Gresham



2013

Ford F-150  
Troutdale Historic Bridge



BESS WILLS  
Henry Ford said: "A business that makes nothing but money is a poor business"

**Gresham Ford**  
The Dealer with A Heart!

1999 E. Powell Blvd  
Gresham

503-665-0101

[www.greshamford.com](http://www.greshamford.com)

# SAVING HISTORY WITH NICKELS AND DIMES

*Local student recalls raising money for a permanent sign to mark location of former auto factory*

BY ANNE ENDICOTT

Pamplin Media Group

Michael Higgins doesn't take change well. But in October 2000, he did take change — and currency too.

Higgins, then a 9-year-old fourth grader at West Gresham Grade School, was disturbed by news that a historic building in his hometown was about to fall victim to the wrecking ball. He embarked on a mission to raise \$2,000 for a sign to mark the location of the former Beaver State Motor Co., once located in what is now, Gresham Station.

"I remember being in the car with my mom and seeing a sign that said the building was going to be torn down," Higgins, now 22, recalled. "I was looking out the backseat window and told my mom, 'That's really

sad.' I've never been good with change and I didn't like the idea that something that had been so monolithic and there all my life, was just going to disappear."

The long, warehouse-style factory was "obviously important," Higgins said, but why? Even as a youngster, Higgins was smitten by history. He and his mom, Lisa, began to research what the building had

**"Raising money for the sign did something good for the community's history."**

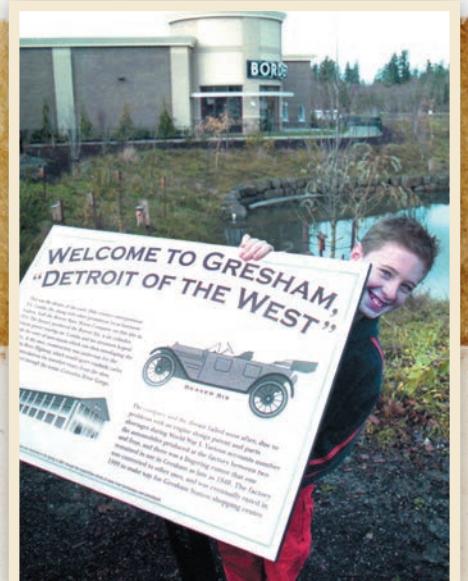
**MICHAEL HIGGINS**  
a Gresham resident and Portland State University history major.

been used for and uncovered the high hopes of Portland businessman P.A. Combs to make Gresham the "Detroit of the West."

So with the encouragement of his mom and the support of West Gresham Principal Carlynn Capps, Higgins placed a jar in the school office for donations to his cause. As word of the project got out, it attracted the attention of local antique car collectors and others, who mailed checks to the school to help the youngster reach his goal.

Higgins raised nearly \$1,000. The project also didn't go unnoticed by Gresham Station developer Fred Bruning, whose company, Center Oak Properties, pitched in the additional \$1,000 and made arrangements for the sign's installation.

In December 2001, Higgins was the man of the hour at a dedication ceremony



Michael Higgins then — as a 10-year-old West Gresham Grade School fifth-grader. Higgins was the man of the hour at a dedication ceremony in December 2001, when the sign he helped fund was installed on the site of the former Beaver State Motor Co.

OUTLOOK ARCHIVE PHOTO

attended by Bruning, antique car collectors, The Outlook and Higgins' entire fifth-grade class.

SEE "SIGN" / PAGE 5

## LAMPS ■ CANDLES ■ GIFTS ■ ART ■ BODY CARE ■ THROWS ■ FOUNTAINS ■ POTS



NOW



### STORE HOURS

Mon - Sat 10am - 6pm  
Sunday 11am - 5pm



If you've traveled to Damascus over the years, you've noticed that the corner of Highway 212 and Foster Road has changed quite a bit. A Building that, at various times, housed a service station and an auto repair shop, is now Terra Casa.

Owned by Diana Helm, Terra Casa features home furnishings and gifts, plus Vietnamese and China-made pottery and other outdoor décor. If you're a first time visitor to Damascus, you may think Terra Casa, which opened in October of 2006, only features outdoor pots. But there's a lot more. Helm said there's something for every part of the home.

"We have anywhere from little \$2 gifts to entertainment centers, sofas, love seats, jewelry, women's accessories, chairs, tables, lamps, framed art and kitchen goods," Helm said. "It runs the gamut."

If you're in the mood to do a bit of landscaping, ask the folks at Terra Casa about outdoor pots.

"Vietnamese pots are extremely hearty," Helm said. "They're made of a really dense clay. They're high-fired out at 2,000 to 2,200 degrees, which makes them impervious to our weather . . . we call them lifetime pots, because we suspect people will have them for a lifetime. They're beautiful."

You'll find plenty of great one-on-one customer service at Terra Casa and, Helm said, visitors come from as far away as Yakima and Roseburg. "We want to help them (customers) make their home beautiful - we're not interior designers, but we know how we like things to look."

By Scott Keith

### MORE ABOUT TERRA CASA

Terra Casa's store-front windows were once garage bays at the former auto repair shop.

Outdoor pots can be transformed into fountains. Terra Casa will prepare pots by sealing the insides. They build all the tubing and will custom-make every fountain feature. Delivery and setup are also available.

Women's accessories: handbags, scarves, gloves, functional pieces.

Terra Casa is located at 19995 SE HWY 212 • Call them at 503.577.8242

Visit them on the web at [www.terracasa.com](http://www.terracasa.com)

## SIGN: FROM PAGE 4

"My teacher, Mrs. Borski, got our whole class together and we walked over to the ceremony," Higgins said. "It was sort of a field trip because it had to do with Gresham's history."

Higgins was seated in an antique car with three friends for a photo op and posed for photographers with the marker he helped acquire. After all the festivities, Higgins and his classmates gathered at the former QFC grocery store (now Best Buy) for punch and donuts.

Nearly 13 years later, Higgins laughs about his 15 minutes of fame. He figures he was a nightmare of one-word answers during a radio interview with former Portland television personality, Pete Schulberg. Higgins also admits to taking favors from his friends, who vied for selection as his posse for official photos.

It should come as no surprise that Higgins is now a history major at Portland State University. Though unclear what

he will do with his degree when he finishes school in a couple years, Higgins is already steps ahead of his peers when it comes to doing the job of historian.

"Raising money for the sign did something good for the community's history," Higgins said. "My mom always told me that the project would be good on my resumé, but I've yet to figure out how to do that."



Michael Higgins now — a 22-year-old history major at Portland State University.

OUTLOOK PHOTO: JIM CLARK

## AUTO: FROM PAGE 3

Combs was so sure of his enterprise that in May 1914, he announced that seven Beaver Six vehicles would be ready for use in the Rose Festival parade in June. Parts for 500 cars had been ordered, Combs said, and assembly of the first Beaver Six vehicles was only days away.

But potholes in the road to production began to develop.

War shortages created difficulties in acquiring the patented Daimler-Lanchester worm drive gears from England and concerns were raised over the newly built factory's ability to fill the flood of customer orders already on the books. Beaver Motor reacted by abandoning plans for a full-size touring car and launched a program to develop a smaller vehicle to meet public demand.

Undaunted by the setback, the company moved its executive offices to Gresham in 1915. Six employees began casting four and six-cylinder engines in a foundry, that was once a woodshed for one of Gresham's pioneers, Dr. John Powell.

The obvious display of product confidence was heralded by a Portland paper, noting, "Beaver sixes...will become an everyday spectacle on Portland's streets within the next 90 days."

In the fall of 1915, The Outlook and St. Clair reported that workers had turned to more profitable work, building drag saws, waiting for the tide to turn in automotive production. But by April 1918, the only thing coming out of Beaver Motor's Gresham factory were saws.

Combs' visions of Henry Ford-esque fame suddenly come to a grinding halt.

Toledo-based Willys-Overland, Inc., cried "infringement," filing a lawsuit claiming Beaver Motor's engine design was a hair too close to one patented by the Overland company. Investors saw their nest eggs disappear and

the public wondered whether any Beaver Sixes had ever been built in the first place.

Which is the question still being debated nearly a century later. While conflicting accounts say between two and four vehicles did see the light of day, the bottom line is no one alive today has ever seen one.

**"Beaver sixes...will become an everyday spectacle on Portland's streets within the next 90 days."**

**as reported in a Portland newspaper in 1915**

It has been rumored that one Beaver Six was seen around Gresham until just before World War II. And another story still circulates of the Portland bankruptcy trustee attorney who burned a Beaver Six chassis in his backyard in 1929, after his sons wore the tires out. The irony is that supposedly, following the bonfire, the Beaver Six's owner was approached by a representative of Harvey Firestone and offered \$5,000 for the car.

Combs' failed auto factory eventually changed its casting equipment and went on to produce rail car wheels, sewer pipe, drag saws, cement mixers and gasoline engines. The Olympic Manufacturing Company used the building to manufacture veneer until the late 1990s, when it was razed to make way for development of the Civic Neighborhood and Gresham Station.

But in the end, the Beaver Six may have been aptly named. In today's market, if one were found, it could be valued at nearly six figures.

## ORDER NOW!

### 2014 Columbia River Highway Calendar

**KING OF THE ROADS**  
Celebrating the centennial of the historic Columbia River Highway

**BYWAY OF THE PEOPLE**  
2014

For more information on the centennial celebration please contact 503-663-0794 or visit [www.columbiahighway.org](http://www.columbiahighway.org)

Licensed full photo by Mary Brueggeman & Friends Historical Society

Rare photos taken when the Historic Columbia River Highway was new, many unpublished before now.

- Your purchase supports a highway exhibit opening in 2015 – King of Roads – Byway of the People.
- The exhibit marks the 100th anniversary of the highway's opening remembering the people who built it and those who saved this national treasure which lures people from all over the world.

**ORDER FORM**

**Clip and Complete form and mail to:** Troutdale Historical Society, 219 E. Historic Columbia Hwy., Troutdale, OR 97060 with check. Calendar cost is \$15<sup>00</sup> ea.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ Calendar Qty: \_\_\_\_\_

• Donations to the exhibit can be made directly to THS at the address above. Please specify that your donation is for the HCRH Exhibit.

• For more information about the exhibit or how to get involved in building the exhibit, please contact Len Otto at 503-663-0794 or [Len@HonorYourPast.com](mailto:Len@HonorYourPast.com)

**GRESHAM SANITARY SERVICE** was founded in 1948 by father and son, Carl and Harlan Lehl. Harlan continued to run the company until 1999.

The company is still owned by the same family and operated by president Mike Miller and general manager, Matt Miller. Mike and Matt exemplify giving back to the community. Mike is a long-time member of Gresham Rotary, which raises money for scholarships and various non-profits in our community. Matt is very involved with the Gresham Chamber and EMEA and serves on both boards. GSS supports a wide range of community events and is proud to be an active part of your community!



**www.greshamsanitary.com • 503.665.2424**  
Serving Gresham and Portland Since 1948



# MEINIG FAMILY RAILROADED INTO MOVING TO OREGON

Once here the Meinigs helped put the city of Sandy on the map

Sandy Historical Society  
Photo - 2462



This was the home of Frederick and Bertha (Fischer) Meinig, located in what is now Scenic Meadows in Sandy. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO: SANDY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BY NEIL ZAWICKI

Pamplin Media Group

The Meinig name is part of the vocabulary in Sandy.

There's a park, a road, and other entities that carry the name, which has become more of a description, an identification of a place in town, or a reference.

But in fact, the name carries a history that travels all the way back to Europe, by way of Cape Horn at the southern tip of South America, and through Missouri.

Thanks to records kept at the Sandy Historical Society museum, we know that Fredrich Meinig was born in Saxony, Germany, in 1845, and his wife, Bertha, was born in 1843.

The year 1871, just two years after the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad, marks the beginnings of the Meinig influence in what would become

433007 TW/WT/0913

# All In The Family Since 1965

Neil Riegelmann was a 40-year old salesman for Mark's Appliance in 1965. Weary of working for others, Riegelmann took the last \$1,500 he had to his name and invested it in renting store space, a delivery truck and various piece of office equipment.

But acquiring financing to purchase inventory



Josh & Michael Riegelmann 1986

proved to be an unexpected obstacle to getting his venture off the ground.

"GMAC turned me down and the others did the same," Riegelmann told The Outlook in a 2011 interview. "I was pretty discouraged. I already had the kids addressing invitations to (the new store's) grand opening."



Michael & Josh Riegelmann today

Yet a chance meeting on the links at Pleasant Valley Golf Course with a mortgage lender the next day answered Riegelmann's wife's prayers and Riegelmann's Appliance was born.

The company spent three years on Northeast Second Street in downtown Gresham, following its opening, then moved up the street to the corner of 2nd and Hood for another three years, before moving to its current location on Powell Boulevard in 1975. After

a major remodel of the store was completed in late 2006, Riegelmann's held a grand reopening in January 2007 to unveil a new 3,100 square-foot showroom expansion.

Now run by the second and third generations of the Riegelmann family, the company continues to adhere to its founder's basic premise of creating customers for life.



Store Opening Day June 1, 1965



Frieda & Jim Riegelmann

"I'm very proud of the legacy and great business reputation my grandfather and father have provided for me and my brother, Josh," said Mike Riegelmann. "We plan to carry it on through our generation and the next."



Neil Riegelmann

6 Time Winner Readers Choice Award

**Riegelmann's** SINCE 1965

BRAND SOURCE Expert YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Appliance Sales & Service • Mattresses • Recliners

301 East Powell Blvd., Gresham • 503-665-4158  
Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30-7 • Sat 9-5 • Sun 10-4 riegelmanns.com

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED SINCE 1965



Sandy. It was that year that the family immigrated to Cape Girardeau, Mo., and established a flour mill there.

Once the railroad bypassed that city, the Meinig's, having been passed up by the new high-speed commercial hubs, abandoned their mill and in 1876 they came to the Sandy area.

Given the newly-completed railroad, we might think the Meinig family would simply hop a train west, but maybe deep-seated animosity after the rails passed up their flour mill led Fredrich to take his family to Oregon via the Mississippi River and the Gulf Coast. From there they boarded a ship and sailed around Cape Horn at the southern tip of South America, and then up through the South and North Pacific to Astoria. From there they rode a wagon to their destination in Portland.

That's a long way to go. It is entirely possible that, somehow, the trip by sea was much cheaper, if not very much longer, but when we consider that a rail line straddled the Panama isthmus at the time, we have one more example of the Meinig's avoiding travel by train.

SEE "MEINIG" / PAGE 12



Meinig's Mercantile was a two-level operation carrying the largest variety of general merchandise items at the time.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO: SANDY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## Proud to have served East County Since 1967



**Why Ride A Camel?**  
Or why even walk a mile for a camel when you can drive the newest, outstanding, luxurious Chevrolet car or truck ever offered to the American public.  
And -- remember -- You can buy for less where selection and service is best at

**PETE CARLSON**  
SANDY Open Sunday  
668-4101



**SUBURBAN**  
**Auto Group**



**"THE HOME OF THE TRUNK MONKEY"**

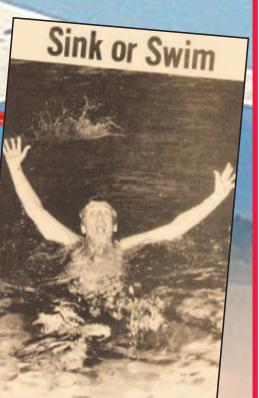
**PETE CARLSON**  
SANDY Open Sunday  
668-4101



**SUBURBAN**  
AUTO GROUP

**Ford**

**503-668-5511**



**Sink or Swim**

Pete's in "Hot Water" because he can't get over 100 feet of longitude 1970 light from the U.S. Army map of the world. Pete's got a lot of room, and the old Chaco Army map shows him getting 100 miles of latitude. So we're running out of room, and we've got to sell our new map. This means that we'll probably never realize our high dollar figures that we've gotten paid for the storage in excess and you'll be a big \$800 richer than the last time you bought a map. Every change of address from California to Connecticut or back to the state for Pete's business, please send us a postcard and a little offer that's good time.

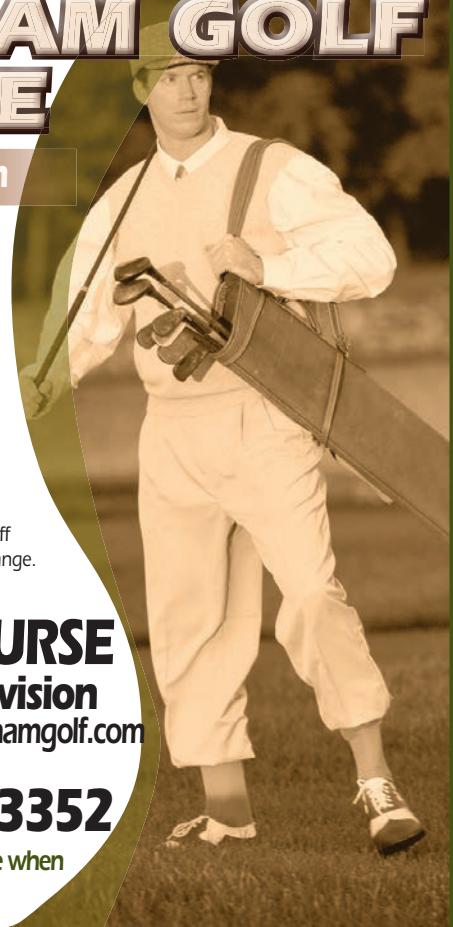
**503-668-5555**

## GRESHAM GOLF COURSE

[www.greshamgolf.com](http://www.greshamgolf.com)



**48 Years**  
in the heart of Gresham



**Welcome To Gresham Golf Course!**  
A beautiful 18-hole public golf course right in Gresham, off Division between Hogan and 257th. Featuring a grass driving range. Open daily to public.

**GRESHAM GOLF COURSE**  
**2155 NE Division**  
Tee times @ [greshamgolf.com](http://greshamgolf.com) or by phone  
**503-665-3352**

Walk-ins are welcome when times are available.

## HISTORICAL HESLIN HOUSE

*The 120-year-old home in Fairview is filled with pioneer and family history*



Historical displays at the Heslin House depict the family's history in Fairview and that of other early settlers. PAMPLIN FILE PHOTO

BY RILEY STEVENSON

Pamplin Media Group

When Addison and Hester Dunbar arrived in Fairview by covered wagon in 1850, they came carrying four children, basic survival supplies and hope for a new life out west. After traveling 2,000 miles from Independence, Mo., the tired mid-westerners found Fairview's source of usable water from the Sandy River, lush grass and open acreage "mighty fine."

In the coming years, along with the rest of the handful of Oregon Trail settlers, they built an agricultural community that has grown into nearly 9,000 residents.

The Dunbars settled down on 640 acres on the north side of town after their arrival and began work as fruit harvesters. The Dunbar's daughter, Drusilla, married John Patrick Heslin on Oct. 13, 1864, and had six children.

Their oldest son, Ed, moved into a house in town that he inherited from his father in 1905. This yellow, two-story house is now known as the Heslin House and is located at 60 Main St.

The house is maintained by the Fairview Rockwood Wilkes Historical Society and serves as both a museum and research facility. Items displayed throughout the first story detail the family and area's history and several books can be checked out for further reading on the family.

The historical artifacts document the lives of the Heslins, who resided in the house for almost 100 years.

Much of the family history is known because of Drusilla's diary, which details her daily activities over a period of 43 years. The pages are filled with cursive writings describing everything from family vacations in The Dalles to weddings to the day inmates escaped from the Oregon



**Join Us In  
Celebrating The Sternwheeler's  
30<sup>th</sup> Birthday**  
(Built In 1983)

- We celebrated the Sternwheeler's 30th Birthday this year - built in 1983
- All cruises feature Captain's narration on point of interest, Lewis & Clark and the history of the river
- Regularly scheduled sightseeing, dinner, brunch and Landmarks of the Gorge cruises
- Boards through the Visitor's Center & Locks Waterfront Cafe in Cascade Locks Marine Park
- Traditional Paddlewheeler

**Portland SPIRIT**

Reserve Your Seat at  
**503•224•3900**  
[www.portlandspirit.com](http://www.portlandspirit.com)

432985 TWI0913

State Penitentiary. Her writings paint a sad, but exciting time — one in which infant mortality rates were high, but so were sights on expansion and economic growth.

During the early 20th century, Fairview residents worked in the agricultural, logging and dairy industries and lived with minimal electricity and running water. The land where the Target store now stands in Fairview, at 21500 N.E. Halsey St., was the Stone family's dairy farm. It was a time when phonographs were the latest technological development.

Back then, girls weren't allowed at the local swimming hole and social activities included patent-medicine shows and box socials. Young men were paid an average of 50 cents a day picking fruit and women stayed home to cook and take care of the children.

But some things haven't changed in Fairview; for example, the weather. On July 4, 1900, Drusilla writes, "This has been the rainiest 4th on record. Just poured all day except two or three hours in the middle of the day."

Visitors can learn more about Heslin and Fairview history through tours held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the third Saturday every month where they can view the china dolls, sewing machines, military uniforms, original furniture and other items owned by the family and Fairview settlers. Black and white pictures showing past residents decked in bonnets and trousers hang from the walls and informational panels orient newcomers.

Visitors also can check out the adjacent jail that used to house transients and pranksters back during the early 20th century. The two-room, cement jail was erected in 1915, but served more as a climbing structure for Heslin children than a detention center.

"The Heslin House is our only museum here in Fairview," said Lael Larger of the Fairview Rockwood Wilkes Historical Society. "I think it's important to learn about how involved the Dunbars and Heslins were in the

SEE "HESLIN" / PAGE 18



Ann Rosene's 200-doll collection is on display at Heslin House museum. OUTLOOK FILE PHOTO



**Boyd's Coffee**  
is one of the oldest  
family-owned coffee  
companies in the  
world, and we are  
proud to be a part of  
East County.



Bring in this ad for  
**ONE FREE  
FRESH-BREWED  
COFFEE  
ANY SIZE.**

Expires October 18, 2013.  
Limit one per customer.  
Not to be combined with  
any other offer.

433002/TWT0913

**BOYD'S®**  
COFFEE  
ESTABLISHED 1900. SERIOUSLY.™

19730 NE Sandy Boulevard  
Portland, Oregon 97230  
Open M-F 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
FREE Wi Fi  
[www.boyds.com](http://www.boyds.com)

## SANDY AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM

**"WHERE HISTORY NEVER GETS OLD"**



Experience Sandy from the beginning!  
Learn area history or just enjoy beautiful displays.

Museum & Gift Shop Open 7 Days  
Monday-Saturday 10-4 & Sunday 12-4

**Free Admission**

39345 Pioneer Blvd., Sandy, OR

**503-668-3378** **sandyhistory.com**

# FIRST BEND OF HIGHWAY IS LEARNING CURVE

*Local historians have personal connections to engineering landmark*

## CONTRIBUTED BY TROUTDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Historic Columbia River Highway – on Troutdale's front door step – is getting a closer look from old friends.

Two years ago, 10 people took up the task of building a centennial exhibit to mark the 1916 opening of the historic road running from Troutdale through the Columbia River Gorge to The Dalles.

The plan: A first-class historic display in the Troutdale Historical Society barn museum, located at Troutdale's entrance to the highway, open by late spring 2015.

An unexpected result of two years' planning was discovering that many committee members had a personal stake in the road.

Chairman Len Otto grew up in a house next to the Sandy River bridge: "I never realized that this thing with which I grew up, this highway of tar and stone and waterfalls,

was such a big deal that people from all over the world come to see what I considered ordinary. Just recently I learned that the west end of the bridge in Troutdale is marked as Milepoint Zero on some of the newer maps...I grew up at Milepoint Zero. That's awesome."

Otto helped organized a birthday party for the Troutdale bridge last spring, part of an effort to raise more than \$100,000 to build the new exhibit - "King of Roads, Byway of the People."

Money was an issue then, too.

Jean Hybskemann, historical society board member, said her grandfather flourished during the construction of the highway, which was built on its west end with mostly horse power.

"My grandfather, Alfred O Stafford, worked on the road. He and my grandmother had a farm (still in the family) on Hayden Road (now 302nd off of Division Street). He had a team of horses that were his pride and joy.



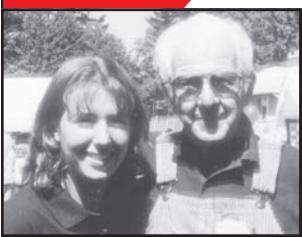
This photo shows the "China Bridge," spanning the Historic Columbia River Highway. The bridge was just west of the Latourell Bridge, and was designed as a pedestrian overpass. The concrete abutments are present still and easily visible to visitors.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO: CLARENCE MERSHON COLLECTION

## BURNS FEED STORE

PET • GARDEN • TACK • FEED • HAY • HARDWARE • WILDLIFE

*Three Generations To Serve You – Since 1950*



Shelley & Ike Burns



Carol & Rawley Burns

**BURNS**



**FEED STORE**

63 Years in Business!

29215 SE Orient Dr., Gresham, OR 97080  
503-663-3246 • E-mail:[burnsfeed@hdweb.com](mailto:burnsfeed@hdweb.com)  
website: [burnsfeed.hdweb.com](http://burnsfeed.hdweb.com)

## Gresham Radiator



Your Local Radiator Shop

**SINCE 1956**

731 NE Division Street • Gresham, OR 97030

**503.665.7949**

A good working team of draft horses was worth more than money in the bank in those days," she says.

At the time the highway was launched, East Multnomah County residents thought of it as the rich man's road because only the wealthy could afford automobiles. Julie Stewart, Gresham, photo librarian for the society, found a letter in her own family files illustrating the point. "One of my grandfathers wrote to my grandmother in Illinois in 1915, 'Say, Norman Burwell sure has a swelled head about that model Ford of his. But I think it's just a tin bucket with an engine."

Norman Burwell turned out to be Stewart's other grandfather, but at the time he was just a lucky guy whose grandma bought him a car.

But Henry Ford came along building cars for average Joes and soon even a farmer could enjoy a jaunt down the marvelous road.

Stewart credits the late Clarence Mershon, East Multnomah County historian, for making it clear: "He was the 'Encyclopedia of the Columbia Gorge.' It's a wonder his brain didn't explode with all the facts and information he had crammed in there... I would sit at those

SEE "HIGHWAY" / PAGE 14



An early garage in Troutdale served travelers on the "new" Columbia River Highway — at Portland prices.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO: CLARENCE MERSHON COLLECTION

## Serving East County for 28 Years



*The Feigner Family*

435195 TWTO913

*Founder  
Bill  
White*



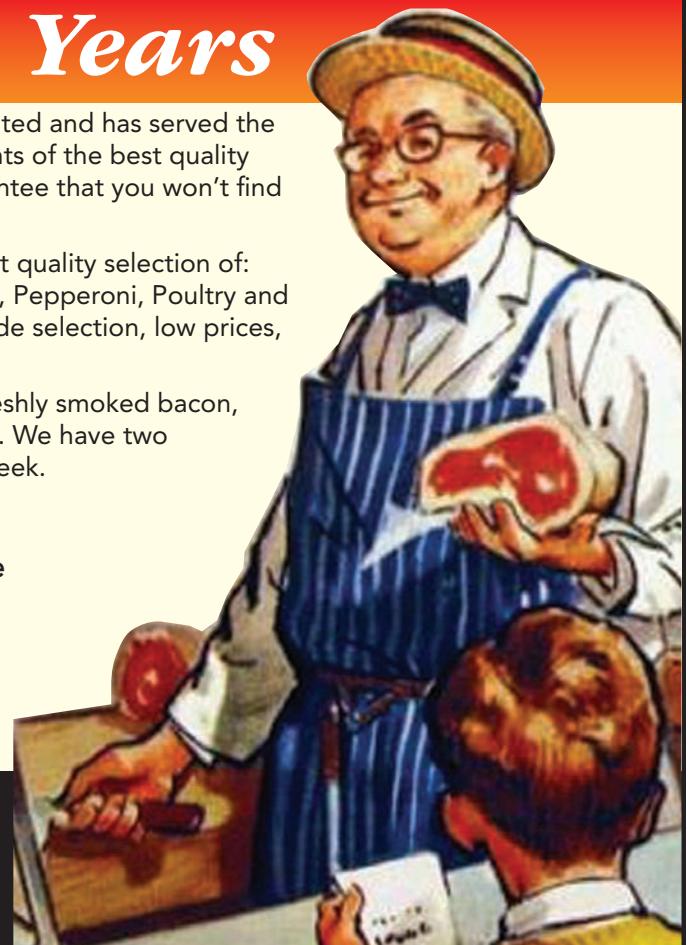
**White's Country Meats** is locally owned and operated and has served the Gresham area for over 28 years. With daily shipments of the best quality meats available from all over the country, we guarantee that you won't find a better value for you and your family.

Come in today, we have the area's freshest and best quality selection of: Steaks, Ribs, Roasts, Hams, Chops, Sausages, Jerky, Pepperoni, Poultry and so much more. Come visit our store and see our wide selection, low prices, and unmatched quality.

We have 9 varieties of White's Country Sausage, freshly smoked bacon, marinated pepper steaks and many house favorites. We have two smokehouses that run 24 hours a day, 7 days per week.

### SERVICE AND QUALITY #1

Since 1985, White's Meats has proudly served the butcher and game processing needs of the east Portland area. Our customers come from: Gresham, Troutdale, Sandy, Boring, Wood Village, Rockwood, Fairview, Government Camp, Zig Zag, Rhododendron, Corbet and Portland, Oregon



**WHITE'S COUNTRY MEATS**

1207 SE Kane • Gresham, OR 97080 • 503.666.0967

Whites Country Meats is an old-fashioned butcher shop. A place where you can purchase fresh cut meats, beef, pork & poultry.

**MEINIG: FROM PAGE 7**

Of course, there's no train through Sandy either, and that fact may have drawn Fredrich to land his family here.

Fredrich bought 80 acres off Cedar Creek and built a log house on what would become Ten Eyck Road. Once settled, Fredrich became a co-founder of Sandy, constructing a mill race east of Cedar Creek Bridge and a flour mill downstream, powered by the race. Later, he built a large house just south of the log house, and opened a store, dance hall, saloon and post office at the corner of Ten Eyck and Highway 26.

That sounds like a lot more fun than the 7-Eleven that stands in that spot today.

Through the records, we also know that Fredrich filed a mining claim in February 1901 to take silver, gold and lead from Cheeney Creek, south of Welches. It is unclear whether he was profitable there, but his success as a founder of Sandy is unmistakable.

The Meinigs had two sons, Albon and Paul. Paul was born back in Germany, and when Fredrich died in 1902, the stage was set for Paul to take over the business. In 1911, Paul Meinig opened a store with an attached home at what is now the corner of Meinig and Pioneer boulevard.

Albon and his wife, Minnie, had a son named Milton in 1908, and any history geek would enjoy taking a look at a hunting permit issued to Milton in 1940, which is on file at the museum.

Modern-day Sandyites enjoy music in Meinig Park and do their city business at the City Hall, both of which were made possible through a land deal struck in 1963, when the Meinig family sold 15 acres to the city for \$7,000, under the stipulation that the subsequent park be named in honor of their family.

History is a long arc of events that blend to create what we consider the present. In the case of Sandy, it is safe to say that a railroad survey team back in Missouri around 1870, making a decision to bypass a little town with a flour mill, laid the tracks for the Meinig family's move here.

**ABOVE**

The Meinig family established their mercantile, post office, saloon and dance hall at the corner of Ten Eyck and what is now Highway 26 in the late 1800's.  
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO: SANDY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**LEFT**

Frederick Meinig  
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO: SANDY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**BETWEEN**

The Meinig home and farm were located on the site of the 1997 housing development known as Scenic Meadows in the east end of Sandy. This photo was saved from being thrown away by Vic Ullman. It was given to Sandy Historical Society by Vicki Ullman Picking, Vic's daughter.  
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO: SANDY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



**Gresham Historical Society presents**

# **Then & Now**

**Photography by Steve Terrill**

**Limited Edition Photos**

**← Framed And Ready To Hang →**

**EXAMPLES:**

**2. Looking North on Main Street from Powell c. 1930**

**4. Gresham Grade & High School c. 1920's**

For sale in the gift shop

Also available at the gift shop:  
**"Gresham... Stories of our Past"**  
Volumes 1 and 2 by WR Chilton      Only **\$10.00** each

**Gresham History Museum**  
410 N. Main Avenue  
**Historic Downtown Gresham**

Featuring Exhibits  
Carnegie Library Centennial  
& Gresham in 1913

For More Information:  
**503-661-0347** or  
[www.greshamhistoricalsociey.org](http://www.greshamhistoricalsociey.org)

433006.TW10913

**HESLIN: FROM PAGE 9**

community and to emulate the kind of background that they set for us."

Larger has been involved with the historical society for at least 20 years and

leads gardening groups from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on the second Saturday of every month at the Heslin House.

"It's absolutely important for people to know history and to know where they came from," Larger said.

**ODE TO FAIRVIEW**

— By Minnie Stone, 1912 —

*Not far from the grand old river  
Which ever westward flows  
Is nestled a little hamlet  
In sight of eternal snows.*

*We tell of the wondrous beauties  
Delightful, e'er to behold,  
Of the scenes around this village  
That never seem to grow old.*

*Look northward, beyond the river!  
See the hills — then mountains tall.  
While standing guard in the distance,  
St. Helens o'er tops them all.*

*Sometimes, when tints from the sunset  
Alight on these mountains grand,  
They call to mind glories, waiting  
Beyond, in the heav'ly land.*

*Now turn — behold, to the eastward,  
The hills — which, rocky and tall,  
Form the gorge, where flows the river,  
A charming, picturesque wall.*

*And now we'd point to our monarch;  
The snow-capped beauty we love;  
Mt. Hood! our pride and our glory;  
Our gift from our God above.*

*Mt. Hood! far — famed for its beauty,  
Stands e'er majestic, alone,  
With grandeur claimed by no other,  
Its beauty is all its own.*

*Now turn to the south; see farm lands,  
With pastures, meadows, and grain,  
And orchards, with fruits heavy laden  
Because of plentiful rain.*

*Look westward; the sunset, gorgeous,  
Charming, appears to our view;  
The pink, the gold, and the crimson,  
The purple, yellow, and blue.*

*And o'er the lake, on the low-lands,  
These tints are charmingly shown;  
And one who views them in rapture,  
Their beauty surely will own.*

*These tints in water reflected,  
Waken thoughts profound and sweet,  
Of beauties, which are eternal,  
Which — sometime all hope to meet.*

*Again, we turn to the eastward,  
And watch for the rays of light;  
As the sun climbs o'er the mountains,  
And drives back the gloom of night.*

*We love to watch for the dawning  
That brings in a brighter day;  
To believe the light is coming,  
To shine on our earthly way.*

*These are the beauties surrounding  
Our village — your home and mine.  
Let's give God thanks for such blessings,  
For He's the Giver-divine.*

*And, since our Father has given  
So much for you, and for me.  
Let's give our best in His service—  
To show His goodness so free.*

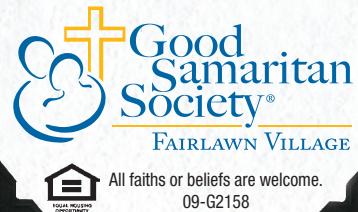


## Fairlawn Village

Providing care in mind,  
body & spirit to our  
community's seniors  
since 1977

A continuum of care  
including senior apartments  
and cottages, in home care  
and skilled rehabilitation

(503) 667-1965  
3457 NE Division St.  
Gresham, OR 97030



All faiths or beliefs are welcome.  
09-G2158

432904.TW70913

# That Was Then... This Is Now!

Gresham Dodge In The Same Location  
Since 1987

## Watch Us Grow!

We Will Be Remodeling This Fall & Winter  
**BUT WE ARE OPEN FOR BUSINESS!**

Our New Building Opening March 2014



2013 Dodge Ram 2500



1987 Dodge Ram 250



2013 Jeep Wrangler



### Gresham Dodge

opened in Gresham in the current location in 1987. After 26 successful years the dealership is getting a major update and expansion. Watch the progress! You'll see big changes. We should be completed in early 2014. Through the remodel we will be open for business and ready to serve you...our friends and customers.

**GRESHAM**  
CHRYSLER • DODGE • JEEP • RAM  
855 NE BURNSIDE, GRESHAM  
**1-866-525-7618**

**HIGHWAY FROM PAGE 11**

exhibit committee meetings as he unreeled his memories and just be transfixed, hanging on his every syllable."

If Mershon was the encyclopedia, then committee member Steve Lehl is the attic. Lehl began collecting Columbia Gorge memorabilia as a garbage man finding treasures in the trash in Portland's West Hills. He has made his collection available for the exhibit.

"And to think that it began by saving things that people in the West Hills put out with the trash," marvels Jeanette Kloos, committee member. Kloos herself is a treasure. Originally assigned to work with the state's historic highway committee, she was instrumental in launching restoration of the shattered parts of the road for biking and hiking. A new section of the restored route opens Sept. 15.

Committee member Sue Handy marvels that the hometown highway is so famous: "I was unaware that the Historic Columbia River Highway is recognized by the American Society of Civil Engineers as a Historic Civil Engineering Landmark, one of 256 worldwide designations including The Eiffel Tower, Machu Picchu, Golden Gate Bridge, Washington Monument, and the



Gloria and Len Otto attend the "Party for a Bridge," held April 20, 2013, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the construction of the Troutdale Bridge, which spans the Sandy River.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO: Keith Eisele

Panama Canal. It was the first Scenic Highway built in America, is listed as a Historic Scenic Byway, All American Road and the list goes on."

Her husband Greg, who grew up at the family gas station serving highway motorists, observes that the 1914 Latourell Bridge, was one of the first reinforced concrete bridges in Oregon and continues to carry traffic nearly 100 years after it was constructed.

"That certainly is a tribute to our history and especially to those that have worked hard to preserve and restore this bridge and the Old Historic Columbia River Scenic



A car crosses over Latourell Bridge in the Columbia River Highway.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO: Clarence Mershon collection

Highway."

Next door to the Handy gas station, a young man from Corbett named Ignatius Wand opened a fruit and vegetable stand to draw highway motorists. It was there that he met a young woman, wooing her by giving her some withering lemons to make a pie.

He and Alice had, among many children, a daughter, Helen Wand, who is on the

exhibit committee and head of the fund-raising effort to build the exhibit.

"It's a big gulp," she admits, trying to raise money. So far the group has raised about \$25,000. More events are coming up. Donations can be made to the highway exhibit through the Troutdale Historical Society, 219 E. Historic Columbia River Highway, Troutdale, OR 97060.



Sandy community, the bank building was quite small.

Not only does the Clackamas County Bank of 2013 have a two-level building that stretches nearly a city block, but the community bank also has satellite branches in Welches, Boring and Gresham.

Besides the obvious – people riding to the bank in their horse-drawn carriage or Model T – banks have changed over the past 100 years.

"Of the many things that have influenced banking during this century," said Julie Snell, executive vice president of Clackamas County Bank, "regulations and technology have probably had the most impact."

## CCB uses technology, but maintains personal touch With a 102-year history, Clackamas County Bank is involved in the community

In 1911, when Clackamas County Bank began its long service to the

As the banking industry evolved, she said, there were few banking standards and regulations. Bank employees knew their customers and probably their families as well. In fact, Snell said Clackamas County Bank used to make some loans on a handshake and sometimes took cattle as collateral.

But not today. As the customer base has changed, so have banking industry standards. Federal and state agencies have added regulations that require new processes within each bank.

Now, bank examiners evaluate a bank's performance against the industry's best standards. Customers are required to provide much more financial and even personal information, Snell said. Times have changed.

The new technology has opened many options for customers, Snell said, especially the younger on-the-go generation.

With online and mobile banking, a customer no longer needs to come into a bank – especially if they are out of town. A customer can check balances, transfer between accounts and, with a smart phone, make a deposit by taking a photo of the check and transfer it directly into their bank account.

But for those customers who prefer the personal touch – a teller to talk with, a deposit receipt, cash in the hand and a friendly person answering the phone – Clackamas County Bank has the answer.

Beginning with a single branch in Sandy in 1911, CCB now has four branches for convenience.

After 102 years in business, Snell says CCB is the oldest community bank in Oregon and has an abundance of capital assets.

Bank managers say they believe CCB's plentiful assets will help the bank serve local financial needs for another 100 years.

# CLACKAMAS COUNTY BANK

MEMBER FDIC

SANDY OFFICE  
503-668-5501

HOODLAND OFFICE  
503-622-3131

BORING OFFICE  
503-663-3000

GRESHAM OFFICE  
503-665-9444

[www.clackamascountycbank.com](http://www.clackamascountycbank.com)



# COURTYARD FOUNTAINS

By Scott Keith



If you lived in Gresham in the early 1950s, you may have visited a wrecking yard called "The Dugout." Fast forward to 2013 and now you'll see a vibrant retirement community.

**COURTYARD FOUNTAINS**, in business over 15 years, is a 252-residence community featuring both independent and assisted living residences.

Many people fear a loss of independence moving into a retirement community, but Ryan Bethke, Director of Marketing at **COURTYARD FOUNTAINS** feels the opposite is true. "Residents actually gain independence and freedom because they don't have to deal with the daily hassles of homeownership, bills, cooking and yard maintenance."

It's all about a "culture built on choice" at **COURTYARD FOUNTAINS**. "Our residents have more time to travel, spend time with family and play with the grandkids," said Bethke.

"People move here because they want to be here," Bethke said, pointing out a variety of services, including meals made from scratch, interesting activities, mind and body fitness programs and a variety of engaging classes.

**COURTYARD FOUNTAINS** is a unique community," Bethke said. "One way we're different is the tenure of our team. Mary Beisley, our Executive Director, has been here over 13 years. Our Maintenance Director and Food Service Director have both been here over ten years."

Yet it's the residents that make **COURTYARD FOUNTAINS** special. "Residents take great pride in the community. They're the ones who actually make it what it is," Bethke said.

One of those residents, Georgene Honke, can look back on the days when her father, George Wills, operated the wrecking yard that eventually became **COURTYARD FOUNTAINS**.

"It was pretty good sized," Honke remembers. "People would bring their old cars in – my father, and the people he worked with, would dismantle them and sell the parts out."

These days, Honke is happy to call **COURTYARD FOUNTAINS** her home. She has recommended the retirement community to quite a few people.

"I've told them what a good experience it has been," Honke said. "I think people are living longer, being in a place like this – you're getting a new lease on life here, because people are active. It's amazing how active these people are."



## MORE ABOUT COURTYARD FOUNTAINS

- Flexible financial options
- Energy-efficient modern residences with full kitchens
- Restaurant style dining
- Health and wellness services
- Library
- Computer Center



1545 SE 223rd Ave | Gresham, OR 97030  
1-877-811-1705 | [www.watermarkcommunities.com](http://www.watermarkcommunities.com)

## OUR FAMILY SERVING YOUR FAMILY FOR OVER 38 YEARS

Back in 1959, longtime Estacada resident Jim Weston took a chance, trading in his job coordinating newspaper routes for a career selling cars.

Now, although Weston is retired, he keeps his finger on the pulse of the business and consults with his sons, Jay and Jan who now run the family business known today as Weston Buick Kia GMC.

A third generation has even joined in. Jan's sons Jacob and Josh are learning the trade.

Weston built his business with equal parts sweat and word of mouth. As a salesman for the former Vic Bowman Pontiac GMC in Oregon City, he rose through the ranks, being promoted to sales manager within eight years. Soon after, he moved up to general manager.

By 1975, Weston was ready to go solo and purchased a failing Pontiac GMC Jeep dealership on East Burnside Road in Gresham. He put his name - which had become trusted in the industry - on the business.

Jim Weston Pontiac took off like a rocket. The dealership went from last place in the region for sales to first place within one month of opening.



Former Jim Weston Pontiac location on Burnside in Gresham



Left to Right - Jan Weston, Jacob Weston (Jan's son), Jay Weston

After 12 years at the Burnside location, Weston Pontiac GMC opened a showroom and service department on Southeast Stark Street. In 2000, the dealership celebrated 25 years in business and the new millennium by adding a Kia franchise across the street at the intersection of Southeast 223rd Avenue and Stark Street.

In 2006, the company moved the Kia dealership to a new building at what was once Zim's 12-mile corner.



Left to Right - Jim Weston, Jay Weston & Jan Weston

Under Weston's leadership, his dream of owning a successful car dealership has resulted in decades of satisfied customers. Now, more than 38 years later, the Weston name is still known for quality and its ties to the community. Weston remains a notable name as sponsor for area athletic teams and a benefactor for area nonprofits and organizations serving the community.

"My dad always said, 'We sell cars, but we're in the people business,'" said Jan Weston, dealership chairman and CEO. "...Our job is to help the customer find the truck or car that fits their need. We're all about relationships. We truly appreciate all of our customers and want them to know how thankful we are that they choose to do business with us."



Jay & Jan Weston



# WESTON KIA

*Where You Get More For Your Money*

**10 YEAR**  
100,000 MILE  
WARRANTY\*

- 10-year/100,000-mile limited powertrain warranty
- 5-year/60,000-mile limited basic warranty
- 5-year/100,000-mile limited anti-perforation warranty
- 5-year/50,000-mile 24-hour roadside assistance\*

223rd & Stark • Gresham 503.665.2166

[buyweston.com](http://buyweston.com)

[westonkia.com](http://westonkia.com)

# THAT WAS THEN

Troutdale circa late 1800s



Frederich Meinig circa late 1800s



# THIS IS NOW

Meinig Park



A SPECIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GRESHAM OUTLOOK AND SANDY POST