

The Daily Insider

Southern Washington Edition

Survey suggests downtown interest in forming a Business Improvement District

Almost two-thirds of downtown Vancouver business and property owners responding to a survey say they want to form a downtown Business Improvement District.

Results of the survey, which was conducted through the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce for the Call To Action Task Force, of suggest that 27 percent of the respondents were not interested or were opposed, according to chamber president **John McKibbin**. Eight percent were undecided.

A major push by a core of downtown business people to increase retail shopping opportunities is already underway.

Wednesday, the Call to Action Task Force, promoting downtown retail location benefits, wheeled prospective business owners up and down Main Street in a sleek white Erik Runyan Jewelers' limousine.

Prizes of up to \$20,000 await the first retailer to demonstrate willingness and ability to locate a downtown Vancouver branch of an existing retail operation.

A business improvement district can be empowered to assess businesses and properties to finance such activities as marketing, economic development, security, special promotions, maintenance and beautification

More than 1,500 questionnaires were distributed to businesses and property owners west of I-5, between the Columbia River and W. 28th Street.

A barrier to downtown revitalization is the lack of desirable downtown retail business, according to 64 percent of the respondents. Forty percent of the respondents said information about downtown Vancouver is lacking, and 36 percent said downtown is perceived as unattractive.

The next step, according to McKibbin, is development of a draft business plan for presentation to merchants and property owners.

Wednesday's push to entice new retail blood downtown was attended by more than a hundred guests in the West Coast Bank building at the foot of Broadway.

Mayor **Royce Pollard** repeated for the group that the city is committed to revitalization of the downtown core, currently the focus of more than \$300 million public and private investment.

Capt. Clark twenty-foot tall-bronze tree to stop in Vancouver on way to Long Beach

A twenty-foot-tall bronze rendition of "Clark's tree," being transported on the Columbia River by an open platform boat from a foundry in Clarkston to Long Beach where it will be a focal point of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial commemoration in Pacific County, will be on display in Vancouver Friday and Saturday, Oct. 3 and 4.

By bronze artist **Stanley Wanlass**, the sculpture is a recreation of a tree into which Capt. William Clark is said to have carved his name. The long-since gone tree was four miles north of what is now Long Beach and the northernmost place the Corps of Discovery traveled on the Washington Coast in 1805.

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THURSDAY

Sept. 11, 2003

InterACT hosting transportation forum

InterACT presents a forum, "Our Transportation Future," at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 23, in the student auditorium at Washington State University Vancouver.

Presenters will be State Rep. **Deb Wallace** (D-17th), **Bridget Schwarz**, **Jim Etkorn** and **Bob Byrd**.

People

Melissa Taylor and **Pam Marini** have been named branch managers of two of Columbia Credit Union's 11 branches, according to **Paul Hodge**, the credit union's vice president and chief operating officer. Taylor, who had been a branch manager for Key Bank, is a Battle Ground resident and will manage the financial institution's Fourth Plain Branch. **Marini**, who has 21 years of community banking experience with First Independent Bank and US Bank, will manage the credit union's Riverstone branch on SE 192nd Avenue.

News briefs

An open house presenting draft proposals for updating the Clark County Growth Management Plan is at 6 p.m. today in the Camas High School cafeteria, 1612 NE Garfield Street, Camas. ~~del~~ Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation proposal for a metropolitan park district to serve Vancouver's urban growth area of over 100,000 persons will be discussed at an open house at 6:30 p.m. today in Jason Lee Middle School, 8500 NW 9th Avenue. ~~del~~ The county fairgrounds regional sports complex and community park are on the agenda for tonight's 7 p.m. meeting of the Fairgrounds Neighborhood Association in the Church Community Room, 400 NE 179th Street.

Thursday on the air

Animal Control Hearings (live)—3:30 p.m. CVTV

Camas City and Port Primary Candidates—5:30 p.m. CVTV

Texas Rangers at Seattle Mariners (live)—7 p.m. FSN, KOTK

Clark County Land Use Hearings (9/9)—7:30 p.m. CVTV

Stocks of local interest at 4 p.m. EDT Thursday, Sept. 11, 2003

Alaska Air Group	28.28	+01	Linear Technology	38.23	+37
Alcoa	28.23	+31	Microsoft	27.84	+29
Amazon.com	45.19	-1.03	Nautilus	12.41	+61
Bank of America	75.60	+73	Nike	55.79	+54
Bank of Clark County	15.00	unch	Nordstrom	25.35	+25
Bemis	44.79	+18	PepsiCo	44.72	unch
Boeing	35.72	+10	Precision Cast	35.69	+69
Boise Cascade	28.19	+1.02	RLRN	24.33	+02
CenturyTel	34.20	-27	Starbucks	29.05	+53
Costco	31.63	+92	TSM	12.18	+41
Expeditors Intl.	36.40	-13	Tektronix	23.73	+35
Georgia Pacific	23.50	-25	US Bancorp	23.84	+18
HPQ	20.18	+12	Wash. Mutual	36.92	-27
Intel	28.03	+27	W. Coast Bancorp	20.19	+61
Kvocera	64.94	+18	Weverhaeuser	59.61	+77
DOW: 9459.76 +39.3 del NASDAQ: 1846.09 +22.28 del S&P: 1016.42 +5.5					

Town Tabloids and The Weather

Susan Courtney backing winners.	Acapulco	93/75
del Jim Justin transcending the milieu.	Athens	83/64
del Ray Bachman making cover-page status.	Chicago	82/63
del Fernando Proano returning with a decade of practice.	Dallas	84/64
del Roger Qualman pointing out that money follows big ideas.	Hong Kong	90/78
del Thursday , sunbreaks, mostly dry, 72.	Los Angeles	86/64
del Friday , much more clement, lots of sun, 74.	London	66/52
del Saturday , just like summer, 78.	New Orleans	86/72
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	Paris	61/47
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	Tokyo	86/75
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