Southern Washington Edition

# Library begins push to improve the neighborhood with three new facilities

On March 2, 2004, voters in what is expected to become a new library sub district within the Fort Vancouver Regional Library District, will vote on a \$48 million bond issue that would nearly double the size of the Vancouver Community Library and build a new library in the new Firstenburg Community Center in Cascade Park.

The election date had long been awaited. Originally to have been this year the library trustees deferred to the unsettling times following 9/11 and the economic uncertainty that hung on.

Voters at the same special election need, first, to authorize formation of the district of about 217,000 people in Vancouver and surrounding neighborhoods with a majority vote, then pass a bond issue by a 60 percent majority to build the new libraries and expand the library's district headquarters and book storage facilities.

The Vancouver Community Library would be expanded from 48,000 square feet to 92,000-square feet at its current Mill Plain, Fort Vancouver Way location. The headquarters now at that location would be moved to another as yet undesignated location.

The 25,000-square-foot proposed library in Cascade Park would be ten times the size of the current 2,500-square-foot facility near NE 136th Avenue and Mill Plain Boulevard.

Cost of the 20-year bond issue is expected to be about 17 cents per \$1,000 assessed valuation, about equal to \$35 a year for a \$150,000 home.

The trustees expect a big turnout for the vote since the other measure on the ballot will be Washington's first-ever March presidential primary.

# Political candidates to speak at League of Women Voters, Forum at the Library meet

Candidates for this fall's non-partisan elections will have their first collective outing at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday Aug. 26, in the Fort Vancouver Regional Library community room, 1007 E Mill Plain Boulevard.

That forum, and a second at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 28, in the Camas Police Department community room, 2100 NE 3rd Avenue, are sponsored by the League of Women Voters and the Forum at the Library.

Scheduled to make presentations at the Vancouver forum are Timothy Leavitt, D. Michael Heywood, Paul L. Harris and Heather Crumbaker, all candidates for the Vancouver City Council, Position 4; Julie K. Young, Larry J. Smith and Mike Tefey, candidates for Vancouver City Council Position 5; and Tom Bradley, Robert Durgan and Nancy Baker, candidates for Port of Vancouver commissioner, District 2.

Appearing in the Camas forum will be incumbent **Dean Dossett**, **Paul Dennis** and **Howard Belz**, candidates for the mayor of Camas; **David Gast**, **Liz Pike Erikson** and **Bruce Lindoff**, Camas councilmember at-large candidates; and **Jim Gray**, **Rich Gunderson**, **Zachariah A. Merritt** 

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and **Paul Cannon**, all candidates for commissioner Position 2, Port of Camas-Washougal.

### County employment numbers improving

From 9.9 percent a month ago, the percentage of unemployed Clark County workers fell to 9.6 percent for July, reports the state Department of Employment Security.

Statewide, there were gains in employment, too. The unadjusted employment rate for Washington was 7.4 per cent for July, down .2 percent form June. Nationally, the rate dropped from 6.4 percent to 6. 3 percent.

"Although there are positive signs in the national economy, the labor market in Washington continues to send mixed signals," says Employment Security acting deputy commissioner **Thomas Bynum**.

"Washington's nonagricultural wage and salary employment declined by 21,500 jobs in July, due to seasonal layoffs in state and local education and educational services," Bynum said, adding, "The largest increases in jobs came in the construction industry and the leisure and hospitality sectors."

### **News briefs**

C-TRAN directors meet in regular session at 5:15 p.m. today in the Rose Besserman conference room at the Fisher's Landing Transit Center.—The Neighborhood Associations Council of Clark County meets at 7 p.m. tonight in the Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street.—Port of Vancouver commissioners meet in workshop session at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 13.

#### Tuesday on the air

Archaeology of Pioneer Logging: Wind River—3:30 p.m. CVTV Real Excise Tax Proposal—5 p.m. CVTV

Toronto at Seattle Mariners (live)—7 p.m. FSN, KTOK Nashville at Portland Beavers (live)—7 p.m. KKAD Vancouver Planning Commission (live)—7 p.m. CVTV

#### Stocks of local interest at 4 p.m. EDT Tuesday, Aug. 12, 2003 Alaska Air Group Alcoa Linear Technology Microsoft +.34 +.95 +.53 +.39 +.77 +.17 Amazon.com Bank of America 39.85 81,43 15.00 44.68 32.61 25.34 34.72 30.05 37.11 +.92 +.82 Nautilus Nike Nordstrom PepsiCo Precision Cast Bank of Clark County unch +.30 +.39 Boeing Boise Cascade RLRN Starbucks TSM Tektronix +.24 +.60 CenturyTel Costco Expeditors Intl. Georgia Pacific HPQ 21.88 20.95 US Bancorp Wash. Mutual +.47 W. Coast Bancorp +.68 Weverhaeuser 19.04 56.55 -.08 -.25 57 45 Kyocera DOW: 9310.03 +92.71 NASDAQ: 1687.01 +25.5 S&P: 990.35 +9.76

Town Tabloids and The Weather	
Lauren Buhler composing.—Connor Acapulco Athens	91/77
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meeting.—Krista Glenn handling Paris	99/71
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Wodnogdov sun overnovyers clouds Seattle	76/54
Wednesday, sun overpowers clouds Seattle Sydney	74/52
80. <b>Thursday</b> , mixed bag, dry thunder, rokyo	84/73
80. Washington	88/72