

**Diana Avalos and Earl Ford
win Val Joshua Awards**



Diana Avalos

Earl Ford

Diana Avalos, Vancouver School District migrant program coordinator, and **Earl W. Ford**, president of the Vancouver National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, have been named winners of the 2004 Val Joshua Awards by the YWCA of Clark County.

The award honors demonstrated leadership to eliminate racism and significant involvement in the struggle for peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all people.

Avalos is an advocate for the Clark County Latino community and lead member of the newly-formed Diverse Educational Leadership Committee. She is a member of the state Commission on Hispanic Affairs.

Ford, who worked with the NAACP to develop a Rites of Passage Program for African American young people, is also a board member of the Larch Mountain Correctional Center and president of the Men of Zion at Community A.M.E. Zion Church.

The awards will be presented by **Val Joshua** at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 26, in the YWCA community room, 3609 Main Street.

**Baird's work merits national
Park Achievement Award**

For his, "superior leadership to fund and protect the national parks and to establish Lewis And Clark National Historical Park," the National Parks Conservation Association awarded U. S. Rep. **Brian Baird** (D-3rd) its Park Achievement Award.

Baird was cited for having co-founded the National Parks Caucus in the House of Representatives and for his work with U.S. Sen. **Maria Cantwell** in sponsoring the law passed last October that designated 560 acres in Washington and Oregon redesignating three sites in Washington and one in Oregon as a single national park honoring Lewis and Clark.

**High school, community college degrees
coincide for many Running Start students**

The Clark College Running Start program allows eligible high school juniors and seniors to take classes to earn college credit while they fulfill their high school graduation requirements, according to program manager **Linda Calvert**.

"Some students are so motivated that they earn their associate degree from Clark at the same time they earn their high school diploma," says Calvert.

Calvert recites an example: "**Rose Hart**, a Washougal home schooler, currently is taking her senior year high school classes at Clark College. She will earn an associate in arts degree at the same time she graduates from high school in June."

Hart also founded and serves as president of the Clark College chapter of Amnesty International. She is one of two Clark students named to the All-Washington Two-Year College Academic Team for campus involvement and academics.

Running Start students attend regular Clark classes during the day or in the evening, along with fellow college students. They can choose from a full range of academic and professional or technical courses.

Tuition for eligible students is covered by individual school districts. Students pay for books, transportation, and any miscellaneous class fees.

Calvert says Running Start students are self-motivated, emotionally mature and are looking for additional academic challenges. They have college-level skills and maturity.

Students and parents can learn more about the Clark College program during an informational meeting at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 9, in the Clark College gymnasium in the O'Connell sports Center.

For further information, call **992-2842**, or go to www.clark.edu/runningstart.

**Dave Kirkpatrick band headlines
Skills Center gourmet dinner**

The **Dave Kilpatrick Band** performs during the 6:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 28, gourmet dinner being presented by the Clark County Skills Center Culinary Arts Department in the Skills Center Restaurant, 12200 NE 28th Street.

For reservations or further information about the \$20 dinner (\$10 tax deductible), call **Patty Foco, 604-1050**, extension **2150**.

**Fred Swanstrom elected president
of the Port of Kalama board**

Fred Swanstrom, serving his second term on the Port of Kalama board of commissioners, has been elected president of the board. Swanstrom.

Swanstrom, a former Vancouver city councilmember, also served as deputy superintendent of schools in Vancouver and was superintendent of the Camas School District. He is a member of the board of the Cowlitz Economic Development Commission and is a delegate to the Washington Public Ports Association and the Cowlitz Wahkiakum Council of Governments.

Port commissioner **Milford Westin** was elected vice president of the board and **Jim Lucas** was elected secretary of the board.

People

Dan French, owner and president of Rose Ranch Retirement Inn., and **Elaine Hyce**, membership and marketing manager of Costco Wholesale, Vancouver, have been appointed to the board of directors of the Clark County Chamber of Commerce.

News briefs

Clark Public Utilities' commissioners and the La Center City Council meet to discuss waste water issues 6 p.m. this evening in the La Center Community Center, 1000 E 4th Street. ☞ Clark Public Utilities' commissioners meet in regular session at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 25. ☞ Port of Vancouver Commissioners meet in regular session at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 25. ☞ Clark County Commissioners meet in regular session at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan 25.

Monday headlines from at home and around the world:

[Police use of Tasers and other restraining procedures criticized--Columbian, **Erin Middlewood, Ken Olson and Stephanie Rice**](#)
[State Demos likely to review tax breaks--Columbian, **Don Jenkins**](#)
[Metro voters will decide on whether to make use of parks in February--Columbian, **Jeffrey Mize**](#)
[Solution to airport noise affecting Vancouver rejected--Oregonian, **Bill Stewart**](#)
[I-5 northbound accidents snarl traffic to Vancouver this morning--KATU](#)
[Johnny Carson's magic spoke to us in ways we now appreciate--Seattle P-I, **Melanie McFarland**](#)
[Iraq forces nap top al Qaeda aide--USA TODAY, AP](#)

Monday on the air

Vancouver City Council Workshop (live)—4 p.m. CVTV
 Vancouver City Council (live)—7 p.m. CVTV
 San Antonio at the Portland Blazers (live)—7 p.m. FSAN, KXL, KRMZ-

Town Tabloids and the weather

Lyall Crary filling in the details. ☞ **Dan Euliss** has renaissance on agenda. ☞ **Dan Ogden** reporting successful connection. ☞ **Don Canard** gracefulest. ☞ **Kathleen Porter** taking care of business. ☞ **Marc Boldt** aptly quoting Theodore Roosevelt. ☞ **Monday**, mostly sunny, 58. **Tuesday**, sunny, 54. **Wednesday**, showers and sunbreaks, 53.