

Vancouver Housing Authority opens 162-unit Plum Meadows



Vancouver Housing Authority's affordable housing Plum Meadows complex in Fruit Valley opens tomorrow

U. S. Sen. **Maria Cantwell** (D-Wash.) will dedicate the Vancouver Housing Authority's 162-affordable housing complex, Plum Meadows, in Fruit Valley at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 19.

The complex of cottages and apartments is one of the largest ever completed by the housing authority here. Described by VHA spokesperson **LaVon Holden** as "high-quality affordable homes," the units range from studio apartments to three-bedroom residences, with gas fireplaces. In addition to the living units, there are two playgrounds and a community building. All homes will be available to households earning 60 percent of the area median income or below, according to Holden.

Plum Meadows is a partnership among the housing authority, the Vancouver School District and the Fruit Valley Neighborhood Association. Plum Meadows is at the site of the former Fruit Valley Grade School, which was replaced by a new school nearby which opened in 2002.

Developed by the VHA, the project was financed with \$9.1 million in private activity bonds through the state Housing Finance Commission, \$6 million in tax-credit equity, \$1 million from the state Housing Trust Fund, and \$300,000 in federal Housing and Urban Development HOME

funds.

Mary Granger giving "I Have a Dream" report to Women in Action

Mary Granger, "I Have a Dream" organizer in Vancouver, will present a report on the success of the project to Women in Action at their 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 20, luncheon in the Red Lion at the Quay.

Organized in 1995, "I Have a Dream" Southwest Washington has four projects that are currently helping 333 students from low-income neighborhoods. The program provides a project coordinator for entire grade levels of students. Students who are able to maintain program requirements through high school graduation receive college or vocational training at no cost.

For reservations, call **Anissa Russell, 695-1224**.

Reserve partners to discuss West Barracks, tour Red Cross Building

The Vancouver National Historic Reserve partners will meet at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 21, in the O. O. Howard House, to discuss landscaping and construction projects in West Vancouver Barracks. The public is invited to the meeting and to a tour of the newly restored Red Cross Building.

The Historic Reserve partners are the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Trust, City of Vancouver, National Park Service, the state Office of Historic Preservation, and the U.S. Army Reserve.

Forum to produce citizen participation in developing new mixed-use ordinance

A roundtable forum to gather citizen information on Clark County's proposed mixed-use, urban development ordinance begins at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 20, in the county Public Safety Complex, 505 NW 179th Street, Ridgefield.

An advisory committee representing development, financing, neighborhood and growth interests, appointed by the county board of commissioners, has been developing the ordinance, which will be a part of the county's updated Comprehensive Growth Management Plan.

The mixed-use element of the plan is designed to help blend various land uses together, including commercial, residential, recreational and educational uses.

For further information, call **397-2375**, extension **4993**.

Rotary's Festival of Trees opens day after Thanksgiving

The Vancouver Rotary Foundation's annual Festival of Trees, which last year raised nearly a quarter of a million dollars for charitable causes, opens the day after Thanksgiving, Friday, Nov. 26, and runs through Sunday, Nov. 28, in the Red Lion Hotel at the Quay.

The Festival of Trees, now in its 9th year, supports community grants and scholarships, supports international projects, and assists "at-risk" students in local elementary schools.

More than 50 Christmas trees will be on display. Weekend events include Friday performances by the Vancouver Pops Orchestra, a Teddy Bear tea for children and a black-tie gala auction Saturday, and a senior tea Sunday.

People

Randy Smith, C-TRAN bus driver, placed 8th in North American coach operators competition at the International Bus Rodeo

competition held last week in Atlanta, Ga. Smith was among 260 competitors selected from transit systems throughout the United States and Canada.

News briefs

The deadline to register to vote in the Tuesday, Nov. 2, general election is 5 p.m. today. Voter registration is being conducted at the county Elections office, 1408 Franklin Street. ☞ The Vancouver City Council meets in workshop session at 4 p.m. today and is expected to complete the process of agreeing on a balanced budget proposal for 2005-2006. ☞ C-TRAN is holding the last in a series of open houses discussing the transit agency's proposed .03 percent sales tax increase at 5:30 p.m. this evening in the Battle Ground High School library, 300 W Main Street. ☞ The Vancouver City Council meets in regular session at 7 p.m. this evening. ☞ Clark Public Utilities' commissioners meet in regular session at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 19. ☞ Clark County commissioners meet in regular session at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 19. ☞ The Coalition of East Vancouver Communities meets at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 19, in the Phoenix Inn Hospitality Suite, 12712 SE 2nd Circle.

Monday headlines from at home and around the world:

[Zach Martinez comes home from the war zone--Columbian, Paul Valencia](#)

[Vancouver's Gentle Ben gets share of U.S. Canine Heroes Award--Columbian, Tom Vogt](#)

[Professional artists sales helping Vancouver School of Arts and Academics finance Confluence Project--Columbian, Amy](#)

[McFall Prince and Howard Buck](#)

[Gov. Locke to name new Clark County Superior Court Judge Tuesday--Oregonian in Vancouver Tuesday--Oregonian](#)

[12 more die of car bombings in Iraq--USA TODAY, AP](#)

[Lava dome at St. Helens still growing--KGW-TV, AP](#)

Monday on the air

Vancouver City Council Workshop (live)—4 p.m. CVTV

Vancouver City Council (live)—7 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the weather

Trenton Holmberg making first sale for Green Mountain Gardens. ☞ **Royce Pollard** and **Dave Salesky** lighting up the joint. ☞ **Greg** and **Carol Flakus** in high style. ☞ **Michael Wagner's** quick wit and strong back get job done. ☞ **Jim Seekins** back in jeans. ☞ **Monday**, showery, blustery, cool, 56. **Tuesday** more of the same, 56. **Wednesday**, mostly cloudy, some sunbreaks, 58.