

Wayne Clemetson named development director for Clark College Foundation



Wayne Clemetson

Wayne Clemetson today was named director of development for the Clark College Foundation by foundation president **Lisa Gilbert**.

Clemetson has over 30 years of experience, most recently as the development director of the YMCA of Columbia Willamette-Clark County Branch. He was instrumental in helping the YMCA develop its facility in Orchards.

As director, Clemetson will be responsible for donor relations, special events, campaigns and marketing.

Clemetson is president of the Downtown Vancouver Rotary Club and is a former president and current board member of the Clark College Penguin Athletic Club.

The Clark College Foundation, with assets of over \$60 million, is one of the largest and most successful in the nation for community colleges.

Pearson Air Museum gets big boost from National Historic Reserve Trust

In a move that extends financial stability to the Pearson Air Museum, the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Trust has agreed to assume management responsibilities for the air museum and has appointed **Kyle Kihs** museum director. For the past two years Kihs had been sales manager for the Southwest Washington Convention and Visitors Bureau.

The new agreement, that comes with the blessings of the Pearson Field Historical Society, the National Park Service, which owns the land on which the E 5th Street museum is located, and the City of Vancouver.

The park service, which operates the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site and the fort, aims to expand educational and tourist opportunities both at the fort and with the air museum and will be adding an educational curriculum director to its staff this year. **Tracy Fortmann**, superintendent of the historic site, says that the Reserve Trust is our designated nonprofit partner and the agreement between the trust and the air museum historical society will strengthen the Historic Reserve as a whole.

The move will allow Pearson Field Historical Society to focus on its strengths—history and education, according to the society's board chair **Bill Roller**.

Elson Strahan, president of the Reserve Trust, says the new agreement will focus on cooperation among all of community's historic and education assets. Fortmann adds, "By working together we can create a richer array of community resources."

The air museum's income began declining after its extremely successful weekly Cruise-In program moved across the river to Portland International Speedway. At the same time, the subsidy contributed by the city of Vancouver also was declining.

In 2004, the city contributed \$30,000 toward operation of the museum. This year, the city budgeted \$20,000. But, according to **Jan Bader**, city spokesperson, the city will continue to provide support, but with the goal being for the museum to support itself.

In response to a question of the future of Pearson Airfield, part of which is owned by the National Park Service and the other half by Vancouver, Bader said discussions about the future of Pearson Field, begun about six months ago, are expected to continue. The current agreement calls for the city to relinquish its control over half the runway to the park service in 2022.

Betty Sue Morris tells packed house that Clark County is on the move

Delivering the State-of-the-County Address for the second year in a row to a packed house in the Red Lion Hotel at the Quay, Clark County Commissioner **Betty Sue Morris** Friday said the board of commissioners will bring unprecedented corporate and personal energy to their collective countywide efforts at economic development.

"We won't just encourage **Bart Phillips** and the Columbia River Economic Development Council to undertake new prospecting and recruiting efforts, we'll help target the ones we would like to woo and help knock on their doors," Morris said. "When potential employers come to see what we have to offer, we'll personally help with the hosting."

Morris added that the county is prepared to use its \$4 million fund from real estate taxes to augment its efforts toward economic development.

The commissioner said the two most pressing big questions offered her in writing from constituents have to do with the proposed Cowlitz Casino Resort near La Center and the future of C-TRAN, the countywide transit system that is increasing fares and may cut services and routes by half this year.

Regarding the casino, Morris said the county has a memorandum of understanding with the Cowlitz Tribe, put in place nearly a year ago, that makes up for tax losses and service costs regardless of the size of the development. And, she reminded her audience, the county will not determine whether the casino is developed. The Bureau of Indian Affairs will. Regarding C-TRAN, Morris repeated her support of the system and the hope that cities in the county will decide whether to be a part of the system and that this fall a ballot measure will again be put before voters to retain mass transit service.

Parks election ends tomorrow; Hockinson school measure, too

In an election conducted entirely by mail, voters in the Vancouver urban growth boundary have until tomorrow to return ballots on a proposition that would create a maintenance fund to operate 35 new parks and 8 new miles of trail. The measure calls for a tax of about \$40 a year on a \$150,000 residence. The parks and trail have already been acquired through a real estate tax program.

In the Hockinson School District, voters may go to the polling places between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 8, to vote on a levy proposition for maintenance and operation, which replaces an expiring levy. Backers of the proposition say the new levy will not increase taxes.

News briefs

The Vancouver City Council meets in workshop session at 4 p.m. today. Under discussion will be proposed C-TRAN fare increases. The Vancouver City Council meets in regular session at 7 p.m. The council is expected to award a contract for completion of the Esther Short "streetscape" project. ☞ Port of Vancouver Commissioners meet in regular session at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 8. ☞ Clark County commissioners meet in regular session at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 8.

Monday headlines from at home and around the world:

[Israel, Palestinians to declare truce to end four years of fighting--USA TODAY, AP](#)

[Gregoire reluctant to show her cards--Columbian, **Don Jenkins**](#)

[Polly Lauser named Realtor of the Year by Clark County Association of Realtors--Columbian, **Gretchen Fehrenbacher**](#)

[Washington students number one in nation on SAT scores; Oregon number two--KATU, **Dan Tilkin**](#)

[Bush budget plan could raise BPA rates by 20 percent--KGW-TV, AP, **Matthew Daly**](#)

[MSNBC superbowl ad report card--MSNBC, **Martin Wolk**](#)

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

Thayer Rorabaugh saying howdy twice. ☞ **Betty Sue Morris** cheering for the middlemen. ☞ **Judy Kovarik** adding to the list. ☞ **Sally Bodine** tending to her knitting. ☞ **Gerald Webster** going beyond the call. ☞ **Monday**, morning fog, possible afternoon sunbreaks, 48. **Tuesday**, mostly gray, but mostly dry, 49. **Wednesday**, partly sunny, 50.