

increased to 15 after expansion, including dedicated operating suites for open heart, neurosurgery and orthopedic surgery.

**County growth still strong in 2004**

By the end of May 2004, Clark Public Utilities had hooked up 1,236 new residential customers in 2004, compared to 1,171 for the first five months of 2003.

For the electric utility, every new hook-up represents a brand new customer. People moving from place to place within the county don't count as new hook-ups.

The utility estimated the number of customers would increase by 2 percent during 2004, and so far is just about on target with an actual annual growth rate of 1.95 percent.

During May, 344 new families moved into Clark County.

**Becky Fleming earns National Excellence in Education Award**

**Becky Fleming**, assistant superintendent for Elementary Education for Evergreen Public Schools, has been named one of 50 outstanding educational leaders across the country to receive the National Excellence in Education Award from the University Council for Educational Excellence.

The award specifically highlighted Evergreen Public Schools' Administrative Internship Program that Fleming has supervised for the past ten years.

Fleming was previously a teacher and principal in Evergreen Public Schools.

Fleming was nominated by Washington State University Vancouver faculty member **Gary Selby**.

**Medical Center lays claim to most advanced laparoscopic surgery suite in the Northwest**

Southwest Washington Medical Center, according to Vancouver Clinic laparoscopic surgeon **Leslie Cagel**, is now home to the most technologically advanced laparoscopic operating suite in the Northwest.

Presaging its expansion slated to begin in 2005, the medical center last week opened the new surgical suite in which most of the service gear has been moved from the floor to the ceiling and much of the computer system operation is voice-actuated.

With voice commands surgeons can now manipulate all the critical camera functions connected with a laparoscopic procedure and capture digital quality images of the procedure. The images are stored and can be shared over the medical center's new Picture Archiving Communications System.

Laparoscopic surgery is used at the medical center to treat a variety of conditions, including gastric by-pass surgery, gall bladder surgery, esophageal surgery, stomach surgery, colon surgery and splenectomies. Laparoscopic surgery, sometimes referred to as "keyhole" surgery, uses tiny video cameras inserted through small incisions to guide surgeons in making internal repairs or in removing such things as a ruptured appendix. Far less damaging to skin and muscle tissue the small incisions repair faster and allow patients to leave the hospital much sooner than otherwise.

The medical center has eleven operating suites, to be

**People**

**Jack Bothwell**, Ridgefield, vice president of Wells Fargo's Asset-Based Lending Group, Portland, was one of the bank's 214 top sales and service leaders from a total of 14,000 to earn the company's Golden Spoke Award.

**News briefs**

Southbound traffic on Interstate-205 near NE 134th street will be closed between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. tonight. Detours are available. ~~SES~~ The Fort Vancouver Regional Library District is holding a public forum at 6 p.m. this evening to interview two finalists for the position of Vancouver Community Librarian. The candidates are **Christina Smith**, a former Ridgefield community librarian and currently assistant manager of district information services, and **Wyma Rodgers**, with library experience in Eugene, Corvallis and Newport. ~~SES~~ The Clark County Animal Control office has been relocated to the Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street, from the Hazel Dell Sewer District offices. All monetary transactions can be handled at the new office. Pet licenses, are available at several locations throughout the county, also can be purchased in the Public Service Center.

**Tuesday on the air**

- Clark County Close Up—3:30 p.m. CVTV
- City Minutes—4 p.m. CVTV
- Seattle Mariners at Toronto (live)—4 p.m. FSN, KFX**
- County Youth Achievement Celebration 5 p.m.—CVTV
- African American Youth Achievement—6:30 p.m. CVTV
- Edmonton at Portland Beavers (live)—7 p.m. KKAD**
- U.S. Rep Brian Baird Town Hall—8:30 p.m. CVTV
- Vancouver Fire Department Awards—10:30 p.m. CVTV

**Stocks of local interest at 4 p.m. EDT, Tuesday, July 6, 2004**

Alaska Air Group	23.06	-.03	Linear Technology	35.21	-1.53
Alcoa	31.98	-.20	Microsoft	28.02	-.55
Amazon.com	51.24	-1.35	Nautilus	18.50	-.20
Bank of America	83.66	-.57	Nike	74.97	-.34
Bank of Clark County	20.00	unch	Nordstrom	42.70	+26
Bemis	27.58	-.04	PepsiCo	53.50	+26
Boeing	49.31	-.21	Precision Cast	53.53	-.06
Boise Cascade	36.63	-.63	RLRN	21.33	-.43
CenturyTel	30.17	-.05	Starbucks	45.41	-.13
Costco	40.79	+1.11	TSM	7.50	-.31
Expeditors Intl.	47.58	-.47	Tektronix	32.27	-.86
Georgia Pacific	35.71	-.17	US Bancorp	27.78	-.33
HPQ	20.04	-.37	Wash. Mutual	38.81	+56
Intel	26.11	-.22	W. Coast Bancorp	21.27	-.32
Kyocera	81.28	-3.51	Weyerhaeuser	61.17	-.81
<b>DOW: 10,282.83 -63.49 NASDAQ: 1963.43 -43.23 S&amp;P: 1116.21 -9.17</b>					

**Town Tabloids and The Weather**

<b>Haley Louie</b> arriving in Vancouver on July 4, weighing 5 pounds, 13 ounces and one-foot, seven inches tall. <del>SES</del>	Acapulco	91/77
<b>Ruth Waite</b> full of surprises. <del>SES</del>	Athens	89/71
<b>Rod Cook</b> gandy dancing with class. <del>SES</del>	Chicago	82/59
<del>SES</del> <b>Jim Sanders</b> sawing off padlocks. <del>SES</del> <b>Bruce Bosch</b> cruising effortlessly. <del>SES</del> <b>Tuesday</b> , popcorn sky but warm, 76. <b>Wednesday</b> , more summer clouds, 74. <b>Thursday</b> more clouds but summer is still here, 78.	Dallas	94/76
	Hong Kong	87/79
	Las Vegas	105/80
	Los Angeles	82/62
	London	73/54
	New York	84/68
	Orlando	94/74
	Paris	71/54
	Phoenix	108/82
	Rome	91/71
	Seattle	71/54
	Sydney	60/38
	Tokyo	86/75
	Washington	91/74