

Comcast gets good marks from Telecommunications Commission

Customer complaints have decreased and service has increased during the first year of franchise cable operation in Clark County by Comcast, according to the annual review of 2003 by the City-County Telecommunications Commission.

The number of complaints about cable television service declined by 33 percent during 2003, to 223 for the year, compared to 335 the previous year.

The average number of cable television outages declined by nearly half during 2003, to 26.6 per month. The average duration of each outage was 1.167 hours.

The cable company also met customer service standards by answering 90 percent of all customer telephone calls within 30 seconds.

Comcast added a near-record 3,518 new cable television customers to the system during 2003. Cable television in Clark County is now delivered to 78,976 customers.

In late 2003 Comcast began offering high-definition television services, followed by video on demand services early this year. The company says it will be offering digital video recording services later this year.

Comcast, which also offers high-speed internet service, earlier this year doubled the downstream speed for all residential Internet customers to 3.0 megabytes per second.

Comcast had 30,822 high-speed Internet customers at the end of 2003.

The company also offers telephone service.

Clark College adding 25 nursing students

As a result of a \$250,000 appropriation by the state legislature, Clark College will add 25 nursing students to its registered nurse degree program in the fall of 2005, when the Clark Center at Washington State University Vancouver is completed.

Clark currently serves 180 nursing degree students each year. Last fall more than 160 qualified applicants were turned away due to limited space.

Construction of the \$20 million Clark Center on WSU Vancouver's Salmon Creek Campus is scheduled to begin this summer. The center will include 14 classrooms, six technology computer labs, and four science labs.

The nursing classrooms and labs will be on the third floor of the new building.

The building also serves the WSU Vancouver Engineering and Science Institute, a partnership between WSU Vancouver, Clark College and Lower Columbia Community College.

Lower division courses will also be taught at the institute along with general education courses that support the university's 2 + 2 transfer degree program with Clark and Lower Columbia.

SWMC offers free health Internet class

Southwest Washington Medical Center offers an Internet class for health information the first Thursday of

each month. The next class meets at 1 p.m. Thursday, June 3, in the Health Connection Library in the Memorial Health Center, at Main and 33rd Streets. For further information, call 696-5151.

Al Bernstein to educate, entertain at Columbia Mental Health Talk of the Town

Al Bernstein, author, psychologist, and former clinical director for Columbia River Mental Health Services, is the speaker at the health services Talk of the Town forum and social event at 5:15 p.m. Thursday, June 3, in the Pearson Air Museum, 1115 E 5th Street.

The \$20 admission includes hors d'oeuvres and wine tasting. For reservations call Nanette White, 993-3048.

News briefs

The City-County Telecommunications Commission meets in regular session at 7 p.m. tonight. Friends of Clark County will discuss the cost of growth at its free forum at 7 p.m. tonight in the sixth floor conference room in the Public Service Building, 1300 Franklin Street.

People

Elizabeth Gotelli has been appointed Human Relations director for the City of Vancouver. Betsy Williams, assistant city manager and director of Support Services, announced. Gotelli had served as interim director since last November. Previously she had been director of Procurement Services. For the tenth consecutive year state Sen. Don Benton (R-17th) has been awarded the National Federation of Independent Business Guardian of Small Business Award.

Wednesday on the air

Vancouver Long-Range Annexation Planning: 4:30 p.m. CVTV
Toronto at Seattle Mariners (live)—7 p.m. FSN, KFFX
Fresno at Portland Beavers (live)—7 p.m. KKAD
Telecommunications Commission (live)—7 p.m. CVTV
Clark County Land Use Hearing (6/1)—9:30 p.m. CVTV

Stocks of local interest at 4 p.m. EDT, Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Alaska Air Group	20.95	+0.55	Linear Technology	38.63	-0.90	
Alcoa	31.24	-0.02	Microsoft	26.13	+0.02	
Amazon.com	50.35	+0.12	Nautilus	15.50	+0.10	
Bank of America	83.13	+0.09	Nike	70.64	-0.39	
Bank of Clark County	20.00	unch	Nordstrom	41.38	+0.40	
Bemis	27.75	+0.30	PepsiCo	54.26	+0.80	
Boeing	46.75	+0.87	Precision Cast	48.00	+1.14	
Boise Cascade	35.46	+0.08	RLRN	21.64	+0.73	
CenturyTel	30.05	+0.34	Starbucks	41.42	+0.37	
Costco	38.78	+0.64	TSM	9.72	-0.22	
Expeditors Intl.	46.76	-0.12	Tektronix	31.20	-0.55	
Georgia Pacific	36.08	+0.07	US Bancorp	28.53	+0.39	
HPQ	21.31	+0.14	Wash. Mutual	41.43	-1.56	
Intel	28.01	-0.32	W. Coast Bancorp	21.94	-0.36	
Kyocera	82.33	-0.34	Weyerhaeuser	60.59	-0.08	
DOW: 10,262.97		+60.32	NASDAQ: 1988.98	-1.79	S&P: 1124.99	+3.79

Town Tabloids and The Weather

Lynn and Pat Degerstedt carefully wending. Nancy Kerfoot listing re-runs. Pat Jollota columning for Spring Hill Review. T.J. Fontenette announcing pentapeat. Keith Cupp setting the record straight. Wednesday, after gray morning, plenty of sunshine, 75. Thursday, sunny and warm, 80. Friday, mostly sunny and a little warmer, 82.

Acapulco	85/72
Athens	79/60
Chicago	75/52
Dallas	93/74
Hong Kong	90/79
Las Vegas	100/76
Los Angeles	80/62
London	66/51
New York	70/60
Orlando	95/73
Paris	65/49
Phoenix	106/78
Rome	68/51
Seattle	64/48
Sydney	75/55
Tokyo	72/60
Washington	84/64