

Wayne Branch's message is, Clark College is on a journey

In his first State of the College address as president, **Wayne Branch** this morning announced, "Clark College is on a journey."

Before a capacity crowd at Gaiser Hall on the campus, where construction is continuing to enlarge physical facilities, Branch said the new vision and strategic plan is helping the college "rethink, reinvent, and re-engineer the way we do business." Branch said community colleges are now the first choice for education of many men and women across the country.

Noting that Clark County is the most underserved area of the state in terms of higher education, Branch drew applause when he declared support for Washington State University Vancouver's aspirations to become a four-year institution.

Branch offered a bright assessment of Clark College's future. "We're improving our image by developing strategies that better connect the college to our constituents. We've dramatically expanded our efforts in workforce development by creating an organizational structure that supports the fact that if Vancouver is open for business, Clark College is also open for business.

"We're creating partnerships to bring new programs and program configurations to our campus. We're building, renovating and reallocating space to better support our strategic direction. But, most importantly, we are determining the margins of excellence within which we must operate that will move Clark College along its journey."

Southwest Washington Medical Center Foundation offering series of scholarships

Scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$5,000, which can be renewable, are being offered by the Southwest Washington Medical Center Foundation.

The financial assistance is available to graduating high school seniors, college students, nursing students, students pursuing careers in a health care technical field, graduate students, individuals reentering the workforce, Southwest Washington employees, volunteers and junior volunteers for the 2005-2006 school year, according to spokesperson, **Ken Cole**.

Application packets, which must be returned by April 9, are available at both the medical center main campus and the Memorial campus. For further information, call **514-3066**, or click on www.swmedicalcenter.com/foundation.

Clark County Sheriff's Office hiring reserve deputies

Men and women who have an interest in law enforcement are encouraged to apply for positions in the Clark County Sheriff's Office Reserve Deputy Program, according to Sheriff **Garry Lucas**.

Reserve Deputies are volunteer, part-time positions, but carry with them full law enforcement duties and responsibilities, including responding to 9-1-1 calls, assisting at crime scenes, disaster response and community events

An informational meeting will be at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 3, at Washington State University Vancouver. For further information, call **397-2104**.

Jan Harte talks leveraging tax dollars at Clark County Chamber of Commerce

Jan Harte, certified business counselor for the Washington State University Small Business Development Council, presents a discussion on leveraging tax dollars at 7 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 15, in the Quality Inn & Suites, 7001 NE Highway 99.

Admission is free, and the session is open to the public, according to chamber spokesperson **Michael Golden**. For further information, call **258-1181**.

People

Roxy Barnes, Emergency Medical Services administrator for the Vancouver Fire Department, has been ap-



Wayne Branch

pointed to serve on a state task force that developed the new Washington law to protect newborns. The law gives mothers legal protection when anonymously turning over newborn babies to a fire station or hospital.

News briefs

The second annual Leadership Clark County alumni event is from 5 to 7 p.m. this evening in E. B. Hamilton Hall in the former Red Cross Building in Vancouver Barracks. The public is invited. Admission is \$10. ☞ An open house at the Gardner School, a private preschool through 8th grade school teaching critical thinking skills, is 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 12, at 16413 NE 50th Avenue.

Friday headlines from at home and around the world:

[Salmon Creek Methadone clinic is put on hold--Columbian, Kathie Durbin](#)

[Scott Hanson appointed to take Tim Thompson's seat on the Ridgefield City Council--Columbian, Margaret Ellis](#)

[Election hearing in Vancouver turns into a revote rally--Oregonian, Bill Stewart](#)

[County's newest liquor store opened Thursday on SE 192nd Avenue--Oregonian, Allan Brettman](#)

[Students learn options for work that does not require a bachelors degree--Columbian, Gretchen Fehrenbacher](#)

[Twin County Credit Union to merge with Harborstone Credit Union to become third largest in the state--](#)

[Columbian, Jonathan Nelson](#)

[Large roundabouts being considered as a way to eliminate traffic lights on Highway 14 through Camas and Washougal--Oregonian, Bill Stewart](#)

[PDX to undergo further renovation aimed at comfort--Columbian, Gretchen Fehrenbacher](#)

["Death of a Salesman"'s Arthur Miller dead at 89--USA TODAY, Elysa Gardner](#)

[Bush says he will veto any changes in the Medicare Drug Benefit law--New York Times, Robert Pear](#)

[Columbian's best bets for entertainment](#)

Friday on the air

Battle Ground State of the City Address—4:30 p.m. CVTV

Trail Blazers at Memphis (live)—5 p.m. FSN, KXL, KXMG

Clark County Environmental Ordinances Update—5:30 p.m. CVTV

Clark County Focus—6:30 p.m. CVTV

Animal Control Hearings (2/9)—7 p.m. CVTV

Spokane at Portland Winter Hawks (live)—7 p.m. KCMD

Telecommunications Commission (2/2)—9 p.m. CVTV

Clark College Vocal Jazz Festival—11 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the weather

Lisa Dow demonstrating fast and fancy footwork. ☞ **Cheri Cole** correcting the correctee. ☞ **Gary Sahlstrom** back in the groove. ☞ **Addison Jacobs, Candy Bennett** and **Val Ogden** share upbeat message. ☞ **Friday**, clouds move in but some sunbreaks left, 54. **Saturday**, clouding up with some rain expected, 47. **Sunday**, gloomy and rainy, 45.