

Go no farther than Clark County for fun and excitement this weekend
Vancouver's ninth annual Discovery Walk Festival

Hundreds of walkers from a dozen nations converge in Vancouver today through Sunday for a series of international walking, swimming and biking events. Up to 2,000 people of all ages are expected to participate in the sanctioned event that will be headquartered at the Red Lion Hotel at the Quay. Registration for events is open until 6 p.m. this evening and from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, April 23 and 24.

Discovery Walk is the only American international walking event sanctioned by the International Walking Association and the American Volkssport Association.

There are modest registration fees for most events. For further information, call (877) 269-2009, or go to www.discoverywalk.org.

Home & Garden Idea Fair

Clark Public Utilities' Home & Garden Idea Fair has grown to be one of the most popular events in the county, probably attracting 50,000 people this weekend. It is the first home-grown event to be showcased in the newly opened 100,000-square-foot exhibition building on the county fairgrounds. The fair is open until 8 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, April 23, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 24.

Exhibits abound—more than 200 booths will be offering some kind of information or entertainment—but the big draw is the largest plant sale of its kind in the Pacific Northwest.

Admission is free, but parking on the fairgrounds is \$3. Visitors are encouraged to donate to the utility's Operation Warm Heart, which helps low-income residents pay electric bills, and to bring canned goods for local food banks. Free bus shuttle service is available hourly from the Vancouver Mall Transit Center and the Salmon Creek Park and Ride.

Nez Perce Chief Redheart Memorial Ceremony

This now annual, nearly three-hour moving and poignant ceremony, like no other local event, helps reveal the historical importance of Vancouver Barracks.

The Nez Perce offer the ceremony as a mark of reconciliation between the tribe and the Vancouver community. After the end of the Indian War of 1877, one hundred and twenty-eight years ago, Chief Redheart and 32 members of his band, including women and children, were incarcerated in Vancouver Barracks.

They had not fought in the war. They were not charged with any crimes. By the time they were released the following spring one of their babies had died in the barracks.

The colorful ceremony also honors the Nez Perce ancestors. Visitors will hear speeches, music and singing, and will see dancing and an empty saddle ceremony, and military veterans will be invited to participate in a sacred pipe ceremony.

There is no charge to watch the event that is on the barracks parade grounds just north of 5th Street at the entrance to Fort Vancouver. Blankets and lawn chairs are recommended.

Vancouver Farmers Market

The farmers market is open in *The Columbian* parking lot just off E 8th Street, west of Esther Short Park, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 23, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, April 24.

Jim Demetro, Elie Kassab and friends



Battle Ground artist **Jim Demetro**, second from left, created bronze likenesses of Elvis Presley and Marilyn Monroe for **Elli Kassab's** eight-screen cinema in his new Gardner Center in Battle Ground. Kassab celebrated his birthday Thursday with about 200 other friends for a sneak preview of the cinema, which offers reclining chair, stadium seating for a total of 826 viewers. The cinema grand opening is Thursday, April 28. When built out, the Gardner Center will employ about 400 people. Initial tenants are Lloyd's Bar and Grill, Gentle Dental, Bombe' Gelato and Ice-cream, Sunrise Teriyake and CZ Payday Loans. Demetro is completing several other life-size pieces, including ones of Captain Meriwether Lewis, and an Indian mother and child

Kaiser Permanente grant hires puppets to fight school kid fat

Kaiser Permanente has announced a \$25,000 grant for **Kids on the Block**, a puppet group, to take its anti-fat message to Clark County elementary school students. The grant is part of Kaiser's initiative against childhood obesity.

The Portland-based puppet organization has performed twice in the past in Clark County schools. According to **Ned Rosch**, executive director of Kids on the Block, the grant will allow the puppets to perform before an estimated 12,000 county students this year.

Four Kids on the Block puppeteers are from Vancouver. They are **Judy Sunshine**, **Tia Christopher**, and identical twins **Sally Townend** and **Nancy Townend-Janney**.

Friday Headlines at home and around the world

[State Senate passes resolution supporting Cowlitz bid for reservation--Columbian, **Margaret Ellis**](#)

[Vancouver Housing Authority could take lead role in redevelopment of Fourth Plain Boulevard--Columbian, **Jeffrey Mize**](#)

[Clark County drug court gaining stature and financing--Columbian, **Stephanie Rice**](#)

[Kevin McClure named Vancouver prosecutor--Columbian](#)

[Intel to get \\$579 million tax break from Washington County to stay in Oregon--Oregonian,](#)

[**Mike Rogoway**](#)

[Bi-state I-5 advocates hire David Evans, three others, to do environmental studies on new Interstate Bridge--Oregonian](#)

[South end of Vancouver Lake to get \\$665,000 worth of willows, dogwoods, cottonwoods and crabapples--Oregonian, **Bill Stewart**](#)

[Governor's election lawsuit so far has cost Demos and GOP a combined \\$4 million--Seattle Times, **David Postman**](#)

Friday on the air

Clark County Commissioners (4/19)—5 p.m. CVTV
Cleveland at Seattle Mariners (live)—7 p.m. FSN, KFX
Fresno at Portland Beavers (live)—7 p.m. KKAD
Clark County Land Use Hearings (4/19)—8 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the weather

Bruce Romanish blazing trails. 🏠 **Steve Bollens** identifying predators. 🏠 **Jeanne Firstenburg** setting example. 🏠 **Sue Groth** getting big sendoff. 🏠 **Allison Shultz** doing favors. 🏠 **Dawn Banker** training reporter mice. 🏠 **Friday**, mostly sunny, until late afternoon, 72. **Saturday**, mixed, late light showers, 68. **Sunday**, kind of gray day, 59.