

## **Tuesday luncheon gets Clark County Early Learning Fund honoring Rick and Sarah Melching underway**

More than 300 persons are expected to help launch the Clark County Early Learning Fund, honoring **Rick and Sarah Melching** at a benefit luncheon at noon Tuesday, Sept. 13 in the Hilton Vancouver Washington. The statewide Early Learning Foundation is matching all unrestricted gifts to the local fund up to a maximum of \$500,000.

The Early Learning Foundation is already working with Clark County organizations through Support For Early Learning and Families, according to Vancouver's **Patricia Nierenberg**, who is a member of the state foundation board of directors.

The Melchings have served more than 60 years as public school educators. This summer Rick retired as superintendent of the Evergreen Public Schools, the fifth largest and fastest growing school district in the state. Sarah is a former teacher, principal and director of professional development. She is the founder of Mindworks: Center for Educational Development.

Clark County's SELF working with nearly two dozen local organizations and partners focuses on kindergarten readiness, early literacy and parents as teachers.

According to Nierenberg: "By five years old the brain is 90 percent developed. The way a child is nurtured during the first five year shapes behavior for a lifetime. The baby's relationships with parents and care givers; sights, sounds, smells and feelings experienced; the security it feels—all these have a profound impact on the way the brain develops and in turn affects how the child learns, thinks and behaves as a child, and as an adult."

Reservations for the luncheon can be obtained by calling **(206) 252-4801**.

## **Nautilus celebrates Vancouver world headquarters opening all day Saturday**

Calling it a backyard fitness fun day, Nautilus celebrates the opening of its nearly half-million square feet of world headquarters at 16400 SE Nautilus Drive Saturday with fun runs, tours of the plant, games, demonstrations, and a truckload sale offering 60 percent off of retail prices on strength and cardio-exercise equipment and fitness apparel.

Participating celebrities are the Incredible Hulk, **Lou Ferrigno**, The Bowflex Stunt Team, and the Trail Blazers dancers.

Most activities will take place in the Nautilus backyard, 1.5 acres of former parking lot that the company has converted into a combination soccer-football field, with seating, a baseball diamond, track and basketball courts. All will become available for public use after the opening.

The Nautilus building has a fully equipped fitness center available for use by employees and guests. In addition, the company has set up a multi-use conference center for health and fitness programs and a "Nautilus Training Table, catered by *Bon Appetit*, and a company fitness store where Clark County residents can receive special discounts.

Nautilus, headquartered in Vancouver for several years, is a leading developer and manufacturer of branded health and fitness products sold under such names as Nautilus, Bowflex, Schwinn, Stairmaster and PEARL iZUMi, an apparel line. Currently the company holds 8 percent share of a \$1 billion global market.

Registration for a 5K run begins at 7 a.m. Registration for a 2.5K route is at 8:30. Pre-registration fees are \$20; on-site registration is \$25. Registration includes a T shirt, water bottle and coupons. Forms are available at 24 Hour Fitness, G.I. Joes, and Wild Oats, or online at [www.NautilusFitnessFunDay.com](http://www.NautilusFitnessFunDay.com). For further information, call **859-2928**.

## **Columbia River Crossing Task Force meets Monday in Portland**

The bi-state Columbia River Crossing Task Force, co-chaired by Washington State University Vancouver chancellor **Hal Dengerink**, meets at 4 p.m. Monday, Sept. 12, in the main conference room of the Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs, 4134 N. Vancouver Street, Portland.

The task force is in the process of defining transportation problems involved in crossing the Columbia River. The public is encouraged to attend and may address the task force.

The 38-member task force includes leaders from Washington and Oregon who are considering a variety of

issues, including congestion, freight movement, high capacity transit, funding, and the environment as they relate to an improved river crossing between Vancouver and Portland.

### Free car seat safety clinic Saturday

Car seat safety technicians from the Clark County Child Passenger Safety Team will be checking child car seats and booster seats at a free clinic from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, in the Curt Warner Chevrolet Dealership, on Mill Plain Boulevard just off Interstate 205.

Children who are under the age of six or who weigh less than 60 pounds, are required to be secured in properly fitting seats in the back seat of vehicles. After June 2007, new state regulations will require all children under eight years of age or shorter than 4 feet, 9 inches, to use safety seats. Children 13 and under will not be allowed to ride in the front seats of cars unless that arrangement is impractical.

### Family of Faith Community Church Remembers 9/11

The Family of Faith Community Church is holding a remembrance to pay tribute to the sacrifices four years ago at 11 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 11, in the Washington Grange, 7706 NE Ward Road.

Special guests are Clark County Sheriff **Garry Lucas**, Vancouver Fire Chief **Don Bivins**, Clark County Commissioner **Mark Boldt**, and State Rep. **Deb Wallace** (D-17th). **Chandra Kinnunen** will sing.

Because of limited seating, advance registration is suggested. For free tickets, call **896-5521**.

### Calendar

Vancouver Seventh-day Adventist parking lot sale to benefit Hurricane Katrina victims is 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11, in the church parking lot, 9711 St. Johns Boulevard. ☞

### Friday on the air

[BPA wholesale power cuts not expected to affect Clark Public Utilities customers--Columbian, AP](#)  
[Not considered significant enough to be included in state auditor's report, Vancouver's failure to collect timely impact fees rated a mention in a letter--Columbian, Jeffrey Mize](#)  
[Evacuees may arrive in Portland tomorrow--KATU](#)  
[FEMA chief Michael Brown replaced by Vice Admiral Thad Allen in overseeing New Orleans relief and rescue efforts--USA TODAY, AP](#)  
[Far fewer bodies being found in New Orleans that first thought--New York Times, Sewell Chan and Timothy Willians](#)

Primary Election Candidate's Forum (9/7)—4:30 p.m. CVTV  
Fort Vancouver Tapestry Project Unveiling (8/12)—6:30 p.m. CVTV  
**Washington State University at Nevada (Reno) (live)—7 p.m. ESPN**  
**Baltimore Orioles at Seattle Mariners (live)—7 p.m. FSN, KFX**  
Clark County Animal Control Hearings (8/24)—7 p.m. CVTV  
Telecommunications Commission (9/7)—10 p.m. CVTV

### Town Tabloids and the weather

**Ray Johnson** still delivering. ☞ **Lee Davis** reporting \$8,500 in fines. ☞ **Kay Krammer** taking care of details. ☞ **Dave Smith's** presentation pleasingly predictive. ☞ **Don Arp's** big day is Saturday. ☞ **Candice Goucher** designing for the 21st century. ☞ **Heidi Nelson** and **Jane Taber** deserving at least a day off. ☞ **Friday**, cloudy, scattered rain showers, sunbreaks, 65. **Saturday**, expect more light rain, 68. **Sunday**, trying to dry out, cloudy, 71.