

Old apple tree is 179 years old; afternoon party is Saturday

The cuttings from the oldest apple tree in the northwest—the “Old Apple Tree,” planted in 1826, is 179 years old—will be given away during a festival honoring the tree in the Old Apple Tree Park, which is just north of Columbia Way, through a tunnel in the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad berm. It’s actually listed as 112 Columbia Way.

The annual birthday celebration, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8, is sponsored by Vancouver’s Urban Forestry Program of the Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department, the Urban Forestry Commission, Clark Public Utilities and Collier Arbor Care.

Attendees will hear live music and will be offered free local apples, in addition to cuttings that can be planted. Local arborists will offer information on tree care, and Collier Arbor Care will hold a fruit tree pruning workshop at 9 a.m.



State’s oldest apple tree, Old Apple Tree in Vancouver, is just north of Burlington Northern Santa Fe tracks through a tunnel from Columbia Way near Who Song & Larry’s and Crab Shack

Ridgefield to be reconnected

After a five-year absence, C-TRAN transit service to Ridgefield will be restored, reports city manager **George Fox**. The city is working with C-TRAN to work out connector service options.

Although the city had not had bus service since C-TRAN’s initial post-Initiative 695 cutbacks in 2000, the city remained part of the transit system’s service area and maintained financial support.

C-TRAN lost about 40 percent of its tax base when I-695 eliminated the statewide motor vehicle excise tax.

Voters last month overwhelmingly approved a .2 percent sales tax increase for the transit agency, restoring much of its financial base.

The agency currently is hiring coach operators and ramping up for increased service.

Urban growth work session set by county commissioners

Clark County commissioners will discuss “market factor” lands during a special growth management work session from 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 4.

The label “market factor” lands designates land that is likely to be developed faster than adjoining property within an urban growth boundary and has a different financial impact on county services.

I-5 to be closed next weekend

Interstate 5, between its northern split with Interstate 205 and NE 99th Street, is expected to be closed in both directions from 10 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7, through 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 10, to allow contractors to switch traffic lanes to the east side of the widening project. The closure is weather-dependent.

If the switchover is completed, the widening project between NE 99th Street and the confluence of I-5 and I-205 will be halfway completed, according to the state department of transportation.

Southbound motorists are advised to travel I-205. Northbound motorists are advised to connect to I-205 via Highway 14 or Highway 500.

Calendar

Clark County commissioners meet at 4 p.m. this afternoon to discuss the impacts on county and state highway improvements if Initiative 912 gets voter approval on November 8. The initiative would roll back legislative-mandated gasoline tax increases that would provide, among other things, a \$50 million study of Interstate 5

bridge improvements. ⚡ Instead of its usually scheduled 4 p.m. Monday workshop session, the Vancouver City Council today will hear a report from the Vancouver Planning Commission from 5 until 6 p.m. The council will hold a regular council meeting at 7 p.m. this evening. ⚡ Clark Public Utilities commissioners have scheduled a tour of the Columbia Springs Environmental Education Center, 12208 SE Evergreen Highway, at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 4, in lieu of their usually scheduled Tuesday meeting. ⚡ Clark County commissioners meet in regular session at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 4. ⚡ The Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council meets at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 4, in the 6th floor hearing room in the Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street. ⚡ Clark County commissioners meet at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 4, to discuss processes and standards for mitigation of wetlands.

Monday headlines at home and abroad

[No one doubts replacing the Interstate 5 Bridge will be a mammoth undertaking; it's no wonder divergent groups are pushing for an alternative--Columbian](#)

[President Bush nominated Harriet E. Miers, the White House counsel, who has never been a judge, as his choice to replace Justice Sandra Day O'Connor this morning--New York Times, **Timothy Williams**](#)

[Pumpkin patches opening--Columbian, **Justin Carinci**](#)

[Medical pot seized from La Center man, but he was not arrested--Columbian, **John Branton**](#)

[American Indian painter Glenda Lillard of Vancouver will be the featured guest Thursday at the first of a series of free programs called "Museum After Hours" at the Clark County Historical Museum--Columbian](#)

[Texas grand jury indicts DeLay on new charge of money laundering--Washington Post, AP, **April Castro**](#)

Monday on the air

Vancouver City Council Workshop (live)—4 p.m. CVTV
Vancouver City Council (live)—7 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the weather

Schuyler Hoss scoring a point for the library. ⚡ **Nancy Baker** recalling dump truck days. ⚡ **Sue Groth** greeting bus passengers. ⚡ **Don Cannard** reminiscing. ⚡ **Arch Miller** extolling buffalo meat. ⚡ **Monday**, mostly cloudy, some sprinkles, 60. **Tuesday**, partly cloudy, 63. **Wednesday**, partly cloudy, 62.