

Fred Bateman can't leave C-TRAN without at least two receptions

Fred Bateman, C-TRAN finance director, one of the first three employees hired by the transit agency on Feb. 19, 1981, has retired. He had his first going away party January 31 at Beaches Restaurant and endures his next farewell reception from 3 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, at Ballews Restaurant.

Bateman does not leave with any shortage of kudos either. **Les White**, executive director of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District, Santa Cruz, Calif., hired shortly after Bateman as C-TRAN executive director, was Bateman's first boss. White has this to say about Bateman:

"There are people who work diligently every day without notice, whose efforts have lasting results on improving the quality of life in a community. Fred is this kind of person, a person who I believe to be one of the best directors of transit finance in the nation.

"Since he arrived in 1981, Fred has kept the agency financially stable despite overwhelming challenges. His work has been repeatedly recognized on both the state and federal levels. He has been the voice of reason and calm during tough times. He has been the factor of continuity that has provided a foundation for the agency when changes have taken place in top management.

"I am hopeful that the community will take a moment to recognize Fred as an 'unsung hero.' The work of a Finance Director is not glamorous and often goes unnoticed unless something very bad is happening. With Fred, good things happened that often went unrecognized."

C-TRAN executive director/CEO **Lynne Griffith** credits Bateman with having saved Clark County taxpayers over \$50 million through revenue received from interest on investments. "Fred received certificates of achievement for excellence in financial reporting for 15 continuous years," Griffith said in a resolution adopted by the C-TRAN board of directors.

The resolution, signed by board chair **Bill Ganley**, concludes: "The C-TRAN board of directors expresses on behalf of itself, C-TRAN employees, and citizens of Clark County, its appreciation to Frederick Bateman for his dedicated service, hard work, excellence, and friendship and offers its best wishes for a happy retirement."

Metro Park District measure now seems to have passed

While up to 200 more votes may need to be tabulated from last Tuesday's special election held to form a metropolitan parks district in the Vancouver Urban Growth Area, it appears from the slim lead built up over the past two days as mailed votes were counted that the current 42-vote majority will hold and the district will be created, giving Clark County the funding needed to open 35 new parks and eight miles of new trail.

Formation of the district includes a funding mechanism of 27 cents for \$1,000 assessed valuation that will be earmarked for maintenance and operation of the land the county already owns.

There is no automatic recount provision for local ballot measures, according to county elections supervisor **Tim Likness**. The vote total as of this morning was 12,526 in favor of the measure, 12,480 opposed.

Likness says several voter signatures are missing from mailed ballots and that the voters are being asked to provide necessary signatures. Deadline for ballots to arrive at the Elections Department is 5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 17. The election will be certified Friday, Feb. 18.

LCC alumni, friends, gathering in E. B. Hamilton Hall Friday

With the completion of the class of 2005, Leadership Clark County will have over 300 alumni, a large number of whom, along with people interested in learning more about the 13-year-old program, will gather from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 11, in E. B. Hamilton Hall, in the Old Red Cross Building in Vancouver Barracks, for the sec-



Frederick W. Bateman

and LCC reunion.

The nearly year-long courses of instruction provide program participants community knowledge and leadership skills enabling them to be more effective in community involvement.

Admission is \$10, but includes beverages and appetizers. For further information, call **Russell Garrow**, Alumni Project director, **906-9537**, or LCC executive director **Kathryn Smith**, **567-1085**.

People

Dennis Kinsey, Battle Ground, and **Travis Jackson**, Vancouver, who risked their lives to save a motorist trapped inside a burning vehicle, have been nominated for the Washington State Medal of Valor by State Rep. **Richard Curtis** (R-18th). As a result, **Raymond Perviski**, Portland, survived the accident. The medal is awarded to those who risk personal injury or death to save or attempt to save the life of another. Curtis is a Vancouver Fire captain-paramedic.

Thursday headlines from at home and around the world:

[North Korea declares itself a nuclear power; will withdraw from six nation disarmament talks--Washington Post, Anthony Faiola](#)

[Iraq election outcome delayed to allow recount--Seattle Times, Knight Ridder Newspapers, Tom Lasseter](#)

[Local HP workers torn over CEO Fiorina's ouster--Columbian, Julia Anderson](#)

[Pope leaves hospital following bout with flu--USA TODAY, AP](#)

[Fort Vancouver Rose Society says its time for spring pruning--Columbian, Fort Vancouver Rose Society, Lou Little](#)

[Local Vanillatown Vaudevillians, a local act to catch--Columbian, Tricia Jones](#)

Thursday on the air

City Minutes—5 p.m. CVTV

Washington State at Oregon State (live)—5:30 p.m. FSN, KEX

Clark County Close UP—6 p.m. CVTV

Clark County Land Use Hearings (live)—7 p.m. CVTV

Washington at Oregon (live)—7:30 p.m. FSN, KXL

Gonzaga at Pepperdine (live)—8 p.m. ESPN2

Town Tabloids and the weather

Mike Graeff doing contemporary untox research. ☞ **John McDonagh** showing off new ideas. ☞ **Tom Hunt** scooping the regulars. ☞ **Judy Kovaric** getting the first read. ☞ **Marilyn Westlake** taking care of the scribes. ☞ **Thursday**, warming sunshine, 55. **Friday**, clouds move in but some sunbreaks left, 56. **Saturday**, clouding up with some rain expected, 50.