

Comcast gets good marks from cable commission

Comcast's performance met all conditions of city and county franchises during the past year, reports City/County Telecommunications Commission executive director **Donna Mason**.

The number of complaints to the cable television company, including complaints regarding broadband internet service, dropped 50 percent during 2004, to a total of 111. Complaints during 2003 had already dropped 30 percent over the previous year, according to Mason.

Improved service came despite a decline in total cable television subscribers in 2004. Comcast cable customers declined by 444 subscribers during 2004, to a total of 78,532.

The cable company's broadband internet service soared during the year. Comcast signed up over 7,000 new broadband customers during 2004, bringing its customer base for the internet service to 37,907—triple the number of internet customers it served in 2000.

As of December 2004, the company had nearly 2,000 miles of subscriber cable in the county, making cable available to 146,644 homes.

County growth management plan review will continue into October

Clark County commissioners hope to have the county's revised Comprehensive Growth Management Plan ready for adoption by the board in October, according to a time-line on the county website.

Meantime, commissioners are holding work sessions, the next of which is at 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 10, in the public Service Center. The work sessions are open to the public but focus on technical aspects of the plan, which was adopted last September. Public comments regarding planning assumptions may be emailed to the county at boardcom@clark.wa.gov.

Since adoption, however, the plan has been appealed on more than a dozen counts to the Western Washington Growth Management Hearings Board.

The growth plan establishes land use designations that are supposed to meet the need for homes and jobs over the next 20 years.

The growth plan currently calls for a countywide population of 518,000 by 2023, an increase of 147,000.

Gerald F. Bader Award nominees sought

Nominations for the **Gerald F. Bader** M.D. Award are being sought by the Community Foundation. Bader, a retired pediatrician and first award winner, was recognized for his significant contributions in increasing child health care and assuring the well-being of children.

The award was created and is funded by **David** and **Patricia Nierenberg** and is sponsored by the Southwest Washington Medical Center Foundation, the Southwest Washington Child Care Consortium and the Community Foundation.

The award will be presented Friday, June 17, the first anniversary of the Patricia Nierenberg Child Care and Early Learning Center. Nominating forms are available by calling the Community Foundation, **694-2550**.

News briefs

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Washington presents an address today by **Wilson Goode Sr.**, former mayor of Philadelphia, at a 5 to 7 p.m. celebration of the Magic of Mentoring, in Club Green Meadows. 📍 The Clark County Animal Control Advisory Board meets at 6:30 p.m. this evening in the 6th floor training room in the Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street.

Thursday Headlines at home and around the world

[County commissioners looking for answers for trans-Columbia River crossing--Columbian, **Erin Middlwood**](#)

[County commissioners told I-5 bridge is not a trick to bring light-rail to Clark County--Oregonian, **Alan Brettman**](#)

[Vancouver business leaders face choice of monthly \\$7.50 employee fee or possible reenactment of a](#)

[city business and occupation tax--Columbian, Jeffrey Mize](#)
[Nautilus pumped over gains--Columbian, Jonathan Nelson](#)
[President Bush's news conference, 8 p.m. EDT tonight to focus on Social Security, fuel prices--USA TODAY, AP](#)
[Iraq's new government approved--Washington Post, Carl Murphy and Fred Barbash](#)

Thursday on the air

Nez Perce Memorial Ceremony—4:30 p.m. CVTV
Seattle Mariners at Texas (live)—5 p.m. FSN, KFX
Portland Beavers at Colorado Springs (live)—6 p.m. KKAD
City Minutes—6 p.m. CVTV
Clark County Land Use Hearings (live)—7 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the weather

Phil Elrod getting only a medium makeover, but that's all he needed. 📞 **Phyllis Hess** doing an even better job. 📞 **Todd Martin** minding others Ps and Ds 📞 **Elson Strahan** expecting 300,000 visitors. 📞 **Gail Spolar** making life easier. 📞 **Thursday**, mostly cloudy, possible precipitation, 66. **Friday**, cooling, dampening, 59. **Saturday**. Cloudy, some rain possible, 65.