

### **County commissioners rule against most of Storedahl gravel acreage**

Clark County commissioners today upheld most of county hearings examiner **Daniel Kearns's** findings that would have permitted J. L. Storedahl & Sons to mine gravel on most of their 300-plus-acre site on the East Fork of the Lewis River—except that the three commissioners decided that the hearings examiner erred in allowing a zone change for property that had not been a non-conforming use in 1971, when zoning rules changed.

As a result, the Storedahl Company was granted by commissioners a zone change for 71 acres of property that is almost entirely mined out, plus another 60 acres.

The issue over whether Storedahl can mine along the river is not over.

Fish First and other local environmental groups have vigorously fought the company's expansion plans for a number of years, even while state and federal regulators have given approval for Storedahl's mining and remediation plans.

Storedahl's proposal is already before Clark County Superior Court. The court earlier decided not to hear the case until the county had completed its process, which concluded today.

The commissioner's unanimous decision is expected to be made final with official approval of a resolution in the next two weeks.

### **Channel deepening to reach Vancouver-Portland this fall**

A ten-mile section of the Columbia River west of the Port of Vancouver, at the eastern end of the \$150 million, 106-mile river deepening project, will be dredged this fall, reports the Columbia River Channel Coalition.

The dredge, Sugar Island, owned by contractor Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company, which began work on the first 13 miles of the river improvement project at the mouth of the river in June, has finished just over half that distance, taking the channel from 40 feet to 43 feet deep.

Ultimately, the entire channel will be at a 43-foot depth. So far, Oregon and Washington have contributed \$55.4 million to the project, and the federal government has provided another \$19 million, with Congress expected to approve another \$15 million this year.

Last year, \$15 billion worth of freight was moved along the Columbia River, which, in addition to imported products, included cars, and exports of grain and grain products and products from local companies, Columbia Sportswear, Nike and Fred Meyer.

When the channel improvement project is completed, the additional three feet of depth will allow larger ships to carry more cargo, making the Columbia River ports more profitable, according to **Ken O'Hallaren**, Port of Longview executive director, and president of the Columbia River Channel Coalition.

Sponsors of the coalition are the Ports of Vancouver, Woodland, Kalama, Longview, Portland and St. Helens.

### **LDS Church Dance Festival 2005 comes to Vancouver this month**

More than 1,200 performers from Vancouver, Longview and Centralia will be performing dances from around the world at two shows Saturday, July 23, in McKenzie Stadium, 2205 NE 138th Avenue.

The performers are youngsters, aged 12 through 18, from the southern Washington LDS Church district. For the past year they have been practicing dances from various countries and will be wearing appropriate national costumes.

Performances are at 1:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. For further information, call **254-2682**.

### **Nonprofit newsletter is full of information, free**

*Nonprofit Network News*, a monthly newsletter chock full of news and event notices directed toward volunteers and staff members of southwest Washington nonprofit organizations, is distributed free by email from the Nonprofit Network.

*Nonprofit Network News* is edited by **Jeanne Kojis** and is a service of the Nonprofit Network, which serves southern Washington. For further information, call **695-6443**, or go to [www.npnmw.org](http://www.npnmw.org).

**Calendar**

The C-TRAN board of directors meets in regular session at 5:15 p.m. today, in C-TRAN administrative offices, 2425 NE 65th Avenue. ☞ Clark County commissioners meet in informal session at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 13.

[Tuesday headlines from at home and around the world:](#)

[Vancouver City Council keeps promise, City Manager Pat McDonnell gets 5 percent raise--Oregonian, \*\*Allan Brettman\*\*](#)

[White House silence on Rove's Role in leak enters second day--New York Times, \*\*Richard W. Stevenson\*\* and \*\*David Stout\*\*](#)

[Western Washington Growth Management Hearings Board will decide August 22 whether appeals would invalidate 2004 county growth management plan, which county commissioners are working on to revise anyway--Columbian, \*\*Erin Middlewood\*\*](#)

[Clark College looking to make name more meaningful as it branches out--Columbian, \*\*Tom\*\*](#)

[Vogt Investigating London officials make an arrest In Leeds, England; believe four attackers may have been suicide bombers--USA TODAY, AP](#)

**Tuesday on the air**

City Minutes—4 p.m. CVTV

Capital Perspectives—4:30 p.m. CVTV

County Democratic Nominating Convention—5 p.m. CVTV

**MLB All-Star Game (live)—5 p.m. KPTV, KFX**

**Seattle at Portland Timbers (live)—7 p.m. KZNY, KXMG**

**Vancouver Planning Commission (live)—7 p.m. CVTV**

**Town Tabloids and the weather**

**Marie Day** snagging another achievement. ☞ **Byron Hanke** perfecting folding popcorn box. ☞ **Mat McCudden** goes out on limb; doesn't fall. ☞ **Nancy Barnes** offering Annie Oakley's. ☞ **Monday**, sun breaks through a few times, 72. **Tuesday**, warming and brightening, 75. **Wednesday**, sunny and warm, 80.