

New black entrepreneurs group opens doors to all businesses

Black Entrepreneurs of Clark County, a newly formed business organization, offers free business roundtables and networking to all business people, reports BECC founder **Shareefah Abdullah**.

“All are welcome, regardless of race, residence or business,” Abdullah says.

The next networking event and business round table is at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, June 23, in Tiger’s Garden Restaurant, 312 W 8th Street. While admission is free, those attending may buy Thai menu items.

Abdullah, owner of Hot Ovations Communications Coaching & Training Co., asks those who want to attend to call **604-8583** for reservations by Friday, June 17.

Brian Baird says Vancouver may get federal courthouse

A study to investigate the feasibility of constructing or acquiring a U.S. District Courthouse in Vancouver has been authorized by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, reports U.S. Rep. **Brian Baird** (D-3rd). Baird is a member of the committee.

“There is an overwhelming need for a U.S. District Courthouse in Vancouver,” Baird says. The closest federal courthouse is in Tacoma.

The study will identify locations and costs of potential sites.

Nautilus chief Gregg Hammann to address Vancouver chamber

Gregg Hammann, chair, president and CEO of Nautilus, presents “World Class Quality, World Class Community” at 11:45 a.m. Thursday, June 9, in the Red Lion Hotel at the Quay.

The luncheon, second in a series called Excellence in Enterprise, offered by the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, is sponsored by the Bank of Clark County.

Reservations are required. Admission is \$40. For further information, call **694-1588**.

Rick Melching reception June 24

A reception for retiring Evergreen Public Schools superintendent **Rick Melching** is from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, June 24, in the Healthman Lodge Ballroom, 7801 Greenwood Drive.

The reception includes hors d’oeuvres and a no-host bar. For reservations to the \$20 function, call

Kaye Chamberlain, 604-4005.

Shower singing auditions Wednesday and Thursday

Auditions, open to Vancouver and Portland-area high school students to sing in a shower during the KEX Festival of Bands in Portland’s PGE Park Friday, June 10, are being held Wednesday and Thursday, June 8 and 9, at the George Moreland Plumbing Design Center, 222 NW Raleigh Street, Portland.

Five contestants will be selected for performances (fully clothed in shower stalls in centerfield) at the Portland Rose Festival sponsored event. Judged by audience applause, the winner will receive a \$3,000 college scholarship. Additional scholarships will be awarded runners-up.

Entry forms and CDs containing karaoke versions of audition songs are being distributed through Vancouver-Portland area high school music departments and sponsor George Moreland Plumbing Supply showrooms.

All who audition will receive two free tickets to the Festival of Bands.

County trail and bikeway system getting scrutiny

The first in a series of open houses to discuss the Clark County trail and bikeway system plan for

2006 is being presented by Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation at 6 p.m. Thursday, June 9, in Battle Ground City Hall, 109 SW 1st Street.

Additional open houses are scheduled during the month at Ridgefield, Camas, Washougal and La Center. For further information, call **Kelly Puntaney, 619-1127**.

Calendar

Clark County commissioners meet in informal session at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 8.

Tuesday headlines from at home and around the world:

[t's Official--Vancouver City Council names public square in Esther Short Park for benefactor George Propstra--Columbian, Jeffrey Mize](#)

[Rossi won't appeal court ruling--Seattle Times, David Postman](#)

[Ships to begin arriving for Portland Rose Festival--KGW-TV, Antonia Giedwoyn](#)

[GM plans to cut 25,000 U.S. jobs by 2008--USA TODAY, AP, John Porretto](#)

[Car bombs kill at least 20 as attacks roil northern Iraq--New York Times, Edward Wong](#)

[Washington Post, ABC poll: Americans say war in Iraq has not made U.S. Safer--Washington Post, Dana Milbank and Claudia Deane](#)

Tuesday on the air

Seattle Mariners at Florida (live)--4 p.m. FSN, KFXX

Prescription for Change--4 p.m. CVTV

Intergovernmental Roundtable on Cowlitz Casino (6/2)--7 p.m. CVTV

Hazel Dell Parade of Bands--9:30 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the weather

April Hess seeing where the money goes. ☼ **Larry Blaufus** buried under enconiums. ☼ **Connie Clark** finding treasure trove. ☼ **Jill Yates** launching busy season. ☼ **Rick Dyer** on the money. ☼ **Tuesday**, partly showery, patches of blue sky, 62. **Wednesday**, sun emerges in supporting role, 70. **Thursday**, partly sunny, 72.