

Gen. Soyster headlines really big Veterans Day celebration,

Over 2,500 individuals, representing more than 100 groups are scheduled to participate in Vancouver's Veterans Day celebration and parade Saturday, Nov. 5.

Headlining the pre-parade ceremonies at the George C. Marshall House on Officers Row at 10:30 a.m. is Lt. Gen. **Harry Soyster**, who as executive director of the national World War II Commemoration Committee, helped put together Vancouver's commemoration event, deemed the largest and most popular of all those held across the country. Soyster will be the principal speaker prior to the beginning of the 11 a.m. parade.

Grand marshals of Vancouver's 19th annual Veterans Day Parade are **Roy Taylor**, 40 et 8 Chef deGar du Washington, and **Charles Kelly**, vice commander for the American Legion Department of Washington. Reviewing stand participants are Sgt. Maj. **Jack Tilley**, **Marty Evans**, president and CEO of the American Red Cross, and Maj. Gen. **Terrill K. Moffett**, 104th U.S. Army Reserve.

Parade viewers are urged to view the parade as well as pre-parade activities near the Marshall House, according to **Jerry Bloss**, co-chairman of the parade committee.

The parade begins at 11 a.m. at the corner of Officers Row and East Reserve Street.

Improvements to "99-Strip" to be discussed Thursday

Proposed improvements to Highway 99 between NE 99th and 129th Streets will be discussed at an open house at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 27, in the Salmon Creek United Methodist Church, 12217 NE Highway pp.

The proposed improvements, which could begin early in 2006, have been in the planning stages among Clark County Public Works Department, the county Department of Community Development, Team 99, and Otak, Inc.

The proposed improvements would include bring the highway up to four-lane arterial standards, adding sidewalks and pedestrian safety crossings and beautification. For further information, call project manager **Linda Small** at **397-6118** extension **4753**.

Vancouver seeking volunteer firefighters

The consolidated Vancouver Fire Department and Fire District 5 are seeking at least 30 volunteer firefighters for assignments at the soon to be completed consolidated fire station at 12603 NE 72nd Avenue. The fire station will serve the Barberton, Glenwood and Pleasant Valley neighborhoods north of the Vancouver city limits.

Volunteer firefighters undergo rigorous background checks and medical, physical and physiological tests. Extensive training is involved.

Volunteer firefighters receive an annual stipend based on the number of calls and drills.

Further information is available by calling **892-4323** or by going to www.vanfire.org.

Gee Creek planting project aimed at improving habitat

The City of Ridgefield, working with the Gee Creek Enhancement Committee, sponsoring a Saturday morning planting work project along the creek, is asking for volunteers to help eradicate Himalayan blackberries and Japanese knotweed, replacing the noxious weeds with ash and dogwoods.

Mayor **Gladys Doriot** says that Gee Creek, which runs through the heart of Ridgefield and the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, is being rehabilitated as a salmon-bearing stream.

Volunteers are asked to dress appropriately and to gather before 9 a.m. at the Heron Drive Bridge just off Main Avenue in Ridgefield For further information, call Public Works director **Justin Clary**, **887-8251**.

News briefs

Nominations for the annual Clark College-YWCA of Clark County Women of Achievement awards are being accepted through Monday, Nov. 7. Women nominated must have enriched the quality of life in Clark County. For further information, call **Annie Gannon**, **906-9153**.

Calendar

A Columbia River Crossing Project open house will be from 4 to 8 p.m., this evening in Gaiser Hall at Clark College. Public input is being sought on congestion and other transportation-related problems on and around the Interstate Bridge. ☞ The Vancouver Planning Commission meets at 4 p.m. today and then again at 7:30 p.m. ☞

Ridgefield residents are being asked to attend a design session offered by C-TRAN to provide input on how the new transit system collector service will benefit the city. The meeting is at 6 p.m. in the A Pickled Heron Gallery, 418 Pioneer Street.

Tuesday headlines at home and abroad

[Lawrence Carter comes up with monster pumpkin--Columbian, **Thomas Ryll**](#)
[Fourth Plain project to create new jobs--Columbian, **Jeffrey Mize**](#)
[Housing Authority plans overhaul of Kyocera site--Oregonian, **Allan Brettman**](#)
[Camas school boundaries up for debate--Columbian, **Howard Buck**](#)
[County retail sales solid--Columbian, **Jonathan Nelson**](#)
[French wines helping gasoline shortage--Columbian, **Don Brunell**](#)
[Report warns on monorail finances--Seattle Times, **Mike Lindblom**](#)
[Iraq reaches 'landmark' as Sunni's fail to block charter--USA TODAY, AP](#)

Tuesday on the air

Clark County commissioners (live)—1:55 p.m. CVTV
Vancouver Code Enforcement Code Appeal Hearings (10/19)—4 p.m. CVTV
R.S.V.P. Recognition Luncheon—5 p.m. CVTV
Making Democracy Work (10/20)—7 p.m. CVTV
Columbia River Task Force (10/12)—9 p.m. CVTV
Clark County Focus (10/14)—11:30 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the weather

John and **Steve McDonagh** getting good marks. **Kristin Dunham** perambulating. ☞ **Mike Dederer** once again heard from. ☞ **Rolf Glerum** keeping track of participants. ☞ **Tuesday**, afternoon showers, 62. **Wednesday**, mostly showery, 56. **Thursday**, continued showers, 55.