

Vancouver Chamber supports gasoline tax

“Vote no on the gasoline tax Initiative 912,” the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce board of directors unanimously declared today.

If approved in November, I-912 would repeal the state’s near-term transportation improvements financed by gasoline tax increases.

In Clark County, these improvements, for which no other funding is available, include \$245 million for improvements on Interstate 5 and 205 in Clark County, \$50 million for widening Highway 502 between I-5 and Battle Ground, \$50 million for continued studies of a Columbia River bridge, and \$40 million in improvements to Highway 14 between Camas and Washougal.

The gasoline-tax transportation plan is also supported by the Columbia River Economic Development Council and Identity Clark County.

The chamber’s public affairs committee chair **Mark Brandon** said today that investing in transportation is critical to the long-term economic viability of the state and that the gasoline tax is an equitable tax.”

Neighborhood grants enhancing livability

Six Vancouver neighborhoods are sharing nearly \$500,000 from federally funded grants provided through the Neighborhood Consolidated Funding Request Program administered by the City of Vancouver.

The Harney Heights Neighborhood received two grants, \$110,844 to make improvements on pedestrian crossings on Brandt Street, and \$91,320 for design and planning Date Street Park. Bagley Downs Neighborhood received \$100,000 for continued development of Herber Neighborhood Park. The Central Park Neighborhood was given \$17,000 for improvements to Quarnberg Park. The Hudson’s Bay neighborhood received \$11,678 for Hazel Hart Park improvements.

The Evergreen Highlands Neighborhood and the Hough Neighborhood received \$74,058 and \$40,098, respectively, for pedestrian crossing improvements on major streets.

Jan Harte to share business tips with Black Entrepreneurs Thursday

Jan Harte, business development specialist for the Washington State University Small Business Development Center and certified business counselor, will discuss free technical assistance, free research help and free business counseling at the 5:30 p.m. Thursday, July 28, meeting of the Black Entrepreneurs of Clark County in the Vancouver Community Library, 1007 E Mill Plain.

There is no attendance fee, according to the entrepreneurs group founder, **Shareefah Abdullah**. Registration is required. Call Abdullah at **604-8535** for further information.

Help select the top three restaurants in Clark County

Insider readers rate local (Clark County) restaurants. It’s your last meal on earth, ever. You can’t have it at home. You can’t take it in a lunch bucket. You must eat it in a Clark County restaurant. Which restaurant would you choose? Each reader gets one vote.

To vote, go to: tony@dailyinsider.info and put the name of your favorite restaurant on the Subject line.

Vacancy to be filled on Solid Waste Management Commission

The board of Clark County Commissioners is seeking applications for a vacancy on the county Solid Waste Advisory Commission. The commission makes recommendations on solid waste, recycling and waste reduction programs, and makes recommendations on the location of landfills and transfer facilities.

The vacancy is to be filled by a resident of southeast Clark County. Deadline to apply is Wednesday, Aug. 10. For further information, call **Anita Largent, 397-6118**, extension **4484**.

Calendar

Beaches Summertime Crusin’ continues today, 4 to 9 p.m., at the Portland International Raceway. Adult admission is \$5. Port of Ridgefield commissioners meet in regular session at 6 p.m. this evening and will hold a public hearing to amend the port’s Comprehensive Scheme of Harbor Improvements.

News brief

The ABC television outlet KATU (for channel 2) which has been relegated to Comcast Cable channel 4, is

going back to its original location in the numbered cable channel scheme of things, Comcast Cable has announced. The switchover is effective Monday, Aug. 1. For those not on cable, KATU has always been found on channel 2.

Wednesday headlines from at home and around the world:

[Burgerville pioneer Mill Plain outlet may be demolished and re-opened across the street at Denny's Restaurant location--Columbian, Gretchen Fehrenbacher](#)
[Amid casino debate, an olive branch--Columbian, Jeffrey Mize](#)
[Commissioner has no 'regrets' over deal with tribe--Columbian, Jeffrey Mize](#)
[John Barr named CEO of Vancouver's Papa Murphy's Take 'N' Bake Pizza--Columbian](#)
[Mayor invites HMCS Vancouver back to Vancouver for World War II celebration--Columbian, Tom Koenninger](#)
[Pat Jollota files for reelection to city council--Oregonian, Foster Church](#)
[Rumsfeld and Iraqi prime minister Ibrahim Jafan talk earlier pullout of U.S. troops--Washington Post, Ann Scott Tyson](#)
[Fromhold and Moeller getting statewide health honors--Oregonian, Dee Anne Finken](#)
[Microsoft begins distribution of beta version of new Windows Vista operating system--Seattle Times, Brier Dudley](#)

Wednesday on the air

Hilton Vancouver Washington Opening (6/15)—3:30 p.m. CVTV
Dog Park Ribbon Cutting Ceremony—4:30 p.m. CVTV
Bravo! Vancouver: The New Washingtonians—5:30 p.m. CVTV
Detroit at Seattle Mariners (live)—7 p.m. FSN, KFX
Omaha at Portland Beavers (live)—7 p.m. KKAD
2005 Top Construction Awards (7/21)—7:30 p.m. CVTV
A Conversation With the Governor (7/21)—9:30 pm. CVTV
Growth Management Hearings Board (7/11)—11:30 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the weather

Marissa Madrigal fine tuning. ☞ **Mary Murphy** giving helpful directions. ☞ **Patty Westby** recommending spinach. ☞ **Veronika Noize** promoting largest street festival in southwest Washington. ☞ **Wednesday**, mostly hot sun, 96. **Thursday**, continued sunny and hot, 85. **Friday**, mostly sunny but some clouds drift in, 82.