

CREDC has \$5 million plan to bring in 12,000 new jobs

The Columbia River Economic Development Council, 200-member public-private partnership, that in the past 25 years has helped draw more than 20,000 direct and indirect jobs and an average annual payroll of \$1 billion to Clark County, today announced a \$5 million, five-year program to bring in another 12,000 direct and indirect jobs.

The leadership team for funding the new initiative announced today is **Scott Campbell**, publisher, *The Columbian*, **Hal Dengerink**, chancellor Washington State University Vancouver, **John E. Marck**, president Sharp Microelectronics of the Americas and Vancouver Mayor **Royce Pollard**.

The goals, according to CREDC executive director **Bart Phillips** are 5,000 direct jobs with an average wage of \$55,000, \$250 million in new investment and expansion of 80 businesses.

Target industries are semiconductor and microelectronics, software design and manufacturing, research and development, and financial and investment services.

Share gets state grant to help clients benefit from bank savings accounts

Share has been awarded a \$70,000 grant from the state Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development to help fund bank savings accounts for clients in Share's transitional housing program, called ASPIRE.

Individual Development Accounts, for which the grant is intended, are bank savings accounts for a future purchase. The grant will assist 50 households in becoming self-sufficient. Participants, over the course of three years, may save up to \$4,000 to be used as a down payment on a home, to purchase a car or computer, start a business or pursue higher education.

In addition to the state grant, Share will receive matching dollars for Share participants through a \$4 million federal grant made to the Lower Columbia Action Committee, Kelso.

"Many of our clients have spent years living paycheck-to-paycheck, and we hope to help break the cycle by introducing financial education and rewards," says **Diane Christie**, Share's executive director.

Clients will save money by placing it in a restricted savings account at Pacific Continental Bank; through the grants, Share will provide a 2:1 match. Additionally, participants will receive case management, extensive money management training and education regarding their asset choice. Community Housing Resource Center, Vancouver Toyota and SCORE will be partners with Share in the program.

Share was formed in 1977 to care for the homeless and hungry in the greater Vancouver area. Share operates four shelters for the homeless, a transitional housing program, case management programs and a street outreach program, and provides daily meals for the homeless and low-income persons. In addition, Share operates a summer lunch program for low-income children and a backpack program to provide food for weekends to children receiving free or reduced-fee lunches at 14 schools.

Gay men to discuss discrimination during WSU Vancouver program

Joe Bertolino and **Bil Leipold** will discuss the realities of living in a world of heterosexual privilege at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 6, in room 110 of the Administration Building at Washington State University Vancouver.

Their talk is called, "When Gays Move into Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood." Bertolino and Leipold will draw on personal experiences as gay fraternity men and student affairs professionals, as well as highlight the reactions of families and friends.

Jes Dimas, interim president of Queer Cougars and Allies, a student club, says: "I'm really pleased to see Bil and Joe coming to the campus. By hosting this lecture, the school is demonstrating its continued commitment of fostering diversity on campus."

For further information on the program, go to <http://www.wsu.edu/ss/diversity/bilandjoe>.

Workforce preparation classes offered at WSU Vancouver

The Center for Youth Workforce Preparation at Washington State University Vancouver is holding an open house for students 13 to 18 years old to help them select college career tracks.

The open house in rooms 129 and 130 in the Administration Building on the Salmon Creek Campus is from 6:30 to 8 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 30.

The center is currently enrolling students for the 4-H Teen-Works fall term which begins Tuesday, Nov. 6. For further information, go to <http://www.vancouver.wsu.edu/cywp>.

Clark County seek applications for Railroad Advisory Board

The Clark County Board of Commissioners is seeking applicants to serve on the Clark County Railroad Advisory Board. The county owns a 33-mile short-line railroad that runs from Vancouver to Chelatchie Prairie. The line is commonly known as the Lewis and Clark Railroad or the Chelatchie Prairie Railroad.

The fifteen-member board advises the board of commissioners on how to achieve the maximum long-term return to the county from its investment in the railroad.

For further information, call **Fred Abraham, 397-2280**, extension **4113**.

Calendar

A tour of the Port of Vancouver begins at 5:30 p.m. this evening from the port's offices, 3103 NW Lower River Road. Photo identification and reservations are required. For further information, call **992-1162**. <> Environmental, social, and economic benefits of community trees, and how these benefits impact Vancouver, are the subjects of a workshop presented by Vancouver Urban Forestry at 7 p.m. this evening in the Oak Room of the Marshall Community Center, 1009 E McLoughlin Boulevard. There is no charge for the program. Pre-registration is preferred but not required. For further information, call **619-1108**. <> *Hobson's Choice*, by **Harold Brighthouse**, directed by **Jaynie Roberts**, is being presented by Magenta Theater at 7 p.m. this evening, and tomorrow, Oct. 26, and at 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27, in the First Baptist Church, 108 W 27th Street. For further information, call **635-4358**. <> The half-day Miller Nash LLP Growth Management Act Conference opens with registration at 7:15 a.m. Friday, Oct. 26, in the Hilton Vancouver Washington. The featured speaker is Clark County commissioner **Marc Boldt**. The \$25 registration fee includes breakfast. To register, call **694-6413**.

Thursday on the air

Colorado at Boston (live)—5 p.m. FSN, KFX

Clark County Board of Health (10/24)—5:30 p.m. CVTV

Cooking With Class—5:30 p.m. FVTV

Clark County Planning Commission (10/23)—6:30 p.m. CVTV

RSVP/Vancouver Connections Recognition Luncheon (10/20)—11:30 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Elson Strahan winning friends, etc. etc. <> **Kay Cooke** taking last-minute names and numbers. <> **Kate Jobe** handling news chores. <> **Gerry Short** getting good news. <> **Jessica Lightheart** earning her keep. <> **Glenda Stamps** outwitting mouse. <> **Angela Meinig** filling in as natal day D.D. <> **Thursday**, fog gives way to sunshine, 58. **Friday**, sunny, 62. **Saturday**, sunny, 64.