

David Ripp named executive director at Port of Camas-Washougal



David Ripp

David R. Ripp has been appointed executive director of the Port of Camas-Washougal, port commission president **Alan Hargrave** announced today. Ripp succeeds long-time executive director **Sheldon Tyler**, who resigned earlier this year.

A Woodland native, Ripp has 13 years' experience in port management and most recently was executive director of the Port of Woodland.

Ripp's appointment is the result of a four-month executive search led by Clark Public Utilities' commissioner and former Port of Vancouver executive director **Byron Hanke**.

Ripp will direct a 12-member port staff and will be responsible for operations, capital improvements and management of the port's 400-acre industrial park, a 79-hangar general aviation airport and a 350-slip pleasure boar marina. Ripp is a member of the Washington Public Ports Association and chairman of the WPPA Public Relations Committee. He is a member of the boards of the Pacific Northwest Waterways Association, and the Columbia River Channel Improvement Project.

Ripp is past president of the Woodland Rotary, and past member of the Cowlitz Economic Development Council and the Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments.

Currently a resident of Camas, Ripp and his wife, **Sue**, are active in the Specialized River City Bicycle Racing Team and the Tireless Velo Team. He is a graduate of Western Washington University.

County, state unemployment rates rising

According to the seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates released by the state employment security department today, unemployment both in Clark County and statewide is on the rise.

Clark County's unemployment rate for November was 5.4 percent, compared to 4.9 percent in October and 5.2 percent in November 2006. Statewide, the rate for November was 4.6 percent, compared to 4.2 percent in October. The unemployment rate for November 2006 was 5 percent.

There is good news for some vocations and occupations, however. According to the employment security department the fastest growing occupations are musicians and singers. Next on the list are septic tank servicers and sewer pipe cleaners, followed by interior designers, loan interviewers and clerks, and tree-trimmers and pruners.

Columbia Dance Presents *The Nutcracker*

Columbia Dance presents *The Nutcracker* ballet at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 21, at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 22, and 1 and 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 23, in the Royal Durst Theatre, 3101 Main Street..

Dancing the role of Sugar Plum Fairy will be **Nicole Smith** and **Gretchen Funk**. **Christophe Maraval**, Montreal, will dance the Sugar Plum Cavalier. Clara will be danced by **Amelia Bishop** and **Lauren Herrmann**.

Tickets \$15 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under. For further information, call **737-1922**.

SW Washington Watercolor Society exhibit continuing at WSU Vancouver

Selected artwork by members of the Southwest Washington Watercolor Society is being exhibited through February 28 in the Engineering Life Sciences Building on the Washington State University Vancouver Salmon Creek campus.

There is no charge. The exhibit may be viewed from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays. Additional society watercolors will be on view beginning January 25 in the Administration Building gallery.

The Southwest Washington Watercolor Society, formed in 1979, has over 150 artist members.

News brief

The Vancouver Farmers Market will be open for the last time this year from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 22. Holiday music, custom hand-made pens, pictures, hand crafted rugs, Christmas trees and decorations, fresh

winter produce, warm food and hot coffee are being offered.

People

Dan and **Barbara George** are retiring from public life, Dan after 29 years with the City of Vancouver, and Barbara after 31 years with the Clark County Assessors Office. A celebration of their own careers will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 3, in the Marketplace, 210 W Evergreen Boulevard. Light appetizers, cake and Barb's famous pickles will be served. For further information, call **Cara Cantonwine, 619-1131**.

Calendar

Clark County commissioners meet in an informal session 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 19, in conference room B in the Public Service Center.

Tuesday on the air

Clark County Youth Town Hall (11/8)—4:30 p.m. CVTV

Bravo! Vancouver: The Messiah: An Oratorio—6:30 p.m. CVTV

PSU at U of W (live)—7:30 p.m. FSN, KTRO, KUIK

Cooking with Class—8 p.m. FVTV

Vancouver Land Use Hearings (12/6)—9 p.m. CVTV

Legislative Outlook Breakfast (12/14)—9:45 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Joe O'Shea passing 500,000-mile checkup. <> **Mike Graeff** spreading good cheer. <> **Larry Easter** going on location. <> **Marilyn Willis** getting good news. <> **Maureen Chan-Hefflin** almost faster than speeding email message. <> **Tuesday**, rainy and windy. 44-47. **Wednesday**, drizzly, 40-45.

Thursday, spurts of precipitation, 34-43.