

Camas-Washougal RiverWalk project dies natural death

A 2005 option agreement between RiverWalk on the Columbia LLC and the Port of Camas-Washougal that would have led to development of a \$300 to \$400 million mixed-use, 65-acre project on the Columbia River near Parker's Landing expired last Friday, and efforts to revive some portion of the project on a much smaller footprint so far have not produced anything.

According to port commission president **Alan Hargrave**, the port has been discussing with the developers a much smaller project of 14.7 acres on what is known as the 6th Street property.

Hargrave said in a statement: "Despite all the hard work and good intentions to reach consensus, it is unfortunate that both parties were unable to arrive at a mutually acceptable agreement to proceed with the project. We are committed to the port's mission of improving economic and recreational benefits to our waterfront with our community partners."

Hargrave said further that the smaller scale project would give the community a chance to work with the port on fulfilling a waterfront vision that was more cost effective and manageable.

The option agreement included a public-private partnership with RiverWalk that became a joint investment of \$400,000 to explore the feasibility of the proposed 65-acre waterfront development.

The port created a waterfront advisory committee during the process and began taking public comment.

Hargrave concluded that the port now has time to work out details of a larger overall project.

No rate hikes in Clark Public Utilities' electric or water system budgets

No rate increases are in store for Clark Public Utilities electric or water customers for 2008, preliminary discussion of the utilities' 2008 budgets presented to utility commissioners today disclosed.

A public hearing on the electric and water utility budgets will be held at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 27. The budget will be up for final approval on December 11.

The proposed 2008 electric utility budget of \$330.5 million, up from \$323.6 million in 2007, is based on a customer base increase of 1.5 percent. This would bring up by 4,000 the number of electric utility customers during the year to a total of 187,000 customers by the end of 2008.

The water utility is expected to grow about 1.5 percent during 2008 also, bringing the total number of customers to almost 30,000 by the end of next year.

Randy Mueller joins Ridgefield port staff



Randy Mueller has been appointed to the newly created position of director of business development for the Port of Ridgefield, reports port executive director **Brent Grening**.

Mueller will be responsible for overseeing such projects as the Pioneer Street rail overpass, development of the Ridgefield waterfront and Discovery Corridor. Mueller has been a governmental affairs consultant. He is a graduate of Washington State University Vancouver and is a part-time student at Portland State University. He earned the *Vancouver Business Journal's* Accomplished Under 40 Award in 2006.

Ballots can be turned in until 8 p.m. tonight at polling places

General election ballots can be turned into Clark County polling places until 8 p.m. this evening. The county's drive-up ballot drop box is on 14th Street, east of Franklin Street. Last-minute voters intent on mailing ballots must do so before 5 p.m. today.

CVTV, channel 23, will provide live election returns from Gaiser Hall at Clark College beginning at 8:30 p.m. Host for the election show is **Donna Mason**, CVTV executive producer. Mason will also interview candidates.

Calendar

The Vancouver Planning Commission's First Tuesday meeting at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 6, will be a discussion of the city's emerging sustainability program as it pertains to the watershed program. <> The Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council meets in regular session at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 6, in

the 6th floor hearing room, Community Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street. <> **Joe Bertolino** and **Bil Leipold** present “When the Gays Move Into Mr. Rogers’ Neighborhood,” at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 6, in room 110 in the Administration Building at Washington State University Vancouver. The program is being presented by the student club, Queer Cougars and Allies. <> Artist **MC Condon** will discuss militarism and its relationship to gender at 6 p.m. today, following an artists reception in the Archer Gallery in Clark College. Condon’s current project, “The Red Thread: Women & Militarism,” is being shown in the gallery through Wednesday, Dec. 5.

Tuesday on the air

General Election: North Clark County Candidates—4 p.m. CVTV
Forward Thinking-Direction Action Kickoff—5 p.m. CVTV
Better Together Awards (10/23)—6 p.m. CVTV
Disability Employment Awareness (10/9)—6:40 p.m. CVTV
General Election Night (live)—8 p.m. CVTV
Cooking With Class—8 p.m. FVTV
Community Pride Design Awards (10/25)—10 p.m. CVTV
Day of Remembrance for Homicide Victims (9//24)—10:30 p.m. CVTV
YWCA Benefit Luncheon (10/3)—11:30 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Ruth Waite’s most ardent fans miss her birthday by 24 hours. <> **Warren Cook** solving 99 percent of problem in 30 seconds. <> **Helen Devery** rounding up details. <> **Mike Worthy** knows a good deal when he seizes it.<> **Bonnie Cross** making early discovery. <> **Tuesday**, mostly sunny, 63. **Wednesday**, cloudy morning, sunny in the afternoon, 64. **Thursday**, mostly cloudy, 62.