

Steve Stuart appointed to state Public Works Board

Chairman of the board of Clark County commissioners **Steve Stuart** has been appointed to a four-year term on the state Public Works Board by Gov. **Chris Gregoire**. Stuart is the second Clark County resident to serve on the 13-member board. Clark County Public Works director **Pete Capell** was reappointed for a second four-year term in 2005.

The board distributes over \$100 million annually infrastructure financing for public health, safety, environmental and economic development needs in communities throughout the state. Over the past 22 years the board has invested over \$2 billion statewide, which has generated \$10.6 billion in economic activity and over 103,000 construction jobs.

Bank of Clark County supports medical center Breast Care Center with \$100,000

The Bank of Clark County has made a \$100,000 gift to the Southwest Washington Medical Center Foundation for construction of a new Breast Care Center to be built on the Mill Plain Boulevard medical center campus.

The gift from the Bank of Clark County will finance the reception area, according to **Jean Rahn**, the medical center foundation's executive director.

According to Rahn: "The reception area will be named in honor of **Deborah Oester** and Karen Spridgeon. Oester is a senior vice president at the bank and a breast cancer survivor. Mrs. Spridgeon, who died of breast cancer at the age of 47, was the mother of **Karen Capeloto**, wife of the bank's chief operating officer, **Kim Capeloto**."

Comprehensive recreation and open space plan hearing is Thursday

One of the last times the public will be able to provide input on the proposed Vancouver-Clark Parks & Recreation's Comprehensive Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan is during a public hearing before the Clark County Planning Commission at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 19, in the Public Service Center hearing room, 1300 Franklin Street.

The plan is available for review by going to www.vanclarkparks-rec.org.

The proposed plan will be submitted to Clark County commissioners for final consideration Tuesday, May 15. The City of Vancouver portion of the plan was approved last December.

WSU Vancouver's Alair MacLean gets grant to study socioeconomic effects of combat on veterans

Alair MacLean, assistant professor of sociology at Washington State University Vancouver, is beginning a two-year study on veterans' combat exposure and its socioeconomic outcomes as a result of a \$162,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health.

MacLean says: "This issue has taken on increased social and policy significance in the light of ongoing combat operations involving the United States' armed forces. Since the fall of 2001, more than 700,000 U.S. military personnel have served in combat zones in or around Iraq and Afghanistan. Of these, more than 2,000 have been killed, nearly 16,000 have been injured by hostile fire, and thousands more have been evacuated from combat zones for psychological treatment. If prior wars are any indication, many returning wartime veterans will struggle for years with post-traumatic stress disorder, even if they suffered no physical injuries during their time in a combat zone."

We want to compare employment and earnings between combat veterans and non-combat veterans and non veterans, McLean concludes.

Clark Public Utilities' Earth Day celebration is countywide family tree planting event

Clark Public Utilities' annual Earth Day program, co-sponsored by eight other local organizations, has become a family-oriented celebration built around planting trees in the Salmon Creek watershed while observing and participating in environmental exhibits and programs.

Volunteers who plant trees between 8:30 a.m. and 1:45 p.m. will each receive an Earth Day t-shirt. A barbecue lunch, sponsored by the Greater Vancouver Rotary Club, will be served at 1 p.m.

Volunteers are advised to bring proper weather and work attire, including gloves, boots, rain gear and a reusable drinking mug.

Other sponsor and exhibitors are as follows: Columbia Springs Environmental Education Center, Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group, Northwest Service Academy's AmeriCorps, Clark Conservation District, Waste Connections, Salmon Creek Watershed Council, Vancouver Audubon, Wildlife Stewards, the Loo Wit Group of the Sierra Club, Interact Clubs of Mountain View, and Columbia River High Schools. To sign up, call **992-8585**.

News brief

There is no charge for attending the Oregon Chamber Players open rehearsal at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 25, in All Saints' Episcopal Church, 4033 SE Woodstock Boulevard, Portland, reports artistic director **Timoteus Racz**.

Calendar

The fourth in a week-long series of Earth Week forums sponsored by Friends of Clark County is at 7 p.m. this evening in the Clark County Licensing Office, 1408 Franklin Street. The subject is Sustainable Agriculture. For further information, call **695-5570**.

Wednesday on the air

Healthy Trees; Healthy Communities (4/11)—4:30 p.m. CVTV

County Commission Workshop (4/17)—6 p.m. CVTV

Sacramento at Portland Beavers (live)—6 p.m. KKAD

Minnesota at Seattle Mariners (live)—7 p.m. FSN, KFX

Golden State at Portland Blazers (live)—7 p.m. KGW-TV, KXL

Clark County Close Up (4/1)—9 p.m. CVTV

County Earth Friendly Programs (4/16)—9:30 p.m. CVTV

Animal Control Hearings (4/11)—11:30 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Gail Spolar reporting a good time was had by all. ✂ **Edna Jean Easter** drumming up interest in symphony gala. ✂ **Colleen Morse** dotting "I"s and crossing "T"s. ✂ **Ron Kiel** giving counsel on entrepreneurship. ✂ **Maya Mueller** offering graphics advice. ✂ **Wednesday**, continued April Showers, 52. **Thursday**, showers, sunbreaks, 59. **Friday**, mostly dry, partly cloudy, 67.