

First Aid Only Inc. gets community service award from Clark College

For its efforts in supporting adult literacy in the workplace, Vancouver-based First Aid Only Inc. has earned a Community Service Award from Clark College.

Working with Clark College the company has provided a classroom setting for English as a Second Language classes for all of its employees.

Lynn Miller, First Aid Only human resource coordinator, on accepting the award this week from Clark College Basic Skills director **Mark McLean** said that one of the main challenges was the difficulty in communicating with non-English speaking employees. We knew that the only way to provide this opportunity to our team was to bring the English opportunities to them.”

First Aid Only pays the \$25 student tuition for its employees, has purchased dictionaries and supplies for them, and has offered financial incentives for perfect attendance. Class is held immediately after work so that employees can arrive home before dinner.

In 1993 First Aid Only, Inc. won the “Clark County Employer of the Year Award” for its commitment to diversity and providing all individuals with opportunities to succeed.

Miller says that the company considers teaching English as a Second Language an investment in the future. “Our employees have made great progress and look forward to achieving their next level of language success,” Miller added.

First Independent appoints

Mark Brandon chief credit officer



Mark Brandon

Mark Brandon, executive vice president for First Independent, has been named the bank’s chief credit officer. Brandon will work with the bank’s credit administration team to oversee the bank’s loan portfolio.

Brandon, with 25 years’ banking experience, is a graduate of Washington State University, an honors graduate of the Pacific Coast Banking School and is a member of the board of trustees of the WSU Foundation. He is a past chairman of the board of the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, past chairman of the board of Columbia River Economic Development Council, past member of the board of SWIFT, and past member of the board of the United Way, representing Clark County.

Roger Qualman appointed to board of Institute of Metropolitan Studies

Roger Qualman, executive vice president of Norris, Beggs & Simpson, has been appointed to the board of directors of the Institute of Portland Metropolitan Studies.

The institute’s director **Sheila Martin** and **Carolyn Long**, associate professor and director of the Program in Public Affairs at Washington State University Vancouver, are investigating opportunities for more extensive cooperation between Washington and Oregon within the metropolitan region.

Their areas of focus include transportation, workforce training and economic

development.

News brief

The Washington State Community Economic Revitalization Board has awarded the Port of Woodland a \$600,000 loan and a \$400,000 grant to assist with the cost of constructing a 17,250-square foot industrial building in the Schurman Way Industrial Park. The building will be leased to Custom Manufacturing and Design, LLC, a custom welding and fabrication business, and will support retention of the business in Washington as well as future expansion. Custom Manufacturing and Design will keep 29 existing jobs and create



Lynn Miller, right, First Aid Only Inc. receives Clark College Community Service Award from Mark McLean

16 future full-time jobs.

Sip slip

Yesterday the *Insider* reported that for a \$25 donation visitors to Saturday Sip and Stroll in the Uptown Village would be able to sample over 320 wines between 4 and 8 p.m. Dec. 1. No way. The typo should be corrected to 30 samples of wine, which is a lot at that.

Calendar

The state Department of Ecology Vancouver Field Office, 2108 Grand Boulevard, is holding an open house from 4:30 to 6 p.m. today celebrating ten years in Clark County. <> Public comment on Clark County's septic loan program is being accepted at a 5 p.m. meeting today in the Center for Public Health, 1601 E Fourth Plain Boulevard. For further information, call **397-8122**. <> Port of Ridgefield commissioners meet in regular session at 6 p.m. this evening in port offices at 111 W Division Street. <> A celebration of remembrance for anyone who has experienced the death of a loved one, sponsored by the Hope Bereavement Program of Southwest Washington Medical Center, is at 6 p.m. this evening in the medical center's Health Education auditorium on the Mill Plain campus. For further information, call **696-5120**. <> Clark County assessor **Linda Franklin** hosts the first of four public meetings to provide information about property values and property taxes at 7 p.m. this evening in the 6th floor hearing room in the Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street. <> Clark County and Cowlitz County commissioners meet jointly at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 29, in room 303 in the Cowlitz County Administration Building, 207 4th Avenue North, Kelso, to make an appointment to fill the 18th District legislative seat vacated by the resignation of **Richard Curtis**. <> Columbia River Economic Development Council's annual membership luncheon is at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 29, in the Hilton Vancouver Washington. CREDC members may call **567-3181** for reservations for the \$30 luncheon.

Wednesday on the air

Port of Vancouver Commissioners (11/27)—4:30 p.m. CVTV

Portland State at U of P (live)—KTRO

Indiana at Portland Blazers (live)—7 p.m. CSN, KXL

Vancouver Pops Concert (11/23)—7:30 p.m. CVTV

Community Tree Lighting (11/23)—9:30 p.m. CVTV

Community Pride Design Awards (10/25)—10 p.m. CVTV

Vancouver Planning Commission Workshop (10/23)—10:30 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Stacey Graham thinking lunch at 1220. <> **Pete Anderson** speaking out on behalf of FVTV. <> **Tammi Olund** scoring 100 percent. <> **Michael Hirte** boosting *Building an Icon*. <> **Tasha Shives** corrects *Insider*. <> **Wednesday**, cloudy, drizzly, 41. **Thursday**, cloudy, rainy, possible flakes, 44. **Friday**, rainy and possible snow or sleet, 42.