

Practically
FREE Money!

BusinessFirst Express Loans and Lines of Credit
Up to \$350,000. Rates as low as Prime + 0%. Fees as low as \$150.

Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender.



First Independent
Ready When You Are.

Firstenburg Family Foundation sponsors Fort Vancouver Campfires & Candlelight

Fort Vancouver's "Campfires and Candlelight: The Night of the Shark," sponsored by Firstenburg Family Foundation," is 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, in the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, 1001 E. Fifth Street.

The demonstration of after-hours life at Fort Vancouver is being presented free of charge as a result of a grant from the Firstenburg Family Foundation.

Elson Strahan, president of Vancouver National Historic Reserve Trust, said, "We are pleased that Fort Vancouver National Historic Site and the Historic Reserve Trust are among the first organizations to benefit from the generosity of the newly established Firstenburg Family Foundation."

The Timeline of History that begins east of Fort Vancouver allows visitors to stroll back in time and experience the after-hours life of U.S. Army soldiers from various eras, Oregon Trail immigrants and residents of Fort Vancouver's Village. Once inside the Fort, visitors will observe living history by candlelight as staff and volunteers bring to life the Fort's relief efforts for the shipwrecked sailors of the U.S. Schooner *Shark*, which ran aground on the Columbia River bar in 1846. Interest in the *Shark* has risen since the recent discovery of carronades (cannons) believed to be associated with the ship.

For further information, call the Visitor Center at **816-6230**.

Chelatchie Prairie Railroad improvements will upgrade freight movement, reduce carbon footprint

Construction is scheduled to begin Thursday, Sept. 18, to improve a 14-mile stretch of the county-owned Chelatchie Prairie Railroad between the Rye Junction, near Fruit Valley Road and NW 78th Street, and the City of Battle Ground.

According to **Fred Abraham**, Community Planning spokesperson, the reconstruction project will improve current track conditions to accommodate an expected increase in the volume of traffic over the next 15 years.

The project is being paid for by a \$1.1 Washington State Department of Transportation grant. It will be completed in December.

Abraham says that the rail improvements will provide greater freight mobility and fuel cost savings for the shipment of goods as compared to trucking, while reducing the carbon footprint. Increased use of the rail will also decrease pavement deterioration on public roadways, thus saving on costly road maintenance repairs.

Port considering bringing Grove Field up to snuff

As part of its planning to extend and improve runways at Grove Field, the Port of Camas-Washougal is inviting the public to learn more about the project, ask questions and share ideas at a public meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 9, in the Camas High School auditorium, 26900 SE 14th Street.

The purpose of the environment assessment is to evaluate future capital improvement projects specifically

Turtle Place hatching



Helping hatch symbolic turtle egg at 7th Street between Main and Washington Street, is Nutter Corp backhoe operator Russ Marks. This morning more than 150 people came out for groundbreaking ceremonies of new Turtle Place park in midtown Vancouver. The park, sponsored by Vancouver's Downtown Association, City of Vancouver and C-TRAN, replaces what for years was C-TRAN's downtown transit center. Street surface will be torn up, landscaped and benches will be installed. Art work to follow will be created from recycled materials and a water feature will be powered and fed by rain water runoff from nearby building.

focused on safety improvement plans. The goal is to bring Grove Field Airport into compliance with Federal Aviation Administration design standards.

According to port executive director **David Ripp**, the port is expected to develop a draft environmental statement in the fall of 2009

Current plans call for realigning the current runway to the south, extending it to the east approximately 350 feet, and widening it by 20 feet. In addition, the existing parallel taxiway will be extended to match the runway. This project may require the relocation of Delf Road. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2010.

The current airport designation for Grove Field allows for aircraft with approach speeds of less than 91 knots, wingspans up to 49 feet and a maximum weight of 12,500 pounds. There will be no change in the size of aircraft typically using Grove Field Airport as a result of this project.

For further information, call **835-2196** or go to **www.grovesfieldalp.org**.

Calendar

The last free outdoor movie of the year in La Center's Sternwheeler Park, *Enchanted*, starts at dusk this evening. Local nonprofit organizations will be selling movie-type food. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets.

Friday on the air

New York Yankees at Seattle Mariners (live)—7 p.m. FSN, KFXN

Telecommunications Commission (9/3)—7 p.m. CVTV

City Minutes (8/24)—9:30 p.m. CVTV

Vancouver Land Use Hearings (9/4)—10 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Kris Small breezes through maze. <> **Maureen Chan-Hefflin** taking to the air. <> **Julianna Marler** starting new adventure. <> **Lynne Dawson** and **Duke Simpson** watching at Heceta Head Lighthouse light. <> **Troy Van Dinter** promoting outdoor movie. <> **Friday**, partly cloudy, 58-78. **Saturday**, partly cloudy, 58-81. **Sunday**, sunny and warm, 60-85.