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Skills Center students earn championship titles

Three students from the Clark County Skills Center took home state championships from the 2008 SkillsUSA State Competition at the SkillsUSA Washington State Leadership and Skills Conference in Olympia. Two Skills Center students will now travel to Kansas City, Missouri in June to compete for national championships at the National SkillsUSA Leadership and Skills Conference.

The three state champions are: **Michael Yonemoto** -- a senior from Lewis and Clark High School enrolled in the Skills Center Pre-Engineering and Design program -- for Architectural Drafting; **Jos Presely** -- a Battle Ground High School senior enrolled in the Skills Center Electro-Digital Technologies program -- for Computer Programming; and, **Aleksandr Gensitskiy** -- a Camas High School senior enrolled in the Skills Center Construction Technology program -- for Creed.

Representing the Skills Center at the national competition will be Michael Yonemoto and **Cameron McLeod**, a Hockinson High School senior enrolled in the Skills Center Electro-Digital Technologies who was runner-up in the state Computer Programming competition.

Economic development leader headlines Business Growth Awards



Egils Milbergs, Executive Director of the Economic Development Commission for Washington State, will deliver the keynote address at the Vancouver Business Journal's fourth annual Southwest Washington Business Growth Awards May 22 at the Vancouver Hilton.

A Harvard graduate, Milbergs was appointed to the newly formed commission by Gov. **Chris Gregoire** Jan. 23 after a nationwide search. Milbergs is a noted thought leader and strategist in global innovation, advanced manufacturing, competitiveness and public-private partnerships. He founded and is president of the Center for Accelerating Innovation, a leading innovation research and strategy organization in the Washington, D.C., area. The center consults with start-ups, corporations, associations and governments on growth acceleration strategies.

The Business Growth Awards celebrate the expansion and successes of local businesses, and finalists were chosen by representatives of the Vancouver chapter of SCORE.

In the Fastest Growing Business category for 1- to 5-year-old companies, finalists are Estimates NW Inc. and TechJet Imaging. In the 6- to 10-year-old division, finalists are Antares Advanced Test Technologies, Electrix, Silicon Forest Electrics and Bank of Clark County.

The Fastest Growing Business, 10 years or older finalists are Columbia/Okura LLC, The Management Group and Longview-based Community Home Health & Hospice. Burgerville is nominated for Innovator of the Year and Affordable Community Environments will be recognized for growth in the nonprofit sector.

A finalist company showcase and cocktail reception starts at 5 p.m. with dinner and awards presentation at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$85 each or \$775 for a table of 10, and are available at www.vbjusa.com or by calling 360-448-6006.

CRC project approaches major decision point, seeks public comment on Draft Environmental Impact Statement

On May 2, the Columbia River Crossing I-5 bridge project released its Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for public review and comment. The report describes the potential community and environmental effects of five project alternatives. The Draft EIS and public comment period occur to ensure that people affected by the project have an opportunity to learn about and comment on the project before a decision is made.

Public Hearings and Open Houses

Speak with project staff, learn more about the options being analyzed, and provide your comments.

Wednesday, May 28, 2008

Open house: 5–8 pm
Public hearing: 6–8 pm
Red Lion Hotel Vancouver at the Quay, Grand Ballroom
100 Columbia Street
Vancouver, WA 98660

Public transit: Multiple C-TRAN buses
More info: www.c-tran.com or 360-695-0123

Thursday, May 29, 2008

Open house: 5–8 pm
Public hearing: 6–8 pm
Portland Metropolitan Exposition (Expo) Center
2060 North Marine Drive, Hall D
Portland, OR 97217

Public transit: TriMet MAX Yellow Line to Expo Center station
More info: www.trimet.org or 503-238-RIDE

Ongoing Public Events

The calendar at www.columbiarivercrossing.org contains more community events where project staff will be discussing the Draft EIS. If you would like to schedule a presentation in your area, please contact **Audri Bomar** at 360-816-4038 or by email at bomara@columbiarivercrossing.org

Calendar

The C-TRAN Board of directors meets tomorrow at 5:30 p.m. at the C-TRAN Administrative Facility, 2425 NE 65th Ave., Vancouver, 98661. Agenda items include a presentation by the SW Washington Regional Transportation Council and a presentation on Service Standards.<> The Vancouver City Council meets tonight at 6 p.m. at Vancouver City Hall. Workshops will be held from 4-6 p.m. [Click here](#) for the full agenda.

Monday on the air

City Council Workshop (LIVE)—4:00 p.m. CVTV
Vancouver City Council (5/5)—7 p.m. CVTV
Clark County Republican Convention (4/19)—8:45 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Jeff Jennings running for the roses. <> **John Fazzolari** going the distance. <> **Brent Bryant** pretty in pink. <> **Jim Peterson** manning the grill. <> **Tiffany Bosket** celebrating like a Hoosier. <> **Al Williams** getting ready to crew. <> **Monday**, cool & cloudy, 43-65. **Tuesday**, warming trend begins, 48-68. **Wednesday**, get out and play, 52-75.