

Welcome, Salmon Creek Grand Opening



Greater Vancouver Chamber opposes I-985

The Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce (GVCC) board of directors voted at its Oct. 23, 2008 board meeting to accept a recommendation by the Chamber's public affairs committee to oppose Initiative 985.

The board voted unanimously to oppose the measure, billed as the "Reduce Congestion Initiative" sponsored by tax activist **Tim Eyman**. The measure would open high-occupancy vehicle lanes to all traffic during specified hours, require traffic light synchronization, increase roadside assistance funding and dedicate certain taxes, fines, tolls and other revenues to traffic-flow areas.

The GVCC's public affairs committee voted against this bill "primarily for the reason that the measure allocates general fund dollars for a specific transportation issue, continues Clark County as a donor to Puget Sound funding and unduly restricts the ability to use the highway system to provide alternative modes of transportation."

"In addition to the fact that we would be sending general fund dollars that would have been able to be utilized here in Clark County up to the Puget Sound area, it was also disclosed in Sunday's *Columbian* that two federal transportation officials stated in a letter that the passage of the initiative 'could stall highway projects, aggravate traffic congestion, increase air pollution and force the closure of some freeway access ramps,' " said **Kim Capeloto**, president and CEO of the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce.

On Oct. 21, the GVCC public affairs committee listened to arguments from both sides before making a recommendation to oppose the initiative. Tim Eyman and Rep. **Bill Fromhold** provided information in support of and against the measure and answered questions from the committee.

Identity Clark County (ICC) has also taken a position against I-985. The GVCC and ICC will be working together to run an advertisement that urges citizens to vote "no" on the initiative.

Both groups oppose Eyman's initiative, stating that it removes more than \$100 million annually from the general fund; reduces allocations for education, criminal justice, health care and other priorities; as well as clogs HOV lanes used by public transit and van pools.

Nominations still open for Women of Achievement honor

The YWCA of Clark County will accept Women of Achievement nominations until November 12, 2008. Young Women of Achievement nomination applications are due November 7.

The awards are presented annually to eight women by YWCA Clark County and Clark College. They recognize women who have made positive changes in the community. Women may be nominated by downloading a nomination form online at www.ywcaclarkcounty.org/woa.htm. Nomination forms are also available at the YWCA office at 3609 Main St., Mon-Fri., 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Women who are high school seniors may apply for the Young Women of Achievement award, which includes a \$1,500 scholarship, thanks to **Donna Roberge-Nozel**, Soroptimist International of Vancouver and First Independent.

The Women of Achievement 25th anniversary luncheon celebration will be held on March 23, 2009 at the Hilton Vancouver Washington. For more information, contact **Krista Liles**, special events coordinator, at **360-906-4301** or kliles@ywcaclarkcounty.org.

Third open house planned for 137th-138th Avenue improvement project

The City of Vancouver, will host a third community open house from 4-7 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 13, to share the latest information on the NE 137th-138th Avenue Improvement Project. Residents, business owners, and property owners are invited to attend the event at Evergreen Public Schools Administrative Services, 13501 NE 28th Street (Tan Complex "Evergreen Room").

At this third of four planned project open houses, participants will have an opportunity to:

- Review preliminary design details of the recommended improvement
- Read what the community has told the project team
- Share concerns and ideas about the project
- Learn about the project timeline and next steps

The recommended improvement includes one 14-foot travel lane in each direction separated by a continuous median and includes sidewalks and bike lanes on both sides of the road. The preliminary design also includes roundabouts at NE 34th, NE 39th, and NE 44th streets.

The proposed project spans NE 137th-138th Avenue from NE 28th to 49th streets. It will upgrade the roadway to Minor Arterial standards to enhance safety, reduce traffic delays, provide safe pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and manage access to fronting properties. Other features of the project include drainage improvements, utility upgrades and relocations, right of way needs evaluation and environmental analysis. Improvements will also benefit the NE 49th Street, NE 39th Street, NE 18th Street, and NE 28th Street corridors. Additional information is available on the project web site: www.cityofvancouver.us/137-138Ave.

Annual dictionary donation events benefits Clark County third graders

Columbia Credit Union and Clark County Rotary officials will gather to kick off their annual dictionary distribution to third graders in all school districts throughout Clark County. More than 5,000 dictionaries, complete with book plates and book marks, will be distributed.

This year's project is in honor of the 250th anniversary of Noah Webster's birth, the founding father of the modern dictionary.

Two ceremonies are planned. The first will be held on Wed., Oct. 29, 2 p.m. at King Elementary, 4801 Idaho St., Vancouver. The second will take place at Hathaway Elementary on Thurs., Oct. 30, 9:30 a.m. Hathaway is located at 630 24th St., Washougal.

As a project sponsor, Columbia Credit Union supports the Rotary's efforts. The credit union is providing name plates and bookmarks for the program and Columbia staff assists Rotary volunteers with dictionary preparation and distribution.

Calendar

- **Monday, 10/27**—Vancouver City Council meets tonight at 7 p.m. at City Hall. Live broadcast available on CVTV Channel 23.
- **Monday, 10/27**—Monday Night Football is on tap at The Club at the Historic Reserve. The South Parlor Room is available to members and guests to enjoy the Tennessee Titans versus the Indianapolis Colts. The action begins at 5:30 p.m. RSVP to **Julie Kummer** at The Club, **360-695-2582** or jkummer@clubhistoricsreserve.org.
- **11/6**—Music legend Roger Hart, a local Dick Clark who was at the center of all the "happening" hot spots in Clark County and Portland in the early '60s will present "The Music Scene: Hockinson to Hollywood" at the Clark County Historical Museum's **First Thursday Museum After Hours** lecture series on Thurs., Nov. 6, 7 p.m., 1511 Main St., Vancouver. **360-993-5679**.
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Monday on the air

Tampa Bay Versus Philadelphia—5 p.m., Fox 12

Colts Versus Tennessee—5:30 p.m., ESPN

Vancouver City Council (LIVE)—7:00 p.m. CVTV

YMCA Strong Communities (10/22)—11:00 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Gail Spolar emphathizing. <> **Todd Hettinger** ending the season on a bright note. <> **Marilyn Peterson** dining in style. <> **Julie Kummer** planning the party. <> **Lisa Dow** in the loop. <> **Monday**, what more can you ask for? Sunny, 47-72. **Tuesday**, enjoy the day, sunny, 44-67. **Wednesday**, clouds and sun mixed 45, 66.