



Don't Miss
A Day with the Coveys

Thursday, April 10th, 2008 | Oregon Convention Center | firstindy.com/covey



David Judd retiring from Parks and Recreation

David Judd, Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation director for the past five years, will retire effective July 7, he announced yesterday. In his resignation letter to city manager **Pat McDonnell**, Judd said that he wants to spend more time with his family and to "simplify" his life.

"In his short time here David was able to build strong relationships with people and businesses in our community, which really allowed us to keep building parks and providing quality recreation services for our community," said McDonnell. "We will miss the passion and enthusiasm he brought to the table every day."

Before coming to Vancouver five years ago, Judd had been deputy parks and recreation director for the City of Portland.

As director, Judd oversaw the construction of the Firstenberg Community Center and the renovation of Marshall Center. Construction is now underway on 35 parks, trails and sports fields. He helped secure financing for the design and first phase of the Chelatchie Prairie Rail and Trail Project, and additional conservation area sites were acquired throughout the County. Judd also helped with the creation of the Hickey Recreation Scholarship Program, which puts forth a challenge grant of up to \$25,000 a year for three years to help low-income families participate in recreational activities.

Betsy Williams, assistant city manager will assume responsibilities as interim director, oversee completion of the department's strategic business plan and annual budget process through the fall, and oversee the recruitment process for a new director in late 2008 to early 2009.

County holding second session on Cowlitz Tribal agreement input

The second in a series of three public meetings seeking community input to fashion a new memorandum of understanding between Clark County and the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, spelling out governmental relationships between the county and the tribe should the tribe be given permission to operate a tribal casino-resort near La Center, is at 6 p.m. this evening in the Maple Grove Middle School, 12500 NE 199th Street, Battle Ground.

Earlier this week commissioners heard comments from the public at a special meeting in La Center. The final session will be next Tuesday.

The commissioners also this week adopted a formal resolution expressing their opposition to gambling in Clark County.

But the county has no jurisdiction over gambling in other than unincorporated Clark County. Thus, the City of La Center permits gambling and has at least two card room casinos within city limits.

If the Cowlitz Tribe prevails before the U.S. Department of the Interior (a decision could come later this year), and the 152-acre location just west of La Center is given U.S. trust status, that property would also be outside unincorporated Clark County and beyond the county's reach for collecting taxes or providing services.

According to the chair of the board of county commissioners, **Betty Sue Morris**, the county needs a memorandum of understanding to ensure that the county does not lose equivalent property and sales taxes, can maintain police and emergency services, and can cover I-5 interchange and other infrastructure costs.

The county and the tribe agreed to a memorandum of understanding detailing agreements three years ago but that has been invalidated by a state growth management hearings board.

The Cowlitz since passed a tribal gaming ordinance resolution upholding the provisions of the invalidated MOU.

John Barnett, chairman of the Cowlitz Tribe, says that the tribe has offered to meet with the county to



David Judd, retiring Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation director.

discuss possible refinements to the MOU.

Barnett says: "The tribe looks forward to working with the county to develop a strong government-to-government relationship and to meeting with the county following the hearings."

Humongous job fair set for tax day in the Hilton Hotel

Southern Washington's largest job fair, "Pathways to your Future," serving Vancouver and Portland job seekers and employers, is 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 15, in the Hilton Vancouver Washington.

There is no charge for the annual event, sponsored by Clark College, Washington State University and *The Columbian*.

At least 70 employers will be in attendance to discuss their hiring plans. Employers will also discuss up-to-the minute career trends and the preparation that is necessary for applicants to compete in the workplace.

Five afternoon workshops will be devoted to tips on resumes, networking skills and job interviews.

In addition, representatives from Clark College and WSU Vancouver will be available to discuss admissions and financial aid for those seeking further education for the workplace.

People

Former Vancouver residents **Steve** and **Liz Miesen** recently became first-time grandparents twice over in a single week. Granddaughter **Delilah Mary Jane Miesen** was born to their eldest son, **Dalton**, and his wife, **Melissa**, in Auburn, Calif., and granddaughter **Jordan Lee Miesen** joined their youngest son, **Ian**, and his wife, **Niki**, in Manhattan Beach, Calif., in March.

Calendar

The Southwest Washington Blood Program is conducting a blood drive from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 10, in the Riverview Center, 17205 SE Mill Plain Boulevard.

Thursday on the air

Clark County Land Use Hearings (live)—6 p.m. CVTV

Sacramento at Portland Beavers (live)—7 p.m. KKAD

Optimist Oratorical Contest (3/29)—11 p.m. CVTV

Women of Achievement 2008 (3/13)—11:38 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Karen Savage producing pix. <> **Stephanie Anderson** thinking positively pink. <> **Maureen Knutson** signing up. <> **Kathy MacDonald** doing Mustang drum roll. <> **Jim Caley** turning up the volume.<> **Thursday**, mostly dry, sunbreaks, 40-58. **Friday**, weather changing, mostly sunny, 47-68. **Saturday**, warming but some clouds remain, 51-74.