



Don't Miss
A Day with the Coveys

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



Home & Garden Idea Fair opens Friday, April 25

A home-of-the-future, a green demonstration home built by Vancouver-based New Tradition Homes, is a focal point in the 17th annual Clark Public Utilities Home & Garden Idea Fair being presented Friday, April 25, through Sunday, April 27, in the Clark County Event Center at the county fairgrounds.

Heather Allmain, spokesperson for the fair, says: "Energy awareness has always been an important theme of the utility-sponsored show, and this year's energy innovations will provide our customer-owners with plenty of helpful resources and will get them to thinking about easy steps they can take to save energy and protect the environment, too."

Hybrid automobiles from Dick Hannah dealerships will also be on display. In addition, fairgoers can learn about solar electricity generating options, and they will be given an opportunity to sign up for the utility's renewable energy Green Lights program.

The idea fair also offers the largest plant sale in the region, according to Allmain. The plant sale and show is sponsored by the Specialty Nursery Association of Clark County. More than 60 nurseries will participate in the sale. In addition, the Washington Association of Landscape Professionals will display eight landscapes

More than 300 commercial exhibit booths will present indoor and outdoor home improvement products and services.

There is no charge for the show, but parking is \$5 per vehicle. Fairgoers are urged to bring canned food to donate to local food banks or to make a donation to Operation Warm Heart, a Clark Public Utilities program that helps limited-income residents pay electric bills.

Show hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Clark Public Utilities' appliance repair program remains terminated

After receiving considerable community feedback on Clark Public Utilities' board's decision to abruptly terminate the utilities' popular appliance repair and guaranteed hot-water programs, Tuesday morning the board allowed its earlier decision to stand.

A half-dozen persons spoke in favor of the programs during the regular board meeting.

The program had become too costly, according to utility staff. The commissioners agreed.

The \$2.95-a-month guaranteed hot water tank replacement program was particularly popular and generated the largest number of community responses.

Times have changed, though, according to utility commissioner **Carol Curtis**, who noted that the days when the utility could simply hook up a new hot water tank and be done with it have long since passed. In today's regulated world, too many permits and regulations were making it impossible for the utility to just replace the device, often negating the 24-hour replacement concept.

Voting for a \$25,000 community program is already underway

Community Conversations, a proposed project designed to help high school seniors develop projects that contribute to the community, is one of 20 finalists for a \$25,000 award from the Case Foundation. Former Vancouver public school teacher **Kate McPherson** is the coordinator of the project.

The program was selected as a finalist from 4,700 applications nationally.

Anyone over the age of 14 may vote on the project by going to <http://miyo.casefoundation.org/community-conversations>, or go to the ad in today's *Insider*.

Working with McPherson on the project are the following: **Jeanie Kojis**, The Nonprofit Network; **Bobbi Casanova**, RSVP and Volunteer Connections; **Connie Hennesey**, Union High School; **Heather Tischbein**, InterACT president; **Sam Gilroy Hicks**, Evergreen Public Schools; **Linda Herrington**, Hudson's Bay High

School; and **Marci McReynolds**.

The Case Foundation was created by **Steve Case**, co-founder of America on Line, and his wife, **Jean**. For further information on the program or the voting process, call McPherson at **576-5070**.

News brief

An opening on the Portland International Airport Citizen Noise Advisory Committee will be filled by Clark County commissioners. Clark County residents interested in serving on this committee should submit a letter of interest and a resume to the Board of Clark County Commissioners by Friday, April 25. For further information, call **(503) 460-4018**.

Calendar

The C-TRAN board of directors meets at 5:30 p.m. this evening. <> Best selling author **Dinesh D'Souza**, *What's So Great About Christianity?*, will speak on "The Crisis at Home and Abroad: Is Religion the Problem?," at the Washington State University Vancouver Public Affairs Lecture Series at 7 p.m. this evening in Skyview High School auditorium, 1300 NW 139th Street. Speakers alternate annually from conservative to liberal. This is the conservative year. Admission is \$10. <> The Southwest Washington Blood Program is holding a blood drawing from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 9, outside the Student Union Building at Clark College, 1933 Fort Vancouver Way. <> Clark County commissioners meet in an informal session in conference room B in the Public Service Center at 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 9. <> A discussion of climate change and health in the Pacific Northwest is being conducted by Clark County Public Health from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 9, in the commissioners hearing room in the Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street. <> The Port of Portland Airport Futures group will be presenting information on airport noise, traffic and deicing, as well as information on airport construction and a new flight to Amsterdam, during an open houses at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 9, in Discovery Middle School, 800 E 40th Street.

Tuesday on the air

Seattle Mariners at Tampa Bay (live)—4 p.m. FSN, KFX

49th District Town Hall Meeting (3/29)—4:30 p.m. CVTV

Clark County Commissioners Work Session (4/2)—6 p.m. CVTV

L.A. Lakers at Portland Blazers (live)—7 p.m. CSN, KXL

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

Vancouver Land Use Hearings (3/18)—7 p.m. CVTV

Capital Perspectives: U.S. Rep. Brian Baird (3/27)—10 p.m. CVTV

Clark County Planning Commission (3/20)—10:45 p.m. CVTV

Jobs for Us, Jobs for Kids (3/24)—11:45 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Doug Quinn offering shaving lessons. <> **George Welsh** reading the book before seeing 21. <> **Jan Gourlie** being the perfect gentlewoman. <> **Harriet Johnson** offering cheerful early morning hello. <> **Carol Keljo** taking on task she relishes. <> **Linda Small** helping out. <> **Tuesday**, more showers, 37-50. **Wednesday**, possible early clearing, but afternoon showers resume, 44-54. **Thursday**, could be bone dry, 40-58.