

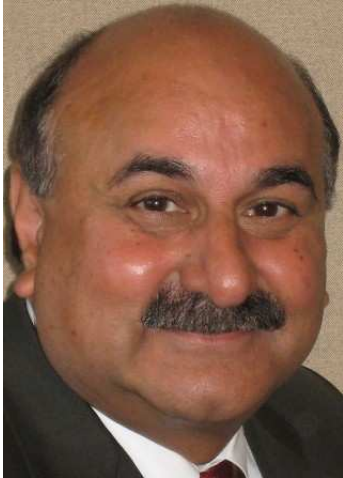
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Zia Bhatti named Columbia Credit Union's Washougal Branch Manager



Zia Bhatti

Zia Bhatti has been appointed senior branch manager for Columbia Credit Union's new sustainably-built Washougal Branch that opened in April this year.

According to Columbia Credit Union's chief operating officer **Steve Kenny**, Bhatti, who has over 15 years' banking experience, will be responsible for growth and development of the Washougal market, as well as with assisting with the credit union's branch business development plan.

Bhatti is a graduate of Gordon College in Pakistan. Active in the community, Bhatti serves on the board of directors for both the YWCA of Clark County and Affordable Community Environments.

Columbia Credit Union, established in 1952, has \$785 million in assets and operates from 12 Clark County, locations. The credit union has 64,800 members and ranks as Clark County's top auto lender.

County Health Department hard hit by loss of public health support, weak economy

Stagnant and decreasing federal, state, and local public health funding during the last decade, along with a weak economy has prompted strong cost-cutting proposals at Clark County Public Health, reports **John Wiesman**, Public Health Director.

To compensate for an anticipated \$4.8 million shortfall for budget years 2009-2010, the department is considering staffing reductions and the transition of several programs to community partners.

Proposed staffing reductions include 18.9 full-time equivalent positions by the end of 2008 and 34 full-time positions by the end of 2009.

In addition to layoffs, the department proposes seeking community organizations to deliver the following programs and services:

HIV outreach and HIV counseling and testing, emergency preparedness related to building Medical Reserve Corps volunteer capacity and providing outreach to vulnerable populations, home visiting nurse services for families and child protective services, the passport program for foster children, WIC nutrition services for pregnant and parenting moms and their children, and family planning nursing service.

Balancing the budget will be a long and difficult process, Wiesman says. "We are getting the word out about the magnitude of the problem to help identify community resources that can be part of the solution."

A formal proposal must be completed by November for public review and consideration by Clark County commissioners.

Personal histories highlight September drug recovery forum

Clark County residents who have been affected by addiction and have made steps toward long-term recovery will offer testimonies at the Clark County Substance Abuse Advisory Board's 7th annual Community Recovery Forum Thursday, Sept. 18, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in Lord's Gym, 2410 Grand Avenue.

Police Sergeant **Shane Gardner**, Clark County Sheriff's Department and member of the substance abuse advisory board, will be master of ceremonies. Speakers are Clark County Superior Court judge **James Rulli** and Clark County commissioner **Marc Boldt**.

For more information, call **Cyndi Smith**, 397-2075 extension 7835.

Fort Vancouver Regional Library board has vacancy

Clark County commissioners are seeking applicants to serve as a Clark County representative on the Fort

Vancouver Regional Library Board of Trustees. The opening is for someone living anywhere in Clark County within the library district and outside of Vancouver city limits.

Applicants should be prepared to complete a term of seven years, beginning in January 2009. The commissioners will recommend an appointment that must also be approved by county commissioners in Skamania and Klickitat Counties.

Library trustees are responsible for policies involving 13 branch libraries, three bookmobiles, and related services for about 400,000 people in Southwest Washington. Branch libraries are located in Battle Ground, Cascade Park, Goldendale, La Center, North Bonneville, Ridgefield, Stevenson, Salmon Creek, Vancouver, Washougal, White Salmon and Woodland.

Letters of interest and a resume should be submitted by 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 26, to Board of Clark County Commissioners Office, PO Box 5000, Vancouver, WA 98666-5000, Attention: **Jennifer Clark**.

People

Leann Johnson has been reappointed to a three-year term on the state Arts Commission by Gov. **Chris Gregoire**. Johnson is the director for equity and diversity at Clark College. She is a member of the NAACP and the Image de Region X Conference planning team. <> Gov. Gregoire also reappointed **Jesse Magana** to the state Home Care Quality Authority. Magana is a member of the Vancouver Disability Resource Center Board.

News briefs

Today is Washington's primary election day. Ballots must be returned to the Clark County Department of Elections by 8 p.m. Ballots mailed today may not make the cutoff. County elections supervisor **Tim Likness** recommends that voters bring ballots to any of a number of election drop-off points throughout the county or to the county elections office, 1408 Franklin Street. Voters needing assistance with voting should call the Clark County Elections Department, **397-2345**, for access to the county's accessible voting unit. <> Local election returns will be cablecast live by CVTV, Channel 23, beginning at 8:30 p.m. this evening. <> KIRO television, the CBS affiliate in Seattle, will air Washington primary election results between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. this evening locally on CVTV Channel 21. The KIRO coverage is by agreement between KIRO and the City/County Cable Television, which allows CVTV to carry KIRO news and other local public affairs programming televised by the Seattle station.

Calendar

Clark County commissioners meet in an informal session at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20, in conference room B in the Public Service Center. <> Clark County Conservation Voters are holding a post-primary election party from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20, in the Salmon Creek brewpub, 108 W Evergreen Boulevard. Contributions of \$25 or more will be appreciated, according to the organization's chairman, **Randy Mueller**. For further information, call **921-9314**.

Tuesday on the air

Sustainable Community Development (7/10)—4 p.m. CVTV
Seattle Mariners at Chicago (live)—5 p.m. FSN, KFX
Portland Beavers at Tucson (live)—7 p.m. KKAD
Statewide election returns (live)—8 p.m. KIRO/CVTV Channel 21
Primary Election Returns (live)—8:30 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Alan Jackson Leland ignoring egregious misspelling. <> **Mitch Bower** using Couv catbird seat. <> **Charity Thompson** wins again. <> **Bob Schaefer** counseling scribe. <> **Gwenda Morrison** giving Washougal another boost. <> **Kim Hash** saying it all in one word. <> **Tuesday**, scattered showers, 64-73. **Wednesday**, dark and rainy, 60-69. **Thursday**, more showers, 55-70.