



## Bon Appetit! IAHA launches new Northwest Culinary Institute



**Clark County Board of Commissioners chair Betty Sue Morris (left) and Vancouver Mayor Royce Pollard (far right) get a taste of the newly named Northwest Culinary Institute's famous immersion cooking experience at the launch today at E.B. Hamilton Hall.**

A three-year-old cooking program within Vancouver's well-known International Air and Hospitality Academy (IAHA) will be elevated and restructured to become the Northwest Culinary Institute.

Academy co-presidents **Lynn Rullman** and **Suzy Taylor**, daughters of IAHA originator **Arch Miller**, announced the launch today.

Rullman and Taylor said the school has earned praise for its apprenticeship approach to the culinary arts on a "working campus." The newly named Culinary Institute will give the school the individual identity it deserves, said the co-presidents.

For students, they said, the real world cooking experience means a post-graduation placement rate of nearly 100 percent. Tuition for the program is also less expensive than other regional culinary schools said Miller — \$16,000 per year compared to \$42,000 per year for a similar curriculum. He attributed this to the fact that program costs are offset by restaurant and banquet customers. Miller said scholarships and financial aid will continue to be available through the new Institute, certified through the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology approved by the U.S. Department of Education.

**Colleen Piller**, IAHA director of marketing and high school relations presented the Oregon Restaurant Education Foundation with an articulation agreement that provides pro-start high school students throughout the nation with a \$2,000 scholarship to the Institute.

The Air & Hospitality Academy conducts the school for culinary arts on the campus of the Fort Vancouver National Historic Reserve where it also owns and operates the Restaurant at the Historic Reserve. Facilities,

including the restaurant, mess hall and grand ballroom at E.B. Hamilton Hall are used to provide students the opportunity for a near “total immersion” cooking experience.

“Students get to cook here more than at any other school on the west coast,” said culinary education manager **J.D. Thomas**. “The school is reality-structured so students have to stretch to learn.”

### **Up and down: State officials take pulse of economy**

Washington’s unemployment rate rose to 6.3 % in October, up from 5.8% in September.

Because of the Boeing strike, on paper the state lost more than 23,000 jobs in October. Without the strike, officials said the state actually added about 800 jobs last month.

Scott Bailey, Washington State Employment Security Department regional economist, said after seasonal adjustment, employment in Clark County rose by 150 jobs in October. However, in the past six months, only 400 jobs have been added, “with no net job growth in the private sector.”

Construction employment has taken a big hit, dropping by 200 jobs in October, 100 more than usual. Bailey did point out one piece of good construction news: “One of the few bright spots for construction is the planned expansion at Washington State University,” he said.

The Clark County jobless rate was estimated at 6.7 % in October, the same as the revised September rate and two points higher than October of last year. About 14,650 Clark County residents were jobless and looking for work in October, two points higher than October of last year.

Go to [www.workforceexplorer.com](http://www.workforceexplorer.com) for additional information and detailed reports.

### **Port of Camas-Washougal approves budget**

The Port of Camas-Washougal Board of Commissioners approved its 2009 Final Statutory Budget today, following a public hearing at its last regular Commission meeting on November 17, 2008. Approval of the Port tariffs at the same meeting also provided for increases, primarily in rentals, fees, and utilities for Port operations at the marina, airport and the main office to offset user-related expenses.

The 2009 capital budget provides \$1.3 million in capital investments for improvement to the marina, airport, and industrial park, a 43 percent decrease from the previous year because the 2008 capital budget of \$2.3 million included a \$1.5 million new industrial warehouse that was recently completed. Port’s industrial space inventory is currently over 98 percent occupied.

The projected 2009 capital projects include the ongoing airport layout plan and environmental assessment, security & safety upgrades, and overall port repair and maintenance such as asphalt sealing, rail repair and levee maintenance. There is also some carryover capital expenditures included from the 2008 ongoing marina projects such as the land-side replacements of the launch ramp walkways, dredging, and breakwater repair.

“While economic uncertainties make it harder to forecast for next year, we believe that we must continue to focus on our mission of economic development,” said Port executive director, **David Ripp**. “There is a tendency to delay capital and maintenance projects during tough economic times, but in the long term, we are also holding back revenue producing opportunities. We are mindful of our fiscal responsibilities, and we will continue to keep a vigilant eye on actual fiscal performance, and adjust accordingly throughout the year.”

### **People**



The Bank of Clark County has hired **Lori L. Wick** as financial services officer in its New Accounts department at the downtown Vancouver location. Wick has 14 years of experience in various capacities at a large local bank, including the positions of loan specialist, personal banker and assistant manager. She is a fifth generation Washingtonian and attended the University of Washington. She volunteers for the WSU Master Gardener program, the Oregon Humane Society Education Department, the Vancouver School District Lunch Buddies program, and the Fort Vancouver Historical Garden.

### **Calendar**

- **12/4**—Divine Holiday Home Tour benefitting the hungry among us in Clark County through the Walk & Knock program. [Click here](#) for additional information and online signup via paypal.
- **12/8**—**Fort Vancouver Regional Library District** Board of Trustees meets in regular session on Mon., Dec. 8, 2008 at the Vancouver Community Library (in Library Hall) 1007 E. Mill Plain

Blvd., Vancouver. An executive session is scheduled for 5 p.m. The public meeting begins at 6 p.m.

**Tuesday on the air**

Clark County Land Use Hearings (11/13)—3:30 p.m. CVTV

Smart Environments: Artificial Intelligence at Home and Beyond (11/14)—4:30 p.m., CVTV

**Vancouver Land Use Hearings (LIVE)—7 p.m. CVTV**

Vancouver Symphony Orchestra (11/16)—10 p.m. CVTV

**Town Tabloids and the Weather**

**Tom Hunt** having perfect timing. <> **Nancy Williams** ahead of schedule. <> **Rex Musgrave** getting in on the action. <> **Sarah Prince** sending strict orders. <> **Katlin Smith** in the holiday spirit. **Celinda Rupert** sending street news. <> **Tuesday**, cloudy late, cool, 42-53. **Wednesday**, rain in late afternoon, 42-59. **Thursday**, wet and cool, 41-55.