



Make Bank Deposits From Your Desk.
Streamline your company's cash management with First Independent's ReadyRemote™*

Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender

*ReadyRemote availability is subject to credit approval.

firstindy.com



First Independent
Ready When You Are.™

Clark County Fair continues through Sunday

Muttin Bustin' throughout the afternoon, and Northwest Bull Riding Championships at 7:30 p.m. this evening, highlight today's Clark County Fair entertainment.

The fair is open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. today through Thursday, Aug. 7, and until 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. The 140th Clark County Fair closes at 10 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 10.

New to the county fair this year is the Northwest Bistro, a sanctuary where fairgoers at least 21 years of age can enjoy Washington wines, Northwest micro-brews and, according to the information on the website, "gourmet food."

Throughout the afternoon of each fair day, local chefs offer demonstrations, but these are not in the bistro.

General admission to the fair is \$9. Parking is \$5 per vehicle. C-TRAN is running shuttle service from most county park-and-rides and transit centers. The fair is \$2 roundtrip per person, or \$4 roundtrip for groups of up to six persons.

The Far Out Story of Vortex I free at Clark County Museum

The Clark County Historical Museum presents the story of Vortex I, by Oregon author — **Matt Love**, who will discuss his book, *The Far Out Story of Vortex I* at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 7

Love's lecture will focus on the 1970 rock festival that the State of Oregon sponsored at McIver State Park. Vortex I rivaled the famous Woodstock Festival held in Bethel, N.Y., August 1969, and the trio of Sky River concerts last held in Washougal, WA in 1969.

The concerts exemplify the counter culture of the late 1960s and 1970s.

The Vortex I lecture is hosted in conjunction with the Clark County Historical Museum's *Boomer!* exhibit. Copies of Love's books are available for sale in the Museum Store.

In addition to making the lecture available to the general public at no charge, the Museum invites attendees of the Sky River and 1970 Vortex I concerts to bring memorabilia. For further information, call **993-5679**.

Emergency employment benefits available to 100,000 Washingtonians

The state Employment Security Department has mailed applications to more than 100,000 Washington workers who potentially qualify for emergency unemployment benefits. So far, Washington has paid out more than \$2 million in these benefits.

Mailings went to anyone who had filed a claim for unemployment benefits on or after May 7, 2006, and later exhausted those "regular" benefits or whose benefit year has ended.

"Most of those folks have probably found jobs," said Employment Security Commissioner **Karen Lee**. "But we know that many are still looking, and we want them to get the benefits that are available to them."

The emergency unemployment compensation recently approved by Congress provides up to 13 additional weeks of benefits to people who exhausted their regular benefits, are still unemployed and meet other qualifications. Additional information is available by going to www.euc.go2ui.com or to a local WorkSource office.

Mark Brandon is new Columbia State Bank Senior Vice President, Regional Manager

Columbia Bank named **Mark Brandon** its new senior vice president and Southwest Washington and



Clark County fair court, left to right, Queen Lindsay Rafften, Princess Amy Mitchem and Princess Jordan Rafften presides over the Clark County Fair as it continues through Sunday, Aug. 10.

Oregon regional manager. He will oversee and facilitate the growth of Columbia Bank's operations in Southwest Washington and Oregon and will replace **Bruce G. Bryant**, executive vice president, Portland region, upon his retirement in January 2009.

Brandon has an extensive banking career spanning more than 29 years. His breadth of experience includes 23 years with Seafirst Bank and Bank of America, and most recently serving as chief credit officer with First Independent. He is an avid community supporter, serving on numerous boards and commissions, including past chairman of both the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce and the Columbia River Economic Development Council. He and his wife, **Nancy**, of 28 years have three grown children and have called Vancouver home for the past 18 years.

News Brief

Washington workers earned 5 percent more in 2007 than they did in 2006, while inflation grew by 3.9 percent, according to a new report released by the Washington State Employment Security Department. The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages report shows that annual wages across the state averaged \$45,023 in 2007, up 5 percent from the 2006 average of \$42,888. The 3.9 percent inflation rate for 2007 is based on the Seattle-area consumer price index. The industry that generated the highest average wages in Washington last year was information services (\$96,241), which includes publishing, broadcasting, Internet services and telecommunications. Other top-paying industries included company and enterprise management, averaging \$86,943, and utilities, averaging \$73,740. Rankings remained relatively consistent in the bottom-paying industries in 2007: accommodation and food services (\$16,017); agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (\$23,412); and other services (\$24,387). Further details by industry and county are available at: www.workforceexplorer.com

Calendar

Knitting advice is being given at 6 p.m. this evening in the Vancouver Mall Community Library. There is no charge. <> The City/County Telecommunications Commission meets in regular session at 7 p.m. this evening in City Hall. <> **The Beatniks** entertain at 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 7, in Esther Short Park. The free concert is sponsored by Riverview Community Bank. Food vendors are in attendance.

Wednesday on the air

Primary Candidates Night (8/5)—4:30 p.m. CVTV
Telecommunications Commission (live)—7 p.m. CVTV
Vancouver Land Use Hearings (7/15)—10 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

J. D. Thomas showing off at the fair. <> **Stephanie Anderson** offering a second chance. **Sarah Idriss** raising money for AniMeals. <> **Dick Johnson** finding proper combination. <> **Kimber Webb** promoting invisible fence. <> **Sherri Falkner** fluffing her afro-poufs. <> **Kim Capeloto** earning high praise. <> **Wednesday**, hazy sun, 63-89. **Thursday**, mostly sunny, 61-88. **Friday**, continued sunshine, 59-81.