



Probst garners two business awards in one week

House Representative **Tim Probst** received the Economic Development Council's 2009 Outstanding Leadership in Renewable Energy award at the council's 27th annual meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 18. In recognition ceremonies on Thursday, Nov. 12, Probst was also singled out to join other Southwest Washington leaders in the *Vancouver Business Journal's* Accomplished and Under 40 Class of 2009.

"I'm honored and humbled to receive this recognition," Probst stated yesterday. "Each of these awards is in fact a statement of support for the important directions that a good many other folks are backing both to strengthen our economy and to strengthen our community as a whole."

The CREDC award hails Probst as a champion for jobs in the new-energy economy. Specifically, the Southwest Washington lawmaker was instrumental in the legislative session earlier this year in supporting a package of measures creating investment incentives for the photovoltaic industry. "Tim along with his colleagues in the House and Senate worked tirelessly to ensure Washington has the tools necessary to meet the challenges we face in this very difficult economy," said **Bart Phillips**, president of the Columbia River Economic Development Council.

County previews \$12.5 million in proposed budget adjustments

The Clark County Budget Office today outlined potential 2010 General Fund budget adjustments to the Board of Clark County Commissioners, which will begin considering adjustments needed next week to prevent a shortfall in the second half of the current 2009-2010 biennium.

The proposed adjustments, if approved, would be the third budget reduction in a year. The 2008 mortgage crisis drove an initial \$29 million reduction to the construction-dependent General Fund budget when it was passed last December. The Board made a "supplemental" reduction of \$21 million, effective July 1, 2009.

As proposed, the adjustment would be \$12.5 million, including approximately 70 full-time jobs. If approved, the Board will have cut a total \$62 million from the General Fund, the county's largest and only discretionary fund. The cuts include 270 jobs, fewer than half of which were filled during the past year.

The proposed General Fund adjustments would break down this way:

- \$3.28 million from countywide reductions.
- \$3.08 million from departments under the Board.
- \$714,720 from Assessor/GIS, Treasurer and Auditor offices.
- \$5.42 million from Law and Justice departments.

For more information, visit www.clark.wa.gov.



Battle Ground's Captain Strong Primary School "Blue" team, first-place winner of the barge-building competition at the Nov. 14 elementary-schools Science Olympiad at Clark College.

Battle Ground boasts best builders of barges and bridges

Battle Ground School District students captured almost half of the possible awards in the elementary Science Olympiad at Clark College on Saturday, Nov. 14, including first place in both barge-building and bridge-building competition.

Battle Ground teams also earned one second-place and four third-place honors, giving Battle Ground Public Schools a total of seven place-finishes out of 15 possible in the five events. The honors were earned by third and fourth graders from Tukes Valley Primary and Captain Strong Primary, and fifth and sixth graders from CAM (Character, Academics, Marketplace) Jr.-Sr. High.

"Our teams did great," said **Mari Hess**, fourth-grade teacher and a Science Olympiad coach at Tukes Valley Primary. Tukes Valley student teacher-coach **Jodie Housley** added, "The kids

were wonderful, and it was a great learning experience for everyone involved.”

Winners from Captain Strong Primary “Blue” Team were **Kyle Barton, Everett Buck, Spencer Cloke, Leah Cortez, Killian Griffin, Lauren Hapgood, Malia Meyer, Chi Chi Minden, Gwen Morris, Colin Ocker, Alex Perry, Kylie Sahota, Marina Stocks, Makeila Wilson, and James Young**, who all finished in first place for the barge-building contest.

Winners from Tukes Valley Primary “Green” Team, all of whom took first place for bridge-building, were **Riley Andersen, Grace Beetham, Ben Dhanens, Reece Dunkin, Connor Guenther, Havyn Harding, Dakota Heikes, Sara Johnson, Noura Koskiniemi, Madelyn Mason, Skye McLeod, Brennan Mitsch, Laney Pham, and Georgia Tytler**.

News Briefs

For those who are looking to share the spirit of the holidays with those in need, a listing of Clark County organizations collecting food and gifts can be found at the Nonprofit Network Southwest Washington website. Each listing includes the top ten items needed, drop-off location, a contact for questions, a brief description of the organization and link to their website, as well as other information. To visit the website, [click here](#). <> The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and Amtrak are planning ahead for the upcoming holiday by adding more Amtrak *Cascades* trains during the week of Thanksgiving. To accommodate more passengers traveling during this holiday week, 10 trains will be added to the Amtrak *Cascades* route between Portland and Seattle. Visit www.AmtrakCascades.com, or call **800-USA-RAIL** for reservations and information.

Calendar

Free H1N1 vaccine will be offered to priority groups at a vaccine clinic from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21 and 28, at the Westfield Vancouver Shopping Center, 8700 NE Vancouver Mall Drive in the upper level of the former Mervyn’s store, directly across from the food court. The clinic may close early, depending on vaccine availability. Due to the limited supply of vaccine, vaccinations will be administered to priority groups only. To see if you fall under one of the priority groups, [click here](#). <> A multi-school cast and orchestra numbering about 60 students from Battle Ground and Vancouver are participating in the ever-popular show *The Music Man* at 7 p.m. tonight Nov. 20, at Prairie High School, 11500 N.E. 117th Avenue, Battle Ground. To purchase tickets in advance, go to www.prairiehighschool.org and scroll down the left column. Prices are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors. <> Vancouver Farmers Market is having its Harvest Market from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21, Esther Short Park, 8th and Esther Streets. <> A chance to get a picture with Santa is being offered by Anytime Fitness from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21, at 710 Esther Street. Photos are \$10, and all profits go to Heartbeat, which serves wounded soldiers and their families. There will also be a Giving Tree available. All gifts will be donated to the YMCA’s SafeChoice Shelter. <> Vancouver City Council meets for a consent agenda meeting at 6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 23, at Water Resource Education Center, 4600 SE Columbia Way. <> Washougal City Council meets at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 23, for a special meeting, in City Council Chambers.

Friday on the air

Making the Best of Your Medicare Benefits (11-9)—4:45 p.m. CVTV
Clark County Planning Commission (11-19)—6:59 p.m. CVTV
City Minutes – New Humane Society Tour (8-9)—11:18 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Becky Archibald spreading the word about fashion and heritage. <> **Ruth Waite** informing. <> **Marie Sullivan** and Clark County bar association getting ready to celebrate Judge **Bob Harris** festivities. <> **Friday**, rainy and windy, 55-48. **Saturday**, showers and wind, 49-43. **Sunday**, showers, 46-44.