Emma Sagor earns 2009 General George C. Marshall Youth Leadership Award

Emma Sagor, a senior at Camas High School, has been named the recipient of the 2009 General George C. Marshall Youth Leadership Award. Sagor is the school’s Associated Student Body president, vice president of the Key Club, president of Healthy Lifestyle Advocates, and is a member of National Honor Society, School Health Council and Camas Youth Advisory Council.

She coordinated the first “stuff the bus” food drive in both Camas and Washougal, participated in the LSW Architects internship, volunteered with “At Home, At School” for homeless and disadvantaged youth, implemented an education and advocacy program titled “Small City, Big Difference” and is organizing a benefit dinner for Mercy Corps’ Action Center to End World Hunger.

In addition, Sagor is first chair in wind ensemble, a member of the Camas High School select vocal ensemble and has performed in three of the school’s theatrical productions.

Sagor will be recognized at a public award ceremony at 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 25, in the Marshall House on Officers Row. She will receive a $1,000 scholarship and a $500 paid summer internship in the Historic Reserve Trust office.

Sagor was nominated for the award by Steven Marshall, principal of Camas High School, and by Casey Wyckoff of LSW Architects.

The General George C. Marshall Youth Leadership Award was established in 2000 and is presented to a Clark County high school age student who demonstrates leadership, takes a stand for the rights of others, serves as a role model, shows initiative and motivates others to become involved. The award is one of the Celebrate Freedom programs organized by the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Trust.

Parker Cann to leave Columbia Credit Union

Columbia Credit Union and Boeing Employees’ Credit Union announced today that Parker Cann, the president and CEO of Columbia Credit Union, will be leaving to join the Boeing employees credit union as senior vice president and corporate counsel.

Cann will stay on at Columbia Credit Union through April 30.

With more than 590,000 members and more than $8.6 billion in assets, BECU is the largest credit union in Washington. Columbia Credit Union has over 64,000 members and $750,000 in assets.

Under Cann’s four-years of leadership, Columbia focused on managing loan portfolio risk while providing affordable loan options to both individuals and businesses.

Columbia Credit is the only credit union in western Washington and the Portland Metro area with the Small Business Administration’s Preferred Lender status.

According to January 2009 RMS Information Services data, Columbia ranked first in Clark County home equity loans and lines of credit, third, out of 50 lenders in Clark County first mortgages, and according to public records, the number one automobile loan provider in the county.

Columbia’s Board has formed an Executive Search Committee.

Vancouver ended 2008 revenue year on target

Revenues were slightly above forecast at the end of Vancouver’s 2008 budget year ending Dec. 31, 2008, according to the city’s just released quarterly financial report.

Although there were significant shortfalls in some projected revenues, city finances ended the year with revenues of $126.4 million, slightly higher than forecast.

Sales tax, recreation fee revenue and permit revenue collections were significantly below projections for the year. Shortfalls in these areas were made up by revenue collections from other sources.

Overall, the level of 2008 revenues received in the General Fund represented a 3.2 per cent increase in 2008.
revenues compared to revenues received in 2007.

Significant revenue losses resulted from downturns in sales tax revenue, permitting revenue and real estate excise taxes.

Three other funds that experienced revenue shortfalls were the street fund, tennis center and parking funds. Parking fines were anticipated to increase by 45 percent in 2008 compared to the prior year, and parking meter revenues were anticipated to increase by 58 percent due to increases in fines and fees. The actual collections showed a minimal increase in revenues compared to 2007.

The street fund had two major underperforming revenue sources in 2008: the Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax and REET. The MVFT is based on gallons of gasoline sold, not on the price of gasoline. The high cost of gasoline thus had a negative effect on tax revenues.

REET is dependent on the number of houses sold and their price. The real estate activity had slowed significantly in the past year, and house prices are falling.

A complete report on Vancouver’s 2008 finances can be found by going to http://www.cityofvancouver.us/finance.asp?menuid=10462&submenuid=11397.

Three Creeks Advisory Council to examine specific zoning designations

The Three Creeks Advisory Council will examine specific site requests for changes in planning and zoning designations for properties within the Three Creeks Special Planning Area at its next public meeting at 10 a.m. Thursday, March 12, in the Clark Regional Wastewater district office, 8000 N.E. 52nd Court.

The meeting will include presentations on behalf of property owners, as well as presentations from county planners.

The council is charged with advising the county on transportation, land-use planning and related issues in the unincorporated areas around Hazel Dell, Felida, Lake Shore, Salmon Creek and the fairgrounds.

For further information, go to http://www.clark.wa.gov/bocc/current_issues/threecreeks.html.

Clark College Dress for Success
donations still being accepted

Clark College is accepting clothing donations for the 2009 Career Clothing Closet through Tuesday, March 10, reports Jody Shulnak, Service-learning & Volunteer program manager at the college.

For the past five years, the Clark College Career Clothing Closet has supported students’ efforts to further their career and educational goals by providing them with professional clothing for job interviews and other occasions requiring appropriate attire. The 2008 event helped more than 380 Clark students dress for success.

Donations are accepted weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in room 109 of Gaiser Hall, on the college’s main campus, and in room 129 at Clark College at Town Plaza.

Shulnak says all donations should be in excellent condition, laundered or dry-cleaned and ironed, ready for use.

News briefs

The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to The City of Battle Ground by the Government Finance Officers Association. The award recognizes the city for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for 2007. <> The deadline for entering a nomination for the 2009 Clark County Sammy Awards is Friday, March 13. Nomination forms can be acquired on the Clark County website, www.saveoursalmon.com, or by calling 397-2022, ext. 2.

Calendar

Mark Loewus will lead a poets’ workshop at 6 p.m. this evening in the Vancouver Community Library, 1007 E Mill Plain Boulevard. <> The Columbia River Crossing Sponsors Council meets at 10 a.m. tomorrow, March 6, and is expected to make its recommendation of how many lanes the proposed I-5 bridge replacement should have. The public meeting is in state Department of Transportation offices at 11018NE 51st Circle.
Thursday on the air

Regulatory Obstacles (3/3)—4:30 p.m. CVTV
Vancouver City Council (3/2)—6:30 p.m. CVTV
**Portland Blazers at Denver (live)—7:30 p.m. TNT, KXGT**
Port of Vancouver (2/24)—10 p.m. CVTV
Vancouver Symphony Orchestra (2/15)—10:45 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather