



Tony Johnson

**Vancouver insurance agent Tony Johnson earns professional accreditation**

Vancouver insurance agent Tony Johnson has earned an "Accredited Advisor in Insurance" professional designation from the American Institute for CPCU (Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter) and Insurance Institute of America. He completed a six-month course with the institutes to achieve the accreditation. Johnson is a commercial insurance agent with Davidson Insurance of Vancouver. He provides insurance services for businesses and professionals. Davidson Insurance has served local businesses and individuals since 1990. Owned by **Bruce Davidson**, the firm is located at 501 SE Columbia Shores Blvd., Suite 525, in Vancouver. For more information, call 514-9550 or visit the Web site [www.davidsoninsurance.com](http://www.davidsoninsurance.com).

**WSU Vancouver explores the place where new technology preserves history**

Washington State University Vancouver is helping to bring 21st-century technology to the 19th-century Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. **Brett Oppegaard**, a professor in WSU Vancouver's Digital Technology and Culture program, has recently been awarded a \$9,000 grant from the Historical Promotion Grants Program to produce multimedia content for mobile technology for the national park.

This means that the 800,000 people who visit the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site each year will be able to supplement the brochures and interpretive signage, which they currently rely on to understand the significance of the site, with educational, entertaining, historically based multimedia content. That content will be available to visitors via their cell phones as early as fall 2010.

Oppegaard's work will focus on the outer ring of the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site called "the village." Here people from more than 35 ethnic and tribal groups lived together in support of the fort, which operated as an economic and cultural center for the entire region. Oppegaard hopes to enlighten visitors about the rich history of the village by focusing on peoples and communities that have often been overlooked in traditional historical discussions.

In addition to being a professor at WSU Vancouver, Oppegaard is a doctoral student working on a dissertation related to mobile storytelling. His project aims to reveal the power new technologies have in promoting cultural tourism, historical preservation and audience engagement.

**Art on the Boulevard artist Mitch Baird featured in national art magazine**

Art on the Boulevard artist **Mitch Baird** is featured in the January 2010 issue of *Southwest Art* magazine. Baird is featured in the "Artist to Watch" section as the editor's choice for up-and-coming talent. Baird was contacted by Southwest Art after his painting "Morning Ensigns, Italy" received both the Best of Show and the SW Art Award of Excellence at the prestigious Annual American Impressionist Society show held in Denver, CO, in October. *Southwest Art* magazine has long been considered to be one of the finest art magazines by collectors and artists in the United States.

In addition to these awards, Baird also recently received the Founder's Award in the international "Blossom-The Art of Flowers" traveling museum exhibition as well as having two paintings in the National Parks "Paint the Parks-Top 100" traveling exhibit. These awards add to a long list of accolades that Baird has received over the years.

In celebration, Baird will have a collection of new works on display at Art on the Boulevard starting on January 5th. Other new works will be by **Chuck Gumpert, Eric Jacobsen, Oleg Ulitskiy, Elsbeth McLeod, Harry Wheeler** and others. The "New Works" show runs Jan 5-30.

Note: the First Friday evening reception will be held on the second Friday in January on the 8th due to First Friday's landing on New Year's Day. The opening reception from 5 to 9 pm is open to the public at no charge and includes complimentary light refreshments.

For further information, contact the gallery at 750-4499.

**Too busy to volunteer now? Plan to volunteer for the YWCA after the holidays**

YWCA Clark County needs volunteers year round and is currently seeking volunteers to start after the holidays.

The YWCA has a strong need for additional volunteers to provide advocacy and support for victims of sexual assault, facilitate support groups for victims of domestic violence, represent the best interests of abused and neglected children in the court system, and help prepare high school seniors for higher education.

Other opportunities include providing encouragement and information about community resources to women in jail, helping in a preschool classroom, and working behind the scenes to keep the agency functioning smoothly. There are volunteer roles for both women and men.

The YWCA will hold an Introduction to Volunteer Service on Tuesday, January 12, 6 to 8:30 p.m., in the Community Room of its facility at 3609 Main Street, in Vancouver.

For more information, contact **Al Flory**, director of volunteer development, at **696-0167** or email him at [aflory@ywcaclarkcounty.org](mailto:aflory@ywcaclarkcounty.org).

## News Briefs

Join the community in honoring Councilmember **Pat Jollata** for her 20 years of service to the Vancouver community at a dedication and service from noon to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 12, in the Water Resources Education Center, 4600 SE Columbia Way. Light refreshments will be served. <> The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra has its third concert of the season at 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 16, and at 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 17. The concert is highlighted by the appearances of guest artists **Eva Richey** and **Fumino Ando** playing *Concerto for Two Violins in D minor* by J.S. Bach, **Lena Vozheiko Wheaton** and **Cinda Goold Redman** playing the *Concerto No. 10 in E-flat major for Two Pianos* by W.A. Mozart. The second half also features Dvorák's *Symphony No. 7*. All performances are at Skyview Concert Hall, 1300 NW 139th, Vancouver. Tickets for performances are available online at [www.vancouversymphony.org](http://www.vancouversymphony.org), by phone at **735-7278**, at local outlets and at the door. Students get a special \$9 admission price for any concert. For more information, visit orchestra's website at [www.vancouversymphony.org](http://www.vancouversymphony.org).

## Calendar

Spend New Year's Eve with Vancouver's next mayor, **Tim Leavitt**, from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, Heathman Lodge, 7801 NE Greenwood Drive. Cost is \$50 per individual, \$90 per couple, and \$750 per reserved patron table. A special room rate of \$59 is being offered by the Heathman Lodge for those attending the New Year's Eve event. Proceeds will benefit Parks Foundation of Clark County and Community Choices. To purchase tickets, call **619-1170**. To make room reservations, call **254-3100**, referencing the New Year's Eve celebration. <> Clark County residents will have an opportunity to recycle block foam and old electronics for free from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 2, in the Yellow 1 parking lot at Clark College, on the west side of Fort Vancouver Way. The free collection event accepts polystyrene and polypropylene block foam. For more information about this program, contact Clark County Solid Waste at **397-6118** ext. **4352** or City of Vancouver Solid Waste Services at **619-4120**. <> Vancouver-Clark Parks & Recreation's Fifty and Better program is hosting Swinging in the New Year's Eve Dance, featuring Beacock's New Horizon Dance Band, from 8 p.m. to midnight, Thursday, Dec. 31. Cost is \$10 per person and includes refreshments. Call **487-7100** and sign up for activity #72890, or register at the Marshall Luepke Community Center. <> La Center City Council meets for a public hearing at 7 p.m. tonight, Dec. 30. <> Loaves and Fishes will be providing hot meals to senior citizens from noon to 2 p.m. tomorrow, Dec. 31, in the La Center Community Center, 1000 E 4th Street.

## Happy New Year!

The Daily Insider will resume Monday, January 4, 2010.

## Wednesday on the air

A Totem of the Northwest Coast--5:35 p.m. CVTV

Clark County Planning Commission Joint Hearing with the Clark County Board of Commissioners (11-16)--6 p.m. CVTV

Columbia River Crossing Project Sponsors Council (12-4)--9:30 p.m. CVTV

On the Road, Sidewalk, Bikeway, and Trail to a Healthier Clark County (11-17)--11:45 p.m. CVTV

## Town Tabloids and Weather

**Peggy Furno** "in the know". <> **Matt Schoolfield** updating. <> **Rita Stout** having fun. <> **Wednesday**, showers, 41-36. **Thursday**, rain, 47-45. **Friday**, light rain, 49-44. **Saturday**, showers, 47-42. **Sunday**, showers, 47-39.