



Vanessa Gaston with Gov. Chris Gregoire.

Governor appoints Gaston to Human Rights Commission

Vanessa Gaston, director of Clark County's Department of Community Services, has been appointed by Gov. **Christine Gregoire** to the Washington State Human Rights Commission. The commission prevents and eliminates discrimination by investigating civil rights complaints and by providing education and training opportunities throughout the state.

Gaston is one of five members appointed to the commission. The appointment, requiring Senate approval, is for a five-year term.

Gaston serves on several community boards, including the Council for the Homeless, WIN211, and Delta Sigma Theta Inc., Portland Chapter.

Gaston holds a graduate degree in public administration from the University of Washington and has many years of training in the areas of program delivery of health and human services. She managed the daily operations of a 24-hour long-term care facility for the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs and has held several positions with the state's Department of Social and

Health Services, where she administered welfare, social service, health, and employment programs for clients speaking many different languages.

Port commissioners approve eight action items

Port of Vancouver USA commissioners authorized eight action items yesterday at their second regularly-scheduled meeting.

Commissioners **Nancy Baker**, **Jerry Oliver** and **Brian Wolfe** heard staff recommendations and voted on three industrial lease matters, a contract change order, and two resolutions declaring a pair of old, unused port cranes as surplus.

The port reached an agreement, with authorization of a 3-0 commission vote, with Great Western Malting to lease 43,500 square feet in the north section of Building 2501, the north building in the former Panasonic complex at the port. Great Western Malting is launching a new venture known as Country Malt to offer full-service products to the brewing industry.

After hearing a staff business case, the commissioners authorized Executive Director **Larry Paulson** to sign change order number 19 for \$2.65 million with a completion date of December 31, 2011, to a professional services contract with Parametrix, Inc., for the purpose of TCE groundwater cleanup. The change order is to meet the port's obligations to the Model Toxics Control Act, provide technical support for the port's new groundwater pump and treat system and then submit an 18-month evaluation report to the Washington Department of Ecology, and manage environmental obligations associated with the Cadet facility.

The commission also approved an interlocal agreement with the City of Vancouver to allow the city to provide construction management services during construction of the West Vancouver Freight Access, project No. 3. The benefits of having this service assistance include access to trained city staff that have specialized knowledge in administering projects with federal grants. The interlocal agreement stipulates an uppermost amount of \$250,000.

The commission unanimously approved a first amendment to the port's lease with Thompson Metal Fab, extending the term from August 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009. The initial term of the lease was six months with two one-year options to extend. The space, in building 3201C is for storage of construction materials and heavy equipment related to specific projects that Thompson Metal Fab has in production.

Commissioners also voted to authorize a second amendment to the port's lease with Tristar Transload, a

port tenant. The amendment serves to update four parts of the lease. The first is to clarify the lease premises, expand the use of the premises from “transloading of lumber products” to the broader description of “building materials,” and granting the port the right to relocate Tristar’s access gate on the western boundary. The amendment also sets August 1, 2009, as the “term commencement date” and sets the expiration of the initial term of the lease to July 31, 2015.

Commissioners also approved the fourth amendment to the United Grain Corporation’s lease with the port of Vancouver, provides an extension through December 9, 2030, and authorizing the port to commit the UGC rent as special revenues for payment on refunding revenue bonds. The amendment also acknowledges the Memorandum of Understanding that the port and UGC entered into on May 23, 2008, and provides that a new lease will be negotiated before December 9, 2010.

The commission also declared a 1958 gantry-mounted revolving crane, as well as a crane and material-handling equipment formerly owned by Alcoa, as surplus equipment so that the cranes can be marketed for sale. The gantry-mounted crane is commonly known as the “Big Washington,” and is stationed at Terminal 2 and has registered 201 hours of service. The Colby Crane, located on the former Alcoa dock, was transferred to the port when it closed on the acquisition of the property that is now Terminal 5. The crane is not operational and has recorded zero hours of service since the purchase. Port staff has evaluated the value of each crane to possibly exceed \$10,000 depending on market response.

The regular meeting, will be televised on CVTV Cable channel 21. To see listings for the schedule, visit www.cvtv.org.

News Briefs

Columbia River Economic Development Council is holding an event from 7:30 to 11 a.m. Monday, Oct. 12, in the Hilton Vancouver Convention Center. **Alan Beaulieu**, an internationally renowned economist, will outline action plans for Pacific Northwest companies that would like to learn how to take advantage of emerging opportunities. To register or for more information, visit www.credc.org. <> The Executive Director Network hosts a debate between Mayor **Royce Pollard** and mayoral candidate and current City Council member **Tim Leavitt** from 8 to 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 8, at YWCA Clark County, 3609 Main Street. Cost is free. For more information, contact **Jeanne Kojis**, executive director, at **936-0610**, or email Jeanne@nonprofitnetworkwa.org. <> Partners in Careers is holding an open house and will be introducing its new jobs program and the Veteran Women program from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 15, at 111 West 39th Street, Suite B. To RSVP and for more information, contact **Temika** at **696-8417**.

Calendar

Design Review Committee meets at 4 p.m. tomorrow, Sept. 24, in Conference Room 3A, 4400 NE 77th Avenue. <> Battle Ground Planning Commission meets at 7 p.m. tonight, Sept. 23, City Hall Council Chambers, 109 SW 1st Street, 2nd floor. <> La Center City Council public hearing begins at 7 p.m. tonight, Sept. 23, at La Center City Hall, 214 E 4th Street. <> Loaves and Fishes will be providing hot meals to senior citizens from noon to 2 p.m. tomorrow, Sept. 24, in the Community Center, 1000 E 4th Street, La Center. For more information, call **567-7670**.

Wednesday on the air

Seattle Mariners at Tampa Bay (live)—4 p.m. FSN, KFX

Port of Vancouver Board of Commissioners (9-22)—4:30 p.m. CVTV

36th Annual Natural Areas Conference: Keynote Luncheon (9-16)—7:30 p.m. CVTV

September 11th Commemoration—Patriots Day (9-11)—9 p.m. CVTV

Clark County Planning Commission (9-17)—9:30 p.m. CVTV

Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner and Installation of Officers (9-17)—10:35 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Chad Dillard shares. <> **Jim Stanton** emailing restaurant reviews. <> **Randy Alexander** telling stories. <> **Tonya Schoemperlen** getting the details. <> **Steve** and **Annie Paylor** covering Reno in plaid. <> **Wednesday**, warm and hazy, 56-85. **Thursday**, partly cloudy, 50-76. **Friday**, sunny, 54-78.