

### **Oliver, Paulson “Deliver Possibilities” at State of the Port event**

Economic development is happening, on the ground now at the Port of Vancouver USA, which was the big news at today's Port Re:Port, the annual State of the Port Address at the Red Lion Hotel Vancouver at the Quay.

In his State of the Port Address, Executive Director **Larry Paulson** said there is evidence of the types of economic development and jobs currently happening at the port, which calls itself the “Port of Possibility” – happening all over the port, even as he addressed a sold-out audience. He offered construction of port projects as evidence of delivering possibilities.

“It is currently a beehive of construction activity,” Paulson said, “and I want to give you an idea of what you can see happening this very morning at the Port of Vancouver.”

Paulson cited more than 100 construction jobs at the port's new Terminal 5, where a unit train rail loop is being built, with another 10-15 workers installing fencing and utilities; deconstruction of buildings on the former Rufener Farm makes up another 15-20 jobs, and a number of other jobs are the result of projects on or near the port.

“I'm particularly appreciative,” Paulson said, “that all of the contractors on these port projects are from the Vancouver/Portland region, keeping these jobs local.”

Paulson and Port Commission President **Jerry Oliver**, who earlier presented the commission's perspective of the port's status, talked about a light at the end of the tunnel, marking the end of the recession, and stated that the port is prepared to be a leader in the community's recovery.

“As sure as I am standing here this morning, I believe it has [ended],” Oliver said. “I am proud to report to you this morning that there is a light at the end of the tunnel, and the Port of Vancouver will be one of the first to make it out.”

Paulson also highlighted the port's strategic advantage, created not only by its proximity to the Columbia River, but also due to its world-class connections to Interstate 5, “the West Coast's most important freight arterial,” as he called it, and the BNSF Railway and Union Pacific systems. This junction locates the port on the critical rail junction of east-west and north-south mainlines that reach both the northern and southern U.S. borders, and as far east as Chicago.

“Rail makes the connection to the global marketplace, our community and the nation stronger and more competitive,” Paulson said. “Locally, this helps port customers thrive and efficiently move their cargo into and out of the port. Additionally, it takes congestion off the roads, increases fuel efficiency and reduces emissions.”

Paulson also reported that, because of its two massive mobile harbor cranes, the Port of Vancouver has attracted additional new project cargo and generated jobs.

“We continue to get inquiries from customers who are bringing heavy and over-sized cargos to the West Coast,” Paulson said.

He also reported that the port expects to see continued growth in heavy lift and wind energy cargos in 2010, and that the port is exploring new options for bulk exports. Wheat should continue to be solid for the coming year, and Subaru is consistently stable in its import of vehicles.

“With world-class access to river, road and rail, property that's shovel-ready now, both maritime and industrial, a healthy reserve of property for the next two decades, I am pleased to report to you that your port is properly positioned to deliver the possibilities of the future,” Paulson said.

Port Re:Port was taped for later cablecast by CVTV. The show will also be made available online at

[www.cvtv.org](http://www.cvtv.org).

### **Finalists named in sixteenth annual VSO's Young Artists competition**

Preliminary judging for the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra's 2010 Young Artists Competition is complete, and the following nine finalists were named by Piano: **Ruta Kuzmickas, 14**, Clackamas Web Academy, Portland, OR; **Fred Lu, 16**, Skyview HS, Vancouver, WA; **Christine Wang, 17**, Columbia River HS, Vancouver, WA.

Strings:

**Jean Choi, 16**, cello, Westview HS, Portland, OR; **Natally Okhovat, 17**, violin, West Linn HS, West Linn, OR; **Victor Williams, 17**, viola, Camas HS, Camas, WA.

Brass/Woodwinds/Percussion:

**Maria Covarrubias**, 15, flute, Sunset HS, Portland, OR; **Midori Samson**, 17, bassoon, Grant HS, Portland, OR; and **Daniel Vasey**, 15, alto saxophone, Columbia River HS, Vancouver, WA.

Following the judging of recorded performances from the forty-four entries, each finalist was notified and will perform "concert style" before a panel of judges made up of professional musicians in front of a live audience at 1 p.m. Sunday, March 7, at Royal Durst Theatre at the Vancouver School of Arts and Academics. Master of ceremonies for the concert will be **Rich Brase**. Students named above will compete for the following scholarship amounts: first place, \$1,000; second place, \$750; third place, \$250. The three category winners will then perform in concert with the VSO at Skyview High School Concert Hall in Vancouver on April 17 and 18.

Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, visit [www.vancouverSymphony.org](http://www.vancouverSymphony.org) or call the symphony office at **735-7278**. The Vancouver School of Arts and Academics is located at 3101 Main Street in Vancouver.

### News Briefs

Join Fort Vancouver Regional Library Foundation from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 11, at Whole Foods Market, 815 Southwest 160th Avenue, for exclusive samples of chocolate-inspired food and products. Cost is \$5 for a "passport." Proceeds will provide additional books at the new Cascade Park Community Library. <> Celebrate Royce--A Roast, Toast and Boast Gala, which will be held from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 17, in the Hilton Convention Center, 301 W 6th Street, Vancouver. The event will be a night to thank **Royce Pollard** for his 14 years of service as mayor of America's Vancouver. There will be dinner, no-host cocktails, entertainment, and an auction of mayoral memorabilia to benefit Big Brothers/Big Sisters. To register for the gala, visit [www.vancouverusa.com](http://www.vancouverusa.com) or call **694-2588**.

### Calendar

The Portland Trail Blazers welcome the members of the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce and other chambers from across the Northwest to the Rose Garden for a pre-game networking event in the Georgia Pacific Room in the Memorial Coliseum and for a night of great basketball. Friends and family are welcome. Tickets to the networking event are an additional \$19 and are optional. Order tickets online at <http://tickets.trailblazers.com/deals>. Be sure to use the password **Chamber**. For more information about this event, [click here](#).

### Thursday on the air

Cascade Park Community Library Grand Opening Celebration (12-15)--4:26 p.m. CVTV

Port of Vancouver Board of Commissioners (1-26)--4:59 p.m. CVTV

Bravo! Vancouver: Beethoven, Brubeck & The Blues (1-24)--5:29 p.m. CVTV

Workzone Safety PSA--6:43 p.m. CVTV

Community Choices Report Card Forum - "What Does It Take To Be Healthy?" (2-3)--7 p.m. CVTV

Vancouver Land Use Hearings (1-19)--9 p.m. CVTV

City/County Code Enforcement Appeal Hearings (1-14)--9:29 p.m. CVTV

Vancouver Housing Authority: Housing Matters (1-3)--11:29 p.m. CVTV

### Town Tabloids and Weather

**Amy Hayes** taking up glass-cutting. <> **Crystal Delay** heading to a concert. <> **Thursday**, showers, 51-46. **Friday**, a.m. showers, 58-42. **Saturday**, a few showers, 54-42.