

Observing



Charter Review Team Chosen

Mayor Bruce E. Hagensen announced the selection of fifteen residents to serve on the Charter Review committee. The group will examine and recommend to the city council any changes or amendments it believes should be put to a vote of the people. The city council will examine

the recommendations and decide if any suggestions should be put on the ballot.

The city's charter is a document that outlines the city's organization, responsibilities of the Mayor, council, manager and city departments. It also includes information on elections, nominations, initiatives, referendums and recalls.

The committee is made up of city residents who are registered voters. They are: Thomas Burkholder, John

Caton, Scott Collier, Susan Courtney, Steve Dearborn, Steve Fisher, Marlia Jenkins, Lee Kurokawa, Paula Martin, Jamesetta (Jamie) McCoy, Daniel Ogden, Jr., Ceci Smith, Jeanne Stewart, James Tompkins and chairman Arch Miller.

The panel's first meeting is Tuesday, May 17. A meeting to receive public comment is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, June 28 at 7 p.m. at the City Training Room, 1405 Broadway, Vancouver.

City Announces International Commissioners

Mayor Bruce E. Hagensen recently announced the appointment of nine members of the newly-formed International Affairs Commission. The members were confirmed by City Council at its Monday, May 2 meeting.

The nine-member board will serve in an advisory capacity to City Council matters relating to international activities and events. The main goal of the Commission is to encourage and support international activities in the community and to expand educational benefits by encouraging citizen participation.

Appointed to one-year terms were: Elie G. Kassab, Nancy Baker, and Mary Rose. Appointed to two-year terms were: Katrina Fitt, Jean Lacey, and John Marshall. Appointed to three-year terms were: Ernestus Schnabler, Patricia Guy and Roland Emetaz.

Martha Olsen Named City "Employee Of The Year"

Hard work, innovation and dedication to service and community were among the qualities honored at the third annual City of Vancouver Employee Recognition ceremony Wednesday, May 4 at the Red Lion Inn at the Quay.

Martha Olsen, a 15-year city employee and legal administrative assistant in the law department, was named Employee of the Year by City Manager John F. Fischbach. She was chosen from among 39 people nominated for the Outstanding Service Awards. Olsen is noted for managing the city's annual United Way campaign, and for her ability to generate employee enthusiasm and participation in other projects such as the employee picnic. She is also known for her success in securing strong financial and in-kind support from the private sector for various city activities and projects. Olsen is married and has two children.

Certificates were awarded to scores of employees in such categories as Outstanding Service, Safety Consciousness, Community Involvement, Teamwork, Great Ideas and Years of Service. The luncheon was attended by 431 city employees, retirees and councilmembers.

City Seeks Ideas On Budget

The City of Vancouver and the Vancouver Neighborhood Coalition are co-sponsoring three informal public meetings to seek ideas and comments on the city's upcoming 1995-96 budget. This is an information gathering step early in the budget process. Input from these meetings will be shared with City Council as they set priorities for the upcoming budget. A draft 1995-96 budget will be

submitted to the city council this fall. A final budget will be adopted by the end of 1994.

Neighborhood volunteers will facilitate the meeting and provide snacks. The city's Parks and Recreation Department Fun Wagon will provide entertainment for youngsters.

Meeting dates are:
• Wednesday, May 18, 10 a.m. - noon, Rosemere Community Center,

33rd and "O" Street.

• Wednesday, May 18, 7-9 p.m., Rosemere Community Center, 33rd and "O" Street.

• Thursday, May 26, 7-9 p.m., Fruit Valley Community Center, 3203 Unander Ave. across from Fruit Valley grade school.

Call Kathy Kiaunis, Budget Manager, 696-8121 or Carol Hansen, Office of Neighborhoods, 696-8222 for more information.

1994 Vancouver Festival - Where Summer Begins

The Vancouver Festival - Where Summer Begins, Kids' Parade will be held Saturday, June 18, 9 a.m. Burgerville USA is sponsoring this event.

The Burgerville USA Kids' parade will have an eight-block route. Kids of all ages and youth organizations are invited to participate. Decorate a bike, trike or wagon. Paint your face, wear a costume, design a funny hat, mask or puppet - use your imagination - it is a community parade, it's fun, it's old-fashioned, it's great to be a kid.

Registration forms are available at City Hall, Bagley Center, Marshall Center and all Clark County Burgervilles or call Rusty Moe, 696-8171 and an application will be mailed to you.

Alvin & The Chipmunks with the Strawberry Jam Band will be the grand marshal of the parade. They will also perform Rockin' Through the Ages, on stage at 2 p.m. All weekend activities are free except the Friday night performance of The Temptations and Mary Wilson. Tickets are \$15 for their performance.

For more information please call Rusty Moe, 696-8171 or the Downtown Vancouver Association, 693-2978.

City Seeks Cultural Interests

The City of Vancouver is seeking applicants to serve on the newly-created Cultural Commission.

This nine-member board will serve in an advisory capacity to City Council on matters relating to arts and cultural events and activities. It will serve as a central clearinghouse of information on arts and culture and provide guardianship of public art assets. It will also develop public and private funding sources for arts-related activities.

Commissioners will be appointed by the Mayor, confirmed by City Council and serve for a period of three years. City residency is a requirement.

Interested applicants should contact Marie Day or David DiCesare in the City Manager's Office at 696-8211 for an application. Completed applications must be submitted to Vancouver City Hall, P.O. Box 1995, Vancouver, WA 98668-1995, by Monday, June 20, 1994.

Adoption, Family Service Director Resigns

Open Adoption and Family Services has announced the resignation of its executive director, Susan I. Stoltenberg, effective June 1994. The corporation is mounting a nationwide search for a replacement.

Stoltenberg assumed leadership of the agency in July 1990 during a period of financial crisis. Since then, the agency has achieved financial success, completing the 1992-93 fiscal year with a large financial surplus. The agency opened an office in the state of Washington in December 1993.

Open Adoption and Family Services places approximately 60 children annually and serves families in domestic, independent and agency adoptions. Its annual operating budget is about \$450,000 and it employs 12 people in three offices at Eugene, Portland and Seattle.

The agency became an industry leader during Stoltenberg's leadership. Most adoptions completed in Oregon today include many characteristics championed by Open Adoption and Family Services including, the birth mother's selection of the adoptive family, meetings between birth parents and adoptive parents prior to placement and written, medi-

ated agreements outlining post adoption contact between birth and adoptive families.

"We are very sad to see Susan go," said Gail Kretschmer, the agency's president of the board of directors. "Her vitality, courage, vision and commitment transformed the agency into a national leader in the movement toward openness and dignity for all in adoption. We will be fortunate indeed if we can find a new executive director as talented as Susan is," Kretschmer said.

"Changes in leadership provide organizations with creative opportunities," said Stoltenberg. "Open Adoption and Family Services has proven itself an inspired organization and its next director should be no less. "The agency is ready for steady growth. There are no financial or political crises confronting it. I envy the next director's task of assuming the reins of such a powerful, healthy organization!" Stoltenberg said.

A committee has been formed to recruit and hire the agency's next executive director. Interested applicants should contact Open Adoption and Family Services at 233-9660 for application information.

Coalition Elects New Officers; New Bylaws Adopted

The Vancouver Neighborhood Coalition elected new officers at their April 26 meeting. They are Chairperson Richard Wolf, Vice-Chairperson Debbra Maul, and Secretary Kathy Mendenall. New bylaws were also adopted at the meeting. These bylaws allow the coalition to take positions on issues which are of concern to neighborhoods citywide.

Current coalition-sponsored activities include the Hospital/Neighborhoods/Local Government Communication Taskforce, Memorial Campus Taskforce, and the Vancouver City Budget Forum Taskforce. Projects in the development stage include the Community Development Corporation Forum.

On May 3, the new officers met to discuss plans for the upcoming year. They include: a more

regular meeting schedule, a quarterly coalition newsletter and an effort to make sure that every city-recognized neighborhood association sends a representative to the coalition meetings.

The primary coalition contact is Richard Wolf, chairperson, 693-2430. The other officers can also be contacted for information regarding coalition activities: Debbra Maul, vice-chairperson, 254-5715 and Kathy Mendenall, 694-9760.

The Vancouver Neighborhood Coalition is a representative body of all officially recognized neighborhood associations in the City of Vancouver. They meet on the last Tuesday of every month, except June and December, at 7 p.m. in the Rosemere Community Center located at 33rd and "O" streets in Vancouver.

Vancouver Parks Planners Seek Public Comment

The Vancouver Parks and Recreation Department has scheduled three meetings to encourage public comment on its update of the six-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

• Tuesday, May 17, 7 to 9 p.m., Vancouver City Hall Council Chambers, 210 E. 13 Street.

• Wednesday, May 18, 7 to 9 p.m., Bagley Community Center

Lucia Falls Room 4100 Plomondon, Vancouver.

• Tuesday, May 24, 7 to 9 p.m., Marshall School Media Center, 6400 MacArthur Blvd., Vancouver.

Comments can also be offered by calling the Vancouver Parks and Recreation Department, 696-8171 or by writing to Ted Brown, Director, Vancouver Parks and Recreation Department, P.O. Box 1995, Vancouver, WA 98668.

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SAT 9:00am-5:00pm
SUN 11:00am-4:00pm

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