

Observing

Statement on Diversity

BY VANCOUVER CITY MANAGER
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In recent years, the City of Vancouver has experienced remarkable growth, both in physical size and population. If anything, the scale and impact of this growth will continue to increase in the years ahead.

As Vancouver expands, so does the diverse nature of the city's population. In ever increasing numbers, the City of Vancouver is distinguished by a diversity of races, religions, colors, lifestyles and physical abilities. Our responsibility is to ensure that the city organization both reflects and respects the diversity of the community we serve.

In 1993, the Vancouver City

Council enacted a workforce diversity ordinance. In the years since, Vancouver City employees have worked, with varying degrees of success, to apply the spirit and letter of this ordinance to our organization. The goal now is to increase our emphasis on the city's workforce diversity efforts. Key areas of our focus are: recruitment and awareness training.

Our mission is to take a pro-active stance in attracting, hiring, training and maintaining a workforce that reflects the talent and diversity of our community. In the workplace, we will seek to foster respect among our diverse family of employees.

The advantages are many. A workforce that reflects our community will be more accessible and

approachable for the people we serve. A variety of voices also brings a variety of perspectives and ideas which can only enrich our ability to solve problems and provide services. This program will establish Vancouver as a model for other organizations to follow. Given our unique role in the community, we should be at the leading edge of such efforts.

The overriding reason for all this, however, is simple. It is the right thing to do. Regardless of our difference, we should treat each other with respect and dignity. This applies to both how we recruit employees and the way we treat each other on the job. This basic principle lies at the heart of Vancouver's workforce diversity efforts.

Adventure awaits seniors on day trips

Entertainment, shopping, sports and culture await people age 50 and over on 13 upcoming day trips offered by the City of Vancouver's Senior Programs. All trips are escorted. Transportation on most trips is by van. Adventures include:

- Chinook Winds Casino (Lincoln City, Ore.), Tuesday, Feb. 25, or Wednesday, March 12
- Mediterranean Lunch and Museum, in Washington County, Wednesday, Feb. 26
- Barbershop Finals, in Forest Grove, Saturday, March 8

- Legislative In Action, in Olympia, Wednesday, March 12
 - Blazer Basketball vs. Cleveland, Friday, March 14
- Call 696-8236 for trip costs and departure times.

OFM Official Hired As Budget Director

Glenn A. Olson, Senior Forecast Coordinator in the state Office of Financial Management, has been hired as Clark County's Budget Director.

Olson currently works in a division of the Governor's Office in Olympia, which is responsible for developing the executive budget each year and for administering and managing the executive branch of state government through that

budget. He also serves as the Director of the Statistical Analysis Center, a federally funded function with OFM that coordinates information about justice issues with other states and jurisdictions.

Olson, who grew up in Clark County, will begin his new job with the county on March 10.

As county Budget Director, Olson will be responsible for overall development of the county budget, associ-

ated policies and procedures and for strategic, long-range financial planning. The Director reports directly to the County Administrator and is expected to maintain close coordination with the elected officials and the Auditor's Office.

Olson has a bachelor's degree in sociology and demography from Western Washington University and a master's in sociology from the same school.

Search is on for Marshall memories

Vancouver, WA -- Do you or someone you know remember the days when General George C. Marshall served as commander of Vancouver Barracks? If you knew Marshall or have memories of 1930's Vancouver and the local Civilian Conservation Corps, which Marshall headed from 1936 to 1938, the Celebrate Freedom Committee wants to hear from you.

The committee hopes to preserve oral histories of Marshall's time in Vancouver as part of the 50th anniversary commemoration of his famous speech at Harvard University on June 5, 1947. That was the address where Marshall first proposed his Marshall Plan for the economic recovery of war-torn Europe.

Recollections will be recorded on videotape as an historic archive remembering Marshall's Vancouver years prior to World War II. Selected

interviews will be added to a permanent exhibit at the Marshall House on Officers Row. The committee is particularly looking for people who have personal memories of Marshall, who may have served on the Civilian Conservation Corps in Oregon and Southwest Washington from 1936-38, or recall life in Vancouver in the mid-1930's.

Marshall described his two-year hitch in Vancouver as one of the happiest times of his life. In 1938, President Roosevelt called Marshall to Washington to serve as U.S. Army Chief of Staff, the position he held throughout the war. He later served as Secretary of State and Defense under President Truman and received the Noble Peace Prize for his Marshall Plan in 1952. Call 696-8016 if you have memories to share or know someone who does.

Special show looks at raising grandchildren

"Grandparents Raising Grandchildren" is the topic of the second 50-Plus Talk Show on CVTV Channel 47. The show tapes live at the Sears Court in Vancouver Mall on Friday, Feb. 28 at 1 p.m. The audience is encouraged to participate.

The talk show format was chosen as a way to present issues which face today's over 50 people.

Replay times on CVTV Channel 47 are: Sunday, March 2 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 5 4 p.m. Saturday, March 8 2:30 p.m.

Property revaluation to be impacted

A decision made last year by the state Southwest Washington Growth Management Hearings Board will affect 1997 property revaluation, according to the Clark County Department of Assessment and GIS.

In October of 1996, the state board determined that portions of the county's growth management land-use plan were invalid in Forest, Agricultural and Rural Estate Districts.

The determination, which affects contiguously owned, non-conforming lots outside urban growth areas, eliminated or limited some

development. A non-conforming lot is a lot whose size does not meet existing code requirements for development.

The county is appealing the ruling. In the meantime, however, the county Assessor's Office must consider the impact of this invalidity determination when it revalues property in 1997, said Linda Franklin, Clark County Deputy Assessor.

Franklin said that the Assessor's Office is reviewing its records to determine which parcels are affected by the hearings board determination. She added that the determination of invalidity would likely result

in lower property values in some cases because property owners were either unable to develop their land or limited in their ability to develop their land.

By law, the Assessor's Office is responsible for determining the value of all property in the county each year based on fair market value. Property is assessed based on its fair market value on January 1 of the year it is revalued.

The Assessor's Office will soon begin the annual review process for 1997. Property owners will receive their revaluations sometime this summer.

Ridgefield Resident Bridges Portland/Vancouver

Portland, Ore. -- Inspired by President Clinton's bridge to 21st century, Clark County resident Julie Linn constructed a prize winning bridge in the "Building Bridges to Portland and Vancouver" contest, sponsored by GTE Directories.

Linn of Ridgefield, Wash., won third prize. \$1,200 worth of gift certificates to an electronic superstore. Bridging her miniature replicas of Portland and Vancouver, Linn captured the judges attention with creative details, including a mural of The Everything Pages directory cover emblazoned on the side of a skyscraper.

The contest was open to all residents of the Tri-County metro area and Clark County. Bridges could be any size and made of any material.

"We were impressed with the quality of entries received from the residents of Portland and Vancouver," said Greg Ness, marketing communications manager for GTE Directories. "The creativity put into these bridges was fabulous; choosing the winners was no easy feat," Ness added.

In November, GTE Directories and the Portland Trail Blazers sponsored a similar bridge-building contest to benefit the Portland and Van-

couver Public Schools Foundations.

The contest was held to celebrate the release of the new Portland/Vancouver The Everything Pages directory, the first to combine the two cities. The bridge building theme denotes building bridges between Portland and Vancouver, and also GTE Directories building bridges to the community.

GTE Directories, based in Dallas/Fort Worth, is one of the world's largest telephone directory companies. It annually publishes or provides sales, consulting and other services relating to 2,400 directory titles throughout the world.

"Waiting Children"

Around the United States, there are many children awaiting adoption. In the state of Oregon alone, there are over 300 children in need of adoptive families. We are a group of private agencies working with the state to help find adoptive families. These agencies are completely waiving fees in order to encourage the adoption of these children in need. Single adults, both male and female, as well as couples are welcome to consider adoption.

To learn more contact The Special Needs Adoption Coalition at The Boys and Girls Aid Society, (503) 222-9661.

Below are some examples of the special children looking for a loving home:

Kanithia, Katrishia and Kamishia, ages 12, 9 and 5: These beautiful girls are a close and memorable set of sisters! Kanithia, known as "Kiki", has many talents and abilities. As skilled athlete, a variety of sports fill her days. Katrishia is a warm middle sister who interacts easily with people. She likes to make a positive impression on those she meets. Affectionately known as "Kamish," little Kamishia is a compassionate and playful girl. Despite her sickle cell anemia, she is presently a picture of health.

All three girls are eager for a second chance to be someone's special daughters. They would make a glowing addition to a new home.



Kanithia, Katrishia and Kamishia, ages 12, 9 and 5.

ANNOUNCING THE

Northeast Eye Center

A Clinical Care and Teaching Affiliate of the Pacific University College of Optometry

The Pacific University College of Optometry is pleased to announce the opening of its Northeast Eye Center, conveniently located in Northeast Portland at the Multnomah County Health Center—corner of MLK Jr. Blvd. and Killingsworth. Pacific University faculty and staff offer a full range of affordable state-of-the-art vision services provided in a caring and compassionate manner.

EYE CARE SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Examinations for eyeglasses and contact lenses
- Care for those with diabetes and high blood pressure
- Treatment of eye injuries and diseases such as glaucoma
- Excellent selection of frames and sunglasses
- Free vision screenings for children and adults
- Examination of children with reading problems

Some sight-threatening conditions—such as diabetes and high blood pressure—are common in African Americans, Hispanics and other minority populations. Therefore early detection and continued monitoring are important to insure good vision and eye health.

To schedule an appointment or free screening and for more information about vision care services, please call 248-3821.

Northeast Eye Center, Multnomah County Northeast Health Center
5329 N.E. MLK Jr. Blvd., Portland
(Corner of N.E. MLK and Killingsworth)
248-3821

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You too may be surprised to find out how the Oregon Lottery is helping our kids get a good education!

Each year nearly \$250 million in Lottery proceeds helps provide a portion of what it takes to give Oregon's kindergarten to 12th grade public school students a great start on their future.

Whether kids want to be astronauts, teachers, doctors, or musicians, it's no surprise that a good education can help make dreams come true.



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