

Observing

Clark County Employees Do Their Personal Best

Customer service, teamwork, innovation, quality, dedication to leadership. These are some of the key values critical to Clark County's success as an organization. They are also words mentioned frequently to describe employees honored at the annual "Our Personal Best" Employee Award Program. This was held on Friday, January 30, at the American Legion Hall.

The Board of Clark County Commissioners—Betty Sue Morris, Judie Stanton, and Mel Gordon—presented the awards. They also invited the winners to attend their State of

County Address luncheon later in the day.

As in prior years, winners were nominated for the awards by their fellow employees. A committee of staff from many county departments made the selections in each category. And the winners are...

Team Award
The Clark County Interagency Gang Task Force

Community Service
Laura Skehan, Treasurer's Office
Customer Service

Linda Davis, Prosecuting Attorney's Office

Innovation
Charley Masco, Public Works Leadership and Management
Paul Kuter, Juvenile Services Quality
Larry Sharp, General Services Working Relations
Todd Dodgin, Information Technology
Above And Beyond The Call Of Duty

This award is a tie between Jennifer Hamilton from the Clark Regional Communications Agency and Deputy Craig Marler from the Sheriff's Office.

Public Works, contact Brian Carlson at (360) 737-6118, ext 4484.

Community Development
A new Development Services Division has been created to offer development plan review, engineering plan review, and development inspection in one place at Community Development. It was created by combining Community Development's Current Planning group with the Development Engineering and Development Inspection teams from Water Resources.

Resources group is shifting from planning to implementation, so this is a natural evolution for us," Carlson stated. "It also fits in well with the utility-based approach to activities that Environmental Services follows."

The Water Resources group is now located in the lower level of the Mulligan Building at 510 W. Mill Plain, Vancouver, which was recently vacated by the Elections Department. For more information about the Environmental Services Division of

Clark County Departments Reorganize

A number of Clark County employees changed offices this January in a major reorganization between the Public Works and Community Development Departments. Here's what happened.

Public Works
Previously located in Community Development, the Water Resources Planning program is now part of Public Works Environmental Services Division under manager Brian Carlson.

"The primary focus of the Water

City's Senior Program Exemplifies Quality Service

Vancouver's Senior Program fulfills the city's commitment to develop and deliver quality services designed to maintain wellness in body and mind, for citizens 50 years and older, from diverse backgrounds and circumstances.

In 1997, the program offered over 630 social, educational and recreational activities including hiking, skiing, cooking, cards, seminars, legal classes, health clinics, holiday events dinner shows and bazaars. The Senior program is part of the

Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department. It serves the area's 57,928 seniors from the city's Luepke Senior Center at 1009 E. McLoughlin Blvd.

Volunteer services keep the program functioning. A 17-member citizen advisory committee assists staff in providing a wide range of perspectives and in assessing growing needs and issues.

An additional 250 volunteers support varied recreational activities and special events.

Many local professionals donate their time to the program. In 1997, over 50,000 hours were donated by bankers, attorneys, pharmacists, financial planners, artists and educators.

A hot, nutrition-packed lunch is served every weekday at noon at Luepke Center. The meal is provided by the Senior Nutrition and Activities program.

To learn more about Senior Programs for the community, call 696-8202.

Public Invited to Learn Community's History

Ever wondered about the folks who once lived on historic Officers Row? For a free guided tour of the Row, meet on the front porch of Marshall House, 1301 Officers Row, each Saturday at 11 a.m.

Participants will be met by a volunteer Heritage Program docent (guide) who can answer questions and provide a one-hour tour of the houses and grounds.

Docents are also available for special group tours. Please call at least one week in advance.

Pat Jollota, historian and

Vancouver City Council member, will talk about historic tours of the downtown area at a meeting of the City of Vancouver Heritage program docents.

The lecture, which is open to the public, is Thursday, Feb. 26, from 6 to 7 p.m., in the Marshall House, 1301 Officers Row.

Prior to the lecture, Pam Brokaw, Heritage program coordinator, will provide an update on Heritage Program projects for 1998. The public is also invited to attend this portion of the meeting. Ideas for the program

are welcome.

"This is an opportunity to talk about a number of upcoming events and programs such as Heritage Weekend and Ghost Stories," Brokaw said. "We'll discuss how citizens can get involved in the city's Heritage Program."

Anyone interested in the community's history or in volunteering should join us."

For more information, call Brokaw at 696-8297 or via e-mail at pbrokaw@ci.vancouver.wa.us

Max Takes First Trip Through Tunnel

Governor John Kitzhaber and the mayors of Portland, Beaverton and Hillsboro headlined a group of local dignitaries riding the first official MAX train through the West Hills tunnel. The ride through the tunnel was another milestone as the project nears its grand Opening celebration date, Sept. 12-13, 1998.

Construction on the Westside MAX line, which is 85% complete, started in August 1993 with groundbreaking for the tunnel. The project will be built on time and within its original budget of nearly \$1 billion.

The 18-mile, 20-station

Westside line to Hillsboro is a magnet for development along the alignment. More than \$230 million worth of development and 6,000 housing units are underway within walking distance to the light rail stations. This activity complements the \$1.3 billion worth of development that has occurred along the Eastside MAX line since the decision to build.

"Westside MAX is already helping to manage growth in a fast-growing community," said Phil Bogue, president of the Tri-Met board of directors. "And when MAX opens, it will also provide quality transportation to

thousands of jobs throughout the high-tech area."

Transit service along the Westside corridor will increase 46% with the introduction of MAX, along with new and expanded bus service.

Bus routes in the Westside corridor will increase to 23, up from 17, when Westside MAX opens.

Nearly 70,000 residents will have access to transit for the first time or more service throughout the day. Additionally, there are nine park-&-ride lots with space for 3,700 cars located along the Westside MAX line.

Happy Birthday
Quayuana Washington
From Your Family
We Love You!



Ray Leary Makes A Mark in Portland's Neighborhoods

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

but adds, "Once you enter the lives of children, they decide when they're going to let you go."

He is also working with a new "team," the 20-person staff of the new adidas store, most of whom live in inner north and northeast. "Through these young people we've been able to mold pride in the adidas brand," he says. "We were able to get the quality of young people we sought, and we found them in our own backyard."

As to the store's performance, he says, "We're extremely optimistic after five months,

but retail is a day to day assessment." The customers who do come do so from as far away as Estacada and Canby, he says. adidas is making its mark in other ways. As reported in the

Observer's Feb. 4 issue, it is sponsoring a new home building project by Habitat for Humanity at 136 N.E. Failing St., with a ground breaking expected in March. Such physical improvements "will be here long after the checks are cashed," Leary says. "We want to make sure that our contributions are substantial and long-lasting."

Looking back on his childhood, Leary says, "MLK then was

extremely vital, with a general good will that extended back to the Vanport days. In the late '60s, decline set in.

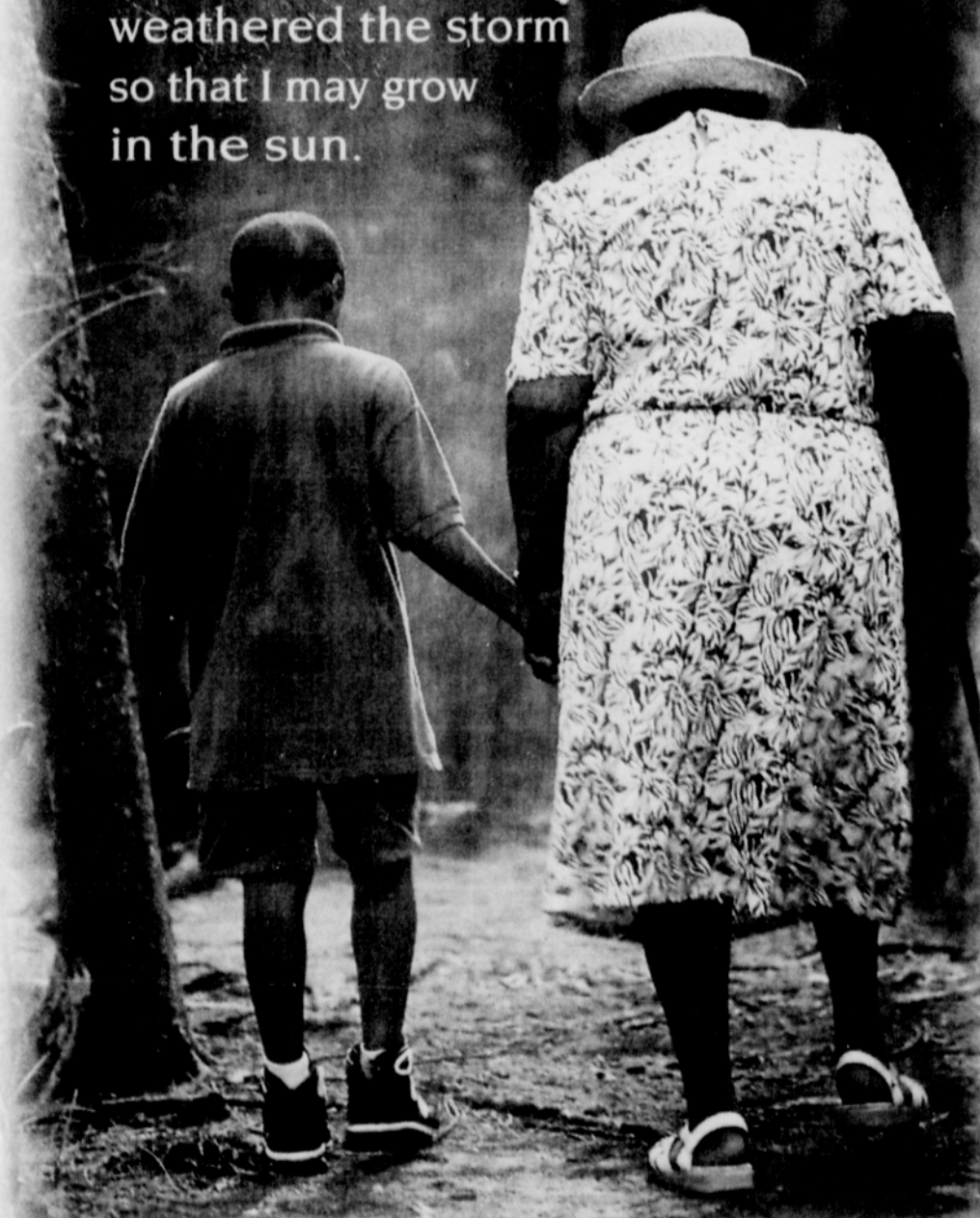
The blight and fear seemed insurmountable. Now we see a resurgence, with the resurgence of the boulevard leading the way.

To be part of that rebirth is a tremendous source of pride. I would like to continue to urge young people to see that this community can be everything we desire it to be."

Stewart agrees, "The adidas store shows what the community can accomplish, and Ray is a part of that community."

Our Heartfelt Thanks To The
Oregon Historical Society
For Their Support During Our
Black History Month Celebration

As I walk down the path
a smile pervades my face
For my people before me
weathered the storm
so that I may grow
in the sun.



Bank of America joins you in the celebration of Black History.

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Voter Registration Deadline Nears For The March 10 Election

February 17th is the voter registration deadline for the March 10th election.

The Elections Office must receive voter registration cards by 5:00 p.m. February 17th, or the cards can be

dropped off at any Oregon DMV office before their closing time February 17th. Registration cards sent in by mail must be postmarked no later than February 17th.

Persons can pick up a voter reg-

istration form at any Oregon elections office, most banks, the post office, Oregon DMV offices, or on page 57 of the blue pages of the U.S. West White Pages telephone directory.