

Observing

Invited to Kick-off Meeting

Vancouver, WA – citizens are invited to join their fellow neighbors, businesses, and Clark County staff in determining what transportation improvements will be built in the next six years.

Clark County Public Works is currently in the process of developing the 2000-2005 Transportation Improvements Program, which identifies and prioritizes the county's transportation improvements for the next six years.

The development of the Six-Year Program includes an extensive public involvement process centered on

Transportation Improvement Program Involvement Team (TIPI). The TIPI is a 25-30-member group comprised of private citizens, business representatives, school districts, city representatives, and county staff. The TIPI is responsible for the identification and prioritization of representatives, and county staff. The TIPI is responsible for the identification and prioritization of projects within the Six-Year Program and the recommendation of a program to the County Engineer.

A series of TIPI meetings and public open houses will be held over

the next five months to complete this task. The first TIPI meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 17, 1999, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Center for Education Leadership, 2921 Falk Road, Vancouver, Washington.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Heath Henderson, Transportation Improvement Program Engineer, at (360) 397-6118, ext. 4358 or Ryan Lopossa, Transportation Improvement Program Engineer, at (360) 397-6118, ext. 4572.

Payne joins retirement committee

Vancouver, WA – The Washington Association of County Officials has nominated John Payne, Clark County Deputy Treasurer, to a one-year position representing active Public Employee Retirement System (PERS) members. Mr. Payne is a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Cash Manager.

He will serve on the Retirement Advisory Committee of the Washington State Department of Retirement Systems, according to Director John F. Charles. This Committee identifies client service issues and legislative initiatives, then communicates the information back to members.

"His presence will provide a real boost to all PERS employees and

employers in southwest Washington," said Mary Gossett, Clark County benefits manager.

"They will have someone who can express local concerns and interests to the Advisory Committee."

Plan Request Public Input

Public input is invited on the City's approach to managing and maintaining safe and healthy trees along a Row.

Thursday, March 11, 4:30 p.m. Vancouver-Clark Parks & Recreation, 603 W. Evergreen, Urban Forestry Commission reviews the plan for the "Heritage Grove".

Thursday, March 18, 7 p.m. Hudson's Bay Neighborhood Association, Crosley Lanes, 2400 E. Evergreen. Presentation of the

management plan to the neighborhood.

Tuesday March 23, 7 p.m. Clark County Historic Preservation Commission, 1408 Franklin. Public hearing on the street tree removal and replacement policy and plan within the historic district

For further information, contact City Forester Elizabeth Walker at Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation 735-8836

Public Meeting to Address Issues Related to Locating Manufactured Housing in City

VANCOUVER, WA – The Vancouver Planning Commission will hold a public meeting Thursday, March 25, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Water Resources Education Center to take public testimony on issues related to locating manufactured housing within the city limits. The commission is working to determine whether or not current regulations should be modified and, if so, in what manner.

If, after the public meeting, the Planning Commission chooses to move forward and recommend to the City Council changes in the zoning code, specific code language would be developed and a formal public hearing would be held. At this time, the Planning Commission wants to determine if there is community interest to change the regulations currently in place.

Mike Heywood, opinions editor

with The Columbian, will serve as meeting facilitator. The Water Resources Education Center is at 4600 SE Columbia Way. The Commission welcomes both written and oral testimony. An "issue paper," addressing basic points of concern on the topic is available by calling the Community Development Department at 735-8873 ext. 8310.

Vancouver Symphony Orchestra Presents A French Affair Concert

Maestro Salvador Brotons will conduct the Vancouver Symphony in a program featuring exclusively French music for their March 20-21 concerts. The two pieces to be performed will be Debussy's L'Enfant Prodigue (The Prodigal Son) and Faure's Requiem.

L'Enfant Prodigue, composed in 1818, is an early choral work of Debussy and was the first place winner of the Prix de Rome Competition which helped launch the composer's career. Debussy composed this dramatic cantata in only 25 days. The text is the familiar parable of the Prodigal Son and is divided into nine scenes, one of which contains an aria that became a salon favorite around the turn of the century, much to Debussy's annoyance.

Featured soloists for L'Enfant Prodigue are soprano Gayle Strong-Price and tenor Scott Tuomi, both of Portland. Ms. Strong-Price is a versatile singer who has performed a wide range of musical repertoire from opera to spirituals. She has performed in concerts and recitals throughout Europe including France, Portugal, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. She has twice been the

time winner of the Sans Francisco Opera Auditions, and winner of the Mario Del Monaco International Vocal Competition in Italy.

Faure's Requiem will be performed with the combined voice of three choirs: the Concord Choir (David York, Director), Clark College Choir (April Duvic, Director), and Touch of Class Choir (Katie Hebner, Director). Soloists are soprano Gayle Strong-Price and baritone David Jimerson. The Requiem was originally composed in 1886-1887 as a personal tribute to Gabriel Faure's father who had recently died. Sadly, Faure's mother died shortly thereafter so the piece is a reflection of a man grieving over the loss of both parents. This masterpiece is a favorite selection of many choruses and serves as an example of the French national qualities of grace and refinement. Interestingly, when in 1924 it was performed at this great French composer's funeral service as his fitting final tribute.

David Jimerson, baritone soloist for the Faure, is currently Associate Professor of Music and Director of Music Education at Portland State University where he teaches voice

and oratorio is extensive. He has been a featured performer with the Oregon Symphony, Grand Rapids Symphony, Tucson Symphony, Portland Symphonic Choir and the Peter Britt Festival. Mr. Jimerson's operatic credits include performances with Portland Opera, Seattle Opera, Nevada Opera, Arizona Opera and Anchorage Opera. He is in demand as an adjudicator in singing competitions and serves as Minister of Music at Valley Community Presbyterian Church in Portland.

The Vancouver Symphony will perform Saturday, March 20th at 2:30 pm and Sunday, March 21st at 7 pm. Concert tickets are available at Beacock's Music and Runyan's Jewelers in Vancouver, Runyan Sellers in Camas, Wayside Books and video in Battle Ground, and in Portland at Classical Millennium. Prices are \$15 general admission, \$10 seniors, and \$5 for students and may be purchased at the door as well. Both concerts will be held at Royal Durst Theatre at the Vancouver School of Arts and Academics, 3101 Main Street, Vancouver. For further information please contact the Symphony office at 735-7275.

POLICE NEWS

CRIME STOPPERS

Wanted Subject

The Portland Police Bureau, in cooperation with Crime Stoppers, is asking for your help in locating and apprehending a subject who turned a shoplift into an armed robbery.

On Sunday, February 14, 1999, at approximately 1:13 in the afternoon, at Lamb's Thriftway, 7410 SW Olson Road, a subject, who was stopped outside the store by the Loss Prevention Officer for shoplifting, displayed a handgun in his waistband and ordered the officer to get away.

The suspect is described as a white male, 18 to 22-years of age, 6'00" tall, weighing approximately 180 pounds. He was clean shaven and his right eyebrow, which was pierced, was adorned with a bone shaped type jewelry. At the time he was wearing a gray stocking cap, green BDU pants, black jump boots, and smelled like he had been around a campfire.

Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information, reported to Crime Stoppers, which leads to an arrest in this case or any unsolved felony crime, and you need not give your name. Call Crime Stoppers at (503) 823-HELP.



Homicide Victim Identified

The victim in the homicide which occurred on March 5, 1999, at 3620 NE 82nd Ave., #124, has been identified as Rodger Paul Lex, 53 years, who was a Portland resident. An autopsy determined that Lex died of a gunshot wound to the torso.

Apparently, Lex was at 3620 NE

82nd Ave., #124, the Madison Motel, visiting acquaintances in the motel room when the shooting occurred. A witness called 911 to report the shooting and when officers arrived, they found Rodger Lex deceased inside the motel room.

The three persons of interest

who were seen fleeing the area on foot, a Hispanic male, a white male and a white female have not been located at his time.

Anyone with information is asked to call the Portland Police Bureau Detective Division at 823-0400.

Alert For Elderly Citizens Regarding Theft Scam

The Portland Police Bureau Elder Crimes Detective is investigating a series of thefts which have been targeting the elderly. On February 26, 1999, three of the theft scams occurred in southeast and north Portland. A group of males, which includes two white males, one light complected black male and one dark complected black male, have been arriving at the victim's residence in a newer white sport utility vehicle. On each occasion two of the males go to the residence which is occupied by an elderly person and represent themselves as workers for the Portland Water Bureau. They inform the homeowner that they need to inspect their water pipes because the water pressure is

low. One of the males then distracts the elderly person by engaging them in conversation while the other male locates the victim's cash. The white sport utility vehicle does not have any identifying logos on it and the suspects have not displayed Portland Water Bureau identification.

Elderly persons in the Portland area should be warned not to let any strangers into their homes, and that the Portland Water Bureau does not conduct home inspections unless it is at the specific request of the homeowner.

Anyone with information regarding the suspects in this theft scam is asked to call Detective Sergeant Mitch Copp at 823-0400.

Fatal Traffic Accident on Highway 30

On March 2nd, 1999 at approximately 5:12 p.m. a fatal traffic accident occurred on highway 30 at NW 107th Ave. Lucille Sivyver, of Northwest Portland, was driving a 1993 Cadillac east on Hwy. 30 and attempted to turn left, onto NE 107th Ave. Lawrence Lucas an Oregon State Police Sergeant was traveling west on hwy. 30 in the left lane of westbound traffic, when Lucille Sivyver turned in front of him and he struck the passenger side of her Cadillac. Sergeant Lucas was driving an unmarked Oregon State Police vehicle; a 1997 black Ford Explorer.

The front seat passenger in Lucille Sivyver's vehicle, Roland Sivyver, 85 years, was injured in the accident and later died at Emanuel Hospital. Lucille Sivyver was taken to Emanuel Hospital and treated for her injuries. Sergeant Lucas was driven to Good Samaritan hospital for evaluation and was released. Sergeant Lucas was wearing his seat belt and the air bag deployed in his vehicle. The air bag deployed in Lucille and Roland Sivyver's vehicle.

No citations were issued. This case, as in all fatal traffic accidents, will be referred to the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office for review.

Sergeant Lucas is a 19-year veteran with the Oregon State police and is assigned to the Criminal investigation Division, at District I Headquarters.

GOP Wants Kicker Back in the Hands of Taxpayers

SALEM – Republican leaders want Oregon's tax surplus put back in the hands of the people who helped create it – the taxpayers. "It belongs to them, let's give it back," says House Majority Leader Steve Harper, R-Klamath Falls.

The projected surplus is \$194 million dollars and according to Oregon's "kicker" law, if actual revenues exceed the estimated by more than two percent, it must be returned to taxpayers. It's expected, on average, Oregon taxpayers would receive about \$125.00 each.

Since the law was enacted in 1979, the Legislature has returned the surplus five times and suspended it twice. A simple majority of the

Legislature can suspend the tax refund for individuals, but it takes a 3/5 vote to suspend the payment of corporate tax refunds. For this biennium, corporate income tax collections are actually \$82 million dollars below projected levels.

A personal refund would amount to roughly 5.5 percent of an individual's 1998 state income tax liability.

In 1997, the surplus amounted to \$432 million dollars, with an average refund of \$282.00.

Republicans have given "kicker" refunds the past two legislative sessions, while Democrats suspended the refunds in both 1991 and 1993.

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