

Observing Vancouver

Vancouver 4th Of July Public Safety Fact Sheet

Vancouver's renowned Fourth of July celebration is again expected to draw thousands of people to festivities at the Vancouver National Historic Reserve.

Official holiday fun begins with arts and crafts vendors at 10 a.m. Sunday, July 4. The fireworks display is at 10 p.m. Participants are strongly encouraged to use mass transit to get to the site. Several roads will be closed and parking will be restricted around the event site.

Public safety for the Fourth of July celebration is coordinated by the Vancouver Police Services. Fireworks sales, music, concessions and the fireworks display are coordinated by the non-profit Fourth of July committee.

Bus Service

Festival officials suggest visitors leave their cars at home or park-and-ride sites and take advantage of a very good deal - free C-TRAN bus service.

Express service to the festival site starts Sunday at 2 p.m. and runs every 30 minutes from the park-and-ride lot at Salmon Creek on 134th Street, the Evergreen Transit Center on N.E. 18th Street, and Vancouver Mall (upper north parking lot near Mervyn's). Most regular routes will run on an extended Sunday/Holiday schedule. Express bus service will also run before and after the fireworks display. Portland's Tri-Met buses will offer service to and from the fireworks at regular fares.

After the fireworks show, C-TRAN and Tri-Met buses will be parked along Fort Vancouver Way between Evergreen Boulevard and Mill Plain. For more information, call (360) 695-0123 or (360) 695-2760 (TDD hearing impaired), or visit C-TRAN's web site at www.c-tran.com.

Parking

Parking will be prohibited on many streets near the event site, including SR 14. Free parking will be available in the downtown area, at all metered street spaces and in City of Vancouver lots. These lots are at:

- Evergreen and Broadway
- Fifth and Broadway
- City Hall, 210 E. 13th
- 11th and Broadway
- Citizens Service Center, 1313 Main St.

Street And Road Closures

Several streets around the Fort site will be closed to traffic. Passes will be required for vehicles entering the area. Residents living inside the barricaded intersections must secure entrance passes from the City of Vancouver Office of Neighborhoods, 696-8222. This controlled access is for the benefit and convenience of local residents, and to provide quick and easy emergency vehicle passage.

These streets will be closed beginning at 6 a.m. on the Fourth of July:

- Mill Plain and Fort Vancouver Way
- Evergreen Boulevard at I-5 West Reserve
- Evergreen Boulevard at U Street
- Evergreen Blvd at Ft. Vancouver Way
- Ft. Vancouver Way and E. 5th St.
- E. 5th St. and East Reserve
- E. 9th St. and East Reserve
- E. 8th St. and "T" St.
- E. 6th St. and "U" St.
- 5th St. and "U" St.
- Mill Plain and East Reserve
- Columbia Way at Who Song and Larry's east to Columbia Shores
- Columbia Shores Drive at the Burlington Northern railroad tracks.

Closures at other times include:

- Mill Plain Boulevard between East Reserve Street and Ft. Vancouver

Fire Marshal's Office To Inspect All Fireworks Stands

Fourth of July fireworks will go on sale in Vancouver and may be purchased from approved stands and used from noon on June 28 through noon on July 6.

Before stands can open, the City of Vancouver fire marshal's office conducts thorough inspections and issues permits to authorize the retail fireworks stands and storage facilities. Display sites, including the barge used to launch Vancouver's Fourth of July aerial fireworks, are also carefully inspected for safe compliance with the Uniform Fire Code.

Vancouver Fire Marshal Dave Sauerbrey reminds parents to ensure

Way will be closed at 7 a.m. • The off ramps on SR 14 at Columbia Shores Drive will be closed at 6 p.m. • After the fireworks some streets will change to one-way only.

Additional Closure Information

The Waterfront Trail will be closed from Who Song and Larry's Restaurant eastbound throughout the day.

Access will be restricted to the area of Columbia Business Park, Columbia Shores condominiums, Quantum Residential, C.E. John Co. and Beaches and McMenamins restaurants. Access to these areas on July 4 will be by permit only. For permit information for Columbia Shores resident and businesses, call Mark at 699-1592. Checkpoints will be posted on the access road to Columbia Shores Drive off SR 14 and Columbia Way at Who Song & Larry's Restaurant.

Beginning the evening of July 3, various areas around the site will be marked "no parking."

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site will be open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. admission is \$2 for adults, \$4 for families and free to youth age 16 and under. Ongoing activities during the day include talks on the fort's history, plus cooking and blacksmithing demonstrations. The visitor center will be open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. with no charge.

Jack Murdock Aviation Center - Pearson Field

Pearson Field will close flight operations at 6 p.m. on July 4. Flight operations will resume after the fireworks and after the runways have been inspected to insure safe operation. Estimated time of reopening is midnight.

Pearson Air Museum, 1115 E. 5th Street, will be open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Special July 4 admission will be one-half price. Members enter free. Organizers plan to have antique and classic airplanes on display south of the new restoration hangar. WWII fighters and other warbirds will visit the field. Open cockpit biplane rides will be available. Would-be pilots can fly a flight simulator, a computer-aided program that features a 17-inch computer monitor and realistic flight sequences.

Clark College

Campus buildings will be closed. Parking is allowed and security personnel will be on duty. Fireworks, alcohol, skateboards, open fires, barbecues or overnight parking are not allowed.

Marshall And Luepke Centers

Marshall Community Center and swim pool, 1009 E. McLoughlin,

will be closed. Luepke Senior Center will be closed.

Marshall And Grant Houses

Marshall House on Officers Row will be open from 1 to 7 p.m. with tours to view the former home of General George C. Marshall, Secretary of State and Nobel Peace Prize recipient.

The Grant House will be open from noon to 7 p.m. the unique gift shop will sell special 4th of July gifts. Both houses will have a "Flying Our Heritage" exhibit.

General OO Howard House

The Howard House will be open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. The house features the exhibit "One Place Across Time," an engaging story of local history.

Blood Drive

The American Red Cross and the Southwest Washington Medical Center chapter of the Washington State Nurses Association will sponsor a blood drive from noon to 5 p.m., Sunday, July 4, in the parking lot at the O.O. Howard House.

Information For Boaters

Roadway access to the city's Marine Park boat launch will close at 4 p.m. on Sunday, July 4. A "no-wake" zone is in effect for the areas around the Marine Park boat launch and Terminal One. Boaters may leave the park, but cannot enter after 4 p.m.

A safety zone will be established around the fireworks barge, which will be anchored east of the I-5 Bridge. Boaters are cautioned to stay away from the barge. Boats are not allowed on the Washington beach from I-5 to Marine Park.

Enforcement agencies will check boats for overloading, flotation devices and alcohol misuse.

Other Visitor Information

As in past years, personal fireworks are strictly prohibited at the Ft. Vancouver National Historic Site and in adjacent public areas. Alcohol, pets, tents, canopies or similar shelters and use of charcoal are also prohibited at the festival site. These rules will be vigorously enforced in the interest of public safety.

The lost-and-found site will be at the picnic shelter just east of the Ft. Vancouver Visitor Center. First Aid, provided by the Southwest Washington Medical Center, will be available at the same location.

All activities will carry on rain or shine. Umbrellas may be used until early evening. An announcement from the stage will advise participants to close umbrellas prior to the fireworks display.

A 20-foot length limit on vehicles using the handicapped parking area at the event site will be enforced.

City Seeks People With Cultural Interests

The City of Vancouver is seeking applicants to fill four vacancies on the Cultural Commission.

This 11-member commission serves in an advisory capacity to City Council on matters relating to arts and culture as well as international events and activities. The Commission acts as a central clearinghouse for information on arts, cultural and international activities and provides guardianship of public art assets.

Commissioners are appointed by the mayor, confirmed by city council and serve for a period of three years.

Interested applicants should contact Peggy Furno in the City Manager's Office at 360-696-8484, for an application. Completed applications must be submitted to Vancouver City Hall, P.O. Box 1995, Vancouver, WA 98668-1995, or by Fax at 360-696-8049 by Monday, July 26.

the safety of children by closely supervising fireworks use, and by using only legal fireworks purchased from approved stands.

"It's important for parents to be present when fireworks are ignited, and to ensure that the materials are lit in an open area away from homes, vehicles and any combustibles," says Sauerbrey.

He adds that parents should teach children to be prepared, safe and responsible:

- read and follow all warnings,
- remain a safe distance from the devices,
- never try to re-light fireworks

that have not fully functioned • keep a hose and bucket of water nearby

By state law, fireworks sales are limited to people age 16 and over. Sellers must require proof of age with a driver's license or photo identification card issued by a school or government. Very young children should not be allowed to use fireworks. Even sparklers, which burn at over 1000 degrees Fahrenheit, can be dangerous if used improperly.

Vancouver's Fire Prevention Bureau is dedicated to promoting and enhancing safety through education, code enforcement and fire investigation.

POLICE NEWS

CRIMESTOPPERS Found Body

The Tigard Police Department, in cooperation with Crime Stoppers, is asking for your help in determining the identity and cause of death of an infant.

On Saturday, April 18, 1998, at about 12:30 in the afternoon, three young children found the body of an infant while playing in a wetland area of Tigard. The body was discovered in a swampy

area behind a building materials business in the 8100 block of SW Hunziker Street. Highway 217 borders the other side of the location.

The body, which was in a pillowcase, was that of a male of an unknown race, and may have been at the location for as long as two or three months. An autopsy indicates the infant may have

been a new born. Crime Stoppers in offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information, reported to Crime Stoppers, which leads to a resolution in this case or any unsolved felony crime and you do not have to give your name. Call the Tigard Police Department (503) 684-4997.

Community Notification Of A Sex Offender

1100 Block of SW 10th Ave.

The Portland Police Bureau is notifying the community of a Registered Sex Offender living in the Portland area. ORS 181.588 allows law enforcement agencies to release such information to the public regarding convicted offenders, who are required to register, when such information will increase public awareness and promote community safety.

The Sex Offender has been convicted of a sex offense that requires he register with a law enforcement agency in Oregon. His criminal history places him in a category which indicates he may reoffend. This subject is not wanted by the police at this time.

The Offender has served his sentence and is no longer being supervised by the Oregon Department of Correc-

tions. The purpose of this community notification is to reduce the chances of further victimization by this offender as well as to promote community awareness and child safety. Intimidating, harassing, or threatening of this registered offender will not be tolerated and may be a crime.

If you have any information about this offender committing additional crimes, please contact the Detectives of

the Sexual Assault Detail at 823-4636. Subject's name is Lucas Amansec, MW, 20 year old, 5', 123 lbs, black hair, brown eyes.

Lucas Amansec has been convicted of Child Molestation in the First Degree and is no longer under supervision. He has targeted young girl victims in the past. It is believed there is a substantial risk Amansec could reoffend.

Portland Police Want More Pay

Portland's police union wants to make city officers the highest paid in the state. A new pay proposal has been sent to the city... asking for pay hikes over an eleven step plan instead of the current seven steps presently used. The top pay for an officer today is just over

51-thousand dollars. The new plan calls for raises after ten, 15, 20 and 25 years. Currently, the salary top occurs after five years. A spokesman for the Portland Police Association says the present plan hurts recruiting and causes officers to leave for more money elsewhere.

Observing Vancouver Continued...

Garbage Customers Get a Rate Reduction

The City of Vancouver and Clark County recently negotiated a garbage rate reduction as part of the approval of the sale of the Columbia Resource Company transfer station and disposal contract to Waste Connections, Inc. "Although the savings are small, it is

important we pass them on to the customer," says Tami Kihns, the city's Solid Waste Manager.

A typical residential customer will save about a dime each month. Commercial customers with a two-yard container picked up once a week will

save about \$1.10 per month. Self-haul customers will see a decrease of \$1.75 per ton at the transfer station.

Rates have remained stable or have been reduced over the last three years. The new rates go into effect July 1.

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TRI - MET NEWS

MAX SAFETY

Keeping you safe

Recent accidents involving MAX light rail resulted in the deaths of two pedestrians. We are deeply saddened by the loss of these two individuals, and we want to prevent similar tragedies.


Tri-Met wants to keep pedestrians safe in areas where MAX runs. We are doing a comprehensive review of all pedestrians light rail areas along the 33-mile MAX line. Additional safety measures are being considered, including more signs and crossing arms.

DOING YOUR PART

You can help prevent accidents from occurring. Here are some safety tips to follow:

- 1 Be alert. Look both ways if you're near a MAX intersection
- 2 Watch for trains in both directions. Don't assume that the way is clear after one train passes by. Another train may be coming from the other direction.
- 3 Cross the tracks only at designated pedestrian crossing, especially if the crossing arms are down. That signals a train is coming.
- 4 Never walk on the tracks. MAX trains are quiet and sometimes hard to hear over regular traffic noise.
- 5 Remember that MAX trains run almost 24 hours a day. Even after MAX service stops running, the trains use the tracks to return to maintenance facilities.
- 6 Don't let children play on or near the tracks. Please stay behind the white bumpy strip on the platform.

If you have any suggestions, questions or concerns about MAX safety please call us at **503-238-RIDE**.



TRI-MET
238-RIDE

How we get there matters.

TTY 238-5811 • www.tri-met.org