

Class Helps Seniors Tackle Tech

The non-profit education organization OASIS has new program to help mature adults use technology and the Internet to enrich their lives.

"OASIS Connections" is a program making Internet access and training available to seniors at the Multnomah County Library-North Portland Branch, the Police Activities League in downtown Beaverton and the Legacy Health

System in northwest Portland.

A class called Introduction to Computers gives an overview of the computer, basic use of the Windows operating system, basic keyboarding and mouse skills, terminology, and basic word processing.

Introduction to the Internet concentrates on how to use the Internet and e-mail to connect with family friends health information

and other resources on-line.

A new course in 2002 will include Internet Immersion, exploring the more advanced features of the Internet, such as chat rooms and message boards.

The curriculum for each course is designed for mature adults to ensure ease of use and focus on topics of interest to this audience.

For more information, call 503-241-3059.

Tentative contract agreement reached with city workers

(AP) — A tentative contract agreement was reached early Monday between the city and about 1,800 union employees who walked off the job for about 45 minutes in the early morning.

"I don't know if we're vying for the Guinness Book of Records' shortest strike in history," said Yvonne Martinez, a spokeswoman for the District Council of Trade Unions.

Details of the agreement are still in flux, she said. Both sides, however, agreed to create a joint committee to review health care changes, a main sticking point in the negotiations.

Worksite meetings would be held in coming days and results of a ratification vote would be known in about three weeks, Martinez said.

Negotiations broke down Friday after 13 hours of debate about a new health care plan. Yvonne

Deckard, Portland's director of human services, said she asked for a "timeout" to avoid working on delicate contract language late at night. Deckard said she offered to resume talks Saturday, but the union declined.

"We want to get a deal that we think is fair to our employees," she said. "But we also want a deal that is not on the backs of the taxpayers."

A strike likely would have taken parking-meter attendants off the streets and affected the city's ability to clean backed-up sewers or pick up leaves.

The threat of a strike led Portland police to issue an order to limit arrests and bookings of non-violent suspects at the county jail, in case fingerprint technicians walked off their jobs. Local police precincts also would have shut down, but patrol officers and 911 operators would have continued

to work.

Facing increased healthcare costs and a shrinking general fund budget, the city wanted trade union workers to begin paying a portion of their health care premiums. The costs would be up to \$600 a year for family coverage.

The city also wanted a 25 percent cut in costs for its most popular health plan, on top of an 8 percent cut implemented July 1. That cut meant workers would face deductibles for the first time, perhaps \$250 a year, and many would pay 20 percent of medical costs instead of 10 percent.

After decades of top-notch benefits, the changes are too much to take, union leaders said.

"When I came to work for the city, they promised me they'd take care of me, and now they've dropped that ball," said city employee John Wilson.

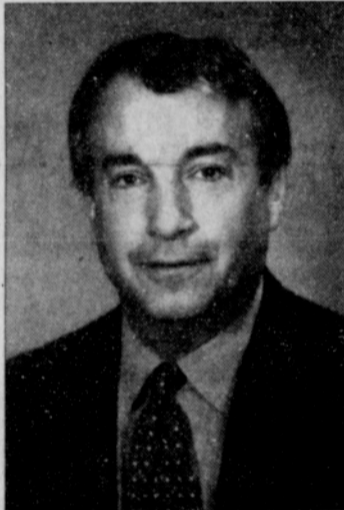
Gresham Police Chief Seeks Sheriff

Gresham Police Chief Bernie Giusto has entered the race for election as Multnomah County Sheriff.

Giusto made the announcement last week in a news conference listing key public safety issues facing the sheriff's office and other police agencies in the Portland area over the next five years.

He outlined a leadership initiative to engage citizens in setting policy direction and priorities within the Multnomah County Corrections System. He also proposed a set of new priorities for the law enforcement operations for the sheriff's office.

Giusto has led the Gresham Police Department since August



Bernie Giusto

1996. Prior experience included a 22-year career with the Oregon State Police where he attained the

rank of lieutenant, serving in such roles as Special Operations, Senior Policy Advisor to the Superintendent of State Police and Public Information Officer.

Giusto has a strong civic involvement record. He served three separate terms (1989-1995) as a member of the Gresham City Council twice being elected Council President. He is a past member of the Metropolitan Human Relations (Rights) Commission and a charter member of the Multnomah County Commission on Children and Families.

Gov. John Kitzhaber has twice appointed Giusto to the Tri-Met Board of Directors. He currently serves as the Director for Tri-Met's District #6.

Food Stamp Users Increase as Oregon Economy Declines

(AP) - The number of Oregonians on food stamps jumped more than 77,000 in September compared with September of last year another sign that the state economy is in rough shape.

The 32 percent increase pushed the number of Oregon food stamp users to 315,691, roughly 9 percent of the population.

State economist Tom

Potowsky said there's no question the rise is related to Oregon's unemployment rate, now at 6.4 percent. Many of the recipients likely are minimum-wage workers, who are often the first to lose their jobs in a recession and who don't have savings to tide them over, he said.

Jim Neely, state food stamp coordinator, said it was the big-

gest year-to-year increase he has seen since 1974, when he started working in the assistance program.

People out of work or whose hours have been cut account for much of the increase, he said. But the food stamp program has also streamlined the application process and is reaching more Oregonians eligible for help, Neely said.

Oregon to Become Breeding Site for Condors

Biologists are hoping to breed endangered condors at Portland's Oregon Zoo.

The zoo will be the fourth breeding site for the California condor, a bird with a 9-foot wingspan that once lived in the Pacific Northwest but nearly vanished from the Earth 20 years ago.

Federal biologists considered proposals from zoos in San Francisco and Oklahoma but chose the Oregon Zoo because of its dedication to wildlife conservation.

"What the Oregon Zoo did right is they really found out the details first," said Bruce Palmer, condor recovery coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "They visited the existing condor facilities and asked themselves

the hard questions about what it would take to do it and how committed they were."

About 100 captive condors live in breeding centers in Los Angeles, San Diego and Boise, Idaho. Adding the Oregon Zoo to the list will boost the captive population and will produce more condor chicks for release into the wild, Palmer said.

Depending on how soon the zoo builds structures such as vast flight pens, young condors that have not reached breeding age may arrive in Portland next summer. Three or four breeding pairs of condors would then follow and could produce eggs the following year, Palmer said.

Blair Csuti, the Oregon Zoo's

conservation program director, said the zoo will house up to 16 condors. Officials immediately will begin raising funds for the construction, which they expect will boost the zoo's national role in wildlife conservation.

"We might be able to build the flight pen for next year for a half-million dollars, but we'd need about \$2 million to \$3 million for a complete facility," he said.

California condors were once common in Oregon. They were mentioned in the journals of the Lewis and Clark expedition 200 years ago. But settlers hunted and poisoned them to near extinction. The Oregon Zoo's success in other animal-conservation efforts helped it get the condor project.



Classifieds/Bids

The Multnomah County Health Department is currently recruiting for the following position:

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSE

Application materials and formal job announcements are available at:

www.co.multnomah.or.us/jobs/, in person or by mailing a self-addressed stamped envelope requesting application forms to: Multnomah County Human Resources Division, 1120 SW 5th Avenue, First Floor Lobby, PO Box 14700, Portland OR, 97293-0700. Assisted access to Multnomah County job information and web site is available at Multnomah County Libraries.

Multnomah County Health Department is actively recruiting persons from various ethnic and cultural backgrounds to enhance service to our diverse communities. Bilingual/bicultural candidates are encouraged to apply. An Equal Opportunity Employer



CITY OF WEST LINN

Job Opportunity

Accounting Supervisor

\$3402-\$4341/mo DOQ. Under the direction of the Finance Director, plans, organizes and directs the accounting function of the City of West Linn. Designs, recommends and implements new accounting systems and internal control policies and procedures. Coordinates, trains and reviews the work of the accounting staff. Provides administrative and technical assistance to the Finance Director. Requires Bachelor's Degree in accounting; a minimum of four years experience in audit, general accounting, report preparation and computerized systems experience (IBM AS400/HTE); and two years experience in supervision. Governmental accounting, work processing and computer spreadsheet experience desirable. Successful candidate must pass pre-employment drug screen. Application packets are available at West Linn City Hall, 22500 Salamo Road, West Linn, OR 97068, or by calling (503) 722-3427 (voice mail) or (503) 656-4518 TDD. Completed information must be received by November 16, 2001, 4:00 p.m. EEO



Clark County, Washington Job Opportunities

We are seeking qualified candidates to be part of our dynamic public service organization.

SENIOR COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM SPECIALIST
\$3,802-\$5,374/mo. DOQ

SHERIFF'S SUPPORT SPECIALIST II
\$11.47-\$14.65/hr. DOQ

Job information, applications, and benefits information are available from:

Clark County Human Resources
1013 Franklin St, Vancouver WA
Job Hotline: (360) 397-6018
TDD: (360) 397-6032
www.co.clark.wa.us
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Notice To Contractors

WWTP Digester Gas Moisture Removal System, CIP No. 309700

Sealed bids for the **WWTP Digester Gas Moisture Removal System, CIP No. 309700** will be received by the Office of the Director of the Department of Environmental Services at Gresham City Hall, 1333 N.W. Eastman Parkway, Gresham, Oregon 97030, until **Friday, November 9, 2001, 9:00 a.m. local time**. The bids will be publicly opened at **1:00 pm on November 9, 2001 in the Springwater Trail Room, City Hall**.

The character of the work is the installation of a filtration system to remove moisture from methane gas produced by anaerobic digesters at the City's wastewater treatment plant, which is used as fuel for the plant's Waukesha CoGeneration Engine.

The major quantities involved are:

- Centrifugal Blower, Max 5 hp, 900 scfh
- Particulate Filter, 5 micron, 900 scfh
- Digester Gas Chiller
- Piping
- Concrete Slab, approx. 8' x 32'

Questions concerning this project should be addressed to Clint Moshofsky, Project Manager, (503) 618-2637.

Plans and specifications may be reviewed at the office of the Department of Environmental Services at the Gresham City Hall. Copies may be obtained from the Department of Environmental Services by paying a non-refundable fee of \$25 for each set of plans and specifications requested. If ordered by mail, add a \$5 processing and mailing charge. Prior to obtaining plans and specifications, contractors must have purchased the current City of Gresham *Public Works Standards 2001*, as shown by the records of the Department of Environmental Services.

This project is for a public work and is subject to ORS 279.348 to 279.380, the Oregon Prevailing Wage Law.

All proposals must be submitted on the forms furnished by the City of Gresham, mailed or delivered to the Department of Environmental Services, City of Gresham, in a sealed envelope plainly marked, **"SEALED BID for the WWTP Digester Gas Moisture Removal System, CIP No. 309700"**, bearing the name and address of the bidder. Each must be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the total bid.

BY ORDER OF CITY COUNCIL
1333 N.W. Eastman parkway
Gresham, Oregon 97030

Request For Proposals

MERC, a commission of Metro Regional Government, Located at 777 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Portland, OR 97232-2736, is requesting proposals for Special Inspection/Third Party Testing and Inspection Services for Steel Construction for the Oregon Convention Center (OCC) Expansion Project. MERC requests a Testing Agency to provide services necessary to evaluate, inspect, and provide testing for steel construction for the Expansion of the Oregon Convention Center in accordance with Specification Section 01400 prepared by Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Partnership (ZGF), project architect.

Proposals will be due no later than **October 30, 2001, 11:00AM** in the Oregon Convention Center Expansion Project Office at 834 NE Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd, Portland, OR 97232, located across the street from the Convention Center. Postmark dates will not be considered.

A copy of the complete RFP may be obtained by contacting in writing the Oregon Convention Center Expansion Office via fax (503-238-0647) or e-mail (vickibaker@oregoncc.org). Please provide in writing the contact name, company name, phone number and fax number to which to send the documents. Copies will not be mailed. All requests will be answered within one business day of receipt. It is the responsibility of the requesting party to verify receipt of the RFP documents; please provide in writing the contact name, company name, phone number and fax number to which to send the documents. Copies will not be mailed. All request will be answered within one business day of receipt. It is the responsibility of the requesting party to verify receipt of the RFP documents; please contact the OCC Expansion Office at 503-238-0607 if there is any problem or delay in receiving a requested copy.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Worksystems inc. (WSI) is issuing an RFP for a design center development plan in N/NE Portland.

The RFP is available at <http://www.worksystems.org/contractor/contractorinfo.htm>.

All funding opportunities are listed at www.worksystems.org under Contractor Information. If you wish to be notified about future funding opportunities, please email: lillianmick@worksystems.org and ask to be added to the procurement notification list. All notifications are done by email only. If you have additional questions regarding procurement, please call 503-241-4600.

Come visit us on the web at
www.portlandobserver.com