

The Daily Insider

Southern Washington Edition

Library expansion on hold until February

Although the need is real, the planning pretty well completed and the support organized for a \$48 million bond issue to expand the Vancouver Community library by almost double and expand the Cascade Park Community Library by ten times, the Fort Vancouver Regional Library District board of trustees last night agreed to postpone the election from May 20, to Feb. 3, 2004.

The sense of the decision was that times are too uncertain to ask voters to tackle this particular issue. But in the background was the feeling that a case has not been made for the expansion.

Voters will be asked, first, to establish a new library financing subdistrict from which tax support would come. That district would include a greater Vancouver area, with the exception of the Salmon Creek-Hazel Dell area, already a successful library financing subdistrict, whose voters approved creation of the Three Creeks Community Library.

If the district were created voters, in the same election people would vote on the bond issue supported by a 21-cent per \$1,000 assessed valuation tax rate (about \$31.50 per year for a \$150,000 piece of property). Approval of the bond issue would be contingent on a 60 percent majority vote.

Omnibus appropriations bill will aid county

Expected to be signed by the president, the U.S. House-Senate Omnibus Appropriations bill contains almost \$9 million for Clark County projects, according to U.S. Sen. **Patty Murray** (D-Wash.).

Included in the bill is \$3 million in federal funds for improvements to Interstate 205 between the I-205 bridge and NE 83rd Street.

Another \$3 million is set aside for improvements to SW 1st Street and NW Lake Road in Camas.

C-TRAN will receive \$2.6 to improve the Vancouver Mall Transit Center.

The Maritime Fire and Safety Association is in line to receive \$312,000, to be used to support MFAS fire, oil and toxic spill response and cleanup in the Lower Columbia River.

Omnibus bill's \$32 million appropriations for Columbia River projects aids channel project

The Columbia River Channel Improvement Project received an additional \$2 million from the U.S. House-Senate Omnibus Appropriations bill, reports **Dave Hunt**, executive director of the project.

Congress appropriated \$4.5 million for the project in 2001. Hunt says the new appropriation will be used to begin environmental studies for the project that would deepen the shipping channel to accommodate larger ships.

Of \$32 million appropriated for Columbia River improvements, \$16.3 is allocated to maintenance dredging on the main stem of the river and \$9.2 million for dredging

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at the mouth of the river. Another \$4.4 million will be allocated for repair of the John Day lock and dam to support continued barge traffic to upper Columbia and Snake River ports.

Margaret Colf-Hepola elected president of the North Clark Historical Museum

Margaret Colf-Hepola, one of its founders, has been elected president of the North Clark Historic Museum.

Serving with Colf-Hepola are **Ken Viles**, vice president, **Roberta Emerick**, secretary, and **Cindy Sutton**, treasurer.

Portland International Airport from a Clark County perspective gets an airing Thursday

The economic and environmental impacts of Portland International Airport on Clark County will be discussed by a four-member panel at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, in Library Hall, 1007 E Mill Plain Boulevard.

The sub title of the meeting, sponsored by the Forum at the Library, is "Balancing Economic Benefits with Quality of Life Impacts."

Panelists are **Chris Corich**, general manager, Portland International Airport operations and maintenance, **Gary Thornton**, chair of the Clark County Citizens Noise Advisory Committee, **Robert Elliott**, executive director of the Southwest Washington Clean Air Agency, and **Tom Jacobs**, Clark County Airport Issues Roundtable.

There is no charge for the forum. For further information, call 695-1566.

Wednesday electronic events

Vancouver Symphony Orchestra: Mexican Traditions—4 p.m. CVTV
Bravo! Vancouver: Mostly Mozart—5:30 p.m. CVTV
Portland Pilots at Gonzaga (live)—7 p.m. KPAM
Telecommunications Commission (2/5)—7 p.m. CVTV
Taking a Stand For Youth—9 p.m. CVTV

Stocks of northwest interest at 4 p.m. EST, Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2002

Alaska Air Group	17.92	-.54	Linear Technology	30.00	+.14
Alcoa	20.53	-.42	Microsoft	24.53	-.19
Amazon.com	21.19	-.20	Nautilus	14.29	-.29
Bank of America	69.75	-.06	Nike	45.47	-.09
Bank of Clark County	15.00	unch	Nordstrom	17.25	-.45
Bemis	43.11	-.83	PepsiCo	40.05	-.19
Boeing	30.18	+.18	Precision Cast	24.60	-.29
Boise Cascade	24.44	-.51	RLRN	17.04	-.52
CenturyTel	27.00	-.64	Starbucks	22.83	-.08
Costco	29.37	-.47	TSM	6.98	-.09
Expeditors Intl.	33.16	-.15	Tektronix	15.81	-.24
Georgia Pacific	14.87	-.28	US Bancorp	20.65	-.05
HPQ	17.81	-.63	Wash. Mutual	35.73	+.09
Intel	16.80	+.09	W. Coast Bancorp	15.42	-.31
Kyocera	55.32	-.43	Weyerhaeuser	50.57	+.12

DOW: 8000.6 -40.55 ■ NASDAQ: 1334.32 -12.22 ■ S&P: 845.13 -6.04

Town Tabloids and The Weather

Ginger Metcalf celebrating a gorgeous big-O day. ■■■ **Sharon Wylie** knowing class when she sees it. ■■■ **Debbie Deane** giving 62,500 pixels meaning and beauty. ■■■ **Lou Broncaccio** taking the cake. ■■■ **Gail Spoler** finding time for lunch. ■■■ **Wednesday**, gray with rain, 50. **Thursday**, gray and rainy, 50. **Friday**, rainy and gray, 50.

Acapulco	90/70
Athens	40/27
Chicago	38/24
Dallas	58/43
Hong Kong	73/62
Los Angeles	66/48
London	46/35
New Orleans	70/55
New York	39/30
Orlando	78/58
Paris	41/29
Phoenix	72/51
Rome	45/30
Seattle	50/40
Sydney	79/59
Tokyo	48/33
Washington	45/35