

The Daily Insider

Southern Washington Edition

TUESDAY

March 11, 2003

Clark Public Utilities looking at 5 percent rate increase in April

Facing an April increase of nearly 8 percent from power wholesaler Bonneville Power Administration, Clark Clark Public Utilities commissioners today heard staff recommendations pointing toward a retail increase for its customers of 5 percent, effective in April.

Commissioners were also warned that BPA is likely to call for another wholesale rate increase in October.

An option for covering further BPA increases this year would be an additional 2 percent hike in April. Otherwise the utility could face having to raise rates again in October by another 5 percent.

Commissioners will decide the April rate increase at their 9 a.m. meeting Tuesday, March 18.

Representatives of several members of Clark County's industrial customer group were in the audience this morning. For some local industrial customers electric energy is the major cost in their manufacturing process.

They were not at today's meeting to complain about power rates; rather to hear a presentation by the utility's director of energy resources **Jim Sanders** on a proposal that would allow large energy users the option of buying electricity outside the utility and outside BPA.

That practice was allowed from 1998 to 2001 but the four customers who opted for outside power eventually returned to Clark as their choice.

Sanders reported that further study would be required to see how such an arrangement could be made that would not have any negative impact on the utility's other customers.

WSU Vancouver's Meredith Newman wins 2003 Editor's Choice Award

Meredith Newman, Washington State University Vancouver associate professor of public affairs, has won the 2003 Editor's Choice Award of the national public administration journal *Public Administration Review*.

Newman was cited for her achievements as one of 49 members of the journal's editorial board.

Newman, a native of Victoria, Australia, was an administrative officer in American embassies in Senegal, Malaysia and Singapore and served in France and Vietnam as a member of the Australian Foreign Service. She was winner of the WSU Vancouver Research Excellence Award in 1998.

Cul An Ti performing at Greg Kimsey's pre-St. Patrick's day fund raiser Wednesday

The Irish band Cul An Ti performs during Clark County Auditor **Greg Kimsey's** pre-St. Patrick's Day fund raiser from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in Club Green Meadows. Irish step dancers also will perform.

According to Kimsey, everyone is welcome, including children. There is no charge, but a campaign contributions will be accepted. For further information, call **285-8185**.

Women Democrats sponsoring Jim Moeller, Deb Wallace, legislative update Saturday

State Reps. **Jim Moeller** (D-49th) and **Deb Wallace** (D-17th) are presenting a legislative update at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, March 15, in El Presdidente Restaurant, 3312 E. Evergreen Boulevard.

The all-you-can-eat buffet that accompanies the report is sponsored by Clark County Women Democrats and is \$10. For further information, call **694-0766**.

Role comic books play in society to be explored at free WSU Vancouver lecture

The roll comic books play in society and how creators of the medium rely on a relationship of technology, art and science to build and sustain wide appeal will be discussed at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 13 in the Washington State University Vancouver multipurpose room.

Presenter, **Phillip Thurtle**, assistant professor of the mediated culture program at Carleton University, Ottawa.

The free program is sponsored by the WSU Vancouver Honors Program.

News briefs

Clark County land use hearing examiner **Richard Forester** will hear Legacy Salmon Creek Hospital's request for conditional use and site plan approvals at a 7 p.m. hearing tonight in the Emergency Services Center, 710 W 13th Street. ■■■ Clark County commissioners meet in informal session at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 13. Call **397-2232** for the location.

Tuesday electronic events

George C. Marshall Youth Leadership Award Ceremony—4 p.m. CVTV

Clark County Focus—5:30 p.m. CVTV

City Minutes—6 p.m. CVTV

Clark County Land Use Hearings (live)—7 p.m. CVTV

Portland Trail Blazers at Seattle (live)—7 p.m. KGW, KXL

Stocks of northwest interest at 4 p.m. EST, Tuesday, March 11, 2003

Alaska Air Group	17.25	-1.15	Linear Technology	28.95	-.19
Alcoa	18.57	-.23	Microsoft	22.79	-.16
Amazon.com	22.78	-.10	Nautilus	13.04	-.52
Bank of America	65.63	-1.21	Nike	47.55	+.28
Bank of Clark County	18.00	unch	Nordstrom	16.43	-.42
Bemis	39.89	-.16	PepsiCo	37.70	-.07
Boeing	25.22	-.30	Precision Cast	21.82	-.58
Boise Cascade	21.05	-.51	RLRN	17.00	+0.1
CenturyTel	25.51	-.22	Starbucks	22.43	-.04
Costco	28.08	-.29	TSM	7.01	+1.5
Expeditors Intl.	33.25	-.22	Tektronix	16.24	-.30
Georgia Pacific	13.10	-.77	US Bancorp	19.22	-.87
HPQ	15.41	-.08	Wash. Mutual	33.47	+2.6
Intel	15.85	-.05	W. Coast Bancorp	15.16	+1.3
Kyocera	48.24	-.64	Weyerhaeuser	45.80	-.50

DOW: 7524.06 -44.12 ■ NASDAQ: 1271.47 -6.9 ■ S&P: 800.73 -6.75

Town Tabloids and The Weather

Gary Saleba creating scenario with accustomed accuracy. ■■■■ Jana Wilson looking for volunteer coaches. ■■■■ Don Moe stopping doors with wood. ■■■■ Rod Cook expecting visitor. ■■■■ Judi Bailey making a splash. ■■■■ Rose Wiley carrying daffodils. ■■■■ Tuesday , mostly gray and damp, 56. Wednesday , windy, rainy and warming, 48. Thursday , could hit 60 degrees, but still wet.	Acapulco 88/70 Athens 50/39 Chicago 44/32 Dallas 66/58 Hong Kong 70/61 Los Angeles 72/52 London 52/40 New Orleans 72/58 New York 39/37 Orlando 82/60 Paris 57/40 Phoenix 84/55 Rome 68/50 Seattle 52/46 Sydney 72/55 Tokyo 43/30 Washington 47/38
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