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FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2006

Clark College cherry trees celebration symbolize friendship and spring

The Earth Day 1990 gift of 100 Shirofugen cherry trees from **John Kageyama**, then president of America Kotobuki, presented to the City of Vancouver to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Washington's statehood, were planted on Clark College's main campus.

Next week, with the cherry trees in full bloom, Clark College is having its first "Cherries Jubilee," a week-long "celebration of friendship and the spring season," reports Clark's president **R. Wayne Branch**.



Branch and former mayor **Bruce Hagensen**, who, with Kageyama, helped form a sister-city relationship between Vancouver and Joyo City, Japan, will kick off the celebration at noon Monday, April 17, with music, refreshments and a tour of the trees arranged by college horticulture professor **Herb Orange**.

The hour-long program at the north end of the main campus on Fort Vancouver Way will be repeated at noon Wednesday, April 19, and Friday, April 21.

Throughout the week, the college will collect non-perishable food items for Friends in Service to Humanity in food bins in Bauer, Foster, Gaiser, Scarpelli Halls and the Baird Administration Building.

Winemakers of Clark County share stories at challenging lunch

Clark County's three wine makers will offer their views of the challenges of producing wine in Clark County at the Tuesday, April 18, Lunch with the Challengers, sponsored by The Club at the Historic Reserve, in E. B. Hamilton Hall, 605 Barnes Road in Vancouver Barracks.

The story of the county's first winery, Salishan, will be presented by founder **Joan Wolverton**. **Carl English**, owner of the English Estate Winery, will discuss the challenges of his five-year-old and expanding winery in Vancouver. **Walt** and **Beth Houser** will talk about their winemaking success at Bethany Vineyard and Winery, near Ridgefield.

Lunch with the Challengers, in its second month, is open to the public. Lunch, which includes salad, coq au vin, dessert and a non-alcoholic beverage, is \$25, including tax. For reservations, call **901-1101**.

SWIFT coming home to Vancouver

For the first time in at least two dozen years, Southwest Washington Independent Forward Thrust's annual auction is being held in Vancouver, occupying all the ballrooms in the Hilton Vancouver Washington and the convention center, beginning at 6 p.m. Saturday, April 22.

This year, the auction and the annual art auction have been combined, according to SWIFT's president, **Lisa Hunter Schauer**.

Last year, SWIFT awarded \$152,000 to 47 organizations in Clark, Skamania, Cowlitz and Klickitat Counties.

For reservations to the \$150-per-person event, call **619-4496.**

Off-leash dog park temporarily expands

The four-acre off-leash area in Pacific Community Park, NE 18th Street and NE 164th Avenue, today was expanded to 25 acres.

The temporary expansion will revert to the original 4 acres when a construction project at the park begins in 3 to 8 months.

News briefs

The deadline for nominations for Sammy Awards, Clark County's way of recognizing people and organizations that have made significant contributions to water quality and fish restoration and enhancement, has been extended to Thursday, April 27. For further information, call **Joni McAnally**, 397-2022, extension. 3.

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The Daily Insider is published by Tony Bacon 7007 Corregidor Rd. Vancouver, WA 98664. (360) 696-1077. Fax 694-9886. E-Mail tony@dailyinsider.info. Annual subscription, \$335.00. Free to all retired persons.

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lots for the Tuesday, April 25, special election in the Green Mountain School District have been mailed to all voters, reports county Elections supervisor **Tim Likness**. Eligible voters who did not receive ballots may call **397-2345**. The special election is for a two-year levy totaling \$550,000. A similar measure was defeated in February when 60.5 percent of the district voters turned down the measure 147 to 144.

After 33 years as a traffic enforcement officer for the City of Vancouver, **Gail Ratliff** is retiring. A reception for Ratliff is from 3 to 5 p.m. Thursday, April 20, in City Hall. Feature writer and columnist, **Angela Allen**, a fixture at *The Columbian* for nearly 22 years, has left to pursue a freelance career. During her time on the features staff, Angela continually explored new ways to cover the community, the food scene, music, wine and fashion. Her work won numerous awards.

Calendar

People

The East Minnehaha Neighborhood Association meets at 6 p.m. this evening in the Walnut Grove Elementary School.
Violinist **Angela Svendsen** performs at 7 p.m. this evening in Commander's Bar in the Restaurant at the Historic Reserve. There is no cover charge.
In observance of Arbor Day, Vancouver Urban Forestry will lead a bicycle tour of downtown Vancouver's Heritage Trees. The flat, easy four-mile bicycle ride begins promptly at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 15, at Old Apple Tree Park, 112 Columbia Way. Participants must bring their own bicycles. Helmets are required.

Friday headlines from at home and around the world

Christians honor Good Friday--USA TODAY, AP

A prayerful Passover--Columbian, Kelly Adams

Renton company's "James Earl Jones Reads the Bible" selling at a good clip--Seattle Times,

Tyrone Beason (includes audio)

Southern Washington business leaders hear that railroads need upgrades to stay competitive on trade--Oregonian, **Bill Stewart**

Clark College students get more than they bargained for when they went to Louisiana to help rebuild-Columbian, **Howard Buck**

Local dance companies bloom--Columbian, Brett Oppegaard

Bush gives Rumsfeld strong show of support--Washington Post, William Branigin

Delta, pilots union reach tentative deal--Washington Post, AP, Harry R. Weber

Friday on the air

Seattle Mariners at Boston (live)—4 p.m. FSN, KFXX
Portland Beavers at Salt Lake City (live)—5:30 p.m. KKAD
Animal Control Hearings (4/12)—7 p.m. CVTV
Portland Blazers at L.A. Lakers (live)—7:30 p.m. KGW-TV, KXL, KMUZ
Edmonton at Portland Lumber Jax (live)—7:30 p.m. KCMD
Bravo! Vancouver: St. Paul - An Oratorio—10 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the weather

June Berry doing Margaret Bourke White act. Bob Knight taking three-hour loss in stride. Greg Flakus once again coming up with scoops. Chuck Furno checking to see whether retro saves gasoline. Jocie Braaksma deferring rain dance. Ann Tjersland getting high marks. Friday, likely rainy day, 54.Saturday, showers likely, 53. Sunday, more showers likely, 56.