

First-year WSU Vancouver students are among brightest and best

First-year freshmen attending Washington State University Vancouver are among the area brightest and best, according to WSU Vancouver vice chancellor for student affairs **Nancy Youlden**.

“Our first freshman class very much mirrors the freshmen class at the main campus in Pullman,” says Youlden. “Students are choosing our campus because of quality education, access to faculty, and the welcoming environment.”

Statistics from the class of 157 freshmen show that their average high school grade point average is 3.52, their average age is 18, 55 percent are female, 16 percent represent minorities.

“Based on their solid academic records, it is clear that these students had other four-year choices when they selected SWU Vancouver, Youlden adds.

Popular academic majors among the first-year students are biology, business, and mechanical engineering.

The local university offers 14 bachelors, 9 masters and one doctoral degrees.

'dik-sh?-ner'-ee 'bi-sen-'te-nee-?!

The president and publisher of Merriam-Webster's *Merriam-Webster Dictionary*, **John M. Morse**, will discuss the history of American dictionary publishing in a presentation in Clark College's Gaiser Hall Student Center at noon, Tuesday, Oct. 17.

The free public presentation at Clark is Morse's first appearance in the region as part of a tour he is making celebrating the bicentennial of America's first Americanized dictionary.

Two hundred years ago, the company's namesake, Noah Webster, created *A Compendious Dictionary of the English Language*. It was the first dictionary in the United States to reflect the unique culture and vocabulary of the American people. Along with introducing a reform from British spelling—*colour* to *color* and *musick* to *music*—the volume included thousands of words—*chowder*, *hickory*, *skink*—which were in daily use in America but which were not listed in any other lexicon.

For further information on Morse's presentation, “Dictionaries and Democracy: 200 years of Dictionary Making in America, call **Marti Earhart, 992-2261**.



John Morse, president and publisher, Merriam-Webster Dictionary

Auditor Greg Kimsey announces three new business opportunities

The Clark county Auditor's office will be creating three new automobile licensing sub-agents in 2007 and is seeking applications from individuals or businesses interested in operating one or all of the new businesses.

The new sub-agencies are in addition to seven currently in operation, and will be in Orchards, Ridgefield and east Vancouver, according to county auditor **Greg Kimsey**.

According to Kimsey, the state's unique system of delivering auto licensing services to citizens through a combination of privately operated sub-agencies and county government serves citizens very well.

Bid informational packets and applications are available from the Clark County Purchasing Department, 1300 Franklin Street, Suite 650, through Tuesday, Oct. 31. Prospective applicants are asked not to call the Auditor's office regarding the applications.

People

Michael Ciraulo, Battle Ground city councilman and adjunct faculty member at Lower Columbia Community College, has been appointed by Gov. **Chris Gregoire** to the state Higher Education Facilities Authority Board. In addition, the governor appointed **Carmen Villarma**, Camas, president and owner of The Management Group Inc., to the state Economic Development Finance Authority.

News brief

Seattle author **Mark Lundy** is the speaker at the Fort Vancouver Regional Library Foundation's 2006 Au-

thors & Illustrators dinner in the Hilton Vancouver Washington, Thursday, Oct. 5. A silent auction and social hour begins at 5 p.m., and dinner is at 7 p.m. For further information, call **699-8846**.

Calendar

The Vancouver city council will discuss budget challenges during an hour-and-a-half workshop session that begins at 4 p.m. today in City Hall. When the council meets in formal session at 7 p.m. it will consider six separate annexation requests consisting of almost 200 acres in north and east of the city. ☞ Clark County commissioners meet in regular session at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 3.

Monday Headlines

[Al and Sandee Kirkwood boost Innovative Services capital campaign with quarter-million dollar gift--Columbian, **Justin Carinci**](#)

[Medical center construction on target; competition squeezing gross revenues--Columbian, **Julia Anderson**](#)

[Vancouver Chamber's Beth Quartarolo busy listening and planning--Vancouver Business Journal, **Neil Zawicki**](#)

[Longview wakes up to swastikas and hate messages--KATU](#)

[Gunman opens fire in Amish school killing at least three girls--Washington Post, **William Branigin**](#)

[Rice denies she was warned about attack--Washington Post, **Robin Wright**](#)

[Private equity firm bids \\$15 billion for Harrah's Entertainment--New York Times, **Peter Edmonston and Michael J. de la Merced**](#)

Monday on the air

Vancouver City Council Workshop (live)—4 p.m. CVTV

Vancouver City Council (live)—7 p.m. CVTV

Legacy of Vancouver Architect Day Hilborn (9/21)—10 p.m. CVTV

Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce Installation (9/21)—11 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Al and Sandee Kirkwood raise memorable evening to another level. ☞ **Mike Wilson** successfully innovating. ☞ **Ron Frederiksen** and **Terry Murphy** smoothing and schmoozing the way. ☞ **Gary Germer** getting biggest bang for the buck. ☞ **Launda Carroll** putting together big show. ☞ **Eva Halter** helping make bidding in tents. ☞ **Chris Holm** making tough calls. ☞ **Monday**, mostly sunny, 67. **Tuesday**, partly cloudy, 63. **Wednesday**, partly cloudy, 62.