

TUESDAY, July 25, 2006

Clark Public Utilities achieves 100 % satisfaction level with commercial and industrial customers in national survey

Preliminary results of a major national survey of how most of the nation's largest electric utilities serve their commercial and industrial customers puts Clark Public Utilities at the top in the public power division.

Of 60 private and public utilities, participating nationally, Clark achieved sixth place, according to **Jim Sanders**, the utilities director of energy resources.

One hundred Clark Public Utilities commercial and industrial customers were surveyed. Nearly 77 percent reported they were very satisfied with the local utility, Twenty-three percent dais they were satisfied with the utility's service. None reported dissatisfaction with the utility.

This year's sixth place compares with a 28th place rating last year.

County public health officials

taking on national assignments

Alan Melnick, Clark County health officer, has been selected to serve on two national boards, and county public health director **John Wiesman** has been named to the National Association of County and City Health Officials board of directors.

Melnick has been appointed to the National Institutes of Health's Health Study Section, and he will serve as a charter member of the Community-Level Health Promotion Study Section. In addition, Melnick has been appointed to the inaugural board of directors for the National Board of Public Health Examiners.

Wiesman, who will help NACCHO establish national policy positions, begins his four-year term tomorrow.

Election season heating up;

primary competition appears

Sept. 19 primary election contests were assured today as candidates continued to file for elective offices with the Clark County Elections Department.

Former Vancouver city councilmember **Jack Burkman** today filed as a Democrat for Position 1 in the 17th District, an office held by Republican **Jim Dunn**. Yesterday, Democrat **Pat Campbell** filed for the same position.

Democrat **MarCine Miles**, who yesterday filed for the office of Clark County clerk, is joined by Democrat **Sherry Parker** as a candidate for that office.

At the state level, two Democrats have filed for the U.S. Senate position now held by Democrat Maria Cantwell. They are Mike the Mover and Michael Goodspaceguy Nelson. The position has also attracted the attention of filers William Edward Chovil, a Republican, and Bruce Guthrie, a Libertarian.

Filing for elective offices continues through 5 p.m. Friday, July 28.

Slow Food farm potluck

Saturday is a free event

The Slow Food Southwest Washington second annual farm potluck, Saturday, July 29, is a free event for both members and nonmembers, according to **Glenn Grossman**, spokesperson for the local slow food organization.

Although there is no charge, attendees are expected to bring their own food, with a little to spare to share, and if they want chicken, whole cooked birds will be \$12 to \$16 each.

The 11:30 a.m.-to-5 p.m. potluck is at the Battle Ground farm of **Angus** and **Dena Rae**, 23706 NE 182nd Avenue. There will be kids' activities, music and farm tours, Grossman says.

Those ordering chicken must do so by calling **750-6655** no later than today.

Insider off by

a generation

When the *Insider* reported yesterday that Dave Lasher was candidate for Clark County treasurer, we were off by only one generation. It was a regrettable but easy mistake.

The Democratic candidate for re-election for county treasurer, a job he has held for 22 years, is **Doug Lasher**, not to be confused, as we forgetfully did, with his illustrious father, the late Dave Lasher, a powerhouse in Democratic politics in Clark County during the middle of the last century.

Throughout the 1960s the senior Lasher, a businessman in Hazel Dell, when the main street was Highway

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99, counseled politicians, business persons and people we would call community activists today. He also befriended and was helpful to anyone who needed help.

When this writer was struggling to run a new public relations firm, Lasher steered clients to the Hazel Dell office, which he was providing free of charge. Lasher never forgot a friend, and neither, it turns out, did we.

Calendar

Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours, from 5 to 7 p.m. today at 1101 Broadway, celebrates the introduction of the chamber's new president, **Beth Quartarolo**, and the chamber's new office location in Suite 100. **Colorfield** entertains at the free noon concert in Esther Short Park, Wednesday, July 26. The concert is presented by Corwin Beverage Co. and Spanky's Family Consignments.

Tuesday headlines

City looks at heftier B&O tax--Columbian, Jeffrey Mize

Volcano: Commercial bids nixed--Oregonian, Michael Milstein

Forest Service strikes out looking for private entrepreneurs to help Mount St. Helens tourism-Columbian, **Erik Robinson**

Hudson's Bay teacher on track for a trip into space--Columbian, Don Brunell

Oregon battle sweeps West--Oregonian, Laura Oppenheimer

State ruling in gay marriage due tomorrow--Seattle P-I, Tracy Johnson

Home prices set for a drop as existing home sales continue to drop, report says--USA TODAY,

Noelle Knox

U.S. to boost troop count in Baghdad--Washington Post, Daniela Deane

Tuesday on the air

Legislative Review ((6/22)—3:30 p.m. CVTV
Leadership Clark County Graduation—5:15 p.m. CVTV
Vancouver Business Journal Top Project Awards—6:30 p.m. CVTV
...Oklahoma at Portland Beavers (live)—7 p.m. KKAD
Toronto at Seattle Mariners (live)—7 p.m. FSN, KFXX
Excellence in Enterprise Luncheon—8 p.m. CVTV
Evergreen Public Schools Annexation (7/12)—9 p.m. CVTV
Clark County Commissioners Workshop (7/21)—9:30 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Jack Worthy leading the cheering. ∠Don Johnson returning to scene of former triumphs. ∠Wayne Nelson getting high praise along with raise. ∠Larry Blaufus getting accolades. ∠Michelle Missfeldt, ditto ∠Colleen McCormack ditto. ∠Tuesday, clouds moving in, 84. Wednesday, mostly cloudy, 82. Thursday, clouds and sunshine, 82.