

County growth apparently slowing

Clark Public Utilities signed up only 185 new residential customers during April this year. During the first three months of this year, by contrast, an average of over 300 customers a month. signed up for residential electricity

In all of 2005 the utility acquired 4,371 residential customers—an annual rate of growth of 2.73 percent. This year's annual growth rate is 2.04 percent.

April, traditionally, is a slow residential growth month. Even so, 1,097 new customers for the first four months of 2006 is well below the average.

Reception to honor 59 Clark

College Running Start graduates

A reception honoring 59 Clark College students, all of whom will be graduating from the community college and their respective high schools at the same time, is at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 31, in the Penguin Student Union Building, Gaiser Hall on the school's Fort Vancouver Way campus.

Running start allows eligible high school juniors and seniors to take classes to earn college credit while they fulfill their high school graduation requirements. The high school students attend Clark College classes during the day or in the evening. Tuition for the courses is paid by the individual school districts.

Graduating from their respective high schools and receiving an associates degree from Clark College are the following:

Battle Ground High School: **Stephanie Bieber, Michael Kelley, Thomas Maehara, Caleb Pedersen and Kaleigh Vance**; Camas High School: **Matt Cornell, Thomas Miller and Thomas Stonick**; CAM High School **Breeann Christiansen, Isaac Etter, Natalie Fertig, Sommer Knight, Jon Madrigal and Jeremiah McMillan**; Columbia River High School: **Roger Hamilton and Ashley Shanholtzer**; Evergreen High School: **Rebecca Ford, Katie Kraus and Katelyn Matson**; Fort Vancouver High School: **Benjamin Hayford and Timothy Head**; Heritage High School: **Monty Boldt, Joseph Fricken, Stephen Nitkowski, Austin Reddington, Justin Reddington and Rick Watkins**; Hockinson High School: **Amanda Bishop, Ian Gavlick, Travis Gomez and Ryan Linton**; Legacy High School: **Michelle Klenn and Stephen Pick**; Mountain View High School: **Andrew Crane, Catherine Kohl, Alex Sherman and Joseph Sturdevant**; Prairie High School, **Mariah Acton, Jasmine Barnhart, Kandra Kulla, Kecia Kulla, Heather Libby and Gabriel Menkhus**; Ridgefield High School: **Jack Divine and Elizabeth Hidden**; River Home Link: **Alec Hallman and Rachael Osborne**; Skyview High School: **Jesse Dunn, Corer Evans and Shalyn Pugh**; Summit View High School, **Sara Craciun**; Washougal High School: **Fylicia McCarthy**; Woodland High School; **Kristi Klein, Carolann Krohn and Jared Price.**

People

Four Wells Fargo bankers have been honored by the banking company for top performances in 2005. **Du Moran**, Vancouver business sales officer, **Serina Ratliff**, Battle Ground service manager, **Leesa Stutesman**, Vancouver lead teller, and **Loreen Wick**, Vancouver personal banker, were among 36 southwest Washington and Oregon Wells Fargo employees honored as business banking stars. The awards were presented in Cancun, Mexico. Wells Fargo & Company has 520 employees in southwest Washington.

News brief

Gov. **Chris Gregoire** will deliver the commencement address at the Clark College commencement, at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 15, in the Amphitheater at Clark County.

Calendar

Clark County commissioners meet in an informal session at 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 31, in conference room B in the Public Service Center.

O, are we ever sorry

We are in error again. When it was pointed out last Friday we misidentified Vancouver's famous Tommy O's Restaurant as Johnny O's we knew something had to be done.

Johnny O. is not a figment of anyone's imagination. He [**John Ostrowski**] is Vancouver's former public works director, who after retirement became an entrepreneur, consultant, and twice, including his current stint, interim executive director for C-TRAN.

The restaurant Tommy O's is at 801 Washington Street. The popular island-flavored hangout is the scene

today, beginning at 4:30 p.m., of Democrat Clark County commissioner **Steve Stuart**'s campaign kickoff event for re-election.

To complete the record straightening: Johnny O's cousin **Bobby Ostrowski** owns a tavern in Milwaukee, Wis., Bobby O's.

Today's headline stories

[String of deadly Iraq attacks kill 54, wound 120--Columbian, AP, **Kim Game!**](#)

[Stocks plunge again, Dow down more than 180 points--USA](#)

[TODAY, AP](#)

[A troubled mind fishes for peace--Columbian, **Dean Baker**](#)

[St. Helens rock fall triggers steam, ash plume--Columbian, **Kim Jarvis**](#)

[Under solemn skies, hundreds gathered Monday to remember fallen veterans--Columbian,](#)

[**Craig Brown**](#)

[Sharp Microelectronics of the America's sales up nearly 50 percent for the past year--Columbian,](#)

[**Courtney Sherwood**](#)

[Citizens say 'wrong way' in Saturday march--Columbian, **Justin Carinci**](#)

[Bush picks Goldman Sacks chief to replace John Snow at Treasury--New York Times,](#)

[**Jim Rutenberg** and **Edmund L. Andrews**](#)

Tuesday on the air

Employment, Mental Health and Wellness—5/19)—4 p.m. CVTV

Seattle Mariners at Texas (live)—5 p.m. FSN, KFX

Clark County Close Up (5/7)—5:30 p.m. CVTV

CREDC :Why \$70 Oil May Be Good For you (5/25) 6 p.m. CVTV

Colorado Springs at Portland Beavers (live)—6:30 p.m. KKAD

Vancouver Planning Commission (5/23)—7:30 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Maggie Culbertson making a Chevron connection. ☞ **Ann Martinez**'s confirming expectations. ☞ **Pat McGrary** making good use of yard work. ☞ **Nancy Barnes** touting ice box efficiency. ☞ **Larry Bekkedahl** delivering travelogue with help. ☞ **Scott** Campbell's natal day rates observed. ☞ **Tuesday**, mostly sunny, 77. **Wednesday**, occasional showers, 67. **Thursday**, continuing showers, 68.