

## **Washington: "a buyer's market" for those looking for jobs"**

More jobs and lower unemployment sum up the August employment picture in Washington, according to state Employment Security commissioner **Karen Lee**. "It's a buyer's market for people who want to work in Washington," Lee says. "Whether someone is interested in working at the local mall or wants a career in nursing, there are plenty of jobs out there and new jobs are being added all the time."

According to Lee, statewide employers added 2,400 non-farm jobs during the month, and the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped one-tenth of a percentage point to 5.2 percent.

By another set of figures published by Employment Security, which includes all jobs, including farm jobs, part-time jobs and self-employed jobs, neither the state nor Clark County did so well.

These raw numbers show the state's total employment was 3,174,200 for August 2006, compared to 3,204,400, or 30,200 fewer jobs in July 2006. But this was 39,800 more jobs than August a year ago, says Lee.

Clark County's total employed number stood at 188,700 in August 2006, 800 fewer than for July this year and 1,100 fewer than August 2005.

## **Friends of Clark County calls public forum on growth management plan**

Friends of Clark County will discuss impacts of rapid growth as they relate to education, the environment, law enforcement and property values at a public forum at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 18, in the commissioners' hearing room in the Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street.

Friends of Clark County's chairwoman **Lora Caine** will serve as moderator for a panel of experts including the following: **John Deeder**, Evergreen Schools superintendent; **Gordon Euler**, Clark County Department of Community Planning; **Linda Franklin**, Clark County Assessor; **John Karpinski**, Clark County Natural Resources Council; and **Garry Lucas**, Clark County Sheriff.

## **PDX officials taking public comment on air cargo feeder noise next Monday**

The Port of Portland is holding an open house and public comment opportunity for Vancouver and Clark County residents at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 18, in the commons atrium in Hudson's Bay High School, 1206 E Reserve Street.

The public meeting focuses on small cargo airplanes, 12, 500 pounds or less, operating at Portland International Airport. For further information, call **(503) 460-4073**.

## **Vancouver firefighters hunting bear**

Vancouver firefighters are hoping to collect at least 1,000 teddy bears and other stuffed animals for distribution to children attending an October 7 Fire Department open house focusing on the community emergency medical services program.

Each child attending receives a stuffed animal along with a private conversation with a firemedic during the open house.

Clean, new, stuffed animals will be accepted through Friday, Sept. 22, at the Vancouver headquarters fire station, 7110 NE 63rd Street. For further information, call **892-4323**.

## **News brief**

Clark County commissioners will hear budget proposals from elected county offices beginning at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13. Offices submitting budget proposals are as follows: County Auditor, 9 a.m.; County Prosecuting Attorney, 10 a.m.; County Clerk, 11 a.m.; and County Assessor, 1:30 a.m. All meetings are in the training room in the Public Service Center.

## **Calendar**

A Corps of U.S. Army Engineers scoping session attendant to the draft Environmental Impact Statement being prepared for extension of the Port of Vancouver industrial area north of the Vancouver Lake flushing channel is at 4 p.m. today in port offices, 3103 NW Lower River Road. ✍ The Vancouver Planning Commission meets in workshop session at 4 p.m. today to discuss the comprehensive parks play with the Clark County Planning Commission. At 7 p.m. the planning commission meets in a formal session to consider an extension of the city's shoreline management planning area to include all land between the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad

berm and the Columbia River from downtown to the railroad bridge. ☞ The second of four informational meetings on the Clark County draft Environmental Impact Statement, regarding the county comprehensive plan revisions, is at 5 to 7:30 p.m. this evening in the Camas Fire Station, 43221 NW Parker Street. A third meeting follows from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13, in the Ridgefield Community Center, 210 N Main Avenue. ☞ Clark County commissioners meet in an informal session at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13, in conference room B in the Public Service Center.

### Tuesday Headlines

[9/11 reflected upon--Columbian, Kelly Adams](#)

[Fireboat, flyby, flowers enrich Vancouver tribute--Oregonian, Bill Stewart](#)

[Overlooked check box may invalidate some Clark County primary votes--Columbian, Kathie Durbin](#)

[Coast Guard, arbiter of bridge lifts, to hold hearing on future I-5 corridor bridge--Columbian,](#)

[Thomas Ryll](#)

[BPA test driving little electric cars--Columbian, Erik Robinson](#)

[MacKay & Sposito on fast track--Columbian, Cami Joner](#)

[Taxpayers paying for wind power--Columbian, Don Brunnell](#)

[Storm Large doesn't win first prize but shines anyway--Oregonian, Lee Williams](#)

[City OKs employee health care contribution--Oregonian, Allan Brettman](#)

[Stocks rally for third day as oil continues to fall--USA TODAY, AP, Tim Paradis](#)

### Tuesday on the air

Vancouver Planning Workshop (live)—4 p.m. CVTV

Vancouver Planning Commission (live)—7 p.m. CVTV

Toronto Blue Jays at Seattle Mariners (live)—7 p.m. FSN, KFXN

### Town Tabloids and the Weather

**Sharon Lewis** following hard act quite nicely. ☞ **Jack Graves** making spirited endorsement of conservation. ☞ **Bruce Carter** bringing column to life. ☞ **Colleen McCormack** getting special mention. ☞ **Casey Carole Kellar** getting big welcome. ☞ **Celeste Cuti** getting her wish. ☞ **Wayne Nelson** 100 percent green power user. ☞ **Tuesday**, mostly sunny, 76. **Wednesday**, another hint of coming fall, 66. **Thursday**, a little rain likely to fall, 64.