

### **Melinda Chesbro named regional library district content manager**

**Melinda Chesbro** has been appointed director of the Fort Vancouver Regional Library District's newly created Content Management Division. Chesbro, who has been with the library district since 2003, has been manager of the district's information technology department. She will report directly to the library district's executive director, **Bruce Ziegman**.

The new division was created to address the growth of electronic resources in library services, according to Ziegman. Chesbro will oversee the acquisition and management of physical library material formats, including books, CDs and electronic formats, including Web sites and catalog and research databases.

Chesbro is a graduate of California State University, Stanislaus, and holds a master of library science degree from UCLA. Prior to joining the Fort Vancouver library system, Chesbro was member services manager for Marmot Library Network in western Colorado.

Established in 1950, the Fort Vancouver Regional Library District serves 40,000 patrons and oversees 13 community libraries.



**Melinda Chesbro**

### **Washougal voters approve school levy two-to-one**

Of five Clark County school districts in which voters approved special levies in balloting that concluded yesterday, Washougal School District residents voted more than two-to-one to approve both a maintenance and operations special levy and a special levy to buy school buses. Unofficial totals from the Clark County Elections Department showed the levies passing by nearly 67 percent voter approval.

Schools district voters gave their districts more than the required 60 percent majority for special levies in the Vancouver, Evergreen, Camas and La Center School Districts.

Battle Ground School District voters couldn't even give their district half the total votes. The Battle Ground operations and maintenance levy was failing 6,374 no votes to 6,347 yes votes. The same was true in the Green Mountain School District, where voters cast 131 no votes and 124 yes votes.

### **Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce hosting forum on proposed Cowlitz Casino**

The Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce is hosting a public forum to discuss the proposed Cowlitz Casino Resort at 11:45 a.m. Wednesday, March 1, in the Heathman Lodge.

The chamber thus far has not taken a position on the proposed mega-casino near La Center on Interstate 5. The membership of nearly 1,600 was polled and 209 responded. Forty-nine percent recommended that the chamber remain neutral on the issue.

The survey showed that 45 percent of those responding felt that the casino would hurt the local business community. Individually, 51.9 percent said that the casino would not hurt their company. Sixty-three percent said they felt that the casino would have negative effects on southwest Washington.

The U.S. Department of Interior has scheduled two informational meetings next week. The first is at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15, in the auditorium of Prairie High School, 11500 NE 117th Avenue, the second at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 16, in the auditorium of Fort Vancouver High School, 5700 E 18th Street. C-TRAN is providing free bus service to and from those meetings for Ridgefield and La Center residents.

According to chamber president **John McKibbin**, the forum will consist of an overview, pro and con statements and rebuttals, and questions from the audience.

The \$30 lunch is open to the public. For reservations, call **694-2588**.

### **News brief**

Employees at Southwest Washington Medical Center have contributed \$18,346 to a fund that provides assistance to health care workers in Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi, who were affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita last year. "Our employees reacted with generosity and support in wanting to reach out to their peers who suffered losses," said medical center chief **Joe Kortum**. Kortum said the medical center's Healthier

Communities fund matched that donation, bringing the local relief effort to over \$36,000.

### Calendar

Battle Ground Mayor **John Idsigna** delivers the State of Battle Ground address at 6 p.m. this evening in City Hall, 109 SW 1st Street. The address is preceded with a social hour that begins at 5 p.m. ☞ Port of Ridgefield Commissioners meet in regular session at 6 p.m. this evening in port offices at 111 W Division Street. ☞ **David Pitonyak**, author and consultant on disabilities and challenging behaviors of young children, presents "Please Someone, Fix My Kid" at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, in the Jim Parsley Center, 4100 Plomondon Street. The free program is sponsored by the Clark County Department of Community Services. For further information, call **Shelly McKee, 397-2130**. ☞ A tour of Evergreen Public Schools' Mountain View High School, Pacific Middle School and Harmony Middle School is 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9. Tours begin and end at the Clark County Skills Center, 12200 NE 28th Street. For further information, call **604-4088**.

### Wednesday headlines from at home and around the world

[Annexation dispute between Clark County and Vancouver stems from poor communication, City Manager Pat McDonnell says--Oregonian, \*\*Allan Brettman\*\*](#)

[Regional Transportation Council to use \\$1.5 federal funding for \\$1.9 million high capacity transit study of Clark County--Columbian, \*\*Thomas Ryll\*\*](#)

[President's budget includes \\$393 million for I-205 MAX line and commuter rail--Oregonian, \*\*James Mayer\*\*](#)

[Electric Lightwave acquired by Portland company--Columbian, \*\*Julia Anderson\*\*](#)

[Dissolution of Boundary Review Board draws rebuke from member--Columbian, \*\*Thomas Ryll\*\*](#)

[City says OK to \\$170 million development of Evergreen Airport property--Columbian, \*\*Jeffrey Mize\*\*](#)

[State subsidy to Wal-Mart put at \\$123 million, Seattle Times, \*\*Ralph Thomas\*\*](#)

[Community says thanks to a great "Bob"--Columbian, \*\*Tom Koeninger\*\*](#)

[Protests over cartoon spread in Afghanistan--Washington Post, \*\*Griff Witte\*\* and \*\*William Branigin\*\*](#)

### Wednesday on the air

**Portland Trail Blazers at Indiana (live)—4 p.m. FSN, KXL, KXMG**

People's Court I (2/1)—4:30 p.m. CVTV

Clark County Focus (1/25)—6 p.m. CVTV

Telecommunications Commission (1/18)—7 p.m. CVTV

**Kootenay at Portland Winter Hawks (live)—7 p.m. KCMD**

Does Annexation Promote Strong Communities?—8:30 p.m. CVTV

State of the City Address—10:30 p.m. CVTV

### Town Tabloids and the weather

**Ben Cohen** recruiting. ☞ **David Christel** checking precincts. ☞ **Jim Sork** anticipating success. ☞ **Todd Martin** getting off to a confusing start. ☞ **Marge Martel** helping make the day go right. ☞ **Sue Vanlaanen** coming up with top news story. ☞ **Wednesday**, misty morning then partly sunny, 57. **Thursday**, sunny, 60. **Friday**, more sunshine, 61.