

Moeller takes issue with Supreme Court ruling

Shortly after the state Supreme Court announced this morning its 5-4 decision to uphold the state's Defense of Marriage Act, State Rep. **Jim Moeller**, (D-49th) said: "I'm deeply disappointed that a small majority of the state Supreme Court has decided to uphold [the] intolerant DOMA. There's no getting around the fact that the court's decision keeps our state decades back in time.

"Folks who spoke against the law when it was debated in the legislature called it a declaration of intolerance, an attack on families, and an insult to gays and lesbians."

Moeller, who is one of four openly gay members of the Washington State House of Representatives, said the issue is far from finished. In upholding the 1998 law, the court's majority ruled that citizens can take further action on the issue either through the legislative process or through the initiative process.

Moeller concluded, "Clearly, next year's legislature must resume the work of the people—all the people. I intend to do just that. It's time our state joined the 21st century."

Washington's governor **Chris Gregoire** issued this statement: "On the issue of gay marriage, Washington is a very diverse state and there are many strongly held opinions and personal feelings on this issue. First and foremost, I am asking for all Washingtonians to respect their fellow citizens. The Supreme Court has ruled, and we must accept their decision whether we agree with it or not."

Brent Boger, candidate for the state Court of Appeals, issued a statement in which he said, "I agree with Justice Alexander's concurring opinion. He wrote that Washington's marriage law is not unconstitutional while at the same time noting that the legislature could decide to change Washington's marriage laws and allow same-sex marriage."

Boger added, "It is not for the courts to change marriage laws. That is the legislature's job, or the people's through the initiative or referendum process."

John White appointed to Clark College board



John White

John D. White, the president and founder of The JD White Company, has been appointed to the five-member Clark College board of trustees, Gov. Chris Gregoire announced today. Clark College is the third-largest of Washington's community colleges.

White has served on the board of the Clark College Foundation, the largest such foundation in the country. His additional community service includes his two terms as the chairman of the board of directors of Southwest Washington Medical Center and his service as a member of the boards of Columbia United Providers, Southwest Washington Regional Surgery Center, the Bank of Clark County, and the National Neon Sign Museum, as well as the Clark County YMCA board of managers and the WSU Vancouver Advisory Committee.

White is also active in the Washington Public Ports Association, the Urban Land Institute, the Planning Association of Washington, and the Washington Chapter of the American Planning Association.

International Festival at Esther Short segue to Port of Vancouver bus tours

Bus tours of the Port of Vancouver, Clark County's "link to the world," are being offered for the first time as part of the International Festival, the 35th renewal of which is noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, July 30, in Esther Short Park.

The festival, created by the Fort Vancouver Seafarers Center, is a free community event showcasing many cultures of Clark County through music, dancing, entertainment, food and displays. It is being sponsored for the first time by the port.

"We are pleased to support this long-standing tradition showcasing cultures of our trading partners and members of our community," says **Larry Paulson**, executive director of the Port of Vancouver. The seafarers center at the port provides hospitality service for international crews from the more than 500 ships that call on the port each year.

Favorite performers from years past include the following: Japanese drummers, **Portland Taiko**, the **Impacting Kids First Drumline**, **Beacock's New Horizons Jazz Band**, **Scottish Country Dancers**, and **Sons of Italy Bocce Ball**.

New acts are the following: **Khmer Angkor Dance Troupe**, **Eagle Spirit Native Dancers** and **Jim Fisher & Friends from Around the World**.

Free behind the scenes bus tours of the Port of Vancouver depart each half hour. Adults must have photo identification. Those under 18 must be accompanied by adults.

Final designs for Main Street improvements on horizon

The preferred concept for changing Main Street from one-way to two-way traffic between 5th and 15th Streets will be disclosed at a 4-to-7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 8, open house hosted by the City of Vancouver in the Vancouver Marketplace, 210 W Evergreen Boulevard.

Total reconstruction of street and pedestrian areas is part of the preliminary plan, as is changing Broadway from one-way to two-way traffic between 6th and 15th Streets.

Funding for the project design has already been secured. Funding for actual construction is still being sought.

Design progress can be seen in a storefront display at Harper Houf Peterson Righellis Inc., 1104 Main Street.

For additional information, go to www.cityofvancouver.us/MainStreet.

Wildlife steward program offering volunteer training

An eight-week course providing 45 hours of instruction for potential wildlife stewards is being offered by Wildlife Stewards. Sponsored by Clark Public Utilities and NatureScaping, Wildlife Stewards is a learn-and-serve environmental and outreach program.

In exchange for the education, graduates volunteer at least 45 hours with one or both of the sponsors doing habit restoration, tending the Wild Life Botanical Gardens or other community outreach programs.

No experience is required. Classes are held in Vancouver and are accessible to handicapped persons.

The fall training begins Saturday, Sept. 16, in Vancouver. For further information, call program coordinator

Alexis Paul, 992-8585.

People

Wells Fargo has named **Kim Dunn**, Vancouver, one of its top team member volunteers for 2005. Through the company's Volunteer Service Award Program, Wells Fargo will give \$1,000 to the Portland-based Special Olympics Oregon, where Dunn has volunteered for 18 years. Dunn works in Vancouver as a learning and development consultant at Wells Fargo Financial.

Calendar

Port of Ridgefield commissioners meet in regular session at 6 p.m. this evening in port offices at 111 W Division Street. ≈ A fundraising event for **Bill Jameson's** Republican campaign for county assessor is 6 to 8 p.m. this evening in Columbia Arts Center, 623 Evergreen Boulevard. The **Maria Kroll Extreme Dance Company** provides entertainment. ≈ A meeting for business owners interested in Vancouver's Downtown Main Street Improvement Project is at 6 p.m. this evening in Devine Consign, 904 Main Street. A meeting for interested property owners is at 6 p.m. Thursday, July 27, in the same location. ≈ *The Legend of Zoro* is the free movie at 8 p.m. tonight in Propstra Square in Esther Short Park. Bring lawn chairs. Vendors are in attendance. Sponsors are City of Vancouver, Hilton Vancouver Washington, US Bank and Vancouver National Historic Reserve trust.

Wednesday headlines

['Indian Economy' worth millions to state--Columbian, Jeffrey Mize](#)

[Clark County OKs Camp Bonneville cleanup agreement--Oregonian, Allan Brettman](#)

[Clark Public Utilities returns waste water facilities to La Center--Columbian, Erik Robinson](#)

[Fuel costs could hurt local food banks--Columbian, Kelly Adams](#)

[In a 5-4 split decision the state Supreme Court denies marriage of same sex couples--Seattle Times, Lornet Turnbull](#)

[Hagensen files to challenge Stuart--Columbian, **Tom Vogt**](#)
[Camas limiting water use--Oregonian](#)
[Ridgefield should put its woes in the past--Columbian, **Tom Koeninger**](#)
[Clark County center of nano technology?--Columbian, **Courtney Sherwood**](#)
[Steely Dan arrives at amphitheater--Columbian, **Alan Sculley**](#)
[Boeing shares fall on \\$160 million second quarter loss--Seattle P-I, **Dave Carpenter**](#)
[Mideast truce deal fails--USA TODAY, **Andrea Stone**](#)
[Heavy fighting rages in south Lebanon--Washington Post, Scott Wilson, Edward Cody and **William Branigin**](#)

Wednesday on the air

Thompson Annexation Meeting (live)—4 p.m. CVTV
East Precinct Dedication (7/22)—5 p.m. CVTV
Marshall Community Center Groundbreaking (7/19)—6 p.m. CVTV
Clark College Commencement—7 p.m. CVTV
Oklahoma at Portland Beavers (live)—7 p.m. KKAD
Toronto at Seattle Mariners (live)—7 p.m. FSN, KFXX
Clark County Planning Commission (7/20)—9:30 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Doug Coats's jeans selling worldwide. ☞ **David Coats** watching sales soar. ☞ **Justin Boyer** touring warehouses worldwide. ☞ **David Wrast** defending homeland. ☞ **Jim Irish** using a couple of minutes effectively. ☞ **Terry O'Connor** thinking stronger measures. ☞ **Troy Van Dinter** catnap dreaming. ☞ **Sunrise O'Mahoney** out and about promoting. ☞ **Wednesday**, mostly cloudy, 82. **Thursday**, clouds and sunshine, 82. **Friday**, more clouds, 78.