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### Mark Matthias named First Citizen



**Mark Matthias**

**Mark Matthias**, who has probably said hello to more restaurant patrons than any man alive, yesterday was named Vancouver's First Citizen by the Community Foundation of Southwest Washington for the support he gives to the community through voluntary efforts.

**Matthias** and another Vancouver First Citizen, the late George Propstra, founded Beaches Restaurant and Bar in 1995.

In addition to famously getting to know tens of thousands of Beaches' customers, Matthias very quietly began to establish Beaches Charity Fund, which has generated hundreds of thousands of dollars in community contributions. The goal of the fund, supported largely through Beaches' Summer Cruise-In, is \$1 million by 2001. Some of the beneficiaries of the fund are Share, YWCA Clark County, Vancouver School District Foundation, Boys and Girls Clubs of Southwest Washington and the Police Activities League.

Matthias's annual Dr. Seuss breakfast of green eggs and ham provides reading to 8,000 students from 48 elementary schools in five days each spring.

Through the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, Matthias hosts Leads and Needs networking programs. Through a last-minute call for help, he saved the chamber of commerce's Christmas breakfast, a 26-year-old tradition.

Says **Ginger Metcalf**, executive director of Identity Clark County: "People give in many ways and Mark does it with grace, quietly and purposefully—always from the heart."

**Jim Sork**, director of the Vancouver School District Foundation, adds, "One of the qualities I admire most about Mark is his willingness to make a personal commitment to the things he values."

Matthias will receive his award at a reception to be held in his honor from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, June 5, in *The Columbian* offices, 425 W 6th Street. Admission is \$35 and reservations may be obtained by calling the chamber of commerce at **694-2588**.

### Home and Garden Idea Fair continues through Sunday

Clark Public Utilities' 17th annual Home and Garden Idea Fair, which includes the largest plant sale in southern Washington, opened today at the Clark County fairgrounds and continues through 5 p.m. Sunday.

There is no charge for the event, but parking is \$5 per vehicle. Fairgoers are encouraged to bring donations of canned food or make a contribution to Operation Warm Heart. Fair hours are until 8 p.m. today, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, April 6, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 27.

Energy awareness has always been an important theme of the utility-sponsored show, reports **Heather Allmain**, show coordinator. "Our goal is to provide our customer-owners with plenty of helpful resources, and to get them thinking about easy steps they can take to save energy and protect the environment, too."

Solar electricity generating options will be on display. The utility will promote its Green Lights program, which allows customers to voluntarily invest in the development of new renewable energy resources in the Northwest. Customers signing up for Green Lights at the fair will receive special incentives, according to Allmain.

Vancouver's New Tradition Homes is presenting a demonstration home of the future, and Hannah Motors is displaying a wide variety of hybrid automobiles.



Annual Clark Public Utilities' Home and Garden Idea Fair generates huge crowds at county fairgrounds.

New to the fair this year is the Southwest Washington Sustainability display, a joint effort of Clark Public Utilities, Clark County, the City of Vancouver, Port of Vancouver, C-TRAN and Waste Connections.

In addition to the huge plant sale sponsored by the Specialty Nursery Association of Clark County, there will be 300 commercial exhibits.

### Schuyler Hoss named Gregoire's southwest Washington aide

**Schuyler Hoss**, former Evergreen Schools school board member, has been named southwest Washington Regional Representative for Gov. **Chris Gregoire**. Hoss succeeds **Jim Jacks**.

Hoss's knowledge of economic development, healthcare, education and human services, and his experience at working on behalf of community organizations, make him an excellent choice to join my staff, Gregoire says.

Hoss was president and principal consultant at his company, Home Healthcare Technology Associates.

### Villarma named women exec of the year

**Carmen Villarma**, president of Vancouver-based The Management Group, Inc., has been chosen as Woman Executive of the Year in the \$25 million and under category by the *Portland Business Journal*, based on nominations from the publication's readers and staff.

Villarma founded TMG with two employees in 1985. Headquartered in Vancouver with satellite offices in Portland and Kennewick. Today TMG has more than 14,000 residential single- and multi-family units and homeowner associations on its roster. Currently in development is Battle Ground Village, a new open-air, mixed-use community in Battle Ground.

Villarma serves on the Board of First Independent Bank and Washington State University's Diversity Council. She was appointed by Gov. Gregoire to the Washington State Economic Development Finance Authority board of directors. Villarma was also recently honored as one of the most powerful women in Clark County and serves as Chair of the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce.



**Carmen Villarma**

Villarma and her company also support the Southwest Washington Breast Cancer Center, Relay for Life, the Friends of the Library and the Foundation for Early Learning.

### Calendar

The Magenta Theater Company is presenting *Once Upon a Palace Purple*, written and directed by **Jaynie Roberts**, at 7 p.m. this evening and at 3 p.m. Saturday, April 26, in the First Baptist Church, 108 W 27th Street. Tickets range from \$10 to \$13. For further information, call **635-4358**. <> It is open microphone poetry night in the Battle Ground Community Library beginning at 7 p.m. this evening. Poets are allowed five minutes of microphone time. <> *Our Times*, a one-man show written and performed by former Clark County legislator **Denny Heck**, is being presented at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 26, in his alma mater Columbia River High School. The show is produced and directed by Heck's wife, **Paula**. Tickets are \$25 and all proceeds go to the Vancouver School District Foundation. Call **313-4370** for further information.

### Friday on the air

**Arizona at OSU (live baseball)—5 p.m. KKAD**

Clark County Focus (4/7)—6:30 p.m. CVTV

**Oakland at Seattle Mariners (live)—7 p.m. FSN, KFX**

**Portland Beavers at Las Vegas (live)—7 p.m. KKAD**

Animal Control Hearings (3/26)—7:01 CVTV

Clark County Commissioners (4/22)—7:45 p.m. CVTV

Bravo! Vancouver: Triple Crown—10 p.m. CVTV

### Town Tabloids and the Weather

**Jeff Williams** showing off management skills. <> **Pat Doran** extolling DMSO. <> **Taylor Wells** announcing National Electrical Safety Month. <> **Kay Shattuck** getting out geriatric list. <> **Friday**, mostly cloudy, sunbreaks, 44-62. **Saturday**, a few showers, 49-70. **Sunday**, probable showers, 50-63.