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Local Red Cross responds to victims of apartment fire

American Red Cross Southwest Washington Chapter volunteers are continuing to help victims of the three-alarm fire at The Park at Fox Pointe Apartments that early Saturday morning destroyed 24 units.

Volunteers set up a temporary shelter at Fort Vancouver High School that remained open through Sunday. Twelve family cases were opened to deal with immediate needs, such as clothing and food, according to **David Fenton**, senior development director for the local Red Cross chapter.

This fire response was the fifth for the local Red Cross chapter disaster response teams in the past week. During the month of June alone, Red Cross response teams have assisted over 95 families, Fenton said.

Fenton said that preliminary estimates of costs for this single response could reach \$10,000. Last year, disaster response costs for the chapter totaled \$75,000, mainly to assist victims of house and apartment fires.

Fenton concluded: “We budget for the worst and always hope for the best, but fires the size of Saturday’s conflagration definitely put a strain on allotted funds. The American Red Cross provides assistance free of charge to those displaced by local disasters thanks to the generosity of local residents supporting the Chapter. The local chapter does not receive funding from the national organization for these disasters.”

For further information on the local chapter of the American Red Cross, go to

www.swashington.redcross.org.

Time to put Columbia Crossing project thoughts on record with the city council

The Vancouver City Council has reserved this evening’s session to invite community discussion on the Columbia River Crossing (bridge) project. The council meeting begins at 6 p.m.

Live testimony is limited to three minutes for each person. Testimony from the public before the council is for council use only and will not count as a response to the Columbia River Crossing Task Force draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Comments on the draft EIS may be made by email to: feedback@columbiarivercrossing.org

Don Benton named chairman of ALEC insurance subcommittee

State Sen. **Don Benton** (R-17th) has been appointed chairman of the newly-created insurance subcommittee for the American Legislative Exchange Council’s Commerce, Insurance, and Economic Development committee.

Benton previously served as the chairman of the committee’s insurance working group.

Benton has been a member of ALEC’s commerce committee for three years. He is a former agent and district manager with Farmers Insurance Group.

Care, use of American flag subject of First Thursday museum program

The care, use and, if necessary, disposal of the American flag will be explained by the U.S. Marine Corps League, Columbia River Detachment #826, during the Clark County Historical Museum’s First Thursday program at 7 p.m. Thursday, July 3.

First Thursday After Hours programs are free at the museum and are held from 5 to 9 p.m.

Current displays at the museum are *Boomer!* and *Woven History: Native American Basketry*.

Williamsburg chief to speak in Vancouver

Colin G. Campbell, chairman and president of Colonial Williamsburg, will discuss “Bringing Williamsburg West” at the annual outdoor dinner of the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Trust.

For further information about the Friday, Aug. 15, dinner, call **992-1801**.

Calendar

The Vancouver City Council meets at 6 p.m. this evening to offer citizens a chance to weigh in on Columbia Crossing alternatives. Public presentations are limited to 3 minutes each. <> State Rep. **Jamie Herrera** (R-18th) is conducting a tele-town hall meeting at 7 p.m. this evening. Herrera will be accepting telephone calls from constituents on an 866-line. She will respond to questions live. The number to call is **(866) 447-5149**. Callers should then enter a PIN number, **13470**. For further information, call Herrera at **687-0489**. <> The Southwest Washington Blood Program is holding Tuesday, July 1, blood drawings from 9 a.m. to noon at Underwriters Laboratories, 2600 NW Lake Road, and from 2 to 4:30 p.m. at the Vancouver Operations Center, 4711 Fourth Plain Boulevard. <> Clark County commissioners meet in regular session at 10 a.m. Tuesday, July 1.

Monday on the air

Clark County Close Up (6/1)—4:30 p.m. CVTV

City Minutes (6:22)—5:01 p.m. CVTV

Northwest Indian News—6:30 p.m. FVTV

Vancouver City Council: Columbia Crossing (live)—6 p.m. CVTV

Portland Beavers at Sacramento (live) 7 p.m. KKAD

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

North County Business EXPO—(5/29)—10 p.m. CVTV

Animal Control Hearings (6/25)—11:30 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Dale Hixon ended work at 7 a.m. <> **Joe Melroy** sharing a couple of cups of coffee. <> **Pete Anderson** taking care of FVTV details. <> **Candace Archuleta** giving second chance. <> **Lynn Dixon** pitching graffiti cleaner. <> **Bruce** and **Donna Cross** getting in another hello. <> **Monday**, hot, sunny, 64-87. **Tuesday**, hot and muggy, mostly sunny, 68-97. **Wednesday**, continued sunshine, 66-94.