

Around the area

VANCOUVER

College presidents to speak at church

The leaders of two local colleges will share their education and life experiences during a special presentation Sunday at Vancouver's Community AME Zion Church. The event is free and open to the public.

Wayne Branch, president of Clark College, and Algie Gatewood, president of Portland Community College's Cascade Campus, will speak at 1:30 p.m. Their appearance at the church, at 3605 E. 13th St., carries the theme of "Increasing Our Passion for Excellence in

Education."

Pastor Robert F. Kemp and other church officials thought it appropriate during Black History Month to invite the first African American presidents serving their respective campuses. Both men were schooled and began their careers in the Eastern United States.

They will "share the story of their journeys and how they arrived at their positions," said Gail Thomas, local lay council president for the church.

Following their speeches, Thomas will lead an open-forum panel discussion. The afternoon will conclude with a soul-food reception.