Another week in paradise!

Clark College to host annual high school jazz festival

Clark College will host its 47th annual high school jazz festival Thurs.-Sat., Jan. 29-31, at Gaiser Hall, 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver.

The festival will feature 45 jazz ensembles and 15 vocal jazz groups, with vocal groups competing on Jan. 29, smaller school bands on Jan. 30, and big school bands on Jan. 31. Preliminary competition will take place 8 a.m.-5 p.m., with finals each evening. Vocal groups will begin competition at 8:30 a.m.

The Clark College vocal jazz ensemble, under the direction of Janet Reiter, will perform at noon and 9 p.m. on Thursday.

Wood art to be on display

Wood art will be displayed during February at Heron Gate Complex, 2 South 56th Place, Ridgefield, just west of the Ridgefield/1-5 Junction.

Items will be displayed by Battle Ground Scrollsaw artist Terry Foltz, Ridgefield bowl and furniture maker Dan Baker, and furniture maker and wood furniture maker Bruce Crockett.

Artists' reception is set for Sat., Feb. 7, 3-6 p.m., at the Gallery.

The creations of three artists will be on display.

Foltz has published a book on scrollsaw artwork and has written articles in Scrollsaw Woodworking and Crafts. He creates detailed wall hangings of wilderness and wildlife scenes. He has demonstrated his craft at Woodcrafters in Portland.

Baker owns Ridgefieldwoodworks, making wood furniture and bowls. He has won awards at arts shows.

Crockett is a craftsman in wood furniture and wood turning.

All three craftsman are members of the Ridgefield Art Association.

If you like wood, don't miss this opportunity to see some of the best in Clark County, said Foltz. "If you like wood furniture or decorative wood bowls, native American or wild sculptures."

The exhibit is on view through the February, 9.


More information is available by calling 360-676-1145.

Clark County Fire and Rescue offers citizens' academy

Clark County Fire and Rescue has invited the public to participate in the 2009 Citizens' Fire Academy.

The free, six-week course will provide the opportunity to learn about fire service history, training, equipment, incident command, fire safety and prevention, and emergency medical services. Participants will also have the option of participating in a number of hands-on activities, taught by members of Clark County Fire and Rescue.

Classes will be held Thursday evenings, 7-9 p.m., Feb. 5 through March 12, at Station 3, 1511 Main St., Vancouver.

In order to qualify for the course, those interested need to submit an application to Clark County Fire and Rescue, Citizens' Fire Academy, 911 North 65th Ave., Ridgefield, WA 98642 no later than Thurs., Jan. 22. Applications can be found online at www.cfrd.org.

For more information, contact Clark County Fire and Rescue Public Education Coordinator Tamara Bailey at 360-887-4609, or by e-mail at tamara.bailey@clarkfrd.org.

Misty River band to perform

Misty River, the popular four-woman folk group, will return to the stage for a benefit concert Sun., Feb. 8, 3 p.m., at Skyview High School, 13900 NW 139th St.

Tickets at the door are $18. Advance sale tickets at $15 are available from Saloon Creek Kiwanis Club members, Music World in Battle Ground, and the Columbia Credit Union offices.

The four vocalists and instrumentalists of Misty River began a one-year hiatus in September to pursue individual projects and family interests.

The group expects to come together again in September 2009, but the members agreed to do the one benefit performance for the Kiwanis Club.

Misty River performs modern American folk music, including the songs of the late Pete Seeger and thear art. The exhibit commemorates the bicentennial of fur agent and cartographer David Thompson's explorations in the north-west from 1807 through 1812.

Thompson, who was English, was born in Lumbard, near Bath, England, in 1770. He was a member of the family of John Smith, a noted explorer of the American Southwest.

The exhibit is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the museum. Admission is $5 for adults, $4 for seniors and students, and $1 for children.