



# Clark 24/7





# Election Night 2006: “Counting” on Clark College

Clark College was election central in Clark County on November 7 as the Board of Elections unveiled election results and Clark-Vancouver Television (CVTV) aired live election coverage anchored by Donna Mason and Tony Bacon. In addition, KATU-TV sent their Clark County bureau chief Dan Tilken and a news crew to the college to cover election returns from Washington state.

Throughout the evening, candidates for office dropped by to monitor results, thank supporters and share their thoughts with reporters. Congressman Brian Baird, State Representatives Bill Fromhold and Jim Moeller, and Jim Jacks, regional representative for Gov. Chris Gregoire, were among those visiting the college. Clark College trustee Sherry Parker was also on hand to watch the results in her successful race to become Clark County Clerk.



Rep. Jim Moeller (left) and his campaign manager Janet James were visitors to Clark College during election night activities.



Rep. Bill Fromhold (center), his wife Marcia, and Jim Jacks, regional representative for Governor Gregoire, were also among the visitors to Clark College on November 7.



Port Commission President Nancy Baker and Clark College trustee Sherry Parker were on hand to watch election results – including Parker’s successful race to become Clark County Clerk.



Portland’s ABC affiliate, KATU, sent a news crew including Clark County bureau chief Dan Tilken (center) to cover election results.

# Be a Philanthropist Every Payday!



Each year, Washington state employees are invited to participate in the workplace giving campaign known as the Combined Fund Drive (CFD). Employees voluntarily provide financial support to one or more CFD-approved charities. Donations can be made as a one-time donation with a credit card or personal check or through payroll deduction for as little as \$2/month. Washington ranks fourth in the nation for most dollars raised through workplace giving!

This year's campaign ends on November 30, but there is still time to give. Here is a comparison of giving between last year and this year:

Year	# of donors	Total donations
2005 – 2006	75	\$10,516
2006 – 2007	62 (as of 11-6-06)	\$9,520

There are two ways to reach our goal of increasing employee participation or total donations by 10% over last year:

- 21 more donors are needed to increase participation by 10%
- OR
- \$2,050 more dollars are needed to increase total giving by 10%

Visit the CFD Web site at [www.cfd.wa.gov](http://www.cfd.wa.gov) for more information:

- Click on the “Make a Donation” link for paper contribution forms and The Giving Station (online giving).
- Click on the “Charity Guide” link to view more than 2,000 charities you can support.

## *A sample of what your donation will buy*

### **\$2 a month will:**

- ★ buy 120 pounds of rice or 58 jars of baby food.

### **\$5 a month will:**

- ★ provide one day's shelter, food and services for a woman fleeing domestic violence.

### **\$10 a month will:**

- ★ buy one week of hot lunches for a hungry person.

### **\$20 a month will:**

- ★ provide roundtrip airfare for a patient or kidney donor to travel for an out-of-area kidney transplant, or
- ★ feed two orphaned bear cubs for a week or one rehabilitating peregrine falcon for two weeks.

### **\$40 a month will:**

- ★ buy enough basic drugs, supplies and equipment to treat 3,000 Indonesian patients for three months.

Thank you for your support of CFD. If you have any questions, contact one of the CFD team members:

Chris Beaudin	ext. 2196	Lisa Nelson	ext. 2488
Kitty Brokaw	ext. 2952	Amy Pearson	ext. 2906
Lauren Caldarera	ext. 2447	Vicki Presley	ext. 2937
Chris Concannon	ext. 2411	Kay Schlemmer	ext. 2342
Cindy Heck	ext. 2840	Jennifer Wheeler	ext. 2146
Leann Johnson	ext. 2355		

Your support does MAKE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE as seen in the pictures on page 4 and testimonials from our October 13 CFD field trips to local charities.

# Be a Philanthropist Every Payday! (continued)

## FISH OF VANCOUVER

“It was very beneficial for me to visit the FISH site in downtown Vancouver. Students in my *Food and Your Health* course may select this site as a place to volunteer for their course service learning project; now I can visualize where they will be and tell them exactly what to expect. After performing their service, many students report that they are much more grateful for what they have and they are amazed that places like FISH rely totally on volunteer help to operate. For me this trip was confirmation once again that every little bit helps.” – **Veronica Brock**

“I was very grateful to see that in our community there are so many caring people. I was amazed at how much an organization like FISH can do with such a small space, limited resources and a complete volunteer staff.” – **Jeanne Hoff**



## YWCA

“The CFD van trip to the YWCA was an amazing journey through the programs and services offered to women, children and families in our area. I was so impacted by the mission of the YWCA and the programs they have available, I’ve subsequently submitted my volunteer application to become the newest team member of the YWCA.” – **Amy Pearson**

“The YWCA provides advocacy for several groups: victims of domestic violence, homeless women and children, women who are incarcerated, children caught in the maze of legal custody, and persons dealing with the trauma of sexual abuse. There are many volunteer opportunities, and other ways of becoming involved. I highly recommend a visit, at least to their Web site [<http://www.ywcaclarkcounty.org/index.htm>]” – **Sue Gray**



## Humane Society

“Though I have been to the Humane Society several times, I have never before toured the entire facility (those parts open to the public). Seeing just the number of homeless animals in that area in want of a family, the longing in each one’s eyes, is enough to win even a purebred enthusiast. The magnitude of affection of a pet from a breeder cannot possibly be any greater than that of one from the Humane Society.” – **Tahnya Huneidi**

## Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

“I grew up in Clark County and I have never been to the school for the deaf. I was very impressed to see all of the resources available to the deaf and hard of hearing community. It was nice to see there is a place they can go to and enjoy – everything from getting assistance to write a resume to attending a Halloween dance. It’s important to have a community center where they are accepted and are with people just like themselves.” – **Julie Taylor**



# It's Been a Busy Fall for the Blue & White!

The Clark College Penguins have experienced great success this fall. Here are some highlights:

## Cross Country

On October 28 Clark hosted the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC) southern region cross country meet at Lewisville Park in Battle Ground. It was a great event where our women took first place with 34 total points. Clark had four women finish in the top ten: Danielle Hutchison finished third with a time of 19:35, Lindsey Kemp finished sixth with a time of 19:59, Audra McNally finished seventh with a time of 20:05, and Stephanie Cooley finished tenth with a time of 20:25. The men finished third with a total of 88 points; sophomore John Graves finished in the top ten with a time of 56:58, placing him ninth overall. Coach Dave Caldwell was named the southern region women's coach of the year. The Penguin runners wrapped up their season with the NWAACC championships in Spokane on November 11, where the women finished second and the men finished third—the best finish for the combined cross country team (women & men) since 1993.



## Volleyball

The Clark College volleyball team has also had a great year. Rounding out the league play for the season was a match against Highline Community College on November 8, followed by a playoff game on November 10, which the Penguins lost to Pierce College.





# It's Been a Busy Fall for the Blue & White!


## Soccer

Women's soccer finished a great season with a 10-7-1 record in the tough southern region. The Lady Penguins ended in fourth place, just a few points out of a playoff berth. The Penguins were led this year by outstanding play from Kaylani Sung, who tied for fifth in the league in goals with a season total of 17.

Our men's soccer team is having an outstanding year. They finished the season winning the southern region, going 14-1-1 in conference and 14-3-1 overall. The Penguins are led by freshman Joel Duenas, who is currently fourth in the league with 13 goals and 3 assists, and September student athlete of the month Davor Lukic, who is fifth in the conference in goals with 12 and 8 assists. The Penguins have also had great defense in the goal by sophomore Whitney Parker who has had six shut outs this year. The Penguins hosted the NWACC quarterfinals in Hillsboro on November 11, during which their season came to an end in a heartbreaking defeat in penalty kicks against Bellvue Community College in the semi-final game.



# *Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Offers Scholarships*



The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation has opened the nominations process for the largest scholarships available to students and recent alumni from community colleges. Through the initiative, called the Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship Program, the private foundation will award up to \$30,000 annually per recipient to help students and recent alumni from community and two-year institutions pursue four-year degrees at any accredited college or university in the United States and abroad. The scholarships can provide funding for tuition, room and board, required fees, and books for the length of the undergraduate degree (generally two years). The amount of each award varies based on factors including the cost of the institution a recipient attends.

Nominees must be community college sophomores or recent graduates (since May 2002) who plan to pursue baccalaureate degrees full time at four-year institutions starting in fall 2007. They must have a cumulative college grade point average of 3.50 or better on a 4.0 scale (or the equivalent) and must have a significant unmet financial need. In addition, applicants must demonstrate the will to succeed, leadership and public service, critical-thinking ability, and participate in or have a strong appreciation of the arts and humanities.

All candidates for the scholarship must be nominated by the faculty representative at their community or two-year institution. English professor Sandra Woodward is the faculty representative at Clark College. She can be reached by phone or e-mail: (360) 992-2173 or [swoodward@clark.edu](mailto:swoodward@clark.edu). Application materials are available on the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Web site at [www.jackkentcookefoundation.org](http://www.jackkentcookefoundation.org). **Scholarship applications must be submitted to faculty representative Sandra Woodward no later than 4 p.m. on Monday, January 8, 2007.**

## *Exploring Science, Technology, Engineering and Math at Clark*

Saturday, November 4 was a day for exploring our world during the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Clinic at Clark College. More than 40 participants ranging from elementary and secondary students and their parents to area and regional science teachers explored:

- How science competition and WASL preparation go hand-in-hand;
- Upcoming science, engineering, and technologies fields – and the potential careers they hold;
- Ways to prepare students for the Science Olympiad competition; and
- Ways to help students prepare for their current studies and future work world, while having fun in the process.

Special thanks go to many members of the Clark community for making the event a success, including: Gothard Grey, Kanchan Mathur, Jennifer Farney, Tina Barsotti, Bill Wheeler, Karl Bailey, Karina Gress, Nadine Fattaleh, Dick Shamrell, Izad Khormae and Priscila Martins-Read, and community members and engineering students Ron Hanson, Greg Davis, Brian Derr, Ed Berray, Russ Ramsey, April Takashima, Judy Bufford, Jo Shannahan, the Kryger family, and Wen-Li Su.



# The House that Clark Built



The training and talents of Clark's culinary students are on display in the Clark College Alumni Association's annual gingerbread house contest, "Gingerbread Creations."

Now in its fourth year, the contest pairs local architects with various schools, restaurants and organizations from across Vancouver in sponsoring, designing and creating gingerbread replications of various buildings and locales. This year's submission from Clark College recreates the United Methodist Church in Vancouver. Mall visitors are able to vote for their favorite creation through their donations, which are used to support scholarships for culinary arts students at Clark. In 2006, three \$1,000 scholarships were given based on the income from last year's contest.

In 2005 Clark won the competition with a replica of the Vancouver railway station, complete with chocolate train. James Dobbs, a second-year student in the culinary program, volunteered to direct this year's project after working on last year's winning submission.

The gingerbread houses are on display now through November 22 on the upper-level Sears court at Westfield Shopping Center Vancouver Mall, after which they will travel to the Vancouver Rotary Foundation's Festival of Trees.

For 50 years the culinary arts program has trained students for employment in baking and baking management, allowing graduates to find jobs with in-store, retail and wholesale bakeries, restaurants and hotels, or to continue on in their training to become bakery technicians, managers or owners.



# Phi Theta Kappa Serves Up Pizza, Pop and Power



The first installment of Phi Theta Kappa's (PTK) 2006-2008 honors study discussion series was held Monday, October 23 in the PSU Fireside Lounge. The honors study topic is the central focus of PTK's honors program; it offers PTK chapters a platform for the examination of a timely interdisciplinary subject of importance to the human experience.

The evening's topic, "The Iraq War and its Consequences in the Middle East," was addressed through video, discussion, and a panel of Clark faculty, administrators and students. Panelists for the evening were Rassoul Dastmozd, vice president of instruction, John Fite, professor of economics, Charles Herdener, professor of business law, Nick Forrest, professor of political science, and Darric Lowery, student.

The next Pizza, Pop and Power event will be held Tuesday, January 23 at 6:00 p.m. in the PSU student lounge. The video will feature speaker Arun Gandhi, who will talk of the power of nonviolent protest as taught to him by his grandfather, the legendary peace fighter and spiritual leader Mohandas K. Gandhi.

Alpha Sigma Phi is the Clark College chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the two-year international honor society. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 1.5 million members and 1,200 chapters located in all 50 of the United States, U.S. territories, British Virgin Islands, Canada, Germany, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, and Palau. Benefits of membership in PTK include scholarships, membership identification, letters and recommendation, and enrollment in a transfer database. For more information on PTK, visit [www.clarkptk.com](http://www.clarkptk.com).

## Not the day to miss class...



Students in Clark's culinary arts school were treated – literally – during a campus visit by Paul Albright of Guittard Chocolate Company of San Francisco. Albright, who has worked for Guittard for the past 22 years, was a visiting lecturer in the first and second year baking class on November 7. More than 20 students learned about the history and origins of chocolate, the manufacturing process, and the distinctions in varieties of chocolate through photos, diagrams, examples and, of course, samples.

Founded in 1858 by Etienne Guittard, an experienced French chocolatier, Guittard Chocolate Company is the oldest family owned and operated chocolate company in the United States. The company claims a number of innovations, including Guittard Sweet Ground Chocolate, milk chocolate chips, white chips and super-size chips. Part of the company's success is its quality standards: Guittard conducts 50 to 70 different quality checks on each batch of product they make. "Our quality standards are more stringent than those established by the federal government [for chocolate]," Albright told the class.

Manufacturing quality chocolate is a complex process. "The art of chocolate is the flavor," said Albright. Both Albright and Ian Titterton, baking professor in Clark's culinary arts program, liken chocolate to another popular fermented product – wine. Everything from the growing region of the cacao to the fermenting, roasting, blending and grind of the cocoa bean influence the taste and texture of the chocolate.

Students were able to taste several varieties of chocolate during the class – training that will enable them to understand which combinations and flavor varieties to use in their own creations. "There has been a renaissance of chocolate and baking in the last 10 years," said Titterton. "Expectations are higher now for what people eat. The more students understand about the flavors and use of chocolate, the better their results will be."

As just another example of chocolate's growing popularity, Titterton recently sparked a bidding frenzy at a recent YWCA Clark County auction by offering a private chocolate lesson. When asked to estimate the value of such a class prior to the auction, Titterton thought it might fetch three to four hundred dollars. The winning bid: \$3,500. "It meant a lot to me, both personally and professionally, to have someone be so interested in what I do," Titterton said.

Having a visiting lecturer such as Albright provides students with another perspective on their studies. As Titterton approaches chocolate from the standpoint of the baker, Albright approaches it from the viewpoint of the manufacturer – but both would undoubtedly argue the importance of well-made chocolate for achieving the desired result. As Titterton explains, paraphrasing Orwell's *Animal Farm*, "All chocolate is equal – but some chocolate is more equal than others."



# Make a Difference Day Volunteer Fair



To introduce students, particularly ESL students, to the value of volunteering, Lauren Caldarera, service-learning program manager, Sara Gallow, ESL faculty, and Madeleine von Laue, adult literacy program manager, coordinated a volunteer fair on October 18 at Town Plaza Center. The goal was to provide ESL students with opportunities to get involved in their community, practice English and learn about local resources.

One avenue to new job skills and making connections with potential employers is to volunteer. It is also an excellent way to become part of a community and meet new people – and it is a way of life in America. According to the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, approximately 65.4 million people volunteered at least once between September 2004 and September 2005.

The fair was a great success; eight organizations participated and more than 160 students and instructors attended. To promote the fair, faculty were given tools to create lesson plans focused on volunteering and a Web site with links to each organization that participated.

Special thanks to the community groups that attended the event and continually work to encourage community involvement and volunteerism amongst Clark College students, staff and faculty: Watershed Stewards, Humane Society, Gee Creek Watershed, Shared Hope International, Vancouver Food Co-op, City of Vancouver, OMSI and Big Brothers Big Sisters.

The fair was held in conjunction with Make a Difference Day. Created by USA Weekend Magazine, Make a Difference Day is celebrated on the fourth Saturday of October and is a day for friends, family and neighbors to join together in a national day of helping.

# Musical Offerings by Clark College Orchestra, Vocal Ensembles



Emin Güven Yaslıçam



Maurizio Barboro

The Clark College Orchestra will open its 2006-2007 season by welcoming guest conductor Emin Güven Yaslıçam, music director of Turkey's Adana Symphony. "Turkish Delight" will be presented on Wednesday, November 29, at 7:30 p.m. at the Royal Durst Theatre of Vancouver School of Arts and Academics, 3101 Main St., Vancouver.

The orchestra will welcome Italian pianist Maurizio Barboro, who will be the soloist for Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No. 1*. The program will conclude with Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade*, featuring solos by Concertmaster Gretchen Tucker and Principal Cellist Nikki Graybeal.

The concert has been made possible by the generous support of the Associated Students of Clark College, the Clark College Foundation, David Kerr Violin Shop, Classic Pianos of Portland, and the Heathman Lodge. Admission is free and open to the public. Donations to the Music Scholarship Fund will be accepted at the door.



The Clark College Women's Choral Ensemble, under the direction of April Brookins Duvic, and the Vocal Jazz Ensemble, directed by Janet Reiter, will present a holiday concert Thursday, Nov. 30, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in Decker Theatre in the Frost Arts Center at Clark College. Admission to the concert is free. Donations for the ensembles will be accepted at the door.

The Women's Choral Ensemble program features music from the Renaissance (Tomas Luis de Victoria) to the 21st Century (Imant Ramish, Thomas Juneau, Eleanor Daley). Selections offer the opportunity to be taken on a holiday journey that is contemplative, heart-warming and joyous. The ensemble will be accompanied by piano, flute, oboe, percussion and trumpet, and vocal soloists include several members of the group.

The 15 members of the Clark College Vocal Jazz Ensemble will perform a selection of music from the 1940s to contemporary vocal jazz. One of the pieces to be performed, "I Like Christmas Here," was composed by their piano accompanist, Jim Fischer, and Gwen Burnham. Also accompanying the ensemble are Everett Carlson on drums and guest bass player Dan Presley from Tall Jazz.

To close their holiday season, the Women's Choral Ensemble is scheduled for a performance at The Grotto, Sandy Blvd. at NE 85th in Portland, Oregon on Saturday, December 2 at 7 p.m. Admission is \$7.00/General, \$3.00/Children ages 3-12; 2 and under free (no senior discount).

Members of the jazz ensemble will be performing again on Saturday, December 2, at *Christmas with Jim Fischer and Friends*, concerts benefiting Friends of the Carpenter. The concerts are at 3:00 and 7:00 p.m. in the Royal Durst Theatre at the Vancouver School of Arts and Academics. Admission to these concerts is \$15/general, \$12/seniors and students.



# The Arts at Clark

## “New Directions” at Archer Gallery

Why is it that we as humans feel the need to constantly understand and measure our surroundings? Is it just something that we tend to do naturally, or is it a trait that we trained ourselves to do? Artist Mark Hooper uses his extraordinary exhibit of “Lewis and Clark: Quantifying Nature” to represent this need that we all have as humans. Hooper uses the journey that Lewis and Clark took as a metaphor to address and illustrate this issue of being able to understand our nature and surroundings.

Hooper and seven other Northwest artists are currently being featured in the all-photography exhibit “New Directions” at Clark College’s Archer Gallery. This lively exhibition features the work of professional artists: Holly Andres, who recently exhibited in the 2006 Biennial at the Portland Art Museum; Blake Andrews, a current participant in the Portland Grid Project; Amy Archer, who is represented by the Augen Gallery in Portland; Daniel Barront, who has been featured at the Pushdot Gallery in Portland; Liz Haley, a multi-disciplinary artist; Mark Hooper, who also exhibited in the 2006 Biennial at the Portland Art Museum; Tamara Lischka, who participated in the Whatcom Museum of History and Art exhibition; and Grace Weston, who was awarded an individual artist’s fellowship by the Oregon Arts Commission in 2006.

The mission of this exhibit is to show the community professional artwork as a learning tool. Through the art there are social and political issues addressed: Andrews’ work depicts the realities of the world as black and white abstractions of art; Andres reflects on history and identity; and Weston captures humor, wit, and psychological tension within her staged props and sets in her images. The photographs are another way for people to be able to express and experience these views from a different medium.

Clark College has provided a strong photography program to its students, and has set up this exhibit to expand the knowledge and learning of the students. In this exhibit there is the use of digital cameras, technology and computers, as well as many other types of photography.

Katherena Halsinger, photography professor at Clark College, comments on the exhibit: “The strength of this show is that it allows us to talk about and view photography that is going on right now and right here in our region,” said Halsinger. “Students gain a perspective of what contemporary photography is like by attending the exhibit. Also, by visually seeing a photograph it gives students something to reach for and allows them to feel that they too can create this type of art, and that it is realistically attainable. The young emerging artists that are featured at the gallery offer inspiration to our young photography students.”

“New Directions” is free and open to the Clark community and the public. The exhibit runs through December 1. Archer Gallery hours are: Tuesday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Two artist talks are also scheduled and open to the public: Artist Talk with Grace Weston: Tuesday, November 14 at 3:00 p.m., room 104 of Frost Arts Center; and Artist Talk with Liz Haley: Tuesday, November 21 at 11:00 a.m., room 103 of Frost Arts Center.

# Friendly Faces: Student Ambassadors Represent Clark College



Student Ambassador Carol Lopez-Gustin (left) talks with a Clark student.



Student ambassadors giving tours of Clark College on Welcome Day.

**T**he Clark College student ambassador program is comprised of current students who represent the face of the college in a variety of ways. As student leaders, the ambassadors are involved in many aspects of the recruiting process, including leading campus tours, responding to e-mails from prospective students and other tasks.

Applications are still being accepted for student ambassadors. In order to be considered as a student ambassador, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Applicant must have been a Clark student for at least one full quarter (preferably two);
- Applicant must maintain a 2.5 grade point average; and
- Applicant must be able to work between six and 17 hours per week.

Students who are interested in joining the student ambassador team may contact Vanessa Watkins at (360) 992-2961 or [vwatkins@clark.edu](mailto:vwatkins@clark.edu).

Read on to learn more about the students who are the friendly faces of Clark College...

*Marjorie Shilling* is new to the student ambassador program here at Clark. She has been a Clark student off and on (between children) for a number of years and is currently in her third quarter of nursing school at the Clark Center at WSUV. She is excited about being an ambassador for Clark because her experience here has been a positive one – something she believes is worth sharing with new/prospective students. Shilling feels that, for students like her – adults going back to school after working/raising children for a number of years – Clark provides a valuable niche within the community.

*Alex Mitchell* is a sophomore at Clark College. He grew up in NE Portland, attended Grant High School, and is a current member of the Penguin basketball team. At Clark, Mitchell is studying for his AA transfer degree. Upon graduating he plans to attend a four year university majoring in some form of social science.

*Carol Lopez-Gustin* has been living in Vancouver for approximately 17 years. She enjoys learning about multicultural diversity and what she can do to help out in the community. Lopez-Gustin has been attending Clark College for many years on a part-time basis, in between working full-time and raising a family. As a Clark student she has explored different educational avenues, such as business, supervisory management and accounting. Currently she is studying to earn her AA general transfer degree and plans to transfer to WSUV to major in social science.

*Heather Mc Afee* has attended Clark College since fall quarter of 2001. Since that time she has completed an AA degree and is currently in her second year of the dental hygiene program. She plans on graduating in the spring and continuing her education with Clark College's extended bachelor program at WSUV. Mc Afee believes that Clark College has a lot to offer students and the community, and she is amazed to see how the faculty takes an active role in helping students to succeed.



# Ghouls at School...

There were plenty of ghoulish – and graceful – characters at the Associated Students of Clark College (ASCC) and Office of Student Life Monster Bash on Thursday, October 19 in the Student Center. The dance turned out a crowd of approximately 170 costume-clad revelers who enjoyed a live DJ, snacks including candy apples with homemade caramel, a costume contest, and photos.

ASCC Activities Director Sarah Simpson, who was clad as Miss Frizzle from *The Magic School Bus* storybooks, coordinated the event, which was attended by students, staff and family members. The Student Center was transformed by cobwebs, crepe paper, spiders, black lights and other Halloween paraphernalia to set the mood, and Michael Jackson's "Thriller" was a big hit among the dancers.

A costume contest featuring prizes from the Clark College Bookstore was also held; winners for best costume included an antique baby doll, a saloon girl, a nerd and a grim reaper. ASCC and Student Life staff members also got in on the costume action, and there was a cameo by a gruesome hunchback taxicab driver – rumored to be interim President Bob Knight in full costume. Children's costumes were also part of the festivities as a collection for families in need.



Presiding over the fun were ASCC members Q White, Amanda Mayoral, and Nicole Porter – accompanied by the (rumored) interim President, Bob Knight.



ASCC Activities Director Sarah Simpson as Miss Frizzle, APB Member Pat Mehigan as a masked Robin and a student as an alpine girl.



From swing dance to a "soul train," students enjoyed the music by DJ Mercy – Clark College's own Lamont Powers.



Acting Director of Student Life Ted Broussard dressed up (or was it down?) as "Ted on the Weekends," while student Sarah Brown donned Little Red's hood and ASCC Executive Assistant Lauren O'Lenic sported a Peter Pan ensemble.

# Human Resources News

## NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR CLASSIFIED EXCELLENCE AWARD – FALL QUARTER 2006

The Classified Staff Quarterly Excellence Award has been established to recognize classified employees who have demonstrated exemplary work and dedication to serving students, the public and the campus community.

Nominations are now being accepted for the fall quarter 2006 award. To be eligible, the nominee must be a current permanent, temporary, part-time or full-time classified employee; departments can also be recognized as a group. Nomination forms are available through Human Resources, ext. 2105. Nominations will be evaluated based on:

- Exemplary work performance.
- Outstanding customer service to students, the public, the community, co-workers etc.
- Demonstrated cooperative spirit and initiative in maintaining a positive campus environment.
- Special achievements or contributions to the campus community.

**Please recognize the value of the contributions made by classified staff by completing a nomination form:**

**Due date:** Wednesday, November 29, 2006

**Submit to:** Human Resources / MS#7

## HOLIDAY RECEPTION AND TREE LIGHTING DECEMBER 4

The annual holiday reception and tree lighting is scheduled for Monday, December 4, 2006, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Student Center. The reception will be from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., with the tree lighting beginning at 5:00 p.m. Please note the date and plan to join the festivities – it is a great time to connect with the college community and retirees.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE TO CLASSIFIED, FACULTY, ADMINISTRATIVE AND EXEMPT EMPLOYEES

Currently VEBA (Voluntary Employee Benefit Association) plans are in place for all employee groups: faculty, administrative, exempt staff, and classified employees.

A VEBA plan allows participating employers to transfer funds equal to a retiree's unused sick leave remuneration (paid at 25%) to a VEBA trust. The funds can then be used to pay medical premiums and other uncovered medical expenses incurred by that retiree and the retiree's spouse and qualified dependents. The primary benefit of a VEBA plan is that the compensable amount of a retiree's unused sick leave that would be transferred to the plan would be tax free, while the usual payout of unused sick leave to an employee would be taxable.

Because of the "tax free" status, the plan is mandatory, unless eligible retirees of each employee group vote not to have the plan for a particular calendar year. A vote will be conducted the first week in December.

Eligible employees (faculty, classified, administrative and exempt employees) who are retiring in 2007 must **notify Human Resources by November 30, 2006** of their plans to retire, in order to participate in the voting for their employee group to participate in a VEBA plan for 2007. WPEA will handle issues related to VEBA for represented employees.

If you have questions regarding VEBA or retirement, please contact Katrina Golder, ext. 2325 or Page Pallamouter, ext. 2119.



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## Human Resources News

### OPEN POSITIONS

#### **Administrative Assistant B**

Full-time classified position in Distance Learning. Closing date: November 17, 2006.

#### **Executive Assistant to the Vice President of Instruction**

Full-time exempt position. Closing date: November 27, 2006.

#### **Faculty**

Full-time, tenure-track positions; closing date: January 11, 2007.

Art/Photography Instructor

Economics Instructor

Health Occupations Instructor

Mathematics Instructor

Political Science Instructor

### Clark 24/7 Staff

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Clark College *The Next Step*