

CLARK twenty-four/seven

Table of Contents

8 75th anniversary still 11

Upcoming Events

November 16, 2009

- Building excellence—by design
- Making a difference every day
- 9 Penguin Patter

in the "spotlight"

From the HR Department

- Operation SAVE:
 Saving veterans lives
- Success at every "stage" for this Clark alum
- Did you get your apple today?



Building excellence—by design

t's beautiful. It's environmentally friendly. Students, faculty and staff love it. It is Clark College at Columbia Tech Center, the college's newest teaching facility, and it just earned a Community Pride Design award.

The awards were presented on Nov. 13 in the Clark County Public Service Center in downtown Vancouver. President Bob Knight and Project Manager Jim Watkins were on hand to accept the award, along with Keith Livie of the LSW Architects design team.

Ten regional projects earned 2009 Community Pride Design Awards and two received honorable mentions.

This is Clark's fourth Community Pride Design Award. The college was previously honored for the Penguin Union Building, the Gaiser Hall renovation, and Clark College at WSU Vancouver.

The Community Pride Design Awards program was established in 1996 by various local public and private organizations as a way to recognize buildings, development and civic improvements that have had a positive impact on the community. According to organizers, the program "honors developers, builders and the community for helping make Clark County a great place to live and work, both now and in the future."

More information is available on the county's Web site at http://www.clark.wa.gov/commdev/prideawardsN.html.



Above: It is an accomplishment for all involved that Clark College at Columbia Tech Center received one of 10 Community Pride Design Awards given Nov. 13. From left: Project Manager Jim Watkins; Keith Livie, project architect for CTC, LSW Architects; President Bob Knight; and Vaughn Lein, principal, LSW Architects.

Below: Clark College at Columbia Tech Center is the college's fourth project to receive the Community Pride Design Award. Clark was previously honored for the Gaiser Hall renovation (2008), Clark College at WSU Vancouver (2006), and the Penguin Union Building (2005).



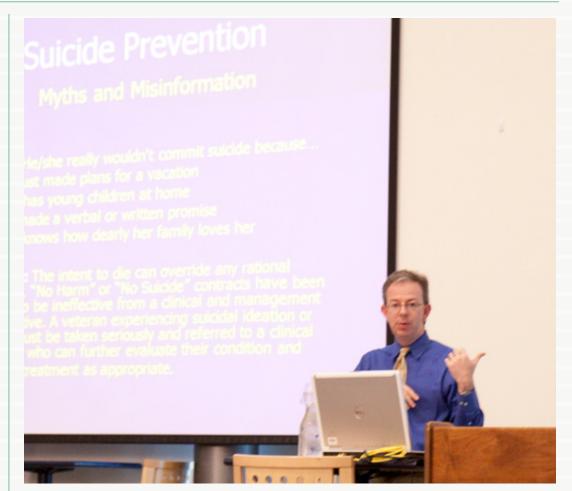
November 16, 2009 Building Excellence—by design

Operation SAVE: Saving veterans lives

wo days before Veterans Day, the focus was on saving veterans' lives as Clark College's Mental Health Mondays series welcomed Robert Tell, LCSW, suicide prevention coordinator at the Portland Veterans Administration (V.A.) Medical Center.

Through Operation SAVE, the VA is doing research, educating employees and the general public, and partnering with community-based organizations to reach troubled veterans. According to Tell, more than 1,900 health care workers at the VA have gone through extensive training to prevent and recognize signs of veterans at risk for suicide and get them timely help.

Speaking in the Penguin Student Lounge on Nov. 9, Tell told the audience that suicide is now the 11th cause of death in the U.S. He added that the Army has reported the highest suicide rate of active duty soldiers in 26 years; 1,000 veterans a year commit suicide, with the very young (18-24 years) and the very old (85+) at the highest risk.



Licensed clinical social worker Robert Tell, of the Portland Veterans Administration Medical Center, spoke about suicide prevention among veterans during the Nov. 9 installment of "Mental Health Mondays."

A suicide hotline (800-273-TALK) has been established, which has helped more than 70,000 veterans and intervened or prevented more than 3,000 imminent suicides. The hotline routes veterans to a trained VA mental health professional that can immediately access the veteran's medical

records to review health problems and medications that have been prescribed. The information is routed to the nearest VA facility which follows up with the veteran within 24 hours and sets an appointment with a mental health professional within 14 days.

November 16, 2009 Operation SAVE: Saving veterans lives

SAVE: Spelling it out

Tell outlined the four-step acronym developed by the VA to help the public recognize the signs of a potential suicide and intervene: SAVE.

SIGNS OF SUICIDAL THINKING

Life events that contribute to suicidal thoughts are family history, health problems, sexual identity concerns, substance abuse and alcoholism. Some signs of suicidal behavior include talking about death; looking for ways to kill themselves (buys a gun, stockpiles drugs); expressing feelings of being trapped, feeling hopeless or having no reason for living; acting recklessly; or giving away possessions. An intent to die can override any rational thinking. A veteran that expresses a desire to commit suicide should be taken seriously.

Ask

While talking to a veteran, listen more than you speak, stay calm and confident, and don't argue or judge. At the appropriate time and in the flow of the conversation, ask the veteran "Are you thinking of killing yourself?" Don't hesitate because you may think the veteran will get angry or say "yes" – instead, take comfort in knowing that, with intervention, 90% of suicidal people will not follow through with their plans.



Robert Tell (left) and counselor and professor Judy VanPatten at the Nov. 9 Mental Health Monday presentation.

VALIDATE

This step is the most likely to save a life. Encourage the veteran to share his or her feelings and assure them that the situation is serious and deserves attention. Show them that you are really listening, and assure them that you are there to help.

ENCOURAGE AND EXPEDITE

The only option available is to guide the veteran to

get help. It is impossible to make someone get help unless they want it. If the veteran is armed, or in immediate danger of committing suicide, call 911. Don't try to subdue or tackle the person. Inform the veteran that they have benefits and it is their right to expect quality care from a professional. Know the referral process (hotline) and help them through the process. Tell them that they will be triaged by a local VA medical center within 24 hours and have an appointment to see a professional within two weeks.

November 16, 2009 Operation SAVE: Saving veterans lives

Making a difference every day

lark College makes a difference in people's lives every day. In October, the college made it official by participating in two major community events in support of Make a Difference Day. Held on the last Saturday of every October, Make a Difference Day is a national celebration of neighbors helping neighbors.

A Make a Difference Day volunteer fair, held Oct. 22 in the Gaiser Student Center, provided opportunities for members of the college community to learn about volunteer opportunities with local community-based organizations. The fair also provided classroom service-learning project ideas for Clark College faculty and students.

Representatives from 28 non-profit agencies including the Boys and Girls Club, Americans Building Community, and Loaves & Fishes took part in the volunteer fair, which attracted 1,288 students, faculty and staff. The organizations provided handouts about volunteer opportunities. Students, faculty and staff had the opportunity to sign up for volunteer and leadership activities.

On Saturday, Oct. 24, Clark College joined five Vancouver-based community organizations on Make a Difference Day 2009.

Five students from Clark's Club for Social Action participated in a carrot harvesting event in Hazel Dell, where they uprooted carrots that were then donated to the Clark County Food Bank.



ESL student Sergey Gorodetskiy (standing) and Adult Literacy Program Manager Madeleine von Laue clearly enjoyed making a difference in Vancouver's Rose Village neighborhood on national Make a Difference Day.

Club member Christina Jensen said she "had a lot of fun" but noted that, "pulling carrots is a lot harder than I thought it would be. It was for a really good cause and I think it is a wonderful idea that they use the produce grown to support the community through food banks. Overall, it was a good experience and I would do it again next year." Club President Mina Han said, "I think that the experience was great, and it showed me what farmers' lives are like. Before the activity, I had thought farming is easy -- you just plant and harvest, and actually get paid to grow less [subsidies]. Now, after having spent three hours picking carrots, I see how hard it really is to farm." Brittany Courser, the club's executive assistant, added, "I enjoyed picking carrots because I knew it was going to feed someone out there. It's hard work,

Continued on the next page

November 16, 2009 Making a difference every day

and I got a new appreciation for farmers who farm our fruits and vegetables throughout the world."

As part of a second Make a Difference Day project, 12 English as a Second Language (ESL) student volunteers joined the Americans Building Community to clean up alleyways in Rose Village, a neighborhood along the Fourth Plain Corridor. ESL student Sergey Gorodetskiy noted that, in his native Kazakhstan, "Neighbors will also help clean leaves and other debris from city streets in the fall."

The students' participation was part of Clark's ongoing English as a Second Language (ESL) Volunteer Project. Adult Literacy Program Manager Madeleine von Laue said, "Volunteering is an excellent way for newcomers to the country and our community to practice speaking English, meet people, gain job skills and build their resume." Instructor Sara Gallow added, "The ESL students really enjoyed their experience. It was a great opportunity for them to connect with each other as well as learn more about Vancouver, their new home."

Clark College Service-Learning and Volunteer Program Manager Jody
Shulnak noted, "By volunteering, students can interact with their community,
develop workforce skills, and gain satisfaction from their time and effort.

Besides gaining personal satisfaction, students can use volunteer work on
college transfer applications and build their resumes to enhance further
employment opportunities."

IT TAKES A COMMUNITY

Special thanks to the community agencies that attended the event and continually work to encourage civic engagement and volunteerism among Clark College students, faculty and staff. Those groups include: American Cancer Society, Americans Building Community Big Brothers Big Sisters,

Boys and Girls Clubs of SW Washington, Catholic Community Services, Clark Public Utilities: Stream Team, Clark County Habitat ReStore, Clark College Mature Learning, Clark-Vancouver Parks & Recreation, Council for the Homeless, F.I.S.H. of Vancouver, Free Clinic of SW Washington, Girl Scouts, Janis Youth Program/Yellow Brick Road, Loaves & Fishes, Lutheran Community Services, NAMI Mental Health, Planned Parenthood, Project Service Leadership, SLIC Program, Special Olympics, Urban Forestry, Vancouver School District/Lunch Buddy Program, Vancouver Watersheds Council. Volunteer Connections, Watershed Stewards, and 4Results Mentoring Program.

"By volunteering,
students can
interact with
their community,
develop workforce
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satisfaction from
their time
and effort."

—Jody Shulnak, Clark College Service-

Learning and Volunteer
Program Manager

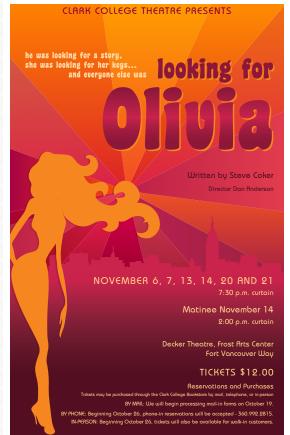
November 16, 2009 Making a difference every day

Success at every "stage" for this Clark alum

The Clark College Theatre Department has launched its 2009-2010 season with a production that represents student success – in every sense.

"Looking for Olivia" was written by Clark College alumnus Steve Coker, who has been involved in film and the arts for the past 23 years. The fast-paced comedy is the story of a man with a lackluster career as a screen/television writer, a controlling ex-beauty pageant girlfriend and an insane unemployed actor for a best friend. Then fate – in the form of a beautiful neighbor – intervenes.

"Looking for Olivia" was nominated as Best Play and Best Screenplay at the Swansea Bay International Film Festival in Wales. Festival official Binda Singh said, "Looking for Olivia' heralds the arrival of the next generation of American writers in the tradition of Neil Simon and Woody Allen. Steve Coker is seriously good. I look forward enormously to his future works." "Looking for Olivia" was also accepted in the Dylan Thomas Center's Play-Offs, an annual competition for new theatre works. In addition to "Olivia," Steve has written several children's plays and full length plays.



Clark College
Theatre's fall 2009
production, "Looking for Olivia," was
written by Clark
College alumnus
Steve Coker. The
show runs through
Nov. 21.

While attending Clark College, Steve Coker majored in acting for theatre and film. After leaving Clark, he studied film at the Art Institute of Portland, where he created several short films and honed his skills as a screenwriter/director. Steve is the co-founder and an executive producer/director for Lazy Eye Films and Hunter's Moon Productions in Portland. He recently appeared in the TNT television series, "Leverage."

"Looking for Olivia," which opened on Nov. 6, runs through Nov. 21 in Clark's Decker Theater.

75th anniversary still in the "spotlight"

lark College's 75th anniversary celebration may be over, but the college is still in the "spotlight."

During the annual Spotlight Awards ceremony of the Portland Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA), held on Nov. 4, the college earned a 2009 Spotlight Award for its 75th anniversary celebration.

In the event or observance category, the college received the award for its entry documenting the research, planning, execution, and evaluation of Clark's yearlong diamond anniversary. One judge wrote: "Very thorough, well thought out plan with multiple goals in mind that were clearly researched and exceeded."

Clark College also won awards of merit for the 2009 State of the College address and for Voices & Dreams, the commemorative book for the 75th anniversary.

The work honored by PRSA reflected the work done by Clark's college-wide 75th anniversary planning committee. The committee was chaired by Clark College Foundation Vice President of Development Ara Serjoie. Members included Nancy Abel, Kathy Chatfield, Kay Cooke, Narek Daniyelyan, Michelle Golder, Nancy Johnson, May Jolly, Barbara Kerr, Jennifer Lea, John

Marshall, Barbara Miller, Julian Nelson, Cindi Olson, Tracy Reilly Kelly, Patti Serrano, Linda Tuve, Vanessa Watkins and Carrie Weikel-Delaplane. The college's 75th anniversary commemorative book was created by writer Tricia Jones, editor Barbara Kerr, and designer Pat McDonald. The 75th anniversary celebration and commemorative book were both made possible by donor support provided through the Clark College Foundation.

The awards, described by one speaker as the "top communications award" in the region, are given annually for excellence. Judges may choose to give no award, an award of merit, or the Spotlight Award (top honors). This year's entries were judged by communications professionals in Philadelphia.



Penguin Patter

News about people from throughout the Penguin Nation!

SOCCER PLAYERS HONORED AS OCTOBER 2009 ATHLETES OF THE MONTH



Nick Herzberg came to Clark from West Valley High School in Fairbanks, Alaska. Men's head soccer coach Biniam Afenegus said, "Nick has been an outstanding addition

to the men's soccer program. Nick was chosen as a captain of the team by his teammates. He has total respect of his teammates because of the way he plays the game. His passion and enthusiasm for the game of soccer is constantly shown on the field. He is an ultimate competitor and a born leader. He has scored three goals this year from a defense position."



Clark freshman
Samantha Peppers
is a graduate of
Vancouver's Columbia
River High School.
Women's head soccer
coach Troy Sletten
said, "Sam Peppers has

had an outstanding month for the Lady Penguins. Samantha has been a vital part of our success in the month of October. Sam has scored two critical goals and had two assists, leading the team to great conference victories that have kept the women's soccer team in the playoff hunt going into the last week of the season. Sam's hard work on and off the field is a model for all college students to aspire to." Sletten noted that Peppers is also a member of the Clark College debate team and maintains a 3.3 grade point average.

SPEECH AND DEBATE TEAM CAPTURES THIRD

Thirteen members of Clark's speech and debate team competed in the 37th annual Smelt Classic forensics tournament in Longview, Nov. 7-8. Highlights of Clark's awards included first place in the open informative speaking, and second place trophies in open after-dinner speaking, open informative speaking, open persuasive speaking, open editorial commentary and novice persuasive speaking. Clark's team placed third overall among the 20 participating schools.

KUDOS TO CLARK'S CAREER & EMPLOYMENT SERVICES TEAM FOR THEIR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE RECENT WPEA FOOD DRIVE.

According to Billie Garner, Clark College employees, staff and faculty donated approximately 1150 pounds of food, which was donated to the North County Community Food Bank and FISH.

The food drive was part of a Coalition for Union Responsibility and Education competition among unions. The WPEA brought in the third-largest amount of food, with the largest contribution coming from Clark College. A plaque of recognition, which is posted on the union bulletin board in the Penguin Union Building, was given to Clark College WPEA members at their annual membership meeting.



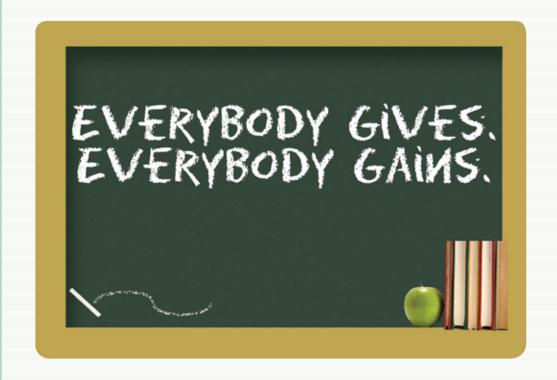
November 16, 2009 Penguin Patter

Did you get your apple today?

highlight of the Clark College Employee
Campaign is the delivery of apples –
donated by Joe Beaudoin of Joe's Place Farms – to
every college employee. A 1962 alumnus of Clark
College, Joe feels strongly about supporting the
campaign and providing a 'thank you' gift for the
employees. "Pretty much everyone in my family
attended Clark or graduated from there," said
Joe. Grateful for the opportunities that have been
afforded to him in life, Joe explained, "I know firsthand that the education at Clark College is first-rate
and the people who work there make it that way."

"Clark employees invest of their time and talents in support of student success and program excellence at the college," said Ara Serjoie, vice president of development at the Clark College Foundation.

"The fact that they also generously give of their treasures is indicative of their devotion to creating a margin of excellence in education that is only possible through philanthropic support."



The 12 faculty and staff who serve on this year's Employee Campaign committee have been sharing personal reasons for why they give to support student success and program excellence at Clark College. "Our colleagues in every department and across the various locations have compelling reasons of their own for giving through the employee campaign," said Serjoie.

Nancy Abel, Production Printing supervisor and member of the Employee Campaign committee, elaborated: "For nearly 25 years of working at Clark and through many different perspectives, I have witnessed how donor support makes a difference in everything that we do. I think it is exciting that by giving through the employee campaign, we can each play a role in enhancing the sense of pride in our college."

Upcoming Events

For additional information, see the activities calendar on the Clark College Web site: www.clark.edu/news_events/college_calendar/

(Unless otherwise noted, all events take place on the Clark College main campus. If you need accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in an event, contact the Disability Support Services Office at 360–992–2314 or 360–992–2835 (TTY), or visit Gaiser Hall Room 137.)

International Education Week

Monday, November 16, 2009 -Friday, November 20, 2009

For detailed information: www.clark.edu/cc/ieweek

Penguin Student Lounge (PUB 161) and Gaiser Student Center

PENGUIN VOLLEYBALL— NWAACC TOURNAMENT

Wednesday, November 18, 2009 – Saturday, November 21, 2009

TBA

LEARNING STYLES

Wednesday, November 18, 2009 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

GHL 213

RESUME BUILDING

Thursday, November 19, 2009 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

GHL 213

PENGUIN SOCCER— NWAACC QUARTERFINALS & SEMIFINALS

Friday, November 20, 2009

TBA

CAREER CENTER ORIENTATION

Friday, November 20, 2009 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

GHL 108

JAZZ ENSEMBLE CONCERT

Friday, November 20, 2009 7:30 p.m.

Gaiser Hall Student Center

PENGUIN SOCCER— NWAACC FINALS

Saturday, November 21, 2009 TBA

EATING DISORDERS—MENTAL HEALTH MONDAY

Monday, November 23, 2009

Noon to 1 p.m.

Penguin Student Lounge (PUB 161)

VOCAL JAZZ ENSEMBLE CONCERT

Tuesday, November 24, 2009

7:00 p.m.

Gaiser Student Center

PRESIDENT'S OPEN FORUM

Monday, November 30, 2009

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Penguin Student Lounge (PUB 161)

COPING WITH THE HOLIDAYS —MENTAL HEALTH MONDAY

Monday, November 23, 2009

Noon to 1 p.m.

Penguin Student Lounge (PUB 161)

STRESS MANAGEMENT

Monday, November 30, 2009

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

GHL 214

TEST ANXIETY

Tuesday, December 1, 2009

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

GHL 213

INTERVIEW SKILLS

Wednesday, December 2, 2009 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

GHL 213

Clark College Orchestra Concert

Wednesday, December 2, 2009

7:30 p.m.

Royal Durst Theatre, Vancouver School of Arts & Academics, 3101 Main St., Vancouver

TEST-TAKING TIPS

Thursday, December 3, 2009

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

GHL 214

CLARK COLLEGE WOMEN'S CHORAL ENSEMBLE AND THE CLARK COLLEGE CHORALE CONCERT: "SEASON OF HOPE, SEASON OF JOY"

Thursday, December 3, 2009

7:30 p.m.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 426 E Fourth Plain Blvd., Vancouver

CLARK COLLEGE CONCERT CHOIR AND CONCERT BAND: "SOMETHING OLD/ SOMETHING NEW"

Friday, December 4, 2009

7:30 p.m.

Royal Durst Theatre, Vancouver School of Arts & Academics, 3101 Main St., Vancouver

Plus – save the date for these upcoming Clark College events:

HOLIDAY/RETIREE RECEPTION

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Gaiser Student Center

STATE OF THE COLLEGE ADDRESS

Thursday, January 14, 2010

11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Gaiser Student Center

SCHOLARSHIP WORKSHOP AND OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Open House:

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Workshop:

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Gaiser Student Center

November 16, 2009 Upcoming Events 1

From the HR department

2010 OPEN ENROLLMENT

The 2010 open enrollment period for state employees' medical and dental coverage is October 26 through November 30. Open enrollment is an opportunity to make changes in plans and to reinstate previously waived coverage for yourself or your dependent(s) and add eligible dependents. Changes are effective January 1, 2010.

New 2010 Monthly Premiums for Medical:

Kaiser Classic	2009	2010
Employee	76	72
Employee & Spouse	162	154
Employee & Child(ren)	133	126
Employee & Spouse & Child(ren)	219	208
Kaiser Value	2009	2010
Employee	33	42
Employee & Spouse	76	94
Employee & Child(ren)	58	74
Employee & Spouse & Child(ren)	101	126
Aetna Public Employee Plan	2009	2010
Aetna Public Employee Plan Employee	2009 112	2010 132
* *		
Employee	112	132
Employee & Spouse	112 234	132 274
Employee & Spouse Employee & Child(ren)	112 234 196	132 274 231
Employee & Spouse Employee & Child(ren) Employee & Spouse & Child(ren)	112 234 196 318	132 274 231 373
Employee & Spouse Employee & Child(ren) Employee & Spouse & Child(ren) Uniform	112 234 196 318 2009	132 274 231 373 2010
Employee & Spouse Employee & Child(ren) Employee & Spouse & Child(ren) Uniform Employee	112 234 196 318 2009 26	132 274 231 373 2010 41

SAVE ON GAS – TAKE ADVANTAGE OF COMMUTE TRIP REDUCTION PROGRAM

Automobiles are one of the most significant sources of air pollution in the Vancouver-Portland metropolitan area. Reducing the number of people who drive to work alone may be the most important and most effective measure we can take to help preserve our environment.

There are a number of ways that Clark College employees can participate in the commute trip reduction program. Most options include the additional feature of a guaranteed ride home:

- Bike riders will find bicycle racks and bike shelters on the main campus.
 Bike riders may also receive a helmet.
- Walkers are eligible for an umbrella.
- Bus riders are eligible for subsidized transit passes (free for one-zone travel).
- Riders and van poolers are also eligible for the guaranteed ride home.

Other services in support of the commute trip reduction program include personal laundry pick-up and delivery on the main campus and use of lockers on the main campus.

For information about the Clark College bus pass program click on: http://intranet.clark.edu/department_information/human_resources/c-tran_bus_program.doc

To sign up for the Commute Trip Reduction program feature that meets your commuting needs, call Laura Elwood-Klein in Human Resources, 992-2381.

Continued on the next page

November 16, 2009 From the HR department

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO CLASSIFIED, ADMINISTRATIVE AND EXEMPT EMPLOYEES

A Voluntary Employees Beneficiary Association (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 your group votes not to have the plan for a particular calendar year.

Administrative and exempt employees who are retiring in 2010 must notify Human Resources by Nov. 30, 2009 of their plans to retire, in order to participate in the voting for 2010.

If you have questions regarding VEBA or retirement, please contact Katrina Golder, 992-2325 or Page Pallamounter, 992-2119.

WHISTLEBLOWER PROGRAM

The Whistleblower Act provides an avenue for state employees to report suspected improper governmental action.

Improper governmental action is defined as any action by an employee undertaken in the performance of the employee's official duties which:

- Is a gross waste of public funds or resources.
- Is in violation of federal or state law or rule, if the violation is not merely technical or of a minimum nature.
- Is of substantial and specific danger to the public health or safety.
- Is gross mismanagement.
- Prevents dissemination of scientific opinion or alters technical findings.

The law prohibits retaliation against people who file whistleblower assertions. The Human Rights Commission investigates retaliation cases. For further information, please visit the Human Resources page of ClarkNet at: https://www.sao.wa.gov/EN/Investigations/Whistleblower/Documents/WB_FAQ.pdf or the Washington State Auditor's Web site at: https://www.sao.wa.gov/EN/Investigations/Whistleblower/Pages/default.aspx

OPEN POSITIONS

DIRECTOR OF NURSING:

Full-time administrative position.

Open until filled. Screening to begin November 19, 2009.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SCIENCES:

Full-time administrative position.

Open until filled. Screening to begin November 19, 2009.

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November 16, 2009 From the HR department