

Clark College timeline

- **October 1933:** Two-year Vancouver Junior College opens at Hidden House, 13th and Main streets.
- **1937-41:** based in Salvation Army Building, Seventh and C streets.
- **1942-47:** based at Vancouver High School, 26th and Main streets (two-year closure during World War II).
- **1948-57:** based at Ogden Meadows, Fourth Plain Boulevard at Stapleton Road.
- **1958 to present:** Central Park campus.
- **1962:** first graduating class in Associate Degree nursing program.
- **1967:** Clark included in new roster of Washington community colleges.
- **1992:** Clark opens Town Plaza campus (in former Tower Mall) for adult basic education, English language learners, GED courses.
- **January 2006:** Clark Center at Washington State University Vancouver opens.
- **Fall 2009:** Clark Center at Columbia Tech Center scheduled to open.

There's a birthday in store for Clark College

Depression-era college got its start in Vancouver home, now has 12,700 students

By **HOWARD BUCK**
Columbian staff writer

Clark College was launched during the Great Depression, opening at the Hidden House in downtown Vancouver on Oct. 2, 1933.

It's without irony that the 12,700-student community

college kicks off the celebration of its 75th anniversary on Wednesday, as more economic trouble brews.

Accentuating the positive, the Clark community gathers 'round the school chime tower at 9 a.m. Wednesday for a rendition of "Happy Birth-

day." The tower will play the tune throughout the day. From there, a series of special events rolls right into the weekend: 75 hours, in all, to mark 75 years.

Wednesday

9 a.m.: All students, staff, faculty and well-wishers invited to sing "Happy Birthday" at the campus chime tower.

2 p.m.: Dedication of new El-

lis F. Dunn Community Room in remodeled Gaiser Hall, to honor the longtime Clark administrator and former interim president.

2 to 4 p.m.: Birthday cake served in Penguin Student Lounge to all comers. Campus tours offered.

7 p.m.: Evening program in Gaiser Student Center includes congratulatory messages, visitors. Capped by newly en-

hanced lighting of the chime tower, a gift from the Clark College Alumni Association.

Thursday

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.: "Rock the Vote" rally in Gaiser Student Center and at Andersen Fountain, in tandem with start of service projects at Clark, to en-

Clark snapshot:

- 12,683 students enrolled by Sept. 25; full-time equivalent of 6,967 students.
- 196 full-time instructors; 167 on tenure track.

On the Web:

- Clark College 75th anniversary celebration and history: www.clark.edu/clark75.

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gage students in the fall election.

2 to 3:30 p.m.: Appreciation ceremony for Clark faculty and staff members who completed a two-year, campuswide college accreditation review.

Friday

10 a.m. to noon: Open house

at Clark College Town Plaza campus, home to adult basic education, English as a Second Language and GED courses. Located at 5411 E. Mill Plain Blvd.

1 p.m.: Dedication of Andersen Educational Complex, which covers the "T" Building (site of the ceremony) and two other structures west of Fort Vancouver Way. In 1996, the Andersens donated nearly \$29 million to Clark to assist vocational education.

4 to 8 p.m.: Penguin Okto-

berfest, a free, family-friendly festival on the main Clark campus, with play area, artisan booths, food and other exhibits.

Inside the Penguin Student Lounge, the first-ever reunion of Clark alumni across the decades will take place.

Saturday

9 a.m. to noon: Kalani Rodrigues (K-Rod) Memorial Scholarship 5K Run and Walk. Registration 9 a.m. at Clark's

Christensen Soccer Field (information: www.clarkcollege-foundation.org). The event begins at 10 a.m. and ends with a Hawaiian luau lunch and entertainment at the Gaiser Student Center and Andersen Fountain.

Sunday

1 to 3 p.m.: Free reception for new Archer Gallery exhibit by artist Ruth Patterson Hart, in basement of Gaiser Student Center.