The Home Depot Deployment Center Comes to Salem

Over 175 jobs are expected to be created in Salem

The Home Depot®, the world’s largest home improvement retailer, has announced plans to create a Rapid Deployment Center (RDC) at Salem’s Mill Creek Corporate Center. The Company plans to bring 175 jobs to the community initially and eventually create 250 total jobs in the next four years. The new 465,000 square foot facility will reside on a 52.6 acre lot near Highway 22 in Salem at the Mill Creek Corporate Center. Offsite construction began Dec. 2 and onsite construction is scheduled to begin Dec. 16. The Home Depot anticipates opening this facility in the first quarter of 2011.

Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski extended a welcome to the new Home Depot facility. “I’m delighted to welcome The Home Depot to Salem’s Mill Creek,” the Governor said. “This new distribution center is exactly the kind of business we want in Mill Creek, one that provides good jobs to the community and strengthens Salem’s economy. State agencies and city government have worked hard to meet the legislature’s goal of using this property to help fund state programs like Oregon Corrections Enterprises and the Cultural Trust. This is another major step toward achieving that goal.”

Salem Mayor, Janet Taylor, also welcomed The Home Depot to Mill Creek.

“The City of Salem is pleased to announce the construction of a large Home Depot Deployment Center,” the Mayor said. “This center joins a growing Home Depot family in Oregon, including two retail stores in Salem, which will add more family wage jobs to the area. The added bonus is the opportunity local contractors will have in constructing the new facility.”

Continued on page 7

Blind Boys of Alabama to Perform at MLK Jr Event

Willamette University and the Salem Multicultural Institute will host an exclusive Oregon performance by the Blind Boys of Alabama on Friday, Jan. 22, at 7:30 p.m. in Willamette’s Smith Auditorium.

The Blind Boys are worldwide legends of gospel music who have been honored with five Grammy Awards and celebrated by the Grammys and the National Endowment for the Arts with Lifetime Achievement Awards.

The Blind Boys of Alabama

Continued on page 5

Gwen Graham Celebrates 30 Years as a Pilot

Jim Graham, owner of Graham Aviation Services at the Salem Airport, is pleased to announce his wife and co-owner, Gwen, celebrated an aviation milestone last month – 30 years as a pilot. A reception was given in her honor at the company offices. Friends, colleagues and students were on hand to celebrate the occasion.

“It’s hard to believe it was 30 years ago that I became a pilot,” Gwen said. “It’s even harder to believe that the girl from three decades ago is now a flight instructor and flight school owner.”

Continued on page 6
Nobody Sells More Real Estate than RE/MAX

RE/MAX agents lead the industry in real estate sales experience.

And collectively, they’re the most powerful real estate sales force in the world.

That’s good news, whether you’re looking to sell, or looking to buy.

RE/MAX agents know their communities. And they care enough to get to know you, too.

In today’s economic climate, you need service you can count on. You need RE/MAX.

Call us today.

Where Do You Want To Be?

503.371.5200

Call...Enter House Number...Listen...Know

Activate AUDIO HOME FINDER by calling a RE/MAX broker today

www.remax.com
Call a RE/MAX equity group real estate broker today
Farmers Insurance Fined for Improper Use of Credit History

The state Department of Consumer and Business Services recently fined Farmers Insurance Company of Oregon $10,000 for improperly using consumers’ insurance scores in calculating renewal rates on thousands of auto and homeowner policies.

Oregon law prohibits insurers from using someone’s credit history or insurance score (a rating based at least partly on credit history) to raise premiums or to cancel existing policies. Insurers may use credit history in deciding whether to issue new policies and at what rates. Even then, credit history can’t be the only factor used, and companies must notify consumers before running a credit check.

Farmers, however, used insurance scores to rerate existing auto and homeowner policies in 8,385 instances from January 2006 through mid-February 2009. In 13 percent of the cases, or 1,090 times, rerating increased premiums.

As part of the department’s investigation, the company returned nearly $65,000 in improperly collected premiums to policyholders. It also made a programming change to its computer system, which the company said triggered the improper rerating.

The department’s Insurance Division discovered the violation in reviewing a complaint about Farmers’ service involving difficulties getting a bill sent to the right place. An Insurance Division advocate noticed the credit scoring issue, and a follow-up investigation discovered the extent of the problem.

“The result was that more than 1,000 consumers received a refund and we were able to correct the broader issue of a company’s improper use of insurance scoring,” Insurance Division Administrator Teresa Miller said.

“Another example extends to the broader issue of how consumers help us monitor the insurance market.”

One upcoming change to the use of credit information: A law passed by the 2009 Legislature, Senate Bill 377, requires insurers that use a consumer’s credit information to rerate policies if asked to do so by a consumer. Consumers are limited to one rerating a year for each type of insurance, for example, auto. The company may not use the results to increase premiums. However, it must reduce premiums if the policyholder qualifies for a more favorable rating. The bill is effective for policies issued or renewed on or after Jan. 1, 2010.

People with questions about credit scoring insurance or other insurance issues can reach the Insurance Division consumer advocates at 503-947-7984 in the Salem area or toll-free at 1-888-877-4894. These insurance experts operate an insurance hotline, as well as help people with complaints against an insurance company or insurance agent.

The Insurance Division, part of the Department of Consumer & Business Services, helps ensure the financial soundness of insurers, the fair treatment of consumers, and the affordability and availability of insurance products. For more information, visit www.insurance.oregon.gov.

The Department of Consumer and Business Services is Oregon’s largest business regulatory and consumer protection agency. For more information, visit www.dcbs.oregon.gov.

The state Department of Consumer and Business Services recently fined Farmers Insurance Company of Oregon $10,000 for improperly using consumers’ insurance scores in calculating renewal rates on thousands of auto and homeowner policies.

Oregon law prohibits insurers from using someone’s credit history or insurance score (a rating based at least partly on credit history) to raise premiums or to cancel existing policies. Insurers may use credit history in deciding whether to issue new policies and at what rates. Even then, credit history can’t be the only factor used, and companies must notify consumers before running a credit check.

Farmers, however, used insurance scores to rerate existing auto and homeowner policies in 8,385 instances from January 2006 through mid-February 2009. In 13 percent of the cases, or 1,090 times, rerating increased premiums.

As part of the department’s investigation, the company returned nearly $65,000 in improperly collected premiums to policyholders. It also made a programming change to its computer system, which the company said triggered the improper rerating.

The department’s Insurance Division discovered the violation in reviewing a complaint about Farmers’ service involving difficulties getting a bill sent to the right place. An Insurance Division advocate noticed the credit scoring issue, and a follow-up investigation discovered the extent of the problem.

“The result was that more than 1,000 consumers received a refund and we were able to correct the broader issue of a company’s improper use of insurance scoring,” Insurance Division Administrator Teresa Miller said.

“Another example extends to the broader issue of how consumers help us monitor the insurance market.”

One upcoming change to the use of credit information: A law passed by the 2009 Legislature, Senate Bill 377, requires insurers that use a consumer’s credit information to rerate policies if asked to do so by a consumer. Consumers are limited to one rerating a year for each type of insurance, for example, auto. The company may not use the results to increase premiums. However, it must reduce premiums if the policyholder qualifies for a more favorable rating. The bill is effective for policies issued or renewed on or after Jan. 1, 2010.

People with questions about credit scoring insurance or other insurance issues can reach the Insurance Division consumer advocates at 503-947-7984 in the Salem area or toll-free at 1-888-877-4894. These insurance experts operate an insurance hotline, as well as help people with complaints against an insurance company or insurance agent.

The Insurance Division, part of the Department of Consumer & Business Services, helps ensure the financial soundness of insurers, the fair treatment of consumers, and the affordability and availability of insurance products. For more information, visit www.insurance.oregon.gov.

The Department of Consumer and Business Services is Oregon’s largest business regulatory and consumer protection agency. For more information, visit www.dcbs.oregon.gov.
Horizon Ridge Real Estate Merges with Coldwell Banker Mountain West

Coldwell Banker Mountain West Real Estate, Inc. President, Peter L. Rogers, announced the merger of international real estate developer and sales of condominiums, Horizon Ridge Real Estate.

“Horizon Ridge has marketed over $50 million in town homes and condominiums across the western U.S. and Mexico in the past few years. They bring development skills and marketing knowledge to increase Coldwell Banker Mountain West’s long term growth strategy. Lisa Farrow, with a dozen years in marketing, will continue in that area, while founders Keith and Mark Farrow will continue their roles in development and sales, while assisting me in future plans,” says Rogers.

Ryan Bloedel of Bloedel Custom Homes, LLC. will continue working with Mark Farrow in custom home building and local developments.

Coldwell Banker Mountain West Real Estate, Inc. located at 615 Commercial St NE, can be reached at 503-364-9596 or coldwellbankermountainwest.com.

The Blind Boys...Continued from page 1

The concert is the headline event for Willamette’s two-week Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. celebration, hosted Jan. 18–29, which has a theme of “Remember. Reflect. Realize the dream.” The celebration is one of Oregon’s most extensive annual commemorations of King’s legacy and reflects Willamette’s motto, “Not unto ourselves alone are we born.”

“The celebration puts both our mission and motto into action,” said Gordy Toyama, director of multicultural affairs at Willamette. “We hope the event plays a part in encouraging our community and state to uphold the dignity and worth of all individuals.”

The Blind Boys have earned praise for their interpretations of everything from traditional gospel favorites to contemporary spiritual material. They have brought gospel to the mainstream by embracing rock, reggae, blues, country and other popular genres while collaborating with artists like Bonnie Raitt, Randy Travis, Peter Gabriel and Ben Harper.

The Blind Boys are also featured in a new film, Soundtrack for a Revolution, which was shown in 2009 at the prestigious Cannes and Tribeca International film festivals. The film tells the story of the civil rights movement through its music, and includes new performances of the era’s songs by today’s top artists, including the Blind Boys, Joss Stone, Wyclef Jean, The Roots and John Legend.

Ticket Information
Tickets for the Blind Boys concert are $25 in advance and $27 at the door, with limited seating. They can be purchased through absolutelytix.com; at the Salem Multicultural Institute, (503) 581-2004; or through the Oregon African American Museum, (503) 540-4063. Proceeds will benefit the Salem Multicultural Institute’s World Beat programs and the Oregon African American Museum. The concert also has been supported by a generous contribution from Salem Health.

Salem Multicultural Institute (SMI) is a volunteer-centered organization working to help Salem and Oregon become recognized for a commitment to cultural exchange and enrichment. SMI collaborates with other organizations to promote understanding through educational cultural programs.

The Oregon African American Museum (OAAM) is a statewide group of volunteers working to create a new museum that will focus on educating the public about Oregon’s African American history. OAAM is collecting, preserving, interpreting and exhibiting material evidence of the African American experience.

For more information on the concert, visit willamette.edu/go/mlk, or call the Willamette University Office of Multicultural Affairs at (503) 370-6265.

Food Share to help ensure those less fortunate have food on their table for the holidays.

To keep the Marion/Polk Food Share shelves stocked, many businesses incorporate food collections into their year-round community giving activities. Making food donations in lieu of admission to events and shows has become popular.
And, I cannot forget to mention all who volunteered at churches and shelters around the county dishing up Thanksgiving meals and waiting tables for people they don’t even know!

What an expression of generosity, good will and community pride. It won’t matter what the economists conclude for 2009, or predict for 2010, we are well on our way to a prosperous new year!

Marion County Commissioner Patti Milne can be reached at 503.531.5390.
In Spite of the Oregon Tax Code, A New Year

MUSINGS OF THE OREGON PIONEER

I Stand Proud and watch from “Atop” the Great Dome of the Oregon State Capitol. It is my job to watch and remember. Happy New Year! 2010 is here with thousands of New Year’s Resolutions to be made and forgotten. There are a few New Year’s Resolutions that should not be forgotten. The first and foremost New Year’s Resolution for the Oregon Legislature is the economy. It is true that Oregon thrives or starves because of our heavy reliance on the income tax structure.

A little basic understanding of the problem is necessary. First, more people working will generate more income tax. More income tax simply means more programs or greater services that government can provide to its citizens. This is not complicated. Second, the greater the number of taxpayers who “do not pay any income taxes” results in reduced revenue. Again, this is not complicated.

So, how do these divergent theories of Oregon taxation merge? Not well. Let us be creative and propose a New Year’s Resolution that changes the current system. The tax code should be simple. It should be fair, and it should raise enough money for State government to thrive on, but only if there are lots of jobs. More jobs mean more taxpayers paying taxes.

Well, such a system exists. It was the Oregon income tax system which was repealed in favor of the Federal tax system in 1973. It was a tax program which did as suggested. It was simple, fair to both taxpayers and business, and it did raise money. History will tell you that the reason given for moving to the Federal tax code was simplicity. No one could have foretold of the current Federal tax code mess.

It is true that businesses paid more tax on net income under the Oregon tax system, but did not pay taxes on gross income. It is also true that more people paid income taxes, but at a lower rate. So, there are examples of prior systems that worked well. We also have the prior Department of Revenue tax rulings, State Tax Court and Supreme Court decisions in place. But, what about all those current Federal Tax breaks, deductions, exemptions and tax credits that have been enacted into the Federal tax code since 1973? Well, they would all go bye-bye. That would mean more Oregonians would pay more tax. Yes, that is true. However, the taxes would be spread across all levels of taxpayer. Politically this will not work. What Legislature would ever propose a tax system that was simpler, fair and meant every wage earner would have “tax skin” in the income tax game? There is even more political mischief. If more voters were paying taxes, then tax increases would be more difficult to pass, and it would also mean accountability for the Oregon Legislature. Yes, such a tax change is not possible.

A New Years Resolution, well yes, I have one. Oregon Legislature, your tax policies stink! The tax code is what generates “New” jobs and keeps “Old” jobs in Oregon. Government, big business, small business and public employee unions have to reach an accord which permits changes in the tax structure for Oregon. If this New Year’s Resolution is forgotten, history will repeat itself.

Just before Christmas, a Douglas County Commissioner went on Portland television and declared that Douglas County was going to get a “handle” on the 20% unemployment rate in their County. It will take a big “handle.” I wish the Douglas County Commissioner well. But getting the state of Oregon, Salem, Roseburg and Bend out of high unemployment numbers is going to take a lot of leadership and fundamental changes in the Oregon tax code. President Clinton said it best, “It is all about the economy.” I Stand Proud and watch from “Atop” the Great Dome of the Oregon State Capitol. It is my job to watch and remember.

Terry Williams Named NWAR 2009 Realtor of the Year

Prudential Real Estate Professionals is pleased to announce that Terry Williams has been named the North Willamette Association of Realtors 2009 Realtor of the Year. He will have the honor of serving as the 2010 President.

Terry is a Real Estate Broker with Prudential Real Estate Professionals (Silverton Branch) and has repeatedly received the honor of the Leading Edge Award.

Terry is a graduate of Oregon State University. In his free time, he is involved in many civic and community activities.

Graham...Continued from page 1

From the time she was a young girl, Gwen had dreamed of being a pilot. After high school, she moved to the Portland area from Eastern Oregon. She found two jobs and a flight school. “One job paid for my living expenses, the other job paid for my flying lessons,” she said. “Earning my pilot’s license was the best decision I ever made.”

Gwen or Jim can be reached at 503-581-4139 or visit their website at grahamaviation.com.
Moving On: Supporting Small Business

The Mayor’s View

Janet Taylor

Here we are at the beginning of another year - facing it with excitement for what can happen, trepidation for what might happen - and the certainty that something will happen. The only real influence we have over unforeseen events is our own reaction to them. I strive to stay upbeat, and feel that in many instances it helps set a tone for a positive outcome.

As you may know, I chose to not place my name on the May 2010 ballot for a fifth term as your Mayor. At the end of my term Dec. 31, 2010, I will have served for eight years. During this final year I have a list of goals to reach that are important to me. Economic development is tied for number one along with Public Safety.

While many jump on the “jobs” bandwagon during difficult economic times, I have never wavered in promoting private sector job creation - it is the financial foundation of our country, and especially in Salem where 20% of our property pays no taxes. I am increasingly concerned about the criticism of “business” when it is the many small businesses in our community that employ most of the residents.

I have heard people say that we are a “government town”, but the reality is that nearly 70% of our employment is in the private sector, around 100,000 private jobs that are important to our local economy. We need to be very protective of all jobs, but I am seeing businesses under attack from many directions through taxation, regulation, and misinformation. Our small businesses are particularly sensitive to these issues during the current economic stress. The City of Salem has worked diligently in partnership with the State, Counties, Chemeketa Community College, and SEDCOR to retain these jobs, and recruit new companies, but competition from other areas is fierce.

The establishment of the Salem Renewable Energy Center on Gaffin Road has brought us the SANYO Solar plant with an anticipated 200 employees, and the possibility of a future expansion. And after nearly 16 years of working with the State of Oregon on the Mill Creek Corporate Center development, we finally have our first major tenant with the Home Depot distribution facility. As excited as I am over these projects coming to fruition, it is increasingly apparent that we do not have the luxury of unnecessary delays when these opportunities arise. We must move forward with infrastructure and regulations that create the certainty and fairness that will allow us to compete with other cities and states.

My intention is to work extra hard for the next year to be supportive of local business and continue to be an active part of recruiting more jobs. My views on this and other areas of our community will be the theme of my last State of the City speech on Feb. 10, 2010 at a luncheon at the Conference Center. I intend to share my vision for the next five years, my ideas on how we can reach our goals, and my opinions on the role of Mayor. I look forward to seeing you there.

The Home Depot…Continued from page 1

“...Continued from page 1

The Home Depot® of Salem

Announces 37th Annual Lasagna Lunch, Moves to Mission Mill

Assistance League® of Salem’s annual lasagna lunch is its second largest fundraising event held to provide clothing to Salem-Keizer children. As of December 1, more than 2,500 children received complete, new sets of clothing so they can feel good about attending school, properly clothed, and ready to learn.

The annual event fosters the partnership of Assistance League with the Salem Public Library and Salem-Keizer schools to provide services for students. Because of increasing demands on limited resources, Assistance League is asking the community for continued support by purchasing a ticket and attending this lunch.

Scheduled for Tuesday, February 9, the lunch is being moved to the Mission Mill Museum to provide improved parking and faster lunch service in the Spinning Room. Carry-out orders will be handled separately from the Dye House with designated parking to ease wait time. Patrons can arrive any time between 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to enjoy lunch in a high energy, casual atmosphere.

Assistance League’s president, Judy Martin, said “Assistance League looks forward to a new look and direction for our annual and popular lasagna lunch. We encourage the community to support these programs that serve Salem-Keizer children in order to keep children’s programs intact.” Some of Assistance League’s programs, like Operation School Bell® (school clothing), cultural events, and puppet programs, reinforce the school curriculum. Assistance League partners with Salem Public Library to deliver books, CDs, and audio cassettes to homebound adults, and help first-grade students get library cards on Salem’s only hootmobile.

Tickets are $20 each, with group discounts of 10 tickets for $180. Tickets can be purchased at the Daue House Gift Shop and Encore Furniture. Call (503) 364-8318 for more information.
ABC Supply’s Innovative Solution Center Geared Toward Professional Contractor

The ABC Supply Co. Inc. Solution Center at 5031 State St. here, a major supplier of roofing, siding, windows and other select exterior building products for area contractors, has recently been redesigned. It is now a premier destination for product information and selection for contractors and their clients.

The reconfigured Solution Center features an innovative use of a specially designed “wing panel” system that literally puts information at customers’ fingertips. Visitors can quickly understand key features and benefits and make comparisons among different product lines and different manufacturers’ offerings.

The Solution Center also incorporates a storage system that organizes product sample boards so contractors can quickly find and take with them the samples they need to assist their customers with product selection outside the Solution Center.

ABC Supply stores nationwide are being updated with this new design as part of the company’s commitment to providing world-class service, explained store manager Geoff Greenwood.

“We’ve always offered a wider range of products and services than we have been able to adequately display, and this new Solution Center design system allows us to display a lot of product in a relatively small space,” he said.

“Many of the features of the redesigned Solution Center are the result of feedback from contractors who were looking for better ways to educate themselves, their employees and their customers about the options available to them,” Greenwood added.

“Homeowners want to see their options, but many contractors find it’s not feasible to have their own Solution Center,” he explained. “Our Solution Center fills that need. It’s a tool for professionals; a comfortable, welcoming place they can bring their clients. We want our customers to feel our Solution Center is their showroom.”

It also is an educational resource for contractors, helping keep them up-to-date on the latest new products. Greenwood emphasized that the new store design does not change ABC Supply’s basic mission, which focuses exclusively on serving professional contractors. The store will not cater to do-it-yourselfers and will continue to carry the hard-to-find specialty tools and supplies contractors need.

ABC Supply is the largest wholesale distributor of roofing in the United States and one of the nation’s largest distributors of siding, windows and other select exterior building products. Founded in 1982 and headquartered in Beloit, Wis., ABC Supply operates more than 360 branches and other facilities in 45 states and the District of Columbia. The company has distinguished itself by following a single, simple guiding principle – take care of contractors better than any other distributor by understanding their businesses and offering products and services carefully selected to meet their unique needs. More information is available online at www.abcsupply.com.

Marion County Operations Manager Named Engineer of the Year

The Oregon Association of County Engineers and Surveyors (OACES) has awarded Marion County’s Operations Manager Don Newell with the “2009 Engineer of the Year” award. OACES, an affiliate of the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC), is a professional group of county engineers, public works directors, road maintenance officials, and county surveyors. Its purpose is to share information and to promote public works activities, such as the maintenance of road systems, public surveys, environmental stewardship, and solid waste management.

“Don has exhibited leadership and professionalism in pavement management and in multi-agency resource-sharing, to name just a couple of his accomplishments. I congratulate Don on receiving this prestigious award,” said Bill Worcester, Marion County Public Works Director.

Newell’s career in public works began in 1989. He has worked on many OACES projects including strategic planning, developing database / mapping systems of road features, aiding in instituting road maintenance environment programs, and working with National Association of County Engineers in conference presentations and administration.

At Marion County, Newell oversees all aspects of the 1,200-mile road maintenance program, as well as emergency management. He also administers a successful program in which multiple Oregon transportation agencies share equipment and other resources, significantly reducing participants’ capital costs.

OACES acknowledges Don’s ongoing contributions to the counties’ public works programs, his innovative ideas for saving tax dollars, and his leadership in helping local government agencies, including Marion County, use their limited resources wisely in providing safe, environmentally conscious transportation systems.

He joins fellow Marion County employees Bill Worcester, public works director, 2000 award recipient, and Mark Riggins, county surveyor, 2003 county surveyor of the year.

Regis High School Open House to Showcase Competitive Edge

On Sunday, January 31, 2010 Regis High School will host an open house for families who are considering education options for their children’s schooling. The Regis Open House will be held at 550 West Regis Street in Stayton from 1 to 3 p.m.

The purpose of this open house event is to let the public see first-hand the quality of education delivered at Regis High School. Parents and prospective students will get the chance to meet teachers, coaches and current students. Students who represent clubs will be available, as well as coaches who lead athletic teams. Clubs such as the Regis Fly Fishers the Blazers will have interactive and educational booths.

There will be student hosts acting as personal tour guides. “Last year, I really loved working with the incoming freshmen. It’s a lot of fun to get to know them before everyone else does. I look forward to meeting more students this year!” said eleventh grade student Michael Ripp.

There will be displays featuring student’s work in science, art, physics and more. In addition, the school will feature Pictureing America, a set of 36 large prints that are a traveling art display provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities grant.

The public is welcome to attend this open house. For more information, call the school at 503.769.2159.

In 1993 Regis High School was built by a group of dedicated families from the surrounding area. Regis is a Catholic educational community that is open and accessible to any student who is looking for values-based education. For more than 30 years, the Regis High School Foundation has provided financial stability to the school and has granted merit based scholarships to more than 123 students totaling $34,300 since 2004. Regis affirms the uniqueness and dignity of individuals, inspires the pursuit of excellence, fosters faith and develops a commitment to service and justice through a balanced academic and co-curricular program. To learn more, visit www.regishighschool.net or call 503.769.2159.

Larry & Judy Krum: The Krum Team

If you have lost or have not heard from your real estate agent recently, we are applying for the job!

Having moved to the Salem area from Southern California in April of this year to be close to our children, we are excited to continue our passion for real estate and recently obtained our Real Estate Brokers Licenses for Oregon. We joined the John L. Scott Real Estate Salem office team after working with them with our move and appreciating the great dynamics and professionalism they offered our clients and agents.

I have worked as an agent for the last 35 years and Larry for the last 25 years successfully in California.

Prior to that, Larry was a banker and mortgage broker for 20 years. This has been invaluable to success in real estate giving us the ability to understand all aspects, including the economic cycles, that affect the ups and downs of a real estate transaction.

It’s important to work with someone that understands the intricacies and ever-changing lending components, such as the new Good Faith Estimate protocols changing in January 2010. It’s an exciting time for buyers right now with the $8,000 first time buyer’s credit and the $6,500 buyers credit for existing homeowners who are ready to move on to a different home. Call me for the details and take advantage of these exciting opportunities at 503-576-9997 or 503-576-9999. The new deadline is April 30th, 2010.

In addition to selling, we have been on the front lines as clients having purchased and remodeled over fifty homes and apartment buildings over the years. In addition, we lived in 42 of them – WOW – even I can’t believe that one.

Success in working for and with our clients certainly comes from experiencing all facets of the dream of ownership. Fulfilling our client’s dreams and readily providing consistent service is our goal always.

Our personal philosophy is that we are problem solvers willing to work towards achieving success in your real estate transaction.

Salem was our choice, having discovered the area to be rich in culture, an abundance of the best pinots in the world, family values and the tremendous beauty and pride expressed in the great Northwest. We’re also thoroughly enjoying becoming active in local community activities.
Mark Your Calendar, Ladies

Planning is under way for an important anniversary in Oregon’s political and cultural history. In 2012, Oregon will celebrate the centennial of the ballot measure that gave women the right to vote. But that 1912 vote didn’t come easy. Oregon had defeated five statewide suffrage ballot measures in the previous 28 years. And even more discouraging was that the recent defeats came with increasingly large margins.

Its ultimate success still placed Oregon among the first states to give women full rights to vote and came eight years before ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Accompanying our suffrage centennial will be displays and retrospectives coordinated by the Oregon Archives Divisions. In November, I took part in a small reception at the Archives Building to mark the start of planning. A lot of ideas were batted around for how to mark the event and how to pay for it. Mary Beth Herkert, the state archivist, tells me that a traveling exhibit may be a part of the project.

Co-chairwomen are two of my predecessors as Secretary of State: Norma Paulus, elected in 1976, and Barbara Roberts who was elected in 1984 and of course went on to become governor. I’m really excited to be a part of this process because this 1912 vote changed the face of Oregon and it came with the support of some brave and colorful figures from our past. This is a golden page in Oregon history.

Abigail Scott Duniway was Oregon’s most prominent leader of the cause right from the start. She lived long enough to cast her own ballot, despite the opposition of her brother, Harvey Scott, the editor of The Oregonian.

Also helping to coordinate the celebration will be the Oregon Women Suffrage Centennial Project, a part of the Northwest History Network. The project already has a web site, www.oregonsuffrage.org, that takes a close look at Oregon’s suffrage movement with articles, a time line and photos. There are some very interesting materials here.

Recently, the organization received a $9,961 grant from the Oregon Heritage Commission to develop new web site content.

Oregon’s first suffrage organizations formed in 1870. A partial victory came in 1878 when women – if taxpayers — won the right to vote in school elections. But by 1912, suffrage had been defeated five times in Oregon, first in 1884 and then 1900, put before voters by the Legislature, and again in 1906, 1908 and 1910, put on the ballot by the newly-established right to citizen initiative. Even more disheartening to backers was that the last three measures lost by increasing larger margins, going from 44 percent support in 1906 to 39 percent in 1908 and 37 percent in 1910.

Meanwhile, women in other western states were already casting ballots. The Wyoming Territory granted suffrage in 1869 and when Wyoming became a state in 1890, it became the first state to grant women full voting rights.

But by 1912, Oregon saw a groundswell toward progressive causes. Theodore Roosevelt and his Progressive Party were committed to equal suffrage and came in second in Oregon’s presidential balloting. And that year, after five defeats, suffrage finally won approval, gaining 51.7 percent of the vote.

You’ll hear more as we approach 1912.

Cellular Hands-Free Law Starts January 1st

BY MIKE SHILEY, HANDSFREEOREGON.COM

New year, new law. Starting January 1, Oregon police can pull you over for talking on your cell phone without a hands-free device and you could get hit with a $90 ticket.

The new law makes the violation a primary offense, which means that a driver can be pulled over or ticketed if spotted texting or talking on a cell phone without a hands-free device. Drivers don’t have to be doing anything else wrong, like speeding, in order to get pulled over.

So what do you need to know to go hands-free? A hands-free device is a wired or wireless way of talking on your cell phone without having your phone pressed against your ear. The speaker phone function available on most phones is not a viable hands-free option because you still have to hold the phone instead of the steering wheel.

Oregon is the last state on the West Coast to pass a hands-free law. In Washington, where drivers haven’t been able to text or talk without a hands-free device since 2008, the law is a secondary offense, meaning police have to pull a driver over for a different violation. The first year the law went into effect, Washingtonians paid a total of $123,132 in tickets.

Rep. Carolyn Tomei (D-Milwaukie) and Rep. Sal Esquivel (R- Medford) co-sponsored the new law, citing cell phone use and Rep. Carolyn Tomei (D-Milwaukie) and Rep. Sal Esquivel (R- Medford) co-sponsored the new law, citing cell phone use equivalents of drinking three to four alcoholic beverages.

The study likened texting while driving to the equivalent of drinking three to four alcoholic beverages.

A 2008 study of Massachusetts drivers found texting while driving to the equivalent of drinking three to four alcoholic beverages.

There are some exceptions to the Oregon law for emergencies. It allows drivers (even minors) to use cell phones while driving to contact medical or emergency service assistance if no one else in the car can do it for them. If you have to use your cell phone while driving in order to do your job – like ambulance drivers or truck drivers – you may be exempt, but experts say a hands-free device is still the safest way to talk and travel.

If you’re one of the millions of Americans who like to chat while behind the wheel, time is running out to get your hands-free device before Oregon law makes calling on the go without one, a no-go.

Is Your Business Info Security Compliant?

Protect your business against $3,500 fines, penalties, criminal action and more!

Warren Franklin 503-315-9847
Salem Police Welcomes Five New Officers

Salem Police Chief Jerry Moore swore in five new police officers on December 14th. The five officers are currently in orientation with the department and will begin the ten month field training program following orientation.

Officer Kyle Stalder was born and raised in Sherwood, OR and attended California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks, CA where he earned an MBA in Financial Planning. Officer Stalder is a certified officer previously working for the Department of Homeland Security as a US Air Marshall in Los Angeles, CA.

Officer Brad Cole was born and raised in Salem, OR. Officer Cole is married with a son and previously worked in excavation.

Officer Vince Dawson was raised in Vancouver, WA and currently lives in Tualatin, OR with his wife and family. Officer Dawson is a fifteen-year veteran with the US Marine Corps, both active and reserve duty, and currently holds the rank of Major. While a reserve with the Marine Corp, Officer Dawson was a financial advisor for nine years.

Officer Mary Vincent was born in Seoul, South Korea and was raised in Lodi, CA. Officer Vincent graduated from California Lutheran University in 1997 and is currently an Ensign with the US Coast Guard Reserves with Sector San Francisco, CA. Officer Vincent last worked as a community outreach coordinator in Davis, CA.

Officer Robert Dowd was born and raised in Scottsdale, AZ and earned his associates degree at Scottsdale Community College and a Bachelor’s Degree from Northern Arizona University in Administration of Justice. Officer Dowd previously worked in a restaurant in Scottsdale.

The Salem Police Department is proud to welcome these five new officers to the City of Salem family.

Mark Mayfield Featured Guest at SAIF Agri-Business Banquet

Humorist and Past Future Farmers of America President Mark Mayfield is the featured guest at the Agri-Business Banquet on Friday, January 29, 2010 at the Salem Conference Conference.

Enjoy and celebrate the bounty of Oregon agriculture at this annual event. Registration deadline is Friday, January 22. Call 503-581-1466 x309 to register or for more information.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Chemekeata Community College – Health Sciences Complex
Bid Package #5 – EXTERIOR ENVELOPE
4000 Lancaster Drive NE, Salem, Oregon 97309

Advertisement for: “Chemekeata Community College – Health Sciences Complex – Exterior Envelope”. Lease Crutcher Lewis, LLC, serving as the Construction Manager / General Contractor (CM / GC) for Chemekeata Community College, is soliciting bids for Bid Package #5. The project is located in Salem, Oregon, 4000 Lancaster Drive NE, 97309. Terms and conditions of the bid are outlined in Lease Crutcher Lewis, LLC “Invitation to Bid,” dated November 17th, 2009.

Bids will be received at the offices of Lease Crutcher Lewis, LLC, 600 SW Tenth Avenue, Suite 300, Portland, Oregon 97205, until 2:00 PM PST, January 7th, 2010, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Facsimile bids will be accepted at 503.223.2874 with hard copies to follow in the mail within 3 days. All bids shall be clearly marked “Chemekeata Community College – BP#5 Exterior Envelope.”

Project Description
Project consists of masonry, sheet metal, exterior framing, exterior glass and glazing, and custom sunscreens for Chemekeata Community College’s future Health Sciences Complex.

Contract Documents will be available beginning December 17th, 2009. Contract Documents may be reviewed at the office of Lease Crutcher Lewis, LLC, 600 SW Tenth Avenue, Suite 300, Portland, Oregon 97205. Contract Documents may be purchased in its entirety or in part from Williamette Print and Blueprint, (503) 542-2661 and Salem Printing and Blueprint, 503.363.6097. This Purchase of these documents is non-refundable.

Plans can also be viewed online via the following link: www.bxwa.com.

Instructions: www.bxwa.com , Click on Posted Projects, Click on General Contractor Project Areas, Click on the State of Oregon, Click on Lease Crutcher Lewis, Click on Portland Office, Click on Projects Bidding.

All bidders must comply with the following requirements: Prevailing Wage Law, ORS 279.350, BOLI Prevailing Wage Rates dated July 1st, 2008 and Amended October 1st, 2008 Rate Publication (and Amendments) and be licensed with Construction Contractors Board ORS 671.530.

No bid will be considered unless received by 2:00 pm PDT, January 7th, 2010 and fully completed in the manner provided by the “Instructions to Bidders,” upon the “Bid Form” provided.

A highly recommended Pre-Bid Site Walk will be held on Tuesday, December 22nd, 2009 at 2:00p.m. at the following location: Chemekeata Community College, 4000 Lancaster Drive NE, Salem, OR 97309.

Lease Crutcher Lewis, LLC is committed to taking affirmative action to encourage and facilitate the participation of minority/women-owned business enterprises (M/WBE) and encourage Contractors to provide similar opportunities for their Subcontractors.

LEASE CRUTCHER LEWIS, LLC (CM/GC), Jennifer Alger, Project Manager
Wells Fargo Community Reinvestment Receives Highest Rating

Wells Fargo Bank has received an “Outstanding” rating -- the highest rating possible -- in its most recent Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) examination by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC). Wells Fargo Bank, which serves more than 20 million retail households in 39 states and the District of Columbia, met and exceeded community needs in areas such as affordable housing, financial education and small business lending.

The Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 requires banks to meet the credit needs of all the communities where they do business, especially low-to-moderate income communities and families.

“As a financial services company, we are responsible for investing in the communities where our team members and customers live and work to help keep them healthy and create future economic growth and prosperity. Not only is it the right thing to do, but also when our communities prosper, so do we,” said John Stumpf, president and CEO. “We’re proud to be recognized by the OCC for our commitment to our local communities.”

Wells Fargo received an overall “Outstanding” rating, and also was rated “Outstanding” in each of the exam’s three test categories:

- Lending (mortgages, small business, and community development for affordable housing and economic development);
- Services (retail banking stores, alternative delivery channels, and financial outreach), and;
- Investments (funding capital and grants to community organizations).

The examination -- Oct. 1, 2004 through Sept. 30, 2008 -- covered the 23 community banking states that Wells Fargo had before its merger with Wachovia.

In the Lending Test category, which represents half of the rating, the OCC said that Wells Fargo “demonstrated lending levels that reflected excellent responsiveness to the credit needs in the majority of assessment areas – and originated a very large volume of Home Mortgage Disclosure Act and CRA reportable loans in relation to the dollar volume of bank’s deposits in its assessment areas.” It said Wells Fargo's distribution of small business loans among businesses of different revenue size was also excellent.

The OCC said Wells Fargo’s strong CRA performance was due in part to the volume and nature of its community development lending which had a significantly positive impact on the Lending Test rating.

In the Investment Test category, the OCC said Wells Fargo Bank's “performance, as measured primarily by volume of investments, was excellent -- Wells Fargo has invested millions of dollars in many of its assessment areas in support of community development, especially for affordable housing. Wells Fargo often invests in large national or regional funds that, in turn, make investments, typically in projects that qualify for Low Income Housing Tax Credits, in many of its assessment areas. The qualified investments made by Wells Fargo are useful and effective in meeting the needs of its communities and their residents.”

In the Service Test category, the OCC said Wells Fargo’s “retail delivery systems, including branches and ATMs, are readily accessible to a majority of the bank’s assessment areas. Wells Fargo’s opening and closing of branches generally has not adversely affected the accessibility of its delivery systems, particularly in low- and moderate-income geographies and to low- and moderate-income individuals. Wells Fargo is a leader in providing community development services in the majority of its assessment areas.”

Founded in 1852, Wells Fargo & Company is a diversified financial services company with $1.2 trillion in assets, providing banking, insurance, investments, mortgage and consumer finance through more than 10,000 stores and 12,000 ATMs and the internet (wellsfargo.com) across North America and internationally.

Featured Executive Home Offers Serene Country Living

This lovely, executive home provides the best of luxury living while encompassing you in the serenity of the country. With over six acres of land surrounding the 4,661 square foot manor, this custom built home offers expansive living areas while only minutes from downtown Salem. Its commanding view of the Willamette River and valley is breathtaking. Italian marble, hardwood and travertine grace the interior. A beautiful, efficient kitchen is a cook’s dream with lots of counter space and ease of movement, while providing that warm congregating area whether for family or entertaining. It has four bedrooms with four bathrooms and a three car garage. There is also a study, utility/craft room and more storage than you will know what to do with!

This home has everything you would want – luxury, serenity and elegance. It is brought to you by Marilyn Shotts of RE/MAX Equity Group, Inc. (616879) and is offered at $1,395,000. Call Marilyn at 503-510-2473 for a private showing.
State Agrees to Sell Parcel of Land at Mill Creek

The Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) and Industrial Developments International (IDI) have reached agreement on the sale of Phase IB, Lot 1 of the Mill Creek Corporate Center in Salem, Oregon. DAS will release the terms of the deal after close of escrow in mid-December.

IDI intends to build a 465,000-square-foot distribution center on the property for an undisclosed tenant. The tenant expects to hire 175 employees when it opens in mid-2010, eventually raising that number to 250. "This sale is another milestone in making the Mill Creek property a real economic asset for the community of Salem," said DAS Director Scott Harra. "It’s also a good thing for Oregon taxpayers. The state has worked closely with the City of Salem to make the best possible use of the Mill Creek property, and I know of no better use than creating jobs."

DAS has approved an early access agreement so IDI may begin site work as soon as Wednesday, December 2, 2009. IDI’s first project is construction of a new public street that extends northeast from Aumsville Highway, beginning west of the Marion County Dog Shelter and terminating at the Highway. Its neighbors to the east include Santiam Highway (Highway 22), Cordon Road/Kuebler Boulevard, and Aumsville Road. DAS has valued the land at Mill Creek Corporate Center at $400 per acre. In 2001, the legislature approved sale of this property for fair market value or greater. Approximately 90 acres (after required public street dedications) will remain available for market these lots, which may be purchased separately or for use as a single parcel.

Willamette University Hosts Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration

Willamette University will host a series of community events Jan. 18–28 in honor of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., including an exclusive Oregon performance by gospel legend the Blind Boys of Alabama and several spoken word and hip-hop performances from West Coast artists.

The theme of this year’s events is “Remember. Reflect. Realize. The Dream.” The celebration is one of Oregon’s most extensive annual commemorations of King’s legacy and reflects Willamette’s motto, “Not unto ourselves alone are we born.”

“The celebration puts both our mission and motto into action,” said Gordy Toyama, director of multicultural affairs at Willamette. “We hope these events play a part in encouraging our community and state to uphold the dignity and worth of all individuals.”

This year’s schedule includes:

“I Dream a World: Portraits of Black Women Who Changed America,” Monday, January 18, 7 p.m., Hudson Hall: This Salem community celebration includes a stage performance of several stories about African-American women who shaped Oregon history. The play will be followed by a discussion with the performers. Numerous civil rights-related community organizations will also be available to provide information about their activities.

"Because the good will of those we serve is the foundation of our success, it is a real pleasure at this holiday time to say “Thank You” as we wish our clients and community a new year of happiness and success.”

~ Sperry Van Ness Commercial Advisors

Curt, Jennifer, Lindsey, Julie, Jamie, Liz, Allison, Meghan and Barb

503.588.0400 | 1665 Liberty Street S.E., Suite 200, Salem, Oregon 97302 | SVNCommercialAdvisors.com
Library2Go Receives Grant for Downloadable Books

The State Library Board of Trustees has awarded a $100,000 grant of federal Library Services and Technology Act funds to the Oregon Digital Library Consortium to purchase an "opening day collection" of e-books that Oregonians will be able to check out and download in March 2010.

The Consortium is made up of member libraries from throughout Oregon and makes available the Library2Go digital library (http://library2go.lib.overdrive.com) to about 3 million Oregonians from their local public or community college library website. Currently Library2Go offers downloadable audio books and videos for adults and children. The Consortium will match the grant from the State Library with $26,000 from their own budget. About 5,000 e-books will be purchased initially, with more purchased after the opening day collection is established.

The e-books will be in the EPUB format which is quickly becoming the standard format for e-books. They can be read using a Sony Reader or other e-book readers that are being introduced, with the exception of the Amazon Kindle, which can only read books purchased from Amazon. Library cardholders from participating public and community college libraries will be able to go to the Library2Go website, "check out" the e-book to their computer, and transfer it to their e-book reader. When the loan period is up, the e-book expires from the computer and is available for someone else to check out from their Library2Go site.

"E-books are here, and libraries don’t want to be left behind in being able to offer this exciting new format," said Oregon Digital Library Consortium Chair Heidi Nowak, librarian at Klamath County Library. "More and more library users are going to want the ease and convenience of downloading their books. New screen technology makes e-books much easier to read than reading off a computer screen, and you can even enlarge the print if you need to."

The lowest priced e-book readers, like the Sony Reader Pocket Edition, begin at about $200, and lower priced readers are expected to hit the market next year. State Librarian Jim Schepke is serving on a task force of state librarians exploring how public libraries can purchase low cost e-book readers that could be loaned to library users who can’t afford to buy one. "Libraries have always provided all formats of media to everyone, regardless of their income," said Schepke. "We’d prefer that everyone have the option to check out e-books from their public library, whether they can afford their own e-book reader or not."

The Oregon Digital Library Consortium will be receiving the grant from the State Library in early 2010 and will begin to select and purchase the collection early in the year. They hope to have the opening day collection available by sometime in March.

MLK Jr Events...Continued from page 12

Good Sista/Bad Sista, Tuesday, January 19, 7 p.m., Putnam University Center, Cat Cavern: Provocative, political performance poetry with attitude by Portland State University faculty Tariya Autry and Walidah Imarisha, who teach in schools, juvenile detention facilities and prisons. Free.


Stride Toward Freedom 5K Run/1 Mile Walk, Saturday, January 23, 9 a.m., Brown Field: Entry fee for this run/walk includes t-shirt and snacks. Proceeds benefit SMI. Registration: $15 in advance, $20 day of race, Active.com.

Mark Gonzales and SKIM: "We Made America," Monday, Jan. 25, 7 p.m., Hudson Hall: Through interactive spoken word and music, def poet Mark Gonzales and hip-hop artist SKIM draw on their indigenous and immigrant experiences to give voice to those who have been silenced in America. Free.

Tunnel of Oppression, Tuesday, Jan. 26, through Thursday, Jan. 18, afternoon and evening, Montag Den: This student-produced, multimedia, multi-sensory display presents sites and stories of oppression and injustice in our communities and the world. Topics include U.S. imperialism, immigration, trans-racial adoption and higher education. Free; check www.willamette.edu/go/mlk for hours.

Other campus-only events during the King celebration that are not open to the public include the signing of the Willamette pledge, which is a commitment to the belief that all individuals are valued, and an afternoon of community service at sites throughout Salem.

For more information about any of these events, visit www.willamette.edu/go/mlk or call the Office of Multicultural Affairs at (503) 370-6265.

Where fine dining meets the fine arts

ALESSANDRO’S
Ristorante & Galleria

Lunch M-F 11:30 - 2:00pm
Dinner M-Sat from 5:30 - 9:00pm

Surround yourself with internationally famous artwork in a romantic atmosphere dedicated to great food, fine wines, and a European sense of savoir faire.

Ballroom and private dining rooms available for 8 to 128 guests.

120 Commercial Street NE  Downtown Salem
(503) 370-9951

Frontier Bank has been at the center of Northwest communities for more than 31 years.

Our people have volunteered countless hours, and Frontier Bank has partnered with and supported numerous organizations to better the lives of those we serve.

We were with you then, and we’re with you now.

Let Frontier Bank help you navigate towards your tomorrow.

For the Frontier Bank office nearest you call: 888-779-4801 or visit us online at: www.frontierbank.com

Where People Really Make The Difference
Oregon to Introduce Limited-Term Licenses in 2010

Starting in January 2010, Oregon will begin to issue limited-term driver licenses, instruction permits and identification cards to applicants who are lawfully in the United States under any type of temporary stay.

The expiration date for these limited-term cards will be based on the cardholder’s authorized length of stay in the U.S. If an applicant’s authorized length of stay is indefinite, Oregon will issue cards valid for one year at a time.

Oregon began requiring that applicants for driving privileges or ID cards provide proof of lawful presence under a state law that took effect in July 2008. The same law required Oregon DMV to provide limited-term cards based on an applicant’s length of stay in the U.S. Typical examples of temporary stays in the country are people on a student or employment visa.

“It’s important to note that when a limited-term card expires, that does not mean the person is in the country illegally,” DMV Administrator Tom McClellan said.

“They may be in the process of renewing a visa. Likewise, a driver license is not proof of lawful presence in the U.S. because a person’s immigration status could change even before the limited-term card expires.”

Limited-term cards grant the same privileges as regular Oregon driver licenses, permits and ID cards. Applicants must meet the same requirements of regular cards – proof of age, identity, Oregon residence address and lawful presence in the U.S.; passage of tests; and payment of fees.

The cards have the same security features and appearance as other Oregon cards except they contain the words “limited term.”

“As identification for banking, shopping and other activities that require ID, limited-term cards are just as valid as existing Oregon driver licenses and ID cards,” McClellan said. “The only difference is that they must be renewed more frequently than the typical eight years.”

For more information about Oregon requirements for driving privileges and ID cards, visit OregonDMV.com.
U.S. Bank Gives $120,000 to Mid-Valley Nonprofits

U.S. Bank, through the U.S. Bancorp Foundation, has recently contributed $120,000 to nonprofit organizations in the mid-valley region of Oregon.

The recipients included:
- Boys & Girls Club of Albany;
- Family Building Blocks in Salem;
- Marion-Polk Food Share in Salem;
- Neighborhood Economic Development Corporation in Salem;
- Yamhill Community Action Partnership in McMinnville
- Salem-Keizer Community Development Corporation in Salem.
- Oregon 4-H Club Foundation, Inc. in Corvallis
- Oregon Symphony Association in Salem.
- Salem-Keizer Education Foundation;
- Boys & Girls Club of Salem, Marion & Polk Counties;
- Youth Impact in Salem;
- Western Oregon University in Monmouth;
- Farmworker Housing Development Corporation in Woodburn;
- Mighty Oaks Children’s Therapy Center in Albany;
- Polk County Historical Society in Monmouth;
- Salem-Keizer Coalition for Equality;
- Family Tree Relief Nursery in Albany;
- Boys & Girls Club of Albany and
- Kroc Center in Salem.

U.S. Bancorp, with $265 billion in assets as of Sept. 30, 2009, is the parent company of U.S. Bank, the sixth largest commercial bank in the United States. The company operates 3,002 banking offices in 25 states and 5,170 ATMs and provides a comprehensive line of banking, brokerage, insurance, investment, mortgage, trust and payment services products to consumers, businesses and institutions.


Chamber Recital to Benefit Salem Chamber Orchestra

Salem Chamber Orchestra (SCO) presents a Winter Soiree on Sunday Jan 24 at 3pm featuring Maria Zlateva, violin, Karen Vincent, viola, and Melisander Wildberger, piano. The selections on the program are from immigrants that moved from Europe to America, or emigrants from America to Europe. Following the performance will be a reception of wine, coffee, and desserts. Proceeds benefit Salem Chamber Orchestra. The program is largely a result of pianist Wildberger’s scholarship and collecting compositions of little-known composers from six years of study in Europe. The repertoire performed will include post-romantic duos and trios by Adolph Weidig, Templeton Strong, Rebecca Clarke, James Friskin, William Mason, and Leo Ornstein. Wildberger studied music theory, composition, and musicology at Northwestern, De Paul and Cornell Universities. He earned his living as a music typesetter, specializing in contemporary music and scholarly editions.

Karen Vincent is SCO’s long-time principal violist. She also regularly performs with Portland Baroque Orchestra and Linfield Chamber Orchestra. Karen Vincent has degrees in Music and Education from the University of Washington. An accomplished violinist, Zlateva has served as a principal player and as a concertmaster in numerous orchestras in Europe and the United States.

The recital will be held at the home of Slate and Davida Wilson in the Fairmount District in Salem. Tickets are very limited, so advanced purchase is recommended.

Tickets are $25 and $15 for students in advance and $30 and $20 at the door. Tickets are available at Travel Salem (181 High St NE), by calling 503-581-4325, or online at salemchamberorchestra.org.

Have Your Cake & Eat Here Too!

Now Serving Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

Have Your Cake & Eat Here Too!

Now Serving Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

Voted BEST DESSERT

Featuring Fine Wines from Willamette Valley Vineyards

Ask About Our Special Celebration Cakes & Gift Cards

Sunday 8:30am to 10pm
Monday-Thursday 7:30am to 10pm
Friday 7:30am to 11pm
Saturday 8:30am to 11pm
Dinner Served 4pm till close

25 Years of Good Taste!

310 Kearney Street SE • 503-585-7070 • gerryfrankskonditorei.com

Salem’s 2007
Small Business of the Year

ASE/NAPA Technician of the Year 2002

We Stand Behind Our Work. Honesty and Quality You Can Trust.

Call or stop by and find out why we were named the 2007 Small Business of the Year!

503-365-9702
675 Bartell Dr NW
Great Home at Great Value! 2461 SF, 4 bd, 2.5 ba, kitchen open to FR with gas FP, all 9’ ceilings. Lrg garage w/added shop area, fenced bckyd & close to elem school. $249,900 (601300)
Don Madsen / Don Meyer
503-371-5181

Rural living, wonderful remodelled classic farm home on 1 acre w/beautiful grounds! New mstr suite & new vinyl windows, shop w/apartment! $329,000 (610673)
Tara Manning 503-409-3440

INCREDIBLE 7450 SF country estate w/6.8 acres in prestigious gated community! 5 BD, 5 BA, massive game room (24x34) plus guest quarters! $1,399,000 (604302)
Dale Ropp 503-851-3253

You’ll scale back, NOT down in this lovely 3 bd, 2 ba, zero lot line home. Close to Salem Golf Course! $190,000 (611991)
Amy McLeod 503-371-5209

Lexington 2-story under $120 Per Square Foot! Master on main, spacious private yard with pergola & so much more! $189,900 (615301)
Trevor Elliott 503-602-1039

One acre close to town! 3 bdrm, 2 ba, 2 fi replaces, updated throughout; new roof & vinyl windows in ’06, 2 bay shop w/220 amps, park-like setting! $325,000 (615581)
Sylvia Perry 503-580-0556

Open, great rm floor plan w/suites & gas FP! 1578 SF, 3/2 inclds lrg mstr suite, garage is oversized & wired for 220, RV parking. $144,000 (616086)
Melissa Miotke 503-371-5173

40 x 48 Shop, Close in Acreage, Easy I-5 Access! Possible dual living, over 2 acres for all your toys and gardening hobbies! $314,900 (616134)
Matt Killen 503-409-5023

Northgate Home is well maintained and ready for you! 3 Bd, 2 Bath, and covered patio as well as finished room in garage for offi ce or shop. $189,900 (616203)
Roger Elliott 503-569-5003

What a place to call home! 3 bd, 2.5 ba, lovely 2136 SF home w/Porter Crk running thru 2.25 acres. Deck overlooking beautiful pond to swim & fish. $339,900 (617048)
Janis King Melsha 503-371-5170

Tons of Updates in this comfy, 1524 SF home w/ two fi replaces on lrg lot! Newer: roof, vinyl windows & kitchen, refi nished hrdwd fl rs & more! $189,900 (618189)
Nikki Weiner 503-931-0032

Outstanding Cambridge Home perfect for entertaining! 3769 SF, 4 bd, 3 ba, gourmet kitchen, built-ins, spacious master. 3 car garage. $449,000 (618527)
Henri Lemon 503-910-4171

Glencreek Wood Condo! 3 bdrm unit in excellent condition with double garage. Located in desirable tree lined neighborhood. A Must See! $149,900 (618540)
Chris Aldrich 503-371-5104

Custom Craftsman, 4 Bd, 2.5 Bia, 2358 SF on 1.5 acre! Lux mstr on main, antiques/period fi xtures, cek fl rs, huge kitchen, media room & gorgeous grounds. $499,900 (618626)
Phyllis Murray 503-910-0652

Light, bright & beautiful, one level, open fl oor plan! 1910 SF, 3 Bd, 2 Ba, huge mstr suite, spacious yard with inground sprinklers. $250,000 (619164)
Marcia VanMeter 503-930-1383

Affordable, nicely updated, 3 bd, 1.5 bath in convenient SE location. Newer windows, carpet, lino, roof, appliances & more. $158,500 (619214)
Vanessa Riley 503-871-2503.

Plenty of Opportunities & Super View! Four bdrm, 4 bath, 3137 SF on private hillside location, in ground pool. Many amenities. $269,900 (619215)
Vanessa Riley 503-871-2503

Move in Ready, updated & clean 1428 SF, 3 bd, 2 Ba, hardwood floor in entry, landscaped backyard. $187,000 (619250)
Susie Kelley 503-371-5264

Country Living & City Convenience! 3240 SF home on 1+ acre w/ 3 bd, 2.5 ba & shop/barn inclds finished room above shop area! $269,000 (619319)
Teri Hays 503-581-5187

Amazing home on 42 acre updated by professional builder! Dream kitch w/lab granite & SS appliances, 2611 SF, 4 bd, 3 ba & possible dual living. $399,000 (619356)
Judy Quillin 503-559-8643

Perfect First Home! Well cared for 3 bd, 2 ba home w/central AC, dual closets in master bdrom, large backyd with storage shed. Don’t let this one pass you by! $165,000 (619191)
Brian Boms 503-559-9410

Warm & Charming house in S. Salem! 2 stories- both w/ great rms & kitchens – possible dual living. 3446 SF w/5 bd. Lot is 8800 SF 2 car garage & beautiful rose garden. $286,900 (619844)
Sita Chiu 971-533-2538
Remodeled/updated single level on cul-de-sac in South Salem. 3 Bd, 1.5 Ba, amazing backyard with tons of potential! $148,500 (619863)
Carrie Hamilton 503-371-5115

5 BEDROOMS: Spacious & bright 3066 SF home is immaculate w/exclnt floor plan & beautiful hickory floors & cabinets. Over $25,000 spent on landscaping! $305,000 (618854)
D. Madsen / D. Meyer 503-390-4000 Code #4835

Victorian in Sublimity! Built in 1998, 3000 SF, 4 bdrm, 2.5 ba, 12,000 SF lot on cul-de-sac. Easy access to Hwy 22 for traveling to mountains or beach. $359,900 (619963)
John Hatch 503-508-0139

Fantastic treed 1.15 acre parcel w/ great house! 3003 SF, master on main, 2 laundry rms, room for RV & shop! This is a Fannie Mae HomePath property. $389,900 (615338)
Matt Toline 503-991-8424

RESTORED 1900's Craftsman Cottage! Custom cabinetry, SS appliances & hrdwd fl. New roof, paint, wiring & plumbing. Must See Today! $179,900 (620141)
Chris Aldrich 503-371-5104

Perfect Starter Investment Property! Clean spacious units with carport & private backyard, some updating. 100% occupied, excellent rental history. $115,000 (620328)
Alida Brandt 503-850-6334

MAGNIFICENT VIEW of 4 snow capped mountains & outstanding landscaping on oversized lot! Custom built, 2394 SF with many upgrades, 2 view decks & shop area. 2179 Western Heights Loop NW, Salem $259,900
Don Madsen / Don Meyer 503-371-5180

Best Deal in Fox Haven Estates! 4 lrg bdrms, bamboo flrs, formal LR & dining, gas FP, master w/private deck and lots of garden area for spring planting. $269,000 (615159)
Heidi White 503-569-6521

With more than 100,000 agents in offices worldwide, Where Do You Want To Be?

Activate AUDIO HOME FINDER by calling a RE/MAX broker today

503.371.5200

Call...Enter House Number...Listen...Know

Equity Group, Inc.
RE/MAX Equity Group, Inc.
Salem Business Center
1860 Hawthorne Avenue NE
(503) 587-1600

Outstanding Agents. Outstanding Results.

remax.com®

©2009 RE/MAX International. All rights reserved. Each RE/MAX real estate office is independently owned and operated. 081960

Equal opportunity employers. 081960
The Willamette Corporate Center

Suite sizes: 700 SqFt, 1078 SqFt, 1399 SqFt, full floor 4577 SqFt

325 13th St NE, Salem
On the corner of 13th and Chemeketa

Contemporary & Classy professional office. Completely remodeled & ready for occupancy. 6 story building. Most suites have private restrooms and patio with views of city. Large professional conference room on the ground floor to meet clients. Two elevators. Centrally located near Capitol building and downtown. Full service lease at $1.55 SqFt includes janitorial service twice a week. Come take a visit!!

Lancaster Office or Retail

475 & 477 Lancaster Dr NE
1455 SqFt on End Cap & 1071 SqFt Available

• Full Glass Fronts
• $1.30 SqFt NNN $.19 SqFt CAM
• Ample Parking
• 36,000 Cars per Day
• Quick I-5 & Hwy 22 Access

Anita Risberg, CCIM
(503) 363-5995
adrisberg@ccim.net
A.D. Risberg LLC  www.adrisbergllc.com

UP TO 4 HOURS FREE BODYWORK
OR FREE VALUE PREP - ON ANY
COMPLETE PAINT SERVICE

Locally Owned & Operated, Community-Involved Management
• Custom Graphics & Paint
• Fleet Specialists
• Complete Auto Body Repair
• Frame Repair
• Exclusive Color Matching
• Insulation Approved
• Rental Cars Arranged

503-581-8111
2815 Silverton Road NE
(Near Fairgrounds)

AT MAACO
“You Write Your Own Estimate”
MAACO is a certified center
Direct repair center for three insurance companies

Kathy, Mike & Bailey

The EarthWISE Program can provide your business with free resources such as:
- Recycling Boxes
- Recycling Stickers
- Recycling Posters
- Environmental Preformance Purchasing Catalogs
- Suggestion & Savings Programs
- Free Reducer to reduce energy use, water use, business

The Marion CountyEarthWISE business outreach program is a free service for businesses seeking information and resources for reacting to climate change. For more information or to sign up for your service call us a service!
Taking Control of Your Financial Life

Let’s Talk: W. Ray Sagner CFP

Statistically the majority of people reading this have done zero estate planning and don’t really have an idea about there big financial picture and this article is meant to help. And yes this article may seem familiar if you read last January’s column but it is back for two reasons; the topic seems to be timeless, and it is one of the articles that I received the most responses from. And maybe a third reason, I don’t have to start from scratch this month.

One of the strongest tones for easing your mind is having “things” in order. Having your financial documents and information in a form that you can readily access will aid in making financial decisions and in getting a sense of what you have. Also, having your financial information in one place will aid those who will take care of your affairs when you are not able to. I am fully aware of how difficult it is for us to think about not being able to take care of ourselves or to think about our demise; it is, however, a reality and should be planned for.

In this first article of 2010 we will cover strategies for getting financial documents and other personal information in an orderly format. Also, we will discuss the benefits of a letter of intent for those of you who may need to use the information that you have gathered. Come on, getting organized can be fun, so let’s get started.

Step one: for your convenience you should have a file folder or folders for your monthly bills and statements, as well as folders or binders for such documents as your insurance policies, investment statements, estate planning documents, etc. If you don’t have a desk or file cabinet, you can get a milk crate or the like at an office supply store and create your own file.

Step two: make a list of all your personal information, the professionals you deal with, and all of your account details. Keep in mind that the data listed on this sheet of paper provide easy access to the information -- for you, and/or for the person who may have to deal with your financial affairs for you. You should begin with the date the document was completed and include such personal information as your full name, SS number, date of birth, and drivers’ license number. If you can navigate MS excel you can create headings across the top for the institution, the type of account, the account number, how the account is titled, a contact person and that person’s phone number. You should also include any passwords for online access. Include in the list all of your single, joint, and business accounts, and indicate both assets (i.e. checking, savings, and investment accounts) and liabilities (i.e. credit cards and mortgages). It may be helpful, as well, to create a separate sheet which lists your beneficiaries for your various accounts.

If you would like an example, email me (Ray@TheLegacyGroup.com) and I will send you a template that can help you get started. You may then want to encourage your parents and children to complete a similar form. Once the form is completed, make a copy and give it to whomever you have designated as the executor of your estate. You may want to have them keep it in a sealed envelop until they need it and let them know that you may be updating it periodically and exchanging envelopes. Compiling all of this information may seem like a time-consuming task at first, but it is an important step in simplifying your future, and it is time well spent. Plus, doesn’t it feel good to be organized?

Now let us go a step further, to address the issue of considering those who you leave behind when you die. I know death is something most of us choose to ignore, but it is one thing we know is certain. While getting their estate planning in order I encourage clients to write a letter of intent to those who may be managing their affairs in the event of their deaths. A letter of intent spells out the specifics concerning the what, who, how, why, and where of financial documents, of special disposition of assets, and of desired funeral arrangements, if any, that the clients would like to have.

As one who has gone through this process I know it can be uncomfortable and I understand why people are reluctant, but it is valuable. The process not only helps you clarify what you value, it shows those that must act on your behalf or those you leave behind that you valued them. If you have had to care for or lost a loved one you know what chaos the experience can be -- especially if you must dig up documents and attempt to infer what they would like you to do concerning their assets and liabilities. I know there are those who say “hey, I will go on to a more pleasant note, getting organized may be a bother, but being organized is as comforting as the sun on your face on that first nice day of spring, and then all you have to do is update once in awhile. Remember if you want help getting started, I would be happy to send you my template or answer any questions.

Ray Sagner is a Certified Financial Planner™ with The Legacy Group, Ltd, a fee only Registered Investment Advisory Firm, in Salem. Ray can be contacted at 503-381-6020, Voice Message #303, or by email at Ray@TheLegacyGroup.com You may view the Company’s web site at WWW.TheLegacyGroup.com

PuroClean® Announces Four New Franchises

With plans to launch four new PuroClean franchise locations in the Salem area within the year, the “Paramedics of Property Damage™” are ready to help local residents overcome devastating setbacks of property disasters.

With approximately six of every 100 households making insurance claims for property damage, including water, mold, fire and other common household mishaps, PuroClean’s services are a necessity for Salem homeowners. PuroClean technicians will arrive at the scene of a loss 24/7 and take the necessary steps to bring the situation under control, prevent it from becoming worse and provide restoration services to help bring the property back to pre-loss condition.

“Potential entrepreneurs in the area have shown great interest in the PuroClean franchise opportunity, not just because we serve a recession-proof niche market, but also because they’re looking for a rewarding career where they can help Salem homeowners restore their homes and lives,” said Monty Smith, Vice President of Franchise Development for PuroClean. “It takes a specific type of person to have the skills to empathize and work with a customer who may be going through a very traumatic property emergency, whether it be a fire or flood. Adding four franchise locations in the Salem area will result in valuable services for the community in addition to providing more technical and sales jobs.”

Executives of the 280+ unit PuroClean franchise network say they identified Salem among areas for expansion based on market research showing a strong demand for their services, and a solid presence of insurance agents affiliated with nationally-branded networks in the area. Smith said the Salem market is ripe for growth for the fast-growing PuroClean brand. “We serve a $162 billion dollar recession-proof niche industry with one of the largest customer bases in the country and provide entrepreneurs a sustainable business opportunity in today’s tough economy.”

PuroClean Franchisees do not need previous restoration industry experience. New Franchisees receive hands-on experience while training with the company’s fire and flood simulators at the PuroClean Franchise Support Center in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Initial three-week training programs also include marketing, estimating and other phases of the business, while Regional Sales Consultants provide Franchisees with additional in-field training at their location. Start-up costs range between $68,325 and $93,315.

About PuroClean: Since its 2001 inception, PuroClean, the nation’s fastest growing franchise in the $162 billion property damage restoration industry, has grown to more than 280 franchise locations serving the U.S. and Canada. Known as the “Paramedics of Property Damage™” among insurance professional and property owners, PuroClean certified technicians provide emergency services to restore properties damaged by water, fire, smoke mold, and biohazard events. With 2008 system-wide revenues exceeding $68 million, PuroClean continues to attract entrepreneurial-minded individuals looking for a personally and financially rewarding business opportunity in the recession-proof insurance property claims industry. Entrepreneur magazine ranked PuroClean #119 in its coveted 2009 Franchise 500® ranking of top franchise companies in the world. PuroClean also received the prestigious Franchise Research Institute’s World Class Franchise® designation for the fourth consecutive year in 2008. For more information, visit www.PuroCleanOpportunity.com.
Business-Related Personal Property Tax Forms In Mail This Month

Oregon law requires all business owners -- even owners of home-based businesses -- to file a personal property tax return with their county assessor every year. County assessors will mail 2009 personal property forms to business owners this month. Business owners must complete and return them to their assessors by March 1, 2010. Tax owed on personal property is shown on property tax statements and is due November 15, 2010.

Completed returns must include a detailed list of all business-related personal property, along with equipment purchase and lease dates, and original costs. Personal property may include office furniture, personal computers, easily moved machinery, and even off-road vehicles and display cases if they are used in the business. It also includes leased equipment such as copiers and power washers. The county assessor calculates the tax due each year based on the business owner’s personal property return. The assessor may cancel the tax if total personal property is valued under $15,000.

“But all business owners must file personal property returns, even if personal property value is less than $15,000,” said Syndi Gates, a department tax analyst.

If you’re a business owner, you must file a return each year even if:
- you didn’t receive a tax return from the county in which your property is located;
- the assessor cancelled your tax in prior years;
- you sold or closed your business during the year;
- you sold or disposed of your personal property.

Gates said that assessors calculate tax, penalty and interest for up to the previous five years if a business hasn’t reported personal property.

“If a business owner doesn’t file, penalties range from 5 percent to 50 percent of the taxes due, depending on when they file returns from previous years,” she said.

For more information, including forms and a complete list of taxable personal property, visit www.oregon.gov/DOR/PTD/ValFact.shtml, or contact your county assessor’s office.

For more information on Oregon income taxes, tax forms, and instructions, visit www.oregon.gov/DOR, or call 1-800-356-4222 toll-free from an Oregon prefix (English or Spanish); 503-378-4988 in Salem and outside Oregon; or e-mail, questions.dor@state.or.us. For TTY (hearing or speech impaired), call 1-800-886-7204.

As the winter hours get shorter and we have the tendency to ‘cozy up’ inside the house remember that there are lots of exciting things going on at the Theatre during this period. While the majority of the Elsinore performances are live events, don’t forget about our classic film series. If you have not yet been to the Elsinore Theatre to see one of the Wednesday evening Classic or Silent Films you have are missing quite a treat. The Winter Series begins on January 6. For only $5 you can experience an evening of classic cinema that will take you back in time to one of the grand movie palaces of it’s time. The Film Series is a collaboration between the Elsinore Theatre and Chemeketa Community College.

The Classic program of seven acclaimed sound-era films—Intrigue and Romance—begins January 6th with Casablanca. Last September marked the 70th anniversary of the beginning of World War II in Europe, in the fall of 1939. Before Pearl Harbor, America tended to be isolationist and was officially neutral regarding Hitler’s threat to Europe. But by 1940, Hollywood appeared to be neither. The Hollywood moguls were Eastern European Jewish immigrants and their studios were populated with newly arrived European film artists and technicians who had fled the escalating danger.

The alarm had already begun to be raised in such films as Hitchcock’s The Lady Vanishes, made in England in 1938. It was the beginning of a fascinating period of cinema—when so much was at stake in the world—producing imaginative and impassioned movies that addressed the German aggression and rising turmoil. Story ideas were pulled from the headlines, and émigré masters of movie entertainment such as Hitchcock, Fritz Lang, Ernst Lubitsch, and Michael Curtiz deftly orchestrated political intrigue, images of a very real menace, a dash of propaganda, and memorable romance (and often a good deal of sharp wit) with such skill that their movies from this period have become cinema landmarks: Casablanca, Foreign Correspondent, Man Hunt, To Be Or Not To Be. These were thrillers, romances, and comedies that harbored an anti-Fascist punch. American Howard Hawks joined in with To Have and Have Not in 1944, his variation on Casablanca. The series concludes with Carol Reed’s powerful British masterpiece of post-War intrigue and mystery, The Third Man.

The themes in these movies reflect the passions and moral dilemmas of the times: isolationism vs. involvement, cynicism vs. commitment, and integrity vs. collaboration. The settings are studio-crafted foreign capitals and ports of call around the globe. These WWII-era American and British stories of intrigue and romance sought to align domestic audiences with exotic cities in distress and with the plight and courage of peoples of the world.

Parallel to the Classic program is the Silent program of four movie evenings, which begins January 27th. This program celebrates the mastery of pioneering silent screen directors and stars. The silent film presentations will feature digitally restored films from archival prints and live accompaniment by Rick Parks at the “Mighty Wurlitzer Organ.” The silent presentations this series includes It with Clara Bow, Our Hospitality with Buster Keaton, an evening of four silent short films; Now or Never (1921 Harold Lloyd), The Adventurer (1917 Charlie Chaplin), The Playhouse (1921 Buster Keaton) & Liberty (1929 Laurel & Hardy) and the series closes with The Passion of Joan of Arc.

For more information on all of the films plus a complete calendar of events visit our web page at www.elsinoretheatre.com.

David Holton Appointed to Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Commission

David Holton, owner of David Holton Design has been appointed by Governor Ted Kulongoski to the Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Commission. Known locally for his work on Salem’s Riverfront Carousel and the restoration of the Historic Elsinore Theatre, Holton has over 24 years of architectural experience having worked on a variety of projects during his career including the seismic retrofitting of Waller Hall on the campus of Willamette University and the reinforcement of Oregon’s State Capitol Building following the St. Paul earthquake in the early 1990s. Holton was certified by the State of Oregon as a post-earthquake inspector in 2002.

Through his commission with OSSIPAC as the American Red Cross representative, Holton, with other members of the Commission, will be responsible for promoting earthquake awareness and preparedness through education, research and legislation. Holton is an active volunteer with the Willamette Chapter of the American Red Cross where he serves as the government liaison lead and is an active member of the Rotary Club of East Salem.
Sam Monroe was the Strongest Guy I’ve Ever Known

My friend died in November. He was 37. I loved him like a son. He loved me like a father. He phoned me every birthday and Christmas. Like clockwork, he called on the Fourth of July and Veteran’s Day because he knew I was in Vietnam and he, as young as he was, really appreciated Veterans and wanted to express that appreciation every chance he had. I will miss him greatly for the rest of my life, especially on those days, and my life and many others will be less because he’s gone.

Sam Monroe, pound for pound, was the strongest man physically I’ve ever met. But his physical strength didn’t help him one bit this time. As anyone who knew him would testify, Sam had a heart as big as all out doors. But, unfortunately, it wasn’t a healthy heart.

Born in Raleigh, North Carolina in 1972, Sam Monroe never lived anywhere for very long. His dad, a Chevron Oil executive for about 25yrs, moved the family, for professional reasons, about every 2 to 4 years.

Sam spent 1973 in New Orleans, then 1974 to 1979 in Saudi Arabia. From the second to the 4th grade, Sam was in Kingwood, Texas then in 1982 the family moved to Ventura, California. From 1984 to about 1986, the Monroes lived in Sumatra, Indonesia. They moved back to Ventura in 1986 into the house they had rented out, because there was no high school in Sumatra for Sam and dad, Big Sam and mom, Linda, didn’t want to put him into a boarding school. Sam graduated from Ventura’s St. Bonaventure HS in 1990.

Sam played all sports in high school. He was a 240 pound running back in football, put the shot and ran the 4x100 relay in track and field. He played baseball and soccer when the schedule would allow for both.

He received football letters of interest from a lot of well know universities but, with his 3.6 gpa, chose Cal Poly San Luis Obispo for its reputation as the MIT of the West Coast and John Madden had been a coach there. Monroe injured his back during his freshman season. He’d dreamed of being the next Miami Dolphin great, Larry Csonka. That’s why he won number 39. Sam left Cal Poly when the coaches, because of his back, would no longer allow him to play football. He then enrolled in Gavilan Jr. College but found out they wouldn’t let him play there, either.

In 1991, while coaching the Gilroy HS football team running backs, Sam met another assistant coach who then influenced Bakersfield College into giving Sam another chance in football. He passed the physical and worked out together about 4 times a week. He gave me the 16 oz gloves I still use today. We had jump ropes, a speed bag, a heavy bag and each other.

When the Apollo closed suddenly, we moved our boxing equipment to the Oregon School for the Deaf’s gym on Locust Street. From there we went to Dick Vanek’s (his father-in-law at the time) barn then Dewey Skemp’s barn. Around 2000, Sam met former boxer and trainer, Wally Jorgensen, at a boxing event in Salem. He learned that Wally’s non-profit boxing club in Dallas was losing its site. Sam and I negotiated an arrangement with then Hoop GM, Carol Unruh, for unused space on his mezzanine. That’s where we set up the ring and all the heavy and speed bags. We even built a little office up there.

We joined the Salem Chamber of Commerce as a non-profit and even did a little boxing skit on the Elsinore Stage for Greeters (I knocked him out). We renamed Wally’s club the Sugar Company Boxing Club (boxing is frequently referred to as “the sweet science”) and trained at the Hoop for the next 3 years. As volunteers, I served as president, Sam vice-president and Wally, club director. Aside from the time Sam knocked me out of the ring while sparring (no applause, please), it was a great time. As a USA Boxing sanctioned club (clubs that develop boxers for the Olympics) we held about five boxing events there during that period. At our peak we had about 75 boxers, young men and women, and averaged nearly 600 people for each event with boxers from Oregon, Washington and California. South Salem High School’s Oregon high school basketball player of the year in 2004, Jeremiah Dominguez, boxed and won for us when he was about 14.

After the Hoop closed, the club moved to Gold’s Gym in Keizer where it resides, still, under another name. In 2000, Sam served as regional director with the American Heart Association. Gerry Frank regularly assisted him with demonstrations of a portable heart defibrillator.

In 2001, Sam flexed his muscles at a strong man competition at Riverfront Park. He placed 3rd losing only to 2 professionals by a razor slim margin. Those guys outweighed Sam by nearly 100 pound each.

The lure of the gym got the best of Sam in 2002 when he opened his 12th Street Fitness Center. Later, he moved to his more spacious current location at 420 Pringle Park Plaza, right next to the post office downtown (and curiously renamed it the Downtown Fitness Center) in June of 2005. It’s still open, by the way. It has a Sonitrol 24 hour access card lock system. The phone number is 503-391-7383. It couldn’t be handler for downtown business people.

As stated before, pound for pound, Sam Monroe was the strongest guy, physically, I’ve ever known. But there was another strength contest where he was struggling. In a column I wrote on him three years ago, Sam, for the first time, courageously came clean publicly about his lifelong battle with alcoholism. He acknowledged it, and apologized in that column for his occasional behaviour. He vowed to change it no matter how long it took. He was still fighting it mightily to the end.

My friend died in November. He was 37. I loved him like a son. He loved me like a father. I will miss him greatly for the rest of my life and my life and many others will be less because he’s gone. I love you Sam, Rocky, Monroe, and we’ll train together again one day.

Bill Isabell is chief meteorologist for KRZV Radio, 1490am, and a personal financial representative with Allstate Financial Services, LLC.

Cascade Employers Association Unveils New Website

Cascade Employers Association has announced the launch of its new Website at http://www.cascadeemployers.com.

The user-friendly site incorporates the Association’s recently refreshed brand and new messaging with information about its complete range of services for employers - from hiring well, to training for excellence, to dismissing effectively.

“This site reflects Cascade’s commitment to maximizing communication and technology resources. The new website will be a great source of information for our members and prospects,” said Patrice Attenhofen, president of Cascade. “We wanted a clean and navigable site that employers will find appealing and informative.”

Visitors to the site can read about the Association’s services, as well profiles of each staff person. The new messaging - which distills the advantages of being a member of Cascade Employers Association - is integrated into the top-level pages of the site.

“Working with Jennifer Larsen Morrow of Creative Company, Jennifer quickly understood the value proposition of Cascade, providing seamless guidance through the branding process,” said Attenhofen. “With Jennifer’s guidance, our team of staff and Board members was able to bring our refreshed brand to life within just a few months.”

Cascade Employers Association has a long history of providing employers with progressive, ethical, and down-to-earth knowledge and insight in human resource management. Established in 1947, Cascade is Oregon’s largest and oldest diverse industry association, with more than 500 member organizations, ranging in size from two employees to several thousand employees.
Hello everybody;
First of all, I want to wish you a healthy and prosperous 2010.

Now that I said that I can go on and present to you my little dilemma: what is a girl from the South of Italy to do in order to write about rice? Yes we can grow and cook rice as well as pasta!

From the Himalayas area, rice extends to Indonesia where in the rice fields you will find small temples -a constant thank you I suppose - to Egypt, to Africa and only later to Greece and finally to Naples to reach north of Italy: Pianura Padana in 1468.

Lets talk about cooking rice now. The most famous dish is “risotto,” which is a specialty of Northern Italy - now you know why I was a little reluctant to talk about rice -I am from the South!

For a really good risotto you will need Vialone or Carnaroli rice; it is more round and almost transparent. The rice will cook uniformly without stirring too much.

Also from Italy there is black rice: Venere rice. This is a slightly round grain, with a nutty taste. It will stay black. Heres a little fun secret: cook white rice and then separately cook Venere rice. When they are done, mix the two together. So much for my secret!

Then there is the Rasmati rice: long and skinny grain, used a lot in Indian cooking. Thai rice is somewhat long grain, excellent for rice salads, steamed or boiled.

Wild rice, which is also grown here in Oregon is technically not a rice, but a grass. It is well known for its characteristic of a really nutty smell and taste and for the length of its grain. It will cook in no less than 45 minutes. No last minute cooking on this one!

For a something as small as a grain of rice, I could keep on writing a lot more.

In the meantime the answer to my question regarding how many varieties of rice there are is: 120,000 worldwide! Can you believe that?

Well it’s true. Uncle Ben, move over!

Until next time. Ciao, Lullu

Lullu’s Tutto Cucina is a unique kitchen store and its celebrating its eight year anniversary on October 2, 2009. Lullu, the owner, is certified 100% Italian; she is proud to have a store that has unusual merchandise (mostly European imports), that cannot be found at most kitchen stores. For special gifts, Lullu’s Tutto Cucina is the place to go. There is a warm, inviting atmosphere at the cooking classes (some are hands-on) that regional guest Chefs conduct throughout the year. She also specializes in Italian food and wine. Gift certificates and gift baskets are available; special orders are welcome.

Lullu’s Tutto Cucina is located at 357 Court St. N.E. in downtown Salem, Oregon, you can call us at (503) 364-7900 or visit our website at www.lulluscokingclasses.com
It’s a Year to Focus On

Here we go again! New Year, New Ideas, New Opportunities…. Before we get all caught up in New Resolutions (and the trappings that follow), I’d like to encourage all of us to first learn and then lean toward the Art of Focus. As we’ve each experienced in past years, our busy hoopla days have sometimes won the battle with our intentions to be more structured and streamlined in our processes. Could this be the year we become more focused on outcome, leaving more time to truly connect with others in our lives in a less overwhelmed fashion? It is possible…. if we learn to focus and concentrate on a deeper level than past years.

I believe the first major step in deepening our focus for the important aspects of our lives begins by managing our daily interruptions. Grant it, interruptions will never go away, nor should they; interruptions are a basic part of making and keeping connections, both in our personal lives and our careers. But, unmanaged interruptions can have an adverse reaction in how we keep our attention span zeroed in on the important processes. Perhaps one of the biggest payoffs from spending more time in a focused and less interrupted environment, in addition to the fact that we can complete a task more efficiently and in much less time, is the realization of having extra moments to zone out, connect with others, take a walk or a nap, or simply sit still and count our blessings. More cause to celebrate is the over-all, grand aspect of how this respite allows our minds to become sharper, more precise and crisp with bright ideas and thought processes. Our perspective then becomes truly based in quality output rather than frenzied reaction.

In our world today, it has become increasingly harder to experience pure, uninterrupted focus time. Without a concerted, conscious effort on our part, we all strive a little harder to do a better job of working together to manage interruptions and apply quality to our blocks of focused time, not only for ourselves but also in Team Tandem. We wish each of you a 2010 full of new experiences, old and new friends and plenty of time to create new, vivid ideas that lead to stronger connections in our families and our communities.

Reneé Braun has joined KeyBank as a relationship manager at the Keizer Station branch.

Reneé Braun has joined KeyBank as a relationship manager at the Keizer Station branch.

Braun started her banking career 36 years ago. For the last decade, she was branch manager at West Coast Bank. In her new role, she will be responsible for providing financial solutions to small business and consumer clients, maintaining existing client relationships and developing new business.

She is a board member for Making Keizer Better and Keizer Parks Foundation, and a member of Keizer Rotary. Braun was born and raised in Dayton, Oregon.

About KeyCorp: Cleveland-based KeyCorp is one of the nation’s largest bank-based financial services companies, with assets of approximately $97 billion. BusinessWeek Magazine named Key the top-rated bank in its Customer Service Champ 2009 edition, ranking us 11th out of the top-25 companies that include many known for their customer service acumen. Key companies provide investment management, retail and commercial banking, consumer finance, and investment banking products and services to individuals and companies throughout the United States and, for certain businesses, internationally. For more information, visit https://www.key.com/.

Renee’ Braun Joins Keybank’s Keizer Station Branch

Our wifi means you’ll NEVER MISS AN IMPORTANT EMAIL WHILE SWIGGING MARTINIS AGAIN.

(Or feasting on our delectable power-lunch menu. Or entertaining clients in our swank new lounge. After all, we wouldn’t be here either if we didn’t believe in mixing work and play.)
SARCF Awards Presented to Local Projects

The Salem Association of Realtors Community Fund (SARCF) awarded $6,763 total in grants to Salem-Keizer Education Foundation and Campfire USA. The first grant of $5,000 was awarded to the Salem-Keizer Education Foundation to fund technology-based literacy programs and curriculum in five high need elementary schools in the Salem-Keizer school district. The second grant of $1,763 was awarded to Camp Fire, USA. This grant will help to fund a simple science program, pay for reasonably priced babysitting classes and no-cook cooking classes for youth in our community.

“We are tremendously pleased to be able to provide much needed money to these great organizations,” said Mat Genuser, President of the SARCF Community Fund Board. “Both of these organizations align perfectly with the types of causes we like to fund with our grants.”

The Salem Association of Realtors Community Fund was founded in 2004 as a way for Realtors and industry affiliates in the Salem/Keizer area to have a positive impact on the community. The goals of the SARCF are to: help break the cycle of homelessness and provide opportunities for affordable housing, serve disadvantaged children and families in crisis and to contribute to the livability of the community and build a sense of pride in the neighborhoods.

2010 Mid-Willamette Valley Green Awards Nominations Sought

The Friends of Straub Environmental Learning Center, Marion County Public Works Environmental Services, and Garden Services, Inc. are seeking nominations for the first-ever annual Mid-Willamette Valley Green Awards. Nominations are being sought for individuals, businesses, and organizations located in Marion County and the greater Salem area.

Green Award categories include:
• Recycler of the Year: with separate opportunities for Individual/Family, Educator, Business
• Sustainable Business of the Year: separate opportunities for Small Business, Large Business, Non-Profit
• EarthWISE Certified Business of the Year
• Green Building of the Year

Nomination forms and category descriptions are available online at www.fsle.org, or you may call (503) 391-4145 to request a copy be mailed to you.

Completed nomination forms should be sent to:
Salem Police Offer Retirees After 28 Years of Service

Salem Police Officer Tina McFarlin retired on November 30 after 28 years of service as a law enforcement officer.

Officer McFarlin began her career with the Salem Police Department in 1976 when she was hired as a dispatcher, then an accident investigator. She was hired as a Deputy Sheriff with the Marion County Sheriff’s Office in 1981 where she served in a variety of assignments before returning to the City of Salem to be a police officer in 1986.

Officer McFarlin has been assigned to the patrol division since returning to the Salem Police Department, working a variety of shift and patrol assignments. Officer McFarlin is the recipient of two Life Saving Awards, a Medal of Valor and a Purple Heart Award and has been a champion of cases involving the welfare of children and animals. She recently investigated allegations of animal neglect at a retail pet store and tirelessly worked to make sure the animals were safe and ultimately well-cared for.

The Salem Police Department is grateful to Officer McFarlin for her years of dedicated service and significant contributions to the safety of our community.

10 Cyber Security Concerns

Business Security: Warren Franklin

It doesn’t matter what article you read or expert you listen to the forecast for cybercrime in 2010 is bleak. The experts agree cybercrime will become more aggressive and sophisticated this year.

Below are ten cyber security concerns that top my list for Salem Businesses this year:

1. Cybercrime will expand and grow in sophistication – Sophos Labs research reveals that over 40,000 new malware is released every day. A new web site is infected with malware every 4.5 seconds. Even more revealing organized criminals have developed quality assurance companies that check malware against traditional software protection to make sure it is 10 to 20 times more effective.

2. A continued rise in scareware – It is a tactic that prompts customers to download malicious software through a persuasive anti-malware site.

3. Bigger and more sophisticated botnets – Botnets are the source of most spam and massive designated denial of service attacks.

4. Email spam will continue to be one of the best portals for malicious attacks – Last year saw an increase in emails that spread infected files and Trojans as attachments. You can expect more sophisticated blending of attacks that will be difficult to stop.

5. An increasing number of Web 2.0 attacks – Attackers will continue to take advantage of the trust users place in Facebook, Twitter, MySpace and other social networks.

6. The hacker’s next target: The Smart Phone – Smart phones are really small computers and being used more and more for business purposes. Protection is poor which puts the user and the business at high risk.

7. Macs are finally proven to be vulnerable to cybercrime – As Apple continues to increase its market share of both personal and business computers cybercriminals are taking notice.

8. Compromised Search Engine Results – Cybercriminals are using botnets to position their web sites high on search engine results placing their compromised sites above those that are clean. Attackers target search engine results with links higher than most legitimate sites.

9. Identity theft will become a bigger problem for small and mid-sized businesses – Smaller businesses aren’t prepared to fight against these kinds of attacks. Most businesses don’t have the system, controls or protection to fight this problem.

10. Business will struggle to meet identity theft standards set by the Feds, States and the Payment Card Industry – The FTC, state governments and the Payment Card Industry have taken note of the identity theft problem and set strict standards businesses must meet or face severe penalties.

This list is the tip of the iceberg. There are many more security threats facing Salem businesses this New Year. As a result, business is caught in the middle of fighting cybercrime and identity theft and meeting the strict compliance standards set by government and private industry. Unfortunately, most Salem businesses aren’t aware of this problem and certainly haven’t figured out any simple solution.

Warren Franklin has worked in the Internet security and identity theft protection arena for five years. He is regarded as one of the top security specialists in his company. You can contact him about business compliance and other computer security issues by calling 503-315-9847 or e-mailing divpro123@comcast.net.

More information on computer security and identity theft protection is available at www.completeinternetprotection.com

Celebrate at the REED OPERA HOUSE

Surround yourself with history under magnificent chandeliers, extraordinary views of downtown through 16’ Windows in our newly restored Trinity Ballroom.

Seat up to 272 for your special event.
Liberty & Court Streets in Downtown Salem
(503) 391-4481
LOVELY FRENCH COUNTRY ESTATE!
Nestled in the hills of West Salem! 4 br, 4.5 ba, 6840 sf on 1.35 acres! Mountain and city views from almost every room. Entryway w/20' ceilings, chandelier, marble tile floors, gourmet kit, fitness center, theater room. All the features you would expect in a luxury home! Call Chet Graham for a private showing. 503-932-4051 (595016) John L. Scott SLM

COUNTRY COMFORT
3502 SF & .51 Ac! Grand, great room open to custom kitchen w/lrg eating area, eating bar & pantry. 4 bdrm, 3 ba, inclds dwnstrs mstr suite, lrg den w/built-in desks & 4 phone lines. $370,000 (618613) Amy McLeod 503-371-5209 RE/MAX Equity Group, Inc.

GORGEOUS, PRIVATE, CREEK FRONT PROPERTY!
Custom built in 1970 & maintained w/love, exclusive 2499 SF home is situated on park-like .80 acre. Features incl 4 bd, 3 ba, warm hrdwd fl oors, & two sets of sliding doors for access to creek side patio. $367,000 (617157) Donna Miller 503-769-1166 RE/MAX Equity Group, Inc.

ENJOY SUNRISES & SUNSETS
Exceptional Frank Lloyd Wright inspired home on .77 acre features spacious living for entertainment indoors & out. Extensive use of hardwoods and stone, master on the main level and wrap around deck overlooking the golf course. $699,900 (616022) Terri Hays 503-551-5187 RE/MAX Equity Group, Inc

EXTRAORDINARY CRAFTSMANSHIP
5.71 acres of outstanding grounds. Gated circular driveway leads you by multiple water features to beautiful main entry. Extensive use of marble & granite in formal entry, formal living & DRs, FR, spacious Kit & 2 master suites; one w/ luxurious master bath & 3 dressing rooms. Greenhouse, arbor, shop area & outbldgs $2,500,000 (579884) Jake Buckendorf 503-371-5192 RE/MAX Equity Group, Inc.

HILL TOP HEAVEN
Welcoming thistle adorned gates, 360 degree view of pinot noir vineyard on 13+ acres with 4698 sq ft amazing home. Vineyard manager pronounces – best grapes he has seen! $1,600,000 (614771) Marilyn Shotts 503.510.2473 RE/MAX Equity Group, Inc.

SEREME PRIVATE COUNTRY MANOR
6+ acres with 4661 sq ft, custom built with every amenity imaginable! Expansive living & storage rooms. Commanding view of Willamette River and Valley. $1,395,000 (616793) Marilyn Shotts 503.510.2473 RE/MAX Equity Group, Inc

LUXURY AND SOPHISTICATED ELEGANCE!
Prestigious Creekside community 4 bed, 2.5 bath home, large gorgeous master suite, granite kitchen with cherry colored cabinets/floors, soaring ceilings, built -ins, expansive view. $439,900 (615465) Karen Morrison, RE/MAX Equity Group, Inc.503-930-4030

ONE OF SALEM'S FINEST VIEWS!
2.02 acres with everything you could wish for & more. 7145 SF, 6+ bdrm inclcs 2 master suites, gourmet kitchen w/huge pantry, workout room & offices. Beautiful grounds, full tennis & basketball courts, pool, covered outdoor entertainment area., $1,395,000 (590746) Jake Buckendorf 503-371-5192 RE/MAX Equity Group, Inc.

A HARVEST OF FEATURES!
What a buy on .81 acre, 2184 SF home with all new counter-tops, furnace, paint & newer appliances – immaculate throughout. Loads of storage plus 40x26.5 heated, 3 bay shop & covered RV pad. AHS warranty for buyers. $360,000 (618270) Marilyn Shotts 503-510-2473 RE/MAX Equity Group, Inc.

EXCEPTIONAL CRAFTSMAN
Built in '03, 5 bdrm, 2.5 ba, 3358 sq', antique & reprod. appliances, fixtures, Oak hardwood, luxury mstr on main, 1.5 acre pvt setting, room for shop, gorgeous grounds! (618626) $499,900 Phyllis Murray 503-910-0652 RE/MAX Equity Group, Inc.

VACATION EVERY DAY
Battle Creek winds through your 4+ acres past your home & deck. 3160 sq', 4 brms, 3 baths, spacious, light open, soaring vaults, walls of windows, lots of updates, dual living, 2 car attach. +sep 4 car -office, hot tub, just a dream! $569,950 (612676) Phyllis Murray 503-910-0652 RE/MAX Equity Group.
Best People

Kimber Lee Chasteen
Deone Wilson
Teresa Doerfler
Cindy Morse
Robbie Sue Erion
Joan E. Cuff
Lucy Zandol
Jessica Mary

Best Services

Best Products

Salem
Downtown
503-585-7219

Salem, 20th St. SE
503-370-9119

Albany
541-924-0767

Corvallis
541-754-7131

FIDELITY NATIONAL TITLE: “THE CLOSING COMPANY!”

“A Closing is a Beautiful Thing”
How much impact could just one hour have on your business?

Talk to us about what’s going on with your business. It may be the most productive conversation you have all day.

Contact Brian Rice at 503-790-7500

©2009 KeyCorp. KeyBank is Member FDIC.