

Penguin Pantry marks a year of service



The Penguin Pantry provides Clark students with free food and supplies.

Clark College's Penguin Pantry will celebrate its first year of serving students with an open house on Thursday, October 25, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The Open House will be a 'reverse reception' – an opportunity for students, staff, faculty, and community partners to drop by, visit the space, and bring donations of unexpired, unopened food items; gift cards; and toiletries.

The Penguin Pantry supports a healthy college community by reducing hunger on campus and connecting students to essential resources. It provides students with a safe, comfortable place to get something to eat, pick up a necessity, and connect with

additional resources and services as needed. These include counseling, public benefits, and more connection to local food banks and other local resources.

According to surveys, 43 percent of Clark College students are low-income, and 23 percent have dependent children. The Penguin Pantry has become an important resource to help students stay on the path to graduation.

The Penguin Pantry offer the following types of food/supply services to currently enrolled students:

- Grab-to-go snacks
- Groceries
- Toiletries and school supplies

The Penguin Pantry is located at Clark College in the Science Building Complex (SCI), Room 101. (Closest street is East Reserve. Park in the Orange 2 Lot.)

For additional information, visit www.clark.edu/cc/penguinpantry or call 360.992.2100.

This article contributed by Estancia Cota.

Penguins shine



The skies above Sleep Country Amphitheater filled with heavy gray clouds on June 21, but nothing could dampen the bright spirits of the more than 700 students participating in Clark College's 2018 Commencement ceremony.

Members of the college's 82nd graduating class encompassed every imaginable background, age bracket, and life goal. Approximately 75 of them wore the light blue robes that indicated they were celebrating their high school diploma or GED completion; another two dozen or so wore the white robes reserved for those receiving their Bachelor of Applied Science degree. The class included a record 476 Running Start graduates who were graduating from high school and college simultaneously; meanwhile, other graduates were old enough to have children of their own—and, in at least a couple cases, dressed them in matching royal-blue robes so that they could cross the stage as a family.

All told, more than 2,300 degrees and certificates were

conferred upon the Class of 2018.

As the ceremony began, however, it became clear that certain themes held these graduates together. When President Bob Knight asked all graduates who had worked while attending Clark to stand, almost the entire class rose to their feet. When he next asked the first-generation college graduates to rise, the result was only slightly less unanimous.



Valeria Flores

Student speaker Valeria Flores spoke about her experiences as the first in her family to attend college. “Being a first-generation student in college is like learning a foreign language,” she said. “You don’t become fluent overnight. I had no idea where to begin. I did not know that I could apply for FAFSA. I didn’t know how to register for classes, or even how to *find* my classes.”

Flores went on to say that she did eventually find her path through college, and that working at the college’s child care facility had led her to decide on a career as a speech pathologist, a path that would require her to continue her education to a master’s degree.

The ceremony’s keynote speaker, retired Evergreen Public Schools superintendent John D. Deeder, spoke of his own experiences as a first-generation college student. “I recall that 51 years ago tonight, I finished my junior college career in Couer d’Alene, Idaho,” he said. “It was a big deal, because

I was the first in my family to ever graduate beyond high school. It opened so many doors—I can't tell you how important this night is for you."



John Deeder

Deeder also spoke about the importance of education in broadening people's perspectives. "I really believe we need to be more tolerant, we need to be more inclusive, we need to be better listeners, we need to be accepting of differences in every way—cultural, religious, political, social, etcetera," he said. "If we do that, this society and the world that you're going to lead in the next few years will be a better place, and that is critical."

As is traditional, the ceremony was occasion to announce two major awards. Early in ceremony, President Knight announced the names of the recipients of the 2018 Exceptional Faculty Awards: computer technology instructor Bruce Elgort; English as a Second Language professor Sara Gallow; music professor Richard Inouye; mathematics professor Dr. Kanchan Mathur; and addiction counselor education instructor Don Wissusik. Later during the ceremony, he announced that graduate Grace Moe was the recipient of the 2018-2019 Community College Presidents' Award in Honor of Val Ogden. This annual scholarship is given to a Clark College graduate who demonstrates leadership potential, a commitment to community service, and academic achievement. The scholarship award provides full-time tuition at WSUV and is renewable for one additional year, essentially

providing full tuition to complete a bachelor's degree.



Grace Moe

Thanks to the Clark College Foundation, scholarship finalists Chad Lipka and Mckenna Pozsgai also received \$1,000 each to attend WSUV.

The ceremony ended with the traditional sounding of bagpipes. And as for those looming storm clouds? By the time the last graduate had crossed the stage, they'd broken up to reveal patches of golden sunshine. And when the graduates left the amphitheater and headed toward what their new futures held, they walked into the last golden rays of a gentle sunset, with the cheers of family and faculty greeting them on every side.

Photos: Clark College/Jenny Shadley. To see more photos, visit our Flickr album.

Penguins hiring Penguins



It's become an annual tradition: hundreds of Clark College students showing up to meet potential employers as graduation looms near. But while Clark's Career Fair has become a familiar part of the academic cycle, not everyone realizes how many of those employer booths are staffed by former Clark students—some of whom attended the fair themselves, once upon a time.

Leslie Matheney, an HR generalist for Burgerville, remembered attending the fair before graduating from Clark in 2008 with her associate degree. "At the time, I wasn't really ready for it," she said, noting that she had just been looking for part-time work as she geared up to transfer to WSU Vancouver, where she earned a bachelor's degree in human resources and personal psychology.

Matheney, who was at the May 3 fair to recruit seasonal crew

members and managers, said she felt being a Clark graduate helped her when she did start looking for full-time, permanent employment. “I think, especially because I was looking for a position at a local company, it was good,” she said. “I think that Clark is really well respected in this area.”



Sgt. Fred Nieman stands with a colleague at the Clark County Sheriff's Office table.

Sergeant Fred Neiman, who was recruiting for the Clark County Sheriff's Office, said that his workplace also values the diversity of Clark's student body. “What we look for is folks who have a variety of education and background,” he said. “You deal with all kinds of people in public safety. So to have a background of diverse education and experiences, and knowing how to interact with lots of different kinds of people—that's valuable.”

Neiman has a long personal connection with Clark College. Not only did he attend classes here in the late 1970s, but he came back to work as its Director of Security for eight years. Clark is also where he met his wife, and their three children all earned associate degrees from the college.

“It's a wonderful institution,” he said. “I enjoyed attending here when I was a student, and I enjoyed working here when I

was an employee.”

Vicky Barnes also has a child who graduated from Clark. She earned her own associate degree here—with highest honors, no less—while he was still a teen.



Vicki Barnes

“I often got mistaken for a professor on campus,” laughed Barnes, who was at the fair to recruit for Woodland Public School, where she is the HR coordinator and district office manager. Barnes said she enjoyed her time as a Penguin, even though it meant long days—she attended Clark while working at WPS. “This is something I wanted to show my kids—that you can be a life-long learner.”

“It definitely benefited me in HR,” she said. “You learn how to engage with people, how to get out of your comfort zone.”

As if to prove this, she quickly turned to a woman eyeing her display of job descriptions to answer questions about open positions in the district.

According to Clark College Employer Relations Specialist Scott Clemans, 15 of the 110 employers who registered for this year’s fair indicated that they would have Clark College alumni present.

“Smart companies send alumni to events like these because

they're great role models and mentors for current Clark students," Clemans said. "The alumni show current students what's possible after college, and give great advice on how to achieve it. And of course, they relate to Clark students on a level that other recruiters simply can't."

Clemans added that the fair was an impressive success. "Not only did we have 110 employers registered to attend—the maximum the O'Connell gym would hold—but we had to create a wait list for interested employers and probably had about 20 more who were interested but contacted us too late to register," he said.

This year's job fair included not only employer booths but also a photo booth where visitors could get a professional portrait taken for their LinkedIn accounts. Leading up to the fair, Clark College Career Services also hosted numerous workshops and events, as well as the annual Career Clothing Closet, to prepare students and guests for the day. The fair, which is open not just to Clark students but to all job-seekers in the community, saw 923 visitors this year—up 15 percent from last year's attendance.

Top photo: Clark College/Jenny Shadley. Photos of Nieman and Barnes: Clark College/Hannah Erickson.

Healthy Penguin Walkabout is back for third year



Clark College welcomes the community to its third annual Healthy Penguin Walkabout on Saturday, June 2, on its main campus. This free, family-friendly event offers a wide range of opportunities for personal health assessments, wellness-related education, and healthy activities.

Activities run 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and will take place both indoors and outside. Guests will begin their visit in Gaiser Hall, where they can register and receive an event passport as early as 9:30 a.m. Gaiser is most easily accessed from the Green 1 and Red 3 parking lots. Clark College is located at 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver. Driving directions and parking maps are available at www.clark.edu/maps.

This year's event is organized and volunteer-staffed by Clark College faculty and students from the Business and Health

Sciences Unit, Clark College Athletics, and Child and Family Studies.

Free health assessments and learning activities include:

- Blood glucose levels
- Oral Health and Wellness
- Body mass index (BMI) and body fat percent
- Grip strength and balance
- Diabetes risk level
- Blood pressure and pulse
- Stress reduction strategies
- Sports skills challenge with Clark College athletes
- Children and families connecting with nature
- Medication safety
- See inside an ambulance

Stations on the walkabout will include children's activities, fun souvenirs, healthy snacks, a raffle for both adults and children, as well as additional prizes that include an annual membership to the college's Thompson Fitness Center. Children's activities include a "ninja warrior" obstacle course in the O'Connell Sports Center gymnasium. Guests are also invited to walk a half-mile "Penguin Pathway" through the college's beautiful, 90-acre campus and arboretum. Organizers are also collecting donations of non-perishable food and personal-hygiene items for the college's Penguin Pantry. Guests will receive one extra raffle ticket for every four pantry items they donate.

To learn more about the details of this event, visit www.clark.edu/cc/walkabout.

This event is a part of the college's focus on inter-professional learning for Clark Business and Health Sciences students. "When healthcare disciplines work together, including business, healthcare is more efficient in terms of cost, resources, and time," said Dean of Business and Health

Sciences Brenda Walstead. “The event also increases engagement and learning among Clark College’s students, and provides the community with access to a wealth of information that can lead to healthier outcomes for all individuals.”

Anyone needing accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event should contact Clark College’s Disability Support Services Office at (360) 992-2314 or (360) 991-0901 (VP), prior to the event.

Photo: Clark College/Jenny Shadley

Commencement coming June 21

On Thursday, June 21, Clark College will honor its 82nd graduating class at the 2018 Clark College Commencement ceremony. The ceremony will take place at 6:30 p.m. at the Sunlight Supply Amphitheater. The keynote speaker is John D. Deeder, recently retired superintendent of Evergreen Public Schools.

More than 700 students are expected to participate in the ceremony, celebrating the completion of their bachelor’s degree, associate degree, certificate, and/or high school diploma or equivalency.

The ceremony also will include the announcement of 2018-2019 Community College President’s Award. This annual scholarship is given to a Clark College graduate who is transferring to a degree program at Washington State University Vancouver (WSUV) and who demonstrated leadership potential, a commitment to community service, and academic achievement. The scholarship award provides full-time tuition and is renewable for one additional year, essentially providing full tuition to

complete a bachelor's degree.

The Sunlight Supply Amphitheater is located at 17200 NE Delfel Road in Ridgefield, Wash. Tickets are not required to attend. Anyone needing accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event should contact Clark College's Disability Support Services Office at (360) 992-2314 or (360) 991-0901 (VP), prior to the event. For more information visit www.clark.edu/cc/commencement.

About John D. Deeder



John D. Deeder

John Deeder served as Superintendent of Evergreen Public Schools for 15 years. He retired in 2017 after 48 years as an educator. Prior to his time at Evergreen, he was an administrator, principal, teacher, counselor, and coach in several Oregon school districts.

Deeder received his Bachelor of Science in Education from the University of Idaho and his Master of Arts in Teaching from Lewis and Clark College. He has his Principal Credential from Portland State University and Superintendent Credential from Lewis and Clark College.

Deeder has done private consulting, including work for the Northwest Regional Laboratory as an "Onward to Excellence

Trainer” and as an adjunct professor of instructional theory for Portland State University.

While in Clark County, Deeder has served on the boards of numerous organizations and non-profits, including the Fort Vancouver National Historic Trust, Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, the Columbia River Economic Development Council, the Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council, Partners in Careers, nConnect, the STEM Network, Columbia River Mental Health, Boys and Girls Club, and others.

Deeder and his wife, Janet, have two grown children. They recently welcomed their first grandchild.

This article was updated on June 8 to reflect a change in keynote speaker.

**Clark College Theatre
presents “The Shape of
Things”**



Lydia Fleming and Sterling Buck star in Clark College's production of "The Shape of Things."

Clark College Theatre continues its 2017-2018 season with *The Shape of Things* by Neil LaBute.

A dark tale of what people will do for love and art, the story revolves around four college students whose lives are inalterably changed when two of them become involved romantically. At first, Adam is flattered when attractive art student Evelyn takes an interest in him. But complications ensue as Evelyn begins to exert more and more influence over Adam's appearance and behavior.

"In the play, Evelyn talks about the subjectivity of art; how different people can come away with different feelings from the same thing," writes director Ted Jonathan Gold in his program notes. "While there are many ways to make what some consider good or provocative art, I believe art makes you feel something. Sometimes it makes you feel a way you didn't expect or want to feel. I believe that if you leave the theatre and

you feel nothing and the play fades quickly, then you did not witness true art. My hope for this production is that you leave having experienced good art that sticks with you. I hope you leave affected, whether you enjoy that feeling or not.”

First staged in 2001, the play was made into a film featuring the original cast in 2003.

This production’s cast includes: Lydia Fleming**, Sterling Buck*, Stevie Riepe*, and Olga Gula*. *Note: Cast member names marked with a single asterisk are current Clark College students; double asterisks indicate Clark College alumni.*

This show contains adult themes, language, and content.

Show Dates: May 18, 19, 24, 25, and 26. All show times are at 7:30 p.m. in the Decker Theatre, Frost Arts Center, on Clark College’s main campus.

Ticket Information: Students (with ID) \$10; Alumni (with membership) \$10; Senior Citizens \$12; General Admission \$15. Tickets may be purchased online at http://www.clarkbookstore.com/site_theatre.asp, or call 360-992-2815.

If you need accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event, contact Clark College’s Disability Support Services Office at 360-992-2314 or 360-991-0901 (VP), or visit Gaiser Hall room 137, as soon as possible.

Photo: Jenny Shadley/Clark College. More photos can be found on our Flickr page.

Subtext runs May 14-17



The Clark College Columbia Writers Series is offering a week of writers, readings, and events on the college's main campus during its fourth annual Subtext Literary Festival. On May 14-17, the college will host well-known authors, as well as readings and events by Clark students and faculty. (See full schedule below.)

The Columbia Writers Series was launched at Clark College in 1988, bringing local, national and international authors to the college and the region. Information about the Columbia Writers Series is available at www.clark.edu/cc/cws.

Schedule

Monday, May 14

Poetry-To-Go Event

11 a.m. – 12 p.m. in the Cannell Library

In the tradition of poet Frank O'Hara's *Lunch Poems*, Clark College writing professors will set up vintage typewriters and type personalized poems for passersby on their lunch hour in Cannell Library. Stop by for a hot-off-the-press poem, or if you're feeling inspired, type a poem yourself.

Columbia Writers Series presents Roger Reeves

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., PUB 258 A-B:

Roger Reeves's poems have appeared in journals such as *Poetry*, *Ploughshares*, *American Poetry Review*, *Boston Review*, *Best American Poetry*, and *Tin House*. He was awarded a 2015 Whiting Award, a Pushcart Prize, a Hodder Fellowship from Princeton University, and a 2013 NEA Fellowship. His first book, *King Me* (Copper Canyon Press, 2013), won the Larry Levis Reading Prize from Virginia Commonwealth University, the Zacharis Prize from *Ploughshares*, and the PEN/Oakland Josephine Miles Literary Award. He is an Associate Professor of English at The University of Texas at Austin.

Tuesday, May 15

Conversation with novelist Marie Bostwick

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m., LIB 101

[NOTE: Space is limited for this event. Please register in

advance by emailing anelson@clark.edu.] Marie Bostwick is a *USA Today* and *New York Times* listed bestselling author of uplifting historical and women's fiction, including the popular *Cobbled Court Quilt* and *Too Much, Texas* series of books. She has been a featured speaker at the Paducah Quilt Festival and the Houston International Quilt Festival and has given keynote addresses at both the Florida Writers Association and La Jolla Writers conferences.

***Phoenix* unveiling**

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., PUB 150

Clark College's national award-winning art and literary journal, *Phoenix*, will unveil its 2017-2018 edition with readings from student authors and free copies available for guests. Additionally, Lacy Davis, writer of the graphic memoir *Ink in Water*, will share her work. An interview of Davis by a *Phoenix* staffer appears in this year's journal.

Wednesday, May 16

Lecture by Leni Zumas and writing awards ceremony

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., PUB 161

Leni Zumas' novel *Red Clocks*, published in January 2018, was a *New York Times* Editors' Choice and a *Publishers Weekly* "Top 10 Literary Fiction" pick. She is also the author of the story collection *Farewell Navigator* and the novel *The Listeners*, which was a finalist for the Oregon Book Award. Originally from Washington, D.C., Zumas now lives in Oregon and teaches in the BFA and MFA programs at Portland State University.

Thursday, May 17

Clark Crossings (student and faculty reading)

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., PUB 258A:

Clark College students, faculty, and staff will read original essays, fiction, and poetry at this annual event. This year's theme is "time."

Columbia Writers Series presents Kate Berube

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., PUB 258 A-B

Kate Berube (Bear uh bee) is a children's book author and illustrator. Her book *The Summer Nick Taught his Cats to Read* was named the Best Picture Book of 2016 by both the Chicago Public Library and the *School Library Journal*, while her book *Hannah and Sugar* earned the Eloise Jarvis McGraw Award for Children's Literature from Literary Arts Oregon and was shortlisted for the Klaus Flugge Prize.

All events are free and open to the public, though pre-registration is required for the Marie Bostwick event. Directions and maps are available online at www.clark.edu/maps. Individuals who need accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event should contact Clark College's Disability Support Services (DSS) Office at 360-992-2314 or 360-991-0901 (VP). The DSS office is located in room 013 in Clark's Penguin Union Building.

Promoting native plants



Clark College will host two events for lovers of native plants this May. Its fifth annual native plant sale will take place at the college's greenhouse on May 3, 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., and May 4, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Additionally, the college will host a talk on native plants on May 3, 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., in Anna Pechanec Hall room 201.

About the Native Plant Sale

All of the native plants available for purchase were planted and grown by Clark College biology and environmental science students in the college's Native Plant Center greenhouse.

Community members will be able to select from a wide variety of native plants, with an emphasis on flowering perennials, self-seeding annuals, and small shrubs perfect for any yard. Species available include Yarrow, Heal All, Mock Orange,

California Poppy, Red Flowering Currant, Meadow Checker Mallow, Red Osier Dogwood, and more. Other products include student-made gardener's soaps and seed balls for attracting pollinators.

Plant sales support the college's Science Consortium Fund, which supports greenhouse operations and the costs of unique field studies class trips to places such as Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in eastern Oregon and the Lava Beds National Monument in Northern California. Students who participate in the four- and ten-day trips pay \$500 to \$750. The fund offsets those expenses, making the experience accessible to more students.

The sale will take place outside the college's greenhouse, located at on the east side of campus near the intersection of E. Reserve Street and McLoughlin Boulevard. Most plants are priced at \$10 or less. Students will be available to assist customers with transporting plants to vehicles.

For more information about the plant sale, contact nativeplantcenter@clark.edu or visit www.clark.edu/cc/plantsale.

About the Native Plant Talk

Clark College STEM Coordinator and biology and environmental science instructor Erin Harwood answers the question "Why native plants?" in this informative lecture on the importance of native plants to our local ecosystem. Harwood will also cover how to select, plant, and care for native plants in your home garden. The talk will provide detailed information on approximately 10 native plants that will attract wildlife to your yard, along with other benefits. This event is free and open to the public.

Both events take place on Clark College's main campus. Clark College is located at 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver.

Driving directions and parking maps are available at www.clark.edu/maps. Individuals who need accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event should contact Clark College's Disability Support Services Office at 360-992-2314 or 360-991-0901 (VP) or visit the Penguin Union Building room 013.

Photo: Clark College/Nova Gump

Marking the path of friendship



Children from the college's Child & Family Studies program celebrate Sakura and the newly named Kageyama Path.

It was as if the trees knew how special this day was. For the past week, the 100 shirofugen cherry trees that grace Clark College's campus had held their blossoms tightly closed against the gray, chilly weather. But the morning of the college's annual Sakura Festival, the newly emerged sun seemed to wake them up, and by that afternoon they had created the perfect, pale pink backdrop for the day's opening ceremony near the Royce E. Pollard Japanese Friendship Garden.

"Look at the beauty of these trees," said Clark College President Bob Knight during his opening remarks. "Three days ago, it was not like this."

Knight added that the trees were full of symbolism. "Each year as these trees blossom, they signal new hopes, new beginnings, and the joyful arrival of a new spring," he said.



Japanese Consul General Takashi Teraoka holds a parasol for John Kageyama.

This year, the trees also signaled a fond farewell, as John Kageyama—the man who, more than a quarter-century ago, had donated these trees to the City of Vancouver—announced that

this would be the last time he made the trip from his home in Japan to Vancouver.

“We’re just very grateful that Mr. Kageyama decided to donate those trees back in 1990,” said Knight. “We know he will be here forever in spirit, and these trees will remind us of him.”



Vancouver mayor Anne McEnery-Ogle enjoys Yukiko Vossen’s *koto* performance with some of the Sakura Festival’s youngest guests.

Vancouver Mayor Anne McEnery-Ogle noted in her own remarks that the trees were also symbolic of international friendship, including Vancouver’s sister-city relationship with Joyo, Japan. “John, it is my hope that the friendship between our countries lasts for many, many more centuries,” she said to Kageyama from the podium.

The 92-year-old Kageyama also addressed the guests, recalling what prompted him to make the generous donation to the city. At the time, he was serving as president of America Kotobuki Electronics, a subsidiary of Panasonic that was headquartered in Vancouver.



John Kageyama, *third from right*, and Japanese instructor Yoko Sato, *far right*, with students in Clark's Japanese language program.

"The people in Vancouver were really friendly, hard-working," he said. "I was trying to decide how to pay back these friendly, kind people. Then the newspaper said that the State of Washington will be celebrating its centennial, and that was my inspiration. Cherry trees in Japan mean everything—happiness, everything."

In honor of Washington's 100 years of statehood, Kageyama donated 100 cherry trees to the city, who decided to plant them on Clark's main campus. Today, they are a signature element of the campus, a popular destination for family photos and picnics. Recently, the college was graced with a donation from SEH America of 200 cherry trees, some of which have been planted on the opposite side of the walkway from the original trees. Others will be planted at Clark College at Columbia Tech Center and at the future site of Clark College at Boschma Farms in Ridgefield.



International student Suzuka Hitomi, *in kimono*, with friends she's met while studying at Clark through a scholarship.

Other speakers at the event included Takashi Teraoka, Consul General of Japan, and Suzuka Hitomi, a Japanese student studying at Clark College through a special scholarship program. Guests were also treated to performances by the Clark College Women's Ensemble and by Yukiko Vossen on the *koto*, the national instrument of Japan.

After the official remarks, the festival continued with cultural displays and performances in Gaiser Student Center. But before guests made their way up the hill, there was one last announcement: The walkway that runs alongside the shirofugen trees through the southwest corner of the campus had been renamed the Kageyama Path. A stone marker that will be placed at the beginning of the path was unveiled.



“I hope this will help us to remember the path to peace, as demonstrated by Mr. Kageyama,” said Knight. “In the spirit of Sakura, Mr. Kageyama, this will always be in your name.”

Photos: Clark College/Jenny Shadley. For more photos from the event, visit our Flickr album.

The gift of friendship and trees



Members of the Clark community help plant a Yoshino cherry tree at the 2018 Arbor Day celebration. *Left to right:* US Forest Service officer Dave Olson; International Programs director Jane Walster; Clark College president Bob Knight; and Clark College trustee Royce Pollard.

On April 11, Clark College celebrated tree planting and care at the annual Arbor Day celebration. Led by Clark College International Programs director Jane Walster, the ceremony took place on the northeast corner of Fort Vancouver Way and McLoughlin Boulevard.

The theme of this year's event was "The Gift of Friendship." At the ceremony, Clark trustee and former mayor of Vancouver Royce Pollard announced the gift of 200 new Somei Yoshino flowering cherry trees donated by Tatsuo Ito of SEH America, a Japanese manufacturing company in Vancouver. The new cherry trees—along with the 100 Shirofugen cherry trees donated more

than 25 years ago—act as symbols of the college's enduring friendship with Japan.



President Bob Knight accepts the Tree Campus USA award from U.S. Forest Service officer Dave Olson.

According to Tim Carper, a member of the Campus Tree Advisory Committee, 100 of the donated trees were planted prior to the ceremony, including 20 trees at Clark's Columbia Tech Center location, and the college is determining where the remaining 100 trees will be planted.

At the ceremony Clark College was also awarded with the Arbor Day Foundation's Tree Campus USA designation for the eighth consecutive year. Dave Olson of the U.S. Forest Service presented the award to Clark College president Bob Knight.

The Arbor Day celebration concluded with a ceremonial planting of one of the Yoshino cherry trees donated by Ito.

Photos: Clark College/Tim Carper