

Absentee ballots on the way to voters

Absentee ballots have been sent to a record 114,940 registered Clark County voters, reports **Tim Likness**, county elections supervisor. Because of the huge number of ballots sent, it may take until late this week for them to reach all voters.

If voters don't get absentees in the mail by Thursday or Friday, they should call the elections department, **397-2345**.

Because it is a new system, voters may be in for some confusion or anxious moments as they sort out the cards and select the one they want to use.

Only one ballot may be used. Democratic ballots are red, Republican ballots are green, Libertarian ballots are blue, and there is a white nonpartisan ballot, which may be used if voters do not want to vote in the official party primary election.

All four ballots are identical, except for color, each containing the same numbers, 1 through 228.

The trick, to avoid getting a ballot tossed out, is to use the correct ballot and to vote only for candidates of that color of ballot. Accidentally punching a Republican candidate's chad of a Democratic ballot will nullify the entire ballot.

It is all right, however, to vote for nonpartisan candidates and on any of the party ballots.

Both the Secretary of State's office and the Clark County Auditor's office have been deluged by voters just now discovering how the system was changed by the last state legislature after the Supreme Court ruled Washington's 70-year-old open primary illegal.

Primary election day is Tuesday, Sept. 14, and all absentee ballots must be postmarked at least by that date.

Some home businesses exempt from new law; others must apply for permits Sept. 1

Except for home businesses that specifically are exempt, all home businesses in Clark County outside city limits must be licensed under a new ordinance adopted earlier this year.

Applications for the new permits will be available beginning Wednesday, Sept. 1, at the Customer Service Division of the Clark County Community Development Department, in the Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street.

Exempted home businesses include those that have no more than two non-resident employees, no outside storage and no customers who come to the home business.

For further information on the new ordinance, go to www.clark.wa.gov, or call **397-2375**, extension **4489**.

Series on mystery of menopause begins Wednesday

Southwest Washington Medical Center, beginning Wednesday, Sept. 1, is presenting a free, four-part series of programs exploring the mystery of menopause. The once-a-month 6-to-8 p.m. sessions will be in the Health Education Center at the medical center.

For further information and to register, call **514-2190**.

Wallace and Rhine debate issues Tuesday

State Rep. **Deb Wallace** (D-17) and her Republican challenger, **Roy Rhine**, a Washington state patrolman, will debate jobs and economic issues of their campaigns at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 31, in the Clark Public Utilities building in Orchards at 8600 NE 117th Avenue.

The moderator will be **Lisa Pletcher**, Clark College Workforce Development officer. Questions will be taken from the audience. Two additional debates are scheduled: Sept. 15, education and health care, and Oct. 7, transportation and public safety.

Fundraiser for Craig Pridemore today at Street of Dreams

Supporters of **Craig Pridemore's** Democratic candidacy for the 49th District state senate are holding a fundraiser from 6 to 9 p.m. today at the NW Natural, Portland Home Builders Association Street of Dreams.

Sponsors of the event are **David** and **Anita Lugliani**, **James Howsley**, and **Kristine Phillips**. For further information and directions, call **608-9663**.

People

Wade Hendrix has been appointed engineering manufacturing manager at Applied Motion Systems, a Vancouver-based manufacturer of motion control systems, according to the president and founder of the company, **H. Kenneth Brown Jr.**

News briefs

The Vancouver City Council does not meet today. ☞ Clark County commissioners, meeting in regular session at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 31, are expected to adopt an ordinance creating the county's share of a Clark County-City of Vancouver Tourism Promotion Area, which will include Vancouver and rural Clark County. The promotion area will be financed by a \$2 per night hotel-motel room charge. The money will be used to promote conventions and tourism in the area. The creation of the area was supported by the local hotel-motel industry.

[Ridgefield voters to take a shot at a \\$1 million bond issue that would help buy nearly 500 acres for a new school near Ridgefield High School--Columbian, Amy McFall Prince](#)

[Columbia Credit Union board committed to credit union status--Vancouver Business Journal, Cami Joner](#)

[Planning drives Legacy project--Vancouver Business Journal, Cami Joner](#)

[Income stagnant and poverty up in Washington State--Seattle Times, AP, Rebecca Cook](#)

[Republicans reach for mass appeal as convention opens--USA TODAY](#)

[Bush, Kerry locked in dead heat--Washington Post, Richard Morin and Christopher Muste](#)

Monday on the air

City Minutes—3:30 p.m. CVTV

Vancouver City Council Workshop (8/23)—4 p.m. CVTV

Portland Beavers at Fresno (live)—7 p.m. KKAD

Vancouver City Council (8/16)—7 p.m. CVTV

Vancouver City Council Retreat (7/26)—11 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the weather

Martha Sharman choreographing garden magic 🍷 **David Casteel** aiding and abetting. 🍷 **Bob** and **Sally Schaefer** repeating. 🍷 **Gene Johnson** seeing acolyte's progress. 🍷 **Anita Elliott** having a really good second thought. 🍷 **Bob Rossi** carrying best banner. 🍷 **Monday**, sunshine follows fog, 84. **Tuesday**, clouds give way to sunshine, 84. **Wednesday**, cooling, cloudy, possible precipitation, 72. .