

Robert Lewis appointed Superior Court Judge

Camas attorney and part-time Clark County Superior Court commissioner **Robert Lewis** today was appointed to the Clark County Superior Court by Gov. **Gary Locke**.

Lewis, who has handled criminal and civil cases for the past 20 years, has also been an assistant city attorney and municipal prosecutor in Camas. Lewis is a pro-tem judge and commissioner for the Skamania County Superior Court.

Lewis was one of three lawyers recommended to the governor by the Clark County Bar to fill the newly created ninth superior court judgeship in the county. The other two attorneys who got backing were **Scott Collier** and **Mark Baum**.

Gov. Locke said of Lewis today, "He has the legal skills, the temperament and the legal experience to be a top-notch Superior Court judge."

Lewis is a graduate of Western Washington University and earned his law degree from the University of Washington School of Law.

Over 206,341 voters have registered in Clark County

"Man, I've never seen anything like it in 25 years," **Tim Likness**, Clark County Elections supervisor said about the surge of people lined up at the county Elections Office yesterday, the final day for registration of voters for the Tuesday, Nov. 2, general election.

Likness said likely over 1,500 people came through the office Monday, of whom more than 1,200 were officially registered.

By midmorning a total of 206,341 registered voters were on the official list, with more to be added as Elections Department crews catch up with yesterday's record activity.

The new total number of registered voters in Clark County will be more than 18,000 higher than the 188,606 who were registered for the September primary election.

Absentee ballots have been mailed to 130,000 voters for the general election, compared to 118,501 sent to absentee voters for the primary election. The Voters' Pamphlet has been mailed by the Secretary of State to every household in Clark County, according to Likness. If voters did not receive the pamphlet they should leave a note for the mailman requesting one, or go to any library or the Elections Department for one, Likness said.

Although it was not necessary to register by party to vote in last September's primary, voters had to vote by party for the first time in 80 years. The result was in favor of the Democrats. The party vote totals were:

Democrat	33,345
Republican	29,246
Libertarian	634
Nonpartisan	3,967

Absentee ballots began arriving at the Elections Office last Friday. Through Monday, 4,212 Clark County voters had already mailed in ballots.

John McKibbin moderating Wednesday commissioner candidate forum

Former Clark County commissioner **John McKibbin** will moderate an East Chamber Council forum bringing together the four Clark County Commission candidates at 11:45 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 20, in the Heathman Lodge.

The luncheon forum is sponsored by the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, of which McKibbin is president. Luncheon tickets, which are \$30 and \$35, can be reserved by calling **694-2588**.

The candidates are Republican **Marc Boldt**, currently a 17th District state legislator, and Democrat **Jeanne Harris**, Vancouver City Council member, both running for the position being vacated by retiring commissioner **Judie Stanton**, and incumbent Democrat **Betty Sue Morris** and Republican **Tom Mielke**, currently an 18th District state legislator.

State unemployment drops to lowest level in three years

The number of unemployed workers in Washington State dropped to the lowest level in more than three years, according to the state Department of Employment Security. Washington's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for September dropped six-tenths of a percent to 5.6 percent, from 6.2 percent in August.

The unadjusted unemployment rates for the month of September were as follows: U.S., 5.1 percent; state, 5.1 percent; and Clark County, 6.3 percent.

People

Jeanne Harris has been appointed by Gov. **Gary Locke** to the state Board of Registration for Landscape Architects. Harris is a Vancouver City Council member, a Democratic candidate for the Clark County Board of Commissioners, and an agent for Farmers Insurance. The term runs through September 2009.

News briefs

The Columbia River Economic Development Council's workshop, to help local businesses sell to government agencies, is at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 20, in CREDC offices, 1101 Broadway, Suite 120. 🗨️ **Mary Granger**, organizer of "I Have a Dream" in Clark County,

addresses the Women In Action luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 20, in the Red Lion Hotel at the Quay. 🗳️ The Board of Clark County Commissioners meets in informal session at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 20, in Conference Room B in the Public Service Center, 1400 Franklin Street.

Tuesday headlines from at home and around the world:

[Poll shows tie in presidential election; concerns cited on both rivals--New York Times, Adam Nagourney and Janet Elder](#)
[Kohl's department-like store may come to Columbia Tech Center--Columbian, Jonathan Nelson](#)
[Evergreen Public Schools may not be prepared for strings attached to Initiative 884--Columbian, Howard Buck](#)
[Kaiser Permanente uses nearly half its vaccine supply on first day of flu shots--Columbian, Tom Vogt](#)
[Local business leaders briefing Gov. Locke on regional issues--Columbian, Julia Anderson](#)
[Social Security benefits to increase 2.7 percent in January--Washington Post, Fred Barbash and Stephen Barr](#)

Tuesday on the air

18th District Senatorial debate (10/11)—3 p.m. CVTV
County and State Ballot Measures—5 p.m. CVTV
Vancouver Land Use Hearings (live)—7 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the weather

Lena Wittler getting A+ for presentation. 🗳️ **Sheri Phares** taking really good care of stuff. 🗳️ **Mat McCudden** unrepenting of Duck victory. 🗳️ **Tara Cowgill** overcoming cyber odds. 🗳️ **Mark Brown** doing well in role of sugar-free Candy Man. 🗳️ **Ray Bachman** staking out the territory. 🗳️ **Tuesday**, wind and showery, but at least one sunbreak, 58. **Wednesday**, damp and cloudy, some sunbreaks, 58. **Thursday**, cloudy, sunbreaks, dry, 56.