

### **Voter registration deadline today**

The deadline to register to vote in the November general election is 5 p.m. today at the Clark County Elections Department, 1408 Franklin Street.

The official election date is Tuesday, Nov.8, but the election is being conducted entirely by mail.

Local races, except for Clark County Commissioner, District 3 are non partisan. **Steve Stewart**, Democrat, who was appointed to the three-member board of commissioners last December is being challenged by former 18h District state representative Republican **Tom Mielke**.

There are a half dozen statewide issues, the most significant of which is Initiative 912, which calls for a repeal of the 9.5-cent gasoline tax approved by the last session of the state legislature. If I-912 is approved it will affect nearly a quarter of a million dollars of state and local highway projects in Clark County.

Local issues include the proposed library remodel and expansion and a Ridgefield School District property acquisition for a future high school.

### **Cascade Society honoring Ed and Mary Firstenburg**

The newly formed Cascade Society will honor **Ed and Mary Firstenburg**, First Independent Bank founders, for their record \$15 million donation to Southwest Washington Medical Center at an invitation-only dinner at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 26, in the Hilton Vancouver Washington.

The Cascade Society was created by the Southwest Washington Medical Center Foundation to recognize community contributions of over \$1,000 to the medical center foundation.

The SWMC Foundation is the primary fundraising arm of the Medical Center and manages over \$6 million for programs such as Healthy Steps Women & Children's Clinic, Cardiac Care, Hospice, Cancer Care, Diabetes Education and Physical Rehabilitation

### **Motorists who think traffic signals are being contrary are probably right**

Motorists traveling Fourth Plain Boulevard between Fruit Valley and Thurston Way, Mill Plain Boulevard between Fruit Valley and NE 104th Avenue, and NE 164th Avenue between Highway 14 and Poplar Street, may experience minor traffic delays during the next several months as the city upgrades the citywide traffic signal system.

A fiber optics system has already been installed and is being tested, according to Vancouver traffic engineering manager **Ali Eghtedari**. Signal controllers are being upgraded and system testing is expected to continue over the next several months.

### **People**

Vancouver deputy fire marshals **Chad Lawry**, **Virginia Chapman** and **David Smith** have successfully completed the state of Washington Certified Fire Investigator exam earlier this month. They join colleagues **John Gentry**, **Heidi Scarpelli**, **Dan McCoy** and **Mark Katzenmeyer** as certified fire marshals. Lead deputy fire marshal Scarpelli has been certified as a Washington International Fire Service Accreditation Congress Evaluator for fire investigators throughout the state.

### **Calendar**

Following an executive session on labor negotiations, the Vancouver City Council at 5 p.m. today will meet in an informal session to discuss the community renewal plan for the vicinity of Fourth Plain Boulevard and Stapleton Road. At 6 p.m. this evening the council will consider an ordinance that would make provide a partnership agreement with the Vancouver Housing Authority for the renewal plan at the Kyocera Property on Fourth Plain Boulevard east of Stapleton road. ☞ Clark Public Utilities' commissioners meet in regular session at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 25. ☞ Clark County Commissioners meet in regular session at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 25. ☞ The Board of Clark County Commissioners meet in a work session at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 25, in the Public Service Center to continue the discussion of specific areas that could be designated for urban uses under the Comprehensive Growth Management Plan.

### Monday headlines at home and abroad

[Greenspan to leave--Bush nominates Bernanke to be new Fed chief--New York Times, \*\*Edmund L. Andres\*\* and \*\*Vikas Bajaj\*\*](#)  
[Washington gasoline tax repeal may demolish road projects--Oregonian, \*\*Allan Brettman\*\*](#)  
[Kelly Punteney is looking for 500 good people to plan countywide trails system--Columbian, \*\*Dean Baker\*\*](#)  
[State human rights board to meet in Vancouver, Columbian, \*\*Kelly Adams\*\*](#)  
[Local students helping to rebuilt Fort Clatsop--Columbian, \*\*Howard Buck\*\* and \*\*Margaret Ellis\*\*](#)  
[Mill Plain retail plaza to have Asian theme--Columbian, \*\*Gretchen Feherenbacher\*\*](#)  
[At least 20 killed in Baghdad blasts--USA TODAY, AP](#)

### Monday on the air

Clark County Close Up (10/2)—3:07 p.m. CVTV  
Vancouver City Council workshop (live)—5 p.m. CVTV  
Vancouver City Council 10/17—7 p.m. CVTV  
Mental Speed Bump Lecture (10/19) 8:30 p.m. CVTV  
Clark County Focus (10/14)—10:30 p.m. CVTV  
R.S.V.P. Recognition Luncheon (10/15)—11p.m. CVTV

### Town Tabloids and the weather

**Craig Walker** cutting slack. ☞ **Ken Haydock** enlightening and enlivening. ☞ **Peggy Hoff** making e-connections. ☞ **Arch Miller** getting honorable mention. ☞ **Dash Dunham** showing visitors a good time. ☞ **Romy Orantes** cooking up a storm. ☞ **Monday**, mostly sunny, 70. **Tuesday**, afternoon showers, 62. **Wednesday**, mostly showery, 56.