

Save C-TRAN measure driving big voter turnout

The Save C-TRAN measure appears to be driving a much greater than expected turnout for tomorrow's primary election. By mid-morning today the Clark County elections department had received 60,119 ballots, representing over 35 percent of the eligible voters in tomorrow's primary election. Earlier predictions were for a 25 percent turnout.

The impetus for the mail ballot return is thought to be the C-TRAN measure, in which proponents of the .2 percent sales tax increase for the beleaguered transit agency have conducted a spirited and bi-partisan campaign. And, indeed, the fate of the 20-year-old transit system is in the hands of the voters.

Without the additional tax of 2 cents on a \$10 purchase, C-TRAN services will be cut nearly in half, leaving curtailed service only in the Vancouver metropolitan area.

Because the sales tax increase is not a property tax issue, the 60 percent supermajority rule is not in effect. The measure will pass or fail by a simple majority.

But there are also some mildly spirited primary battles among a handful of city and school candidates.

Vancouver's Mayor **Royce Pollard** is challenged by **David E. Kallstrom** and **Charles Stemper**.

Vancouver City councilwoman **Jeanne Stewart** is challenged by **Mike Heywood** and **Eric Olmsted**.

Woodland City councilman **Al Swindell** is challenged by **Jon N. Randall** and **Bruce Summers Jr.**

The position for mayor in the Town of Yacolt is an open race with three contestants, **Pilar (Kit) Raines**, **Joe Warren** and **Thom Holyk**.

Two out of each three candidates will advance to the Nov. 8 general election.

An open position on the Vancouver School Board, position 4, is being contested by **Mark F. Stoker**, **Roger K. Smith** and **Edri Geiger**. Newly appointed Camas School District director, District 4, **Doug Quinn**, is challenged by **Donna Roberge** and **John Sivilarich**.

Voters in the Battle Ground School District are being asked to approve a \$20,290,000 bond issue that would finance a new north county high school. Woodland School district voters are being asked to approve a \$3,750,000 bond issue to acquire property for a future high school. A 40 percent plus one minority vote would defeat either of these measures.

Mail-in ballots must be postmarked no later than Tuesday, Sept. 20. Ballots also may be taken in person to several drop-off points and to the county Elections Department office at 1400 Franklin Street by 8 p.m. Tuesday.

Wetlands group to take up no-build wetlands buffer zones

Clark County's Wetlands Ordinance Working Group meets at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, to discuss standards for buffer zones adjacent to wetlands.

The group is charged with preparing recommendations for updating the county's wetland protection regulations. A draft ordinance is expected by Tuesday, Nov. 1.

People

Tami Kihs, Vancouver Emergency Services manager, **Tom Griffith**, director of the Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency, and **Chris Herrman**, CRESA Emergency Management project manager, have been deployed to Baton Rouge as part of the relief efforts for Hurricane Katrina

News briefs

Election returns as they are released will be shown to visitors in Gaiser Hall at the Clark College campus shortly after 8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20. CVTV, Channel 23, will cablecast primary election results live from Gaiser Hall beginning at 8:30 p.m. The annual election coverage is being hosted by **Donna Mason**, CVTV executive producer, and **Tony Bacon**, *Daily Insider* publisher. ☞ The Bank of Clark County announced today that its assets have grown to just over \$250,000,000. Year-to-date income has increased by 36 percent over the same period a year ago, reports **Kim Capeloto**, executive vice president of the locally owned bank. Local deposits have increased 21 percent in the past year, and the bank's courier service now averages 200 stops a day.

Calendar

The Vancouver City Council meets in workshop session at 4 p.m. today, during which time it will review disaster preparedness plans. The council also meets in regular session at 7 p.m. ☞ Clark County commissioners

meet in regular session at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, and will discuss, without further public comment, the proposed extension of the development moratorium in the Salmon Creek area affected by the NE 134th Avenue corridor.

Monday headlines at home and abroad

[Bob Corley taking charge at Evergreen--Columbian, Howard Buck](#)
[Clark County bus service rides on voters--Oregonian, Bill Stewart](#)
[Gas-tax backers face tough odds--Seattle Times, Andrew Garber](#)
[Twenty Clark County students are semifinalists for the National Merit Scholarship Program--Columbian, Margaret Ellis](#)
[Bicycle donations double expectations--Columbian, Thomas Ryl](#)
[North Korea pledges to drop nuclear programs, facilities--USA TODAY, AP](#)
[Residents return to New Orleans as officials doubt safety--USA TODAY](#)
[British clash with Iraqi police in Basra, Washington Post--Jonathan Finer and Omar Fekeiki](#)
[NASA plans to return to the moon with new space vehicles--New York Times, Maria Newman](#)

Monday on the air

Vancouver City Council Workshop (live)—4 p.m. CVTV
Seattle Mariners at Toronto (live)—4 p.m. FSN, KFX
Vancouver City Council (live)—7 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the weather

Rusty Warren salts his own victory. ☞ **Deb Wallace** finds fish in dunk tank. ☞ **Jim Moeller** hits bull's-eye. ☞ **Craig Pridemore** makes big splash, but not quite as big a splash as does **Steve Stuart**. ☞ **Kelly O'Neill** offering open-ended tea recipe. ☞ **Monday**, sunny, 75. **Tuesday**, mostly sunny, 72. **Wednesday**, some clouds, but dry and mostly sunny, 72.