

## **Battle Ground Mayor John Idsinga hosting mayors prayer breakfast**

**John Idsinga**, mayor of Battle Ground, is the host mayor for the fourth annual Mayors' and Community Leaders' Prayer Breakfast at 7 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 5, in the Hilton Vancouver Washington.

Speakers are **Bas Vanderzahn**, president and CEO of Northwest Medical Teams, which saw distribution of over \$244 million in humanitarian aid last year, and **Tim Durr**, Vancouver, who served in Iraq as a sergeant with the Washington National Guard in 2004.

The breakfast is sponsored by the Clark County chapters of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship. Seating is limited for the \$22 breakfast. For further information, call **944-1693**.

## **Clark County hires new long-range planner**

**Marty Snell**, manager of the City of Camas Planning Division, has been hired as manager of Clark County's Long Range Planning Division.

Snell has more than 15 years experience as a planning professional and has been active in the process to review the Clark County Comprehensive Growth Management Plan, according to county Community Services Department director **Rich Carson**.

Snell holds a masters degree in public administration from Portland State University and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners. He is president of the Washington City Planning Directors Association.

Snell succeeds **Pat Lee**, who was recently re-assigned as a program manager for special projects in the Development Services Department.

## **Image Elementary School programs earn national blue ribbon award**

Image Elementary School is one of three public elementary schools in the state of Washington earning a No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Award from the U.S. Department of Education. The award honors public and private schools which either are academically superior in their states or which demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement.

Image was cited for its dramatically improved test scores. Although 40 percent of its student population is from disadvantaged neighborhoods, the school's Washington Assessment of Student Learning test scores in reading have increased from 65.2 percent proficiency to 82.4 percent proficiency, and WASL math test scores have increased from 55.7 percent proficiency to 83.2 percent proficiency, from 2003 to 2004, according to principal **Lauren Hopson**.

Hopson explains that the school instituted reading and writing workshops in the courses of study and maintains teaching continuity by keeping the same teachers for first and second graders and the same teachers for third and fourth graders.

Hopson says, "I was surprised at winning the award but not surprised by our students', parents' and staff's ability to rise to any challenge. This has been a huge collaboration with all involved."

During 2003-2004, 47.8 percent of the students at Image qualified for free and reduced price meals.

## **General election ballots to be mailed to voters October 19**

November 8 general election ballots will be mailed to registered Clark County voters Wednesday, Oct. 19, according to the county Elections Department.

Nevertheless, there is still time to register to vote, according to county auditor **Greg Kimsey**. The Elections Department will accept mail-in registration forms that are postmarked by Saturday, Oct. 8. Prospective voters may register in person at the Elections Department, 1408 Franklin Street, through Monday, Oct. 24.

Over 43 percent of the voters who received ballots in the September 20 primary election turned out at the polls, according to Kimsey. The number of votes cast in the primary was 77,302.

Kimsey commented further about 856 ballots sent to voters that did not include the C-TRAN ballot measure. The Elections Department mailed ballots containing the C-TRAN measure to those voters a week before election day. Kimsey said 255 of the voters who received the second ballot sent both back. The 255 duplicate votes were subtracted from the total, he said.

## Camas elementary school jazz ensemble going to the Big Apple

The J. D. Zellerbach Elementary School jazz band, **JDZ JAZZ!!** has been invited to perform at the International Association for Jazz Education Conference in New York City January 11 through 14.

According to IAJE education director **Greg Carroll**, the Camas elementary group is one of the “very few ever” elementary school vocal jazz ensembles to perform at the annual conference. The invitation was based on a recorded audition last spring.

JDZ JAZZ!! Has also been invited to sing at the Washington Music Educators’ Association conference in Yakima in February.

Led by director **Natalie Wilson**, 36 students and 29 chaperones will leave for New York January 10, but not without some expense.

Community financial support will be needed to cover expenses, according to Wilson. “Anyone interested in sponsoring JDZ JAZZ!! should call Wilson at **817-4435**, or send an email to [Natalie.wilson@camas.wednet.edu](mailto:Natalie.wilson@camas.wednet.edu).

## Calendar

The county Wetlands Working Ordinance Working Group meets at 4 p.m. today in room 678, Public Service Center, to discuss updates in Clark County’s Wetlands Protection Ordinance. ✂ The Southwest Regional Transportation Council meets at 4 p.m. today in the Public Service Center. ✂ Clark County commissioners meet in an informal session at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 5, in conference room B of the Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street.

## Tuesday headlines at home and abroad

[If approved by voters Initiative 912 would wipe out nearly a quarter of a billion dollars in highway projects in Clark County--Columbian, \*\*Thomas Ryll\*\*](#)

[Washington View: Roads too valuable to repeal gas tax hike--Columbian, \*\*Don Bunnell\*\*](#)

[Minimum wage workers get 28-cent-an-hour raise--Columbian, \*\*Justin Carinci\*\*](#)

[Clark ready to open radiology program--Columbian, \*\*Howard Buck\*\*](#)

[Attorney General Rob McKenna hosts forum--Columbian, \*\*Katie Durbin\*\*](#)

[Charter Communications tops local interest stocks--Columbian, \*\*Jonathan Nelson\*\*](#)

[Lloyd Taylor's efforts to open restaurant in Battle ground not over--Oregonian, \*\*Holley Gilbert\*\*](#)

[Alaska Airlines says it wants Boeing Field, too--Seattle Times, \*\*Sharon Pian Chan\*\*](#)

[Fort Clatsop, a popular tourist attraction and replica of the compound where the Lewis and Clark expedition spent the soggy winter of 1805-1806 destroyed by fire--KATU, AP, \*\*Joseph B. Frazier\*\*](#)

[U.S. launches major assault in Iraq--Washington Post, \*\*Jackie Spinner\*\*](#)

[New Orleans plans to lay off half of city workers--New York Times, \*\*Christine Hauser\*\*](#)

## Tuesday on the air

Early Childhood Learning Forum (9/29)—4:30 p.m. CVTV

Vancouver Planning Commission (live)—7 p.m. CVTV

## Town Tabloids and the weather

**Jane Van Dyke** making huge progress. ✂ **Ron Mau** putting spice in the icing. ✂ **Dean Sutherland** making points. ✂ **Paul Dennis** applauding **Larry Jackson**’s move. ✂ **Matt Olson** approves, too. ✂ **Tuesday**, partly cloudy, 63. **Wednesday**, partly cloudy, possible morning showers, 65. **Thursday**, mostly cloudy, 68.