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**\$413.4 million in county school construction before voters today**

Four Clark County school districts are presenting voters with an opportunity to approve \$413.4 million in school construction in mail-in voting that ends at 8 p.m. today.

Ballots must be postmarked by 8 p.m. or they will not be counted. The best bet to get ballots in under the wire is to take them to designated polling drop off locations or the downtown Vancouver drop box at 1408 Franklin Street.

At stake are the following:

Evergreen School District, \$249,782,000 in 21-year school bonds for construction of a variety of new schools and improvements to existing schools.

The Washougal School District is asking voters to approve a bond issue in the amount of \$46,600,000 for a new K-8 school on Jemtegaard Middle School property and to provide other school upgrades and improvements.

The Ridgefield School District is offering voters an opportunity to vote for \$85 million in bonds to finance and equip a new high school and provide for other school improvements.

La Center School District, \$32 million in bonds to build a second elementary school at the Bolen Road site and provide for new athletic facilities at the La Center High School.

Each of the bond issues requires a 60 percent majority vote for passage.

**Wilson Cady, Camas-Washougal chamber Citizen of the Year**

**Wilson Cady**, Washougal environmentalist and former employee of the Camas Georgia Pacific Paper Mill, has been named Citizen of the Year by the Camas-Washougal Chamber of Commerce.

Cady established a native plant nursery on Lady Island, using these plants for habitat restoration both on Georgia Pacific property and in South West Clark County habitat areas. "One of Cady's greatest contributions has been his constant sharing his knowledge with our local children, helping them become good stewards of our native plants and animals," according to the chamber's file on Cady. In addition, according to chamber officials, "all the wildflowers that bloom along SR 14 are there because Wilson Cady planted them."

Cady has served on several Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership Restoration Projects including LaCamas Creek, Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge, the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, Gee Creek and Lake River.

Cady is a founding member of the Vancouver Audubon Society and founding member and current board member of the Columbia River Gorge Refuge Stewards.

Cady will be honored at a chamber of commerce banquet Monday, June 2, in the Orchard Hills Country Club. For further information, call 834-2472.

**Vancouver gets high marks for public records requests**

A performance audit evaluating open public records practices by 30 government entities released today by state auditor **Brian Sontag** gives the City of Vancouver high marks for its "cooperative, timely and complete response to public records requests."

The report points out that the city has a user-friendly Web site to provide relevant information including an optional public records request form. The city was cited for "demonstrating best practices" in a number of areas.

The audit was conducted by the state auditor under requirements of Initiative 900 approved by voters in 2005, giving the state auditor's office authority to conduct independent performance audits of state and local governments.

"The city is proud of its performance in this audit," reports city manager **Pat McDonnell**. "We believe that our commitment to high standards both in terms of customer service and compliance with state law is represented

in our exemplary performance.”

### **Three Creeks planning council look at specific zone designations**

The Three Creeks Planning Council will discuss two site-specific requests for changes in planning and zoning designations for properties within the Three Creeks Special Planning Area at its 10 a.m. Thursday, May 22 meeting in the Clark Regional Wastewater District offices, 8000 NE 52nd Court.

The public meeting will include presentations on behalf of property owners and information from county planners.

The Three Creeks organization, created by Clark County commissioners, represents interests of the unincorporated areas of Hazel Dell, Felida, Lake Shore, Salmon Creek and the county fairgrounds.

### **News brief**

After a near five-month closure, U.S. Highway 97, and the Sam Hill-Biggs Rapids Bridge is open to all traffic for the 2008 summer vacation season until September 3, 2008, when it will be closed again for the remainder of construction activities. All previous weight restrictions have also been lifted.

### **Calendar**

McMenamins on the Columbia, 1801 SE Columbia River Drive, is donating 50 percent of its beverage and food sales to the Hough Foundation from 5 p.m. to midnight today. <> State Rep. **Jim Moeller**, (D-49th), running for a fourth two-year term, kicks off his campaign with a fundraiser from 5 to 7 p.m. today at The Academy, 400 E. Evergreen Blvd. For further information, call **903-5115**. <> The NE Hazel Dell Neighborhood Association meets at 7 p.m. this evening in the Clark County Operations Center, 4700 NE 78th Street. <> The Proebstel Neighborhood Association meets at 7 p.m. this evening in the Proebstel Evangelical Free Church, 18702 NE 4th Plain Road. <> Clark County commissioners meet in an informal session at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 21, in conference room B in the Public Service Center. <> The Vancouver Lake Watershed Partnership meets at 4 p.m. Wednesday, May 21, in Port of Vancouver offices, 3101 NW Lower River Road.

### **Tuesday on the air**

**Seattle Mariners at Detroit (live)—4 p.m. FSN, KFX**

Bravo! Vancouver: *The Music Man* (5/18)—4:30 p.m. CVTV

**Vancouver Land Use Hearings (live)—7 p.m. CVTV**

### **Town Tabloids and the Weather**

**Rose Hart** taking technology up a notch. <> **Juanita Lindsley** getting out travel folders. <> **Lee Davis** passing along advice. <> **Rachel Stansbury** passing along spring-time news. <> **Craig Pridemore** coming out ahead. <> **Tuesday**, cooling, light rain expected, 51-59. **Wednesday**, light showers, 49-60. **Thursday**, mostly cloudy, 48-63.