



# CoastLines

The League of Women Voters ® of Curry County

Volume 27, Issue 6

[www.lwvcurry.org](http://www.lwvcurry.org)

April 2011

## Voter Forums Scheduled for May 17 Special Election

Eighteen candidates are running for eight contested positions in Special District elections in Curry County on May 17. The League of Women Voters of Curry County will hold three forums. They are scheduled for the week before ballots will be mailed. The Gold Beach forum will be Tuesday, April 26 at the City Hall Council Room; Port Orford will be Wednesday, April 27 at the public library; the Brookings forum will be Thursday, April 28 at Chetco Community Public Library. All forums will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Invitations have gone out and we are hoping to have the following people attend the forums. In Gold Beach and Port Orford we are expecting six people:

- Harry Abel and Mark McKelvey, Coos Bay, for Southwestern Oregon Community College board, position #1
- Lonny Anderson, North Bend, and Susan L Anderson, Coos Bay, SWOCC board, position #6
- Jack H. Barnes and Marlyn A. Schafer for Curry Health District board, position #4

Those six people will appear at the forums in Gold Beach and Port Orford. The Port Orford forum will also have these candidates:

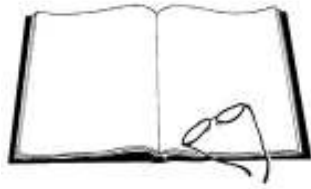
- Philip M. Colozzi, David McCutcheon, and Dianne Schofield for Port of Port Orford commission, position # 4
- Edna Auld and Kimberly Stang for Port Orford Rural Fire Protection District board, position # 1
- Dave Bassett and Wade Phillips for the fire board, position # 5

Because of the number of candidates and the distance the SWOCC candidates must travel, Port Orford will have a split forum with the college people speaking and answering questions first.

In Brookings we hope the four college candidates will appear, again in a split forum. The SWOCC candidates will be followed by:

- Joshua Bruce, Bob Horel, and Alex Markum for Brookings-Harbor School District 17c, position #1
- Sue Caldwell-Cruickshank and Jamie Ryan for the school board, position # 3.

At Gold Beach and Port Orford Shirley Nelson will moderate and Milt Nelson will keep time. Gold Beach League members will help there and Port Orford members in Port Orford. Al Wilson will be moderator in Brookings. Please contact Al if you are willing to be the timer. All forums need volunteers to pick up and screen questions for the candidates.



### Co-President's Message

Hello members and friends,

There is a Special District Election coming up on May 17. In preparation we will be holding Voters Forums in Gold Beach, Port Orford and Brookings on April 26, 27 and 28, respectively. The article on Page 1 tells which candidates will be present at each forum. Please put the forum for your town on your calendar. We need a timer and question screeners for the Brookings meeting. Please contact Al Wilson at [al@alandsara.com](mailto:al@alandsara.com) if you can help.

The March Unit Meetings on March 22 with Dr. Myrna Barber was highly informative. Please see the summary of her presentation on Page 3.



### SECRET GARDEN TOUR

Kathleen Tomko and Sara Wilson are hard at work organizing the Secret Garden Tour. It will be on Sunday June 26. This event is our major money raiser so we need your support. We'll need some volunteers on the day of the event. And we need everyone to invite their friends so that we can have a sellout. See you there.

League can make a difference,

*Sara and Al*

## The League of Women Voters of Curry County



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### *Coast Lines*

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County*

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We welcome your comments,  
suggestions, story ideas and  
submissions. Submissions  
must be received no later than  
the day of the board meeting  
each month. That date is  
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## Dr. Myrna Barber Speaks at March Unit Meetings

Dr. Myrna Barber is the Program Director of the Curry County Commission on Children and Families. She spoke at the Unit meetings in Brookings and Port Orford on March 22. She gave us an overview of the status of children and families in Curry County and what the Commission is doing to improve the situation. In summary, the current economic situation has put great burdens on children and families because what was a bad economic climate in Curry County has gotten worse over the last few years and the burden falls largely on those with the fewest resources. Her Commission is working to obtain grants from Federal and Oregon agencies and private foundations to expand the work that they are doing on behalf of the children and families in our County.

Every year the Commission writes a Comprehensive Plan for Curry County Children and Families. This year's plan focuses on drug and alcohol abuse prevention and treatment and on the prevention of child abuse. They have identified these focus issues:

- Community norms are accepting of youth drug and alcohol abuse. There is a lack of established, clear community and school standards that lead to the delay of treatment and the progression of alcohol, tobacco and other drug use.
- There is a lack of countywide participation in parenting and family activities including parent education classes, counseling service and general activities for families.
- There is a lack of culturally appropriate supervised out-of-school activities including before and after school and in the summer.
- There is a lack of community education, resources and general understanding of the impact of the economic conditions that families are living in and on the multigenerational culture of poverty on Curry County's children.

Perhaps the most dangerous of these issues from a long term perspective is multigenerational poverty. Due to a lack of programs to break the cycle of poverty, children who are raised in poverty usually do not acquire the tools necessary to lift themselves out of their economic environment. While the schools have their role, these children badly need out-of-school activities to help them develop skills that they are not learning at home.



**Myrna Barber at the Brookings Unit Meeting**

The Commission works to create programs that will address these issues. They receive no funds from the Curry County General Fund. All financial support comes from Federal or State programs or from private foundations. The Commission fulfills the role of an overseer. They obtain funding and then oversee the efforts of the suppliers who are doing the work "on the ground." It is worth noting that the Commission brings into Curry County 240% more from Federal and private grants than it receives from the State of Oregon. Thus, in addition to the good work that gets done with children and families they are bringing money and jobs into Curry County when they are badly needed.

What can the League do to help? Our most important role is to contact our Legislators to support two bills that would help the Commission.

- House Bill 3256 makes a number of policy changes affecting children and families including competitive grants to local commissions. It also limits the State commission budget to 10% of the total budget. The guarantee that most of the money will be spent in the communities where it is needed.
- House Bill 3260 requires the State Commission on Children and Families to contract with nonprofit entities to establish, coordinate and deliver support services for runaway and homeless youth and their families. It also permits the nonprofit entity to seek local, State and Federal funding for providing support services to runaway and homeless youth.

## CURRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

*Dorthea Petersen is LWVCC's observer at the Curry County Board of Commissioners meetings.*

March 7, 2011

Commissioner Bill Waddle was absent because he was in Washington, DC. There were two administrative actions. The Commissioners approved a letter of intent to apply for the Drug Free Communities Support Program. They also approved a permit agreement for use of the Grizzly Mountain Communications Facilities of the Oregon Department of State Police. This action enables collection of payment from the Oregon State Patrol for that use.

March 21, 2010

There were two administrative actions. Curry Transfer and Recycling (CTR) representative Pete Smart requested a 1.3% garbage service increase and a \$0.29 increase for the hazardous waste fee. This was approved unanimously. Curry County's contract with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) was approved unanimously. The contract contains no cost of living or step increases.

### ST. TIMOTHY'S OUTREACH CLINIC UPDATE

St. Timothy's Outreach Clinic continues to see patients every Tuesday from 1 - 4 pm. This is a free clinic targets those without access to health insurance or a regular doctor - those who have fallen between the cracks in medical care. The clinic serves 20 to 30 members of our community each week with professional care, prescription medications, and information and access to other agencies and services.

The Clinic recently added a dental van. Drs. Montgomery, Morrell and Smith have received a grant to allow the Coos/Curry mobile dental unit to travel to Brookings-Harbor on March 31. Those in need of free dental services, such as extractions and mouth diseases, should call the Outreach Clinic at 541 469-3314 for more information.

There is more hopeful news. Experienced grant writer Bev Bacak has just submitted a grant application to the Oregon based Meyer Foundation to support the free clinic and its delivery of health care to the community. As always, contributions are always welcome. Please contact the Clinic.

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*Coast Lines*  
 League of Women Voters of Curry County  
 P O Box 8039  
 Brookings, OR 97415

April and May 2011		
Brookings Unit Meeting	Apr 12; 10 AM	Chetco Community Public Library
Gold Beach and Port Orford Combined Unit Meeting	Apr 12; 1 PM	Tim & Becky Flake's House
LWVCC Board Meeting	Apr 18; 10 AM	Chetco Community Public Library
Brookings Unit Meeting	May 10; 10 AM	Chetco Community Public Library
Gold Beach Unit Meeting	May 10; 1 PM	TBA
Port Orford Unit Meeting	May 10; 1 PM	TBA
LWVCC Board Meeting	May 20; 1 PM	Chetco Community Public Library

# Membership Application

WE NEED YOU WITH US! JOIN NOW!

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\_\_\_\_\_ \$50 ONE-YEAR individual membership due on Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$75 HOUSEHOLD (for one-year membership for the current year) for two members who share an address  
 \_\_\_\_\_ YES, I would like to receive *CoastLines* by email, saving LWVCC over \$10 a year in postage and printing.

Please make your dues checks payable LWVCC, listing the year (2010-2011) on your check, and return with an application form to: LWVCC Treasurer  
 P O Box 1471  
 Port Orford, OR 97465 .

Contributions - checks made out to League of Women Voters of Oregon Education Fund (LWVOREF) and mailed to the LWVCC Treasurer are tax deductible.