

for nomination?

Come now, Mr. Elsbee. You are giving Clinton supporters a bad name.

*Karen Ecker
Eugene*

A STERLING RECORD

I ask you to vote for Vicki Walker for secretary of state. This office performs the critical tasks of chief auditor and administration of elections. She believes that tax dollars should be spent effectively and efficiently for programs that make Oregon a great place to live.

As Senate General Education Committee chair, she increased K-12 funding by 18 percent; expanded Head Start for 300,000 children; and made college more affordable by working to expand the Oregon Opportunity Center. She promises to make the federal government turn over the 2,673 acres of state trust land they owe us to invest in our common school fund.

She has created the Oregon Sustainability Board and landmark pesticide use reporting to preserve Oregon's rare natural resources of forests, waterways, deserts, grassland, pasture, farmland and scenic wonders. Her environmental record received the highest score from the Oregon League of Conservation Voters.

A person of high integrity, she stands up to powerful interests to protect us from fraud and abuse, whatever the political affiliation the abuser may have. She is in Salem a voice for all of us, regardless of social or economic status. Examples are her laws requiring the secretary of state to accept anonymous reports of waste, inefficiency or abuse, and to increase fines for ethics law violations. Another taxpayer saving was her law limiting the amount of "golden parachute" additional salary school districts can pay administrators when ending contracts.

Walker will perform effectively for good and transparent government. Her record proves this.

*Mary Ann Holser
Eugene*

PIERCY'S LEADERSHIP

Sometimes a leader comes along who has the courage, ability and compassion to show what a forward-moving community could look like. Mayor Kitty Piercy is such a leader. In just three years, our community is infused with more momentum and optimism, and involving more voices, than was felt in the previous mayor's two terms.

Momentum can be elusive at times, but it can be seen if you look. I'll cite just a few examples. There is every conceivable vested interest at work on the West Eugene traffic issue. That's momentum while leaving something already dead to continue to rot is not. The voices of the people who live and work downtown are now involved in the downtown issue. That's momentum. Planned growth based on need rather than developers' wishes is healthy momentum. Street repair is needed but not at the expense of other services. That's devastation and division, not momentum. Environment? Jobs? Awards and growth are flooding in to prove momentum in both. I have yet to hear a single criticism from the mayor's opponents that is actually constructive rather than just

oppositional politics.

We have a choice of old history or new, invigorating momentum for our community. For me, it's a no-brainer. Don't let this important election be bought by mere money. Let it be bought into with appreciation and commitment to let Mayor Kitty Piercy continue her policies of new ideas and inclusion of all interested people ... AND healthy momentum! Onward!

*Judy Moseley
Eugene*

CASSIDY FOR EWEB

My EWEB bill was high this winter, and I know it is expected to keep going up every year. I'm voting for Bob Cassidy to look after the cost of utilities because of his years of financial experience running a business and assisting others with their financial plans. Cassidy has for years testified and participated on community boards to help make our Eugene a great place to live. I'm counting on his expertise.

*Ruth Duemler
Eugene*

GREEN HAS GUTS

Watching the Lane County Commissioner race unfold, one thing is clear: Rob Handy should have run for City Council, not County Commission.

Handy's fortitude at tackling city issues is commendable, but he seems to lack full comprehension of what the commissioner job entails. For example, he begrudges road funds for committed road projects outside Eugene when they could have been used to "fill potholes in Santa Clara and River Road."

By the time the potholes occur, the roads have already failed — more than crack seal and gravel are needed to fix them. The board's responsibility is to serve all of Lane County. For decades, they have given double-digit millions to the City of Eugene, which spends the money on new projects rather than upkeep of existing roads. Green cannot be held accountable for the city's failure to preserve local streets.

Green is the only commissioner working at federal and state levels to overcome the financial crisis Lane County faces due to fading timber monies, and soon, road funds. Had he not proven he is a man of honor, no doors would open for him. No one else can step in and assume those contacts when they are needed most.

Green has guts — he took the dire step of implementing an income tax that ultimately was doomed to fail, and he is the only elected official in Oregon who spoke against the proposed hospital on North Delta, knowing the traffic nightmare it would create.

We need Green on the board — he works hard to help preserve our quality of life in Lane County.

*Ann Simas
Eugene*

THIS IS THE TIME

I am writing to remind everyone who supports Kitty Piercy to please, please vote in the primary. If she gets 50 percent plus one vote, she wins the mayoral race outright, Jim Torrey is out, and Piercy does not have to keep campaigning. Please, tell



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