

Here are our selected picks for the May 15 primary. We have not included uncontested races. See our news stories, briefs and letters this week for more information, and most candidates have websites. Ballots can be mailed in by May 10 or dropped off at white ballot boxes around town up until 8 pm May 15.

overrepresented on the board. It's disturbing to hear Farr say, "There is nothing that the county or I or anybody can do about whether or not Parvin Butte is mined." Handy doesn't shrug and roll over. Farr is an artful dodger. He won't say what he would cut in order to "guarantee" public safety funding, he's mum on Handy's proposed timberlands tax, he won't say if he supports overturning Measure 5, he won't even say if he favors a woman's right to terminate pregnancy.

Farr did finally get back to us regarding his time at FOOD for Lane County, saying, "My departure from FFLC had nothing to do with alcohol and any rumors to the contrary are simply not true." Farr was convicted of drunk driving one night in 2006 while he was head of the nonprofit. His blood alcohol content was .32 percent, four times the legal limit. "I quit drinking alcohol completely years ago," he tells us. "The case had a profound effect on my life and my family's life," and he's now a vocal advocate against drunk driving. Good for him. But let's give Handy four more years.

SOUTH LANE COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Pete Sorenson

Sorenson has a good, long track record on the issues his south Eugene constituents care about — clean water, clean energy, local business, local (and union) jobs, human rights, saving schools, to name a few. His efforts to curb out-of-control logging, mining and other destructive practices have made him some enemies, but that doesn't stop Sorenson from voting on the side of the little guy.

Andy Stahl's done well as executive director of Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics, but his cocky claims to have single-handedly saved the spotted owl make us wonder if he really can work well with others. We know he can fight and we know he can sue, but we're not so sure he can play well with others, or more importantly stand up for the values his south Eugene neighbors care about. Worse, he's taking advantage of a right-wing timber-funded lawsuit to attack a fellow Democrat. We think Stahl's too smart to think that suit holds water, so does that mean he's just using it for his own political gain?

Sorenson might be feeling a little punchy from all the unfounded attacks he has faced, but he's still standing, and still fighting for the green, humanitarian and local values he always has. We like that.

EUGENE MAYOR

Kitty Piercy

This year's mayoral contest should be Piercy's easiest race yet — Eugene's mayor is running for a third term against Kevin Prociw and Jon Walrod, two Eugeneans who have never held elected office.

In addition to her experience in office and her stellar support for women's rights and the environment, we're supporting Piercy because of the approach she's taken in leadership. When tackling topics that conservatives have tried to claim as their own — labeling themselves pro-business and liberals as anti-business — like the multi-faceted problems downtown, Piercy takes a collaborative approach with the city councilors and tries to solve problems through consensus.

Prociw, a systems analyst in the city's information services department, is best known for his opposition to the West 11th EmX extension and opposition to Occupy camping at the park, but he says he differs from the "straight conservative line" on issues like marijuana, religious freedom (including freedom from religion), reproductive choice and contraception funding.

Without any involvement in government or civic groups that we can see, Walrod, who sells home security systems, isn't a viable candidate even for conservative Eugeneans.

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL, WARD 2

Betty Taylor

Ward 2 in Eugene is the only one with an incumbent city councilor facing opposition this year. A progressive running for her fifth term, Betty Taylor, who even the *R-G*, which has five-for-five endorsed her opponents, has to admit is an "icon," is challenged by Social Security specialist and Eugene Police Commission Chair Juan Carlos Valle.

Taylor is a dependable progressive who doesn't mind being the only "Yay" or "Nay" vote if it means she's standing up for her ward and the principles of her platform. She's spoken out against the downtown exclusion zone and stood up for the environment, and she was the first to say enough's enough after approving a couple of Multiple-Unit Property Tax Exemptions downtown.

Those who don't follow city politics closely might fall prey to the (conservative-backed?) rumor that Taylor is closed-



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Cinderella:
A Rock Opera Ballet

Photo: Woden photography






This Weekend!

OREGON MOZART PLAYERS PRESENT
Passing the Baton: OMP Salutes Glen Cortese
 Saturday, May 5 at 7:30PM
 SORENG— Tix: \$39-\$18; Student & youth discounts available
 Celebrate the season finale with Artistic Director Emeritus Glen Cortese conducting a compelling program.

BALLET FANTASTIQUE PRESENTS
Cinderella: A Rock Opera Ballet
 Saturday, May 12 at 7:30PM
 Sunday, May 13 at 2:30PM
 SORENG— Tix: \$33, \$27; Student, youth & senior discounts available
 Set in the 1960's to live music by Shelley and Cal James, this ballet will rock to the songs of the Supremes, the Temptations, the Beatles, and more.

EUGENE SYMPHONY PRESENTS
Liszt Piano Concerto
 Thursday, May 17 at 8:00PM
 SILVA— Tix: \$55-\$15; Student & youth discounts available
 An outstanding season of music concludes with Adam Golka performing Liszt's first piano concerto

SOROMUNDI LESBIAN CHORUS OF EUGENE PRESENTS
Terra Omnis
 Saturday, May 19 at 7:30PM
 SORENG— Tix: \$20; Student, youth & senior discounts available
 Over 100 voices sing in the premier of Soromundi's first commissioned work, Terra Omnis, by local composer Audrey Snyder.

MONQUI PRESENTS
Jack White
 Monday, May 28 at 8:00PM
 SILVA— Tix: \$42.50 (sold out)
 Jack White, founding member of the White Stripes, is one of the most prolific and renowned artists of the past fifteen years.

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