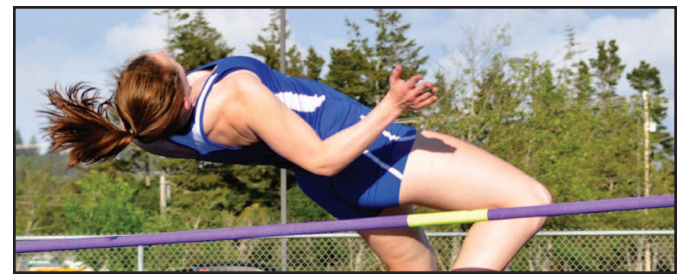


# MAY EVENTS CALENDAR

INSIDE — A8

# VIKS TUNING UP FOR DISTRICT

SPORTS — B



# Siuslaw News

126TH YEAR | ISSUE NO. 34

SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON

## ELECTION 2016

# Q&A with Justice of Peace candidates

### Voters to decide Lane County judge for Justice Court based in Florence

By CHANTELLE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

**F**our candidates are vying for Lane County's Justice of the Peace position, which presides over the Lane County Justice Court, 900 Greenwood St. in Florence.

According to the county, the position handles small claims (civil actions involving up to \$10,000 in damages), landlord-tenant disputes and traffic, animal, parks and boating offenses. The judge also approves search and arrest warrants and makes decisions with respect to holding charged persons in custody.

The May 17 Primary Election ballot has four candidates listed: current Justice of the Peace Rick Brissenden, Joshua Rogers, Guy

Rosinbaum and Woody Woodbury. Siuslaw News sent each candidate a questionnaire but only received answers from Brissenden and Woodbury, whose responses are printed below.

Brissenden, 57, lives in Eugene, Ore. He has lived in Lane County for 26 years, and in Oregon for 32. He received a bachelor's degree in English and American literature from Brown University in Providence, R.I., in 1980, and a Juris Doctor degree from University of Virginia Law School in Charlottesville, Va., in 1984.

Brissenden was appointed Lane County Justice of the Peace by Gov. Kate Brown on March 1. He also is the municipal judge for the City of Florence.



Rick Brissenden



Woody Woodbury

Woodbury, 67, lives in Florence and has lived in Lane County for 11 years. He has a bachelor's degree in communications from Baker University in Baldwin City, Kans.

#### What is your background?

**Brissenden:** I have practiced law in Oregon, both civil and criminal, for over 30 years, including 11 years as a prosecutor and many years of civil liti-

gation. I have represented governments and businesses, citizens and non-citizens.

I have been a judge since 1997 in four courts, including Florence Municipal Court (more than 18 years) and the justice court.

**Woodbury:** My background in law enforcement, criminal investigations, labor negotiations, business experience and bachelor's degree in

communications qualify me to sit on this bench. Having investigated white-collar crimes such as embezzlement, fraud, shop lifting rings, etc., and negotiating with labor disputes, I am well able to see into different complexities.

As a parent, grandparent and great-grandparent I have a depth of understanding of life's challenges and positive solutions.

#### What makes you the best candidate?

**Brissenden:** I have the education, training and experience to do this job, and do it well. Just as important, I want to do this job. I have a very strong interest in and empathy for people and their lives.

Each person who comes before this court believes that his or her matter has importance; many cases involve someone's home or livelihood. The dollar amounts involved may be smaller than in state

courts, but the legal issues are often just as complex.

Everyone deserves to have their cases decided with professional legal expertise and diligence.

**Woodbury:** I believe I am the best candidate because it is my duty to give back to my community, and this is a position I am uniquely suited to perform. Justice Court provides a local opportunity for average citizens to deal with minor legal issues.

From traffic violations to neighborhood disputes, from dog bites to evictions — it is important to have a judge who is approachable, listens carefully, considers thoroughly and decides impartially.

My desire to help in my community causes me to invest the time and thought needed in each case to bring about the optimum solution.

See **JUDGE 10A**

# Ambulance district shows a little 'TLC'

## Program allows hospice patients a chance to fulfill last wishes

**D**arlene Melton, a hospice patient with PeaceHealth Home and Hospice Program, always wanted to go to Shore Acres State Park to view the spring display of flowers. Thanks to Western Lane Ambulance District's TLC Program, she got to experience a day of flowers and sunshine before she passed away.

Western Lane Medic 9 transported Melton and family and friends to Shore Acres, southwest of Coos Bay, for the day.

"I love flowers. I love certain flowers," Melton said. "I went to Jakarta, Indonesia, to the King Botanical gardens in 1982. They had amazing orchids there."

An EMT and paramedic accompanied Melton to Shore Acres, which allowed her to spend several hours in the park. The group toured the gardens, enjoyed a picnic together and then visited the gift shop.

Melton was participating in the ambulance district's TLC program, which allows hospice patients in

the ambulance district the opportunity to visit a special place of their choosing.

"The TLC program was named for 'tender loving care,'" said district Interim Executive Director Brian Burright. "It's an opportunity to interface outside of our every day setting, and the full circle of what we do."

**"The program offers a chance to get out of the house and go to a destination patients are longing to go to."**

—BRIAN BURRIGHT, WLAD DIRECTOR

The district started the TLC program in 1999 after Paramedic Supervisor David Rossi attended an Oregon Emergency Medical Services conference. There, speaker Steve



COURTESY PHOTO

Western Lane Ambulance District's TLC Program helped Darlene Melton (center) fulfill her dream of visiting Shore Acres State Park near Coos Bay.

By CHANTELLE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

Berry, a paramedic in Colorado, discussed a program he had started there to help hospice patients enjoy their final days with a special trip to a favorite place of their choosing.

"I was so impressed with Steve Berry and his program that we chose to start it here in our district. In 2001, we did our first TLC trip and it was very successful, and we have been doing them ever since," Rossi said.

Since the program's inception, hospice patients have been able to go on a short trip, eat at a favorite restaurant or even spend the day fishing.

An ambulance staffed by EMTs and paramedics, who can step in to

help with patients' medical conditions or mobility needs, is a safe way to allow the patient to fulfill their dream.

Western Lane works with PeaceHealth Home and Hospice Program to facilitate TLC trips. The district offers the program as a public service to the community at no charge to the participants.

See **TLC 10A**

# OPB offers \$1M loan program for businesses

## Low-interest loans available for storefront upgrades in Florence

STAFF REPORT

Oregon Pacific Bank (OPB) has created a \$1 million Florence Economic Development loan program, which will provide more than 20 local business and property owners up to \$50,000 for improvements to the visual and historical appeal of their building or storefront.

According to OPB, funding from this loan program is designed to be used for improvements such as updated signage, façade and awning improvements, painting, public art and murals, historical restoration, landscaping, branding and logo design, parking lot repairs, interior design and window displays.

OPB will consider other requests on an individual basis.

Refinancing existing debt with any creditor is not eligible and funds cannot be used for seasonal operating needs.

The bank has partnered with the Lane Council of Governments to fund up to \$50,000 per applicant. The interest rate is priced at the current Wall Street Journal Prime Rate of 3.5 percent, with no bank fees.

According to Ron Green, president and CEO of OPB, the inspiration for this loan program came from the energy and excitement generated by the community of Florence for economic growth and development.

"We wanted to find a catalyst to inspire our local business and property owners

See **LOAN 10A**

Classifieds . . . . .	B6	Police . . . . .	A2
Library Tidings . . . . .	A5	Scoreboard . . . . .	B4
Obituaries . . . . .	A2	Sports . . . . .	B
Opinion . . . . .	A4	Weather Data . . . . .	A2

**THIS WEEK'S WEATHER**  
Full Forecast, A3

<b>TODAY</b> 56 49	<b>THURSDAY</b> 59 45	<b>FRIDAY</b> 59 42	<b>SATURDAY</b> 61 46
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