

Love animals? Washington County Forum may be of interest to you

On Monday February 8, 2010, Washington County's Public Affairs Forum (PAF) will hear a report from Debbie Wood, Executive Director of

New board members are sought

The following Washington County boards are seeking applications for new members:

Behavioral Health Council – 10 positions. The Behavioral Health Council identifies community needs, recommends funding priorities, and helps select and evaluate service providers. The County's emphasis on contracting with community agencies for social services makes the work of this volunteer advisory council critical. This board meets on each fourth Wednesday of the month at 9:00 a.m.

Members: Nineteen members each serve three year terms.

Commission on Children and Families – 3 positions. The Commission's charge is to help children reach their full potential and to support families and the community in achieving that goal. Working with many partners, the Commission looks at conditions in the community that affect children and families and recommends planned strategies and funding to improve those conditions. Commission meets the second Thursday of each month, at 7:00 p.m.

Members: Fifteen members each serve a four year term.

Housing Advisory Commit-

tee – 5 positions. The Committee assists the Board of Commissioners and the Department of Housing Services to provide affordable housing. The committee meets the third Thursday of each month at 9:00 a.m.

Members: Each serve for three years. The application deadline is March 2, or when all vacancies are filled. Applications may be obtained by visiting the Web site or by calling 503-846-8685. Descriptions of all the boards can also be found on the Boards and Commissions web site. Boards, committees, and commissions advise the Board of Commissioners on matters of interest to people who live and work in Washington County. Committees themselves do not pass ordinances or establish policy; their purpose is to study issues and make recommendations. Commission members are volunteers appointed by the County Board of Commissioners. Members must be residents of Washington County. Serving on an appointed board or commission is a great way for Washington County residents to participate in decisions that affect them and to learn more about how local government works.

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imals, finds homes for abandoned pets, licenses dogs, enforces animal cruelty laws and protects people from dangerous animals. There are an estimated 100,000 dogs and 120,000 cats in Washington County. Each year, the shelter provides care for more than 7,500 animals, responds to more than 8500 citizen calls, and does community outreach at schools, fairs, and events.

The PAF meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Old Spaghetti Factory, 18925 NW Tanasbourne Drive, across from the Evergreen movie theaters in Tanasbourne. Lunch is \$13; \$8 for soup and salad only; the lunches are open to the public. Founded in 1956, the Public Affairs Forum provides a common meeting place for the interchange of ideas and to stimulate thinking on civic matters. Each week the Forum brings together community leaders, members and guests who care about what happens in Washington County, the metro region and the state of Oregon. Speakers from government, business, science, the arts and education address the Forum. Members have the opportunity to question speak-

ers – which sometimes is the most interesting part of the program.

The Forum is a neutral arena for the education of members and the public. It endorses no particular point of view and takes no responsibility for the opinions expressed by speakers, which are not necessarily the opinions of the Forum, its members or its Board of Directors. Programs are replayed on

TVCTV Channel 21 Thursday at 6:00 a.m.; Channel 28 Thursday at 10:00 p.m., Friday at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday at 3:00 p.m.; and Channel 11 Monday at 10:00 a.m. Learn more at www.washingtoncountyforum.org or follow us on <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Washington-County-Public-Affairs-Forum/194565750729> and <http://twitter.com/wcforum>

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