

More about the pos. 3 County Commissioner candidates views

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ordinances on the website so people don't have to go to St. Helens for them.

Hyde – Most importantly, I'd like to see a better awareness of what counties are – by everybody in the county. For example, we can't use property taxes to fund road repairs, we can only use gas tax. So many who use our roads don't register their vehicles in our county so we don't get any money from them. I'd like to see the county no longer be responsible for the state court, instead have the state assume that responsibility. For example, the state don't pay enough for the District Attorney's office so the county has to supplement it.

Maygra – I'd like to see more openness, honesty and transparency. The public should be allowed public records without forms or payments. There should be no backdoor deals, for sure. I'd like to see county government work for the people and for their loyalties to be with the people, not the corporations with huge tax abatements, like the \$33 million tax abatement for PGE.

Ward – We need more 'hands-on'. But I'd really need to evaluate everything after getting into office. It's a job that you need to learn as you do the job.

6. Nehalem Valley residents

feel they get little in the way of county services. What would you do to change this perception?

Gibson – So do other areas, like Clatskanie. I would commit to getting out there to where the people are, not waiting for them to complain. I'd like to see the commissioner meetings out in other areas. I want to represent the citizens.

Hyde – I do think that's more a perception than a reality. That goes back to the need for more education on what a county does and doesn't do.

Maygra – I would talk to people and find out what they want. I think money needs to be more equitably distributed. I want to be a hands-on commissioner. I'll drive out to listen to people.

Ward – I would get the voters more involved in county commissioner issues by getting their input as to what they do and don't want, to better coordinate those things the voters don't feel they are getting now.

7. What do you see as the most important issue for county commissioners at this time?

Gibson – Surviving the budget crisis and doing so in a way that best meets the needs of the residents of Columbia County. It's not going to be an easy thing but we can't rely on the federal government to bail

us out, it's not sustainable.

Hyde – Public safety. I'm really worried about how we can have good public safety at all levels; jail, court, patrol. Not just the sheriff, but all law enforcement in the city and county is having budgetary issues. That's one of the core services that citizens expect. Second is comprehensive economic development – for all, not just for St. Helens and Scappoose. Making sure our existing businesses stay viable, but also attracting new ones. We have to look at successful models in business, like city/county/private projects.

Maygra – We need to get some jobs in this county. We need high tech jobs, assembly line jobs, anything. And, the jobs need to be here so people can stay in the community, not commute. Also, we need to modernize and keep pace with the world, not be left behind.

Ward – The schools, so teachers will have the proper environment to educate kids.

8. Why should Vernonians vote for you?

Gibson – I come from a rural area, Alston Corners, and that gave me a good work ethic and a common sense approach. I enjoy listening to people and getting feedback that I'm working for their interests, not just mine. My rural background means

I've struggled like everybody else to pay property taxes. I've been involved in county government, which gives me a leg up. I'm not running for a career. In fact, I commit to opting out of PERS to save that money as I have a law enforcement retirement. I am opposed to career politicians.

Hyde – I think I've demonstrated my commitment to this community more than once. I have an edge on this as I live here and I like to think Vernonia knows that I'm dedicated to them and more than just 9 to 5. I always feel I owe a debt to the city and the county for that matter.

Maygra – Because I don't feel I'm doing any better than anybody else in the county. I want to help get people back to work. I'm not a career politician, I just want to help clean up the mess that's been made and do right by people. We're all in this together.

Ward – They should vote for me if they want to move up in the world and be part of the community. I'm running so they can be heard at the county level.

9. Anything else you'd like to tell our readers (plans, directions, etc.)?

Gibson – I am not a politician. I'm an average citizen with experience in government settings. I want to see Columbia County be a successful place for my kids and grandkids to grow up.

Hyde – I think Vernonia is in a really good spot and we need to take advantage of it. I'm really excited about the new Forest Health/Human Health Initiative, being started right here.

Maygra – I just want to treat people right and make this county a better place for people and I'll work hard. My loyalty will be with the citizens.

Ward – We need to get schools back on their feet, and have more small businesses open. And, more than fast food because so many restaurants aren't making a living. I would like to get big government contracts for Columbia County to create jobs. As a county commissioner, I want to help create small businesses in all of the county.

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Church Directory		
<p>VERNONIA FOURSQUARE CHURCH</p> <p>Carl Pense, Pastor 850 Madison Avenue, Vernonia 503 429-1103 Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School</p> <p>SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST</p> <p>Larry Gibson, Pastor 2nd Ave. and Nehalem St., Vernonia 503 429-8301 Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m. Sabbath School 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>ASSEMBLY OF GOD</p> <p>Wayne and Maureen Marr 662 Jefferson Ave., Vernonia, 503 429-0373 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.</p> <p>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH</p> <p>Rev. Luan Tran, Administrator 960 Missouri Avenue, Vernonia 503 429-8841 Mass Sunday 12:00 Noon Religious Educ. Sunday 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>COVENANT CHURCH VERNONIA</p> <p>Pastor John D. Murray 359 "A" Street, Vernonia 503 860-3860 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>VERNONIA COMMUNITY CHURCH</p> <p>Ralph Young, Pastor 957 State Avenue, Vernonia 503 429-6790 Sunday Bible Classes 9:00 a.m. Family Praise & Worship 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Prayer 6:30 p.m. Thursday Ladies Study 7:00 p.m. Nursery 10:15 a.m. Vernonia Community Preschool</p> <p>VERNONIA CHRISTIAN CHURCH</p> <p>Sam Hough, Minister 410 North Street, Vernonia 503 429-6522 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m. (meets in Youth & Family Center) Various Home Group Meetings</p>	<p>PIONEER BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>John Cahill, Pastor 939 Bridge Street, Vernonia 503-429-1161 www.pbfalive.com Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. Thursday Prayer 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>NEHALEM VALLEY BIBLE CHURCH</p> <p>Gary Taylor, Pastor Grant & North Streets, Vernonia 503 429-5378 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship 10:45 a.m. Nursery available Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS</p> <p>Marc Farmer, Branch President 1350 E. Knott Street, Vernonia 503 429-7151 Sacrament Meeting, Sunday 10 a.m. Sunday School & Primary 11:20 a.m. Relief Society, Priesthood and Young Women, Sunday 12:10 p.m.</p>

Vote Reginald Ward

For Columbia County Commissioner

Ward will work for:

- Family Wage Jobs,**
- Small Businesses,**
- Good Schools**

Ward will:

Work for You

Listen to You

Be Accountable to You

Paid for by Reginald Ward