VOTE to Change Pierce County Governmental Leadership!!!

All levels of elected public offices are critically important for dealing with climate change and protecting our environment locally, statewide, across the country and beyond. See Sierra Club’s endorsements inside this issue of the Rainier Review.

For Pierce County Executive, only Rick Talbert shares our values concerning land-use and will provide leadership to prevent suburban sprawl. This is a very tight race for Talbert running against a staunch conservative, Bruce Dammeier, who is no friend of the environment.

Also, it has been well over a decade since we have had such a unique opportunity in this election to change the currently environment-unfriendly Pierce County Council to an environment-friendly one, which can seriously address critical land-use issues. Two County District candidates have an even, or better, chance of becoming elected as new environment-friendly council members, i.e., Carolyn Edmonds for Dist. 2 and Linda Farmer for Dist. 6. These are both pro-environment candidates. If Edmonds were to lose to her opponent Pam Roach, we would have Ms. Roach with her son Dan Roach, both of whom are anti-environment ultra-conservatives, serving together on the same Council! Unbelievable, but possible!

For the above Pierce County positions, Please VOTE for Talbert (County Exec.), Edmonds (Dist. 2), Farmer (Dist. 6), and incumbent Connie Ladenburg (Dist. 4)!!!
Sierra Club Endorsements—State Legislative (Pierce County) Positions

Amy Pivetta Hoffman-D, State House of Representatives LD 2 Pos. 1: Running as an “Independent Democrat”, Pivetta Hoffman is a small business owner and attorney who lives in Fredrickson. Her top legislative priority is working toward funding quality education for Washington’s K-12. As a Bethel School district Board Member since 2013, she supported the District’s efforts to reduce its carbon footprint. All of the District’s 27 school are Energy Star certified. Her win could flip this seat from the current occupation of several years of conservative control to a more moderate environmentally friendly candidate. Website: www.electamy.org.

Michelle Chatterton-D, State House of Representatives LD-25, Pos. 2: Chatterton grew up and lives in Puyallup; she has a Master’s in Public Administration and currently works as an Emergency Management Program Coordinator for King County. Her top priorities are: 1) adequately fund K-12 education with apprenticeship programs for low-carbon jobs and creating a workforce toward a new economy, 2) revamping our current tax/revenue system with a mechanism that collects revenue from large carbon polluters, 3) expanding public transportation opportunities to reduce reliance on personal vehicles. She believes that to protect our environment we should move toward a zero carbon-emission economy. Website: www.michellechatterton.org.

Larry Seaquist-D, State House of Representatives, LD26 Pos. 1: Seaquist had served in the State House for three terms before losing the race by a small margin in 2014. His number one priority is fixing Washington’s education system, including proper funding. He feels the Puget Sound Partnership has not been effective and he believes a more comprehensive, coordinated unbiased research and plan of action will keep the Sound sustainable and healthy as a marine ecosystem. The LD26 position 1 seat win could be the critical step to prevent the House conservatives from controlling the State House and stifling any pro-environment legislation. Website: www.larryseaquist.com.

Randy Spitzer-D, State House of Representatives, LD26 Pos. 2: Spitzer is a former teacher, retired business owner and financial planner. His goal is to work toward fully funding Washington’s education system and to revise our tax system. He felt the bi-partisan transportation bill that passed last year was inadequate in protecting the environment. He is knowledgeable on water supply issues and believes state and local officials must work together in protecting that resource. He supports adequately funding the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) to prevent further and costly damage resulting in expensive clean up and public liability. Website: www.electspitzer.com.

Jeannie Darneille-D, State Senate, LD-27: After 15½ years in the State House and Senate, her priorities include increasing education funding and health care, safeguarding civil liberties, and promoting economic opportunities to create living-wage jobs. She has voted the environmental agenda over 90%. She is a heroine of Tacoma citizens who opposed the development of the proposed largest methanol refinery in the world slated for the Port of Tacoma. Her leadership in research, attendance and testimonies at public hearings help to put a stop to this potentially harmful project. Website: www.jeanniedarneille.ngpvanhost.com
Laurie Jinks-D, State House of Representatives LD-27 Pos. 1: During her first two legislative sessions, she served on the capital budget, environment, health care, and transportation committees, focusing on jobs and infrastructure. In the last two years, she has worked on improving air quality, securing construction funding for various projects, including a new low-income health clinic in the Hilltop area of LD-27. She is an advocate for clean, green transport and investment in transit, car pooling, and non-motorized transportation. Website: www.lauriejinks.com.

Jake Fey-D, House of Representatives, LD-27 Pos. 1: Fey was a negotiator for the transportation package that passed during the 2015 session, which included a four year extension to the sales tax exemption for electric vehicles. For the upcoming session his focus will include education, environmental and transportation issues. As a true environmental leader, he will continue to fight for protecting clean air, clean water and open space. He manages a nationally recognized energy program that helps small businesses and homeowners conserve energy. His lifetime environmental voting record is over 90%. Website: www.jakefey.com.

Mariisa Peloquin-D, State Senate LD 28; Peloquin-D has served ten years in active duty in the 82nd Airborne Division as jumpmaster and company commander; plus she holds rank of colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve which she has served for the last 16 years. Her top legislative priorities are: 1) guaranteeing quality education 2) creating a sustainable economy that provides fair and quality jobs 3) protecting vulnerable populations such as veterans, homeless and the elderly. She believes that environmental protection and global climate change should come from sustainable green options. Website: www.mariisaforsenate.org.

Mari Leavitt-D, State House of Representatives, LD 28 Pos. 1: Leavitt, PhD in Community College Leadership Programs (OSU) and Master in Education (WWU), is currently Deputy Director of Pierce County Connections; in charge of delivering support services for local families, seniors, veterans and the disabled. She has led efforts to support sustainability solutions and to educate and inform citizens of pressing environmental issues. While involved in master planning or building construction she promoted efforts toward LEED certifications. She supports programs that reduce greenhouse gases and promote water conservation. Website: www.marileavitt.com.

Christine Kilduff-D, State House of Representatives LD28 Pos. 2: Kilduff has worked as a Washington State Assistant Attorney General for 18 years and is a staunch believer in the power of public education and the importance of economic opportunity for all. She was elected to the House in 2014 and though not an expert on environmental issues, she listens to constituents who are concerned about the hazards of oil and coal train traffic, plus having enough safe drinking water in their community. During her first term, her environmental voting record was excellent. www.christinekilduff.com

David Sawyer-D, House of Representatives LD-29 Pos. 1. Incumbent Sawyer is a young law clerk running for his third term. His top priorities include: 1) transform our tax system, 2) stop corporate welfare 3) fully fund schools and continue to increase our investments in high quality early learning and 4) work toward ending child homelessness. Though challenged in the Primary by both a D and R, it is likely that in the General Election Sawyer will have a victory. As a proven green incumbent, his lifetime environmental voting record is over 90%. Website: www.electdavidsawyer.com

Steve Kirby-D, House of Representatives, LD-29 Pos. 2: A moderate D in the House for over a decade, Kirby’s focus is to develop programs to assist underprivileged constituents, with respect to providing them human services, education, and job training. He is able to work with both labor and business. He has a lifetime environmental voting record in the high 80’s, which is vital for addressing environmental priorities in the State. Website: www.stevekirby.org.
Sierra Club Endorsements—Pierce County Positions

Rick Talbert-D Pierce County Executive: A lifelong resident of Pierce County, Talbert and his family live in Tacoma. He has a Bachelors degree in Political Science and Public Administration and is currently finishing his 6th year on the Pierce County Council. As a leader on environmental legislative proposals, he helped to assemble the vote to prevent the R Council majority from unraveling the Shoreline Master Program update and the Comprehensive County Land-use Plan update. Talbert is a candidate that can prevent Conservative control of both the Executive and Legislative branches of Pierce County government. Website: www.ricktalbert.com.

Carolyn Edmonds (D), Dist. 2, Pierce County Council: With a deep and proven passion for public service, Edmonds has previously served as both a County Councilmember and State Legislator. She passed some of Washington’s toughest protections for family caregivers, and fought for the interests of small towns and suburban communities. A resident of Tacoma, she believes Pierce County Council, District 2 is a “pivotal district” for environmental concerns. She is proud of her past environmental accomplishments, which include the development of the Salmon Recovery Plan for WRIA 7 and the purchase of the development rights to the Snoqualmie Forest. Edmonds feels the greatest environmental threat in Pierce County is irresponsible sprawl and she will work with planning leaders to implement goals of the Growth Management Act. Her endorsements include Washington Conservation Voters and a host of local and state officials, including Senator Jeannie Darnelle. A win for Edmonds in the General Election will prevent her opponent, Pam Roach, from “double dipping” by not being able to hold both a County Council position and her State Senate position in LD-31. Website: www.carolynedmonds.com.

Connie Ladenburg-D, Dist. 4, Pierce Co. Council: Ladenburg has served her first 4-year term on Pierce County Council, which was preceded by two 4-year terms on the Tacoma City Council. She has been an advocate on the County Council for economic development consistent with sustainable land-use policy and the Growth Management Act (GMA). She helped to promote passage of compromises on the County’s Comprehensive Land-use plan update and Shoreline Master Program update that were agreed to by both development and environmental communities. As a strong environmentalist, her priority is to move Pierce County into a leadership position in the South Sound. Website: www.connieladenburg.com.

Linda Farmer (D), Dist. 6, Pierce County Council: Linda Farmer holds a BA degree in editorial journalism and political science from the University of Washington and an MS degree in communications management from Syracuse University. She has been a leader in Pierce County community organizations for nearly 20 years. She currently works as the Director of Communications for the Pierce County Library System. She has a deep familiarity with government and public budgets, developed through decades of work on senior management teams for the county’s library system, two South Sound cities and the state. She served as Director of Communications for the Washington State Puget Sound Action Team from 2005 to 2007, educating Washingtonians about the environmental health of the Puget Sound. She was elected to the Pierce County Charter Review Commission in 2015, representing the same constituents she would serve as a member of the Pierce County Council. She won this District 6, Position 3 seat on the Charter Review Commission by a double-digit margin in the general election after advancing out of a crowded August primary. She previously served a three-year stint on the board for City Club of Tacoma and for six years on the board of Citizens for a Healthy Bay. She believes that we must have a County Council majority that prioritizes our environmental health and protects Pierce County citizens. linda@lindafarmer.org.
Tatoosh Group Executive Committee Candidates

Bliss Moore: For the last 15 plus years, I have been active with the Sierra Club and was involved with the revitalization of the Tatoosh Group. For 12 plus years, I have served as Chair of the Tatoosh Group and have been Vice Chair for the past 4 years. I am a member on the WA State Sierra Club Chapter’s Political and Legislative Committees and chair of the Tatoosh Group’s Political Committee for over a decade.

Locally, I have served on former Tacoma Mayor Baarsma’s Green Ribbon Task Force (GRTF) on Climate Change and served as co-chair of the GRTF Transportation Subcommittee in 2007-2008. I became appointed to Sustainable Tacoma Commission, established in 2009, where I served two terms for a total of five years. I have been Tatoosh’s representative on the Pierce County Sustainability Coalition regularly meeting the Pierce County Executive for the last decade or so. Dealing with Climate Change probably has been my #1 environmental priority on which to focus. I have helped our Tatoosh Group’s chair and other activists lead the successful fight to defeat the methanol plant proposal on the Port of Tacoma tide flats and am currently working to stop the LNG production & storage facility from being built on the same tide flats.

All environmental issues peak my interest in saving Planet Earth and my sanity. My inspiration comes from Sierra Club’s co-founder John Muir’s vision of protecting our irreplaceable natural environment. In recent decades it has become clear that protecting Nature is not a luxury but a necessity for our Earth’s survival as an inhabitable planet.

Brett Johnson: I would like to continue serving on our Tatoosh Chapter Executive Committee because I care deeply about our local environment and our relationship with it. Old Treebeard summed it up well in Tolkien’s *The Lord of the Rings*: “Side! I am on nobody’s side, because nobody is on my side.” Our local ecosystems do not have their own voice in our public discourse--that is why we must advocate for their vitality!

After growing up in South Hill Puyallup and witnessing mostly unchecked, unplanned development, I strongly support a restrained and thoughtful approach toward the development of our rural areas, as well as county-wide initiatives for protecting valuable agricultural land and critical natural areas. I have extensive volunteer experience in habitat restoration activities. After starting out as a Stream Team Volunteer, I served as a Peace Corps Soil & Water Conservation Volunteer. Later, I enjoyed a great deal of hard work and comradery with the Poudre Wilderness Volunteers Weed Crew in Colorado. Currently, I organize our Ivy League and Legion of Broom invasive species removal work parties at Point Defiance, Parkland Prairie, and other sites around the county.

I also serve on our Tatoosh Group Political Committee that interviews, endorses, and supports environmentally-conscious candidates for local public office. I strongly believe that our members make a real difference by participating in local campaigns for city, county, state, and federal offices and initiatives. To close, my record of study and action demonstrates my commitment to improving the ways that we humans interact with our surroundings, and I ask for your support!

Voting Instructions

Two interested and qualified candidates have applied for the three open Executive Committee positions. According to our by-laws it is necessary to hold an election. Under “Member-Voter”, please mark your ballot with an “X” for up to two candidates. If you have a dual membership (e.g., wife & husband), the second party of the dual membership should mark the ballot for up to two candidates under “2nd Member-Voter”. Mailing instructions are on the ballot below.

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TATOOSH GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTION BALLOT

Vote for up to two candidates. If you have a dual membership (e.g., wife & husband), the second party of the dual membership should mark the ballot for two candidates under “2nd Member-Voter”.

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<tr>
<th>Member-Voter</th>
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<td>Bliss Moore</td>
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<tr>
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When complete, cut off the ballot and mail it to:  Tourn Parker, 4513 N22nd St. Tacoma, WA 98406 by December 15, 2016. 2015. If you receive an e-newsletter, you can vote by printing and mailing the ballot or by attaching it to an email. Please email to tsparke@aol.com. Thank you for your participation.
The annual calendar sale is the Tatoosh Group’s major fundraiser, with proceeds benefiting our environmental and conservation activities.

**Wilderness (Wall) Calendars are $14** each, measure 13 ½” by 11 15/16”, with a large North American wilderness photo for each month and boxes below for writing.

**Engagement (Desk) Calendars are $15** each, measure 9 1/4” X 6 5/16”, feature 57 color photos of wild animals, plants or scenes and week-at-a-glance spaces for writing.

Combinations of 3 or more calendars are $13 each. To purchase calendars and arrange for pick up or delivery, please contact: Shirley Moore at 253-752-6472 or shirleygmoore@yahoo.com or Torun Parker at 253-759-7830 or TSPARKE@AOL.COM

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**2017 Sierra Club Calendars Are In!**

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**2016 Invasive Species Removal work party schedule!** Please mark these dates on your calendar as you are able to participate. As we always say, the more the merrier. All events are held **9 AM to Noon**. Plan to arrive 15 min before in work clothes and boots, and bring work gloves and plenty of water. Snacks are provided. For more specific information see [www.sierraclub/washington/tatoosh-group-invasive-species-removal-events](http://www.sierraclub/washington/tatoosh-group-invasive-species-removal-events) or contact Brett Johnson at bmjohnson75@hotmail.com

- **Saturday Oct 22 9am**  **MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY** - Legion of Broom heads to Parkland Prairie to remove Scotch broom and plant natives.
- **Saturday Nov 19 9am**  **GIVE THANKS ON THE PRAIRIE** - Legion of Broom at Parkland Prairie to remove Scotch broom

**TENTATIVE FOR 2017:**

- **Saturday Feb 11 9am**  **SHOW SOME LOVE** - Legion of Broom at Parkland Prairie (planting native species)
- **Saturday March 25 9am**  **THE BROOM ABIDES** - Legion of Broom at Parkland Prairie (removal of Scotch broom)
- **Saturday April 22 9am**  **THE HOLLY & THE IVY: THE RITE OF SPRING** - Ivy League at Point Defiance (removal of English ivy, holly)
- **Saturday May 20 9am**  **THE HOLLY & THE IVY: REQUIEM** - Ivy League at Point Defiance (removal of English ivy, holly)