



**LCHAY**  
Lane Coalition for Healthy Active Youth



## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release (March 29, 2012)

### COMMISSIONER FORUM FOCUSED ON CHILDREN'S HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT AND EDUCATION North Eugene County Commissioner Candidates' Forum

**Date/Time:** Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:30pm

**Location:** Willamette High School Cafeteria, 1801 Echo Hollow Road, Eugene

EUGENE, OR - On April 26, 2012, the Lane Coalition for Healthy Active Youth (LCHAY), in partnership with Beyond Toxics and Bethel STAND for Children, will host a non-partisan, public education forum with North Eugene County Commissioner Candidates. The focus of the forum will be issues affecting children today: childhood obesity, environmental pollutants and public education and our school systems. The forum will be held at Willamette High School on April 26, 2012 from 6:30-8:30pm. Candidates in the race for the North Eugene County Commissioner's seat are: City Councilman Pat Farr, current Commissioner Rob Handy and Nadia Sindi, all of whom will be participating in the forum.

Children today face a host of obstacles in their attempt to lead healthy lives and reach their fullest potential. These obstacles include health consequences related to obesity and environmental pollutants. North and West Eugene youth are struggling with:

- disproportionately high childhood obesity rates
- too many missed school days due to asthma triggered by environmental air pollution
- unreasonably wide achievement gaps and low graduation caused by poverty and language barriers

This forum is an opportunity for the public to hear from candidates on the issues that matter most for our children. The forum will be moderated by Margot Helphand, with an opportunity for audience questions.

LCHAY's mission is to prevent childhood obesity through advocacy and action. LCHAY educates to raise awareness around the issue of childhood obesity, advocates for policy development and environmental change and convenes community partners in both the public and private sectors to bring about change.

Beyond Toxics works to guarantee environmental protections and health for all, and helps communities find effective, lasting solutions to toxic pollution.

Bethel STAND for Children works to mobilize our community around a common goal of creating vibrant schools that are great places to teach and learn.

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