



## SENIOR & DISABLED SERVICES IN FOCUS

### Senior & Disabled Services Launches ROSS/SAIL Services

As with many day-to-day tasks, cleaning the house can be a challenge to senior citizens and adults with disabilities. Thankfully, since February 4, eligible residents of Lindeborg Place, a low-income housing facility for seniors and people with disabilities, have received housekeeping help through to a Resident Opportunities and Self Sufficiency (ROSS) grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Known as Services Assisting Independent Living (SAIL), this program is available to people who are not eligible for assistance through Medicaid or Oregon Project Independence programs. Residents who feel they need help with housekeeping are able to meet on-site with **Robin Steinbruck**, a Senior Outreach case manager with the Lane Council of Governments' Senior & Disabled Services (S&DS). Robin is available several hours a week to:



Senior & Disabled Services helps Lindeborg Place residents benefit from the ROSS/SAIL program.

- Visit residents in their home to discuss their need and eligibility for housekeeping services, and
- Set up housekeeping services for eligible residents.

Using the ROSS/SAIL program, residents are able to meet health and safety standards to remain in public housing. There is no cost to residents for this service and funding is guaranteed from February 2002 through February 2004. The ROSS/SAIL grant funds the case

management time and the house care services that enable six to eight clients to receive two hours of housekeeping assistance each week.

For more information, contact **Laurie Cracraft**, S&DS, at (541) 682-4374, or [lcracraft@lane.cog.or.us](mailto:lcracraft@lane.cog.or.us).

## INSIDE

S&DS PROGRAM FOCUS  
National Family  
Caregiver Program  
LGS PROGRAM FOCUS  
Boundary Commission

- 2 Director's Desk
- 3 Lane Community College Offers Many Choices Board Profile
- 4 Lane County Local Government Boundary Commission: A Resource to Many
- 5 A Glance at the Lane County Local Government Boundary Commission
- 6 Staff Profile Money Management Program Continues to Offer Assistance
- 7 Lane County Family Caregiver Support Services Program Provides Additional Support
- 8 Calendar



by George Kloepfel

The accompanying map portrays the county's 16 school districts and indicates the percentage change of enrollment for each during the decade of the 1990s. Only districts serving cities experienced growth in enrollment; and rural districts not associated with cities lost a substantial percentage of their 1990 student population. Even city-based school districts, such as Oakridge, Lowell, South Lane (Cottage Grove), and Fern Ridge (Veneta) lost students during the decade.

## School Roles and Challenges Explored

At its February meeting, the LCOG Board of Directors discussed the roles played by the public schools in the local communities that they serve. The topic grew out of a goal-setting session in July in which COG delegates noted the perils confronting public educational institutions and, more particularly, the inter-governmental implications of the health of public education in the region.

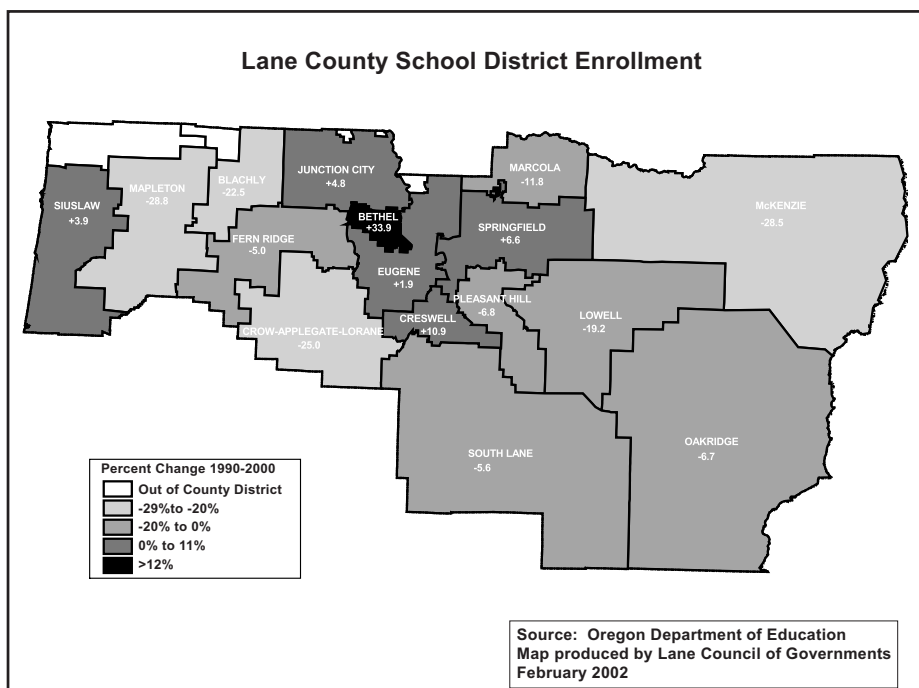
A background paper was provided to serve as a catalyst for the Board's February discussion. It was noted that issues facing this region's schools included declining student enrollment, constrained revenue-generation capability, reductions in State financial support, and qualitative disparities between districts. But the uneven patterns of change in school enrollment were of particular interest to the Board.

An examination of the various functions performed by the schools began with the most obvious—education. It was noted that over 48,000 students were enrolled in the county's public schools last year, and over 43,000 took classes at Lane Community College. But, beyond

educating the next generation, the schools were seen as bolstering other community goals. Among them were economic development, recreation, social services, public safety, and community identity and cohesiveness. Arguably, the health of K-12 schools correlates strongly with positive outcomes in these other areas.

The Board acknowledged that legislative decisions and constitutional changes of the recent past generated some of the constraints bearing down upon the 16 school districts in Lane County. The shift of control—from local elected officials to the State—that has been experienced over the last decade has been obvious. Other constraints were seen as being more clearly tied to demographic and population distribution issues. For example, it was surprising to some that, while Lane County's total population grew by 14.2 percent over the decade of the 1990s, school enrollment increased by only 3.8 percent—and the trend has been one of declining enrollment since 1997. Aggregate school enrollment in the county's 13 non-metro districts declined by 660 students, or 4.7 percent during the decade.

The dramatic pattern, reflected in such numbers, served as an alarm bell for LCOG's policy makers. If, indeed, the public school—rural or urban—is the heart of the community, and if significant community objectives beyond educating children are traditionally advanced through or with the substantial help of schools, the overall health of the region might be endangered, right now. The Board will continue to consider this issue, as will the Lane County School Boards Association. It was also suggested that a meeting be held with citizens in the rural communities most impacted by changing demographic patterns.



## Lane Community College Offers Many Choices

Since it was founded in 1964, Lane Community College (Lane) has grown from a school with a first-year attendance of 1,500 and a handful of programs to a much larger, multi-disciplinary educational opportunity. Today, more than 43,000 students take part in a wide variety of programs that are offered at the main campus, as well as numerous off-site locations.

Whether completing a GED, becoming certified in a specific discipline, earning an associate's degree, or attending as a stepping stone towards additional post-secondary education, students at Lane are offered a variety of opportunities. Each year, students take part in professional/technical and transfer credit programs, continuing education courses, English as a Second Language programs, and customized training for local businesses.

In addition, the college offers the Cooperative Work Experience, Distance Learning, Adult Basic and Secondary Education, Dislocated Worker, and Transitions to Success programs, as well as assistance through the Business Development Center.

In all, students choose from a wide range of programs at locations throughout Lane County:

### Locations

- **Main campus:**  
4000 E. 30th Avenue  
Eugene
- **Other locations:**  
Downtown Eugene  
Cottage Grove  
Flight Technology Center, Eugene  
Airport  
Florence  
Wildish Building
- **Learning centers:**  
Churchill High School  
Elmira High School  
Junction City High School  
McKenzie High School  
Oakridge High School  
Thurston High School  
Willamette High School

To find out more about Lane classes, locations, and contact information, visit [www.lanecc.edu](http://www.lanecc.edu).

### Lane Community College Facts

Serves 4,600-square-mile area

**Founded:** 1964

**Enrollment:** 43,000 people take one or more classes a year

*On the web:*  
[www.lanecc.edu](http://www.lanecc.edu)



He is a man with a cause, a cause he takes very seriously. **Dennis Shine**, Lane Community College (Lane) Board member and representative to the LCOG Board, ran for the Lane position because he realized the school was a "first rate institution" and wanted to ensure its success.

As seen recently in the media, Lane is on the verge of undergoing significant budget cuts, some of which are not in line with Dennis' vision of success for Lane or its students. Programs slated to be cut include flight technology, recreational vehicle repair, industrial maintenance, and electronics technology, among others. Dennis admits that such professional and technology-related programs are "not very glamorous," but are imperative to the success of Lane, its

See **Board** on page 4

students, and the area. In addition to the program cuts, it is proposed that some Lane centers close during the summer months, including the Florence facility, and that the McKenzie Bridge center close permanently. Dennis adds, "Even though I was elected to represent Springfield, the election is conducted county-wide. Therefore, I visited all Lane centers and I am a strong supporter of these centers."

Having always believed that it is "important to market Lane's programs," Dennis feels that the possible cuts and their impacts have to be "known and understood by residents of potentially affected areas." He encourages residents to review the information pertaining to the cuts and provide feedback about "what they want...and communicate this to elected officials." As part of this communication, Dennis encourages the public to attend the Lane Board meetings, which are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Lane Board Room in Building 3, beginning at 7 p.m.

See **Board** page 5

## **Lane County Local Government Boundary Commission: A Resource to Many**

What happens if someone wants to expand city boundaries? Or add acreage to a fire district? And what if someone wants to combine two separate special districts?

A first step may be to call **Paula Taylor**, Executive Officer (EO) of the Lane County Local Government Boundary Commission (BC). Paula, a Lane Council of Governments' (LCOG) senior planner, has provided staff support to the BC for over 25 years. Her predecessor as the EO was **Steve Gordon**, also of LCOG. Paula's expertise in local government boundary change law and special district formation allows her to provide accurate and clear guidance in boundary issues.

And what exactly is the BC and what is its function? A 30-year-old state agency, the BC reviews certain types of local government boundary changes, including annexations to or withdrawals from cities or districts, and transfers of territory from one city to another city or one district to another. In addition, the BC reviews major boundary changes, including mergers, consolidations, formations, and dissolutions of cities or districts. Examples of the BC's actions include processing annexations to cities and certain special districts—fire, water, library, and park and recreation.

That said, when a request for annexation or boundary changes is submitted, the BC gathers the pertinent data, considers the legality and impact of the requested change, and decides whether to grant the request.

Information on every boundary change is retained by the BC and used to answer questions from around the community.

- *Citizens call to find out why their newly purchased home is not within a fire district when their neighbors' homes are included.*
- *Lane County surveyors call to verify the location of a city's boundary in relationship to a road under consideration for transfer of jurisdiction or maintenance responsibility to a city.*
- *Local public safety staff may call to verify if an address is inside a city or is in the jurisdiction of another fire provider. This ensures timely updates for dispatching purposes.*
- *Lane County Elections staff relies on BC data to update voting information for electors annexed to a taxing district.*

Also, cities rely on the BC for population and housing unit data, which are then reported to the Population Research Center at Portland State University (PSU) for the school's annual population estimates. The BC also provides boundary information to the U.S. Census Bureau on behalf of Lane County and several Lane County cities.

So whether someone has a request for annexation, creation of a special district, or questions about fire or police service, the BC is the place to go. Citizens never know how contact with the BC will affect them. In the case of BC member **Karen Seidel**, research for her contribution to the City Club's book, *History of Eugene: 1945-2000*, brought her into contact with the BC. Subsequently, she became a member.

For more information about the BC, contact Paula at (541) 682-4425 or [ptaylor@lane.cog.or.us](mailto:ptaylor@lane.cog.or.us).

## A Glance at the Lane County Local Government Boundary Commission

Seven members, appointed according to their geographic location in Lane County, comprise the Lane County Local Government Boundary Commission (BC). Each member is appointed by the Governor to serve a four-year term, with a maximum of two terms possible. Current members are **Emily Schue, Walt Sands, Karen Seidel, Chris Larson, Van Heeter, Jim Spickerman, and Clay Myers.**

Emily Schue was appointed to the BC on March 23, 1994, reappointed on March 23, 1998, and served until her term expired on March 22, 2002. A Eugene resident, Emily served as a Eugene City Councilor; a League of Oregon Cities' board member, president, and committee member; Lane Council of Governments' board member and chair; and Lane Regional Air Pollution Authority board member and chair. In addition, she served as a Lane County Housing Authority board member, and remains active in the League of Women Voters.

Appointed on April 26, 1994, Walt Sands was reappointed on April 26, 1998, and will serve until April 25, 2002. He resides in the Creswell area and works as manager of the Siuslaw Valley Bank's Creswell branch. Walt served on the Creswell School Budget Committee, and the Future Farmers of America Board and Auction Committee. He also managed the Small Business Loan Committee for the Siuslaw Valley Bank, and was past chair of the Creswell Chamber of Commerce.

Karen Seidel became a BC member on March 1, 2000, and will serve until

her term ends on February 29, 2004. A Eugene resident, Karen is a retired Faculty Emeritus, University of Oregon, as well as a former employee of the Bureau of Government Research and Services. In this position, she provided research and technical assistance to Oregon local governments, state agencies, the League of Oregon Cities, and the Association of Oregon Counties. Currently, Karen is a member of the City Club of Eugene and wrote a chapter about Eugene's population growth trends and growth policies for the City Club's book *History of Eugene: 1945-2000*. She also serves as a board member of the Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association.

On October 1, 2000, Chris Larson, joined the BC. Her term ends on September 30, 2004. This Springfield resident works as a property manager/bookkeeper at Timber Valley Medical Clinic and served for nine years as a Springfield City Councilor. She has also served on various committees for the Lane Council of Governments (LCOG), the Oregon Department of Transportation, and Lane Regional Air Pollution Authority, and is a past board member and president of the Springfield/Eugene Habitat for Humanity.

The Governor appointed Van Heeter to the BC on October 1, 2000, a term that ends September 30, 2004. Van resides in the Florence area, where he owned the Windward Inn for nearly 20 years. Today he works as a real estate broker at Coldwell Banker Coast Real Estate and is active in the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce. His past duties include serving on the Florence Planning Commission, Florence Events

See **A Glance** on page 6

*Prior to serving on the Lane Board, Dennis taught business and economics at two community colleges in California, and as a Fulbright recipient, he taught in England for one year. Upon retiring in 1993, Dennis moved to Eugene, volunteered at Lane as an economics tutor, and later taught part time at the college.*

*Since joining the LCOG Board in fall 2001, Dennis has enjoyed his interactions with other Board members. He benefits from the "chance to meet elected officials from throughout the county...and to get an idea of their economic problems" and how Lane can help.*

*Born in San Diego, Dennis was raised in Missouri, and later lived in Fresno, California for 25 years. He and his wife, Kate, consider themselves recovering Californians and spend their spare time volunteering and keeping up with their two cats, two pot-bellied pigs, and two goats.*



**Patti Little**, Associate Planner, joined LCOG in 1990.

*Her areas of expertise include procurement and monitoring of contracts, needs assessments, and community organization and program development.*

*She is currently working on development of the Lane County Family Caregiver Support Services Program; serves on the Lane County Multidisciplinary Team, Lane County Public Guardian Coalition, and Latino Medical Access Coalition; and is responsible for Senior & Disabled Services' contract production and monitoring.*

*Patti may be reached at (541) 682-4137 or [plittle@lane.cog.or.us](mailto:plittle@lane.cog.or.us).*

## Money Management Program Continues to Offer Assistance

Imagine having someone help with the household budget and bill paying. Imagine making a new friend through this contact. Imagine receiving all of this at no cost.

Through the Lane County Money Management Program, begun two years ago, all of the above visions become reality for several Lane County seniors and persons with disabilities. The Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) contracts with Lane Community College's (Lane) Retired & Senior Volunteer

Program to provide the Money Management Program, itself designed by AARP. Funded by the Older Americans Act, Oregon Project Independence, and Medicaid, the program's services are supported by Lane and AARP.

Recruited and trained program volunteers are bonded by AARP to assist individuals with budget balancing and bill paying. Persons eligible for assistance include individuals age 60 and

See **Money** on page 7

### Continued from A Glance page 5

Center Board, and various community-related committees.

Jim Spickerman's term on the BC began on March 1, 2001, and ends February 28, 2005. He resides in Eugene and works as an attorney with expertise in real estate and land use law. He has practiced law for over 30 years and in 1998, he became partner at Gleaves Swearingen Larsen Potter Scott & Smith LLP. From 1973-1998 he served as the Land Use Hearings Official for the City of Eugene. Jim is a member of the Oregon State Bar and Lane County Bar Association.

On November 2, 2001, Clay Myers began his BC term, which ends on October 31, 2005. Clay resides in the Coburg area, is a general contractor, and owns Vintage Homes. He is a past member of the Coburg Planning Commission and the Lane County Planning Commission, and served as a mentor in the Committed Partners for Youth program. Prior to serving on the Coburg Planning Commission, Clay was a member of the Coburg Wellhead Protection Committee.

LCOG provides staff support to the BC. **Steve Gordon** served as the Executive Officer from 1983-2001, time during which the commission dealt with many controversial issues, made sound decisions, and maintained the role of the commission as envisioned by the crafters of Oregon's boundary review board law in 1969. Currently, Steve, renowned natural resources expert, focuses his efforts on his new position as manager for LCOG's Resources Development Program.

**Paula Taylor**, a senior planner at LCOG, was appointed Executive Officer by the BC on October 5, 2001. For over 25 years, she has provided staff support to the BC, thereby gaining expertise in local government boundary change law and special district formation. Paula will continue to be the first contact regarding boundary changes such as annexations to existing governments or formation of new governments.

For more information about the BC, contact Paula at (541) 682-4425 or [ptaylor@lane.cog.or.us](mailto:ptaylor@lane.cog.or.us).

## Lane County Family Caregiver Support Services Program Provides Additional Support

Effective March 15, 2002, Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) entered into a contract with Lane Community College's (Lane) Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). The arrangement will allow for operation of the Lane County Family Caregiver Support Services Program, which was designed by LCOG. Funded through amendments to the federal Older Americans Act, the program is newly created under Title III-E.

The National Family Caregiver Support Program is intended to provide a "multifaceted system of support services" to eligible unpaid caregivers. Eligible caregivers may include persons age sixty years and older who are caring for a related child under the age of eighteen; and/or caregivers of any age who are caring for an individual over the age of sixty who require assistance with two or more activities of daily living, such as eating, dressing, bathing, or medication management.

RSVP will provide an integrated package of caregiver support including assistance, information, training, respite care, and supplemental services intended to complement the care being provided by the caregiver. RSVP will also develop and operate a caregiver referral system to be used in referring clients to community agencies that offer services such as counseling and support groups.

The Director of RSVP, **Elaine Barrett**, and the Program Coordinator, **Laurie Swanson Gribskov**, are looking forward to assisting the informal caregivers of Lane County.

For additional information regarding this newly created program, please contact **Patti Little**, S&DS Associate Planner, at (541) 682-4137 or [plittle@lane.cog.or.us](mailto:plittle@lane.cog.or.us).



Lane Community College's Retired & Senior Volunteer Program has partnered with LCOG to operate the Lane County Family Caregiver Support Services Program.

Cont. from *Money* pg. 6

over, as well as LCOG Senior & Disabled Services (S&DS) Medicaid-waivered clients age 18 and over. All Medicaid clients are referred to the program by S&DS staff.

*In addition to the bill payer services offered by this program, volunteers build relationships with the individuals they assist. These relationships help to keep the individuals connected to the community and insulated from financial abuse.*

*The Money Management Program anticipates serving approximately 73 unduplicated Lane County seniors and persons with disabilities during the 2001-02 contract year. The Program Coordinator, **Rebecca Bassett**, plans to maintain a group of 65 volunteers throughout the year. Each individual served will receive approximately 4.5 hours of service per month from their volunteer.*

*For additional information regarding this program, please contact **Patti Little**, S&DS Associate Planner, at (541) 682-4137 or [plittle@lane.cog.or.us](mailto:plittle@lane.cog.or.us).*

## CALENDAR

### **April**

12	1:30 p.m.	Disability Services Advisory Council	Ed Luczycki Conference Room
15	11:30	Lane Economic Committee	LCOG 4th Floor Large Conf. Room
18	5:30	LCOG Executive Committee	LCOG 4th Floor Small Conf. Room
23	10:00	Special Transportation Advisory Committee	LTD Board Room
25	7:00	LCOG Board	Junction City

### **May**

9	11:30	Metropolitan Policy Committee	LTD Board Room
9	3:00	Public Safety Coordinating Council	Juvenile Justice Center
10	1:30	Disability Services Advisory Council	Ed Luczycki Conference Room
14	1:30	Senior Services Advisory Council	Hilyard Community Center
16	1:30	Transportation Planning Committee	LTD Board Room
16	5:30	LCOG Executive Committee	LCOG 4th Floor Small Conf. Room
20	11:30	Lane Economic Committee	LCOG 4th Floor Large Conf. Room
23	7:00	LCOG Board	Springfield
28	10:00	Special Transportation Advisory Committee	LTD Board Room