

San Juan County 2013 Local Voters' Guide

April 23, 2013 Special Election



San Juan County Elections
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Residency District 1:

Lovel Pratt

Bob Jarman

Residency District 2:

Elisabeth (Lisa) Byers

Rick Hughes

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Brian McClerren

Jamie Stephens

Lopez Island School Dist. No. 144 General Obligation Bond

Council Residency District 1 San Juan County

Nonpartisan Office, 4-year term

San Juan



Lovel Pratt

Elected Experience: San Juan County Council, District 1 (2009-2012); Council Chair (2011)

Other Professional Experience: Washington State Association of Counties Appointments: Legislative Steering Committee, Cross Partnership Oil Spill Workgroup; Project Director, San Juan Islands Agricultural Guild; Executive Director, San Juan Community Home Trust

Education: BA, Keene State College, NH

Community Service: SJC Planning Commissioner (1999-2008); *Journal of the San Juan Islands* 'Citizen of the Year,' 2003; *Firefighter of the Year*, 1994 and 1997, Station 3/33; San Juan Public Schools Foundation volunteer

Statement: I am an effective community leader and County advocate. My public service on the Council has been my proudest professional accomplishment and is the work that I love.

My priorities are to: support a strong and sustainable local economy; advocate for County priorities including ferries, oil spills issues, and state and federal funding for essential County delivered programs and services; implement a long-term sustainable County budget; oppose the Cherry Point coal terminal unless all potential impacts are guaranteed to be mitigated; and preserve our island heritage.

I ask for your vote to represent all islanders on the new County Council.

For More Information:

(360) 378-7172

lovel@lovelpratt.org

www.lovelpratt.org

Council Residency District 1 San Juan County

Nonpartisan Office, 4-year term

San Juan



Bob Jarman

Elected Experience: District 3 Fire Commissioner 2004 to present; County Councilmember for District 1 Nov. 2012.

Other Professional Experience: 30 years local telephone company as technician, business office supervisor, manager. Small business owner (Island Communications) 2008-present.

Education: High school, Palo Alto, Ca; Industrial Arts, Cal Poly Tech Institute; Business and Management training, Kansas State University.

Community Service: Kiwanis past board member; Founding member Dollars For Scholars; San Juan Seniors Board; Relay For Life; Golf Classic, County Fair, Witzend, Oktoberfest, Community Theater.

Statement: Raising a family and working in the Islands over 38 years, has prepared me to serve as your County Councilmember representing not only San Juan Island, but all of San Juan County. As an employee, an employer, and Fire Commissioner I've had the opportunity to work with diverse groups across the county, helping me to recognize the needs of all our Islands.

As your nonpartisan County Councilmember I encourage and respect citizen input, follow the charter, preserve property rights, respect the environment; foster our job market and insist on a fiscally responsible budget. San Juan County is *my* special interest.

For More Information:

(360) 378-2952

electbobjarman@gmail.com

electbobjarman.com

Council Residency District 2 San Juan County

Nonpartisan Office, 4-year term

San Juan



Elisabeth (Lisa) Byers

Elected Experience: Appointed committees, below.

Other Professional Experience: Executive Director, OPAL Community Land Trust (1996-Present); Land Steward, San Juan County Land Bank (1994-1996); Manager, Historic New England (1985-1994).

Education: M.B.A., Public/Non-Profit Management, Boston University, 1991; B.A., Vassar College, 1984.

Community Service: *Appointed:* Orcas Solid Waste Vendor Selection, San Juan Initiative, Eastsound Planning Review. *Volunteer:* Cofounder Afterschool Program, Orcas Schools; Moderator - League of Women Voters Forums; Board Member - Orcas LGBT Fund; Cofounder, President - National Community Land Trust Network.

Statement: An islander for 19 years, I have led an effective team, creating jobs and modeling sustainable development.

I will work for a healthy, diverse and vibrant community. I am a powerful and practical advocate for the environment. We can honor and cultivate individual initiative, while we also collaborate to help our neighbors.

We can foster jobs that strengthen island culture. We can export ideas and products, and inspire visitors.

I will lead the effort to align a balanced budget with citizens' priorities. I have been an efficient steward of taxpayers' dollars. I hold high expectations for effective service to citizens.

For More Information:

(360) 540-1232

lisa@lisabyers.org

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Council Residency District 2 San Juan County

Nonpartisan Office, 4-year term

San Juan



Rick Hughes

Elected Experience: San Juan County Council - Orcas West #4 (Currently serving)

Other Professional Experience: President - Ray's Pharmacy (Seven Years); ESPN.com - Sales/Ad Director (Nine Years); Media/Account Advertising Agency (Seven Years)

Education: Southern Methodist University, 1990; BBA - Marketing, Cox School of Business; BA - Advertising Meadows School of Arts; Minor in American History

Community Service: San Juan County Drug-Take-Back creator; Orcas Island Cider Fest Creator; PTSA Roller Skating; Little League Rookie Coach; EWUA; EPRC; Orcas Island Farmers Market Association; Outward Bound Wilderness

Statement: Our community is at a crossroads, but we need to be able to live together, even when we disagree. My pledge is to operate a fair, honest and transparent government, to work for better communications and interaction between county employees and the public.

I will focus on; Community, Sustainability, Infrastructure, Financial Responsibility and Economic Development. With over 20 years of business experience working with ESPN and Walt Disney to six years of operational experience running Ray's Pharmacy, I feel it is time to give back and help serve our communities progress. I currently serve on San Juan County Council.

For More Information:

(360) 472-0253

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Council Residency District 3 San Juan County

Nonpartisan Office, 2-year term

San Juan



Brian McClerren

Elected Experience: None

Other Professional Experience: Formed Reveal Window Cleaning 2012. Participated in development of LCLT "Common Ground". Co-op Treasurer 2009. Operated Media Cocktail in Lopez Village 2007-2009. Licensed Insurance Agent Oregon 2004.

Education: Business and Accounting, SVC 2011. Organizational Management, Counseling and Cross-Cultural Ethics, MBI 2003.

Community Service: Restored access to Blackie Brady County Beach. Cooking at Franciscan Outreach and Meals On Wheels. Inmate tutoring for Safer Foundation Cook County Jail.

Statement: In the last fifteen years, annual building permits have fallen from 421 to 82. *For Lease* signs nearly outnumber *Open* signs in Friday Harbor and Eastsound Village. A new generation of young people has not appeared to replace an aging workforce. We are facing an economic crisis.

In spite of this, the County was occupied with increasing regulations on existing business and farms while increasing unnecessary spending. Many homeowners are now subject to a SEPA review for vegetable gardens while old roads are chip sealed in spite of public protest.

Please elect a Council which will take the crisis seriously.

For More Information:

(360) 468-3075

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Council Residency District 3 San Juan County

Nonpartisan Office, 2-year term

San Juan



Jamie Stephens

Elected Experience: Member San Juan County Council representing District 6 Lopez, Shaw and Decatur 2011 - present; Commissioner Port of Lopez 2006 - 2011.

Other Professional Experience: Small business owner, substitute teacher Lopez School; former Inn owner, grocery industry executive.

Education: University of Notre Dame B.A. in American Studies Communications; Wharton School executive finance courses continuing education.

Community Service: Board member Fisherman Bay Water Association, Lopez Family Resource Center, Lopez Village Planning Committee, Lopez Community Land Trust, Lopez Island Education Foundation.

Statement: I fought for farmers to market products; worked for community control of solid waste on Lopez and Orcas; endorsed availability of high speed Internet for our citizens; and stabilized the County's budget. I advocated in Washington, D.C. for permanent protection of our BLM lands.

I believe that healthy communities depend on jobs through a vibrant, diversified economy; strong connected neighborhoods; and protection of the natural environment. I will continue to ask questions, do the research and seek alternatives that fit our unique island community.

I ask for your vote to serve you.

For More Information:

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Lopez Island School District #144 Proposition No. 1 – General Obligation Bonds

Ballot Title

Full Text

The Board of Directors approved Resolution No. 6:2012-2013 concerning this proposition for bonds. This proposition authorizes the District to issue \$15,500,000 of general obligation bonds to renovate, remodel and improve the District campus and Decatur School; with bonds maturing within a maximum term of 20 years; and to levy excess property taxes annually to repay the bonds, as described in Resolution No. 6:2012-2013.

Should this proposition be:

Pacifica Law Group LLP, attorneys for Lopez Island School District No. 144

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition No. 1 will authorize Lopez Island School District (the "District") to borrow up to \$15,500,000 by issuing general obligation bonds. The Board of Directors approved Resolution No. 6:2012-2013 authorizing this proposition. The bonds will pay for capital improvements to the Lopez School Campus and the Decatur School Campus.

Improvements at the Lopez School Campus will include the renovation and expansion of classrooms and learning spaces; renovation and remodel of locker rooms and other athletic facilities; installation of rainwater catchment and storage systems; upgrading irrigation systems for District athletic fields, landscaping and food gardens; creation of new art, music and culinary arts classrooms; creation of a new District maintenance and shop-learning space; new student services spaces including health room, administrative offices, and new weight and fitness room; replacement and upgrading of mechanical, plumbing, lighting and electrical systems; installation of Photo-voltaic solar panels and connection to appropriate electrical sources; renovation and improvement of district parking and exterior lighting; renovation and enhancement of district landscaping and building entrances; integration and upgrading electrical, fire alarm and communication systems, and security and controls; creation of a single dedicated bus loading zone; energy efficiency upgrades; removal of asbestos, if necessary; remodeling and renovation of district kitchen facilities; renovation and expansion of district multi-purpose room; renovation of classroom technology; addition of a connector hallway between East and West buildings; and upgrading athletic fields and playgrounds.

Improvements at the Decatur School Campus will include the renovation of classrooms, school building and grounds to enhance health, safety and education; and energy efficiency upgrades.

The cost of all necessary architectural, engineering, and other consulting services, inspection and testing, administrative and relocation expenses, on and off-site utilities, site acquisition, related improvement and other costs incurred in connection with the foregoing capital improvements are part of the costs of such improvements. The bonds would be repaid out of annual property tax levies over a period of not to exceed 20 years. The exact amount of such annual levies for these bonds would depend on the amount of principal paid each year and on the interest rates available at the time the bonds are sold.

Arguments For and Against

Argument For	Argument Against
<p>We support the bond – a huge opportunity that we can't pass up. The bond will help provide more and better learning to students, fix systems that need fixing, make the buildings safer, help the environment, reduce energy costs, and save money to go back into the classroom.</p> <p>Our community is very supportive of our schools and we see this as a critical investment for Lopez and Decatur. The school is our biggest employer and generates over \$2 million a year for our community. We are proud of the broad-based education our students get – strong academics, PE and athletics, the arts, farm-to-school, foreign travel, and vocational programs.</p> <p>Yes, it's a big commitment, but the time is <i>right!</i> Interest rates are historically low and construction bidding is very competitive. This means we can be very efficient and <i>do it less expensively</i> than we will ever be able to again. The cost to taxpayers is \$0.68/\$1,000, or \$25 <i>per month</i> for the owner of a \$400,000 home. Our school taxes will still be less expensive than half the school districts in this state, for an average homeowner.</p> <p>We ask for your continued support. Join us in voting Yes for Lopez!</p>	<p>Passage of the Lopez bond will cost property owners at least \$68 more per \$100,000 assessed value for the next 20 years, or \$5,500 more taxes per average homeowner. None of this expense is for salaries, it's all for building and ground renovation.</p> <p>This costly project will not guarantee better student grade outcomes. For example, the States Office of Superintendent Report Card shows Lopez math scores 20 percent below Orcas and San Juan schools even though the current year budget expenses are much higher per student than the other island schools. The annual cost per Lopez student is over \$23,000, whereas Orcas and San Juan are less than \$14,000. This bond measure would increase the student cost by \$5,000. See www.k12.wa.us/safs/reports.asp to verify these figures.</p> <p>Voters of Lopez just approved additional tax levies for Fire and Solid Waste which will appear on next years tax bill. The growing burden of these taxes on all of us, especially those with fixed incomes, is becoming evident. Perhaps its time to exercise some critical thought on what this bond is really buying and what it will cost to maintain in the future. Now is not the time for a major tax increase.</p>
Rebuttal of Argument Against	Rebuttal of Argument For
No rebuttal arguments are allowed.	No rebuttal arguments are allowed.
Argument Prepared By	Argument Prepared By
<p>Yes for Lopez Committee: Jim Ghiglione: Lopez community member Larry Berg: Coach, parent, Lopez teacher Lexi Taylor: Chair of "Yes for Lopez Committee" For more information: www.yesforlopez.org</p>	<p>Lopez School Facts Committee: Joe Thornton: Chair, retired Hospice and Home Care CFO Dr. Kenneth R. Sinibaldi: Concerned citizen Dan Kovac: Youth coach, retired postmaster, 37-year resident For more information: nolopezbond@gmail.com</p>