

# Our Town

A Publication of The City of Coburg

January/February 2013 Issue

## Mayor's Corner

Jae Pudewell - Mayor



### What's Next?

It's customary at the beginning of a new year to review the highlights and accomplishments of the past year—a retrospective. Given, however, that the big events in town are still works in progress, I prefer to look forward to what we can expect for the coming year—in anticipation. For 2013:

- The Ford Institute Leadership Program starts in January. This is an important effort in developing our future leaders.
- The new Coburg Station opens for business in the Spring, complete with a new Shell station and expanded services.
- Phase IV of the Wastewater Project is slated to commence in Feb/Mar and the system will go on-line with the first connections in early May. Everyone should be connected by early 2014.
- Phase 1 of the new Coburg I-5 Interchange will be completed next summer. As a frequent user, this is exciting!
- The City will be making much needed investments in Public Works: new staff for the wastewater treatment plant, a water rate study to help ensure ratepayer equity and fiscal soundness for our water system, and we hope to begin planning for much needed repair of the City streets.

The end of March through May marks our annual budget cycle for the following fiscal year. The Budget Committee is a joint citizen and elected official effort led by a citizen chair, Katie Thiel. This is a critical, important effort tasked with ensuring the city's budget is within projected receipts

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and that spending is in line with citizen and Council priorities. The Budget Committee does have vacancies and anyone with passion for their City and professional experience with budgets - or just a keen eye for numbers is encouraged to apply at City Hall.

Speaking of City Hall... Anyone who has visited City Hall in the last few decades, attended a City Council or two, or especially attended Municipal Court can readily observe; our current public meeting facilities and city offices are woefully inadequate. The City has embarked on a small study to see if an alternative can be found to better meet the City's needs for

the next few years. Who knows?! Perhaps in the not too distant future, Coburg will be able to acquire a City Hall and a community meeting space befitting the great little city we are!

For questions or comments on any of these plans for 2013, please feel free to contact me. I welcome the dialogue.

mayor@ci.coburg.or.us

Happy 2013!



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## **Business Commute Challenge**

*The Business Commute Challenge is having their first ever winter BCC "mini" Challenge January 21-23, 2013!*

The Business Commute Challenge (BCC) encourages people to use alternative modes of transportation for their commute. This year we are shaking it up by adding a BCC "mini" Challenge! This event will help give you tips on how to commute, other than driving alone, during these dark and rainy winter months.

It's simple! Walk, bike, bus, carpool, or click just one of the three days, report your commute trip, and you could win prizes!

Visit us at our "Warming Huts" the week prior to the event to learn more!

Tuesday, January 15, Lane Transit District Next Stop Center, 1099 Olive St, 6:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, January 17, Springfield Transit Station Park & Ride, 6:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m., look for the tent!

*Get layered: Winter clothing tips*

*Get lit: Tips and ideas on how to be safe and visible*

*Get warm: Hot chocolate with mini marshmallows*

Visit [www.commutechallenge.org](http://www.commutechallenge.org) or call Marcia at 541-682-6206 for more information.

# Coburg Community Launches Leadership Program

The Coburg community has been selected to participate in the Ford Institute Leadership Program, commonly known as FILP. This program was created by a partnership between The Ford Family Foundation (TFFF) and Rural Development Initiatives (RDI). RDI designed and delivers the Ford Institute Leadership Program and to date has developed leaders, strengthened organizations and activated collaborative networks, and enhanced the economic vitality in over 300 rural communities throughout Oregon and the Pacific Northwest.

“The Ford Institute Leadership Program is one of the most highly respected programs for developing emerging and established leaders and providing the catalyst for them to learn and work together,” says Heidi Khokhar, RDI’s Operations Director. “Teens to retirees will develop their leadership skills, build social capital, collaborate, and coordinate resources to achieve initially one class project. From there, Coburg FILP participants can continue to work together, branch out into other community projects and learn the facilitation skills necessary to continue the training for future FILP cohorts.

FILP is a five year program offering something different each year and engages a new and diverse group of local community members and community advocates and trainers. Year one, three and five includes the Leadership Development program and year two and four includes special training sessions

## *Class list for Coburg’s spring 2013 FILP:*

Alice Brooks	John Brooks
Becky Wheeler	Judith Volta
Brenda Fritsch	Larry Larson
Bryan McConnell	Laura Comstock
Carolynne Hopkins	Leah Claypool
Claire Smith	Linda Egbert
Colton Clark	Melissa Bermudez
Haley Egbert	Michelle Sunia
Holly Claypool	Peter Fritsch
Jae Pudewell	Sammy Egbert
Janel McPherson	Sharyl Abbaspour
Jean Schapper	Susan Forester
Jeffrey Kaliner	William Judd
Jennifer Kelley	

in Effective Organizations and Community Collaborations, respectively. Effective Organizations and Community Collaborations sessions are open to more community members; often time those who were not able to participate in the previous FILP session become involved in these sessions. This model empowers graduates to utilize their skills and work effectively in group decision making, conflict reso-

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lution, community collaborations, meeting facilitation, inclusion and diversity, project management, volunteer recruitment, budgeting, and fundraising.

A key element of the FILP curriculum is the completion of a community project, not just any project, but a manageable and sustainable project. The Ford Family Foundation will provide up to a \$5,000 match for funds the FILP class brings in from sponsors and donors for their project. The purpose of the class project is put the newly gained knowledge and skills to work and create something positive for the community. Coburg's FILP Cohort will announce their class project in the spring and will have one year to complete the project.

The Ford Institute Leadership Program, which was initiated in 2003, has over 3,000 graduates to date. For additional information about The Ford Family

Foundation and Ford Institute Leadership Program, visit: [www.tfff.org](http://www.tfff.org).

Rural Development Initiatives, Inc. is committed to building rural capacity and moving leaders to action; creating rural economic vitality and providing essential and effective programs and resources to rural communities throughout Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. To learn how RDI is making, visit: [www.rdiinc.org](http://www.rdiinc.org).

### **Coburg FILP Contact:**

Heidi Khokhar, Operations Director  
[HKhokhar@rdiinc.org](mailto:HKhokhar@rdiinc.org) • 541-968-2542

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# **COBURG COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL ANNUAL AUCTION & DINNER**

**"For the love of our Children"**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD, 2013  
SHADOW HILLS COUNTRY CLUB**

**\$30 PER TICKET: TICKETS GO ON SALE IN JANUARY**

***PLEASE JOIN US FOR A GREAT EVENING & SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL!!!***

**FOR TICKETS OR QUESTIONS: PLEASE CALL TANNA HARRISON 541-554-1886**



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# Our Town

I was driving home after breakfast with a couple of buddies when I turned on radio and heard the heart wrenching news of another senseless shooting. By now, we can all recite the painful numbers – twenty-seven people killed, including twenty children! Even after watching images on the news, I cannot begin to imagine what the community of Newton, CT must be going through. It is a small town where neighbors know each other– a community not unlike our own.

Many have already offered various explanations, along with advice, comfort, and prayers. In the weeks and months ahead, there will no doubt be much more conversation at the local, state and national level. In the meantime, here are a few ideas that I believe are important.

First (because I am a minister) I want to make clear that such acts are not part of God’s will. God has no desire to see innocent children, or anyone else suffer. God’s will is that we should care for and protect all those who are vulnerable– especially the children. God’s will is that we should join hands and hearts to reach out and comfort one another in times of tragedy. God’s will is that we should seek healing and hope for those who are sick, whether their sickness is of body, mind, or soul.

Second, I believe that this shooting can provide the platform for a serious and thoughtful discussion

about the role of guns in our nation. We are becoming a nation that is “armed to the teeth.” And it is far too easy for those who are mentally unstable, or just plain angry, to get hold of a lethal weapon. I’m not opposed to gun ownership. But I see no reason why we need to be selling military style semi-automatic weapons with large ammunition clips that, as my hunting friends say, “have no legitimate purpose.”

Third, it’s time to take a hard look at how we provide “mental health” services in our communities. We are well into our third decade of funding cuts for community mental health and the results are painfully evident. Physicians know this. Teachers know this. Social workers and Ministers know this. There are too many people who are “slipping between the cracks” because they can’t get the help they need to deal with their mental and emotional illness

All of us have a role to play in creating a safe and secure community. We can pay a little more attention to those who are struggling. We can offer to help at our school. We can advocate for reasonable gun laws, and adequate mental health care funding

Jesus once said “Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God.” His words are more important today than ever.

*Dr. Gary Powell, Coburg United Methodist Church*

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## Food Pantry Entering Year Six!

It’s hard to believe that the Coburg Food Pantry is beginning it’s sixth year! While I was certain there was a need here in Coburg, I never realized it’s size. This past year we have helped 67 families, which includes 69 children. While the biggest food supply

comes from FFLC, we receive ample donations from our community as well. Monetary donations allow us to purchase fresh dairy items each month, and to

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# City Council Brief (City Administration Report)

## NOVEMBER

### *Major Projects Updates*

*APPROVED - Building Department, LLC Building Permit Fee Increases*

*APPROVED - Personnel Manual and associated interpretations related to payroll*

*APPROVED - maintaining current Attorney Services*

*CONSIDERED - Fiscal Policy/Accounting Manual*

*APPROVED - Resolution transferring budget expenditures appropriations between categories in the General fund to implement the Justice Program [public safety tracking software]*

*PUBLIC HEARING - Phase IV Wastewater hook-up policies*

*APPROVED - Phase IV Bid Documents*

*2012 Election update*

*City Council Subcommittee held November 20th and 27th to discuss payroll structure*

## DECEMBER

### *Major Projects Updates*

*APPROVED – Kennedy/Jenks Contract Amendment #10 [Wastewater Project Engineers]*

*APPROVED – DEQ Wastewater Loan increase*

*APPROVED – City Council Subcommittee recommendation regarding payroll and Personnel Manual interpretations*

*CONSIDERED - Sidewalk repairs*

*APPOINTED – Reappointment of Planning Commissioners*

*Financial Monthly Update*

*ADOPTED – Resolution adopting salary schedule for Fiscal Year 2013*

*ADOPTED – Resolution extending Workers' Compensation coverage to volunteers of the City*

*APPROVED - Fiscal Policy and Accounting Manual*

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### *from page 5 - Food Pantry*

pay our rent. Chuck Shephard has been very generous in letting us pay a minimal amount for rent.

Our annual Christmas giving day was once again a huge success! The wind storm destroyed our Qwik Shade, and Home Depot was very generous by donating a new one to us free of charge. Two employees were so impressed by our efforts that they actually came out to help us at the pantry! Thank you Dave and Ruth!

Members of Coburg United Methodist Church purchased gifts for children of seventeen families, some of whom will have no other gifts. We were able to purchase plenty of fruit to go around, and some needed items that we don't otherwise receive (clothes

soap, shampoo, conditioner, dish soap, light bulbs). We also purchased gloves, socks, and scarves, and had knitted hats donated.

Unfortunately our freezer failed in November. We received a grant from the Oregon Food Bank to cover half the cost and were able to cover the other half with money donated by our community.

Thank you Coburg! I cannot thank my volunteers and donors enough! While there are too many to name, I would especially like to thank Lisa Henke and Michelle. I appreciate being able to count on you to meet the delivery truck on Friday and neatly sort and put away our food. Thanks everyone, and I look forward to another year!

# Calendar

## STANDING MEETINGS

1st Wednesdays

### PARKS TREE COMMITTEE

6:30 pm, City Hall

Contact, Bob Butler, Public Works Director

541-682-7857

1st Fridays

### POKER NIGHT

6:30 pm Registration, 7:00 pm Game Begins

Coburg Community Grange

2nd Monday

### CCCS SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

6:30 pm

2nd Tuesdays

### CITY COUNCIL

7:00 pm, Coburg

Contact, Sammy Egbert, City Recorder

541-682-7852

2nd and 4th Wednesdays

### GRANGE/GOLDEN YEARS MEETING

7:00 pm, Coburg Community Grange

2nd Thursdays

### METROPOLITAN POLICY COMMITTEE

11:30 am, (Eugene or Springfield library)

Contact, Petra Schuetz, City Administrator

541-682-7871

3rd Wednesdays

### PLANNING COMMISSION

7:00 pm, City Hall

Contact, Petra Schuetz, Planning Director

541-682-7871

4th Mondays

### COBURG FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETINGS

7:00 pm, Fire Hall

4th Wednesdays

### CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

7:00 pm, City Hall

Contact, Sammy Egbert, City Recorder

541-682-7852

4th Wednesdays

### CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

7:00 pm, City Hall

Contact, Sammy Egbert, City Recorder

541-682-7852

## OTHER SCHEDULE INFORMATION

January 1 - CITY HALL CLOSED: New Year's Day

January 21 - CITY HALL CLOSED: MLK Day

January 22 - City Council Work Session 7:00 pm

January 26 - City Council Retreat

February 18 - CITY HALL CLOSED: Presidents Day

February 26 - City Council Work Session 7:00 pm





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*Address Correction Requested*

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Planning Commission Vacancy

Applications available at City Hall or online at <http://coburgoregon.org/?q=jobs>

- Must be at least 18 years old
- All but two positions must be Coburg residents (i.e. live within the city limits)

#### The Position:

- Seven (7) positions
- Voluntary, two-year term. Reappointments are made each October by Planning Commission recommendation and City Council appointment or reappointment each November
- No term limits
- Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm at Coburg City Hall
- Additional meetings are occasionally scheduled
- Open until filled

### Budget Committee Vacancy

Applications available at City Hall

- Budget Committee position with a term ending June 30, 2014
- Applicant must be qualified electors within the meaning of the state constitution and have resided in the City one year immediately preceding appointment to the position.
- Applications may be picked up at City Hall, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., or contact Sammy Egbert at [sammy.egbert@ci.coburg.or.us](mailto:sammy.egbert@ci.coburg.or.us)

## Great Job!

*The Coburg Food Pantry collected 1,592 pounds  
as part of the US Postal Food Drive and all food  
collected by our two rural carriers stays in Coburg!!*

*(See related article on page 5)*