

Our Town

A Publication of The City of Coburg

November/December 2012 Issue

Mayor's Corner

Jae Pudewell - Mayor



Common Ground

November. Election season. Our annual trek to the voting booth, or rather the mailbox here in Oregon. I haven't always lived in Oregon - and in a perverse sort of way - I actually miss those long lines at the polling stations; standing outside in the freezing cold, stomping my feet and clapping my hands in a vain effort to stay warm, and the wonderful conversations with complete strangers. Spirited conversations about life, work, kids—even politics. Conversations triggered by our common bond of civic duty. Each of us visibly reminded by the long lines that this civic act was something much bigger than ourselves, something that drew and bound us together as citizens, as Americans, despite our political differences.

A major exception to the seemingly pervasive political polarization in this country has been the Oregon Legislature. The happenstance of a nearly equally divided House and Senate has reinvigorated a spirit of compromise in Oregon. Among many things, compromise—the art of working together for a common good—requires trust. Trust that both sides fundamentally want similar thing; that differences are as much a matter of degree as substance. And trust that when differences are substantive, all parties can agree to disagree but yet continue to work together.

The political challenges we see at the national and state level are also seen and felt at the local level. It's not easy to build something—anything—especially trust. Coburg has faced a number of challenges in recent years. And we likely have more challenges ahead. Many in town do not want Coburg to change—they fear change will alter the character of the town.

continued on page 2 - Mayor's Corner

In This Issue

PAGE 2

An Evening with Bob Welch

PAGE 3

News from Coburg
Community Charter School

Prescription Drop Off

PAGE 4

Strategies for the Changing
Season

Community Sing-A-Long

PAGE 5

Food Pantry

Annual Leaf Pickup

Winterize Your Irrigation

PAGE 6

Jerry Behney - City Councilor

City Council Briefs

Page 7

Calendar

PAGE 8

Volunteer Opportunity

Contact Information

from page 1 - Mayor's Corner

Others believe that Coburg must grow or stagnate away. Still others believe Coburg needs to capitalize as rapidly as possible on our many unrealized opportunities: pedal to the metal!

I believe our common ground is how Coburg grows. Can we preserve and foster the Coburg character and charm we all cherish while still expanding our economic base? I think we can, but to do this well, we need the inputs, perspectives, and energies of all of us.

The adage "many hands make light work" is no truer than in small towns. With many opportunities to volunteer, Coburg thrives best when everyone

pitches in - even a small part. Additionally, many of you have been or will be invited to participate in the "Coburg Hills" hub of The Ford Institute Leadership Program www.coburgoregon.org/?q=fordilp a civic leadership development series planned for early next year. This is a wonderful opportunity to develop leadership and team skills and to build community spirit. If you are interested in participating or in other volunteer opportunities, please contact City Hall for further information.

My heartfelt thanks to the many fine volunteers we have. You do great work! And to the many of you thinking about public service, we'd love to have you!



An Evening with Bob Welch

Join us from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 26 for an "Evening with Bob Welch at Coburg Community Charter School" and raise money for CCCS in the process. The author and Register-Guard columnist will donate half of all his proceeds from sales of his three new books — yep, three! — to the school.

These books make perfect holiday gifts: "52 Little Lessons from It's a Wonderful Life," "Cascade Summer: My Adventure on Oregon's Pacific Crest Trail," and "Resolve: From the Jungles of Bataan, the Epic Story of a Soldier, a Flag, and a Promise Kept."

Register-Guard columnist Bob Welch has twice been honored by the National Society of Newspaper Columnists as best in the nation, and he's won the "best

writing" category in the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association's contest the last two years. He is the author of 15 books. A national speaker, Welch has appeared on "Good Morning America" and spoken at the Massachusetts Statehouse. He is the founder of the Beachside Writers Workshop, whose next event will be a "January Jump Start" in Eugene Jan. 12.

Hope to see you on November 26 for some refreshments, good stories and an enjoyable evening that benefits local kids! Please RSVP to Mollie Smith at 541-345-9214 or mismolliesmith@gmail.com. Everyone who RSVP's will get their name in a drawing for a FREE BOOK or COBURG BRONCO HAT!



News from Coburg Community Charter School

It is hard to believe that another summer has come and gone already. School began September 4th, and there are a few changes in store for our second year. Please join us in welcoming Laura Ralls, Jennifer Fogarty-Gibson, and Angela Rose to Coburg. Laura joins us as the new Assistant to the Executive Director. Jennifer is coming on board as the sixth grade

We would also like to acknowledge the work of CCCS volunteers over the summer. They manned booths at all the local summer events.

teacher, and Angela is our new music teacher. Students will find some new tasty options as we roll

out a school lunch program. Students will now be able to enjoy fresh, healthy hot lunches two to three times a week. We are beginning to look forward to some fall traditions as well. Harvest Fest will be here before we know it, so start thinking about your costume. CCCS is once again looking for Skill Days volunteers with a desire to share something they love with our students. If you would like to participate please email leahclaypool@gmail.com or contact the school office.

We would also like to acknowledge the work of CCCS volunteers over the summer. They manned booths at all the local summer events. Hope you had a chance to stop by! A special thanks to The Bridge Church for helping prepare our middle school classrooms and the Cummins Company for their work helping us keep the playground safe and weed free. Thanks to all for your ongoing support of CCCS. Go Broncos!

Leah Claypool

Prescription Drop Box

The Coburg Police Department is proud to announce a Prescription Drop Box is available for prescription disposal. Residents can drop off unused or expired prescriptions and over-the-counter medications - no questions asked. This program not only helps

to protect the environment by keeping medications from water supplies it can also deter the usage of prescription drugs by unintended parties, especially our youth. If you have any questions, please contact Coburg Police Department at 541-682-7853.



Strategies for the Changing Season

Our “endless summer” has at last given way to “normal” weather. As a third generation Oregonian, I must confess that I have a love/hate relationship

It is a good thing to connect the rhythms of our life with the seasons of the year. And it can bring a sense of both gratitude and joy to each day.

with rain. On the one hand I love the fact that winter (O.K. fall, winter, and spring) rains create a green backdrop that is unmatched anywhere in the world. And of course, winter rains mean a full lake for sailing in July-September. On the other hand, I struggle

with being confined indoors, with not being able to work in the yard, and the short days and long nights.

Developing some “indoor” hobbies has certainly helped. It’s hard to beat curling up in front of the fire with a good book, or strumming away on my ukulele and dreaming of palm trees and white sand beaches. This winter, I’ve made a promise to keep in touch with friends who live at a distance. Some are young people, away at college for the first time. Others are friends I reconnected with at my 40th High School reunion.

It is a good thing to connect the rhythms of our life with the seasons of the year. And it can bring a sense of both gratitude and joy to each day. Long ago, the writer of Ecclesiastes said “For everything there is a season, and time for every matter under heaven.” Three thousand years later, this is still good advice!

Dr. Gary Powell - Coburg United Methodist Church

Community Sing-A-Long

December 9 at 5:30 p.m.

You are invited to join with friends and neighbors for our Tenth Annual Community Sing-a-Long at Coburg United Methodist Church. This evening of fun includes the chance to sing the wonderful music

of Christmas along with special guest appearances by the Sheldon Dublinaires and our own Coburg Community School children. Free refreshments follow the program.

Food Pantry Serving Coburg

Please remember our local food pantry, serving families here in Coburg. Our biggest supply of food comes from Food For Lane County, but often lacks variety. We also receive donations from our community, and often rely on this for items that are not often received from Food For Lane County. We are currently in need of the following items:

- soups (not tomato)
- condiments such as ketchup, mayonnaise, mustard, salad dressing
- cold cereal
- canned fruit (not peaches)
- boxed dinners such as mac and cheese, pastas, etc.

There is a food barrel located at the Coburg Dairy Mart just before entering the post office, and at the Coburg United Methodist Church. We are open to assist clients on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month from 2-6pm. Income guidelines are posted on the pantry door, located at 32695 Pearl St., and we are open to all residents of Coburg. Watch for the annual postal food drive in December! We also enjoy helping families over the Holidays, supplying them with gifts and goodies for the kids. Please call if you would be interested in helping with this, Kathy Emerson, Pantry Manager at 541-434-6404.

We are staffed 100% by volunteers, and it would not be possible to make this all happen without them. Thanks so much! You are a great team!

Annual Leaf Pick-Up



Coburg Public Works annual leaf pick-up will take place from November 19 - December 31. Leaf piles are to be placed in a location that is accessible by a backhoe. Leaf piles must also be clear of branches and other yard debris. Piles that contain debris other than leaves will not be picked up.

Winterize Your Irrigation System

- Prevent damage from freezing pipes. To winterize your irrigation system:
- Turn off the water to the irrigation system at main valve.
- Set the automatic irrigation controller to the "rain" setting.
- Turn on each of the valves to release pressure in the pipes.

Drain all of the water out of any irrigation components that might freeze. This includes removing any backflow prevention device and insuring that all water has been removed. If the backflow device cannot be removed, or is above ground, it should be wrapped with insulation to prevent freezing.



Jerry Behney, City Councilor

I have served on the Coburg City Council for five years. I was appointed to a vacant position in 2007 and was elected to my current position in 2008. Prior, I was a member of Budget Committee.



I moved to Coburg nine years ago after living in Eugene for twenty-seven years. My wife and I choose Coburg because of the small town community feeling Coburg offered. Our connection to Coburg was forged throughout the years; attending the many community activities and my wife taught at Coburg Elementary School for years.

I have been retired for seven years after working for more than forty years in the civil engineering field. Twenty-two of those years were with the engineering division of the Public Works Department for the City of Eugene.

My wife, Judith, and I have four adult children; two live in Houston, Texas, one in Portland, and one in Seattle.

My outside interests include: watching movies; traveling; golf; cooking; sporting events; and working on old cars. My current project is a 1931 Ford Coupe hot rod.

I believe the role of our local government is to establish an organization that can do the peoples' business and be good stewards of public money. It must provide for a safe and healthy environment. It needs to put in place an infrastructure that promotes growth that allows for a sustainable future while retaining our small town atmosphere. To help with the process I encourage the citizens of Coburg to get involved, attend the meetings, and join committees to help shape Coburg's future.

Contact Councilor Behney from the City website at www.coburgoregon.org/?q=mayor.

City Council Brief

Highlights actions and issues that City Council addressed

SEPTEMBER

CITY COUNCIL

City Administration Report

Major Projects Updates

Resource Assistance for Rural Environments (RARE) Participant Introduction

Considered Draft Phase IV Wastewater Policies

Considered Draft Building Department Fee Increase / Bulk Rate

Appointed Parks/Tree Committee Member

Financial Monthly Update

WORK SESSION (25th) – Wastewater Costs Overview

AUGUST

City Administration Report

Major Projects Updates

APPROVED – Water Rate Study Update Contractor as Lane Council of Governments

CONSIDERED – City Attorney RFP Update- Interviews to occur in October

APPROVED – 2012 Systems Development Charge Interest Rate for Payment Plans at 4.5%

APPROVED – Public Works Surplus Property Proposal

APPOINTED – Planning Commission Member Michael Pattle

Financial Monthly Update

CONSIDERED – Draft Fiscal Policy and Accounting Manual

CONSIDERED – Draft Investment Policies

CONSIDERED – Budget 5 Year Plan Overview



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

Holiday Schedule and Closures

Nov. 12 – Veteran’s Day CITY HALL CLOSED

Nov. 17, 2012 - Saturday, 10am - 2pm

ANNUAL BAZAAR

Coburg United Methodist Church

91193 N. Willamette Street

Crafts, Gifts, Baked Goods, Donuts,

Homemade Pies, Coffee, & Juice.

Nov. 22-23 – Thanksgiving CITY HALL CLOSED

Dec. 1 – Letter Carriers’ Food Drive

Dec. 7-9 – **Christmas in Coburg**

Dec. 8 – Letter Carriers’ Food Drive

Dec. 9 – Community Sing-A-Long

5:30 pm

Coburg United Methodist Church

Dec. 25 – Christmas CITY HALL CLOSED





*A Publication of
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Address Correction Requested

Volunteer Opportunities

PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCY

Applications are available at Coburg City Hall or online at www.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 7:00PM at Coburg City Hall
- Additional meetings are occasionally scheduled
- Open until filled

Christmas In Coburg

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

6:00 pm - Lighting of official Coburg Christmas Tree - Pavilion Park on Willamette Street

With special guest after parade

7:00 pm - Light Parade - Downtown Coburg

- Staging starts at Truck-n-Travel parking lot, East end of Delaney Street at 6:15 pm
- Chili Feed / Bon Fire
- Immediately following parade at Coburg Community Center, 32663 E Mill (beside Dari-Mart)
- Horse & Carriage Rides after Parade
- Sponsored by your Coburg Chamber of Commerce & Coburg Community Grange
- For more information call, 541-345-6791

