

# Our Town

A Publication of The City of Coburg

May/June 2013 Issue

## It's Back.....Heritage Day!

For many years, Coburg has celebrated its history and heritage, usually in February (Oregon's Birthday month).

This year, Heritage Day will be held on Friday, May 17 with an evening celebration at the Coburg Community Charter School. The hours are 6 to 8 pm. There is no charge for this evening event activities, with a delicious supper also available at old-fashioned prices.

Heritage Day Celebration is open to all friends, family and community members, and will feature oldtime music, historic displays, craft and interest centers



for all ages. There will be a special presentation of interviews of community elders. There will also be a display of class quilts. There will be a Heritage Wall, which will feature photos and memorabilia of Coburg pioneer families.

As a lead in to this event, the  
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Coburg Quilt Show & Sale  
Things you might want to know...

## Coburg High School Reunion Class of 1963

The "Class of 63" was the last class to graduate out of the "Old Coburg High School" 50 years ago. Class reunion will be held **June 8th** on the spot where the Old High School stood for over 100 years. The Reunion will be held at the Coburg Fire District building. The "Class of 63" will have a catered meal at 1:00p.m. Visitors and any Coburg alumni are welcome after 4:00p.m. to come and meet old classmates. Contact Ron Butler at 541-771-0213 for more information.

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# Mayor's Corner

*Jae Pudewell - Mayor*

## ***On Budgets, the Budgeting Process, and Shortfalls***

As many of you know, the City of Coburg is experiencing a fourth-quarter fiscal year (July through June) budgetary shortfall. But before I discuss this further, I want to emphasize that this is a short-term situation, affecting this fiscal year only. Coburg's finances are for the most part trending positive; we just need to make it through June.

*On Budgets.* Like all cities, Coburg's budget consists of multiple funds. There are public works funds for parks, streets, water, and wastewater; capital improvement funds where we set aside money for future needs; and the General Fund, which funds Administration, Planning, and public safety—the Police Department and Municipal Court. We have multiple funds because often revenue the City receives is restricted to specific uses, for example, your water bill payments go into the water fund and can only be used for administering, maintaining, and improving the water system. Public safety is a high priority for Coburg residents, the budget committee, and the City Council—over half of Coburg's General Fund is budgeted for the Police Department and the Municipal Court.

*On Budgeting.* During the annual budgeting process, now in process, the City anticipates its expected revenues and expenses for the coming year and decides how the expected revenues from each source are going to be spent on what the City needs and wants to do. Because it is the most complex of the City's funds, most of the Budget Committee's time is spent on the General Fund.

General Fund receipts come from a number of sources: property taxes, franchise fees, some state revenue, and the like, including Court Fees. Court Receipts are a grouped collection of seven budgetary line items associated with the activities of the Municipal Court and Police Department. One of these seven budgetary line items is Fines and Bails, the budgetary line item most associated with current police activity. For this fiscal year, Court Receipts were budgeted at about 22% of the General Fund and Fines and Bails at just over half that, or about 12%.

I'd like to discuss two budget items in more detail: Fines and Bails and Contingencies. The Budget Committee does not set a target for Fines and Bails. Rather, since this revenue is tightly coupled with expected police activity (e.g. expected patrol hours), the Police Department provides the Budget Committee with an estimate for Fines and Bails for the next fiscal year, based on the Department's work plans. In accordance with best practices for cities, the Police Department is responsible for realizing this revenue and for managing its expenses in line with its budget and revenues. A contingency set aside, unallocated money to cover unexpected events like revenue shortfalls or roof leaks, is also part of the General Fund. Budgeting reserves is always challenging: if we reserve too much, services can be unnecessarily short-changed; but if we reserve too little, services may have to be reduced. The City's goal is to meet or exceed the best practices recommendation of about 15%.

*On Shortfalls.* One of the tasks of the City staff and the Council is to monitor how well forecasted revenues and expenses match actual experience

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during the year, and, if necessary make adjustments when reality and plans does not match.

Going into the fourth fiscal quarter (April-June), the City forecasted a revenue shortfall of about \$86,000, resulting from a combination of factors. On the expense side, the City has experienced a larger than expected impact from state fees assessed against court receipts, greater than expected court costs in the third quarter, greater than anticipated software conversion expenses, and unanticipated increases in Police Department salaries. On the revenue side, the City's Franchise Fees are forecasted to be nearly 20% low, while Court Receipts are projected to finish the year at less than half of forecast (47%). The shortfall in Court Receipts is two-thirds of the projected budget shortfall.

Franchise Fees are primarily based on utility sales in Coburg, but consumption has dropped and some prices, particularly natural gas, have fallen significantly. There is nothing the City can do to remedy a shortfall in Franchise Fees.

Last fall, the City staff became concerned that revenue from Court Receipts was not trending as expected. The issues were discussed extensively among the City staff and corrective steps were taken. But as the third quarter financials were assessed, it became clear that the projected shortfall was more than the departments could adjust for and more drastic measures would be needed.

By using contingency funds and by cutting and deferring expenses where possible, city staff has been able to cover about \$50,000 of the projected shortfall. After much deliberation, the City decided to cover the remaining shortfall with three strategies for this fiscal year (through June):

- *Implement three all-staff furlough days.*

- *Temporarily reduce the court and police staff pay rates to 80% of full time.*
- *Temporarily layoff one police officer.*

Time was also of concern: the longer the City waited to take action, the more severe the cutbacks would need to be. The City Administrator, therefore, as is within her responsibilities and authority, initiated the above strategies the first of April. Because of the seriousness of the budget situation, however, Council was appraised at the April Council meeting and was given the opportunity to redirect city staff should it so choose.

In summary, this is a difficult but temporary situation. There is also the potential for fourth-quarter General Fund revenues to exceed projections. If this should happen, the City will reverse the above strategies as timely and as equitably as possible.

I want to thank the many citizens who have voiced their support for the Coburg Police Department. Public safety is clearly a city service with broad citizen and City Council support. Coburg is rare among Oregon small cities in its willingness to fund its own Police Department. I also want to thank the city staff for their perseverance, determination, and dedication in working through this difficult and trying process.

Sincerely,



Jae Pudewell

Mayor, Coburg



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*from page 1 - Heritage Day*

Coburg School students have been busy during their previous Friday Skill Days, making slates, corn husk dolls, biscuits and butter and much more! They also have taken walking tours of Coburg and created tombstone rubbings at the IOOF cemetery.

During the day on May 17, Heritage Day, as a culmination of the theme, all of the Coburg school students and staff will come to school in pioneer garb. They will re-enact the Oregon

Trail Adventure around the perimeter of the school grounds, visiting "stops" along the trail between Missouri and Oregon City, discovering life on the Oregon Trail.

**Friday, May 17th, 6:30 to 8:00 pm**  
**Coburg Community Charter School Gym**  
**91274 Coburg Road North**

*If you would like more information about Heritage Day, please call Judy Volta at 541.206.5332. Come and celebrate!!*

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## *Our Town*

Last month, my wife and I traveled to Tennessee and Mississippi on Church business. As many of you know, travel these days can be an "adventure." Changing weather, missed flights, unfamiliar hotels, traffic jams— these are just some of the "surprises" that confront travelers.

And truth be told, we experienced a few of these unpleasant "surprises" on our trip. But we also experienced several pleasant "surprises" – surprises that made us feel good about our country, about people, about life. The first came while we were driving through Jackson, Tennessee. We needed to make a "pit stop" and I saw sign for First United Methodist Church. We stopped, introduced ourselves as "Methodists from Oregon," and asked if we could use the restroom. First, we were greeted like long lost family which was nice. But then the Pastor asked where we were from and it turns out she was best friends with Rev. Danna Hastings who preceded me at Coburg UMC. In fact she has been to Coburg and "loves" Coburg. Small world isn't it?

Later I was standing in a long TSA line at the Nashville airport and struck up a conversation with another traveler from Los Angeles. Turns out she works for the same large company my brother retired from in New Jersey. Didn't know my brother, but we talked about work, family, church, and life.

When my plane was cancelled and I was once again in a long line, I met a man from Colorado Springs. Turns out we share much in common, including experience as a single parent, a love of music, and a Methodist background.

Call it "serendipity" or "luck" or "grace" or whatever you want. But I am reminded once again, how chance encounters become opportunities to "connect" with one another. I will probably never see these people again, but neither will I forget them. And I am grateful for the unexpected blessing that each of them brought to my life.

*Dr. Gary D. Powell*  
*Coburg United Methodist Church*



# Coburg Community Charter School

There seems to be a strong possibility that Spring is really here, and that means summer can't be too far away. It is hard to believe that we are wrapping up our second year at Coburg Community Charter School.

We have a lot to be thankful for this year. Our auction in February was the most successful to date, and it

was a really fun night. Thanks to our dedicated auction committee for their long hours and great ideas. Thanks to all those who donated items and services to the auction, we couldn't do it without your generosity. Thanks as well to all those who were able to attend and participate in the auction at every level.



*CCCS Ukulele club, The Ukeladies & Gents, perform at Senior Lunch.*

CCCS would not be the great place it is without the unflagging support of our numerous parent and community volunteers. Our library, special events,

and extracurricular programs would not be possible without you. Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers.

Thanks as well to our hard working and dedicated staff. CCCS is so lucky to have this wonderful team.

In short we have the best of all worlds at CCCS: Unbelievable

community support, a strong volunteer base, and a great staff. So thanks again for making CCCS such a special place.

Although our thoughts might be rapidly shifting to summer vacation, we still have several great events coming up at the school before we take our backpacks off their hooks for the last time this year.

## *Upcoming Events*

**May 7<sup>th</sup>:** Community night at the movies. Cal Young Concert, Symphonic, and Jazz Bands perform originally arranged musical accompaniment to two classic cartoons and a silent film short. CCCS students will perform an opening number. Performances begin at 6:45 in the CCCS gym. Tickets available at the door. Proceeds benefit the CCCS music program and the Cal Young band program.

**May 17<sup>th</sup>:** Heritage Day. A full day of pioneer fun followed by an evening event for the whole community. Pioneer dinner at old fashioned prices, local history displays, pioneer inspired crafts made by CCCS students, quilts made by students and community members on display, and more. 6:30-8:00 pm in the CCCS gym.

**May 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Spring Sing. Join us for a night of music performed by CCCS students at 6:30 pm. Heritage day quilts silent auction closes at spring sing.

**May 31<sup>st</sup>:** Jog-a-Thon. Kids will be counting their laps to raise money for CCCS.

**June 13<sup>th</sup>:** Last day of school and community picnic in the evening.



# City Council Brief

## MARCH

### City Administration Report:

*Major Projects Updates*

*APPROVED – Planning Commissioner Appointment – Lorrie Zeller*

*DISCUSSED – City Hall Feasibility*

*APPROVED- Audit Report*

*APPROVED – Resolution 2013-03 Transferring Budget Expenditure Appropriations between Categories*

*APPROVED – Resolution 2013-04 Accepting State Transportation Funds through 2012 Special City Allotment Grant Program*

*ACKNOWLEDGED – Arbor Day Proclamation*

*APPROVED – EDU Calculation Methodology for New Users*

*DISCUSSED – Wastewater Systems Development Charges- out for public comment*

## APRIL

### City Administration Report:

*Major Projects Updates*

*APPOINTED- City Council Position 3 - Jeffery Kalliner*

*APPOINTED- City Council President - Jerry Behney*

*ACKNOWLEDGED – Audit Report*

*DISCUSSED – Water Rates Study*

*APPROVED – Limited Income Assistance Methodology for Fiscal Year 2014*

*APPROVED – Hunter Communications Ground Lease at City Hall for Fiber Optic*

*APPROVED – Wastewater Easements*

*APPROVED – Change in Paper of Record to Register Guard*

*APPROVED – Budget Committee Appointments*

## 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

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2nd Thursdays

**METROPOLITAN POLICY COMMITTEE**

11:30 am, (usually at the Eugene or Springfield library)

Contact, Petra Schuetz, City Administrator  
541-682-7871

3rd Wednesdays (Note: This month the meeting will be held on the 4th Wednesday)

**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

**OTHER SCHEDULE INFORMATION**

**May 7th - BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**

6:30 pm, Coburg City Hall

Contact, Ramona Sweere  
541-682-7870, rsweere@ci.coburg.or.us

**May 8th - COFFEE WITH THE COPS, 'Preventing Child Abuse'**

6:30 pm, Coburg Fire District Building

Contact, Larry Larson, 541-682-7857

**May 17th - HERITAGE DAY CELEBRATION**

6:00p.m.

Contact, Judy Volta

**May 18th - COBURG COLOSSAL CLUTTER CLEAR-OUT -Citywide Garage Sale**

**May 22nd - PLANNING COMMISSION**

**May 21st - BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**

6:30p.m., Coburg City Hall

Contact Ramona Sweere,  
541-682-7870, rsweere@ci.coburg.or.us

**May 28th - BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**

6:30p.m., Coburg City Hall

Contact Ramona Sweere  
541-682-7870, rsweere@ci.coburg.or.us

**June 8th - CLASS OF 1963 COBURG HIGH SCHOOL REUNION**

Coburg Fire District Building

**June 13th - STATE REPRESENTATIVE PHIL BARNHART**

6:00-7:00pm, Coburg City Hall

Contact District Office 541-607-9207

**June 22nd - ANNUAL PARK CLEAN-UP DAY**

Canterbury (Mill) Slough

Contact Bob Butler, 541-682-7857

**MAY 17TH - HERITAGE DAY - WAGON'S HO**

This is a wonderful all-day, all-school event that kids will talk about all year! Every class will become a miniature "wagon train" and travel the Oregon Trail (conveniently located around the Coburg Community Charter School grounds). Kids and adults alike are invited to wear "pioneer" inspired clothing. We will encounter all sorts of adventures along the way that you won't want to miss.

**Calling all Parents & Community Volunteers...** We welcome parents and community volunteers to dress up and join us starting at 8:30 am on May 17th, either as trail participants or stationed at the various Trail sites. Please contact Leah at 541-513-4967 or leahclaypool@gmail.com if you would like to participate.





A Publication of  
The City of Coburg



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Fax: 541-485-0655

petra.schuetz@ci.coburg.or.us

Address Correction Requested

9th Annual Outdoor  
**Coburg  
Quilt**  
Show & Sale

Over 350 quilts  
Traditional, Vintage & Art quilts  
All sizes & skill levels  
Vendor Booths, Silent Auction  
Food, Antique Shops, Historic Coburg

*A Stitch in Time*  
**Quilt Show & Sale**

Entries due  
**July 14, 2013**

Opportunities for:  
**Quilters  
Vendors  
Volunteers**



Saturday,  
**July 27, 2013**  
9 AM - 4 PM

Located in  
**Pavilion Park**

For information  
to enter, to vendor, or to volunteer  
visit our website at [www.coburgquiltshow.org](http://www.coburgquiltshow.org)  
or contact us at 541-746-8655

**COBURG QUILT SHOW • P.O. Box 8444 • Coburg • OR • 97408**

Admission by donation or  
canned food for the Coburg Food Bank.

## Things you might want to know...

### Garbage Rates

New garbage rates and curbside recycling started April 1st! Contact Coburg Sanitary with questions at 541-683-5929.

### New Business

Camping World and Old Dominion Freightliners, LLC coming this summer to Roberts Road!

### Coburg Colossal Clutter Clear Out is May 18th!

All you have to do is clean out your unwanted treasures and put up a sign. Ads will be placed in the Register Guard and on Craig's List for a city-wide Garage Sale. Join in!

### Letter Carrier's Food Drive is May 11th!

It's that time again! Put a bag of non-perishable food out by your mailbox or in the barrel at the post office, and we'll get it to people that need it right here in our community. We are always in need of high protein items like canned tuna, peanut butter, and soups and stews. Anything that would make a healthy additional to a meal would also be a welcome donation. Big thanks to the letter carriers, and thanks in advance to you for your generous donations!