

Our Town

A Publication of The City of Coburg

January/February 2014 Issue

Mayor's Corner State of the City 2014

Jae Pudewell, Mayor

As we enter a new year it's helpful and constructive to take stock of where we've been and where we're going.

City Services. The purpose of the City of Coburg, like all cities, is to provide efficient and effective essential services. Two of these are potable water and sewer (wastewater). This past year the City made great strides in bringing the new sewer system on line. Phase 3 (the treatment plant) started up with nary a hitch and is running smoothly. Phase 4 (connecting residences and businesses) has admittedly been rocky, but the City's management team has persevered in working with a difficult contractor. Phase 4 is expected to be completed this spring. Kudos to the many involved in making this happen. *Verdict: On Track.*

City Council also took the steps this year towards putting the City's water system back on firmer footing. Part A of the water rate study was completed and the in-city rates are now much better able to fund both operations and projected capital improvements. Part B of the water rate study has just been completed and will likely result in more equitable rates for out-of-city users and for Pioneer Valley Estates residences. This effort is expected to be completed in the first half of 2014. Additionally, the City has known for some time that adequate water supply reserves are lacking. To this end Council also commissioned an update to the Water System Capital Improvements Plan which Council will use as a guide for future plans and projects. *Verdict: Improving.*

Another city service with widespread public support is the Coburg Police Department. Though we've had to work through
continued on page 4 - Mayor's Corner

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Just call us at 541-682-7850 to begin receiving your free copy. Or, go to coburgoregon.org/newsletter to sign-up for an automatic e-version. Over the last year, *Our Town* has generally been provided online, by request, and at local businesses...

In This Issue

PAGE 2

City Council Brief
State of the City Address
Volunteer Help Needed

PAGE 3

Bronco Community News

PAGE 4

Mayor's Corner (cont.)

PAGE 5

Coburg Rules!

PAGE 6

Internet Safety Tips
Coburg Chamber News

PAGE 7

Parks Committee News
Wastewater Project Update

PAGE 8

CCCS Enrollment News

PAGE 9

Coburg United Methodist
Church

PAGE 10

Wastewater Project Update
(cont.)
Water Rates Meeting
Announcement

PAGE 11

Calendar

PAGE 12

Our Town Delivery Options



City Council Brief

Highlights of actions and topics the Coburg City Council has recently addressed.

NOVEMBER

CITY COUNCIL

Discussed – Wastewater Project

Discussed – City Administration Report

Discussed – Financial Report

Approved – Resolution 2012-29 A resolution approving supplement budget in FY2013-14 in general fund, park fund, street fund, water fund, and sewer CIP fund.

First Reading – Ordinance A-143-B EPUD Utility Franchise Agreement

First Reading – Ordinance A-108-H Add Camping on Public Property and Public Rights of Ways Ordinance

Discussed – URA

Discussed – Major Projects Updates

DECEMBER

CITY COUNCIL

Discussed – Wastewater Project

Discussed – City Administration Report

Discussed – Public Works

Discussed – Financial Report

Second Reading/Approval – Ordinance A-143-B “EPUD Utility Franchise Agreement”

Approved – Oregon Department of Transportation: Public Safety Truck Inspection

Approved – Property Donation to the Police Department

Seconding Reading/ Approval – Ordinance A-108-H “Add Camping on Public Property and Public Rights of Ways Ordinance”

Discussed – Urban renewal Agency and District recap Revisited

Renewal – Employment Contract: City Administrator

Discussed – Major Projects Updates



Mayor Jae Pudewell at the 2013 State of the City Address

State of the City Address

Join together at the annual Coburg State of the City Address, Tuesday, January 14, 2014 at 6:30p.m., Coburg City Hall.

Mayor Pudewell will be discussing the past year and vision for the future. Coburg Citizen of the Year also recognized and provided a ‘Key to the City’. Refreshments provided. State of the City activities will be followed by the regularly scheduled City Council meeting.

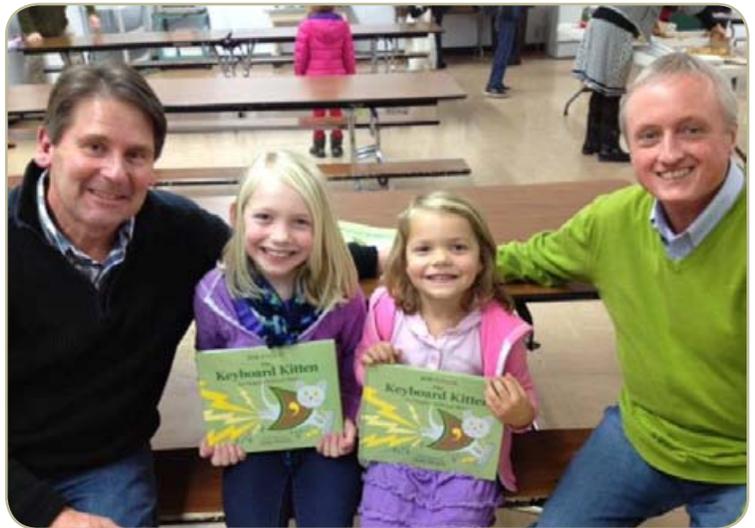
Volunteer Help Needed



We currently have need for help at the food pantry. We are looking for people that would be able to work on Mondays and could commit to twice a month for about 4 hrs./mth. If you have time to give, and are interested in helping, call Kathy Emerson at 541-434-6404 for more details.

Bronco Community News

Welcome to 2014! I always like to start each year by thinking about all the great people and events that made the newly completed year special. In that tradition I would like to thank all those who helped make last year another great one for CCCS. Among those are the Coburg police officers who took several CCCS students Christmas shopping as part of their annual Shop with the Cops program. Bob Welch and Tom Penix who came to the school to talk with students about how books go from ideas to published works. Mr. Welch also donated half the proceeds from the sale of his books at a local evening event to the school. Thank you as well to



Bob Welch and Tom Penix share their new book with CCCS students.



CCCS students enjoying Heritage Day 2013

the City of Coburg for making sure the sewer work at the school was completed before the first day of school, and to Petra Schuetz and Sammy Egbert for their assistance in spreading the word about events at CCCS to the community. Ongoing thanks to the fire depart-

ment for being great neighbors, for their continuing support, and for cleaning up the blacktop area so we could hold the back to school ice cream social as scheduled. Thanks to Coburg Pizza/Nana's Café for helping throughout the year by providing food for events and treats for teachers and to Deterings Orchards for kindly donating apples and making cider more affordable for Harvest Festival. Thank you to the United Methodist Church and the Countryside Christian Church for their ongoing interest in the school and the use of their parking areas. Finally, a special thanks to all our parent and community volunteers who took the time to make a difference in the lives of our students.

As a way to give back to this wonderful community, CCCS will be hosting a free community dinner on January 31st from 6:30 to 8:00 in the gym. This will be part of our annual Heritage Day event. Community members are invited to enjoy a pioneer supper of stew and cornbread, listen to some old time music, and learn about Heritage Day at the school. Hope to see you there.



from page 1 - Mayor's Corner

some difficult budget issues this past year, the CPD continues to be well managed and to provide the City and the surrounding community with excellent service. *Verdict: Maintaining/Improving.*

The City provides numerous additional services from park maintenance to planning to event support to leaf pickup. Despite chronic underfunding, the City Staff continues to do provide quality, though prioritized, service, over and above expectations. *Verdict: Making do, expertly.*

City Staffing. Coburg City Hall strives to provide Coburg with efficient and effective services while also developing and retaining our staff. In a small town with a limited staff, each employee is essential making retention that much more important. This year Council approved a revised and improved Employee Handbook and a market-base merit pay structure. Council also voted to proceed with the acquisition of the "Manley Building" for conversion to a new City Hall. This new facility will improve working conditions, staff communication, and moral. *Verdict: On the upswing.*

Economic Health & Growth. It has been evident for some time that Coburg has been on the margin of being large enough to sustain itself (critical mass). Coburg is quite fortunate among Willamette Valley small towns in that it has very desirable industrial properties with which to fund infrastructure development and city operations. With the sewer system coming on line, the industrial area is beginning to thrive. Even though Coburg lost out on Materne (the applesauce company), a number of companies are moving (or have recently moved) to the Coburg industrial area: McDonald's and Coburg Market, Shell service station (upgraded),

APEL Aluminum Extrusions, Old Dominion Freight Lines, Camping World, A-1 Auto Glass, Hamilton Construction. Additionally, downtown has seen an uptick in new business, Serenity Lane is expected to be break ground this winter on Phase 1 of their new facility, and prospects for residential development are improving. *Verdict: Optimistic.*

Fiscal Health. Coburg's finances have two sides: revenues and spending. The Budget Process is the City's annual balancing act. Always difficult, it will be especially complex the next few years given dynamic tax environment (due to growth) Coburg expects to see for the next few years. Revenues appear to be edging positive but until our legacy negative General Fund Balance (from 2004-2005) is resolved (still several years to go), spending will be tight. *Verdict: Guarded, but cautiously optimistic.*

Community Dialogue & Engagement. The breadth and quality of the Coburg community involvement is astounding. This is truly a citizen-lead City: from the Antique Fair to the Planning Commission to the Parks & Tree Committee to the Heritage Committee. Much has been and continues to be done, but there is always more to do. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to participate; specialized skills and experience are always useful and valuable but not necessary. All that's needed is your enthusiasm and commitment. Aside from a few who unnecessarily persist in antagonism and confrontation, I am encouraged by the pervasive sense of community I see and feel around town. *Verdict: Optimistic.*

Let's keep talking,



Jae Pudewell
Mayor, Coburg

Coburg Rules!

I'm not one to admit my age. Even when I tell people that I am 35, it always seems to take some convincing. There's something about aging that troubles me a bit, and I can't quite put my finger on it. But, I'm not alone, many try to cover a gray hair or a wrinkle, not willingly fork over their driver's license, and pretend that their high school class reunion was attended by many old people they didn't know. And, how long did you stay 29 anyway?

Let me tell you at least one thing though that doesn't concern me at all about aging: wisdom. Wisdom comes with age, and experience, to all who would desire it.

Lots of wisdom can find its way into a life, over time: It is easier to get forgiveness than permission. Junk is something you've kept for years and throw away three weeks before you need it. Everyone makes mistakes... the trick is to make mistakes when nobody is looking.

But my favorite? That which is popularly called The Golden Rule: "Do to others what you would have them do to you." Or perhaps you've heard it: "always treat others as you would like them to treat you."

I learned The Golden Rule from my parents, who taught it to me from the teachings of Jesus in the Bible. But I soon discovered it's not just a Jesus thing. For instance, Confucius, who lived before Jesus, said: "Never impose on others what you would not choose for yourself."

It is not just a Bible thing either: "Do not do to others what would anger you if done to you by others," from Isocrates of Greece, or from Homer's, The

Odyssey, "I will be as careful for you as I should be for myself in the same need."

In fact, it's not even just a religious thing: "Do for one who may do for you, that you may cause him thus to do."

(from Ancient Egyptian story The Eloquent Peasant, c. late 2nd Millenium BCE)

As you begin to poke around, this simple rule of peace and good will—this wisdom—seems to extend back through all of recorded human history...

From Ancient Babylon to Hinduism, from Islam to the Roman Empire, from Buddha to William Wilberforce, this bit of wisdom seems to be wisdom for all humans, "...every American ought to have the right to be treated as he would wish to be treated, as one would wish his children to be treated."—John F. Kennedy

Good rule. Wisdom.

What rules do we follow in our community? I think Coburg rules, but what rules in Coburg? Does wisdom rule? Wisdom comes with age, and experience, to all who would desire it. Of course, not everyone desires it.

Here is a simple, rule-of-thumb guide: Ask yourself what you want people to do for you, then grab the initiative and do it for them.

Terry Dawson



Coburg Police Department: Internet Safety Tips for the Family

Do you worry about the information advertisers can learn about your child's online activities? If you do, you aren't alone. According to a recent study done by the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project, 81% of parents of online teens say they are concerned as well. Here are a few things you can do to decrease your child's "cyber footprint".

1. Ads and Apps

Talk to your child about Ads and Applications online, Facebook, and other social media. If you click on these or add them to your profile, you are allowing companies to access your personal information. Always read the fine print.

2. Account Settings

Keep an eye on the rapidly changing privacy settings and go through each option slowly while asking yourself - what is on my profile and who can see it?

3. Information Shared

What are they sharing? Delete anything that could give out too much information; like where you live or go to school, where your children take lessons, or where they like to hang out.

4. Downloading Software

Teach your child to never download software unless talking to you first and to not open emails from strangers. Install and keep an up-to-date firewall, anti-spyware, and antivirus software.



A few simple steps and then resolving to follow-up frequently on your child's online activities can make a big difference in decreasing the risk of identity theft, online predators, exposure to inappropriate material, cyberbullying, and more. Continually discuss with your children about their online activities and remember that internet technology can be mobile so monitor cell phones, gaming devices, and tablets in addition to laptops and desktop computers.

Learn more about online safety for all ages at www.netismartz.org.

Larry L. Larson
Chief of Police

"Enhancing Our Community"

Coburg Chamber News

Happy New Year – 2014 is here. Did you know that the Coburg Chamber of Commerce is the principal sponsor of Christmas in Coburg? We hope you took advantage of the wagon rides around the park and the opportunity to watch a spectacular light parade. We want to thank John Bosley for his tireless hours installing the Lights and Decorations at the Park, they were, and continue to be a welcome delight. We also want to thank Santa and his Wife for making a special stop in Coburg that night.

Now it is time to prepare for 2014. We welcome the New Year with much anticipation. Coburg has much to be grateful for and to look forward to in the coming year. From the good leadership and dedicated employees within our City Hall, to the businesses that contribute so much to the community as well as the greatest citizens, Coburg is definitely a great place to live and work in 2014.

The Coburg Chamber of Commerce is active in this community and without the support of local businesses that sponsor the Chamber through their

continued on page 9 - Coburg Chamber News

Wastewater Project Update

The project continues and the last phase, the installation of septic tanks on individual properties is more than half done. The contractor for phase four has slowed down the installation of new tanks and has put some crews into an effort to go back and finish landscaping and such. This finishing work is nearly caught up. The City is working with the contractor to resolve outstanding issues as the contractor moves forward. Please call Tim at 503-580-7701 with installation and landscaping questions. Tim represents the contractor, R & G Excavating, Inc.

An important part of the project is testing the existing septic tanks. If the tank fails the test, that means that a property owner's septic waste has been leaking into the ground and possible the ground water. The failure rate has been running about fifty percent of the tanks tested so far. For the project this is both a good thing and a bad thing. It reinforces the importance of the project because, most likely, each leaking tank has been polluting the groundwater for many years. Leaking tanks are replaced with new tanks and will be maintained properly. It is going to cost the project more than estimated, and, because it takes longer to replace a tanks than to simply hook an existing tank

continued on page 10 - Wasterwater Project Update

News From the Parks Committee

The Parks Committee would like to take this opportunity to share with you an overview of our past year. Our committee has grown to 7 members. Currently serving on the committee are Joe Morneau, Karen Coury, John Bosley, and Nanci Johnson. They are long-term members, who have provided the committee with insight and direction. Chris Surbaugh, Lonna Meston, Coleen Marshall and Claire Smith have joined the committee recently. Bob Butler is our staff advisor.

In the past year we have had a very successful park clean up on the Canterbury Slough Trail. We also worked with a U of O student to help design a brochure that will inform the community of how we can all help to protect our waterways, and riparian areas. We received valuable input from Lonna, who is also a master gardener, regarding native plants and shrubs that will be considered as the work on the Coburg Loop Trail progresses.

Now for your help. We are asking the community to help us choose a name for what is now referred to as Moody Park. If you would like to submit a suggestion,

please email Bob Butler @ bob.butler@ci.coburg.or.us or drop off your suggestion at city hall no later than February 4th.

The Parks Committee will review the names and choose three. We will then vote on them and refer the top two choices to city council.

We are also in the process of defining goals to help improve and enhance our area parks. We will be asking for your ideas on each park after the first of the year. This is meant to help us create plans for each park that will be in place so that when we have an opportunity to apply for grants, or seek donations, the money will be spent on projects the community will support.

Please feel free to attend our meetings the first Wednesday of each month at City Hall. We meet at 7:00 and are always interested in your input. You may also email Claire Smith @ coburgclaire@gmail.com and it will be reviewed and discussed at the next scheduled meeting.

Thanks, The Coburg Parks Committee



Coburg Community Charter School Enrollment and Lottery News

The kids are back in school after enjoying a nice winter break preceded by a few extra days off thanks to the deep freeze of early December. So as the saying goes, it is time to get down to business. Enrollment time is just around the corner, and this seemed like a good opportunity to share information with the community about our enrollment process and other aspects of how the school operates.



First and foremost, I would like to make sure everyone knows that CCCS is a public school. There is no cost to attend CCCS, and it is open to all students. In this way, it is the same as any neighborhood school.

It differs from a neighborhood school in that it can enroll students from anywhere in the district and, if space allows, outside the district. This is due to laws surrounding charter schools in the State of Oregon. Charter schools are also able to set an enrollment cap. The enrollment cap at CCCS is 225 students overall with an average class size of 25. The ability to limit class size allows CCCS to continue to be the great small school we have always had here. The downside of the enrollment cap is that if there are more than 25 students who enroll for a class, we must have a lottery. A lottery inevitably means that some students do not get into the school at the beginning of the year and are put on a wait list. It was very important for CCCS to find a way to give

students living in the former Coburg Elementary attendance area some kind of priority placement.

Oregon Charter School law does not allow charter schools to create or maintain a geographical attendance boundary, so CCCS applied for a waiver from the state board of education to give local

students priority placement. We were granted a waiver in 2011 that allowed us to give priority placement to local students if the enrollment of local students was under 50% of total enrollment. Currently CCCS and Sauvie Island Academy near Portland are the only charter schools in the state with a geographically based priority waiver. The waiver does not limit enrollment of Coburg area students to 50%, but once the 50% threshold is reached Coburg area students will be considered at the same priority level as all other 4j students in the lottery. At this time, the percentage of Coburg area students enrolled at CCCS is below the 50% threshold for the waiver. We encourage all local families who are interested to apply.

While it may be the case that not every local student who wants to attend CCCS will get in, it is the intention of the school that as many local students as possible are served by CCCS. Open enrollment begins in March. Details regarding enrollment, informational events, lottery, and general school information can be found online at Coburgcharter.org.

Will you take time to “thank” this year?

When I was growing up, my parents insisted that we learn to write “thank you” notes. The day after Christmas, would invariably find my brothers and me at the dining room table, with pen and paper, writing a thank you note to every person who gave us a gift (including each other!) Although I resented it at the time, I have come to appreciate the value and importance of saying “Thank you.” I have also noticed how this simple gesture is becoming a dying art in our fast paced society.

One of my New Year’s Resolutions this year is to say “thank you” more. And not just “thank you” for gifts received or invitations to dinner. I want to thank the people who often don’t get thanked– or even noticed. So to get started, I thought I would offer public thanks to a few people in the community.

The first thank you is to the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who are serving in the armed forces. You are sacrificing much to make our world safer. Thank you!

Thank you to the volunteers who staff our fire department. Whenever I hear the siren, I pause to say a prayer for your safety. Your dedication and skill are amazing. Thank you!

And while we’re on the topic of volunteers, many thanks to those who serve on the city council, and various committees in our city, county, and state. We often hear negative comments about “politicians,” but the truth is, most communities are led entirely by volunteers. Thank you!

Thank you to Eugene Register Guard columnist Bob Welch. Over the years you have helped us to see our

community, our state, and our world with fresh eyes. We will miss your wit and wisdom, and we wish you well in retirement. Thank you!

Thank you to the wonderful folk who are staffing the Egan Warming Centers. While others are wringing their hands over homelessness in our community, you are rolling up your sleeves to do something positive. It’s hard work and we grateful. Thank you!

This is starting to feel like an “Academy Awards” acceptance speech, so I better wrap it up. Will you take time to “thank” this year?

Dr. Gary Powell

Coburg United Methodist Church

“I want to thank the people who often don’t get thanked– or even noticed.”

from page 6 - Coburg Chamber News

annual membership, Christmas in Coburg and other annual events would not be possible. Visit our website at CoburgORChamber.com to take a look at what we do. We are actively looking for more great businesses and individuals to make the Chamber stronger and even more beneficial to the community at large. Businesses large and small are welcome and appreciated.

Make 2014 the year you join the Chamber.



from page 7 - Wastewater Project Update

up, the project is lasting longer. It was originally scheduled to finish in February or March, now it may be June before things are finished.

One problem has been some settling of the ground around some of the new tanks. This does not mean that the tank is settling. Sometimes when the native soil is put back on top of the tanks, it is not as compacted as it should be. When it rains, especially as it did in record amounts in September, the native soil tends to wash down more, leaving holes that need to be filled. The City is working with the Contractor to address those problems. If you see any settling around your installation, please contact the engineer's representative. Robert Sutton who has been the representative/inspector for the whole project is moving on to another job site. Kyle Smith will be replacing Rob. The contact information is the same.

Now that many households are hooked up, a reminder about things that have and have not changed is probably timely. Everyone's house is still attached to a septic tank, but instead of draining off into a drain field, there is an electric pump that pumps the liquid

waste to the treatment plant. This pump is run by an electrical service, connected to you other electrical services for the house. The pump will come on periodically to pump the liquids out of the tank. The septic tank will still need to have the solids removed periodically, but from now on that will be the City's responsibility. The City will be coming around periodically to inspect and do maintenance on the tanks. Property owners are no longer responsible for maintaining their tank.

Your new system should be worry free. You may hear the pump switch coming on and shutting off, but you need to do little with it. There is an alarm and an alarm light. Occasionally early in the installation of the systems, these alarms have gone off as the system adjusts. Under normal operation, if the alarm comes on, you should call the City. There are instructions on a sticker attached to the electrical panel. The City has also prepared a more complete manual that is available at City Hall and on the City website under 'Special Projects', 'Wastewater Project' <http://www.coburgoregon.org/?q=wastewater>.



Water Rates and Future Water Needs Work Session

The Coburg Water Rates Study and an associated future water analysis have been completed. City Council will discuss future possibilities at a work session scheduled for Tuesday, January 28, 2014 at 6:30p.m., Coburg City Hall.

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, (usually at the 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

JANUARY/FEBRUARY EVENTS

- Saturday, January 4, 9:00a.m.
Countryside Fellowship Coburg City Council Retreat
- Tuesday, January 14, 6:30p.m.
Coburg City Hall - State of the City Address
- Tuesday, January 28, 2014 at 6:30p.m.
Coburg City Hall – Water Work Session
- Saturday, February 22, 2014 at 5:30p.m.
Shadow Hills Country Club – Coburg Community Charter School Auction

Broncos 'Under the Big Top'

Coburg Community Charter School's annual silent auction is set for February 22nd at Shadow Hills Country Club starting at 5:30p.m. Tickets are available at the school 541-344-4113. They are also accepting donation items for the auction. "We are very thankful to our community for helping to makew our little school a success and could not do it without you all". For more information, contact Lisa McCormick, 541-579-7122 or Nanci McKibben, 541-852-2158.

Do you have a community event to share? Call 541-682-7852 or email sammy.egbert@ci.coburg.or.us





Our Town

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*Coburg City Hall
PO Box 8316
Coburg, OR 97408*

Phone: 541-682-7850

Fax: 541-485-0655

petra.schuetz@ci.coburg.or.us

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been provided online, by request, and at
local businesses...
