



JANUARY 29, 2026 NEWSLETTER

UPDATES, MINUTES, AND ACTION ITEMS

Our hearts are broken as we mourn the murders in Minnesota, as well as those who died in ICE custody last year—at least 32—including Geraldo Lunas Campos, whose death in ICE custody in Texas has been ruled a homicide.

And, as reported by Common Cause, “This morning, we woke up in a country where the First Amendment might not exist anymore – **unless you and I are willing to fight for it.**

Late last night, federal agents took journalist Don Lemon into custody (alongside independent Minneapolis journalist Georgia Fort this morning) – because of their constitutionally protected reporting on what’s happening in Minnesota.”

We recognize this for what it is – the step-by-step process of fascism – [The Dictator's Playbook](#) in action.

As always, Curry County will stand for Democracy.

We will turn our anger, our outrage, and our fear into peaceful action.

**INCC is supporting the National Day of Action
ICE Out of Everywhere - on Saturday, January 31st.**

Join us at a peaceful rally near where you live:

- **Port Orford:** NE Corner of Hwy 101 and 16th Street
- **Gold Beach:** Curry County Courthouse,
29821 Ellensburg Ave (Hwy101)
- **Brookings:** NE Corner of Hwy 101 and 5th Street

AND COMING UP:

No Thrones. No Crowns. No Kings.

America has no kings, and the power belongs to the people.

Now, our task is to stay vigilant, stay united, and continue to push back. The next NO KINGS mass mobilization will take place on March 28, but we will send out action alerts as they come up – be on the lookout for more rallies coming your way.

Elections

The May 19th Primary is fast approaching! It will be the start of our efforts to take back our country – to re-establish our nation's core values. It will also affect the course of our state and Curry County. Some of the important open positions are listed below:

Federal Races –

- U.S. Senate – currently held by Jeff Merkley (D) , who is running again.
- U.S. Representative for Oregon's 4th Congressional District – currently held by Val Hoyle (D), who is running again. Dr. Melissa Bird (D) has filed. Monique DeSpain (R) has also filed.

State Races –

- Governor – currently held by Tina Kotek (D), who is running again. Six other Democrats have also filed to run, as well as thirteen Republicans. You can look up the candidates [HERE](#)
- State Representative, District 1 – currently held by Court Boice (R). Bret Cecil (D) has filed.
- Curry County Commissioner (Non-partisan position)- currently held by Lyn Coker. Jeremy Dumier has filed. **WE NEED A CANDIDATE TO FILE WHO WILL REPRESENT A DIFFERENT VIEWPOINT IN THIS POSITION.**

We will keep you updated on candidates and ballot measures, but for now, there is still an opportunity to become a candidate yourself – or to talk to someone that you believe should run for office. **Support is available.** Contact INCC for further information.

Important Election Dates:

March 10 – Last day to file to be a candidate on the Oregon Primary Ballot.

April 28 - Last day to register to vote or change party affiliation. Registration cards postmarked by this date or submitted online no later than 11:59 pm are valid. **You must be a registered Democrat or Republican to vote in partisan primary races.**

INCC Minutes January 29, 2025

- 1) **Melissa Bird**, Democratic candidate for U.S. Representative, 4th Congressional District [melissa bird for congress](#), spoke at the INCC meeting. Dr. Bird stated her belief that we need more people in Congress who understand what it's like to raise a family in this economy – who know what it is like to have struggled. She is proud to be endorsed by [Progressive Democrats of America](#). Dr. Bird stated that she has strong experience working with and achieving results with people on both sides of the issues, but she will not vote against her morals. She believes this makes her a stronger candidate and representative than Val Hoyle, who has only voted “present” on issues such as the Resolution honoring Charlie Kirk and voted for the passage of the Fix Our Forest Act. Dr. Bird has committed not to accept AIPAC (American Israel Public Affairs Committee) funds. She also committed to visiting different areas of the district on a regular basis – either herself or her staff.
- 2) **Monday Community Dinners** – These dinners are still going strong, and participation is growing. 47 dinners were served last Monday. Donations have been generous, and the volunteer list remains steady. At this time, the Community Dinners will remain hosted by Indivisible, with a small committee working out the details. The dinners will continue every Monday, from 5:00 – 6:30 pm, at the Port Orford Senior Center.
There was some discussion on encouraging the cities of Gold Beach and Brookings to organize Community Dinners with support from INCC. This discussion was tabled until our next meeting.
- 3) Rally planning discussion – INCC has heard from a volunteer in Brookings who is willing to be a contact person for rallies in that area. We now have contact organizers in the three major cities of Curry County. It was decided to sponsor rallies in the three locations so that people can rally close to home. Our National Day of Action Rally on Saturday, January 31, will take place in Port Orford, Gold Beach, and Brookings. We will debrief on the success of this plan at our next meeting.
- 4) The next INCC Information/Organizing Meeting – Thursday, February 5, at the Port Orford Library – from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.
- 5) Port Orford Rallies continue every Friday at the corner of 16th and Highway 101 in Port Orford from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS

- 1) Saturday, January 31 - Attend a National Day of Action Rally near you!
- 2) Saturday, February 7 - Attend the next Curry County Board of Commissioners Workshop. Participate in a collaborative discussion on potential solutions to hazardous waste associated with transient activity in the Harbor community. The workshop will be held at 6:00 pm at the Brookings-Harbor High School cafeteria.
- 3) From the COIN (Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network) Legislative Team - High on the list of 2026 legislative priorities will be efforts to make up for some of the shortfalls in funding due to cuts by the federal government.

Fair Taxes Would Help...

One potentially important avenue being explored is to disconnect Oregon's tax rate from the federal rate that gives multinational corporations substantial loopholes. Doing so would make these wealthy corporations (think Google, Nike, Facebook, and Amazon) pay their fair share here in Oregon, according to [Tax Fairness Oregon](#). Here's a [letter the COIN Legislative Team wrote](#) to key lawmakers encouraging them to pursue this opportunity to secure hundreds of millions of dollars in much-needed funding by closing these loopholes created by Trump's Big Ugly Bill. [Read more in the Oregon Capital Chronicle](#).

How YOU Can Help!

Write to your own state legislators this week ([look them up here](#)) and urge them to disconnect Oregon's tax rate from the federal rate so that multi-national corporations pay their fair share in Oregon.

Feel free to use details from COIN's letter, or from Tax Fairness Oregon's letter, to craft your own comments.