

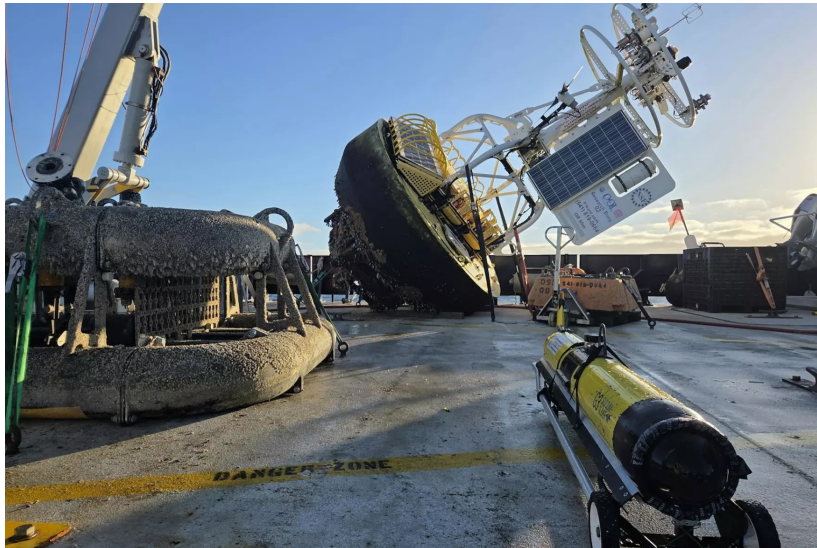


INDIVISIBLE

BENTON COUNTY

N e w s l e t t e r

June 23, 2026



Instruments removed from the Pacific Ocean off Oregon on June 16, 2026. Jack Barth/Oregon State University

The National Science Foundation established the system in 2016 with plans to operate it for three decades. The system includes more than 900 instruments worth \$386 million located along the coasts of Oregon, Washington, Alaska, North Carolina and Greenland used to track waves, wind and current data. The tools also track the ocean's salinity and can detect early marine heatwaves and El Niño-related anomalies.

In Oregon, underwater sensors and buoys stationed off the coast of [Newport](#) keep a close watch on ocean health by tracking ocean acidification and spots with depleted oxygen levels that threaten marine life.

"Dismantling the Ocean Observatories Initiative is supreme stupidity, costing taxpayers millions of dollars and destroying a vital source of climate data," Oregon's Democratic U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley said in a statement.

Merkley, however, celebrated the federal government's decision to abandon its plans on social media after he and U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, led the unanimous passage of a bill Wednesday to block the government from dismantling the monitoring system.

A group of seven bipartisan state lawmakers representing Oregon's coastal districts also opposed the federal government's plans in a letter to National Science Foundation Chief of Staff Brian Stone.

"For Oregon's coastal communities, whose livelihoods depend on accurate, real time ocean information, the removal of these buoys is not an abstract policy decision," the letter reads. "It is a direct threat to safety, economic stability, and our ability to respond to rapidly changing ocean conditions."

The letter included signatures from state Reps. Court Boice, R-Gold Beach; Boomer Wright, R-Reedsport; Cyrus Javadi, D-Tillamook and David Gomberg, D-Otis, and Sens. Suzanne Weber, R-Tillamook; Dick Anderson, R-Lincoln City, and David Brock Smith, R-Port Orford.

Read the full story [here](#).

CALENDAR

June/July

- **6/24 | Indivisible General Meeting - Cancelled**
- **6/24** | Weekly Wednesday Protest. [Sign up!](#)
- **6/25** | Banner-making session. 4 - 5:30 pm, Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis. [Sign up!](#)
- **6/28** | Albany Pride. See below.

- **6/28** | Open Streets Corvallis. See below.
- **7/01** | Weekly Wednesday Protest. [Sign up!](#)
- **7/03** | Postcarding - Get out the Vote. See below. [Sign up!](#)
- **7/04** | Independence Day in Corvallis.
- **7/04** | Signs of Fascism Patriotic Procession. See below.
- **7/08** | Weekly Wednesday Protest. [Sign up!](#)

Scroll down for flyers about other community events.

July

- **7/08** | Indivisible General Meeting. **Corvallis Library.** [Sign up!](#)
- **7/11** | Indivisible BC at the Saturday Market. 8am - 1pm.
- **7/15** | Weekly Wednesday Protest. [Sign up!](#)
- **7/17** | Postcarding - Get out the Vote. See below. [Sign up!](#)
- **7/18** | Indivisible BC at the Saturday Market. 8am - 1pm.
- **7/18** | I-5 overpass bannering. Noon - 2pm. Email visibilitybrigade@indivisiblebc.org.
- **7/22** | Weekly Wednesday Protest. [Sign up!](#)
- **7/22** | Indivisible General Meeting. **Corvallis Community Center.** [Sign up!](#)
- **7/25** | Indivisible BC at the Saturday Market. 8am - 1pm.
- **7/29** | Weekly Wednesday Protest. [Sign up!](#)
- **7/31** | Corvallis Rush Hour Bannering. Email visibilitybrigade@indivisiblebc.org.

Indivisible Benton County Activities



Thanks to our wonderful volunteers who staffed the Indivisible Benton County table at Philomath Pride! It was a beautiful day with lots of smiles and joy!

There are still openings to **staff Indivisible BC tables** at:

- **Corvallis Open Streets** on **June 28**, especially from **2 to 4 pm**. Help with the creation of the giant community chalk mural that says "SAVE OUR DEMOCRACY!" [Sign up here](#) or email visibilitybrigade@indivisiblebc.org.
- **Albany Pride on June 28.** Email events@indivisiblebc.org.
- **Corvallis Saturday Farmers Market** - Every Saturday from July 11 through November. Email farmersmarket@indivisiblebc.org.

The **Visibility Brigade** is [making banners on June 25](#), and **bannering** on **July 18** and **July 31**. For more information, or to sign up, email visibilitybrigade@indivisiblebc.org.

Volunteers needed for our 4th of July “Signs of Fascism” Patriotic Procession!

On the **4th of July from 11:30 am -12:30 pm**, the **Visibility Brigade** is planning an action in downtown Corvallis during the **Red, White and Blues Festival**. We will march single file, dressed in red, white and blue, each carrying one of the Signs of Fascism ("Voter Suppression," "Constant Lying," "Normalizing Corruption," etc.) The last six signs will suggest what people can do ("Vote and Get Others to Vote," "Pressure Elected Officials," etc.) To tie in the 4th of July theme, the last sign will read: "Dissent is Patriotic!"

We need 21 people to carry signs, plus a photographer. [Sign up here](#) or email VisibilityBrigade@indivisiblebc.org.

Celebrate our country's 250th birthday by taking action to save our democracy!



Proposed rule fundamentally changes federal grant-making

"Regulation for Federal Financial Assistance" ([OMB-2026-0034](#)) is a proposed rule from the Office of Management and Budget that would alter how **every** US agency manages **every single federal grant** or other form of federal funding to **every single recipient**, including states, local governments, nonprofits, universities, and hospitals. It would drastically increase executive-branch oversight over billions of dollars in federal research, healthcare, culture, and infrastructure grants.

For example, this rule would **severely harm scientific research**. It would replace peer review with political appointees, allow grants to be rescinded without cause with no recourse, and disallow federal funds from being used to pay for journal article fees (which allow scientists to disseminate research), among other negative impacts.

Please submit a **public comment** [here](#), and share this info with others. If OMB finalizes the rule without adequately addressing substantive objections, the record can be an evidentiary basis for a legal challenge, which have been successful in other cases.

The deadline is **July 13, 2026**. Comments should ideally be unique, with specific references to sections of the proposed rule. See the list of resources for help writing your comment. However, **any comment is better than nothing**. You can also use Stand Up for Science's tools to [call](#) and [email](#) your members of Congress and ask them to protect independent science from political interference.

YOUR VOICE IN FEDERAL RULEMAKING: A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO COMMENTING ON DOCKET OMB-2026-0034



1 ACCESS THE OFFICIAL DOCKET



Go to [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) and search for Docket ID "OMB-2026-0034" or click the "Comment" button.

2 IDENTIFY CRITICAL PROVISIONS

\$200.205

Political review of grants



\$200.340

Termination for national interest



\$200.461

Publication costs



Focus your comment on the provisions that matter most: **\$200.205, \$200.340, or \$200.461.**

3 DRAFT YOUR UNIQUE RESPONSE



- ✓ Who you are
- ✓ Specific provision(s)
- ✓ Concrete impact
- ✓ Clear closing request



Personalize your comment with specific impacts and a clear request. **Avoid** form letters.

4 FILL OUT THE SUBMISSION FORM

Comment (up to 5,000 characters)

5,000

Identify as:

Individual Organization Anonymous

Email (for receipt)

✓ Add your comment, choose your identity, and provide an email for confirmation.

5 VERIFY & SUBMIT

✓ I am not a robot 

SUBMIT COMMENT

JULY 13, 2026
11:59 PM ET

✓ Complete verification and submit before the deadline to ensure your comment is counted.

TIPS FOR AN EFFECTIVE COMMENT

-  **BE SPECIFIC**
Use section numbers and explain the real-world impact.
-  **BE SPECIFIC**
Use section numbers and explain the real-world impact.
-  **AVOID FORM LETTERS**
Unique comments carry more weight.
-  **USE YOUR STANDING**
Share your experience to show why your input matters.



YOUR COMMENT CAN HELP SHAPE POLICIES THAT IMPACT RESEARCH, INNOVATION, AND COMMUNITY HEALTH.

SPEAK UP. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Resources:

- [Brief overview](#)
- [Keys impacts on governments; communities; and healthcare, social service, and education providers](#)
- [Instructions for submitting an effective comment](#)
- [Detailed discussion of the impacts on scientific research, with suggestions for comments](#)

Voter Outreach and Legislative Actions

Reminders from previous newsletters:

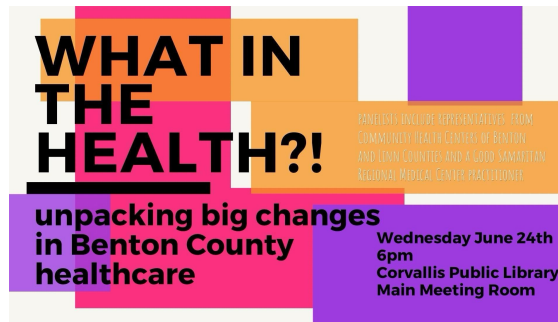
- **Deep Canvassing & Community Listening Training** by the Working Families Party. **June 24 from 5:30-7:00 PM** at the **Albany Public Library**. For more info and to RSVP: <https://mobilize.us/s/OG9f13>
- Albany's analysis of the feasibility of banning all (public **and private**) automated license plate reader (ALPR) systems will be concluded by the **July 8** City Council meeting (**Albany City Hall/virtual**). Continue to [contact your Albany councilors](#) to demand an end to ALPRs in Albany everywhere!

Postcarding - Get out the Vote

Send postcards to voters for primary elections. Cards, addresses, and scripts will be provided. A \$10 donation for stamps is requested.

- **July 3 from 1 to 3 pm at The Plaza**, 425 SW Madison Ave. Meet in the Community Room, first floor behind Coffee Culture. [Sign up here.](#)
- **July 17 from 10am to 12pm at Natural Grocers (Community Room)**, 1235 NW 10th St, Corvallis, OR 97330. [Sign up here.](#)

Support Local Community Events



What in the Health?! gathers a panel of local health care professionals who will unpack the big changes we're seeing to the Benton County health care landscape.

Speakers include Emily Yeast, a Certified Nurse-Midwife at Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center in Corvallis who has been in full-scope clinical practice for 12 years, and the Executive Director and the Primary Care Division Director of Community Health Centers of Benton and Linn Counties, Lacey Molell and Christine Mosbaugh, MPH, respectively.

The panel will speak for approximately 45-60 minutes, with 15-30 minutes for audience Q&A.

Please arrive early to be seated by 6pm. Doors officially open at 5:40pm.





RAINBOW DROP-IN HOURS

OPEN MIC NIGHT

AGES
12-24



JUNE 26TH | 5:30-7PM
1025 PACIFIC BLVD SE,
ALBANY

Questions?
Call 541-220-2955 or
email ysc@jacksonstreet.org



WORLD REFUGEE DAY
SOLIDARITY WALK

Bald Hill Natural Area - Fairgrounds Entrance

Saturday, June 27 ————— 2:00 P.M.

RAPID RESPONSE LANE COUNTY AND
INDIVISIBLE DOUGLAS COUNTY INVITE YOU TO:

IN-PERSON TRAINING

MIGRA WATCH ICE WATCH



MONDAY JUNE 29 | 6PM-8PM

RSVP at the link below or scan the QR-code to the registration page so we can email you the location information.

bit.ly/june29migrawatchtraining

Form may take a moment to load/redirect. You may need to click on an additional link to get to the form.

Learn how to safely and accurately identify and respond to potential ICE activity in your neighborhood.



NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED.

SHOW UP. LEARN. PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY.



CORVALLIS TOWN HALL!

with

**Benton County Commissioner
Gabe Shepherd**

Joined by
Mayor
Maughan

Wednesday, July 1, 2026

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Corvallis Community Center

2601 NW Tyler Ave, Corvallis

Commissioner Shepherd will be speaking as an individual commissioner and does not necessarily speak for the whole Board of Commissioners. He can also not share opinions on or take testimony on open land use matters.

Contact Commissioner Shepherd at gabe.shepherd@bentoncountyor.gov



OPEN STREETS
CORVALLIS
WALK.BIKE.PLAY.
OPENSTREETSCORVALLIS.ORG

A free community festival that re-imagines a stretch of walkable, bikeable city streets for people to explore!

SUNDAY JUNE 28
11 AM-3 PM | **RIVERFRONT PARK TO THE SKATE PARK**

FREE event shuttle!

City of Corvallis
CORVALLIS sustainability COALITION
Downtown Corvallis

Benton County HEALTH DEPARTMENT
PACIFIC POWER. POWERING YOUR GREATNESS
PARKS & RECREATION City of Corvallis
Oregon State University Transportation Services

AN EXCLUSIVE CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT DÍAZ-CANEL

CUBA AFTER GASTRO

Join us to explore Cuba's revolutionary history and turbulent present, while revealing a portrait of the man tasked with steering its future.

THURS JUN 25
WEST M
101 NW 23RD ST
CORVALLIS

6:00 PM - Doors
6:30 PM - Film Starts
8:00 PM - Discussion with members of Pastors for Peace

FUNDRAISER FOR PASTORS FOR PEACE
\$10 SUGGESTED DONATION
NO ONE TURNED AWAY FOR LACK OF FUNDS

A FILM BY ABBY MARTIN AND MATTHEW BELEN

Inclusion of this flyer does not represent an endorsement by Indivisible BC.

Ongoing Community Events and Actions



CASA LATINOS UNIDOS FUNDRAISER




Help our most vulnerable Latino/a communities in Linn and Benton Counties. 100% of your donations will help supply local families with food, household supplies, toiletries, and other necessities.

Matching Funds Available!

Sign up for regular monthly donations and your initial contribution will be **DOUBLED!**



*While funds last. Donations to Casa Latinos Unidos are tax-deductible. <https://casalatinosunidos.org>
Mail check donations to PO Box 716, Corvallis, OR, 97339. Made possible with support from Indivisible Benton County and East Linn Indivisible.

QUEER PEERS

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Every Monday, 4-5:15pm

Jackson Street Mission Central
225 SW 4th St, Corvallis

*Join our Queer space for middle schoolers.
A welcoming and safe place to learn and
build community. Snacks provided!*



CURIOUS? GET IN TOUCH!

Text, Call or Email Cortney Wetherell
541-745-4590 queer.peers@jacksonstreet.org
www.jacksonstreet.org

OPEN HOURS
FOR YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS
AGES 12-24

1025 PACIFIC BLVD SE, ALBANY

Mondays 1-6PM
Tuesdays 1-7PM
Wednesdays 1-7PM
Thursdays 1-5PM
Fridays 7AM-4PM
Saturdays 1-7PM

SERVICES

- SHOWER
- LAUNDRY
- TEACHING KITCHEN
- FOOD PANTRY
- CLOTHING CLOSET
- RESOURCE CLOSET (BASIC NEEDS SUPPLIES)
- YOUTH SPACE

Jackson Street
YOUTH SERVICES

Questions?
Call 541-220-2955 or email ysc@jacksonstreet.org

We have New Email Addresses!

Email info@indivisiblebc.org, with general questions, comments, and suggestions.

Email newsletter@indivisiblebc.org, to send items for the newsletter (space permitting, and subject to editorial review).

Email voter@indivisiblebc.org with questions or comments about voter outreach.

Email legislative@indivisiblebc.org for legislative-related issues.

Email events@indivisiblebc.org for questions about specific events.

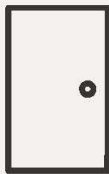
Email community@indivisiblebc.org for questions about community outreach activities.

To read about the general organization of our committees, visit our website [HERE](#).

Keep Our Community Safe

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS WITH IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT

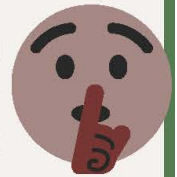
DON'T OPEN THE DOOR



Communicate through the window or closed door. Immigration can only enter your home with an arrest warrant signed by a judge

REMAIN SILENT AND DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING

You have the right not to speak. Say out loud that you will not answer questions or sign any documents without a lawyer present.



DO NOT GIVE PERMISSION FOR SEARCH



You have the right to refuse permission for immigration authorities or police to enter or search your car or person unless they have a warrant signed by a judge.

TAKE PHOTOS, VIDEO AND/OR NOTES

Inform the officer that you will be using your right to record. Take photos, record the interaction, and write down the details.



REPORT ICE ACTIVITY TO THE COMMUNITY HOTLINE



PIRC will contact rapid response teams that will verify and document immigration activity and offer support to affected people.

CONFIRM NEWS AND RUMORS



Do not share unverified information, as this only creates fear. Ask people sharing news about ICE to share their sources and have witnesses call PIRC to verify.



PIRC HOTLINE:
1-888-622-1510

COMMUNITY ALERT

The PIRC hotline has seen an exponential increase in the number of calls we are receiving during this current assault on our communities. The hotline is staffed almost entirely by volunteers who are working around the clock to respond to this crisis. In order to help us meet the challenges of this moment and to center those most impacted, we have an ask of the community.



Please continue to **CALL** the hotline with any urgent concerns:

- You are witnessing ICE presence (suspected or confirmed)
- You have witnessed or have information about an ICE detention
- You're looking for a missing loved one

Please **TEXT** the hotline with nonurgent issues:

- Questions about accessing non urgent resources (as long as it isn't needed within the next 24 hours).
- Photos of possible ICE sightings, license plates, etc. If urgent, please call first before sending text messages



Please **EMAIL**:

- press@pircoregon.org for any media inquiries.
- volunteers@pircoregon.org for questions about volunteering, donating to the PIRC Resource Center, and Migra Watch.
- pircpdx@gmail.com with any VIDEO footage of ICE activity (please be sure to include information about date, time, location, any other relevant info) OR any other general inquiries



HOTLINE: 1-888-622-1510



Our Mission

Indivisible Benton County is a grassroots organization of volunteers committed to advance bold and progressive actions and policies. We are determined to resist corruption, authoritarianism, and inequality. We educate, engage, and mobilize to promote values of inclusion, tolerance and fairness with the goal of helping build a more perfect and representative government that is For The People and By The People.

[Donate Here](#)



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Indivisible Benton County
Benton
Corvallis, OR 97330
United States
[unsubscribe](#)