



Marion County Democrats January 2026 Newsletter

Memes of the Month!

One key difference between 1930s Germany and 2020s USA is that 1930s Germany didn't have 90 years of books, movies and documentaries warning it about 1930s Germany.

@LePapillonBlu2
**I DO NOT WANT VENEZUELA.
I DO NOT WANT GREENLAND.
I DO NOT WANT CUBA.
I DO NOT WANT CANADA.
I DO NOT WANT MEXICO.

I JUST WANT HEALTHCARE.**

Oregon Democrats in the News

City of Salem Mayoral Candidates Debate - Nordyke vs. Hoy - January 12, 2026

On January 12, 2026, the Salem Chamber Forum Speaker Series hosted the first public debate between the two candidates running for Mayor of the City of Salem in 2026: Mayor Julie Hoy and Salem City Councilor Vanessa Nordyke.

During the debate, the candidates answered questions from the Chamber's Board of Directors, the audience, and questions from one another.

Topics included tax policy, homelessness issues, making local government more business-friendly, and public safety.

Watch the debate on YouTube: [Nordyke vs Hoy](#)

Anticipating early 2026 opening, Oregon seeks to block potential Newport ICE facility

Suspecting the federal government plans to open a large-scale Immigration and Customs Enforcement facility near Newport's airport early next year, the state of Oregon asked a federal judge to block construction.

"We will not allow federal agencies to sidestep the law or build detention facilities where they don't belong, including along our coast," Attorney General **Dan Rayfield** said in a statement. "The federal government has to follow the same laws everyone else does when operating in our communities."

Read more here: [Oregon Seeks Block on Potential Newport ICE Facility](#)

Oregon leads lawsuit over Kennedy's efforts to ban gender-affirming care for minors

Attorney General **Dan Rayfield**, who led the Oregon House when it passed some of the nation's strongest laws to protect access to transgender health care, is suing the federal government over efforts to bar gender-affirming care for minors by stripping federal funding.

The **lawsuit**, filed late Tuesday in U.S. District Court in Eugene, includes 18 other Democratic states and Washington, D.C. It targets a **proposal** U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. announced last week to bar hospitals from participating in Medicare and Medicaid if they provide care including puberty blockers or surgeries for transgender children and teens.

Read more here: [Oregon leads lawsuit against ban on gender-affirming care](#)

Voting / Elections News

Oregon broadens online voter registration before election season

JACKSON COUNTY, OR. -- Oregon has expanded its online voter registration system ahead of a significant election season, allowing eligible voters without a state issued ID to register digitally for the first time.

Voters can access the system through sos.oregon.gov by visiting the voting section of the website. Applicants who do not have an Oregon Department of Motor Vehicles number can now indicate that directly on the form and continue the registration process online.

Read more here: [Expanded Online Voter Registration](#)

Oregon election officials to begin purging rolls of inactive voters

The state paused such housekeeping in 2017 but will now cancel registrations of those who neither receive ballots nor vote.

As Oregon kicks off a general election year, Secretary of State Tobias Read is taking what he says is the overdue step of cleaning up the state's voter rolls.

That process could lead to the cancellation of as many as 800,000 registrations. That's the number of voters Read says are currently classified as "inactive" on the voter rolls. To be clear, inactive voters do not receive ballots, but their names remain on the rolls. The cleanup comes as Oregon's first-in-the-nation vote-by-mail system is under intense scrutiny. President Donald Trump, who blamed mail-in ballots, among other bogeymen, for his defeat in 2020, has amplified historical criticism of Oregon's system.

Read more here: [Inactive Voter Role Purge](#)

Fascism Watch

ICE Enforcement Escalations Across the Country have Deadly Consequences!

Whistles, then gunfire: How the deadly ICE shooting unfolded in Minneapolis

Renee Nicole Good, a 37-year-old US citizen, was killed when an ICE agent [shot into her vehicle](#) during an encounter Wednesday morning.

The victim tried to "weaponize her vehicle" to run over an officer near an ICE vehicle stuck on a snow-lined street before he opened fire, Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem said.

State and local officials have strongly disputed claims the shooting, [captured on video](#), was done in self-defense as tensions exploded amid this week's deployment of some [2,000 federal agents](#) as part of the latest surge in the Trump administration's nationwide [immigration enforcement crackdown](#) and following claims of [welfare fraud](#) in the Somali immigrant community.

Link to article on CNN: [Mother of 3 shot and killed by ICE](#)

Two Shot and Injured by Federal Agents in Hazelwood Neighborhood

Two people are in the hospital following a shooting involving federal agents. On Thursday, January 8, 2026, at 2:18 p.m., Portland Police Officers responded to the 10200 block of Southeast Main Street on a report of a shooting. Officers confirmed that federal agents had been involved in a shooting. Portland Police were not involved in the incident.

Link to article: [Two Shot and Injured by Federal Agents](#)

ICE shooting in Glen Burnie leaves 2 people hospitalized,

officials say

Two people were hospitalized Wednesday morning after federal immigration officials opened fire on a vehicle in Glen Burnie (MD), federal and Anne Arundel County officials said.

Link to article: [ICE shooting in Glen Burnie](#)

UPDATE: [ICE changes story on Christmas Eve shooting by agents...](#)

Federal officials on Friday changed their account of the [Christmas Eve shooting by immigration agents in Glen Burnie](#), reversing course after repeatedly doubling down on their story. It came a day after [Anne Arundel County police publicly disputed it](#).

Oregonians React!



See photos as hundreds protest ICE shooting at Oregon State Capitol

Protesters rally against ICE at the Oregon State Capitol on Saturday, Jan. 10, 2026, in Salem, Ore., in response to the killing of Renee Nicole Good in Minneapolis.

[Hundreds Protest at Oregon Capitol](#)

**BUILD OUR COMMUNITY
BUILD OUR POWER**

UPCOMING EVENTS

**New Candidates for County Commissioner Positions 1 & 2
Maria Hinojos Pressey and Sara Duncan**



Campaign Kickoff **PARTY!**

Saturday,
January

17th

For
Tomorrow
We Die

2315 25th St SE, Salem, OR 97302

1pm - 3pm

OPTIONAL : BRING SHELF STABLE FOOD OR HYGIENE PRODUCTS TO BE DONATED TO FREE FRIDGE SALEM.

Join Senator Wyden's

MARION COUNTY TOWN HALL

**TUESDAY JANUARY 20,
12:00 PM**

Chemeketa Community College
Auditorium, Building 6
4000 Lancaster Dr. NE, Salem

Similar to major sporting events, there is a clear bag policy for town halls, allowing only clear bags (max 12"x6"x12"), one-gallon clear plastic bags, or small clutches (max 4.5"x6.5"), plus essential items like medical bags or infant necessities, with no storage for disallowed bags. Backpacks and non-clear bags are prohibited, though medical/infant needs have exceptions.

Guests will not be allowed inside if they are not complying with these safety regulations. Doors will open one hour before the town hall start time for attendees.

@RonWyden
<http://wyden.senate.gov>





Committees are ordered based on their next scheduled meeting or event. This is one of the best ways to get involved in our party!

- **Monthly General Membership Meeting, Thursday, January 15, 2025 at 6 PM**

Meet-and-greet starts at 5:30pm
Business Meeting begins at 6 pm

Register to Attend Virtually

Here: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZclc-qqrD0oHd1be1HQPe5y07MFnF_Wupkn

All Democrats are Welcome!

- **Program Committee - Next Meetings:**

Program Committee, Tuesday, January 20, 2026 6:00 PM

Book Club, Monday, February 16, 2025 at 10 AM

Location: Democrats Meeting Hall – 245 High St NE, Salem, OR 97301, USA

Contact: Programs Chairperson: Linda Jayne Garland, ily18keizer@gmail.com

The Program Committee is chaired by Linda Jayne Garland.

The MCDCC Program Committee creates programming for the Democratic Central Committee, like special guests and presentations, and plans other events as outreach to the community.

Join us on the 3rd Tuesday of each month

- **Membership Committee, Next Meeting, Thursday, January 22nd at 6 PM**

Chair: Larry Ramsay, Membership@mariondemocrats.org

The purpose of this meeting will be to elect a new committee chair person. All PCPs are encouraged to participate and vote for this important position.

- **Fundraising Committee - Next Meeting Tuesday, January 27, 2025 at 6:30 PM**

[Location: Zoom - Register Here](#)

Chairperson: Mary Nikas, Fundraising@mariondemocrats.org

The Marion County fundraising committee adds the “Fun” to Fundraising!

Like to throw Parties?

Have an idea for a Fundraiser?

Join us to share your ideas!

- **Neighborhood Leader Committee, Next Meeting Wednesday, January 28, 2025 at 7 PM (coordinators)**

[Location: Zoom - Register Here](#)

Chair: Michael Johnson, nlp@mariondemocrats.org

2nd Wednesday at 6:30 PM

Our Neighborhood Leader Committee is responsible for our voter outreach program. Join us and find out how to get involved in your neighborhood to get out the vote!

- **Rules Committee - Next Meeting Monday, February 2, 2025 at 7 PM**

[Location: Zoom - Register Here](#)

Chairperson: Victor Dodier, Rules@mariondemocrats.org

1st Monday at 7 PM

Our Rules Committee is responsible for review of our bylaws and standing rules. Join us!

- **Legislative Committee - Next Meeting Tuesday, February 3, 2025, 6:30 PM**

Chairperson: Marcia Kelley, Legislative@mariondemocrats.org

1st Tuesday at 6:30 PM

The Legislative Committee tracks bills of interest and keeps the membership informed. If you like to engage on legislation of interest, this is the committee for you.

During an active session, the committee meets twice a month: every 1st and 3rd Tuesday. For more information and zoom link, contact chairperson.

- **Communications Committee - Next Meeting Tuesday, February 10, 2025, 6 PM**

Location: Remote meetings will be conducted during the winter months. Contact the chairperson for a meeting link.

Chairperson: Dan Sisken, Communications@mariondemocrats.org

2nd Tuesday at 6 PM

The Communications Committee is responsible for this newsletter, website maintenance, social media sites, and external communications about our Marion County Democrats. Love social media? Join us and get plugged in!

- **Candidate Support Committee**

Contact Chairperson for next meeting date and location.

Chairperson: Angelo Arredondo, Candidates@mariondemocrats.org

The Candidate Support Committee recruits potential Democratic candidates for public office in Marion County. They review candidate qualifications and make recommendations to the Executive Committee, as well as supporting the recommended candidates through the election process. They also conduct voter registration drives.

**KEEP FASCISM DOWN IN MARION COUNTY
AND GET OUT THE VOTE**

NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERS

Be a Local Hero! Join Our Neighborhood Leader Program

Imagine making a 30% difference in voter turnout with just a few hours of your time!

That's exactly what you can do by joining 350 of your fellow Marion County Democrats as a Neighborhood Leader. This incredible voter engagement program is one of the most powerful in our state - and it's surprisingly simple to participate!

Here's how it works: You'll connect with Democratic households in your neighborhood as ballots arrive (starting April 30th), then follow up with gentle reminders before the May 20th Election Day.

What makes this special? It's personal, it builds community, and most importantly - **it really works!** Areas with Neighborhood Leaders consistently see turnout increases of 30% or more.

Your neighborhood needs your friendly face and passionate voice. Together, we can make Marion County's democratic voice stronger than ever!

[Sign Up Now](#)



SNAP Benefits Update:

SNAP benefits were restored on Nov 7 and EBT cards have been reloaded for SNAP recipients. See the [Marion Polk Food Share Statement on SNAP Benefits Disruption](#) for more information.

The MCDCC is still collecting food donations in our office to be distributed by the Food Share program. Visitors can drop off non-perishable food items (unexpired canned goods, pasta, rice, nut butters, and other shelf-stable items). If you are able to donate money, that is also welcomed and is needed in greater amounts at this time. Fresh produce and other perishable food items must often be purchased and the infrastructure for food collection and distribution must be supported. Visit the Marion Polk Food Share or your local food bank to give as you are able...

[Marion Polk Food Share](#)

[Keizer Community Food Bank](#)



We've recently added a new resource page to our website for [Immigrant Rights and Support](#)

Please visit our website for more information on our mission, your rights, ways to get involved locally and more events information.

[Visit the Marion County Democrats Website](#)



Join the Marion County Democrats Family!

Did you know our organization runs entirely on people power? That's right - we're 100% volunteer-driven and don't receive funding from any outside organizations.

Your support makes everything possible! From championing local candidates to keeping our community hub thriving, your contribution directly powers our Democratic movement in Marion County.

Imagine what we could accomplish together if each registered Democrat in our community contributed just \$5 monthly. We could focus entirely on serving our candidates and community, without worrying about keeping the lights on!

Will you join our monthly supporter family today? Even a small recurring contribution creates a tremendous impact. Click the Donate Now button below to become a sustaining member - it takes just a minute but makes a lasting difference!

Thank you for being the heartbeat of our local Democratic movement. Your generosity truly means the world to us! ❤️

[Donate Now](#)

Marion County Democrats Central Committee | PO Box 13835 | Salem, OR 97309 US

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