



Newsletter

## *THE TIDAL WAVE*

News source for the building tsunami of resistance to autocracy

December 2025

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### Lincoln County pushes back hard against DHS

By Rebecca Stone

Newport, OR — Nearly 1000 residents from Oregon's Central Coast packed the Newport City Council chambers the evening of November 12 in response to suspected federal plans to locate an ICE detention center at a small nearby airport and the sudden relocation of a Coast Guard helicopter. It got so crowded that three extra rooms with monitors were needed to accommodate the spillover.

During the meeting, scores of people got up to voice their concerns. One of them, a young girl, tearfully spoke of her father who was arrested by ICE on his way to a job site. Council members noted that such an operation will negatively impact Newport and neighboring communities. But due to lack of information from the federal government, they can only assume plans are continuing due to mounting evidence.

As a featured guest on MSNow's Rachel Maddow Show <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q6Mb4AQIx3Q>, Oregon Rep. David Gombert spoke about the lack of communication between federal and state entities, as well as the

implications of the loss of the helicopter. According to Gomberg, someone from an un-named federal agency is looking to lease property in the Newport area, as well as asking local businesses about water delivery to the airport and sanitation services.

Online recruiting ads from a firm called Acuity International have also appeared for ICE case processors for an “alien removal module,” in Newport, Oregon, and medical and other personnel as well. Most recently, it’s been discovered that long-term hotel accommodations are being sought — for 200 people.

A few days later there was a similar scenario in the gym at Newport High School for a town hall held by US Senator Ron Wyden. Wyden said he thought it was the largest turnout for a town hall yet. Like Gomberg, he said he has also not been successful in gaining any insights into the DHS plans.

Despite the lack of transparency on the government’s part, Gomberg said that with all this evidence, “...it’s becoming increasingly clear that somebody, somewhere believes that detaining people here is more important than saving people here.”

### **HELICOPTER REMOVAL SPARKED OUTRAGE...NOW IT’S BACK**

As noted, collateral damage of this move by DHSS has been a Coast Guard rescue helicopter, which was relocated to North Bend, nearly 100 miles south. Because the helicopter is used for lifesaving operations in our cold, rough seas, its removal is seen



by many as a matter of life and death, especially at the beginning of crabbing season.

In response, the Fishermen’s Wives, a group associated with the fishing industry based in Newport, as well as the state of Oregon filed litigation against the federal government to have the helicopter returned.

On November 24, US District Judge Ann Aiken agreed that the relocation of the helicopter put lives at risk and issued a temporary order that the aircraft be returned to Newport for 14 days pending a permanent injunction. Aiken found that the Coast Guard had failed to provide legally required notice prior to moving the helicopter.

### **UPDATE**

In a late-breaking development, Senators Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden announced on 12/5 that Acting US Coast Guard Commandant Kevin E. Lunday assured them that the helicopter has been returned for good to Newport. However, as of 12/8 there appears to be some conflicting chatter on this developing story.

Stay tuned!

# POP-UP FOOD DRIVES A SUCCESS

by **Rebecca Stone**

The recent government shutdown hit those with SNAP benefits hard. Thankfully, Oregon was able to protect its citizens to some extent but times are still a bit rough for some of us.

Indivisible Lincoln City organizer Shar Walbaum had an idea. “At our rallies, we always collect donations for programs like Food Share of Lincoln County and Backpacks for Kids.,” said Walbaum. “I organized a couple of last minute rallies like Disappeared in America/ Dia de los Muertos, Sunday, Nov. 2. They were like pop-up stores at malls. Somehow, those two ideas merged to become Pop-Up Food Drives.”

Walbaum notes that the food drives have proved successful. The first at Safeway on November 8 collected 528 pounds of food and \$305. The second, at McKays on November 16 was a bean and rice food drive that resulted in a 615-pound haul for Conexion Fenix and the Lincoln City Food Pantry.

“Both of the food drives we’ve done so far have been organized in a few days. After getting yeses from Lincoln City Food Pantry and a grocery store manager. All we needed was a folding table, a few people, a wagon, and the use of the food pantry’s van,” said Walbaum.

“I’ve been at both and they have been fun and inspiring,” Walbaum noted. “People are very kind and seem to appreciate it that we provide a list of needed items. The beans and rice drive was cool because these are things many of our Hispanic neighbors use to cook with every day. We tell them it helps if they buy even one. We saw so much generosity, from the person who bought two items and donated one, to someone who rolled up a basket full of food. People are amazing.” *Photo above by Ann Chung*



# GOMBERG SHARES INSIGHTS WITH ILC

Monthly meeting proves dynamic, productive

By Shar Walbaum

Lincoln City — Rep. David Gomberg shared the mounting evidence indicating plans to establish a Newport ICE facility. He discussed DHS's lack of transparency, whether at the municipal, state, or federal level, and the role citizens can play in making an impact.

Gomberg encouraged us to stay the course and train our sights on the mid-terms. As part of this, we discussed the launch of our Public Accountability Campaign, emphasizing the need for honesty between us and our business neighbors.

We are in a relationship. Businesses' support of an ICE presence on the coast will negatively affect that relationship. As neighbors and as consumers, we have a responsibility to let businesses know the consequences of a decision to cooperate with ICE — or not. To make an informed decision, they deserve to know. DC did it:

<https://freedcproject.org/local-businesses>. Watch for concrete actions you can take in December.



For more, see What's the Plan? below.

*Photo above by Ann Chung*





# ILC STAGES RALLIES LARGE AND SMALL

## Just look at what we've done

Jerry Conlogue and his stalwart crew of protesters hit the streets daily, standing on the corner where the 101 intersects with NW 22nd Street, from noon till 1. Conlogue began standing on that corner for an hour nearly every day since April 12, anti-Trump sign in hand, and waving at people driving by. Conlogue, interviewed by Brian Bahouth of KYAK radio in August, said, "I'm an old guy, 77 years old, and I used to enjoy watching the evening news until November. After the election in November, I felt totally lost and I couldn't watch the news, got really depressed about what was going on, and I felt I had to do something,"



It wasn't long before people began to join him, and now, some days, it's like a small army out there, enduring the occasional rude gesture and sometimes worse. But, mostly what they get are honks and waves from the more covert resisters.

Aside from this daily effort, Indivisible Lincoln City has hosted some sizable rallies this

year. Many in conjunction with the National Indivisible response to the Trump Administration's overreach.

The first No Kings rally and protest, on June 14, in front of the Lincoln City Cultural Center, drew approximately 1000 signwavers, and featured speakers and music on the plaza. *Photo by VonellePhotography*





On July 17, the Good Trouble rally and protest featured the documentary on John Lewis at the Congregational Church, followed by the protest along the 101 in front of Grocery Outlet, and drew about 500 protest enthusiasts.



The second No Kings protest and rally on October 18 drew an estimated 1200 to Lincoln City. Some came in full blow-up costumes — the latest rage in protest attire.



There was also an earlier rally, on October 4, centered on the government shutdown and healthcare extensions, and Dia de los Muerto and Veteran's Day rallies in November.







In some cases we've gone rogue with our own unique, standalone protests. On July 5, Hands Across the Sand, Shar's brainchild, stretched out in groups forming unbroken chains for 15 minutes at six beach locations along the Pacific from Road's End to the

Siletz Bay. It attracted more than 200 participants. *Photo by VonellePhotography*

And an August 10 kayak protest on the Willamette River was organized by Otis and Washington County residents and Indivisible members, and supported by LCI. Paddle for Democracy brought 40 paddlers with signs to the Vera Katz Esplanade in Portland for a two-hour bit of kayativism during the city's annual Bridge Peddle. *Photo by Joe Hinton*



**SO DON'T STOP NOW!**

On December 13, we will be joining forces with ... in Newport .... For the ICE HAS NO BUSINESS HERE protest. While there is no need to register for the event — you can just show up — if

you do you will receive relevant updates. If you don't want to risk missing out on something inspiring from Shar, register at: <https://mobilize.us/s/b17WGQ>.

# WHAT'S THE PLAN?

## Locally speaking

By Joseph Youren

Federal contractors have been quietly making inquiries on the Oregon Coast in connection with a possible ICE detention site. Public records and news stories show outreach from Texas-based Team Housing Solutions (which has contacted coastal hotels about long-term room leases) and from Solv LLC, a Virginia-based consulting firm and federal contractor (which emailed Oregon regulators saying it was acting on behalf of ICE to begin a federal consistency review).

If your business, employer, or a firm you know has been contacted about construction, environmental work, lodging, supplies, or site services for a detention facility in Newport or elsewhere on the coast, we want to hear from you.

Please send verifiable tips — copies of emails, invoices, letters of intent, contracts, screenshots of outreach, or named witnesses — to [noicecoastal@yahoo.com](mailto:noicecoastal@yahoo.com). We need to document who has been contacted and what they were asked to provide. Indicate whether you consent to on-the-record attribution or prefer to remain anonymous.

PLEASE fact-check to the best of your ability and protect sources where requested. We

want to promote  
FACTS NOT FEAR. If  
you would rather  
speak by phone,  
include a callback  
number and best  
times to reach you.  
Thank you for your  
contribution to  
protecting our  
democracy.





# WHAT'S THE PLAN?

## Nationally speaking

By Joseph Youren

The time for complacency is over. Across the Senate, a new coalition of progressives — known as the Fight Club — is rising to challenge entrenched leadership and demand a government that fights for the working class. Bernie Sanders, Elizabeth Warren, and others have already stepped forward. Now Oregon's congressional delegation must do the same.

Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley have long spoken of fairness and accountability. Most of Oregon's representatives in the House have likewise pledged to stand with working families. But words are not enough. Oregon needs its leaders to act with courage and declare themselves members of the Fight Club. This is not symbolic — it is a pledge to fight relentlessly for the people who get up early, work long hours, and keep our communities alive.

Joining the Fight Club means more than rhetoric. It means taking a stand against failed leadership. For too long, Minority Leader Chuck Schumer in the Senate and Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries in the House have presided over caucuses that bend to corporate donors, silence grassroots voices, and compromise away the dignity of working families. Enough is enough.

We call on Oregon's senators and representatives to:

- Declare membership in the Fight Club and align with those demanding a government that serves the people, not the powerful.
- Pledge to fight for working families in wages, healthcare, housing, and climate justice.
- Demand transparency and accountability in congressional leadership.
- Vote to replace Chuck Schumer and Hakeem Jeffries as minority leaders with champions who will fight, not fold.

This is a defining moment. Oregon's delegation can either stand with entrenched power or stand with the people. By joining the Fight Club and demanding new leadership, they can help ignite a movement that restores faith in democracy and delivers justice for working families.

Oregon is watching. Oregon is ready. And Oregon demands courage. Senators Wyden and Merkley, Representatives of Oregon: Join the Fight Club. Call the vote. Replace Schumer and Jeffries. Fight for us.

# UPCOMING ACTION

By Shar Walbaum

ICE doesn't belong in our neighborhoods, community, county, or state. An ICE detention camp doesn't belong here, either. Yet, though it isn't saying, the evidence is clear — the Department of Homeland Security intends to place an internment camp in Newport.

## INTENTIONS CLEARER BY THE DAY

Businesses and merchants are being approached to rent rooms, deliver water, and carry away waste in support of such an effort. So our best chance to make a difference is to step in right now and let businesses know that it will matter to us if they decide to cooperate with ICE. Because local business owners and operators are an integral part of our community, we will stand in support of those who won't assist in DHS' venture — and stand against those who will.

Business decisions do not take place in an ethical or economic vacuum. Establishing a detention facility in Newport will devastate communities and families up and down the coast. ICE kidnappings are already doing that. One has only to listen to the young woman who spoke at the recent Special Meeting in Newport or at Senator Ron Wyden's Town Hall to know this is true.

## DEJA VU?

America has been here before. During World War II, the livestock exposition center in Portland was converted into a detention facility for Japanese citizens. Those who did the building, refurbishing, and supplying were local businesses and merchants. It is seen today as a shameful part of our country's history. And now, Newport business owners are being asked to do the same thing.

A decision to help establish or run an ICE facility on the Oregon Coast is unethical. Stand together with us to inform the ignorant, encourage the uncertain, and support those who are afraid. Let our business neighbors know that, if they decide to serve DHS and ICE, they are not serving us.

I hope you will join us in Newport on Saturday, Dec. 13th, from noon to 2. And, remember — *We protest peacefully.*



This is an Indivisible Lincoln City, Indivisible Waves, and Oregon Coast Indivisible Alliance joint event.

Again, a core principle behind all Indivisible events is a commitment to nonviolent action.

We protest peacefully and expect all participants to seek to de-escalate any potential confrontation with those who disagree with our values.

*Poster by Joy Gregory of Quality Printing Service*

**To register for this event, go to:**

[https://www.mobilize.us/indivisible/event/874481/?referring\\_vol=11482455&share\\_cointext=dashboard-event-details&sharer\\_role=2](https://www.mobilize.us/indivisible/event/874481/?referring_vol=11482455&share_cointext=dashboard-event-details&sharer_role=2)

**When**

Saturday, December 13  
12 – 2pm PST

**Where**

Newport City Hall  
169 SW Coast Hwy  
Newport, OR 97365



# ACTION TEAM UPDATES

At the last meeting, the teams met and wasted no time coming up with various strategies. Here is a rundown of what was accomplished.

## Communications

ILC is now on social media platforms Facebook, Bluesky, TikTok, and Instagram. The newsletter debuts with this edition.

## Community Education

Discussed Public Accountability how to work with the communication team to effectively spread information about the latest news and newest campaigns.

## Congress/Voter Outreach & Voter Education met together

Five action areas were discussed. Postcard meeting plans were shared, as was the cost and effectiveness of this approach. Information about Five Calls was shared ([5calls.org](https://5calls.org)). Concepts behind Neighbor to Neighbor leadership were discussed, as were effective ways to liaise with League of Women Voters.

## Safety

Leads for Peacekeeping, First Aid, and Marshals were confirmed. Three new people agreed to be Peacekeepers. Marshals and Peacekeepers will meet to identify more exact roles/duties.

Regarding safety gear, Jamie Shay (overall lead) will inventory, store, and make recommendations regarding needs. Walkie-Talkies were discussed and it was decided that we should order some. There was agreement that everyone should be identifiable and accessible during events. The need for primary and secondary First Aid kits and a permanent First Aid Station sign was also discussed. As Police Liaison, Peter Inthout will schedule a meeting and is developing a list of questions with respect to traffic, signs, cones, and training.

In regard to Protest Planning, Safety will work with Shar to agree on optimal locations. Jamie will notify us when dates are scheduled. Before an event, Safety will scout the



site, complete a map indicating parking and pertinent locations, visit nearby businesses, and obtain permission from places with parking facilities.

Recommends the Communications team emphasize the human rights nature of our work to encourage more coverage of events by media such as *Oregon Coast Today*.

Use of Survey Monkey was discussed.

## Immigrant Justice

Danelle Jones spoke about what Conexión Fenix is doing and the need for rapid response. Conexión Fénix is an educational and support organization that has the goal of empowering the Latino community in and around Lincoln City. The need to explore how messages on posters are perceived was discussed, especially by those who are at risk.

The importance of learning about and engaging with people from the Latino community was also discussed. Ideas ranged from going to Mexican markets to learning Spanish and getting involved with local ESL classes.

We agreed to work on making packets for distribution that include information about what to do — and what not to do — and Know Your Rights cards, both yellow and red.

## Fast Response Team Tips:

**Suspect ICE activity? • Call PIRC 1-888-622-1510 • Engage with Immigrant Justice trainings**

## ONGOING ACTIONS

- ILC's Immigrant Justice Team is asking everyone to excavate their closets to find gently used, warm clothing (hats, gloves, socks, coats) to donate to a pop-up clothing drive for Conexión Fenix. Enlist your friends, too. Put them in large plastic bags and get them to Shar by Dec. 16.
- The Spotify boycott continues until it stops running recruiting ads for ICE.
- Encourage our electeds to hold Pete Hegseth accountable for the boat strikes.



# Mark your calendars!

Upcoming events, workshops, or training sessions.

Event Date	What	Contact
Dec 11, 2025, 12-1pm	What's the Plan with Leah and Ezra virtual call	<a href="https://www.mobilize.us/indivisible/event/773746/">https://www.mobilize.us/indivisible/event/773746/</a>
Dec 13, 2025, 12-2pm	ICE awareness campaign in Newport, OR, city hall	<a href="https://mobilize.us/s/b17WGQ">https://mobilize.us/s/b17WGQ</a>
Dec 18, 2025 12-1pm	What's the Plan with Leah and Ezra virtual call	<a href="https://www.mobilize.us/indivisible/event/773746/">https://www.mobilize.us/indivisible/event/773746/</a>
Dec 19 Climate Strike	Florence City Hall	<a href="mailto:florenceindivisible@gmail.com">florenceindivisible@gmail.com</a>

*The Tidal Wave* is the monthly newsletter for Indivisible Lincoln City. Editor: Rebecca Stone. To unsubscribe, send an email to: [indivisiblelcor@gmail.com](mailto:indivisiblelcor@gmail.com) and you will be removed from the mailing list.

