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Dear Fellow Yamhill County Voters:

**Yamhill County Elections is pleased to present to you a “Training” and Demonstration ballot from our new Hart Intercivic vote tally system. In a nutshell, what this means to you, the voters, is that after 20 years of marking your vote choices by completing an “arrow”, you are now going to mark your vote by marking a “box”!**

With the May 20th Primary Election rapidly approaching, as part of our voter education duties, we felt compelled to give you some exposure to the new look of the Yamhill County ballot so that it would not be a total surprise to you at Primary election time. We decided that instead of sending each Yamhill County voter just an introductory letter, we would send you a “TRAINING BALLOT” so that you could actually see and try out the new format of the ballots in our county. The old ballots were read by means of an optical scanning process, but the company that provided the software or programs to run our ballot counting equipment discontinued support and updates to us. Since we were forced to purchase something new, we opted for newer technology at a lower price rather than trying to bring our old software and equipment up to date.

We are able to design your new ballots with our new software, so we will no longer have the cost of typesetting for each election. We are also able to print your new ballot on lighter weight paper, so, unless the number of issues on the ballot requires two ballot pages, your ballot should not require more than one stamp if you return it by mail. The new ballots will also be tallied with a digital scanning process which requires machinery that will be less expensive and easier for the elections department to maintain.

We are excited about our new system, but we have a lot of learning to do, too. Instead of sending people offsite to get classroom education, we decided to spend that allotted training money on this mock election. This will provide our staff AND you, the voters, with some hands-on experience and education about the new ballots and the new tally system before the Primary election. New procedures will be necessary in our office from ballot design, through ballot insertion and returned ballot processes, to the final ballot tally. The Training election will help us develop new processes and will also help us update our registration files and allow voters who have moved to update registrations before the Primary election.

We have placed some issues on your ballot from an old demonstration ballot that we once used in polling-place elections. We added a current question on “regional” Primary elections for your opinion, and Yamhill County Counsel, John Gray, compiled one advisory issue for submission in “Ballot Style” form such as you would normally see a measure on your ballot.

**If you will vote your ballot and drop it in one of the postage-free drop boxes, it will provide us some valuable pre-primary practice with our new ballot processing and ballot-tally procedures.** It will also give invaluable feedback to our ballot printer for any needed changes in their processes in producing the new format ballots. We will have the drop boxes open, as is the usual practice, until 8:00 P.M. on “election day”, March 11. Of course, you may always return your ballot by mail, should you so desire.

**For your information, some additional differences you will note with your ballot and ballot packet are the following:**

- **Use a blue or black pen** to mark your ballot, preferably **NOT a pencil**. Red ink is still not to be used.
- Your **Precinct will be noted at the top of the ballot** with a three-digit number. The first number on the left indicates the precinct; in the number 102, the precinct number is 1.
- A series of barcodes appear on the sides of each ballot. **In NO WAY do these barcodes ever trace back to an individual voter. These barcodes identify the piece of paper as a valid ballot in the election.** Each ballot or piece of paper has a unique barcode, and only one ballot of each barcode will ever be accepted in an election. If the ballot should ever have more than one page, one of the barcodes will identify that each ballot has two pages (or more). However, if only one page of a two-page ballot is returned, it will always be accepted. Each election will have individual barcode numbers generated specific to that election only.
- Some of you may have colored ballots only because we are experimenting with colored paper in anticipation of Primary election ballots.
- **No Secrecy Envelope is included in your ballot packet to save costs in this “Training” election.**

**Again, please help us gain some experience processing your “new” Yamhill County ballots by voting it and returning it to us today.**

Thank you for educating yourself and for helping us train on our new election system. We hope that voting this ballot helps prepare you for the look and format of the ballot you will receive in the May 20, 2008, Primary election.

Jan Coleman  
Yamhill County Clerk and Elections

# VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

When your ballot packet arrives in the mail, immediately examine it to make certain it is complete. It should contain the following items:

- \* A letter introducing your “new” ballot format;
- \* A printed ballot on which you may vote your choices;
- \* A pre-addressed return envelope in which to return your ballot;

**NOTE: Since this is a “Training” election, the Secrecy Envelope has been excluded to save costs.**

## Voting Your Ballot

To vote for a candidate whose name is printed on the ballot, with a blue or black ball point pen, simply color-in the box next to the candidate of your choice.

To vote for a candidate whose name is **not** printed on the ballot, under the heading of the correct office, write the person’s name on the (WRITE-IN) line provided, and color-in the box beside the words “Write In”. **You must color in the “Write In” box to insure that your write-in vote is tallied.**

100000022112	STATE
	Governor Vote for ONE
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cesar Chavez - D
	<input type="checkbox"/> Susan B. Anthony - R
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Twain - W
	CITY
Mayor Vote for ONE	
<input type="checkbox"/> Charles Dickens - R	
<input type="checkbox"/> Martha Washington - D	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Write In	
	<i>Past Harrington</i>

- After voting the ballot by filling in the boxes, fold your ballot on the folds, and insert it in the return envelope.
- Seal the return envelope and sign the statement on the back of the envelope.
- Take the ballot return envelope to any (postage free) “Official Ballot Drop Site” listed below - **OR...**
- Place the appropriate first class postage of 41¢ on the return envelope and mail it so that it is received in the Yamhill County Clerk’s Office not later than 8:00 p.m., March 11, 2008.

**If you make an error on your ballot, spoil it in any way or lose it, you may obtain a replacement ballot by contacting the Yamhill County Clerk’s Office at 503-434-7518 or 503-554-7850 from Newberg.**

## OFFICIAL POSTAGE-FREE BALLOT DROP SITES

**Amity City Library  
Parking Lot Box  
Hwy 99W/Trade St, Amity**

**Carlton City Hall  
Parking Lot Box  
191 East Main St, Carlton**

**Dayton City Hall  
Sidewalk Box  
416 Ferry Street, Dayton**

**Dundee City Hall  
Parking Lot Box  
620 SW 5th St, Dundee**

**Lafayette City Hall  
Parking Lot Box  
486 3rd St (99W), Lafayette**

**Chehalem Aquatic Center  
Sidewalk Box  
1802 Haworth Ave, Newberg**

**Sheridan City Hall  
Parking Lot Box  
120 SW Mill St, Sheridan**

**Newberg Public Safety Bldg.  
Parking Lot Box  
Howard Street , Newberg**

**Willamina City Hall  
Sidewalk Box  
411 NE C Street, Willamina**

**Yamhill City Hall  
Sidewalk Box  
205 S Maple St, Yamhill**

**East end of Courthouse  
Parking Lot Box  
Enter 5<sup>th</sup> Street - Exit 6<sup>th</sup> Street, McMinnville**

**Yamhill County Clerk’s Office  
414 NE Evans Street, McMinnville  
24 Hr Drop Box  
Open Office Hours 9AM-5PM  
Election Day 7AM-8PM**

**All Ballot Drop sites are open until 8:00 P.M. election day, March 11.**