

Poll says governor's race is a squeaker

Gov. Brown, Buehler in a close campaign

By PARIS ACHEN
Capital Bureau

Gov. Kate Brown and state Rep. Knute Buehler are in a close race for governor, according to a new poll by Clout Research.

The phone poll of 679 likely voters between Thursday and Sunday shows that 41.7 percent would choose Brown, while 40.8 percent would vote for Buehler. The results have a 3.76 percentage point margin of error, according to Clout, a national opinion research firm based in Columbus, Ohio. The poll was commissioned by Leona Consulting Co., an Oregon-based conservative political and public affairs firm.

The new poll is a follow-up to a poll of Oregon residents — not likely voters — released in August. That survey, also conducted by Clout and commissioned by Leona Consulting, showed Buehler leading Brown 43 percent to 42 percent, with 15 percent undecided.

"The results haven't changed much at all," said Lindsay Berschauer, of Leona Consulting. It's "still considered a toss-up and still within the margin of error."

"Both Brown and Buehler win the support of about 4 of every 5 voters in their respective parties, but indepen-

dent and nonaligned voters tilt heavily toward Buehler," said Fritz Wenzel, founder of Clout Research. "He wins 48 percent support among independents, compared to just 23 percent of indies who support Brown — a remarkable show of strength for the challenger that mitigates the voter registration advantage that Democrats enjoy in Oregon."

Another survey of 770 registered voters in July by Gravis Marketing, a non-partisan research firm that has been repeatedly scrutinized by FiveThirtyEight, the Washington Post and others for inaccurate results, showed Brown and Buehler tied at 45 percent.

Clout receives a "C" grade from FiveThirtyEight and calls races correctly only about 50 percent of the time, according to that organization's pollster ratings.

Clout Research accurately projected Republican Dennis Richardson's victory in his election as Oregon secretary of state against Democrat Brad Avakian in 2016. Its polling showed Richardson winning with 41 percent of the vote, while Avakian received 35.7 percent.

Richardson won the race with 47.4 percent to Avakian's 43.2 percent.

But in another poll in 2016, Clout projected a tie between GOP candidate Bud Pierce and Brown in that year's race for governor. In fact, Brown won comfortably with more than 50 percent of the vote, while Pierce garnered 43 percent.

Complaint: Grocers used workers to distribute campaign flyers

Fight over Measure 103

By CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Opponents of a ballot measure to ban taxes on groceries contend that some grocers have illegally used their employees to distribute political material supporting the ban.

The Vote No on 103 campaign claims in a letter to Oregon grocers that such conduct violates state law that prohibits coercing workers into employer-mandated political activity.

Major grocers, including Albertsons Safeway and Costco, have bankrolled the effort to prohibit taxes on grocery products, Secretary of State records show. Measure 103 is on the November ballot.

The Yes on 103 campaign denied the allegations, saying its campaign staffers were distributing the items and customers could take them at will.

Monday's letter is the latest volley in what has become an acrimonious campaign over whether Oregon, which has no sales tax, should especially protect grocery items from state taxes.

The measure is opposed by a coalition of progressive groups, which said in its letter that employees at Fred Meyer, Safeway, QFC and Albertsons stores in Portland, Eugene, Springfield and Roseburg were distributing flyers and magnets reading "Keep Our Groceries Tax Free," and telling customers to vote for Measure 103.

"Oregon grocers are engaging in a deceptive campaign where they claim that Measure 103 is necessary to ensure that food is not taxed," wrote attorney Margaret Olney in a letter to grocers on Monday. "While they can make this position known in their stores, they can-



EO Media Group

The Vote No on 103 campaign claims in a letter to Oregon grocers that such conduct violates state law that prohibits coercing workers into employer-mandated political activity.

not require employees to personally deliver that message to customers. We are writing to each grocery retailer to demand that it stop."

Olney also wrote that the campaign would "explore all possible avenues for challenge, including election law complaints and civil actions against the employers" if the grocers didn't stop.

She also said that any time employees spent distributing the flyers and magnets should be disclosed as in-kind contributions to the Yes on 103 campaign.

Katherine Driessen, a spokeswoman for the "No" campaign, said that "multiple customers and staff" reported employees were distributing literature and magnets.

However, the Yes on 103 campaign in an email statement late Monday labeled such claims "false accusations."

"The Yes on 103 campaign material that is referenced in this letter was distributed and placed by the campaign at store check stands," wrote Dan Floyd, a spokesman for the campaign. "Individuals may take a magnet and literature or not as they see fit."

The two campaigns disagree what goods the measure

would protect from taxation.

Supporters of Measure 103 said the prohibition covers "any raw or processed food or beverage intended for human consumption." Opponents claim the measure would apply to a broader range of goods and entities, including restaurants.

That disagreement and public statements by the opposition campaign prompted a lawyer for the Yes on 103 campaign to send a cease-and-desist letter to the opponents earlier this month, claiming they had violated state law by making "false statements" in campaign materials about the measure, and demanding they stop.

"My client has been, and continues to be, damaged by numerous false statements made by Vote No on 103 and its coalition members regarding Measure 103," wrote attorney Jill Gibson.

The Vote No on 103 campaign shot back, denying that they published any material that qualifies as a "false" statement about a candidate or measure; and argued that the claims of false statements were "potentially libelous."

"Your client needs to apologize for making its false accusations and needs to retract its defamatory statements," wrote attorney Steve Berman.

County unemployment rate remains low heading into fall

The Daily Astorian

Seasonally adjusted unemployment in Clatsop County was 3.7 percent in August, unchanged from the previous month but lower than a year ago.

Seasonal rates compare expected trends with reality. Economists expected the county to lose 130 jobs with the wind-down of summer, but the county shed only 30. The private sector cut 50 jobs, while government added 20. Food manufacturing and hospitality each cut 40 positions last month.

The county's total nonfarm payroll employment in August was 18,700, 220 more than the year prior. Leisure and hospitality added 250 jobs over the past year, along with 110 in retail and 40 in construction. Professional and business services lost 120 jobs over the year, and nearly 100 state government jobs were reclassified into the private sector.

The county's unemployment rate was tied for 10th-lowest in the state with

Deschutes County. It was lower than the Oregon (3.8 percent) and national (3.9 percent) rates.

Free TACO FEED
SHELA'S FAMOUS TACOS!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH
10AM - 4PM

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION SALE
HUGE SAVINGS!
12 MONTHS SAME AS CASH! O.A.C.

20-40% OFF ALL FURNITURE!



Appliance & Home Furnishings
"We Service What We Sell"
503-861-0929
529 SE Marlin Avenue, Warrenton, OR
Hours: Mon-Fri: 8-6pm • Sat: 9-5pm • Sun: 10-4pm

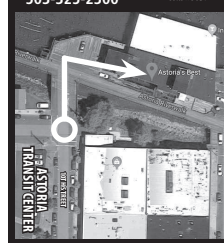
Consult a PROFESSIONAL



LEO FINZI

Astoria's Best.com

Microsoft REGISTERED Refurbisher
We stock 1000s of parts, cables, accessories, etc. for phones, TVs, computers, and tablets.
Mon-Fri 10-6, Sat 11-4
Astoria, OR
503-325-2300



Q: What does your Tune Up service offer?

A: Removal of viruses and other malicious software. Repairs to the Windows operating system. Disk defragmentation. Installation of all updates for your hardware and software. An Office Suite. Ad blocking software for surfing the web. Anti-virus program. "Bloating" software removal. Registry repair and defragmentation. Easy to use self-service programs for you to keep your computer running well. And much more.



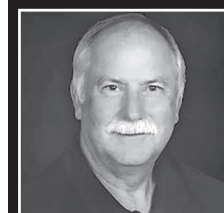
ASTORIA CHIROPRACTIC

Barry Sears, D.C.

503-325-3311
2935 Marine Drive
Astoria, Oregon

Q: Does the Oregon Health Plan cover chiropractic care?

A: Yes! The Oregon Health Plan does cover chiropractic care with referral from your primary care physician. Call us today for more information or to schedule your appointment. Now accepting new patients.



Steve Putman

Medicare Products

503-440-1076

Licensed in Oregon and Washington
putmanagency@gmail.com

Q: If I have Original Medicare, is there an out-of-pocket maximum I have to pay for my medical expenses?

A: No; Original Medicare (Parts A & B) pays 80% of covered medical expenses, with no cap on what you have to pay. Medicare Part C (Advantage Plans) have an annual out-of-pocket limit. Medicare Supplement (Medigap) plans differ in what they pay toward deductibles, co-insurance and co-pays. When signing up or switching plans, let me help you understand these limits so you aren't in for a surprise down the road.



John R. Alcantara - Funeral Director



Hughes-Ransom Mortuary

Astoria: 576 12th St. 503.325.2535
Seaside: 220 N. Holladay 503.738.6622

www.hughes-ransom.com

Q: Isn't it true that funeral directors (FD's) are being replaced by event (wedding style) planners?

A: While antagonists will always persist to diminish/discredit our selfless endeavors, the comparison to a wedding planner couldn't be further than the truth than scripted TV being considered reality. The first is that FD's start off with what can arguably be considered the world's biggest professional handicap. The family who has experienced a death would rather be anywhere else than arranging their loved one's funeral. The second assumption that anyone beside a qualified/licensed FD can coordinate & direct all the elements that go into a memorializing someone's life in only 2-3 days' time is laughable given that the average timeline that a wedding planner gets to coordinate a similar event is 18 months. In order to truly get an accurate picture of the vocational life we lead please visit our Facebook page: facebook.com/hughesransommortuary and take a look at the recently found & reposted graphic titled from F/D Life, "Okay folks, it's time to play, Who Wears the Most Hats".

SUB-BIDS REQUESTED

Seaside School District
New Middle/High Schools
Seaside, Oregon

Bid Package: #4
All Other Work

Bids Due:
Oct 11th, 2018 2:00pm

Bid Documents:
www.hoffmancorp.com/
subcontractors

HOFFMAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

805 SW Broadway, Suite 2100
Portland, OR 97205
Phone (503) 221-8811
Bid Fax (503) 221-8888
BIDS@hoffmancorp.com

Hoffman is an equal opportunity employer and requests sub-bids from all interested firms including disadvantaged, minority, women, disabled veterans and emerging small-business enterprises

OR CCB#28417/LIC HOFFMCC14NC