



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

January 14, 2000

CITY OF COOS BAY

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LOCAL BUSINESSES AND GOVERNMENTS TAKING CHARGE OF OUR TELECOMMUNICATIONS FUTURE

– Elected officials from Bay Area local governments, school districts, the Port of Coos Bay and Bay Area Hospital will be gathering for 7:00 AM meeting at the Red Lion on Tuesday, January 25th as part of Bay Area Telecom Week. The elected officials meeting will feature four high-powered speakers knowledgeable about telecommunications:

La Grande City Manager Wes Hare will be speaking about how his city planned for and successfully brought fiber-optics in his community.

A representative of 800 Support, the Bay Area's new call center, will discuss "business without walls: the worldwide market."

Milo Mecham, an attorney and recently appointed manager of Fiber S. Consortium, will talk about new options and new revenues that is sure to stimulate the interest of policy makers struggling with budgets stretched to the breaking point.

Sherry Sheng, a technology specialist with the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department, will address SB622 and the opportunities it presents for education, telemedicine and rural telecommunications infrastructure.

That's day one of Bay Area Telecom Week. Day two features a pair of workshops at Southwestern on Wednesday, January 26th. The first will deal with "Successful Internet Business Models," and the second with "Internet Marketing and Sales." Space is limited and probably full by now. For questions about these sessions, contact Jon Richards at the Southwestern Business Development Center at 541-888-7100 or e-mail him at jrichard@southwestern.cc.or.us <<mailto:jrichard@southwestern.cc.or.us>>.

Day three features an evening session open to the public on Thursday, January 27th beginning at 6:30PM on the Southwestern campus. Panelists at this session include:

Greg Stevens, Publisher of The World, who will be speaking about a new partnership to connect local businesses with the worldwide market.

John Stadter, 800 Support, who will be talking about Internet support services and various employment opportunities.

Jack Brown, President of WEB Marketing, Inc., a start-up company in Coos Bay operating a WEB-based marketing program for a multi-national corporation, will address the Internet as a tool to expand markets.

Carolyn Tecube, owner of Checkerberry's Flowers and Gifts in Coos Bay, will share how her main street retail shop expanded its markets through the Internet.

Ryan Schrenk, North Bend High School instructor, will introduce Travis Cambell and Alan Wallace and their new program setting up WEB pages for clients, managing secure servers, and setting up hot links.

Joe Walker, Marshfield High School, will describe "The Cisco Academy," a program that prepares students for systems networking in a high-tech world.

Doug Donaldson will present information about his new, local, start-up business, Community of Internet Commerce, which creates a WEB-based shopping mall for Southcoast businesses.

For those unable to attend the week's events, some of the sessions will be aired on Coos Bay's government access television channel, Channel 14. Mayor Verger's Channel 14 "Focus Show" will also be featuring more information about the event in the near future.

Bay Area Telecom Week is being sponsored by the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, The World, Southwestern Oregon Community College and Southwestern Business Development Center. For more information about day three of the program or any aspect of Bay Area Telecom Week, e-mail your request to BayArea_team@hotmail.com <mailto:BayArea_team@hotmail.com>.

PLANNING COMMISSION DENIES PARK HOUSE REZONE – This week the Planning Commission spent over two and a half hours pondering a proposal to rezone city-owned property known as "The Park House." City staff had requested the action in order to allow selling the existing house, which has existed for many years near the upper tennis courts west of Mingus Park, in order to generate revenue to support other parks projects such as the proposed Mingus Park permanent stage, and perhaps new tennis courts and other park improvements. The Coos Bay Parks Commission had recommended in favor of the proposed action, as had the Friends of Mingus Park. Both had representatives speaking in favor of the rezone at this week's meeting, as did city manager Bill Grile. Nevertheless, the proposal was denied and it seems unlikely that any appeal would be filed.

Complicating matters is the fact that this week an insurance settlement arrived giving the City about \$30,000 to either repair the house, damaged by a sewerage spill a few months ago, or use the money for other park needs and order the house removed from the property. Until a few years ago, the house had been used as the residence for a park manager. The property can not be conveyed separately without approval of the rezone, now denied, since the house sits on a larger ownership known as Mingus Park.

Next Tuesday evening the City Council will take up the matter of what to do with the \$30,000 insurance settlement. Staff will be recommending using the money for the Mingus Park stage project and removing the house structure.

COMMUNITY AWARDS BANQUET PLANNED – The Bay Area Chamber of Commerce will hold their annual Chamber Community Awards Banquet on Saturday, January 22nd from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Red Lion. Announcement of the 1999 Citizen of the Year, Business of the Year, and Member of the Year awards will highlight this year's annual dinner. Members of the Prefontaine Memorial Committee will also be in attendance to name their Athlete of the Year. New and retiring chamber officers, directors and committee chairs will be recognized for their leadership accomplishments as well. Chamber Vice-President Timm Slater will serve as master of ceremonies for the event. Tickets are \$30 per person, and are on sale at the chamber office, 50 East Central Avenue in downtown Coos Bay. For more information call 269-0215.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS FORUM SCHEDULED – The Bay Area Chamber of Commerce January Forum will be held on January 19th at 7:30 a.m. at the Red Lion. The importance of new technologies, particularly telecommunications, to the economic future of the Bay Area will be explored at the Chamber forum. Guest speaker will be Dr. Steven Kridelbaugh, president of Southwestern Oregon Community College, an advocate of developing the area's technology infrastructure to attract businesses here. A new technology center is in the planning stages for the college, which is also hosting a special three-day series of telecommunications workshops and program January 25th – 27th.

President Kridelbaugh has been recognized for his work with and assistance to 800 Support in their efforts to locate a new facility here, and hire and train personnel. The company was housed temporarily at the college's Newmark Center prior to moving to larger quarters. Reservations for the banquet are required and may be made by calling the Chamber office, 269-0215.

Other upcoming programs include the traditional "State of the Cities" joint address by Coos Bay Mayor Joanne Verger and North Bend Mayor Lee Golder on February 15th, and a "State of the County Address" by

Commissioner Pete DeMain on March 15th .

CHATAUGUA PROGRAM CANCELLED – Author Molly Gloss has had to cancel all of her winter and spring programs, including Saturday's scheduled visit to Coos Bay Public Library. The library will try to reschedule her visit for next fall.

LIBRARY AND OREGON COAST MUSIC ASSOCIATION SPONSOR KINDER KONZERT – A partnership of many year's standing between the library and OCMA brings another popular Kinder Konzer to the library on Saturday, January 29th at 11 a.m. The free program, for children 3rd to 5th grades, will introduce students to the historical attitudes of and toward women in the world of music through the use of mixed media: music, story-telling and theatrical props. Musicians Ellie Malzahn, Charla Spigolon and Claire Mohr will dramatize three musical women across the ages and Christian Rosman will narrate. Chirs is loan the library a piano for the occasion.

FAX FORMS ARE BECOMING AVAILABLE AT THE LIBRARY – Federal instruction booklets are now available at the library and some forms can be photocopied for patrons. The supply of federal forms has not yet arrived. Copies of Oregon booklets with forms can be picked up however.

CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP – The Fire Department will be picking up Christmas trees again this weekend. Trees will be picked up within the Coos Bay city limits or you can drop off your tree at Fire Station No. 2 at 189 S. Wall. Canned food or monetary donations will be accepted. Please call the fire department at 269-1191 before Saturday to get on the pickup list.

NEW RESCUE TRUCK COMPLETED – The Fire Departments new rescue truck was completed this week with the installation of a roof mounted light tower. The new unit will be shown to members of the City Council prior to next Tuesdays council meeting at 7:00 p.m. next to city hall. Members of the public are invited to stop by and view the latest addition to the department.