



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

June 2, 2000

CITY OF COOS BAY	500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay OR 97420	(541) 269-8912
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FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK SALE – Another giant used book sale will take place at Coos Bay Library on June 3 and 4. Saturday hours are 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday hours are noon to 4:00 p.m., with all books half price on Sunday.

ANNUAL PHONE BOOK RECYCLING DRIVE – From June 12th through July 14th the Boys and Girls Club of Southwestern Oregon will be participating in its annual phone book recycling drive. We are asking that all phone books be dropped off at a dumpster at the following locations: the parking lot behind the Boys and Girls Club located at 3333 Walnut in Coos Bay, the GTE parking lot located at 276 LaClair in Coos Bay, and the Star of Hope located at 1712 Sheridan Avenue in North Bend. This project will help raise funds that will be used toward youth programs and scholarships. Please help the Boys and Girls Club by bringing your books to the locations listed above. For more information contact Kate Gigler or Kristen Ellison at the Boys and Girls Club office at 267-3635.

COOS BAY P.D. PASSES AUDIT - An audit of the Coos Bay Police Department was recently conducted by the Oregon Law Enforcement Data System (LEDS) as Oregon's Terminal Control Agency for the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Crime Information Center (NCIC). An excerpt from the audit report reads, "I would like to commend those employees within your agency responsible for training, and those who are responsible for entry of records into the LEDS/NCIC systems. Your agency is, and has been consistently at the top in their diligence and accuracy in this area" The report signed by the auditor concluded with these two words, "Well Done!"

POLICE ACADEMY GRADUATION - Coos Bay newest recruit police officer, Darrell Babb, will be graduating in ceremonies to be held at the Oregon Police Academy in Monmouth on June 9th. Officer Babb completed nearly sixteen weeks of training at the Coos Bay Police Department prior to attending the ten-week academy. Officer Babb will continue his training at the Coos Bay Police Department prior to being assigned to the patrol division.

D.A.R.E. GRADUATION DATES SET - As reported in last weeks Friday Update, Coos Bay D.A.R.E. Officer Scott LaFevre has announced D.A.R.E. graduation ceremonies to be held in June. Milner Crest School ceremonies will be held June 5th at 7:00 P.M. and Madison Street School ceremonies will be held on June 8th at 1:30 PM. Captain Washburn will be speaking at the graduation on June 8th, and Chief Knight will be speaking at the June 5th graduation.

LABOR TRENDS (April Unemployment Data) - Coos County's unemployment rate fell from 7.6 percent in March to 6.6 in April and was more than two percentage points below April 1999's estimate of 8.8 percent. Total unemployment fell 2,100 in March to just over 1,800 in April. A year earlier more than 2,300 residents were estimated to be unemployed.

Curry County saw its unemployment rate dropped from 8.1 percent in March to 6.4 in April. The number of unemployed fell from 660 to 530 at the same time. A year ago, Curry County's jobless rate was 7.8 with 640 unemployed.

Oregon's jobless rate fell from 5.5 percent in March to 4.7 in April and was more than one percentage point below April 1999's rate of 5.9. The seasonally adjusted rate for the state dipped from 4.7 percent to 4.6 over the month. The year-earlier rate was 5.8. According to an agency analyst, this April's figure was Oregon's lowest seasonally adjusted rate since April 1995. In March 1995, the rate was 4.4 percent. It had not been lower than that since 1969. (Information excerpted from State of Oregon Employment Department)

ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENTS -URS Corporation will begin conducting Level 1 Site Assessments for those properties bordering N. Front St. that lie within the Waterfront Heritage District the week of June 12th. This work consists of compiling a history of each property based on past and present usage and is paid for from federal grant dollars. This is the first step toward the redevelopment of private as well as city owned properties.

EMPIRE BOAT RAMP - Good news to all you boaters out there. The new boarding floats are being installed this week. Empire Wood Products built the new floats and started installing them on Thursday. Most of the floats will be installed by the weekend. The floats are made of recycled wood and plastic. The old floats are being salvaged and the County will be repairing and using them in a less hostile environment.

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER RECRUITMENT - Have you ever wanted to get involved and make a difference by helping your neighbors and friends? Have you ever considered becoming a volunteer firefighter? Well it's time to stop considering and go for it! The Coos Bay Fire Department is currently recruiting volunteer firefighters. If you are more than 18 years of age, give some thought to giving a little of your time to serve our great community.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE - The fire department participated in the Memorial Day parade held this past weekend. Although it was a little damp, members of the department drove several apparatus through the parade route with members of our local Job's Daughters on board. The rescue boat, ladder and rescue trucks took their place among those who came out to show their patriotic spirit.

PIONEER CEMETERY GETS FLAG - The fire department would like to send out a big thank you to Pacific Power for their help in getting a flag up on the pole at the IOOF Cemetery. The flag was flown for Memorial weekend and will also fly for the Fourth of July celebration. The department will be working on getting lighting hooked up to allow a permanent flag to be displayed.