



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

October 27, 2000

CITY OF COOS BAY

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CITY RECEIVES EPA AWARD – The City was notified this week that it will be the recipient of an award from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 10 recognizing Coos Bay Wastewater Plant II for its operation and maintenance excellence. The award will be presented at the Pacific Northwest Pollution Control Association conference during the Awards Business lunch on October 30th in Coeur D’Alene Resort, Coeur D’Alene, Idaho.

FUND RAISING BENEFIT TO BE HELD FOR MINGUS PARK STAGE – A fund raising benefit organized by Larry McCabe will be held at 7 p.m. Sunday, October 29th at the Red Lion. The concert will feature the Ron Eschete Trio jazz guitar masters. Funds will be donated to the City of Coos Bay to be used toward completion of the Mingus Park Stage. Tickets are \$12 each and are available from McCabe’s Allstate Insurance at 267-4110, Off The Record at 751-0301 or Wanda’s at 267-6293.

CITY WEB SITE FEATURED AT COLLEGE SEMINAR -- This week Coos Bay’s WEB site, www.coosbay.org, was featured among the others touted as the area’s best at a seminar about e-commerce at the Newmark Center on the campus of Southwestern Oregon Community College. “Spotlight on the Bay Area’s Best Web Sites” was put on by Gary Rifkin and the team at Southwestern’s Business Development Center. Others with featured sites included The World, GIB’s RVs, Century 21 Real Estate, K&K Sound and SkateWave. Among some of the surprising things revealed at the seminar, Gib’s Bill Leslie revealed that Gibs is selling trailers all over the country as far east as Kansas, and Century 21 sees about 20% of its transactions related to the Internet in one way or another. SkateWave’s live video cam has been a big success and clearly impressed those attending. Budgeting for e-commerce and an effective Internet presence provided still more interesting insight. Bill Leslie said his business spends close to \$6,000 annually keeping its site current. One participant was surprised that the City of Coos Bay’s budget for its site is only \$200 a month, and confirmed that the sites comprehensive subject matter and appearance suggest a larger financial commitment on the part of the City. “The Internet and an effective WEB site can make you look bigger and better than you really are,” said city manager Bill Grile during his presentation at the seminar. “That’s one of the reasons we like our site,” he added, “but the main reason our site is so important to us is that it advances Coos Bay’s commitment to transparent government.” “The more information people have about our City, the easier our job becomes,” he concluded.

“ARE YOU READY FOR THE PIRATES/DOGS CIVIL WARGAME?” -- That’s the question squarely put to Coos Bay city manager Bill Grile and North Bend city administrator Gary Combs this week down at the KCBY-TV studios by station manager Dick McMahan. How did they answer? And were they head to head in full uniform to respond? You’ll have to tune in to KCBY starting this weekend to see for yourself. Oh my. Oh my!

REMINDER TO CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS – It’s that time of year again! Before checking out Saturday night, move the time back one hour. This is also a good time to check the batteries in your smoke alarm, clean furnace filters and chimneys.

BUILDING CODES DIVISION HOLDS LOCAL STAKEHOLDER MEETING -- Wednesday evening

a handful of local contractors met with officials from the Oregon Building Codes Division to discuss issues of mutual concern and interest. Joining the session from Coos Bay were local building official Joe McClay, inspector Mike Perkins and city manager Bill Grile. Some of the concerns addressed at the meeting included the need for more prompt interpretations by the Division and the need to improve the coordination of permit processing. No criticisms of Coos Bay's inspection program were expressed.

10th STREET PARK GETS STAIRS - A big thank you to the Bay Area Optimists Club of Coos County for the recent construction of stairs to 10th Street Park from South 10th Street. The Optimists have taken over the Park as part of their activities in the Bay Area. They paid to have the stairs put in and Glen Villines did a wonderful job on the construction. A very welcome addition to the Park. Thanks again Optimists!

JOINT WORK-SESSION PLANNED - The City Council and the Planning Commission will hold a joint work-session on Monday, October 30, 2000 at 7 p.m. in the Coos Bay Public Library, to discuss the implementation of proposed design standards for North Front Street and a portion of the Empire district. Rezoning of the North Front Street area is currently in the review process along with the design standards. Design standards only are being proposed for a portion of the Empire district along Newmark Avenue. No rezoning is proposed in this area. It's not often that such joint work-sessions occur. Channel 14 will be covering the meeting for later airing.

FIREFIGHTER ATTENDS FALLEN FIREFIGHTER CEREMONY – Coos Bay Firefighter Mike Hurley returned this week from a two-week class he attended at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD. In addition to attending the NFA sponsored class Mike was able to attend the Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service held at the academy. The ceremony is held each year to honor those firefighters who lost their lives in the line of duty in the previous year. The service is a time of remembrance for the families as well as a way for firefighters to honor them.

PORT MANAGER TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL – Allan Rumbaugh, Manager of the Int'l Port of Coos Bay will be attending the City Council work session on November 7th at 7 p.m. to discuss with the Council the Port's proposal to purchase and develop for mitigation on behalf of the North Bend Airport a site adjacent to the City's bio-solids storage lagoon at Eastside. City staff has asked the Port for additional information that it wishes to review before coming to any conclusion about whether the Port's proposal is in the City's best interest.

FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL ATTEND RESCUE TRAINING – Members of the Coos Bay Fire Department attended a second session of specialized rescue classes sponsored by the owners of the New Carissa. Members of the Coos Bay and North Bend fire departments put in classroom time as well as hands on training and rescue scenarios at the SWOCC fire-training center.

CITY MANAGER CONTINUES WEEKLY RADIO INTERVIEWS -- Coos Bay city manager Bill Grile has been continuing his weekly interviews with K-Light Radio's Rick Stevens. The brief interviews are carried live on K-Light each Friday morning at about 8:35 AM and are feature a different local contemporary topic each week about some event, project or issue related to the City of Coos Bay. Listeners can tune in at 98.7 on their FM dial. Remote listeners can hear the interviews through K-Light's WEB site via a Real Audio link. That URL is:
<http://www.lighthouseaudio.com/>

THANK YOU LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS! -- The whole community owes a hearty thanks to the League of Women Voters for the pair of non-partisan elections forums held at Coos Bay City Hall to better inform voters about the choices facing them in just two weeks now. Last night's candidate's forum featured those running for state senate and house seats from our area along with the individuals seeking a seat on the County Board of Commissioners here in Coos County. Thank you LWV! Now get out and vote everybody!!