

The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

April 27, 2003

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LOCAL ELECTIONS RESULTS AVAILABLE ONLINE -- Coos County local election results are available online at <http://www.co.coos.or.us/elec/elecre.htm>. For the City of Coos Bay, Councilor Joe Benetti has been elected Mayor and with 817 votes left to be processed as of 10:00 AM Thursday morning it appears that Councilors Jeff Mckeown and Judy Weeks have been reelected with a third position to be filled by either Anna Marie Larson or David Williams. Ms. Larson has a single vote lead over Mr. Williams with these 817 ballots remaining to be counted. According to Coos County Clerk Terri Turi, the final ballots are expected to be processed and counted by late Thursday afternoon. Coos Bay voters have also given direction to amend the City's Charter, with four out of every five Coos Bay voters agreeing that the \$4.8 million received from the State of Oregon for city road projects should be managed conservatively, using the interest proceeds for prioritized projects with the principal generating an ongoing revenue stream. Congratulations to the winning candidates. And congratulations to Mayor Joanne Verger, who will now move on to serve us in the Oregon House of Representatives. Regardless of how you voted, this election year more than most has proven that each vote counts! Thanks for exercising your cherished right to vote!!

THE ANNUAL LEAGUE OF OREGON CITIES CONFERENCE -- Mayor Verger, City Councilors, City Manager, Bill Grile, and Assistant to the City Manager, Joyce Jansen, are attending the annual conference of the League of Oregon Cities over the long weekend in Portland. The conference includes a number of sessions dealing with contemporary issues and training sessions for seasoned and veteran elected officials and professional staff. Saturday afternoon City Manager Bill Grile is scheduled to give a panel presentation about Coos Bay's experiences with the Governor's Community Solutions Team and the Front Street redevelopment project. We'll give you an update with some details next week.

CHAMBER FORUM – The Bay Area Chamber of Commerce will hold a forum, “Drug Free Workplace” on Wednesday, November 15th at 7:30 a.m. at the Red Lion. Presenters will be Joe Marmo, Prevention Coordinator Office, Alcohol & Drug Abuse Programs and Chris O’Neill, Manager, Oregon Business Employee Assistance Program. Reservations are required and may be made by calling the Chamber office at 269-0215.

CHAMBER BUSINESS AFTER HOURS – The Bay Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors will be holding business after hours Thursday, November 16th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Inland Point Assisted Living, 2290 Inland Drive, North Bend. This is an excellent opportunity to network with other local business people. All interested parties are invited to attend.

CITY HALL OFFICES CLOSED NOV. 10TH – City Hall administrative offices will be closed Friday, November 10th in observance of Veterans Day.

ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING EVENTS PLANNED – Let's get in the mood for the holiday season! Two tree lighting events will take place in the Bay Area. The Downtown Association will hold the 11th annual tree lighting ceremony and holiday promotion on Friday, November 24th at 6 p.m. in the convention center located at 158 Central Avenue. More information to come!

The Empire Community Association will hold their tree lighting ceremony on Friday, December 1st at 6 p.m. at the Empire Fire Station. Both events will provide entertainment and refreshments as well as a big welcome for Santa. Mark your calendars for one or both dates.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK FORUM SCHEDULED – The 9th annual Chamber of Commerce Economic Outlook Forum will be held Friday, December 15th at 6:45 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. at The Mill Resort and Casino. The keynote speaker will be John Mitchell, International, National and Statewide Economist. Registration is required and due by December 12th at a cost of \$19. Contact the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce at 269-0215.

LOCAL KIDS WIN IN CONTEST – Seven kids from Eastside and Blossom Gulch Elementary Schools were notified this week that they have won prizes in the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Fire Prevention Week Campaign contest. "The Great Escape: Check it Out!" was an opportunity for Oregonians to educate themselves about what they can do to prevent fires from occurring in their homes. There were 5,543 entries received from all over the state. Local prizes awarded included 2 bicycles with helmets, camera, T-shirt and a gift card donated by K-Mart. Congratulations to all of the winners!

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – Fire Chief Stan Gibson attended a meeting this week to continue the Coos Bay Tsunami Hazard Mapping Project. The project was funded by a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in cooperation with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Agency. When the maps become available public meetings will be held to share the findings of the study.

POLICE ACADEMY GRADUATION ANNOUNCED – The Oregon Police Academy announced graduation has been set for December 1, 2000 at the Police Academy on the Campus of Western Oregon University in Monmouth. Coos Bay Police Officer, Robert Labrousse, will be among the graduates. Coos Bay Police Chief Chuck Knight has been invited to give the graduation address.

CHIEF KNIGHT ADDRESSES LEADERSHIP COOS – Coos Bay Police Chief Chuck Knight address the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Coos program November 8, 2000. Chief Knight presented an overview of the Coos Bay Police Department both past and present covering the nearly thirty-five years he has been with the Coos Bay Police Department. The Chief responded to questions on a variety of topics posed by Leadership Coos participants.

CITY OPPOSES STATE PROPOSAL – The City has sent a letter to the Land Conservation & Development Commission (LCDC) opposing proposed changes to Statewide Planning Goal 14, which guides development in urban growth boundaries. The proposal would limit commercial development along Highway 101. The proposed Goal change focuses, in part, on efficient use of the land and not on the need to provide livable communities. The City is asking that more analysis be done to determine the impacts to small cities. Once again... one size does not fit all.

WASTEWATER PROJECTS 2000 – The rehabilitation of several sanitary sewer mainlines is currently underway around town by JBS Construction, Inc. The sites selected were based on findings from recent television reports; visible sink holes, safety risk factors and all represent failed lines. Prior notification will be given to property owners affected by this construction at least 24 hours before the work is scheduled to begin. The public is asked to be patient during this rehabilitation process and communicate any special access needs to the on-site inspector or contractor.