



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

July 27, 2001

CITY OF COOS BAY

500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay OR 97420

(541) 269-8912

See us at <http://www.coosbay.org>

Email the city manager at bgrile@ucinet.com

SOUTH COAST TELECOMMUNICATIONS MEETING DRAWS INTERESTED CROWD - About thirty people met this morning at Southwestern Oregon Community College's Newmark Center to hear an update from the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department about fiber-optic telecommunications in the state and progress underway to bring the benefits of technology to the South Coast. Kudos to Lori Capps and Jon Richards with Southwestern's Business Development Center for arranging the meeting. OECDD's Link Shadley gave an excellent PowerPoint presentation about the state of telecommunications in Oregon. To learn more yourself, visit the State's web site at <http://www.econ.state.or.us/telecom/>.

Attendees this morning included Lane County Commissioner Cindy Weeldreyer, who also serves as Chair of Fiber South Consortium and Coos Bay City Councilor Don Spangler, who serves as the Consortium's Vice Chair. Others present included representatives from NoaNet, PCINW, Douglas, Coos and Curry Counties, CCD Business Development Corporation, Unicom, the Bandon community, CB Public Schools, the City of Reedsport, South Coast ESD and Southwestern Oregon Community College. City manager Bill Grile also attended.

SCDC MOVES TO HELP ADDRESS VISUAL BLIGHT PROBLEMS - Congratulations to Sause Bros.' John Sweet for being elected to succeed CB Council President Jeff McKeown as Chair of the South Coast Development Council, and kudos to the Council for action it took last night to help address visual blight in the Bay Area. Last night the SCDC created a subcommittee to see if it could help do anything to beautify the Highway 101 area from the northern edge of the Weyerhaeuser property in North Bend to Central Dock. John Sweet has a dream that any group that is assembled would eventually work on the area clear through Millington. Both Downtown Associations will also be asked to participate and anybody else that has any interest. Thanks SCDC!

CB FIREFIGHTERS CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARIES - Congratulations Robert Borra, Dan Crutchfield and Mike Sheldon. Please join us in saluting these three Coos Bay Fire Fighters as each recently hit the five-year milestone in service to the community as a member of the CB Fire Department. Congratulations Fire Fighters!

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME - The traveling trophy is up for grabs at the July Jubilee Annual Coos Bay / North Bend Cities softball championship game this Saturday, July 28. The game begins at 4:30 PM at Boynton Park in North Bend and is sure to be a hit! Employees representing various departments from each city will be on the field. Coos Bay brought home the trophy at the last game in 1999, with a winning score of Coos Bay 28 - North Bend 27.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT - The 18th annual "National Night Out", which is a unique crime & drug prevention event, is set for August 7, 2001 from 7:00 to 10:00 PM at the Woodland Apartments (245 S. Schoneman) in Coos Bay. The police and fire departments will be participating in the event again this year. The National night out campaign involved citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses,

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neighborhood organizations and local officials in more than 9,500 communities in all 50 US States, territories, and many Canadian cities and military bases worldwide. Last year more than 32 million people participated in the National Night Out. The Coos Bay event is sponsored by the Coos County / North Bend City Housing Authority. The event is open for all interested persons who wish to join in taking a stand against crime and drugs. For more information Contact Phyllis Wilson at the Housing Authority or visit <http://www.nationaltownwatch.org>

FIRE CHIEF SERVES ON INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE - Fire Chief Stan Gibson attended the 78th Annual International Fire Service Training Association Conference in Tulsa, OK last week. Chief Gibson served on the review committee for the training manual, "Fire Service Hose Practices". Other committee members represented fire departments from throughout the nation. The committee will spend the next year updating the material and photos in the current edition of the manual. The manual was last updated in 1987. These manuals are used by the fire service throughout the world, translated into five foreign languages, and are based on the international training standards.

LIBRARY OFFERS "SEARCH ENGINE BASICS" - Coos Bay Public Library reference staff will offer the third in a series of basic computer workshops on Tuesday, July 31st, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the library's Myrtlewood Meeting Room. The session will describe different types of Internet search engines, demonstrate how to find specific information on the Internet, and give special tips on using some popular search engines. The workshop is free, and no registration is required.

ART SHOW TO OPEN AT THE LIBRARY - Well-known artist Maggie Karl will open an exhibit of her work at the library on Tuesday, July 31st. She will show watercolors, oils, collages, and "stained paintings." The latter is a technique, according to Karl, where you "drip and pour - and pray - on raw canvas." Karl was active in the Coos Artist League when it became the Coos Art Museum in 1966. She became the museum's director in 1970 and continued until 1981. She is living and working in Bandon after a 17-year stay in Santa Fe.

MARIONETTE SHOW SCHEDULED AT THE LIBRARY - The popular Celeste Rose will present two performances of her marionette show, "The Story of Jumper the Pony," on Thursday, August 2nd at 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. in the Myrtlewood Meeting Room. The 45-minute program, an original story by Rose, is free of charge and open to children of all ages. It is part of the library's summer reading program. Rose is the director of the Oregon Fantasy Theatre and has appeared many times at the library.

LABOR TRENDS Nonfarm Jobs Rise on South Coast in May - Nonfarm employment in Coos County rose by 300 in May. This was about on par for this time of the year. The seasonally adjusted payroll job index inched upward by 0.1 percent. Over the year, nonfarm jobs were higher by 170 (+0.7%). Coos County's manufacturing sector expanded by 110 jobs in May. The increase was split about evenly between the wood products and food products industries. Coincidentally, however, manufacturing jobs fell by 110 over the year, with most of that loss, 80 jobs, coming in the wood product industry, primarily in logging and sawmills. Miscellaneous nondurable goods was down by 30, as well. Nonmanufacturing jobs in Coos County expanded by nearly 200 in July. Public education, service, and construction had the largest gains. Over the year, nonmanufacturing jobs advanced by 280, a gain of 1.5 percent. Jobs in services increased by 230 over the year, while retail trade gained 110, and local government expanded by 80, most of that involving tribal activities. (Information excerpted from State of Oregon Employment Department)

CITY GETS REDUCED ASPHALT PRICE - The City is able to purchase asphalt at a reduced rate through Bracelin and Yeager this year due to a State purchasing agreement. If a government agency belongs to State Purchasing Pool they are able to buy equipment and tools that the State has already received bids on. The new asphalt price will result in a three dollar savings per ton. The annual savings to the City will be

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about \$2,100.

LEAGUE OF OREGON CITIES AND TRI-MET JOIN TO HELP SMALL CITIES - The City of Coos Bay is signing an agreement with the League of Oregon Cities to exchange our federal Surface Transportation Plan funds with local funds from Tri-Met. The exchange allows the City to follow local contracting rules for the funds instead of federal rules. This year the City's allocation of federal funds is \$87,126. Because of the extensive administrative requirements of managing a project that uses federal funds, and the small amount of money available, up to 50% of those funds would have been used up by following the federal contracting guidelines. Historically, ODOT had exchanged these funds for us at a cost of 6%. However, ODOT discontinued the program this year and small communities were left scrambling for options. Tri-Met stepped up to the plate and said it could exchange funds for many small cities and counties, for an 8% exchange rate. The League of Oregon Cities brokered the deal for the funds exchange and also was instrumental in assisting with the passage of legislation that should allow the ODOT fund exchange program to be reinstated next year. The \$80,156 the City will receive will be used for street overlay projects next spring or early summer.

SNOWY PLOVER UPDATE - An informational meeting was conducted in Coos Bay recently by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department to gather public comments surrounding current snowy plover beach closures. The first of several meetings, OPRD presented the big picture of beach planning efforts scheduled over the next several years. Of the 17.3 Oregon beach miles set aside for protection of the snowy plover, 2.8 miles lie within Coos County. The rare species, which nests on the beach between the low tide line and the vegetation line, was listed by the Federal government as endangered in 1993. At last count, there are approximately 90 pairs of the bird in Oregon. Although the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Federal Bureau of Land Management play a part in the plover's plight, it is the OPRD who is charged with the protection and preservation of the recreation, scenic, natural, and other resource values found on the Oregon coast. Regulated activities range from public beach access and camping to construction projects such as pipeline routing. Peter Kirk, of the Department of Community Services Engineering Technician, attended the meeting on the City's behalf and reported that although tourism could be impacted, none of the beach closure areas are in the Coos Bay city limits.

PERIODIC REVIEW/COOS BAY ESTUARY MANAGEMENT PLAN: The Planning Commission has scheduled a work session for August 2nd at 6 p.m. at City Hall to review and discuss changes to the Plan. The changes are in response to amendments that have occurred to Statewide Planning Goals #16 (Estuarine Resources) and #17 (Coastal Shorelands). New uses and definitions have been added. The work session is open to the public. If you have any questions please contact Laura Barron, Department of Community Services at (541) 269-8918.

HARLEY DAVIDSON EXHIBIT AT COOS ART MUSEUM - Bike enthusiasts will not want to miss the display of Harley Davidson motorcycles along Anderson Avenue in Coos Bay during the reception and opening of *Harley-Davidson: A Century of American Design* Friday, August 3, 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM. And over 30 original historic motorcycles and related artifacts will be on display in the Maggie Karl Gallery from August 3 through September 15, 2001. See for yourself what it is about these motorcycle designs that has somehow transmuted the machine's heady appeal into an instantly recognized international symbol. Also opening on Friday, August 3 in the Mable Hansen Gallery is *Andiamo, the Art of Kim Osgood*. "A simmering brew of personal imagery, texture, shape and color" expressed in the Monotypes and Chine Colle works of the artist.