



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

January 11, 2002

CITY OF COOS BAY

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VOLUNTEERS PROVIDE HELP TO CITY PARKS - The City of Coos Bay is very lucky to have volunteers that take time out their busy schedules to help clean and maintain some of the City parks. Without the help of volunteers, the City parks would not look as good as they do currently. In the year 2001 almost 1300 hours of volunteer work was performed in City parks. The Choshi Garden volunteers performed over 730 hours in the gardens. The group is under the direction of Bev Meyers and her mother Gloria Hillstrom. The John Topits volunteers put in over 253 hours cleaning and maintaining the trail system around the lakes. Keith Topits spearheads the work for his volunteers almost every Saturday. The work performed at 10th Street Park is by the Bay Area Optimists of Coos County and they performed over 200 hours of service for the City. The Club co-chairs for the park work is Howard Swick and Jim Johnson. A **BIG THANK YOU** to all who worked in the City parks this past year and thanks for continuing on into the new year.

COOS BAY POLICE RECEIVES TRAINING AWARD - The Coos Bay Police Department has been selected by the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) to be the Year 2001 Recipient of the **Excellence in Training Award**. Coos Bay Police Department received the award in recognition for the contribution made by the department in making a “positive impact on the knowledge and performance of Oregon’s Public Safety Providers.” Coos Bay Police Department is active in training programs locally as well as supplying instructors to the Oregon Police Academy in a variety of topics including emergency vehicle operation, firearms, personal defense, high risk car stops, criminal investigations, and other topics. Coos Bay Police Chief, Chuck Knight, and Captain Eura Washburn will be attending an awards banquet in Sun River Later this Month to receive the award. Chief Knight has expressed gratitude to police department staff, as well as the budget committee and City Council for making the training funds available to the police department. With their support this award would not have been possible.

POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYMENT ANNIVERSARIES - The following members of the Coos Bay Police Department are celebrating January employment anniversaries. Officer Pete Kirk, 2 years; Officer Scott Snyder, 13 years, and Support Services Supervisor Linda Spence, 25 years (**1/4 of a century!**)

POLICE OFFICERS COMPLETE LIABILITY TRAINING - Sergeants Dave Main and Robert Lounsbury attended a Liability Seminar in Salem this past week. The seminar presented by nationally known speaker, Gordon Graham, focused on liability issues facing law enforcement today, and how to protect the individual officer and the police department from excessive job related liability.

CHIEF KNIGHT TO SPEAK AT MENS BREAKFAST - Police Chief, Chuck Knight will be the guest speaker at the Skyline Baptist Church men’s breakfast meeting on January 12, 2002. Chief Knight will give a “state of the department address” and address other issues facing the Coos Bay Police Department.

2001 FIRE DEPARTMENT STATS - The Fire Department responded to a total of 1,638 emergency calls in 2001. This is up from 1,494 emergency calls in 2000. Of those 1,638 calls 1,097 were medical related. The busiest month was April with 157 responses and May was the least busy with a total of 121 responses.

FIRE DEPARTMENT PARTICIPATES IN THE PATRIOT LINE WALK - Members of the Fire Department joined in on The Patriot Line walk on Wednesday. The walk was organized by Elle Milner of Portland. The purpose of the walk is to show the power of unity and patriotism by carrying a flag by foot across the United States. The walk began in Portland on New Years Day and will go down the coast to Los Angeles then east to Oklahoma City, north east to Washington D.C. and end at New York's Statue of Liberty by Memorial Day. Those interested can follow her progress on the web site www.thepatriotline.com.

IN HONOR OF LANCE CPL. BRYAN BERTRAND – Pursuant to the authority vested in the Mayor, all City of Coos Bay flags are being ordered to fly at half-staff for three days in honor of the supreme sacrifice paid by Lance Cpl. Bryan P. Bertrand, 23, of Coos Bay. Lance Cpl. Bertrand was killed yesterday in Pakistan along with six other Marines when a plane they were in crashed in rugged territory. He was a 1997 popular graduate of Marshfield High School and respected for his strength of character and commitment to excellence. The City of Coos Bay joins the community and a grateful nation in mourning the loss of Bryan and the other Marines who perished with him. Our hearts and prayers go out to his family.