



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

February 15, 2002

CITY OF COOS BAY

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CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY UPDATE - The Citizen Police Academy in which Coos Bay is co-sponsoring with North Bend Police and the Coos County Sheriff's Department met at Southwestern Oregon Community College this week. Participants from all regions of the County are participating in the eight week program where they will be introduced to the challenges facing law enforcement. Academy graduation is set for April 3, 2002.

FBI VISITS COOS BAY - Charlie Matthews, Supervisor of the Portland Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Mike Morrow, Supervisory FBI Agent from Eugene were in Coos Bay this week to meet with Police Chiefs in matters affecting the South Coast, including inter-agency cooperation and terrorism task force involvement. The South Coast is fortunate to have a strong working relation with the Federal Bureau of Investigations and their agents assigned to the Portland and Eugene offices.

STORM RECOVERY - COOS BAY POLICE UPDATE- Police Chief, Chuck Knight, expressed his gratitude for the quick response by department staff during the storm last week which knocked out power and snarled traffic in Coos Bay. Off duty officers and 9-1-1 Dispatchers called the department to offer assistance as soon as the storm hit. The task of locating additional staff to handle traffic control and answer the multitude of incoming telephone calls was made easy in light of the community spirit displayed by department staff.

COOS COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER ACTIVATED- The Coos Bay City Hall Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated during the storm last week. The center which is activated during disasters or other extreme emergencies to coordinate emergency response as needed. The EOC was activated within minutes of the storm and began shut down three hours later when emergency units were cleared from critical tasks. The final shut down of the EOC was several hours later when the immediate emergency subsided. The EOC was staffed by members of Coos Bay Police, Fire, and Public Works, and members of the Coos County Radio Club and Southwest Oregon Repeaters Association and City Manager Bill Grile. It is unknown if any other municipality or if the county activated an Emergency Operations Center during or immediately following the storm.

HIGH SCHOOL ART COMPETITION WINNERS – On Friday evening, January 25th, the Coos Art Museum and Southwestern Oregon Community College hosted the opening of the seventh annual high school art competition, Vision 2002 at the Coos Art Museum. The competition was open to high school students on the South Coast from Reedsport to Brookings. The following are the winners in 19 categories representing entries submitted by art students from six South Coast High Schools.

Best of Show, \$250 and Two Year Tuition Waver Art Scholarship to Southwestern, Tristan Sylvester, Bandon High School. **First Place**, \$100 and Two Year Tuition Waver Art Scholarship to Southwestern, Jessica Rogers, Bandon High School. **Second Place**, \$75 and Two Year Tuition Waver Art Scholarship to Southwestern, Mauri Powell, Bandon High School.

Prize Winners According to Grade: **1st place** \$50, Joy Agner, 12th Grade, Marshfield High School, Sarah

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Minkler, 11th Grade, Bandon High School, Maddie Benedict Crittendon, 10th Grade, Bandon High School, Nora Burke, 9th Grade, Bandon High School. **2nd Place** \$40, Byron Faalilo, 12th Grade, Gold Beach High School, Jake Prahar, 11th Grade, Bandon High School, Vanessa Jerolamon, 10th Grade, North Bend High School, Caley Sowers, 9th Grade, Bandon High School. **3rd Place** \$30, Nathan Bowman, 12th Grade, North Bend High School, Jean Klewitz, 11th Grade, Bandon High School, Nicole Decker, 10th Grade, Coquille High School, Allison Bassett, 9th Grade, Marshfield High School. **4th Place** \$20, Nicole Dockery, 12th Grade, Coquille High School, Tirzah Bauer, 11th Grade, Marshfield High School, Timo O. Cooper, 10th Grade, Gold Beach High School, Gail Winterscheid, 9th Grade, North Bend High School.

Vision 2002, which includes nearly 60 works from area students is open through Saturday, March 9, 2002 in the Mabel Hanson Gallery at the Coos Art Museum, downtown Coos Bay.

WHEN IT RAINS IT STORMS - While attempting to repair a crushed storm drain at Norman Street's intersection with Newmark Avenue last week, JBS Construction, Inc. encountered much more than they bargained for. Traffic control was set up on the busy roadway, pumps were at work to make headway against torrential rains, and utility companies were standing by to lend a hand. As the 11-foot deep hole mushroomed, the wind swept in and the crew scrambled to button things down for the duration of the storm. Fortunately, the day following the storm was a beautiful day in which to finish the repair. A special thanks is due OMI staff and the contractors that come to the City's rescue during emergency times such as this.

RAISE THE ROOF - On Tuesday evening the Planning Commission approved the site plan for a covered play area for Eastside Elementary School. The metal roof structure will be "azure blue" to coordinate with a color of the school. By giving proper attention to the exterior of the structure during the site plan review, the aesthetic quality of our schools, and the neighborhood where it is located, is protected and enhanced.

INSURANCE PREMIUMS EXPECTED TO INCREASE - The city manager and department heads meet on a monthly basis with the city's insurance agent of record. During this month's meeting it was reported that insurance premiums for property and health are expected to increase 30 percent and liability and auto are expected to increase 20 percent next year. The increases are due in part to the World Trade Center attack and the Enron issue. Both situations have impacted the insurance business greatly and businesses will not be the only ones faced with increases to insurance increases; as private citizens we will also see increases in our personal policies. City staff remain diligent in finding ways to improve our risk management procedures and keep the city's claims to a minimum which in turn helps keep our premiums down.

ART EXHIBITS - The exhibit for February by Bandon artist Victoria Tierney showcases the Chinese "Year of the Horse." It also previews upcoming events at Coos Art Museum. Coos Sand 'n Sea Quilters will present the March exhibit, with quilts large and small on the walls, plus displays in the lobby cases.