



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

October 11, 2002

City of Coos Bay

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COOS BAY AND NORTH BEND COUNCILS MEET TOGETHER NEXT WEEK ABOUT CONSOLIDATION

– As required by state law (ORS 222.250), next Wednesday evening the City Councils for Coos Bay and North Bend will meet in their second “join convention” to once again take up issues related to the question of consolidating the two cities into one. At this second meeting, the key action item will be to consider “adoption of the ballot title for the question of consolidation of the Cities of Coos Bay and North Bend and adoption of the city charter and tax base as required by ORS 2122.250(1).”

DRAFT REPORT ON CONSOLIDATION BUDGET DELIVERED TO CITY HALL – The city manager’s office has received a draft report from economic consultant E.D. Hovee and Company addressing the economic feasibility questions about consolidating the Cities of Coos Bay and North Bend. Tuesday night the Coos Bay City Council will discuss the draft and offer feedback. Like all drafts, changes can and should be expected as the document undergoes a critical review. City Manager Bill Grile is asking the Coos Bay City Council to invite principal Eric Hovee to the Bay Area to conduct a public meeting about the report’s conclusions once they are final.

TASTE OF "LIKE WATER FOR CHOCOLATE" -- Join us at Coos Bay Public Library this Saturday, October 12th for a sample of authentic Mexican cooking followed by viewing of the video "Like Water for Chocolate." This popular movie is based on the book by Laura Esquivel, about a love story and good food during the first part of the twentieth century in northern Mexico. "Like Water for Chocolate" is a magical story about the power of love. Magical realism is observed in the use of myths, old beliefs and stories of traditional culture. A demonstration and tasting of tamales and stole will be presented by Elena Guillen from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the library Mrtlewood Room. Presentation of the video, in Spanish with English subtitles, will take place from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. This program is part of the "Latino Arts and Culture in Rural Libraries" grant project through Oregon Historical Society.

FIRST BOOK DONATES CHILDRENS' READING MATERIAL -- The Coos and Curry Committee of the First Book organization is distributing a large quantity of books to nonprofit groups working with children in our area. These groups then arrange for the free distribution of the books to children they serve. The books comprise four titles from the Bright and Early Books for Beginning Readers series. All of the Coos County public libraries will receive the books. Pat Flitcroft, Coos Bay Public Library Youth Librarian, is Research and Development Coordinator for the local First Book organization and participated in this project.

LIBRARY LAUNCHES FALL INDEPENDENT READING PROGRAM -- All readers in grades K-12 are invited to participate in Coos Bay Public Library's Fall independent reading program, "Books Are Cool!" Beginning October 11th and lasting until November 23rd, children can enter to win some really great prizes by reading or listening to their favorite books from the library. The program is sponsored by Friends of the Library. Children can pick up information at the library or at their school library.

BAY AREA CHAMBER IBO PROGRAM – Upcoming programs include October 16th – Measure No. 23, Universal Healthcare; October 23rd – Candidates Forum Coos Bay and North Bend Mayor and Council positions, and October 30th – Candidates Forum Coos County Commissioners and Sheriff positions. Cost is \$8.75 for members and \$10 for non-members. RSVP a cdavis@uci.net or 266-0215.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS PRESENT FORUMS – A candidates forum will be presented by the League of Women Voters on **Monday, October 21st** in the council chambers at Coos Bay city hall. Candidates will be presented in two groups: from 7 to 8 p.m. will be candidates for state representative and sheriff. District #1 – David Tilton [D] and Wayne Krieger [R], District #9 – Valorie Holloway [L] and Joanne Verger [D]. For sheriff – Andy Jackson and Dave Hermann. From 8 to 9 p.m. will be candidates for county commissioners. Position #2 – Nikki Whitty [D] and Cathy Mann [R]. Position #3 – Pete DeMain [D], Kenneth Rossi [R], Gordon Ross [Non-Aff], and Thomas Matosec [Pacific Green]. The Voters Guide, the League of Women Voters non-partisan election guide, will be available locally from

October 14th to Election Day, and will be published in The World newspaper on October 18th.

On **Thursday, October 24th** [also in the council chambers] the forum will be on local and state measures beginning at 7 p.m. Local Measures: #6-92 – Formation of an airport district and tax base – Gary Gregor [pro] and Frank Crook [con]. #6-91 – formation of SCINT District and tax base – Bob McBride [pro] and Drew Solomon [con] (note: these are not final at this time). State Measures: #18 – Allows certain tax districts to establish permanent property tax rates – Bob Main, County Assessor will explain. #23 – Creating a Health Care Finance Plan – Maggie Bagon [pro] and Dan Smith [con]. #25 – Increasing Oregon minimum wage to \$6.90 in 2003 with future inflation – Jim Young [pro] and a yet to be designated person [con]. For more information on the forums, please contact Jean Nelson at 347-4229.

FIREFIGHTERS ATTEND TRAINING – Firefighters Russ Thackery, Mike Hurley and Dan Crutchfield are attending an 80 hour Hazardous Materials Technicians course in Portland. The course topics to be covered include flammable liquid fires, plugging and patching tank and rail cars, conducting hazard and risk assessment and functioning as site liaison with federal and state agencies. All three firefighters serve on the regional hazardous materials team stationed at the Coos Bay Fire Department.

TEAM UP FOR FIRE SAFETY – This week marks the 81st Annual Fire Prevention Week in the United States. The theme for the week is "Team Up for Fire Safety" as fire departments remind communities about the hazards of fires in the home. Everyone is encouraged to take a few minutes and review their home fire escape plan. Firefighters will be going to schools and conducting station tours the week as part of FPW. If you have any questions on fire safety call 269-1191 for the answers.

PLAY DAY IN THE PARK – The Bay Area Optimist Club is sponsoring a "Fall Play Day in the Park," Monday evening, October 14th, 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at 10th Street Park in Coos Bay. There will be games and activities directed at children ages 3-12, with hot dogs, soft drinks and desserts. The Optimists adopted the park in 1998 and have enhanced the park by adding stairs and picnic tables as well as maintaining the grass and play areas. Local residents are also encouraged to attend a brief meeting between the club and those families served by the 10th Street Park. The park is located at the southeast corner of South 10th Street and Johnson Avenue in Coos Bay, one block south of Marshfield High School. Any questions contact Pam Wilson @ 756-6434 or 267-1740. A big Thank You to all the Optimists that have taken the time and effort to maintain the park.

DANCIN' IN THE STREETS-IN THE PARK! – The City of Coos Bay was pleased this week to be able to help the Human Rights Advocates and on short notice provide services so that their Dancin' in the Streets celebration could be held at Mingus Park stage. From 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday October 11th there will be various dancing groups providing entertainment at the Mingus Stage. Bring your chair and enjoy Mexican, Cloggers, Chinese Folk dancers or any of the other groups throughout the day. If you have questions, contact Linda Foster at 756-2385.

GOODBYE TO A GREAT PARTNER – Community Services Director Shanda Shribbs and Operations Administrator Steve Doty represented the City of Coos Bay at the going away party for North Bend Public Works Manager Aaron Geisler on October 10th. Aaron is returning to the mid-valley to become the Public Works Manager for Polk County. He has been in North Bend for six years, and has always supported the area and pursued opportunities to partner with other area agencies to improve North Bend and the surrounding area. Coos Bay staff join the city of North Bend in saying goodbye, good luck, and keep in touch!

CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS BRINGS C-SPAN NETWORKS TO THE AREA – On October 16th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., the C-SPAN School Bus will visit Coos Bay. The 45-foot motor coach is a traveling TV production studio and media demonstration center on continuous tour to America's schools and cable systems. The bus will be parked at city hall and will have tours available for local high school students. Equipment from the Coos Bay Police Department, Fire Department and Community Services will also be on display, and tours of the Police Department/9-1-1 will be available. Contact Dolly Brock, Charter Communications, 541-888-1994 for more information.

FARMER'S MARKET HIGHLIGHTS FUN AND FESTIVITIES – The October 16th Coos Bay Downtown Association Farmer's Market will explode with special activities. All day there will be demonstrations and hands-on painting available from the Pottery Company. Demonstrations of quilting and embroidery will be available across the street at Threads That Bind. During the lunch hour, live music and wine tasting will be available at the Highway 101

location. Stop by for some end of season products, and enjoy the interaction of Farmers Market with Retail Options. A great partnership for downtown Coos Bay!

WATER BOARD DEDICATES NEW PONY CREEK DAM – The whole community owes a debt of gratitude to the Coos Bay – North Bend Water Board for the tremendous accomplishment celebrated yesterday with the dedication of the new Upper Pony Creek Dam. Public officials from both communities were on hand at the new dam yesterday afternoon to dedicate the facility, give thanks to all those involved and reflect on the complexities of making this \$20 million capital improvement a reality. Nine years in the making, the new facility is the key part of the infrastructure that will ensure a potable supply of drinking water for the entire Bay Area for the next three decades. Those speaking at the dedication included Water Board General Manager Rob K. Schab, Water Board members Arnie Roblan, Mike Helfrich, Dick Vigue and Greg Solarz, Coos Bay Mayor Joe Benetti, North Bend Mayor John Briggs, State Senator Ken Messerle, State Representative Joanne Verger, Oregon Economic and Community Development staffer Ed Waite and others. Mr. Schab stressed that work on the Water Board's infrastructure needs is not finished and that much more remains to be done rehabilitating transmission pipes and other facilities. For now, though, let's all celebrate! Thank you Coos Bay – North Bend Water Board. To learn more about the Water Board and its programs, visit: <http://www.cbnbh2o.com/>.

CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS ARRANGES FREE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR LOCAL STUDENTS – Charter Communications is sponsoring a visit by the C-SPAN School Bus as part of its ongoing commitment to education and public service. The 45-foot motor coach, a traveling TV production studio and media demonstration center, will visit Coos Bay – North Bend on its continuing tour to America's schools and cable systems. The bus will be stopping in Coos Bay City Hall on October 16th from 9:00AM to 12:30PM to give kids from Coos Bay Public Schools an opportunity to tour and learn. North Bend Public Schools were invited but scheduling precluded their participation, unfortunately. Please visit the C-SPAN Bus website at www.c-span.or/classroom/schoolbus for more information about the Bus.

Through presentations and other events aboard the bus, students will learn firsthand how the C-SPAN Networks' 24-hour public affairs programming can help bring the political process to life. While on board, educators will also learn how to join the networks' free membership service for educators, C-SPAN in the Classroom and learn ways to use the C-SPAN web site (www.c-span.org) in the classroom.

The American cable television industry created C-SPAN in 1979 and C-SPAN 2 in 1986 as a public service. Since then, the C-SPAN Networks have provided viewers with a window to the public policy process. The public affairs programming found on the C-SPAN Networks is presented without commercials or commentary and includes live, gavel-to-gavel coverage of the U.S. House of Representatives (C-SPAN) and the Senate (C-SPAN2); congressional hearings; White House, State Department and Pentagon press briefings; National Press Club speeches; insights into Supreme Court decisions; unique book programming; international public affairs events; and live viewer call-ins with journalists and public policy makers.

All of the programming produced by the networks is commercial-free and copyright-cleared for educational use. Here in the Bay Area, C-SPAN airs on Channel 50/17; C-SPAN2 on Channel 44/18.

The City of Coos Bay will also have exhibits and demonstrations on-site during the C-Span Bus visit. Special tours of the Police Department (including the 911 Center) and City Hall will be available for students. The City of Coos Bay expresses its sincere thanks to Charter Communications for making this an exciting ... and FREE ... educational opportunity for area students. Way to go Charter Communications!