



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

November 8, 2002

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@coosbay.org	

BUSINESS LICENSE RENEWALS – It is nearly time once again for firms operating in the city of Coos Bay to renew their business licenses. The renewal forms are in the final review process before we place them in the mail the week of November 18th. If you have any questions or need to update your mailing address, please give Community Services a call at 269-8918.

Last year, Community Services requested that all firms provide their “NAICS” code (North American Industry Classification System—replaces the old SIC/Standard Industry Classification system). The code allows the city to print out our business list by industry classification—useful information for many. Staff is currently working on fine-tuning the list, to eliminate duplication, and then will be recommending a reasonable fee for the list so that individuals interested in the list can have access to this valuable information.

EXPERIENCE WORKS! – The federal Experience Works! program has provided the City of Coos Bay over the past several years with many volunteers who have provided volunteer services for the public and in turn gained valuable on-the-job skills. The most recent Experience Works success story involves DeAnn Shaw who is leaving us within the next week because she has been hired through the Experience Works program as one of their coordinators. The public and city staff have appreciated working with you DeAnn! Congratulations! Experience Works is already working on a new volunteer for Community Services.

CITY HALL COMPUTER NETWORKING CONTRACT – The City of Coos Bay has partnered with School District 9 to assess city hall’s computer needs. The City Council by consensus approved the plan set forth earlier this year. The next milestone to be accomplished is placing the cabling to network the servers and computers throughout the building. This project was competitively bid and was awarded to Valley Electrical Contractors at \$37,410 at the November 5th Council meeting. The funding for this project was set aside during the FY 2002-2003 budget process in a reserve account to pay for capital technology items. Funds used for this project were from the Repair/Replacement fund and are not available for operating expenses. The work will start within the month and should be completed by the end of January 2003.

NEW PLANTS ALONG CENTRAL – The ladies of Laureate Xi chapter of Beta Sigma Phi have adopted Central Avenue from Highway 101 to 4th Street. The ladies planted kale (donated by Agri-Tech) in the various planters along Central Avenue along with daffodil and tulip bulbs for spring blooming. Merchants along Central have helped with the watering of the plants. The ladies also have weeded the area several times and will continue to keep this area of downtown in nice shape. Great job ladies and thanks!

CBDA GETS GRANT FUNDING – Chris Coles, President of the Coos Bay Downtown Association, is in New York November 7th to November 11th to attend the International Conference on Farmers’ Markets. The Downtown Association received grant funding for Coles’ attendance from the Kellogg Foundation. Topics at the conference will include Farmers’ Markets in Low Income Communities, Economic Spin Off from Farmers’ Markets, Upward Mobility, Public Markets for the Public Good and Funding Sources for Markets. Coles leaves following a successful Safe Halloween Trick or Treating. Coming up shortly after she returns will be the Tree Lighting in downtown Coos Bay. The Coos Bay Downtown Association is continuing to grow and develop new ideas and activities for the merchants and shoppers of the Bay Area.

ODF&W LEASES SPACE – The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is leasing an office space from the city of Coos Bay for the fall and winter. Each year ODF&W hires people to count fish in the streams around the county. Over the last few years they have used space in various government offices. This year they approached the city to see if there was a location that could provide them some small office space to use to transfer field notes to permanent notes and a place to park their rigs. Six individuals are sharing an office in Community Services. While the fish counting is still in the early stages, the relationship is working well. The space works well for them and was surplus for the city after recent staff reductions. ODF&W is paying \$200

per month for the space, and reimbursing the city for all phone, copy and fax expenses.

VACANCY ON CCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS – Coos County Commissioners have a vacancy on the CCD Board of Directors for a term ending June 30, 2003. Anyone interested in applying may submit a letter to the Coos County Board of Commissioners indicating your interest and qualifications for the position. An application for appointment is available from the Commissioner's Office at the Coos County Courthouse and must be submitted no later than Monday, November 25, 2002. The CCD Board represents a broad spectrum of interests and expertise capable of providing regional leadership towards economic growth. CCD manages five enterprise zones in the region whose purpose is to attract companies and capital to the region to create jobs and spur local economic diversification. CCD also provides funding information and assistance to local entities. For more information and an application, contact the Commissioners Office at 396-3121 ext. 225.

CITY COUNCIL PROMOTES LIBRARY APPRECIATION MONTH – The City Council approved two proclamations at their meeting Tuesday evening designating November as Coos County Library Board appreciation month and recognizing the 25th anniversary of Friends of the Library organization. Members of the Library Board and Friends attended the meeting and reported on the success of both groups. Library Director Carol Ventgen reported that Coos County's Library District has been used as a model for other Oregon Counties. The mayor and councilors commended the Library Board and Friends for their contributions to the community and for being an example of what can be accomplished when citizens from around the county work together.

VETERANS DAY – City hall administrative offices will be closed Monday, November 11th in observance of Veterans Day. The public is encouraged to take this opportunity to show appreciation to the service men and women who have served, and who are currently serving, protecting our freedom and country.

ROTARY AWARDS PRESENTED – City Manager Bill Grile and Police Chief Chuck Knight were given honors this week by Rotary District 5110 Assistant District Governor Dennis Thomason. Bill was recognized for his work in making the 2002 District Conference held in Coos Bay a success. Chuck was honored as Area Internet Communications Officer of the Year. Rotary District 5110 includes 65 Rotary Clubs in Southern Oregon and Northern California.

LIBRARY OFFERS WORKSHOP ON MAKING PINATAS – Coos Bay Public Library will be hosting a three-day workshop on pinata making Friday, November 8 through Sunday, November 10th. All ages are invited to join Elas Palomera on Friday and Saturday for making of the pinatas, followed by pinata breaking on Sunday. The Friday session will begin at 4:00 p.m. Saturday's at 11:00 a.m. and Sunday's at 2:00 p.m. All of these free sessions will be held in the library's Myrtlewood Room. The program is part of a special project of the Folklife Program of the Oregon Historical Society, supported by the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services.

ADVENTURE WRITER TO SPEAK AT THE LIBRARY – Spike Walker, author of "Coming Back Alive," will spin his true high seas adventure stories at Coos Bay Public Library's Myrtlewood Room on Tuesday November 12th at 7:00 p.m. Walker's book is based on his experience working as a deckhand aboard a commercial fishing boat, battling the cold waters off the coast of Alaska for life and livelihood. This free talk is part of the library's successful "Author's Night at the Library" series sponsored by Friends of the Library.