



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

January 15, 1999

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CITY OF COOS BAY ECONOMIC FOCUS GROUP MEETING – Tuesday morning Mayor Verger and the City Council will be meeting with a short list of local economic development proponents to learn perspectives and hear ideas about how the City might increase its job creation efforts. The breakfast meeting will be held at The Red Lion starting at 7:00 AM. Invited panelists will include: Greg Stevens, Guy Williams, Jon Richards, Glen Thomas, Rod Stalcup, Larry Hink, Hal Graham, John Stephens, Howard McKee, Bill Lansing, Andy Nasburg, Dale Jessup, Pete Johnson, Harry Davis and John Sweet. The City hopes the input will help identify Coos Bay's niche in the local economic development, job creation effort that needs to be increased regionally. Following Tuesday's meeting, Mayor Verger recently indicated that one or more additional focus group meetings can be expected before the City settles on a plan of action.

MAYOR VERGER SPENDS THE WEEK IN SALEM – This past week has found Mayor Joanne Verger frequenting the State Capitol during the opening session of the Oregon Legislative Assembly. Acting in her capacity as this year's President of the League of Oregon Cities, Mayor Verger plans on spending considerable time during the next six months working to preserve local control and advance the mission of cities all over our state, as pending legislation is introduced and debated. Stay tuned.

A WORD FROM REPRESENTATIVE MIKE LEHMAN – We heard from State Representative Mike Lehman this week, who's hard at work for us already in Salem. Here's what he had to say:

“Just want to let everyone know that the 70th legislative session is off and rolling (well kind of rolling!). Mayor Verger has been in the Capitol and I have heard great things about her from other legislators. She is not only a great voice for Oregon Cities but a great voice for the City of Coos Bay. I am the Vice Chair of the Transportation Committee and we will attempting to get a transportation funding package passed to improve our roads and bridges.

Please feel free to contact me at (503)986-1447 or lehman.rep@state.or.us

FOUR EMPLOYEES CELEBRATE TEN-YEAR MILESTONES – Congratulations to CBPD Officer Scott Snyder and to Mark Anderson, Randy Carpenter and Bill Johnson in the Fire Department. This month each celebrates a ten-year anniversary with the City of Coos Bay. Hip hip hooray fellas!

SHORE ACRES HOLIDAY LIGHTS ... ONE MORE UPDATE – David and Shirley Bridgham report that the 13th annual holiday lights display is set for Thanksgiving (Nov. 25) thru the Sunday after New Year's day (Jan. 2, 2000). More than 200,000 lights, more sculptures, more delightful than ever! To receive a copy of this year's Shore Acres guest book by e-mail, contact the city manager (bgrile@ucinet.com) or the Bridghams (bridgham@gte.net).

MARSHFIELD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT NEWS – We heard the following news this morning from MHS student publicist Sarah Richardson, and are pleased to pass it along because the City values its relationship with Marshfield High School!

Congratulations to Heidi Wuethrich and Katie Allender the December Girls of the Month. Heidi is a three sport athlete. She was co-Captain of this year's Varsity volleyball team. Heidi is a member of key club and was selected as the 1998 Homecoming Queen. Katie has been a member of the Marshfield Upbeats for four years, this year she is a co-Captain. For the past two years Katie has been a part of coordinating the Mr. MHS Pageant. She is also a candidate in this year's Miss Coos County Scholarship Pageant. Congratulations to Justin Goodman the December Boy of the Month. Justin is a three sport athlete, who is also very involved in academics. He has taken many college prep and advanced placement courses. Justin is a co-Captain of this year's Marshfield Boys Swim Team. Congratulations to Roy Dufner, the Bridge Student of Merit.

The Mr. MHS candidates have been selected. The lucky boys are: Josh Messerle, Chris Irick, Tim Walberg, Aaron Hoffine, Travis Burgher, Justin Traver, Jake Beaudry, Doug Jadin, Peter Littlefield and Justin Raggio. Mr. MHS is a pageant styled after Miss America (with a little more comedy) created to raise money for Sacred Heart's Neo-Natal Unit. The pageant includes a dance routine, formal wear and casual wear modeling, a question and answer segment and a "My Hero" segment. This pageant will take place on April 6. March 15 the boys will begin collecting donations prior to the pageant, for the Sacred Heart Neo-Natal Unit. Congratulations to Sheri Maguire and Ross Bolf, the Staff Members of the Month for December. And more congratulations to Eva Douthit and Karen Cunningham, the Staff Members of the Month for January. These four were selected by the MHS staff and students on the basis for being caring, hard working and enthusiastic.

Thursday, January 21 is the Breakfast of Champions. Students that have been asked by their teachers to be a guest, should also invite their parents. The Marshfield Jazz Band will be performing in a Jazz concert, Thursday, January 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. Monday, January 18, there will be no school because it is Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Friday, January 28, is the last day of class for the first semester.

Congratulations to Sara Cunningham the January Girl of the Month. Sara is a 3 sport athlete. She has been named Most Valuable Player in soccer, basketball and track. Sara is a member of the National Honor Society and Key Club. She often volunteers her time to students with special needs and SWOYA.

CITY MANAGER ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT – This week city manager Bill Grile announced his retirement – from church league basketball, that is! Seen him hobbling around city hall on crutches? And after only one game! “It is a privilege going out the same time as Michael Jordon,” Bill was overheard saying. Humph.

IT'S COMING ... – What's coming? The public unveiling of the City of Coos Bay's new rebuilt WEB page is now just right around the corner. WEB surfers and repeat visitors will like the fresh new look, new features, and rapid location of key information that will be available on the new page. Stay tuned. Err ... stay on line!

PARKING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETS - The new members of the City's Parking Advisory Committee convened a public meeting at 6:00 p.m., January 14th, in the Coos Bay City Council Chambers to receive citizens input on the impact recent changes made in the parking policy in the downtown area may have made on businesses and employees in the area.. The meeting was attended by approximately 60 citizens, with a number of people voicing concerns ranging from the inconvenient parking for older people patronizing the downtown businesses, to the increase in parking permit fees for employees. The next Parking Advisory Committee will meet in the Coos Bay City Council Chambers t 6:00 p.m., on Thursday, January 28th, 1999. All interested citizens are invited to attend this public meeting.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS – The Fire Department has been named as a recipient of the Pacific states

tsunami information system (TsuInfo) program, a component of the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program. The department will receive information including books, maps, papers and videos designed to reduce the risks our community faces in the event of a Tsunami. These resources will allow the department to increase public awareness of this rare but catastrophic event.

EMPIRE LAKE BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION – The City of Coos Bay would like to thank the volunteers at John Topits Park spearheaded by Keith Topits for their work on reconstructing the small bridge at the park. Keith was able to secure a donation of nine 6x6x10' treated timbers from Darryl Smith of Conrad Wood Preserving Company in Hauser. With the donation and City funds of approximately \$600, Keith and the volunteers spent 133 man-hours on the reconstruction. Thanks again for all involved on this worthy project.

MINGUS PARK STAGE COMMITTEE – The Mingus Park Stage Committee met for the first time on Tuesday, January 12th at City Hall. Many items were discussed about the needs and placement of the stage. Part of the committee needed to look at the proposed site too visual what the stage may look like. It was also suggested that the size should be around 24'by 40' to accommodate choirs and band groups. A meeting has been set up for Wednesday, January 20th at 2:00 p.m. at Mingus Park to view the area. Staff will mark out a 24' by 40' area for the committee.